

Friday 17th January 2025
Volume 21: Issue No. 17

WOODRIDGE NEWSLETTER

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ILLNESS IN SCHOOL

This week we have had a lot of staff and pupil illness. Well done to all the children for coping so well with staff changes at school. Please reinforce at home good routines for handwashing, so that we can stop the spread of the nasty bugs going around!



FOOTBALL SUCCESS

This week the mixed A Team had a great result, beating Northside Primary 6-0 in the Dick Bailey Cup. Well done team.

Scorers: Jacob Y6: 3, Shohei Y6: 1, Zack Y5: 1 and 1 own goal.



BANTER TO BULLYING

This week Mrs Sperber ran a session called 'Banter to Bullying' for Year 6. The session focused on when banter or teasing becomes bullying behaviour. Year 6 responded really well to the session. Here's the final slide of the presentation.

WHAT DO WE NEED TO ASK OURSELVES?

- WOULD I BE UPSET IF SOMEONE SAID THIS TO ME?
- IS IT HURTFUL?
- ARE WE FRIENDS?
- HAS SOMEONE SAID 'STOP'?
- IS EVERYONE LAUGHING?
- IS THIS FOCUSING ON SOMEONE'S INSECURITIES?



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON



SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

Along with other schools nationally and locally, at Woodridge we are worried that smartphone use is having a negative impact on children and young people.



Consequently, we are supporting the broad aims of '*Smartphone Free Childhood*' a national campaign to raise awareness of the potential risks which exist for primary-aged children in allowing them access to smartphones at increasingly younger ages.

By 'smartphones' we are referring to phones that are able to access the internet along with games and apps, as opposed to mobile phones that are solely used for the purposes of communicating through text and phone calls.

We understand the importance of being able to contact your child as they become more independent, (eg. walking to and from school in Y5 and Y6 at Woodridge), in order to give you peace of mind, as well as for your children to be able to call or contact you in the case of any emergencies.

However, children's phones do not need to enable them to have unsupervised access to the internet in order for you to be able to contact them. A simple brick/text and call phone is all that is needed - we use a simple *Nokia* phone for After School Club.



We believe that primary-aged children do not have the developmental understanding to help them navigate appropriate social interactions through apps and social media, all of which were primarily designed for adult use.

Whilst smartphones are an amazing piece of technology for adults, they can expose children to a number of risks – they can be highly addictive, can be linked to poor mental health, can expose our children to harmful content and can reduce important time spent playing, interacting and developing vital social skills.

In supporting this campaign, we are asking parents to consider delaying giving their children a smartphone whilst they are pupils at Woodridge, and opt instead for a brick/text and call phone alternative. This is, of course, a matter of parental choice.

Woodridge children absolutely need to understand the amazing capacity of evolving technologies to enhance our lives for the better, but we also want them to develop, grow and build their resilience within the real world first.

WOODRIDGE KEY EVENTS/DATES 2024-25

Updates - the diary below has been corrected re. two upcoming INSET DAYS. The following dates are correct on the Term Dates document at the end of the Newsletter, but were incorrect in the Newsletter Diary. So please check these:

- **Monday 24th Feb is an INSET Day with the school closed for pupils.**
- **Monday 2nd June is NOT an INSET Day - pupils need to be in school that day.**

Also the **Y3 Class Assembly** has been moved until the end of term (Thursday 27th March) to give the new Year 3 class teacher more time to get to know the class.

SPRING TERM	WC 10 th March – SCIENCE WEEK
Mon 6 th Jan – INSET Day 3	Thurs 13 th Mar – Y6 Class Assembly
Thurs 23 rd Jan – Y1 Class Assembly	Thurs 20 th Mar – Y5 Class Assembly
Thurs 30 th Jan – Y2 Class Assembly	Fri 21 st Mar – Y1 to Y6 reports to parents
Thurs 13 th Feb – Y4 Class Assembly	Weds 26 th Mar – Workshare Evening 5-7pm
WC 17 th Feb – HALF TERM	Thurs 27 th Mar – Y3 Class Assembly
Mon 24 th Feb - INSET Day 4	Tues 1 st April – BEAT @ Royal Albert Hall + Y6
WC 3 rd March - ARTSWEEK	Thurs 3 rd April – Spanish Assembly
Tues 4 th March – ‘The Hobbit’ Show pm	Fri 4 th April – Last Day of Term
Thurs 6 th Mar – World Book Day	
SUMMER TERM	Weds 25 th June – Sept '25 Reception Mtg 6.30pm
Tues 22 nd April – INSET Day 5	Thurs 26 th June – Y2 Class Assembly
WC 28 th April - Y3 Swimming Wv 1	Thurs 3 rd July – Spanish Assembly 9.10am
Mon 5 th May – BANK HOLIDAY	Fri 4 th July – Y1-Y6 Short Reports sent home
WC 6 th May - Y3 Swimming Wk 2	Tues 8 th July – Infant Sports Afternoon 1.30pm
Thurs 8 th May - Y1 Phonics Mtg 9.00am	Tues 8 th July - Y1-Y6 Learning Reviews 4-6.30pm
Thurs 22 nd May – Reception Class Assembly	Thurs 10 th July - Y1-Y6 Learning Reviews 4.30-8.00
Weds 21 st May – Y6 School Journey Mtg 3.30pm	Fri 11 th July – Junior Sports Day 1.30pm
Thurs 22 nd May – Y5 Southover Sleepover	Mon 14 th July – Junior Production Dress 2pm
WC 27 th May – HALF TERM	Tues 15 th July - Reserve Infant Sports Morning
Mon 2 nd June – Term starts for children	Weds 16 th July – Junior Production Perf 7pm
WC Mon 2 nd June – Y4 Tables Check (2 weeks)	Thurs 17 th July – Junior Production Perf 7pm
Mon 9 th June – Y6 to Condoover Hall	Fri 18 th July – Reserve Junior Sports Day pm
Thurs 19 th June – Y1 Class Assembly	Tues 22 nd July - Last Day of Term

MUSIC SUCCESS

Congratulations to Ethan Y6 for achieving a merit in a recent ABRSM Grade 2 cello exam. Well done Ethan.



