

Woodhall Weekly



Friday 4th April 2025



Wow! What a term at Woodhall! During this final week of term, children from Year 1 -Year 6 have been taking assessments in reading, writing and maths and it is brilliant to see such **fantastic progress** in all classes. **Well done everyone!** For such a short spring term, we've managed to fit an awful lot in...

In JANUARY, we had a visit from **Rabbi Adam Zagoria-Moffet** who talked to us about what being Jewish meant to him (and unrolled a very long scroll in the hall!); we welcomed our Early Years parents to a very special **Story Sacks** workshop; our older children talked to visitors from **Three Rivers District Council** about their local leisure facilities; Years 5 & 6 met **Obi and Mickey the Police dogs**; our Key Stage 2 parents attended a '**Come & Learn**' session on grammar and we celebrated the **Lunar New Year** with a fun-filled arts and crafts day!

In FEBRUARY, some of you dropped in to one of our **Yoga/mindfulness sessions** to get a taste of what we provide for our children each week. With the hard-hitting drama '*Adolescence*' and the documentary '*Brianna: A Mother's Story*', many experts are now advocating the teaching of mindfulness at a primary school level...at Woodhall, we've been doing this for months! February also saw a '**Come & Learn**' workshop on phonics and early reading for our Key Stage 1 parents. We held some '**Stay Active**' sessions – in addition to our usual PE – where the children loved competing in their House Groups. **Local author Kevin Peacock** came to read an extract from his new book '*The Land of Acornia*' in assembly; we absolutely loved taking part in a **samba drumming workshop** and we gazed in admiration at the giant moon hanging in **St. Albans' Cathedral!** And who could forget our visit from **Henry VIII** himself, in all of his royal finery...*definitely one for the Woodhall memory box!*

In MARCH, some of our Jaguars and Lions caught a brief glimpse of the sunshine as they took part in Level 1 & 2 **Bikeability** courses. This cycling scheme is excellent and teaches the children some crucial lifelong skills. Our Year 4 class visited the **Senior Lunch Club** at **Watford Rural Parish Council** where they enjoyed playing board games and getting to know some of South Oxhey's senior citizens. Hopefully the first of many visits! On **World Book Day** we all dressed in our pyjamas to celebrate bedtime stories and it was lovely to see our older children sharing stories with the younger pupils. March also brought some important **safety messages**; firstly, through our workshops on **carbon monoxide** and secondly through a visit from Jeevan at Network Rail, who taught the children about **railway safety**. Also in March, our Year 5 class visited **Oxhey Library** to join in with Hertfordshire Libraries centenary celebrations by creating **dragon eggs** and looking at maps of the local area from the 1800s up to the 1990s. Very useful preparation for our own birthday project! In the final week of March, we had a **surprise visitor from the USA**...and we'll never forget the children's faces as **Officer Marc** appeared from behind the curtains!

This week, we are **celebrating Easter** in true **Woodhall style**, with **bonnet-making**, **The Eggs Factor** talent show, an **Easter disco** and our **Easter parade, end-of-term celebration assembly** and **chocolate raffle**. *Time for a rest before our new summer term learning adventures begin!* **Happy Easter everyone**, from all of our staff and governors. **Have a lovely break** and see you on **Tuesday 22nd April!**

Michelle Lake

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NEW WOODHALL STAFF TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED!

Do you fancy joining the Woodhall Team? We have a vacancy for a **Personal Assistant** position: up to **8 hours per week** with a **competitive salary**. The successful candidate would need to be self-employed (a simple process to complete via the Government website). Major duties would include carrying out tasks such as filing, display work, resource preparation, moving equipment and cleaning.

We are also looking for a **1:1 Teaching Assistant**. The hours for this role would be **8.30am-1.30pm** from **Monday-Thursday** which would include lunchtime supervision. Although the successful applicant would be working as part of the Early Years staff team, this role involves working exclusively with a child with significant Special Educational Needs and can be physically demanding as well as extremely rewarding!

Please contact me for further information and a full job description for either role:

head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WOODHALL!

Woodhall School first opened for the academic year **1954-1955**, which makes this our **70th anniversary year** (and we don't look a day over 30!). We are going to be marking this very special occasion in a number of ways:

- The children will take part in our **'Time Tunnel' launch day** in school on **Thursday 22nd May**.
- All classes will study South Oxhey and Woodhall School as their **summer term history topic**. Different age groups will focus on specific areas e.g., shops in South Oxhey, land use and 'then and now' for our younger year groups.
- Classes will work on their projects during May and June. We hope to have **lots of visitors** (ex-pupils of Woodhall or people who have lived in South Oxhey for a long time) who can come and speak to the children.
- **Tuesday 1st July**: our work goes public at **Oxhey Library!** We will have a special display space so that local residents can look at the children's work and learn a bit more about our local history.
- **Friday 11th July: HAPPY BIRTHDAY WOODHALL DAY!** A really special celebration day at school which will include dressing up, singing, dancing and more. We will have a family picnic and would love you all – parents, carers as well as wider family members – to join us.

