

# Woodhall Weekly



Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Woodhall Families,

It's been a lovely start to the new school year, helped along by the sunshine. For the first week back, the focus has been on making sure that children are settled, taking part in team-building activities and ensuring that children understand what they can do if they feel worried about anything.

We have also started the process of electing our new Woodhall School Parliamentarians, with children learning about how the UK Parliament works, the qualities that a Member of Parliament (MP) should have, and writing speeches in preparation for class elections.

The children have been busy designing logos for their new class names: Seashells, Starfish, Dolphins, Turtles and Sharks, deciding upon class charters (or class rules) as well as beginning their new year group curriculum. The amount of hard work and effort shown by all of the children made it very difficult to choose the winners for our certificates this week (don't forget that you can see the winners on our Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/woodhallprimaryschool/>)!

Thank you,

Michelle Lake

Headteacher

## Notices

### 'SEE HOW WE LEARN' CLASS WORKSHOPS

We are pleased to bring you the return of our class workshops, where you are warmly invited to come into school and join your child for the afternoon. Each class teacher will introduce a particular subject/focus area and talk about how this is taught within their classroom, including the basic concepts taught and 'ways into' learning such as games or other hands-on activities. Teachers will also give advice on how you might support your child at home.

Workshops will take place on the following afternoons and run from 2-3pm:

**TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER:** Sharks Class (Year 6) Reading with upper Key Stage 2 children ('VIPERS')

**WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER:** Starfish Class (Years 1 & 2) Phonics

**TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** Dolphins Class (Year 3/4) Maths – learning through games

**WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** Turtles Class (Y4/5) Grammar

### EARLY YEARS (NURSERY/RECEPTION) WORKSHOP

This will be slightly different to the other workshops, as we thought that it would be helpful to provide parents with an overview of the Early Years curriculum. This workshop will be for parents only; the children will remain in class. If you are the parent of a Nursery child and attending the workshop might be tricky for you in terms of childcare, please speak to Miss Jones.

**TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** Seashells Class (Nursery/Reception) Understanding the Early Years curriculum  
(2-3pm)

### HOMEWORK

Homework is a very important part of a child's education and can add much to a child's development. Children benefit greatly from the mutual support of parents and teachers in encouraging them to learn both at home and at school. One of the aims of our school is for children to develop as independent learners, and we believe that homework is one of ways in which children can acquire the skill of independent learning.

Your child's class teacher will email you regarding the day that homework is set in their class, the format in which it should be completed and when work should be handed in for checking or marking.

At Woodhall, children from Year 1-Year 6 are set a daily phonics/reading task. Children from Years 1-6 will also be set a maths task, based on number bonds/times tables. Other tasks, including online learning (using specified educational websites), project work or home learning in subjects other than maths/English will be set by each class teacher as appropriate.

Outstanding examples of homework or good attitudes towards completing homework are always celebrated in class, and often in our Friday celebration assembly too!

### STEP 2 SKILLS : THE MULTIPLY PROJECT

We are very excited that Woodhall will be hosting the Step 2 Skills Multiply Project, a series of interactive and engaging workshops to support parents who would like to build up their maths skills and confidence. Dates/times etc. will be confirmed as soon as possible. In the meantime, Elise Hoare, the project lead, will be out and about at home time on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September** to talk to parents about the project.

If you wish to contact Elise in the meantime, please call her on 01438 845047 or email on [elise.hoare@hertforshire.gov.uk](mailto:elise.hoare@hertforshire.gov.uk).

### PARENTS OF YEAR 6 CHILDREN: SECONDARY TRANSITION ADVICE

Lisa Sillitoe, our local area Specialist Transition Outreach Worker will be at Woodhall from 1:30 to 3:30pm on **Tuesday 3rd October**.

If you would to come and have a chat with Lisa about the admissions process for your child's transition to secondary school (September 2024), please email her for an appointment at:

[lisasillitoe@dsplarea9.org.uk](mailto:lisasillitoe@dsplarea9.org.uk)

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

**MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER:** Weekly Swimming sessions begin for Year 3 children.

**WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER:** National Fitness Day (dress-up £1 per child)

DRESS  
UP  
DAY!

**TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER:** Sharks Class (Y6) 'See how we learn' workshop, 2-3pm.

**WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER:** Starfish Class (Y1/2) 'See how we learn' workshop, 2-3pm.

**MONDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER:** Harvest collection starts.

**TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER:** Lisa Sillitoe in school: secondary transition advice for parents

**THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** 'Magical Minds' well-being workshops for children

**TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** Seashells (Nursery/Reception) parents' workshop 2-3pm.

**TUESDAY 10<sup>th</sup>/WEDNESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** Parents' consultation evenings.

**THURSDAY 12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** School photos.

**FRIDAY 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** Harvest Festival.

**TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** Dolphins Class (Y3/4) 'See how we learn' workshop, 2-3pm.

**MONDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> – FRIDAY 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER:** Half-term week.

**MONDAY 30<sup>th</sup>-THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER:** After-school sale – neon novelties.

**TUESDAY 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER:** Halloween dress-up (£1 per child)

DRESS  
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**THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER:** Neon disco 6-7.30pm.

**FRIDAY 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER:** 'Woodhall Remembers': Year 6 lead our Remembrance assembly.

**THURSDAY 16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER:** The Happy Puzzle Company children's workshops (team work and resilience skills)

**FRIDAY 17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER:** Children in Need Day (dress-up for a donation to charity)

**MONDAY 4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER:** School closed (Occasional Day).

**TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER:** Year 6 Bikeability Week begins (cycling proficiency).

**WEDNESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER:** Christmas Jumper Day/Christmas dinner day.

**TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER:** Woodhall's Christmas Extravaganza (2pm/6pm)

**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER:** Y1-Y6 trip to Watersmeet pantomime. Oh yes it is!

**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER:** Mr. Marvel the Magician visits Nursery/Reception/Year 1.

**THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER:** Woodhall's Christmas Extravaganza (6pm)

**WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER:** End of term (1pm)

DRESS  
UP  
DAY!

# USEFUL CONTACTS

**Headteacher:** Miss M. Lake

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

**SENCo:** Mrs S. Raithatha

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

**EYFS (SEA SHELLS) Teacher/EYFS SENCo:** Miss N. Jones

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

**Year 1/2 (STARFISH) Teachers:** Mr J. Hancock

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

**Year 3/4 (DOLPHINS) Teacher:** Mr J. Rubeck

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

**Year 4/5 (TURTLES) Teacher:** Mrs E. Cooper Battersby

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

**Year 6 (SHARKS) Teachers:** Mrs J. Fitzgerald & Miss M. Lake

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

## SCHOOL OFFICE

0208 428 3447

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

**For notification of absence, please email:**

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

*AND FINALLY...*

## PLEASE HELP TO SUPPORT YOUR SCHOOL!

We are looking for anyone – parents or wider family members – to help us build a new ‘Friends of Woodhall’ group so that we can organise school fundraising events.

**Can you help?!**

**Please let me know** by emailing me: [head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk), by talking to me (on the school gate on a Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday morning is usually best) or by letting the school office/your child’s class teacher know. If you could leave the best mobile number to contact you on, that would be great.

**Thank you!**

