



WOODHALL SCHOOL



PASSION ● RESILIENCE ● RESPONSIBILITY ● ASPIRATION ● INCLUSIVITY ● FAMILY

Telephone: 0208 428 3447 www.woodhall.herts.sch.uk Email: admin@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

Woodhall Lane, South Oxhey, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD19-6QX.

Wednesday 7th September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

WELCOME BACK! It has been wonderful to see all of the children back in school. Did you all receive your 'Spotlight On...' letters in the summer holidays? An extra-special Woodhall welcome to all of our new families – both in Early Years and those who have joined other year groups too. We talk to the children all of the time about being part of our 'Woodhall Family' and this includes parents, carers, staff and governors too. **Woodhall is a school that feels like home, with staff that feel like family and where children are not just educated, they are nurtured.** Many of you have already expressed your personal worries around the current economic crisis and what the future might bring. Like a family, we will support each other through challenging times. If you are struggling, please come and talk to us. At the end of this newsletter, you will find contact details for various organisations that may also be able to provide support.

We have many exciting things planned for this term. Over the next few weeks, we will be adding an all-new assembly rota and updated enrichment maps to our school website as well as a parents' version of our School Development Plan, which outlines our aims for this academic year and beyond. We are also reintroducing face-to-face parent consultations and themed class assemblies. Lots to look forward to!

COMMUNICATION

We have a range of means by which you can talk to your child's class teacher. Teachers are available at home time when they lead their classes out. You can email teachers (alongside this newsletter, you will receive a leaflet entitled 'Who's Who at Woodhall' which contains teachers' email addresses) or contact the school office and ask that the teacher phones you – please bear in mind that phone calls will be made after school. For any concerns about your child's learning, behaviour or home issues, please contact the class teacher in the first instance.

Information regarding attendance procedures is sent home regularly. If your child is going to be absent, please inform Sue/Nikki in the morning or email attendance@woodhall.herts.sch.uk.

Medical information should be shared with Sue or Nikki in the school office either by talking to them on the school gate in the morning or phoning the school on 0208 428 3447. Where appropriate (for example, if your child needs a detailed medical plan), a member of our SENCo team may contact you. If your child needs medication in school for a set time period, we will ask you to complete the relevant permission form.

If you would like to talk to me, I am on the school gate most mornings and can also be contacted via email; head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk



We have an 'open door' approach at Woodhall. It is always better to talk about any worries or concerns that you have so that we can find a solution together. Equally, if you have something positive to say, then we would love to hear it!

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

All children in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 are entitled to a free school lunch. This is via government funding known as 'universal free school meals'. **HOWEVER, if you are in receipt of particular benefits, you can register for free school meals, which covers children from Reception up to Year 6.** Registering means that the school receives an amount of pupil premium funding which helps to pay for learning resources as well as potentially subsidising school trips and clubs.

To find out whether you qualify, please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals. If you need help to do this, please don't hesitate to speak to Sue in the school office, who will help you to navigate the process!

ASSEMBLIES AT WOODHALL



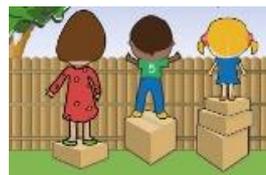
Have you ever thought about what a school assembly consists of at Woodhall? We plan our assemblies very carefully to ensure that we are offering enriching experiences, collective worship and promoting children's social, emotional and mental well-being. National/international events such as Anti-bullying Week, Fair Trade Fortnight etc. and notable religious celebrations such as Diwali and Advent are built into our rota, as well as special days such as 'Children in Need'. We have a spotlight on safeguarding every half-term, where we cover a variety of areas such as online safety, protective behaviours, bullying etc.

Accompanying music is carefully considered, with the children walking in and out of the hall to a piece of music fitting with the week's theme and building children's knowledge and enjoyment of important artists/groups. We love singing at Woodhall, and once a week the school comes together for a singing assembly (this half-term, we are learning 'Lean on Me by Bill Withers').

At Woodhall, we take huge pride in the success and achievements of every single child. Each Friday we hold our celebration assembly, where certificates and awards are given for both academic and pastoral success. We also love to celebrate children's achievements out of school, so if your child has won an award or is doing something extra-special, please let us know so that we can all celebrate together!

Visitors are warmly welcome at Woodhall, and last year we had a wide variety of brilliant people who came to talk to the children...our MP, local councillors, local police, local churches etc. Do you know anyone who might be a great person to talk to the children (either in class or assembly)? This could be on a personal (e.g. sharing aspects of a religion, or home language, or culture) or professional (talking about a job) basis. Please let me know!

You can find this term's assembly rota on our school website.



PARENT/CARER REPRESENTATIVES

With ongoing strain on the school budget, fundraising is more important than ever! Thank you to those parents who have volunteered to be representatives for their children's class. Being a parent representative will include meeting me to discuss various fundraising ideas (or other school events) and then communicating these to other parents in the class/being a point of contact.



I am looking for parent representatives for **Early Years, Year 2 and Year 3**. If you think that you might be able to do this, please contact me and we can get the ball rolling! Thank you.

PARENT/CARER WORKSHOPS

We are pleased to bring you a variety of workshops over this academic year, starting with an overview of the Woodhall curriculum (15.9), phonics (5.10), reading (19.10) and SEND (8.11) – year groups specified below. We hope that the workshops will not only give you an understanding of ‘how we do things here’ but also the opportunity to ask questions and find out how you can support your child at home. We look forward to seeing you there!

