

# WOODLEY

## C of E Primary School

Issue: 2

November/December

2017



Dear Parents,

The time is rolling on to Christmas and the school is a very busy place!

### Remembering

Mrs Benham and I joined some of our children at the Woodley Memorial on Friday 10th November to remember those who have died or have been injured whilst at war. The children laid our wreath and represented the school respectfully.



### Children in Need

Thank you to all the children who brought in some coins for Children in Need. This is a very worthy cause and £175.06 has been donated to the charity. Thank you!

### Christmas Fair

I would like to thank the PTA for a wonderful Christmas Fair. It was extremely well organised and enjoyed by adults and children alike. The funds raised by the PTA are becoming more and more important in this time of decreased educational funding. What a good way of having fun and raising money all in one go. Thank you!

### Christingle

It was my privilege to welcome so many of you to our school to share in our Christingle service. I would like to thank Rev. Martyn Needs for leading our service and the children who made and carried in their Christingles. It was a lovely start to Advent.

### Cross Country

Thank you to all the children who represented the school on Friday 1st December and the parents who transported them to the event. It was extremely cold but once again I was so proud of our children who competed to the best of their ability, across all age groups. This is the first race that we have jointly organised and I would like to thank Mrs Poole, Mr Clare, Mrs Pearce and Mr Blakely for supporting me so well on the day.

### Performances at our School

It was lovely to see so many of you at the KS1 Nativity, and I am sure I will see many of you at the remaining performances over the next week for our Foundation Stage Tableau and the musical performances from our Guitar, Recorder and Ukulele groups. The children have worked so hard and they are looking forward to performing in front of their parents.

Best Wishes

Mrs Louisa Gurney

Head Teacher



# Curriculum News

## Foundation Stage:

What a busy few weeks we have had down in Foundation! The children have thoroughly enjoyed reading The Gruffalo story and acting it out, we even learnt a rap! We have been doing lots of fun Gruffalo activities including making clay Gruffalo characters where the children had to use their descriptive language to describe each character's appearance. By far the favourite activity was making Gruffalo chocolate crumble where the children observed what happened to chocolate when it was heated up!

We have now started our Christmas preparations. We have been using our phonic knowledge to write letters to Santa, been busy making Christmas crafts and most importantly practicing our Nativity Tableau. We have been working really hard to learn our songs and cannot wait to show you all this week.

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Stay and Play afternoon, it was lovely to see such a great turn out. If you missed this one then don't worry we will be holding another Stay and Play session next term.

We have noticed that lots of the children have been bringing in toys/teddies etc. From January we will be asking children not to bring in things from home unless it is show and tell. To confirm, show and tell will happen on the last Friday of each half term and we ask that children bring something of interest in rather than toys.

We are very quickly running out of spare clothes so if your child has come home with some please can you return them to school. If you have any spare socks or tights lying around at home, we would be very grateful for them!

**We would kindly like to ask for any donations of boxes of tissues and wet wipes to help us get through all of the runny noses over the coming winter months!**

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Luzolo – EYFS Phase Leader



## Key Stage 1:

This half term, the children have been working really hard on our Christmas play. We hope you enjoyed it! The children have behaved very well during play practises and listened carefully to advice given to perfect their performances. A reporter from the Wokingham News has been in to photograph them so keep checking the papers in December! We are thoroughly enjoying our topic 'Let's Celebrate' and the children have been making non-fiction books about the different festivals and celebrations that we have learned. The children have been particularly excited about the science experiments which we have done. The classrooms still have a slight smell of vinegar (and we will probably need to buy the cleaner a bunch of flowers) but the children have really developed their observation skills. They have made excellent predictions about what might happen and they have surprised us with their suggested answers to questions. In maths, the children have been learning about time symmetry and shapes. We are moving on to measures soon in Maths, as we prepare the children for making Christmas biscuits – yummy! In art/D&T, the children have made symmetrical Rangoli patterns and beautiful fireworks pictures. We used our weaving skills to make Eid stars. We were very impressed with the KS1 children's Anti-Bullying Week posters. It was hard to choose as they were all fantastic!

