

Woodhall Weekly



Friday 21st March 2025



We are often bowled over by the **wonderful comments** that visitors to Woodhall make about our lovely school and this week has been no exception!

On Monday, we welcomed **Jeevan Kang**, a Community Safety Manager from **Network Rail**. Jeevan came to talk to our Lions and Jaguars about a very important subject: keeping ourselves safe near railway lines. It's a subject that I remember learning at primary school (thankfully, the horrific 1980s videos that I remember have been updated!) and Jeevan engaged with the children using some excellent resources. He talked to us about the **weight and speed of trains** and why they **cannot stop quickly**; about using **level crossings safely** and also about **overhead power lines**. We listened to the tragic story of Harrison Ballatyne, a Year 7 pupil who had climbed up onto a wagon to retrieve his football when he was electrocuted by power arcing from the overhead power line. Harrison's mum now visits schools all over the country to make sure that all children know how to be safe around railway lines. Many of our Woodhall children will travel by train to their secondary school, lots of us use the local line to get to Watford or London; and we have main lines running at the back of Woodhall. **Please do talk to your child at home about what they learned**. You can visit <https://harrisonballantyne.org/> or <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/communities/safety-in-the-community/safety-education/> for some great resources and video clips to support a conversation with your child.

Lots of important religious festivals and celebrations happen at this time of year and here at Woodhall, we make sure that children have an understanding of different world religions. Our Muslim families are marking the holy month of **Ramadan** by fasting from sunrise to sunset; the festival of **Pesach** (or Passover) is approaching for the Jewish community and at Woodhall we marked the Christian season of **Lent** with a visit from our friend **Rev. Deborah Snowball**, who is the parish priest at All Saints' Church. Deborah talked to the children about why Lent is important to Christians, about Holy Week and the joyous message of Easter. We love Deborah's visits and we are looking forward to her next assembly at Woodhall!

Finally, a **spectacular ending** to our week as we surprised the children with a visit – *in real life!* – from our American friend, **Officer Marc Arnold!** The children have met Officer Marc before, but always remotely from his office at an elementary school in Sarasota County, Florida. Today, we told the children that we had set up another remote meeting, only to have Officer Marc appear from behind the curtains! He spent time talking to everyone about his visit to the UK – where he marched in London's St. Patrick's Day parade – and answered the children's many questions. We were very proud to present Officer Marc with his very own signed Woodhall sweatshirt. **WOW! What a way to end the week!**

Happy weekend everyone,

Michelle Lake

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EASTER DISCO with DJ MOLE

THURSDAY 3rd APRIL

6-7.30pm

Years 1-6



Tickets £3 per child (includes a drink)

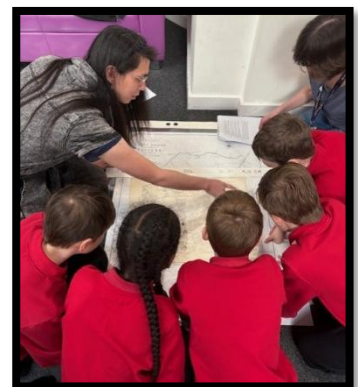
Please send money for tickets to school in an envelope clearly labelled with your child/s name/s.

Tasty treats will be available for children to buy at our **DISCO TUCKSHOP!** Please bring money on the night in a purse/wallet. School adults will look after children's money until it is their turn at the tuckshop.

What a way to celebrate the end of another term at Woodhall!

Yesterday, Year 5 visited **Oxhey Library** for a very exciting morning of **art** and **history**! Hertfordshire Libraries are celebrating their centenary (100 years) and the children took part in a brilliant workshop where they found out not only about the **very beginnings of the South Oxhey estate** but the Library itself...**did you know that Oxhey Library began life at 62, Little Oxhey Lane?** From 1951 until the mid-1960s- when the current library was built- an old house (since demolished) was the home of Oxhey Library. When Year 5 were not finding out about the history of the estate, they were busy creating **dragon eggs** with local artist **Abigail Lagden**. **A fantastic morning had by all!**

Abigail is holding a range of **creative workshops** during the **Easter holidays** at Oxhey Library. From magic wands to Grumpsters to 3D, if you fancy getting creative then just visit: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/libraries-and-archives/news-and-campaigns/my-story.aspx>









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
Thursday 27th March	Tiger Cubs 'Jungle Explorers' Day
Monday 31st March	Tiger Cubs Easter Bonnet workshop for parents/carers
Wednesday 2nd April	Easter bonnet-making day
Thursday 3rd April	The Eggs Factor (talent show)/Easter evening disco
Friday 4th April	End of term/Easter Bonnet parade
Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April/EASTER HOLIDAYS	
Tuesday 22nd April	Back to school
Wednesday 23rd April	St.George's Day dress-up
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday Monday
Monday 12th – Thursday 15th May	Year 6 SATs Week
Monday 26th May- Friday 30th May/HALF TERM WEEK	
Monday 2nd – Friday 6th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Week
Thursday 5th/Friday 6th June	Year 6 residential trip to Gulliver's Land
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
Monday 27th – Friday 31st October/ HALF TERM WEEK	
Monday 1st December	Occasional Day
Friday 19th December	End of term
Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January/CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	
Monday 16th– Friday 20th February/HALF TERM WEEK	
Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April/EASTER HOLIDAYS	
Monday 25th -Friday 29th May/HALF TERM WEEK	
Wednesday 22nd July	End of term



CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST WEEK'S AWARD WINNERS!

 WE ARE <u>SO</u> PROUD OF OUR AWARD WINNERS! 			
Yr. 3.25	The Woodhall Wow: PASSION	Learner of the Week	
TIGER CUBS 	ROSIE who has been taking on different jobs to help keep the classroom super tidy and looking amazing!	ISAIAS for making fantastic progress with his independent writing. An absolute Early Years star!	
PANTHERS 	PHOEBE for the passion and huge enthusiasm that she shows in all of our class reading. A really brilliant book worm!	REBECCA who has been working so hard in her maths learning and achieving great things when adding and subtracting tricky two-digit numbers.	
JAGUARS 	SHILOH for always showing great passion for learning; he always has his hand up and wants to contribute to the class discussion. He is an excellent example to the other Jaguars!	MASON for being a fantastic when playing King Henry VI in our learning about the War of the Roses and the Tudor Rise to power.	
LIONS 	DENIS who wrote such a passionate email trying to convince poachers to stop poaching gibbons. A great example of writing for purpose.	EMMA for working tirelessly and with huge effort in all grammar sessions. Definitely girl with great things ahead of her!	
HOUSE POINTS			
OAK	ASH	BEECH	ELM
169	177	122	136

USEFUL CONTACTS

Headteacher: Michelle Lake

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SENCo: Mrs Raithatha

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EYFS (TIGER CUBS) Teacher/EYFS SENCo: Miss Jones

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Year 1/2 (PANTHERS) Teachers: Mrs Fitzgerald/Mrs Biedul

Julie.Fitzgerald@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

lbiedul@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

Year 3/4/5 (JAGUARS) Teacher: Mrs Cooper Battersby

Ebattersby@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

Year 5/6 (LIONS) Teachers: Mr Rubeck

jrubeck@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

SCHOOL OFFICE

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For notification of absence, please email:

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