

Friday 24th November 2023
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WPS NEWSLETTER

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A MAGNIFICENT SEVEN!

Wow! What a game of football we had on Tuesday when the mixed A team played a league game against the highly fancied Underhill. The Woodridge team put in a stunning performance of great skill and confidence. It was 4-0 to Woodridge at the end of the first half with some incredible passing, clever moves and blistering finishes. The game ended 7-3 to Woodridge. Scorers: James T (3), Elmir (3) and James B C1).



7-3

ATTENDANCE - BEFORE AND AFTER HOLIDAYS

Following a recent visit by the schools Educational Welfare Officer, medical evidence will be required for any child who is absent immediately before or after a school holiday. Also this week, Fixed Penalty Fines were processed for absences from school this year.



THE WOODRIDGE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Save the date! And see page 4 for bring-ins!
THURSDAY 14th DECEMBER 3.15-5.30PM
Grandparents also very welcome!



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK - NEXT WEEK

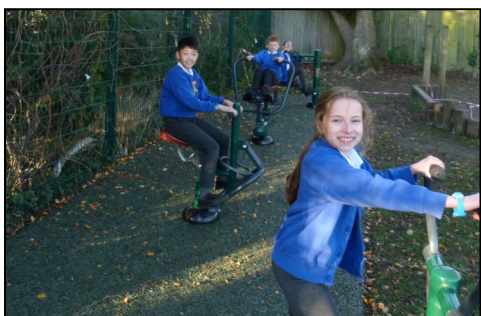
During Anti-Bullying Week this week the children have been engaged in anti-bullying themed activities, including nominating an adult in the school who they feel particularly comfortable talking to if they have a problem.



THE KS2 OUTDOOR GYM

This week we finally took possession of the KS2 Outdoor Gym which has been installed in an unused space beside the junior playground. This area can now be used, with its artificial surface, even if the weather makes it muddy. Mr Mapes has talked to each of the junior classes about how to use it safely.

A big thank you to the WSA who have raised part of the money to fund this project, with further fundraising this year to complete the purchase. Today our Y6 PE Learning Ambassadors officially opened the gym.



Y6 PE Ambassadors officially opening the KS2 Outdoor Gym.



WHOLE SCHOOL PANTO - CINDERELLA

The children (and staff) had a great time watching M & M Productions' panto of Cinderella this week. It was fantastic to see everyone so engaged in this entertaining and interactive, mad cap show. Part of the Woodridge annual Christmas tradition. Thanks to Mr Galea and Mrs Norman for be willing to look silly on stage!



FREE MONEY FOR WOODRIDGE!!

The DfE don't give us enough money to be able run the school the way we need to. So...free money is available for Woodridge when you do any shopping via **EasyFundraising**.

**FREE
MONEY**

There are thousands of brands to shop with, including Amazon, John Lewis, eBay & Argos.



Start your shopping by opening the app and a percentage of your spend will automatically raise money for the school.

We're trying to raise £500 this Christmas, which will go towards the new outdoor school gym. **Anyone who uses the app for a purchase before the Xmas Bazaar will be entered into a draw to win a £50 shopping voucher!**

You can do it via iPhone, Android or Web, just follow the links below. Once you sign up you can also see the running total of money raised! Here are the sign up links:

Apple https://apps.apple.com/us/app/easyfundraising/id915474725*

Android <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ef.easyfundraising&...>

Web <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/woodridgesa>

YEAR 4 CLASS ASSEMBLY

We had another entertaining and informative class assembly this week. It was the turn of Year 4 who wowed the audience with facts about Europe (44 countries) and Ancient Greece, including The Olympics. They also performed a danced that they had devised themselves using different body movements in class. Thanks to Mrs Norman and the Y4 Team for organising.



PARKING NIGHTMARES

Parking and driving up to the top of Southover at drop off and home time has become a real problem again.



Last week at home time, no fewer than **EIGHT** cars were parked across our neighbours' driveways on Southover. This was accompanied by a car doing a nine point turn, its back end going over the pavement, where 206 children were on their way home.

We also received a complaint email last week from a neighbour who was unable to get out of his driveway because of a parent's car one morning.

On Wednesday the car below (**Renault FM21 TVK**) was not only parked on a double yellow line, but also over the dropped kerb for pedestrians and where children and parents need to cross the road. This is really inconsiderate and extremely dangerous. **Don't do this and also please avoid driving into the cul-de-sac end of Southover. Please park down the road and walk up the hill.**



HIRING WOODRIDGE SCHOOL

Did you know that you can hire Woodridge Primary School as a meeting, event or party venue?



We are also interested in finding an appropriate long term hire for our Suite, which is a classroom and an office room with a kitchen and two toilets.

For details and photos go to <https://www.sharesy.com/v/woodridge-primary>

HUMANIST ASSEMBLY

As a hangover from Inter Faith week, RE Leader Mrs Norman invited a humanist speaker to a junior assembly this week. Sally Hay talked to the children about not believing in a god or an afterlife and about making decisions based on rational thought. She also talked about taking inspiration from the writings of philosophers, since there are no religious texts to follow as a humanist.



