



# WOODHALL SCHOOL



[www.woodhall.herts.sch.uk](http://www.woodhall.herts.sch.uk)

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Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Spring is in the air! It's been lovely to have lighter mornings and evenings. Our sports' fixtures are back up-and-running (with great success for our Y5/Y6 netball team, who won the local league) and the children have been enjoying running around in the fresh air. We are really looking forward to our visit from Ark Farm next week (staff and children!) Why not have a look at Ark Farm's website, where you can see lots of exciting photos of the animals that will be visiting:

<http://www.arkfarm.co.uk/>

Our Easter Egg Raffle is back, and bigger than ever! Tickets for our Easter raffle (one raffle for children, another for adults) will be available at home time from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March. £1 per strip of tickets. Money raised will help us to buy new books for classrooms and our school library. The raffle will be drawn during the last week of the spring term. Good luck everyone!



## NURSERY PLACES

***It's not too late to secure a place in Woodhall's fantastic Nursery!*** Applications must be made via the school. If you, or someone you know, is interested in a place then please contact the school office or download an application form from the website. Parents/carers will be contacted to confirm their child's place along with information about transition visits.



## SAVE THE DATE!

It's a very special year for the Queen, and we plan to celebrate the jubilee Woodhall-style! Plans are at an early stage, but please keep **FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MAY** free, as this will be our Woodhall Jubilee Day. What we can definitely guarantee is a day filled with music, dance and bringing the Woodhall community together. After the past couple of years, it's high time we held a school celebration! We will also incorporate our traditional crowning of the Woodhall May Queen.

If you would like to help, or you know any community groups that might be interested in coming along (e.g. a music/dance groups) then please let me know.

## CONSULTATIONS

Despite being relatively 'back to normal' in terms of attendance this half-term, we have decided to continue with telephone consultations. This will be the final time, and in the summer term we hope to be able to offer you a choice between coming into school or the teacher phoning you.

Please note that, if you do not answer the phone at the organised time, the teacher will move you to the 'back of the list' so that he/she can try you again later. If possible, we will



leave a message to say that we have phoned. Please do not call the school back, as each teacher will be phoning parents at pre-arranged times.

If you are unable to answer for a second time, we will send a copy of the consultation sheet home for you.

Consultations are an important meeting between teachers and parents/carers. Teachers will talk to you about the progress that your child is making across the curriculum as well as their social/emotional well-being. You will also have the opportunity to ask any questions or discuss any concerns. Look out for the email!

## **MINI-POLICE**



Our Year 5 class have been taking part in the brilliant programme 'Mini-Police'. Each week has a different focus, with local officers Chris and Ross bringing colleagues from other divisions in to talk to the children. So far, they've had a 'getting to know you' session, learnt about Anti-Social Behaviour and ways of tackling it, and we've had a visit from the Transport Police. We are looking forward to drill practice, carrying out a speed awareness operation and a visit from the Dog Division!

Officer Ross Huegdon has shared details of a new local initiative whereby residents can share any concerns:

*In summary we use this as a way for residents to highlight any concerns they have or areas we might patrol. This can be because of anti-social behaviour occurring daily or anything else you'd like us to tackle in the community (i.e. drug dealing, rowdy youths, etc).*

*If there are safety concerns the link can also be used for this. Previously we've had feedback by a resident who mentioned that she'd avoid a certain area at night due to fears of crime. In response to this we patrol the area by foot and in our Police vehicles during all hours. And after a period of time we received a positive result.*

*When filling out the comments add the locations for each feedback, so it can filter for the local officers to manage – should anything be Carpenders Park related. Add the road name and Carpenders Park, it'll be filtered down to myself.*

Here is the link: <https://bit.ly/southoxheysafety>



## **WORLD BOOK DAY**

Thank you for helping the children to dress up in their 'World Book Day' outfits – they looked amazing. We had all kinds of creatures, from the Three Little Pigs to Hedwig the owl! The children took part in various reading activities throughout the day and we all enjoyed listening to MC Grammar's World Book Day song again...and again...and again! You can see some of the photos on our school website. Teaching children to become fluent readers is just the start of their journey; at Woodhall, we foster a lifetime love of reading in many ways; through the use of high-quality texts across the curriculum, teachers reading for pleasure to their classes, sharing stories in assembly, older children reading to younger children, parents sharing their

favourite books from childhood and much more. Next term, we will be able to hold parent workshops with a focus on reading. Keep your eyes peeled for further details!



