

Woodhall Weekly



Friday 24th January 2025



Another busy week aboard the Good Ship Woodhall and especially in our Tiger Cubs class where children and parents took part in a special **'Story Sacks' workshop** yesterday. Thanks to all those who came along! Story Sacks are a fantastic way to interact with children and using them supports the **development of language and communication, imagination and storytelling skills**. Please enjoy using our Story Sacks and let us know how you get on!

It's been very exciting to award our **all-new Maths Olympics** certificates during our weekly celebration assembly, with the pile of awards growing bigger each week! The Woodhall Maths Olympics is based around children **knowing** and being able to **quickly recall** their **times tables**; an essential skill. Many of us can remember learning multiplication as children. Chanting and reciting full sets as a class, revising the multiplication tables...the jump from knowing how to add and subtract numbers to becoming familiar with multiplication can feel large and complex. However, once mastered, times tables become second nature and are **fundamental in many other areas of maths**

The importance of learning times tables is as important today as it has ever been. Key advantages include:

- **Application in daily life** e.g., working out amounts for a recipe
- **Development of basic mathematical building blocks**...division and long multiplication are introduced into the maths curriculum following basic multiplication. Without this primary knowledge, the following stages would feel much more challenging to pupils. As children become faster at recalling times tables, they will be able to solve more complex maths in much less time.
- **Building confidence with more complex tasks**...multiplication skills don't just help with maths! They can also boost communication skills, improve memory, help gain analytical and numerical skills, and even apply to subjects you wouldn't expect!
- **Developing key skills and number sense**: this can include progressive skills in counting, grouping, estimation, quantity, time and distance.

At Woodhall, children start with their **QUALIFYING 1** challenge and progress through the **QUALIFYING 2, FINALIST, BRONZE, SILVER, GOLD** and **CHAMPION** stages before finally taking the **OLYMPIAN challenge!** As they achieve each stage of the Maths Olympics, children receive a certificate to take home. Anyone achieving Olympian status will also receive a very special prize! Here are some excellent websites to help support your child with their times table learning at home:



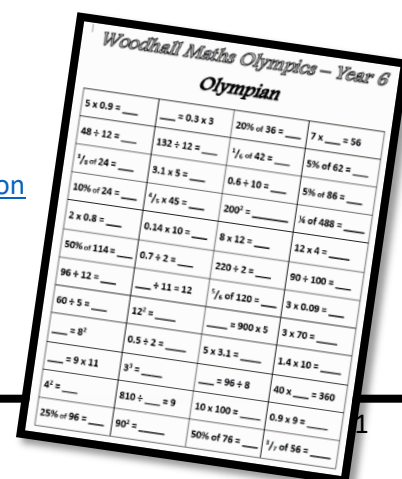
<https://www.arcademics.com/games/grand-prix>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/topics/cnep90jwj7t>

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Happy times-tabling and have a lovely weekend!

Michelle Lake/head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk



JAGUARS & LIONS...‘COME & LEARN!’

Don't forget that Mrs B and Mr Rubeck are running a fantastic **‘Come & Learn’ workshop** for parents/carers of children in **Key Stage 2** (Years 3/4/5/6) on **Thursday 30th January at 2pm**. The focus of the session is **GRAMMAR...what is it? Why do we teach it? How do we teach it?** Come and find out what National Curriculum expectations are for each year group; **resources, hints, tips, tricks and more!** Please sign in at the school office before joining your child at the session. We look forward to seeing you there!

WOODHALL YOGA DROP-IN SESSION

As you know, we have been thrilled to provide all children from Years 1-6 a **weekly children's yoga session** with our brilliant Sisu Yoga teacher **Louisa**. With the huge pressures upon children and the rise in concerns about **emotional and mental well-being**, yoga is a perfect way to support children with **calm breathing** and **mindfulness techniques, stretching** and **strengthening exercises** and to help them to **put aside worries** and **make positive choices**. We are proud to be the **only** local primary school to offer yoga as part of an enriched curriculum.

We would love to invite parents and carers to come and see what it's all about! On **Monday 3rd February**, please feel free to drop in to one of Louisa's Yoga sessions. Class timings are as follows, but if you cannot make the time of your child's class session then you are very welcome to drop in to any of the sessions.

Panthers: 1-1.30pm

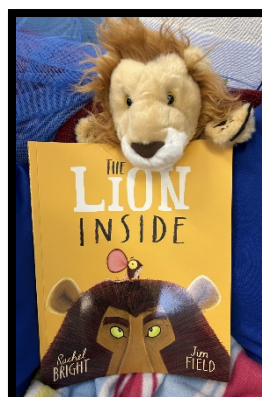
Jaguars: 1.30-2pm

Lions: 2-2.30pm

Come along and see the benefits of our yoga sessions for yourself!

IS YOUR CHILD A FUSSY EATER?!

Are you at your wit's end in trying to provide healthy, balanced meals that your child will actually eat? You are absolutely not alone! Come along to our **free workshop** for parents/carers of children in **ALL** year groups on **Wednesday 5th February (9-10.30am)**, where experts from the brilliant **Bizzee Bodies** will **answer your questions**, provide **tips and ideas for changing habits** and much more...in a completely non-judgemental environment. **To reserve your place, please phone the School Office on 0208 428 3447**. The more, the merrier!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please note: life in primary school can be very eventful and sometimes we will need to make changes to the dates listed. When this happens, we will try to give you as much notice as possible.





