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WOODRIDGE NEWSLETTER

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GOOGLE CLASSROOM

As you know, Woodridge will be using Google Classroom from this term as our online learning platform.

This will be where homework for Y1 to Y6 will be posted each week on their individual class pages.

This will be launched on Wednesday next week and you will receive an email with a one-off code which will allow entry into your child's online classroom.



EVENTS, MEETINGS AND TRIPS

In response to parent feedback, on page 5 of this Newsletter is a list of **all the key events for the forthcoming year 2024-25.**



This includes parents' evenings, Learning Reviews, Workshare Evenings, class assemblies, other special assemblies, the infant and junior productions, sports days and some of the key class trips that are already in the diary. Other class visits and trips will be added as the year progresses.

Please have a read and put the key dates in your diaries.

MEET YOUR CHILD'S NEW TEACHER

It was good to see so many Y1 and Y2 parents at the Meet the New Teacher meetings this week. Next week, it will be meetings for the junior parents. If you have a child in two different classes, please pick one. Details of class routines etc will be on *Google Classroom* from next week. (We will think the two class thing through for next year - apologies!)



For Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 Tuesday 17th Sept 9.10-9.30am



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON



SEPTEMBER WOODRIDGE VALUE - RESPECT

Co-Head Ms Donaghy writes:



The juniors participated in an assembly this week where we had a discussion on what respect means to them, what respect looks like and why respect is so important.

Respect is one of the Woodridge core values and is the focus for September. The children came up with lots of ideas and Jacob from Year 6 recorded these for future assemblies during the month of September.

- Respect is equal
- Respect is helping someone out
- Respect is kindness
- Respect is polite and listening to others
- Respect is good manners



SCHOOL COUNCIL - Y1 to Y6

Co-Head Ms Donaghy also writes:



We will be holding School Council elections during the week beginning 23rd September 2024.

What is our School Council?

Our school council is a formal group of pupils who act as representatives of their classmates in discussing school issues with the co-headteachers and staff. It's a brilliant way of representing and contributing to Pupil Voice in your school. They are elected to represent the views of all pupils and also to improve the school.

If your child would like to be considered for this important role, they need to write a short persuasive statement with their qualities to share with their peers and the class will take a vote on who will be the class representatives for the academic year. These should be brought into school on Monday 23rd September.

BALLET SUCCESS

Congratulations to Kaori Y3 for achieving a High Merit in her Grade 1 Royal Academy of Dance ballet exam.

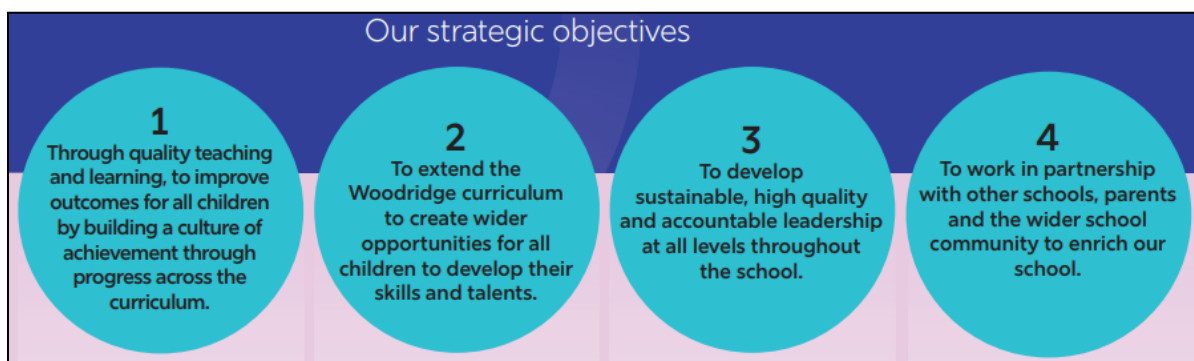


It is great to hear about the children's successes outside school. Please keep us posted on these.

WOODRIDGE VISION 60

All parents will have received a copy of the **Woodridge Vision 60** document when they joined the school (and it can be found on the school website).

