

WOODLEY

C of E Primary School

Issue: 5

February

2017



Dear Parents.

How time flies!

I can't believe that I have been at Woodley C of E for over 6 months now and it has been my pleasure to get to know you and your children. Lots of exciting things happen at the school and I hope this newsletter gives you a flavour of this. An exciting development has been the teachers awarding children in their classes for being BRIGHT learners. BRIGHT learning is something that was introduced by Mr Blakely and I asked the teachers to select pupils each week who have demonstrated these learning attributes. This week we are looking for children who strive for improvement in their work. Ask your children about BRIGHT and they will tell you the following:-

B= Brave

R= Ready

I=Improving

G= Gifted

H= Happy

T= Thinking



Happy and Sad news.

As some of you may be aware, Miss Gilham, Fir

Class, is getting married at the end of this term. I am sure you will all join with me in wishing her well for the big day and we look forward to welcoming her back as Mrs Webb. Mr Cutting, Rowan Class, is leaving us at the end of this term. I would like to thank Mr Cutting for all that he has done at Woodley C of E. He has been a valuable member of our team here and we will miss him. Mrs Thompson, Aspen Class, one of our teaching assistants, is also leaving for a new challenge at Rivermead School. We would also like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her well for the future.

Traffic

You may have seen members of staff monitoring the use of the staff car park. I was asked by one of our local councillors if I could stand outside the school with him and look at the traffic. Apparently, there have been complaints from the local community about congestion and the way people drive outside our school. We have also been concerned about parents using the staff car park as a drop off zone. Please can I just remind you to take care at all times when the children are arriving and leaving school. The safety of all children is key and care must be taken.

Best Wishes

Louisa Gurney, Head Teacher



Curriculum News

Foundation Stage:

We have been working very hard this month on looking after our EYFS environment. We have spent a lot of time talking about why it is important to look after our resources and tidy them away properly at the end of each session. As a result the children have become much more efficient at tidy up time! Please support us with this by encouraging your child to tidy up after themselves at home.

We have introduced our 'Brave' circle times where we have been talking about any mistakes that we have made during the week such as 'forgetting to put our name on our piece of artwork' or 'forgetting to put the lid back on the pen we have been using'. We have discussed how we can learn from our mistakes. We then choose a 'Mistake of the week' that we all try really hard with that week! We also celebrate all the times where we have been 'Brave' with our learning.

Last week we were fortunate to have a visit from some Japanese students for the day. The children were very excited and really enjoyed learning some traditional Japanese songs and games.

Focus children - we now have 6 focus children per week and will pop a form in your child's book bag on a Friday if they are going to be one of our focus children for the following week. Please try to fill this form in as it is really valuable to have your input.

Thank you for your continued support. Miss Lord - EYFS Phase leader



Key Stage 1 (Years 1&2):

In KS1, we have just started our *Castles and Knights* topic. It has been a very exciting start to the week! In ICT, the children used our fancy, new laptops to take a photo of themselves as a king or queen! They had to think carefully about what they would do if they were king or queen for the day. We have been learning about writing letters and our plan for next week is to write a letter to the Queen. Our focus in this topic is history. We will be learning about timelines, thinking about what life was like in the past and why people acted in the way they did. At the end of half term, the children will have an opportunity to make their own castle so please send in items for junk modelling. We are getting very excited about our trip to Windsor Castle - hopefully the Queen will be in when we visit!



Mrs Blakely, KS1 Phase Leader.



Curriculum News

Lower Key Stage 2: (Years 3&4)

The highlight of this term has been our trip to the Museum of Berkshire Aviation. We all enjoyed the experience and adults and children alike learnt a lot. Children who live on the Airfield estate found it inspiring to find out about the people and planes that their roads are named after. Those who live elsewhere were keen to find out about Douglas Bader and other famous aviators. A popular activity was going on board a full size plane and seeing the cockpit with all its dials.

In maths, we have worked on data handling skills and developed our ability to draw and read graphs.

Our descriptive writing is improving; we have been reading 'The Iron Man' and have written our own versions of the beginning of the story.

PE lessons are focusing on dance and we are working to choreograph routines for our March performance.

We are also creating artwork using a variety of techniques and are rehearsing songs on a Space theme.



Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5&6)

Although a short month, February has been a creative one. Some of us have finished our Parthenon models – we tried to keep to the ancient Greek architectural style with our columns. Others are well on their way to using Scratch to create a game based on a myth. It involves a terrifying Minotaur, who continuously stalks Theseus as he tries to collect the ancient coins. We certainly have some impressive coders in our school. Keeping with the mythological theme, we have been writing our own myths, which have included the essential: hero, beast and problem to solve. Our writing has definitely improved and we are now including different sentence structures and a variety of punctuation such as commas, parenthesis, colons and semi colons. RE this term has been enlightening, as we have learnt more about the Sikh religion – its founder Guru Nanak, the stories in The Guru Granth Sahib and the importance of the Gurdwara for the Sikh community. We enjoyed thinking about what is important to us.



Mrs Sharman, Acting Phase Leader.



Sporting News

Our children continue to enter into sporting activities with enthusiasm and we have enjoyed another cross country meeting at the Reddam School where Woodley C of E achieved some fantastic finishing results in their races. We were much luckier with the weather this time and were grateful as always for the support of parents and grandparents both marshalling and cheering the children on.

Football matches have continued over the term with our league and we have more matches arranged for the rest of term.



Sporting Fixture Dates

Thursday 9th March - Football match home to Whiteknights Primary School KO 3.30pm

Thursday 16th March - Football match away to Westende School KO 3.30pm

Reminders from the Office

Get Active Holiday Camp - Easter Holidays:

Please access the link below to book places now for the Easter holidays.

<http://www.getactivesports.com/clubs/woodley-cofe-primary-school-holiday-camp/>

Picking up children in the Junior playground:

If you collect your children from the junior playground please may we ask that you do not stand too close to the classroom windows. It is very distracting for the children and teachers.

Staff Car Park:

Thank you all for respecting our request not to use the staff car park at the beginning and end of the school day, unless prior arrangement has been made. This has made our school site a much safer place at the most busiest times of the day.

Red Nose Day - Friday 24th March:

Further information will follow shortly about what is planned in school for Comic Relief. Red noses will be on sale during the school day.

Parents Evening Log In:

If you have not kept your log in, or you are experiencing problems logging in, please email or phone the office and we will be able to help.



Dates

March

Thursday 9th - WASMA rehearsal 4pm-5.30pm - Addington School

Thursday 9th - Football match home to Whiteknights 3.30pm KO

Friday 10th - PTA Cake Sale 2.30pm

Monday 13th - Year 5 visit to Microsoft

Tuesday 14th - KS1 trip to Windsor Castle

Thursday 16th - Football match away to Westende School 3.30pm KO

Sunday 19th - WASMA Concert

Monday 20th - Foundation Stay and Play Afternoon - 2.30pm (details to follow)

Monday 20th - Parent Consultations 5-8pm

Thursday 23rd - Parent Consultations 3.30-6.30pm

Friday 24th - Quiz Night - 7.30pm

Monday 27th - LKS2 Evening performance 6.30pm

Tuesday 28th - LKS2 Afternoon performance 2pm

Wednesday 29th - Ministers Assembly and Coffee Morning KS1 9am / KS2 9.30am

Wednesday 29th - LKS2 Evening performance 6.30pm

Friday 31st - Term Ends 2.30pm

