

Friday 17th November 2023
Volume 20: Issue No. 10



WPS NEWSLETTER

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Y2 AT THE INFANT MUSIC FESTIVAL AND Y5 ORCHESTRA

On Monday, Year 2 performed at the BEAT Infant Music Festival which took place at St Andrew's School. The children sang a variety of songs themed around the story *Up and Down* by Oliver Jeffers.

Year 2 repeated the whole thing on Wednesday for the rest of the school and a packed audience of parents, this time accompanied by the full orchestral backing of Year 5.

It was music of the highest complexity and highest standard all round. It was a joyous way to start a Wednesday.

A big thank you to Music Leader Ms Savournin for co-ordinating both the BEAT Infant Music Festival and our Woodridge special music assembly.



ODD SOCK DAY - ON MONDAY!

On Monday it is Odd Sock Day - a day when schools, workplaces, and individuals join together to show that it's okay to be different and to stand up against bullying and discrimination. **So please can everyone wear odd socks on Monday!** Although it is National Anti-Bullying Week this week, we have had lots going so Woodridge Anti-Bullying Week is next week.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON



THE WOODRIDGE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Save the date! And see page 4 for bring-ins!

THURSDAY 14th DECEMBER 3.15-5.30PM



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK - NEXT WEEK

We will be holding our Anti-Bullying Week next week which includes *Odd Sock Day* on Monday, along with the pantomime *Cinderella*, which also has bullying themes to discuss.

The children will engage in anti-bullying activities during the week, including nominating an adult in the school who they feel particularly comfortable talking to if they have a problem.



BARNET SCHOOLS' QUIZ EVENT

This morning, Mrs Hooper took a team of 5 children from Year 6 to the Barnet Schools' Quiz Event, hosted by Queenswell Juniors. There were 25 teams competing, with rounds about geography, general knowledge, music, maths and spelling. The team were great ambassadors of the school and finished in **SECOND** place out of the 25 schools. Very well done team.



FOOTBALL RESULTS

Last week the mixed B team played against Foulds. After a very close fought first half, Foulds went on to win 5-1. Scorer: Brody Y6



The girls' team had two matches this week. The first was against Christchurch Primary on a very muddy pitch, Christchurch winning 5-1. Scorer: Neve Y5. The second game was against Underhill which was only 1-0 at half time after a very even first half. Underhill brought on some 'super subs' in the second half resulting in the final score of 4-1 to Underhill. Scorer: Neve Y5.



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>

WOODRIDGE INTER FAITH WEEK

It was great to see several parents in school this week sharing their experiences of their faith. Thank you if you volunteered to share.



In assembly this morning, each class shared what they had been learning about during Inter Faith Week. Thank you RE Leader Mrs Norman for facilitating the week.





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.
Friday 7 th December	Anything from above	
Thursday 14 th December	Cakes for the Cake Sale	Homemade or bought, cupcakes, muffin biscuits, pastries NO NUTS PLEASE

Please leave all your items in the school reception where they will be stored until the event.

Y5 CLASS ASSEMBLY

This Tuesday it was the turn of Year 5 to host assembly and to tell the rest of the school and parents about their learning last term.

After a detailed explanation of the art of tie-dying and a display of tie-died T-shirts, Year 5 entertained us with a Strictly-style battle of the planets - a competition to see which planet was voted 'the best one.'



Thanks to Miss Mc Cleneghen for putting together such an entertaining and informative assembly.

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.

WELCOME TO HOLLAND

Accompanying our 'How we support children with SEND' document (see page 4) 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**.

BBC 550 WORDS COMPETITION ENTRY

Here's another Woodridge entry for the BBC 500 Words Competition - *The Cry of the Wolf* By Kaelyn Y6



Far beyond the lifeless wood, a small cave was inhabited by two men: Bill and Fred. The Lifeless Wood drove every flicker of life out of anyone who dared to enter. Fortunately, the two men had already evaded the grasp of death that now haunted them like a phantom. From the clutches of the Lifeless Wood. They were now venturing back in again to hunt for their relatives and family who lived on the Northern side of the wood.

Bill and Fred explored, moving outwardly from the clearing. The dull grey sky was suffused with a pale light - a pale hope - that promised to, and delivered, snow. Fred trudged and tramped, trailing heavy footsteps behind him. They had endured a lack of food and water that a significant portion of the world carelessly wasted and greedily collected. A brilliant light etched across the frozen lake, illuminating the landscape with a soft, golden glow, highlighting the infinite treasures that lay in the beyond. Fred gasped: several gold nuggets were scattered across the white landscape, releasing a light worthy of the sun. Hurriedly, Fred scooped the up and swiftly moved over to Bill.

"Bill, we'll need to take this over to the North and exchange it for money."

He nodded: they both understood the necessity for money and what they had to do with it.

* * *

They had been travelling for an eternity. The wood had their life in its hands - it had manipulated them. Every minute, the cold would seep the warmth out of them, freeze their hearts and chill them to the bone. Both of them shivered. Flakes and fumes of snow showered down, giddy suffocating them. An audible chatter vibrated in Fred's body. Eventually, hypothermia plagued them.

Then, Fred collapsed.

"Fred!" Bill shook him, a fruitless, wild, most pointless, attempt to save another victim of the Lifeless Wood. He didn't wake up.

"Fred!" A single tear trickled down his cheek, tracing his sturdy structure. Fred's lifeless thin body lay sprawled across the ground, his eyes clouded with a misty fear that did not seem to fit him.

Unmistakable determination sent a shiver down his spine: he would go on. He would take Fred back to their family. He would endure the undefeatable cold of the wood.

He carried on. Every step he took was agony; insanity gradually veiled his mind, drifting him away from reality. Cries pierced the air. Yet another burden weighed on his shoulders: wolves. After a few more miles, he stopped - he could no longer suffer this pain. Presently, he noticed (plain as a blot on paper), grey fur falling onto the ground. He looked up. A wreath of wolves simultaneously circled Bill. Black eyes stared into him - dark as the night, piercing as the cries, sharp as the teeth he knew lined their jaws. They closed in on him, tightening their circular formation.

Suddenly all he saw was darkness...

WHOLE SCHOOL PANTO

On Monday we will be having our traditional yearly whole school pantomime. This year it is Cinderella, performed once again by the excellent M & M Productions.



Please pay your voluntary contribution of £5.50 via Parentmail.pmx.

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.

Please put these in your diary.

New or updated dates are highlighted in **RED**.



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 17th 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 spent time learning about Diwali and they went on a shape hunt.
Year 1 Willow	Michelle for settling into Year 1 and for showing a great understanding of seconds, minutes and hours in Maths. Max B for creating a fantastic story plan in English.
Year 2 Rowan	Bea for being such a kind and thoughtful class member who puts so much creativity into everything. Olivia for outstanding work in English – making huge progress in reading and writing.
Year 3 Silver Birch	Noor and Zen for amazing diary entries, fantastic adding and subtracting and being all round great students.
Year 4 Ash	Aashay for his excellent understanding of the similarities and differences between the different faiths. Eshal for her beautiful poem about kindness and how we should treat others.
Year 5 Lime	Ethan, Ezra and Noah for a fantastic inter-faith religious building.
Year 6 Maple	Erim for working really hard and always explaining his thinking in Maths. Humna for a fantastic effort on our learning about Pilgrimages in RE.
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 - Isaac YR, Sophie YR, Oscar Y2 an Neil Y2
Gym - Louis Y4 and Emily Y4



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