



Wood Memorial C.P. School Ysgol Gynradd Wood Memorial

'From little acorns, mighty Oaks grow'



Kindness



Determination



Nurture



Respect



Integrity

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Last Sunday, 6th September, I sent a Seesaw announcement to inform you all of the devastating news that Mrs Sarah Broome, our Year 1 teacher had passed away earlier that morning, after a long battle with cancer.

I wrote about how Sarah faced this battle with incredible courage, strength and dignity, remaining in work whilst undergoing treatment. In her own words, teaching gave her a purpose, a passion and an identity... the children lucky enough to have been taught by Sarah over her two decades working at Wood Memorial will know how inspirational and special she was. The thoughts of everyone at school are with her husband, children and family at this extremely sad time.

Our whole school community is in mourning. The kindness, sensitivity and compassion shown by everyone has been greatly appreciated. Our time this week has been spent making sure that staff, children and all connected to Woody have been cared for and supported. I have spoken with the children in a sensitive way this week and they have been mature, kind and caring towards one another and our staff. We are fortunate to be blessed with a wonderfully supportive school community and I know that together we will continue to look after each other.

Many staff, including myself, have visited Sarah's husband, children and family this week. He has expressed immense gratitude towards everyone connected to the school. There are still many people needing to be contacted yet, so please be respectful of the family's wishes and refrain from posting or sharing this news on social media platforms. I have been asked by many within our school community if there are plans to organise a collection, send flowers and offers of other kind gestures. As yet, we are awaiting news from Sarah's family regarding service arrangements and plans. I will share details in due course.

We have been blessed to have Sarah as part of our Woody family. I would like you all to remember her as the force of nature she was. She was an outstanding teacher and, more importantly, a wonderful person. Sarah was determined to not let her diagnosis define her. If you ask any child who spent time in one of Sarah's singing assemblies about the 'Minibeast Rave' they will smile... that just about sums up the energy and infectious nature of Sarah as a teacher. She did what she loved for as long as she could, and we are forever grateful to Sarah for this.



Many thanks in anticipation of your support moving forward. If you require any support whatsoever, please do not hesitate to reach out, contact myself or any of our school team. I have arranged for specialist counselling services to visit our school over the coming weeks, starting on Thursday. Should you wish for your child to access these specialist sessions, please let the main school office know, or speak to me on the yard.

The staff, children and visitors to our school have shared many a story this week about Mrs Broome (most of them about her being the biggest practical joker in school). Her family have taken much comfort in hearing these stories too. So this weekend, I encourage any of you lucky enough to have known Mrs Broome to do the same. She would want us to smile when we think of her and we will do our best to continue to do just that.

Kindest regards,
Mr Johnson

Woody Wraparound & Breakfast Club

We have breakfast club, a playgroup and after school club on site offering childcare from 7:50 – 17:30. To book a place on breakfast club, please use the Gateway app. To book a place in Woody Wraparound, please book via the School Gateway app at least 24 hours in advance. **ALL** payments and bookings must be made via the app. To contact Mrs Elson for anything else, please email woodywraparound@gmail.com or phone 07831811718. Current session times and prices can be found at <https://shorturl.at/mslUV>

Sickness Absence & Holiday Requests

If needing to report your child absent from school or request holiday authorisation, please email Mrs Ridge at ridgea3@hwbmil.net. Alternatively, please call the school office to report absences.

School Essentials Grant & Free School Meals

All children from Reception to Year 6 in Wales receive Free School Meals (FSMs). However, if you think you may be eligible to receive FSMs, we are still advising parents to apply for FSMs, because you may be eligible to other benefits such as the School Essentials Grant (SEG). You may also be entitled to help towards payments for residential school trips. Please click the link below for further details: <https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Council-Tax-and-Benefits-and-Grants/Free-School-Meals-and-School-Essentials-Grants.aspx>

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is the responsibility of all adults - everyone has a responsibility to keep children safe. **Do you have a safeguarding concern? If so, it needs to be reported!** The school Designated Safeguarding Person at Wood Memorial is Mr Johnson, Headteacher. The Deputy Designated Safeguarding Person is Mrs Spencer. Our Chair of Governors is Mrs Nicola Gittins. You can contact Flintshire Social Services directly on 01352 701000 or out of hours 0845 0533116. In an emergency contact the Police 999.