WOODRIDGE VALUES AWARD

Each week this term, two children from across the school will be chosen each week by support staff to receive a Woodridge Values Award.



These children will have demonstrated any one of the Woodridge Values during the week, will receive a certificate in Friday assemblies and have their names in this Newsletter.

STARS OF THE WEEK!

Achievement Awards

Friday 17th January 2025

Each Friday we hold an Achievement Assembly where two children from each class are awarded a certificate for outstanding achievement in the week. These recognise hard work, great behaviour or exceptional progress, as well as our Woodridge Values.

Reception Oak	Matthew for showing great crafting and cutting skills to make some amazing paper models. Xavier for always listening carefully to instructions and for drawing a fantastic trap for a troll in drawing club.
Year 1 Willow	Lulu for a fantastic retelling of Jack and the Beanstalk. Emily for using a number line to subtract by counting backwards.
Year 2 Rowan	Phoenix for your fantastic work with division in Maths this week- you are our star mathematician. Adam for making a great start to Spring Term you have worked hard and been a good classmate-keep it up.
Year 3 Silver Birch	Kyna for doing excellent work on non-chronological reports! Aki for doing brilliant work in his Maths and helping friends.
Year 4 Ash	Shira for following teacher instructions carefully and producing an excellent formal letter in English this week. Ken for working well and collaborating with his classmates and always being willing to help.
Year 5 Lime	Ruben for his interest, knowledge and leadership skills in the Wider Woodridge Courtyard Project. Rojeen for her use of excellent vocabulary in English lessons and passion for writing outside of school too!
Year 6 Maple	Ada and Jacob for working really hard at our Maths work on decimals. Well done.
Values Awards	Tamer Y5 - KINDNESS Amelia Y6 - THOUGHTFULNESS
Value of The Month	January - HONESTY

SPORTING STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following children for receiving certificates from Mr Mapes this week for being sporting stars:

Multisports - Emily Y1, Jude YR, Joshua YR and Eva Y1
Gym - Aarav Y3 and Florence Y5



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Woodridge Primary School



TERM DATES 2024-2025

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2 September INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 3 September First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November

Monday 4 November INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 5 November First day back for pupils
Friday 20 December Last day of term: 2.30pm finish

Spring Term 2025

Monday 6 January INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 7 January First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February

Monday 24 February INSET Day: School Closed for pupils
Tuesday 25th February First day back for pupils
Friday 4 April Last day of term: 2.30pm finish

Summer Term 2025

Tuesday 22 April INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Wednesday 23 April First day back for pupils
Monday 5 May Bank Holiday: School closed for pupils

Half Term: Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May

Monday 2 June First day back for pupils
Tuesday 22 July Last day of term 2.30pm finish

Five INSET Days – School closed to children

Monday 2 September 2024
Monday 4 November 2024
Monday 6 January 2025
Monday 24 February 2025
Tuesday 22 April 2025

(Plus Monday 5 May 2024 - Bank Holiday)

Please do not book holidays during term time. Fixed penalties fines from August will now be £80 per child, per parent.



Woodridge Primary School



TERM DATES 2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025

Monday 1 September INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 2 September First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October

Monday 3 November INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 4 November First day back for pupils
Friday 19 December Last day of term: 2.30pm finish

Spring Term 2026

Monday 5 January INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 6 January First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February

Monday 23 February First day back for pupils
Friday 27 March Last day of term: 2.30pm finish

Summer Term 2026

Monday 13 April INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 14 April First day back for pupils
Monday 4 May Bank Holiday: School closed for pupils

Half Term: Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May

Monday 1 June First day back for pupils
Friday 17 July Last day of term 2.30pm finish

Four INSET Days – School closed to children

Monday 1st September 2025
Monday 3rd November 2025
Monday 5th January 2026
Monday 13th April 2026

(Plus Monday 4 May 2026 - Bank Holiday)

Please do not book holidays during term time. Fixed penalties fines from August will now be £80 per child, per parent.





Woodridge Primary School Value Cycle

Year A (2024-25)

September	Respect
October	Unity
November	Friendship
December	Peace
January	Honesty
February	Resilience
March	Hope
April	Love
May	Empathy
June	Courage
July	Trust



Our strategic objectives

1

Through quality teaching and learning, to improve outcomes for all children by building a culture of achievement through progress across the curriculum.

2

To extend the Woodridge curriculum to create wider opportunities for all children to develop their skills and talents.

3

To develop sustainable, high quality and accountable leadership at all levels throughout the school.

4

To work in partnership with other schools, parents and the wider school community to enrich our school.