This document outlines the 4 strategic objectives which underpin all our school improvement work as we head towards our 60th birthday in 2027. These objectives will be highlighted in the Newsletter where an objective is a focus.



TERM DATES FOR 2024-25

On the later pages of this Newsletter are the term dates for 2024-2025. Please do not book holidays during term time. Fixed penalties fines from August will now be £80 per child, per parent.



STARTING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

There is lots of research that learning a musical instrument is good for you - increased brain function, boosted memory, improvements in concentration, development of fine motor skills. It's also stress relieving, fun and a great social activity...and can even help with entry to secondary school!



At Woodridge we currently offer clarinet/flute/saxophone, brass, violin, cello, guitar and piano. **In October we will also be offering drum lessons on our new drum kit—but parents can sign up for this now for all instruments.**

If your child would like to take up a musical instrument, Barnet Education Arts Trust is the provider at school. You can sign up for lessons by following this link (which says the deadline is 1st July, but some instruments may still be available in September): <https://beatrust.org.uk/learn-to-play/school-based-tuition/>

If you would like any advice about which instrument might be suitable for your child, have a chat with Ms Savournin or Mr Dowland.



SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

At Woodridge we have a range of strategies for supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). These are found below:

HOW WE SUPPORT LEARNERS WITH SEND

ENVIRONMENT

Create **movement breaks**.
Allow for appropriate **sensory experiences**.
Create calm safe spaces.

WAIT TIME

Allow children time to **respond to** and **process** tasks and instructions.

CHOICES

Allowing children to **make choices** encourages communication and is empowering. It often provides a way out.

REPETITION

Create as many opportunities for **repetition** of new skills and task.

INDEPENDENCE

Always think:
'What can they do by themselves?'

VISUALS

Back up with as many **visuals** as possible

Use **context and gesture** clues.

MODELLING

Children need to do the activity **immediately** after they have been shown for it to become a meaningful learning experience.

LANGUAGE

Use **language** appropriate to the child's **developmental level**.

Be clear and specific.

TERM DATES AND EVENTS DATES FOR 2024-25

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Fixed penalties fines from August will now be £80 per child, per parent.



THE WOODRIDGE APP

For those of you who are new to Woodridge, we have a **smartphone app** for our school to help keep you better informed. The app is free to download for iPhones, Windows and Android Phones.

To access the app you will need to download it from either an android or apple app store. The QR codes to install this are below.

Remember to allow "Push Notifications" when you install the app, so you get a notice each time we add something.

The app is separate from the email/text system at Woodridge. Each week, teachers will send a post explaining what the learning will be during the following week, so you can chat about it at home. This starts from next week.



WELCOME TO HOLLAND

Accompanying our 'How we support children with SEND' document (see page 3) here's a beautiful mini-essay by Emily Perl Kingsley to keep in mind.

WELCOME TO HOLLAND

BY EMILY PERL KINGSLEY

When you're going to have a baby, it's like you're planning a vacation to Italy. You're all excited. You get a whole bunch of guidebooks, you learn a few phrases so you can get around, and then it comes time to pack your bags and head for the airport.

Only when you land, the stewardess says, "WELCOME TO HOLLAND."

You look at one another in disbelief and shock, saying, "HOLLAND? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I SIGNED UP FOR ITALY."

But they explain that there's been a change of plan, that you've landed in Holland and there you must stay. "BUT I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HOLLAND!" you say. "I DON'T WANT TO STAY!"

But stay, you do.

You go out and buy some new guidebooks, you learn some new phrases, and you meet people you never knew existed.

The important thing is that you are not in a bad place filled with despair. You're simply in a different place than you had planned.

It's slower paced than Italy, less flashy than Italy, but after you've been there a little while and you have a chance to catch your breath, you begin to discover that Holland has windmills. Holland has tulips. Holland has Rembrandts.

But everyone else you know is busy coming and going from Italy. They're all bragging about what a great time they had there, and for the rest of your life, you'll say, "YES, THAT'S WHAT I HAD PLANNED."