Please look out for more information after the Easter holidays. This year, we are moving our May Day celebrations to July so that they can be included in the birthday celebrations. So we'll have our very own July Queen...surely a first for any primary school!

PARENTS/CARERS OF CHILDREN IN YEAR 6

Just a reminder that our free Year 6 Breakfast Club will take place on the following dates after the Easter holidays: **Friday 25th April/Monday 28th April/Friday 2nd May/Friday 9th May** and **each day during SATS Week (Monday 12th - Friday 16th May)**. Breakfast Club will be open from **7.30am** with last servings at **8.10am!**

Our early morning **Rise & Shine Club** will also take place on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. If your child is included in this club, you should have received a letter. Thank you.

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
Monday 7th April – Monday 21st April/EASTER HOLIDAYS	
<i>Tuesday 22nd April</i>	Back to school
<i>Wednesday 23rd April</i>	St. George's Day dress-up
<i>Monday 5th May</i>	Bank Holiday Monday
<i>Monday 12th – Thursday 15th May</i>	Year 6 SATs Week
<i>Thursday 22nd May</i>	Time Tunnel Day (launch of local history project)
Monday 26th May- Friday 30th May/HALF TERM WEEK	
<i>Monday 2nd – Friday 6th June</i>	Year 1 Phonics Screening Week
<i>Thursday 5th/Friday 6th June</i>	Year 6 residential trip to Gulliver's Land
<i>Monday 9th – Friday 13th June</i>	Year 4 Multiplication Test Week
<i>Monday 16th – Friday 20th June</i>	National School Sports' Week
<i>Friday 20th June</i>	Sports' Day (with family picnic)
<i>Tuesday 24th June</i>	Year 4 'Shine' concert (Electric Umbrella) at St. Albans' Cathedral
<i>Thursday 26th June</i>	Tiger Cubs' class assembly
<i>Tuesday 1st July</i>	Happy Birthday Woodhall: launch day at Oxhey Library
<i>Thursday 3rd July</i>	Panthers' class assembly
<i>Thursday 10th July</i>	Year 6: Hertfordshire secondary transition day
<i>Thursday 10th July</i>	Year 3 & Year 4 class assembly
<i>Friday 11th July</i>	Happy Birthday Woodhall! Family Fun Day
<i>Tuesday 15th July</i>	KS2 Production (2pm & 6pm performances)
<i>Wednesday 16th July</i>	Parents/Carers' consultation evenings
<i>Thursday 17th July</i>	'Woodhall's Got Talent' (during school day)
<i>Thursday 17th July</i>	Year 6 Leaving do/Years 1-6 disco
<i>Friday 18th July (1pm)</i>	End of term; Year 6 leavers' breakfast/assembly
Monday 21st August - Thursday 4th September/SUMMER HOLIDAYS	
ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026	
<i>Friday 5th September</i>	Back to school
Monday 27th – Friday 31st October/ HALF TERM WEEK	
<i>Monday 1st December</i>	Occasional Day
<i>Friday 19th December</i>	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	
<i>Wednesday 22nd July</i>	End of term



A class at Woodhall (date unknown). Do you recognise our current Early Years classroom? And (of course) the oak tree, which is much bigger today!

CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST WEEK'S AWARD WINNERS!

WE ARE <u>SO</u> PROUD OF OUR AWARD WINNERS!			
28.3.25	<i>The Woodhall Wow:</i> PASSION		<i>Learner of the Week</i>
TIGER CUBS 	<i>EVERYONE</i> in the TERRIFIC Tiger-Cubs for their amazing enthusiasm on our Jungle Explorers Day.		<i>ONA</i> for such a fantastic effort in her writing this week. It's very important to keep notes whilst exploring jungles!
PANTHERS 	<i>AMBER</i> for showing such passion and enthusiasm for books and making great progress with her reading!		<i>ELLIOTT</i> who is always so keen to start every learning task. What a brilliant role model!
JAGUARS 	<i>LEIGHTON</i> for showing great enthusiasm and passion for learning; his hand is always up, ready to share ideas and answer questions. <u>Well done!</u>		<i>KAIDEN</i> for producing an informed, detailed and BEAUTIFULLY presented book on Henry VIII's wives in our history lessons this week. Bravo!
LIONS 	<i>KENO</i> for showing his passion for learning in his first week at Woodhall. Welcome to the Woodhall Family Kenos!		<i>JASMINE</i> for trying so hard this week in our assessments and achieving some fantastic results.
HOUSE POINTS			
OAK	ASH	BEECH	ELM
366	258	251	93

USEFUL CONTACTS

Headteacher: Michelle Lake

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SENCo: Mrs Raithatha

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

njones@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

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

0208 428 3447

admin@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

For notification of absence, please email:

attendance@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

or:

Phone the Office and press Option 1