

# Woodhall Weekly



Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

Dear Woodhall Families,

After last night's storm, we were surprised not to come to school this morning and find a yellow brick road!

Last week was extremely busy at Woodhall, with lots of new clubs starting. If your child would like to join a club that has already started, it's not too late! Please speak to Nikki or Fouzia in the Office, who'll be happy to help. We all enjoyed a performance from our talented violinists in our celebration assembly, and we're please to announce that new places have become available in the group. If your child would like to start violin lessons, please see the letter that was sent home.

We were incredibly proud of our Year 6 children last week. They took part in an indoor athletics competition at Merchant Taylors' School. Mr. Speakes reported that, despite the huge challenges that they faced (there were only 19 Woodhall pupils, and some schools had 60 Year 6 children, meaning that our children did not get any break between events!), they gave everything 100%, worked tirelessly and brilliantly as a team, supported one another and always congratulated other schools. They represented Woodhall in the very best way possible, and we are SO proud of each and every one of them!

Today, we are pleased to welcome a familiar face back to Woodhall. Mr. Yusef – formerly known as Wessley, the school cook – has joined us as a teaching assistant! Although he will work mainly with our Starfish Class, Mr. Yusef will also be organising lunchtime games on the playground. The children are very excited to have him back, and we know that you will make him feel very welcome.

Thanks everyone!

Michelle Lake

Headteacher

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

## Notices

### PARENTS'/CARERS' CONSULTATION EVENINGS

This term's parent/teacher consultations will take place on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>/Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February**. We are offering both face-to-face and telephone appointments. Today, you will receive a consultation form.

Please record your preferred date/time and return the form to school by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February**.

Appointment times will be sent out next week.

Please note that if you do not return your form, you will be given a telephone appointment. Thank you.

### **ATTENDANCE MATTERS!**

You may have heard the information adverts on television and the radio at the moment concerning children's school attendance. Just taking one day off school means missing at least **6 hours of vital learning, 1 hour of physical activity** and **1.5 hours of spending time with friends**.

Missing even one day at Woodhall really does mean missing out! If your child was absent last week, they may have missed...an incredible yoga session, a thrilling trip to Hazard Alley, getting fantastic new books from the local library, learning new songs in assembly, whizzy new Tag Rugby and Ninja Warrior Clubs, an incredible athletics competition, the always amazing Friday Disco and a superb violin performance...all of that in one week! Please help us improve our attendance this half term and make sure your child is getting the best start to the new year. Have a look at the new attendance information on our school website ([www.woodhall.herts.sch.uk](http://www.woodhall.herts.sch.uk))

Post-Covid, we all worry about symptoms of illness. If you are concerned that your child is too ill to come to school, the NHS have produced some excellent guidelines to put your mind at rest. Have a look at <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

### **RSPB BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH 2024**

This weekend marks the RSPB's annual BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH...and you can take part!

Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of people take part, helping to build a picture of how our garden birds are faring. In assembly today, we talked about how to be involved. You don't even need to have a garden! Children can simply look out of a window and record the garden birds that they see, or go to a local park and do the same.

If your child would like to take part, survey forms will be available at school. The easiest way to let the RSPB know what you saw is by logging your results online at [www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch](http://www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch). However, you can also complete a survey, bring it back to school and I will submit them all by post. If you see a bird that's not included on the RSPB list, make a note of it. The RSPB love to hear about other birds that you have seen. Good luck and happy birdwatching!

### **WOODHALL'S NEW YOGA CLUB**

Last week, we were very lucky to take part in some yoga taster sessions, delivered by qualified instructor and Woodhall mum Louisa! *Did you know that Yoga and mindfulness can transform children's experience of school and it's for EVERYONE, regardless of ability?!* Yoga classes combine physical stretching and strengthening exercises from traditional yoga with calm breathing and mindfulness techniques to address children's physical, mental and emotional needs. Yoga supports children's learning at school and can improve concentration, behaviour and confidence. ***We are really excited to announce that a new Yoga Club will be starting at Woodhall from next Monday (29<sup>th</sup>)!***

For **Sharks** (Year 6), Yoga Club will take place on **Monday mornings from 8.00-8.45am** (*children will then go straight to class*).

For **Dolphins and Turtles** (Years 3/4/5), the Club will take place on **Mondays after school, 3.30-4.30pm**.

If you would like your child to take part in this highly beneficial club. Please complete and return the form sent out last week (or ask at the School Office). Thank you!

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

**TUESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY:** Dolphins visit to Oxhey Library

**TUESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY:** Seashells visit to Oxhey Library

**MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY:** 'Healthy Heroes' healthy eating/fitness session for Year 2

**TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY:** 'Stay Active' session for Year 3/Year 4

**TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY:** Turtles visit to Oxhey Library

**TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup>/WEDNESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY:** Parents' consultation evenings

**FRIDAY 9<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY:** Chinese New Year art & craft morning

**TUESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY:** Sharks visit to Oxhey Library

**MONDAY 19<sup>th</sup> – FRIDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> FEBRUARY: HALF TERM WEEK**

**MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY:** Back to school

**TUESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY:** Starfish visit to Oxhey Library

**FRIDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH:** Sharks' class assembly (9am)

**TUESDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Dolphins visit to Oxhey Library

**THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** World Book Day

**FRIDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Turtles' class assembly (9am)

**TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Woodhall Careers' Day

**TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Seashells visit to Oxhey Library

**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Dolphins/Turtles trip to Verulamium Museum, St. Albans

**FRIDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Starfish class assembly

**TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Turtles visit to Oxhey Library

**FRIDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH:** Dolphins' class assembly

**TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Easter bonnet-making day (all classes)

**TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Sharks visit to Oxhey Library

**WEDNESDAY 27<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Easter disco (evening)

**THURSDAY 28<sup>th</sup> MARCH:** Easter Bonnet Parade/End of term (school finishes at 1pm)



# USEFUL CONTACTS

**Headteacher:** Michelle 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 & Mr G. Speakes

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

## SCHOOL OFFICE

0208 428 3447

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