



WOODHALL SCHOOL



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Wednesday 30th March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another busy, busy term at Woodhall which seems to have flown by in the blink of an eye! Over the course of the term, we had a visit from our local MP, Gagan Mohindra, where our own Members of Woodhall Parliament had the opportunity to ask him questions about local issues; we enjoyed 'Where the Wild Things Are' as part of our 'Love That Book' week; we held topic 'wow days' in Years 1 & 2 (Great Fire of London); Years 3 & 4 (Ancient Olympics); and Year 5 (Celts); we celebrated National Scouts' Day, World Book Day and British Science Week; we took part in a brilliant Hertfordshire Mini Police Programme; we played violins, steel drums, trumpets, ukuleles and percussion during lessons and workshops; we had a visit from the humans and animals of Ark Farm and we STILL had time for an Easter raffle and our talent show, The Eggs Factor! Wow!



'WINDOW INTO WOODHALL'

Thank you for making time to talk to class teachers about your child's progress and attainment during our consultation calls. Since Covid with all its restrictions, staff have been worried that we might have lost a little of the teacher/parent relationships which are so crucial to children's progress and well-being. In September, we are planning a few changes which will mean that we can re-establish the chance to 'catch up' at the end of each school day. You will, of course, still be able to contact teachers via email or phone too.

On **Wednesday 6th July**, we will be holding a whole school open evening; **'Window into Woodhall'**, where we will invite you into classrooms to have a look at your child's work books, find out about all of the different learning going on across the curriculum, talk to teachers and ask any questions that you might have. We will make sure that you have enough time to visit more than one classroom, as well as find out a bit more about whole school events (such as assemblies) and transition arrangements. We will also ask you to take part in a survey which will help us plan to extend our support for parents/carers in the new academic year. We hope that our 'Window into Woodhall' evening will be a success.



SUMMER TERM ASSESSMENTS

The children have worked extremely hard this term and we are so proud of the fantastic learning in all classes and across all curriculum subjects. As you will know, all national assessment points are back on track, having been cancelled for the past two years.

Our Year 6 class will take part in reading, maths and grammar/punctuation/spelling SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) in the week beginning Monday 9th May. We make sure that this is a very special time for Year 6 – a celebration of the incredible learning that they have dedicated themselves to over the course of their past 4 years in Key Stage 2, in significantly challenging circumstances. Each day, we will host a Year 6 breakfast club for the class. This gives the children a chance to relax and socialise with their peers and school adults – it's a really special time. SATs take place in the mornings and, during the afternoons, Mrs Wilde and Mrs Fitzgerald have planned some lovely art/PSHE activities designed to promote relaxation, mindfulness and togetherness. SATs week is one that children will remember in years to come. If you have a child in Year 6, **please make sure that they are in school each day** and can be part of this with their friends.

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/blog/a-guide-to-year-6-sats-for-parents-and-carers>



Our Year 2 children will also take part in SATs, although this looks quite different to the Year 6 SATs week in that tests do not take place every day. Children have been partaking in practice papers which will help them to settle into the SATs with confidence and focus. After the Easter holidays, Miss Jones will be in touch with more information for you.

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/resource/year-2-sats-parent-guide-what-your-child-should-know-t-e-2548596>

For the first time in June, **Year 4 will take part in the new national multiplication tables assessment.** This is an online assessment where children need to answer 25 questions on tables from 2s to 12s, with 6 seconds given to answer each question.

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/at-school/primary-school-assessment-tests/year-4-multiplication-tables-check/>

Year 1 will complete the phonics screening assessment, in which the children are asked to read 40 words using their phonics knowledge. This is carried out by Mrs Bilenkyj and is something that the children are well-used to, so that they do not realise that it is any sort of 'test', but rather a celebration of their amazing reading skills!

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-parents-need-know-about-year-1-phonics-screening-check>

Children in Years 3-5 will also take part in assessments during June to give both teachers and parents a good understanding of the skills/knowledge that the children excel in, as well as possible areas of focus for the remainder of the term and into the next academic year. Results of assessments will be shared with parents/carers via our annual school reports. You will have the opportunity to further discuss your child's progress/attainment at an optional consultation afternoon in July (please see dates at the end of the newsletter).



HOLIDAY SCHEMES

For parents with children accessing free school meals, you will already have received information about the Hertfordshire HAPPY holiday scheme – I hope that you have had success in booking places.

There are lots of exciting things going on in our local area over Easter, and I will try to share some of these via our school Facebook page so keep an eye out!

Three Rivers District Council: <https://www.threeriversleisure.co.uk/playscheme>

South Oxhey Leisure Centre: <https://www.everyoneactive.com/centre/south-oxhey-leisure-centre/>

RT Football Coaching Easter Camp: <https://www.rtfootball.co.uk/>

Game On Sports' Camps: <https://gameonsportscoaching.co.uk/holiday-courses-easter/>

Community Learning Partnership: <https://www.craftcourses.com/providers/community-learning-partnership>

Ascend courses (adult learning): <https://www.ascend.org.uk/>

Of course, we are very lucky to live in a beautiful area with plenty of parks, museums and walks on our doorstep...all for free! If you can recommend anywhere to other parents/carers, please let me know and I will share it. For my part, I can highly recommend a visit to Headstone Manor – 5 minutes away by car, a short trip on the train. There's a free museum, great little park and plenty of green picnic space! Well worth a day out: <https://headstonemanor.org/>



ST.GEORGE'S DAY DRESS-UP

At Woodhall, we love to take part in traditional celebrations from across the world, and next term it's the turn of England's patron saint – St. George! This year, St. George's Day is on a Saturday. **On Friday 22nd April, we will hold a KNIGHTS, PRINCESSES AND DRAGONS dress-up day** with lots of activities taking place in classrooms. No charge (excuse the pun) – this is just for fun. And absolutely NO breathing fire, either!