The pain of that will never go away.

You have to accept that pain, because the loss of that dream, the loss of that plan, is a very, very significant loss.

But if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to go to Italy, you will never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things about Holland.

WOODRIDGE KEY EVENTS/DATES 2024-25 (As of 13/9/24)

Below is the list for your diaries/fridge of all the key events and dates for the whole of the 2024-25 year.

Further dates, including class trips will be added as the year progresses.

AUTUMN TERM	Mon 18 th Nov – Panto: <i>'Beauty & the Beast'</i> pm
Mon 2 nd Sept – INSET DAY ONE	Thurs 21 st Nov – Y5 Class Assembly
Thurs 12 th Sept – Y1/Y2 New Teacher Mtgs 9.10am	Tues 19 th Nov – Parents' Evening
Tues 17 th Sept – KS2 New Teacher Mtgs 9.10am	Thurs 21 st Nov – Parents' Evening
Tues 1 st Oct - Y5 to Hindu Temple	Thurs 28 th Nov – Y4 Class Assembly
Thurs 10 th Oct - World Mental Health Day	Thurs 5 th Dec – Y3 Class Assembly
Thurs 17 th Oct – Spanish Assembly 9.10am	Mon 9 th Dec – Inf Production Dress 2pm
WC 28 th Oct – HALF TERM	Weds 11 th Dec – Inf Production Perf 2pm
Mon 4 th Nov – INSET Day 2	Thurs 12 th Dec – Inf Production Perf 9.30am
Mon 11 th Nov – Anti-Bullying Week	Fri 20 th Dec – Last Day of Term
Thurs 14 th Nov – Y6 Class Assembly	
SPRING TERM	Thurs 6 th Mar – World Book Day
Mon 6 th Jan – INSET Day 3	WC 10 th March – SCIENCE WEEK
Thurs 23 rd Jan – Y1 Class Assembly	Thurs 13 th Mar – Y6 Class Assembly
Thurs 30 th Jan – Y2 Class Assembly	Thurs 20 th Mar – Y5 Class Assembly
Thurs 6 th Feb – Y3 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 11 th Feb – HALF TERM	Thurs 27 th Mar – Spanish Assembly 9.10am
WC 3 rd March - ARTSWEEK	Tues 1 st April – BEAT @ Royal Albert Hall
Tues 4 th March – <i>'The Hobbit'</i> Show pm	Fri 4 th April – Last Day of Term
SUMMER TERM	Weds 25 th June – Sept '25 Reception Mtg 6.30pm
Tues 22 nd April – INSET Day 4	Thurs 26 th June – Y2 Class Assembly
WC 28 th April - Y3 Swimming Wk 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 – INSET Day 5	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 Condover 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

STARS OF THE WEEK!

Achievement Awards

Friday 13th September 2024

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	It was great to see the first groups of Reception children in school this week, playing and learning together.
Year 1 Willow	Eva for being a great role model at carpet times, following instructions and being a great class helper. Reuben for showing a positive attitude to learning in Maths.
Year 2 Rowan	Ernie for being such an enthusiastic learner and having such a lovely sunny nature! Sami for a fabulous setting description in English – you are a talented young author!
Year 3 Silver Birch	Kyna for making a fantastic start at Woodridge. Xylia for demonstrating good manners and a focussed attitude to learning.
Year 4 Ash	Adiel for fantastic descriptive writing in English this week. Emma for being a wonderful class helper and showing good listening skills when learning.
Year 5 Lime	Jamie for being engaged in all his learning, particularly maths challenges and showing great skill in PE. Alice for excellent listening skills, working hard in all subjects and being a fantastic writer!
Year 6 Maple	Utkristi and Ethan for writing fantastic alternative endings to 'The Promise'.
Value of The Month	September - RESPECT

SPORTING STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Multisports - Ayaz Y1, Yigit Y1, Akira Y1 and Zara Y2
Gym - Lyla D Y6 and Kelsey Y5



Vision 60 OBJ 2

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)





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.