## **E-SAFETY**

Over the past couple of weeks we have had some issues surrounding the use of particular social media apps such as WhatsApp. Whilst these concerned older children (and parents of these classes would have received a letter about the issues), it's always worthwhile reminding everyone to check children's use of social media, games and internet use. Things change at an alarming pace and it can be difficult for us all to keep up. However, we need to make sure that our children know how to stay safe online, how to keep others safe, and how to report anything that might worry or concern them.

Here are some useful websites with guidance and resources for parents/carers.

NSPCC: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Think U Know (National Crime Agency): <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Internet Matters: <https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/> - this site also has great advice for locking a device down.

National Online Safety (this site has the extremely helpful 'What Parents Need to Know' guides which we share on our website): <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>

In addition to the above, did you know that online activity can be monitored via your broadband provider to ensure that your child stays safe on the Internet? *GoCompare*, have also compiled a guide to broadband parental controls and Internet safety for children - check their guide out for further information:

<https://www.gocompare.com/broadband/parental-controls/>

Please check that all options, on each accessible device within the home, are age appropriate. For example, WhatsApp is age 16+, Twitter, Instagram and many other social media apps are age 13+. Gaming has a PEGI age rating system just like the DVD classification system and it is easy to find out what is and what is not appropriate by visiting <https://pegi.info/>

## **WOODHALL APPEAL FOR UKRAINE**



We know how thoughtful and generous the Woodhall community is and that your thoughts have been with families affected by the conflict in Ukraine. We are collecting donations (items, not money - please see photo) to help support the people of Ukraine. Items will be taken from Woodhall to the Watford Polish Club by one of our brilliant mums, Aggie, from where it will be sent on. Items must be donated by Friday 25th March. Please feel free to share this information as we are happy to be a collection point for the local community. Thank you.

As always, please get in touch with any questions or concerns. Thanks everyone!

Miss Lake

[head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk)

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



# ★ DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ★

DATE	EVENT	TIME
10.3.22	'Come and Learn with Year 1' afternoon	2pm
14.3.22	Ark Farm visit to Woodhall	All day
15.3.22	Year 1/Year 2 Great Fire of London Wow Day	
16.3.22	Harrow School F.A.Cup anniversary football tournament	Afternoon – details TBC
17.3.22	Year 5 Tag Rugby Festival	12.30-2.45pm
18.3.22	Year 6 ukulele workshop	Morning
21.3.22	'Come and Learn with Year 3' afternoon	2pm
24.3.22	Year 3/Year 4 Spring Concert <i>CANCELLED: PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS WILL NOW BE INCORPORATED INTO OUR JUBILEE DAY</i>	6pm
25.3.22	Year 1/Year2 percussion workshop	Morning
28.3.22	Staff INSET – no children at school today	
30.3.22	Year 6 £2 Challenge	
1.4.22	End of Term	1pm finish
<b>4.4.22 EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>		
27.5.22	Woodhall Jubilee Day	TBC
<b>30.5.22 HALF TERM WEEK</b>		
<b>22.7.22 END OF SUMMER TERM</b>		

**free**

last year  
 this girl  
 this girl you see  
 she was not a refugee  
 but just a child  
 who loved to read  
 to walk with grandma  
 by the sea  
 the nights were loud  
 they had to flee  
 so now  
 we call her refugee  
 she is a child  
 may she be free  
 she could be you  
 she could be me

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