WOODHALL F.A.CUP DAY

On **Friday 13th May**, we will be marking the 150th anniversary of the F.A. Cup by holding a tournament of our own. Can you help out by coming to referee some matches? All of the children will take part and matches will be short (8 minutes-ish), with winning teams gaining points for their house group. In the afternoon, we will hold an awards ceremony with a cup for the winning house group, and certificates for the winning team and runners-up as well as other awards to celebrate good sportsmanship, kindness etc. Please let me know if you are available to help, by emailing me head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

If you would like to play in an after-school, parents vs Woodhall Y5/6 football team, please look out for a letter coming home after Easter. This match is for FUN and there will be strict penalties imposed for any cheating!!

WOODHALL JUBILEE DAY

On Friday 27th May, we will be celebrating Queen Elizabeth II's platinum jubilee (70 years) at Woodhall with a morning of music and dance followed by a family picnic. We hope that it will be a lovely day for our Woodhall family; and that as many of you can attend as possible. We will incorporate our traditional May Day celebrations; with the annual crowning of a May Queen, maypole dancing and Robin Hood and his Merry Men!

Although this isn't our 'summer fair' in few other activities/stalls happening on community groups that might like to be



terms of fundraising, it would be lovely to have a the day. If you have any ideas, or know any local involved, please let me know.

For any parents/carers willing to lend a hand on the day (don't worry, we will make sure that you are still able to share a picnic with your child/ren) – please let me know by emailing head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk. Once I know how many people can help, I will organise a meeting. The more, the merrier!

WOODHALL'S APPEAL FOR UKRAINE

Thank you so much for all of your donations. As always, we have been overwhelmed by your support and kindness. We have now closed the collection for the Easter break. If you still want to help, please visit the British Red Cross website: <https://donate.redcross.org.uk/appeal/ukraine-crisis-appeal>.

As always, please get in touch with any questions or concerns. Thanks everyone and have a very happy and safe Easter break. See you in the summer term!

Miss Lake

head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/woodhallprimaryschool>

At our recent 'Come and Learn' sessions, many parents/carers indicated that they'd like to attend workshops for different areas of the curriculum. If this is something that you'd be interested in, please complete and return this form so that we can begin to plan according to what parents would like.

Thanks!

I would be interested in attending parents' workshops in the following areas (depending on numbers, workshops may target the curriculum in general or specific key stages):

Reading

ICT

Phonics

E-safety

Writing

PSHE

Grammar/punctuation/spelling

Early Years

Maths

A different curriculum are (please specify): _____

The best time for me to attend a workshop would be (please circle):

Morning / afternoon / straight after school

Any other comments that might help us to plan workshops for parents? _____

Name/s of child/ren: _____

Signed: _____

Thanks for your help!

★ DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ★

DATE	EVENT	TIME
18.4.22	Easter Monday – SCHOOL CLOSED	
19.4.22	Back to school	8.30am Soft Start Children must be in by 8.50am
22.4.22	St.George’s Day dress-up: Knights/Princesses/Dragons	All day
2.5.22	Bank Holiday Monday – SCHOOL CLOSED	
w/b 9.5.22	Year 6 SATs Week Daily breakfast club (from 8am) Mental Health Week	Tests start at 9am
10.5.22	Y4/Y5 trip to ‘Swan Lake’	8.30am-4.15pm (approx.)
13.5.22	Woodhall F.A.Cup Tournament Day – followed by parents vs Year5/Year 6 football match	Morning
w/b 16.5.22	Walk to School Week	N/A
17.5.22	Year 6 Kwik Cricket Festival at Bushey Cricket Club	10am-3pm
27.5.22	Woodhall Jubilee Day (family picnic)	TBC
30.5.22 – 3.6.22 HALF TERM WEEK		
w/b 13.6.22	World Refugee Week	N/A
w/b 20.6.22	National School Sports’ Week	N/A
24.6.22	Woodhall School Sports’ Day	TBC
w/b 27.6.22	Children’s Art Week	N/A
30.6.22	Year 3 Athletics Festival	12.30-2.45pm
6.7.22	‘Window on Woodhall’ parents/carers open evening	TBC
8.7.22	School reports sent home	N/A
w/b 11.7.22	Class transition week (for all children)	N/A
13.7.22	Optional parents’ consultations	Afternoon
14.7.22	Year 5 & Year 6 performance	2pm/6pm
21.7.22	Year 6 leavers’ BBQ Year 1-Year 6 outdoor disco	TBC
22.7.22	Year 6 + parents’ breakfast Year 6 leavers’ assembly END OF TERM	9am Assembly time TBC 1pm finish

DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023:

AUTUMN TERM 2022



Thursday 1 st September	INSET – staff only
Friday 2 nd September	INSET – staff only
Monday 5 th September	All staff & children back to school
Monday 24 th October - Friday 28 th October	<i>Half term week</i>
Monday 5 th December	OCCASIONAL DAY – no staff or children
Wednesday 21 st December	End of term 1pm

SPRING TERM 2023



Thursday 5 th January	INSET – staff only
Friday 6 th January	INSET – staff only
Monday 9 th January	All staff & children back to school
Monday 13 th February-Friday 17 th February	<i>Half term week</i>
Friday 31 st March	End of term 1pm

SUMMER TERM 2023



Monday 17 th April	All staff & children back to school
Monday 29 th May-Friday 2 nd June	<i>Half term week</i>
Monday 5 th June	INSET – staff only
Friday 21 st July	Children finish 1pm