1<sup>st</sup> place – Lucy V, Prachi B and Leah P.

2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Amy B, Ethan L and Zach H.

Mrs Emzy Blakely, KS1 Phase Leader



# Curriculum News

## Lower Key Stage 2: (Years 3&4)

What a busy month we have had!

The Lower Juniors have transported back in time to prehistory. We have built caves in the classrooms, created cave paintings and acted out life in the Stone Age.



We were visited by a student archaeologist from Reading University who took us on a whistle stop tour from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We investigated how humans have evolved over time. The children were even able to handle some prehistoric tools.

The children are working towards writing their own story set in the Stone Age. We have looked closely at 'Stone Age Boy' and 'Stig of the Dump' which has inspired us to include detailed description in our writing and bring our setting to life. Earlier this month, we celebrated anti-bullying week. We were blown away by the effort that the children put into their anti-bullying homework. The children have a deep understanding of what bullying means and what to do if you feel you are being bullied.

We have been singing, chanting, rapping and writing our times tables in a bid to improve our knowledge of multiplication and division facts. Practising times tables with your child is fundamental in supporting their mathematical development. There are many websites and apps available to support your child at home. Despite the sound of jingle bells in faint distance, we still have lots to learn before Christmas.

Watch out for some beautiful art work coming your way soon.

Mrs Lucy Powell , LKS2 Phase Leader



## Upper Key Stage 2: (Years 5&6)

'All about Reading' has been the key focus of this term. The Upper Juniors have enjoyed researching and finding out about our fascinating town. We went on an informative



walking tour down Broad street, along the canal and past the impressive Blade building, ending up in Forbury gardens. We noticed many historical landmarks, including several statues and stunning churches and architecture. Unfortunately, as the Abbey is currently being restored, it was difficult to see the ruins in all their glory. We are all looking forward to its unveiling in 2018. Visiting Reading Museum was another opportunity to learn about Huntley and Palmers, looking at the huge collection of biscuit tins was a particular highlight. Since returning, we have presented our work as an engaging non-chronological report, supported by photographs. We are very proud of the finished piece of writing.



In Maths, we have been problem solving with fractions and percentages and feel more confident when working with these calculations. In Science we have been investigating forces including gravity - making our own parachutes was great fun. With Christmas approaching, we are now making our own William Morris inspired print block and are looking forward to creating festive cushion covers.

Mrs Alison Shaman, UKS2 Phase Leader.





# Sporting News

WOW! It has been a very exciting term for the Woodley C of E football squads. The A team are currently level on points at the top of the Woodley Central League. The B team played their first friendly and won 4-1 against a strong Highwood team. The Girls also played their first game narrowly being beaten 3-1. The excitement doesn't stop as all 3 teams will feature again before Christmas against Rivermead (Boys A & B) and St Dominics (Girls).

The first day of December saw our biggest cross country squad to date heading to Ludgrove School in Wokingham for our second meet this year. The cold weather did not stop the children's enthusiasm and all teams completed the course, set in beautiful countryside, with determination. It was the first race for some children and a particular mention should go to Sam Weeks for coming in eighth in his race. A big thank you to the parents who supported and marshalled for us on the day and to the staff who endured the cold weather in our capacity as organisers.

We are looking forward to the next competition!

Mrs Jane Poole, PE Co-ordinator

## Reminders from the Office



### Tucasi on line dinner money payments

We are delighted to announce that from 4<sup>th</sup> January we will be introducing on line payments for dinner money through Tucasi. This links into our online system for The Airfield club so for parents who have already registered for the Airfield Club will be able to use your account for both dinner money and Airfield club.

**Please note that we will no longer be accepting cash or cheques for dinner money from 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018.** If you owe any money to the kitchen, all payments will need to be cleared by the end of term. Similarly, if the kitchen has any credits for you, these will be returned by the end of term and the new term will start on a zero balance.

Welcome letters giving information on how to register for the on line portal, ScoPay, will be issued in paper form in the next few days with details and self-help guides. Full information is available on our website including the school procedures with terms and conditions of use. Please take time to read through the procedures and timescales for bookings and cancellations.