The main beliefs of humanists are kindness and empathy, the British Humanist Society's motto being, '*Think for Yourself. Act for Everyone.*'



Humanist Sally Hay with our Year 6 RE Learning Ambassadors



Woodridge Xmas Bazaar 2023 Thursday 14th December 3.15-5.30pm



The Xmas Bazaar is just over a month away! To help make the event a success, please bring in the following items on the dates listed below.

If you can't make the specific dates, or would like to give all items in one go, that is also fine.

Date to bring in items	Item	Description
Friday 16 th November	Bottle Tombola	Any type of unopened bottle Alcohol/soft drinks/bubble bath/perfume NO BLEACH
Friday 23 rd November	Sweet Tombola	Fill a glass jar (with a lid) up with sweets. Please mark if veggie/halal/kosher NO NUTS OR CHOCOLATE
Friday 30 th November	Gifting Stall - Small Gifts (value under £5)	Small unused or new gifts for the gifting stall. eg. Toiletries, candles, chocolates etc Children will be able to buy a gift for under £5 and have it wrapped ready to give for xmas.

WOODRIDGE COMMUNITY SERVICES

After a suggestion by the WSA, we would like to compile a list of local services that might be useful for parents, such as garages, plumbers, electricians, garden services and the like. These will then be posted on our WPS Community Services tab on the school's website which would be linked to an article in the School Newsletter every week.



Business would be asked to donate a fee for this service, which would run on an annual basis until the end of July each year. The contact for this is our School Business Manager email - sbm@woodridge.sch.uk

Here's the link to the page on the website: <https://www.woodridgeprimaryschool.com/wps-community-services/>

BEAT MUSIC LESSONS DEADLINE

The deadline for paying for instrumental music lessons next term is 4th December.



Here's the link to the BEAT website: <https://beatrust.org.uk/>

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.

BBC 550 WORDS COMPETITION ENTRY

Here's another Woodridge entry for the BBC 500 Words Competition - *Hercules Versus the Dragon* by Emily Y4.



I can hear it. It's getting closer. I place my feet carefully with every step. It could be anywhere! As I go deeper into the forest I step in my tracks. I can hear heavy breathing and footsteps. The footsteps get louder the deeper I walk in. I try to place my feet in places that will least most likely make me trip and awaken the dragon...

Crunch! I step on a leaf. Now my heart is beating so fast I feel like it could burst out of my chest. I turn around slowly and then I see it. Right in front of me is an enormous dragon with razor sharp teeth and huge beating wings! It starts sprinting straight towards me so I hide behind a tree. After a while I built up enough courage to step out from behind the tree. I dodge the dragon's long, scaly tail, pick up my sword and swing it at the dragon's tail. I watch as the dragon's tail falls to the ground and blood drips all over the place. Now the dragon is absolutely fuming. It looks me straight in the eyes and I do it back. I climb up a tree and jump up to slice its neck in half. I miss. Then the dragon pounces on me and very fortunately, I dodge.

The fight is getting really intense by now and my heart is probably beating faster than a cheetah. My legs hurt really badly especially because the force of the dragon's flapping wings are pushing me far away. All I have to motivate myself is saying in my head, what if dad never lets me up Mount Olympus. It's coming towards me with huge, stomping feet. The ground starts to shake more and more as the dragon gets closer to me.

Gulp! It swallows me whole. I put my hands and feet against its throat so I don't fall down. Luckily I still have my sword. I jump up and swing my sword at the dragon's throat as hard as I possibly can.

*I've done it. I killed it.
Dad would be so proud.*



THE WIDERNESS CAFE

On Fridays, from 3.00pm next week The Widerness Café will open, run by pupils in Year 6 as part of our KS2 Wider Woodridge programme. Tea, coffee, hot chocolate and cakes will be on sale. **CAKE DONATIONS ON THE DAY GREATLY ENCOURAGED!**

THE WIDERNESS CAFÉ

@ Woodridge Primary School



Here are this term's Café Crew.

WPS KEY DATES/EVENTS 2023-24

In order to help you to plan ahead, below is a list of all the key events and dates in the Woodridge calendar so far.