DATE/TIME	EVENT	ANY OTHER INFORMATION
Monday 27th January	Three Rivers District Council Leisure Survey	TRDC are coming to talk to the children about the leisure facilities in South Oxhey
Tuesday 28th January	Year 6 SATs information session for parents/carers	3pm start
Thursday 30th January	Key Stage 2 (Jaguars/Lions) 'Come and Learn!' session	2pm start
Friday 31st January	Lunar New Year arts & crafts day Tiger Cubs Lunar New Year craft workshops for parents/carers	Any volunteers would be greatly appreciated!
Monday 3rd February	Yoga Drop-in session	1pm-2.30pm
Wednesday 5th February	HELP! My child is a fussy eater! Workshop for parents.	9am start
Thursday 6th February	Jaguars/Lions trip to St. Albans Cathedral: 'Museum of the Moon'	Please see letter sent out
Monday 10th February	Local author (and ex-Woodhall pupil!) K.P.Mann assembly	
Monday 17th-Friday 21st February/HALF TERM WEEK		
Monday 24th February	All back to school	
Tuesday 4th/Wednesday 5th March	Parents'/carers' consultation evenings	Appointment letters will be sent home before the half-term break
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day	Dress up
Wednesday 12th March	Jaguars/Lions carbon monoxide safety workshops	Parents'/carers' information letters will be sent home nearer the time
Thursday 3rd April	The Eggs Factor (talent show)	Afternoon
	Easter disco	6-7.30pm
Friday 4th April	End of term	School finishes at 1pm
Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April/EASTER HOLIDAYS		
Tuesday 22nd April	Back to school	
Wednesday 23rd April	St.George's Day dress-up	Dress as a knight, a princess or any famous George!
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday Monday	School closed
Monday 12th – Thursday 15th May	Year 6 SATs Week	Assessments start at 9am daily
Monday 26th May- Friday 30th May/HALF TERM WEEK		
Monday 2nd – Friday 6th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Week	Information will be given nearer to the date of these events
Monday 9th – Friday 13th June	Year 4 Multiplication Test Week	
Tuesday 24th June	Year 4 'Shine' concert (Electric Umbrella) at St. Albans' Cathedral	
Thursday 10th July	Year 6: Hertfordshire secondary transition day	
Wednesday 16th July	Parents/Carers' consultation evenings	
Thursday 17th July	Year 6 Leaving do/Years 1-6 disco	
Friday 18th July (1pm)	End of term; Year 6 leavers' breakfast/assembly	
Monday 21st August - Thursday 4th September/SUMMER HOLIDAYS		
ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026		
Friday 5th September	Back to school	8.30am Soft start
Monday 27th – Friday 31st October/ HALF TERM WEEK		
Monday 1st December	Occasional Day	School closed
Friday 19th December	End of term	School finishes at 1pm
Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January/CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS		
Monday 16th– Friday 20th February/HALF TERM WEEK		

CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST WEEK'S AWARD WINNERS!



WE ARE SO PROUD OF OUR AWARD WINNERS!



17.1.25	The Woodhall Wow: RESILIENCE	Learner of the Week
TIGER CUBS 	CARTER who has been trying so hard with his fine-motor activities this week. Great effort at some really tricky skills, Carter!	BIA who has been an amazing help and brilliant role-model to the other children and has helped them to learn new skills, like buttoning up those winter coats. Brilliant, Bia!
PANTHERS 	ALESSIA for the fantastic resilience she has shown in applying her phonics learning to her reading. Unstoppable!	AIZA for making the most incredible progress in her learning and always being willing to share her fabulous ideas and answers in class. She has found her Lion Inside!
JAGUARS 	CASEY who has also shown great resilience when editing her writing - and really improved an already excellent paragraph. Fantastic work.	EIHAN for his insuppressible enthusiasm and magnificent hard work across the curriculum. A wonderful role-model to everyone.
LIONS 	LEIGHA for her resilience and determination in completing tasks in all lessons this week. What an amazing effort!	SABIN for listening so well and applying skills to make great progress during Maths this week. It all adds up!

HOUSE POINTS

OAK	ASH	BEECH	ELM
120	83	117	38



Beezee FAMILIES

Sign up to our **FREE** workshop

How to help your child overcome fussy eating

Date: Wednesday 5th February Time: 9am -10:30am

Join our Beezee Families team and parents/carers for a **FREE** fussy eating workshop. Led by our nutritionists and Wellbeing Coordinators you can:

- Discover the reasons behind fussy eating
- Join an informal, inclusive and non-judgemental workshop
- Find out top tips for changing habits
- Take away an action plan for your family
- Get a 1:1 check in, a month later.

This workshop is suitable for parents/carers who are concerned their child (5-15 years) is above their ideal weight and want support.

Secure your **FREE** spot today

@ njones@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

hrt.maximusuk.co.uk 0208 428 3447

Hertfordshire 24-2485