**Please note that if you are a parent of children in Foundation, Year 1 and 2 or if you are entitled to Free School Meals, you should still register as the system will know not to ask for payment.** If you have any questions about our new service, please come to the office.

**Nut Free Site** - A reminder that we are a nut free site and as such no packed lunches or snacks should contain nuts. This does include Nutella sandwich spread.

### Peak times - 8.45-9.15 / 3.00-3.30

Unless urgent, please avoid phoning the office during peak times. To avoid queues during our busy periods please post any forms or office correspondence in the post box on the main front door. This box will be emptied in the morning and at the end of the day.

**General enquiries:** To help reduce queues in the morning, you are more than welcome to email any questions or notices to [admin@woodley-pri.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woodley-pri.wokingham.sch.uk)



# Airfield Club

Opening Times: 7.45am - 8.40am / 3.15pm—6.00pm

We are pleased to announce that following our visit from the Food Standards Agency, we have been awarded 5 stars for the services to our club offers.



If you would like to use the Airfield Club to help with childcare support please fill in a registration form and return to the school office. Please allow 48 hours for your confirmation letter. This letter will enable you to go online and book sessions and make payments. Please remember the “48 Hour Rule” - 48 hours to book and 48 hours to cancel. Any queries please email [TheAirfieldClub@woodley-pri.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:TheAirfieldClub@woodley-pri.wokingham.sch.uk)

You will still be charged if your child is sick or unable to attend club unless you have given 48 hours notice.

A reminder to please not park in the car park when dropping or picking up children. It makes it very difficult for staff to park first thing in the morning if spaces are taken up by parents.

You should have received a questionnaire via email asking for your feedback as we come to the end of our first term in operation. Please send back as soon as possible.

# PTA News

**Thank you** to everyone that came along to our Christmas Shopping Night in November and supported us, and for the lovely cakes that some of you were able to donate. We hope you enjoyed the evening and were able to do a bit of shopping, you helped us to raise a total of £174 for our school.

The Christmas Fair also seemed to be a great success, we are in the process of working out total profits made for the school and will let you all know. Thank you to everyone that came, to parents and teachers that were able to spare some time to help and to everyone that donated items at dress down day. Without your help we could not put on events like this.

Again another plea for any parents out there that may work for a company that offers matched giving, this is such a great easy opportunity to bump up our fund raising massively.

We have made a good start towards our aim to raise money to refurbish the school hall and buy a new sound system.

**The next PTA meeting will be on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 8pm in the Conker Room (Junior playground),** please come along if you are able to as we need all the help we can get to run all the events planned.

You can email ideas to: [Woodleycofe.pta@googlemail.com](mailto:Woodleycofe.pta@googlemail.com).

Liz Sainsbury – PTA Chair, Taryn Parker – PTA Vice Chair, Gail Murray/Lindsey Claydon/Beverley Collett – PTA Secretaries, Rebecca Maddams – PTA Treasurer



# Dates

## December

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Dinner

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Dress Down Day for a £1.00 donation

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – Foundation Tableau 2.00pm (details to follow)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Junior Carol Service – St Johns Church

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> – School finishes 2.30pm

## January

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> – INSET day school closed

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> – school returns 8.40am

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> - Yr 5 Information Evening for Little Canada visit September 2018

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> - PTA Meeting 8.00pm

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> - Family Friday starts 8.40am - 9.00am

## February

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> - Dance club performance to parents - 9.50-10.10 - KS1 / 10.10-10.30 - KS2

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> - HALF TERM

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> - PTA Meeting 8.00pm

## March

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> - Foundation Stay and Play afternoon 2pm

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> - Music performance to parents (more details to follow)

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> - Parent Consultations 5.00-8.00pm

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> - Parent Consultations 3.30-6.00pm

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> - LJ Performance - 6.00pm

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> - LJ Performance - 2.00pm

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> - LJ Performance - 6.00pm

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> - term ends 2.30pm