WPS KEY DATES/EVENTS FOR 2023-24



AUTUMN TERM DATES/EVENTS	Tues 21 st Nov – Y4 Class Assembly
Mon 30 th Oct – INSET Day 2	Tues 21 st Nov – Parents' Evening
Tues 7 th Nov – Y6 Class Assembly	Wed 22 nd Nov – Parents' Evening
Tues 7th Nov - Y1 to Nature Reserve	Tues 28 th Nov – Y3 Class Assembly
Mon 13th Nov - Individual School Photos	Weds 29th Nov - Y4 to Science Museum
Mon 13 th Nov – Anti-Bullying Week	Mon 11 th Dec – Inf Production Dress 2.00pm
Mon 13th Nov - Y2 at Infant Music Festival	Weds 13 th Dec – Inf Production Perf 2.00pm
Tues 14 th Nov – Y5 Class Assembly	Thurs 14 th Dec – Inf Production Perf 9.30am
Weds 15th Nov - SEND Coffee Morning 9.00am	Fri 15th Dec - Bollywood Assembly
Weds 15th Nov - Y2/Y5 Music Assembly 9.10am	Thurs 21 st Dec – Last day of term 2.30pm
Mon 20 th Nov – Panto 'Cinderella' pm	
SPRING TERM	
Mon 8 th Jan – INSET Day 3	Fri 8 th March – WPS World Book Day
Tues 23 rd Jan – Y1 Class Assembly	WC 11 th March – SCIENCE WEEK
Tues 30 th Jan – Y2 Class Assembly	Tues 12 th March – Y6 Class Assembly
Tues 6 th Feb – Y3 Class Assembly	Tues 19 th March – Y5 Class Assembly
WC 12 th Feb – HALF TERM	Fri 22 nd March – Y1 to Y6 reports to parents
Tues 27 th Feb – Y4 Class Assembly	Tues 26 th March – Workshare Evening
WC 4 th March - ARTSWEEK	Thurs 28 th March – Last day of term 2.30pm
Tues 5 th March – 'A Little Princess' Show pm	
SUMMER TERM	
Mon 15 th April – INSET Day 4	Tues 18 th June – Y1 Class Assembly
Tues 30 th April – Reception Class Assembly	Tues 25 th June – Y2 Class Assembly
Mon 6 th May – BANK HOLIDAY	Fri 5 th July – Y1-Y6 Short Reports sent home
Mon 13 th May – Y6 SATs week	Tues 9 th July – Infant Sports Morning
Fri 17 th May – Red Nose Day	Tues 9 th July - Y1-Y6 Learning Reviews 4-6.30pm
Mon 20 th May – Walk to School Week	Thurs 11 th July - Y1-Y6 Learning Reviews 4.30-8.00
Tues 21 st May – Y1 Phonics Parents' Mtg 9.00am	Fri 12 th July – Junior Sports Day pm
Weds 22 nd May – Y6 School Journey Mtg 3.20pm	Mon 15 th July – Junior Production Dress 2.00pm
Thurs 23 rd May – Y5 Southover Sleepover	Tues 16 th July - Reserve Infant Sports Morning
WC 27th May – HALF TERM	Tues 16 th July – Junior Production Perf 7.00pm
Mon 3 rd June – INSET day 5	Weds 17 th July – Junior Production Perf 7.00pm
Tues 4 th June – Y1 Phonics Check Week	Fri 19 th July – Reserve Junior Sports Day pm
Tues 4 th June – Y4 Tables Check Week	Weds 24 th July – Last day of term 2.30pm
Mon 10 th June – Y6 to Condover Hall	

STARS OF THE WEEK!

Achievement Awards

Friday 24th November 2023

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	This week Reception class had a lovely morning Autumn Walk down in the Nature Reserve.
Year 1 Willow	Max R for being a positive role model showing the Woodridge values of responsibility, respect and kindness. Arjun for being a positive role model and having a positive attitude to learning.
Year 2 Rowan	Hugo for being a fantastic role model and going the extra mile in everything you do. Oscar for being so enthusiastic during our poetry sessions in English and writing your own brilliant rhyming list poem.
Year 3 Silver Birch	Arun, Yoni and Kornel for amazing diary entries written from the perspective of characters from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.
Year 4 Ash	Finn for his excellent attitude in PE lessons. Milly for challenging herself in Maths lessons.
Year 5 Lime	Scarlett for taking the initiative to organise the book corner and consistently ensuring it is tidy. Jun for being a superstar during his time at Woodridge.
Year 6 Maple	Sophie and Marissa for working really hard with their newspaper reports.
Value of The Month	November - UNDERSTANDING

SPORTING STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Multisports - Bea Y2, Hugo YR, Olivia Y2 and Yasen Y1
Gym - Scarlett Y5 and Aarav Y6



Woodridge Primary School



TERM DATES 2023-2024

Autumn Term 2023

Monday 4 September INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 5 September First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 23 October – Friday 27 October

Monday 30 October INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 31 October First day back for pupils
Thursday 21 December Last day of term: 2.30pm finish

Spring Term 2024

Monday 8 January INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 9 January First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February

Monday 19 February First day back for pupils
Thursday 28 March Last day of term: 2.30pm finish

Summer Term 2024

Monday 15 April INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 16 April First day back for pupils
Monday 6 May Bank Holiday: School closed for pupils

Half Term: Monday 27 May – Friday 31 May

Monday 3 June INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 4 June First day back for pupils
Wednesday 24 July Last day of term 2.30pm finish

Five INSET Days – School closed to children

Monday 4 September 2023
Monday 30 October 2023
Monday 8 January 2024
Monday 15 April 2024
Monday 3 June 2024

(Plus Monday 6 May 2024 - Bank Holiday)





Woodridge Primary School Value Cycle



Year A (2022-23)

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

Year B (2023-2024)

September	Kindness
October	Freedom
November	Understanding
December	Co-operation
January	Responsibility
February	Tolerance
March	Thoughtfulness
April	Perseverance
May	Compassion
June	Courtesy
July	Humility