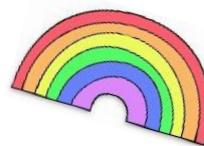
★ DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ★

DATE	EVENT	TIME
14.9.22	<i>Year 3 Ancient Greeks WOW Day</i>	All day (in school)
15.9.22	<i>Years 1-6 Parents’/Carers’ Curriculum Workshop: an overview of how we plan our Woodhall curriculum.</i>	2-3pm
16.9.22	<i>Year 1 Amazing Animals WOW Day</i>	All day (in school)
19.9.22	<i>Year 4/5 South America WOW Day</i>	All day (in school)
21.9.22	<i>Year 2 Explorers WOW Day</i>	All day (in school)
22.9.22	<i>Year 6 World War 2 WOW Day</i>	All day (in school)
26.9.22	<i>Children can start learning/writing poems for our World Poetry Day competition</i>	N/A
27.9.22	<i>Year 6 Multi-sport festival</i>	4-6pm (at Orchard School, Watford)
30.9.22	<i>The Woodhall Marathon (sponsored event)</i>	All day – further information to follow
5.10.22	<i>Nursery – Y4 Parents’/Carers’ Phonics Workshop: teaching & learning, how to support your child at home, phonics resources.</i>	2-3pm
6.10.22	<i>World Poetry Day – heats in class (final on 7.9.22)</i>	N/A
11.10.22	<i>Parents’ Consultations</i>	Times will be sent out
12.10.22	<i>Parents’ Consultations</i>	Times will be sent out
13.10.22	<i>Year 4/5’s Diwali Assembly (parents/carers invited)</i>	9am
13.10.22	<i>Year 4 Tri-Golf Festival</i>	12.30-2.45pm (at St. Joseph’s)
W/B 17.10.22	<i>Woodhall’s ‘Spooky Shop’ open (Halloween novelties)</i>	3.30-4pm daily
19.10.22	<i>Years 1-6 Parents’/Carers’ Reading Workshop: expectations, teaching & learning, how to help your child at home.</i>	2-3pm
20.10.22	<i>EYFS Harvest Craft Parents’ Workshop</i>	Further information to follow
21.10.22	<i>Woodhall’s Harvest Festival</i>	9am
24.10-28.10.22 HALF TERM WEEK		

31.10.22	Halloween Dress-Up (£2 per child - fundraising)	N/A
3.11.22	Year 3's Bonfire Night Assembly (parents/carers invited)	9am
3.11.22	Neon Disco (come wearing your brightest colours; neon novelties for sale during the day)	6-7.30pm
8.11.22	Nursery-6 Parents'/Carers' SEND Workshop: an overview of SEND processes, how to support your child at home.	2-3pm
9.11.22	'Window into Woodhall' Open Evening	5.30-6.30pm
11.11.22	Year 6 present 'Woodhall Remembers' (a Remembrance Day assembly; parents/carers of Year 6 children invited)	10.30am (to include the silence at 11am)
16.11.22	Year 6 trip to the Imperial War Museum	Further information to follow
24.11.22	Year 5 Fun Run	12.30-2.45pm (South Oxhey Playing Fields)
30.11.22	St.Andrew's Day – blue/white dress up (just for fun)	N/A
1.12.22	EYFS trip to local church/posting Christmas letters	Further information to follow
5.12.22	Occasional Day: school closed	N/A
13.12.22	KS2 present 'Carols by Candlelight'	6pm
14.12.22	EYFS Christmas story/songs	11am-12pm
14.12.22	Year 1/Year 2's Christmas Play	2pm & 6pm
19.12.22	The X-Mas Factor (talent show)	Afternoon
21.12.22	End-of-term	School finishes at 1pm
9.1.23	Children back to school	8.30am Soft Start



Thank you,
Miss Lake



head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

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

NEED SOME SUPPORT?

Here are some helpful contacts. As always, please come and talk to someone at Woodhall if you are struggling and we will do all we can to connect you with people/groups that can support you.

CAP MONEY COURSE

The CAP Money Course is a free course that will teach you budgeting skills and a simple system to successfully manage your money. In just a few weeks, you will get to grips with your finances so you can budget, save and prevent debt. Whether you already feel pretty organised or whether you feel the panic rising when you try to spend money from your account, the CAP Money Course will help you take complete control of your finances.

<https://capuk.org/get-help/get-to-grips-with-your-finances?step-two=show&find=money-course&postcode=WD19+6QX>

NATIONAL DEBTLINE (0808 808 4000)

Get free, confidential and independent advice on dealing with debt problems in the UK.

www.nationaldebtline.org

WATFORD FOOD BANK (based at South Oxhey Baptist Church) <https://www.watfordfoodbank.co.uk/>

ASCEND: STEP UP (0208 420 1364)

Step Up is a partnership project between ASCEND and Three Rivers District Council. The project is based at 39 Oxhey Drive and is open weekdays from 9am to 4.30pm. It provides a drop-in facility and coffee bar for clients; training spaces for courses, interview rooms for counselling and guidance and a workspace for staff and volunteers. The project is also a hub for other organisations such as **Herts Mind Network, Community Health Service, Herts Help and the Enhanced Primary Mental Health Service.**

ASCEND: JOB CLUB (0208 428 6725)

ASCEND's Job Club currently runs from Step Up on a Wednesday morning from 10am to 12 noon, supporting people to get back into employment. Job Club advisers can help you with on-line job searches, writing CVs and job application letters.



Whatever you're facing
We're here to listen

SAMARITANS
Call free day or night on
116 123



**If you're worried
about a child:**

 **0808 800 5000**

 **help@nspcc.org.uk**

 **www.nspcc.org.uk**