

WOODLEY

C of E Primary School

Issue: 7

May

2017



Dear Parents,

Year 6 SATS

Last week was a very busy week in school. I would like to say “well done” to all our Year 6 children. I am sure they will tell you that I always say to them that no one can do any more than their best and I am pleased to report that everyone did this. I was very proud of the calm, serious and hard-working way that our children approached their SATS. Thank you to the Year 6 parents for the support you have given your children leading up to SATS. I would also like to thank the Year 6 staff, the other teaching assistants who were involved in access arrangements and Mrs Smith, who helped me to administer the process.

Taking Children Out of School During Lesson Time.

I am well aware that there are times when children need to come in late or be taken out of school but this is supposed to be under “exceptional” circumstances. Things such as emergency doctors or dentists, funerals, family emergencies are of course expectable but children seem to be missing school for things that really are not “exceptional”. It is important that children come to school when possible as it has been proven that poor attendance affects progress. Thank you to those parents who support me in valuing school for every pupil and can I ask that you consider the governments “exceptional” rule before they are taken out of school again.

Busy Term.

As usual, we have a very packed term ahead of us. We have carnival football this week, the Year 4 children have started swimming and later this term our Year 6 children will be off to Little Canada. The staff are working hard to make their final assessments of your children’s progress and I am working with them on a new report format that we hope will give you greater understanding of your child’s progress. I am also keen to fully involve parents in their children’s education. I am looking to develop a new home/school agreement for September and would be interested to know if any parents would be keen in joining a Parents’ Forum. If you would be interested in developing a Parents’ Forum, please contact the office and I will be looking to set up an exploratory meeting after half term.

I hope you enjoy reading about what your children have been doing this term in the following pages and as Head Teacher, I am proud of the achievements of every one of our children whether at school or at home. Children often come to me and I give out “Head Teacher’s Awards” for excellent work or effort. I was extremely impressed with the homework from the young man pictured.



Best wishes

Louisa Gurney, Head Teacher



Curriculum News

Foundation Stage:

Foundation had a fantastic time visiting Rushall Farm to kick off our topic on farming. The children got to experience a proper working farm and enjoyed many different activities during the day including meeting the cows, donkeys and Camilla the pig. They learnt all about chickens and got to go inside the chicken enclosure and feed them! We went on a very bumpy tractor ride through the blue bell woods, making sure that we held on tight to our seats! A firm favourite of the day being when all of the children had the chance to hold a baby lamb in the lambing shed. We got some great photos.



Over the past week we have been using our Rushall Farm visit as a starting point for our activities. We have made story maps of our visit, tallied our favourite animal, made a beautiful piece of art using printing techniques, have used information books to find out more about farms and have used the photos taken from the visit to make our very own farm books.

Reminder – Please can you check that your child's belongings are named as we have had lots of school jumpers and cardigans go missing recently and it is very difficult to reunite them with the correct child if they are not named!

Please also remember to fill in your child's lunch form and sign in the reading diary when you have read with you child at home.

Miss Lord - EYFS Phase Leader

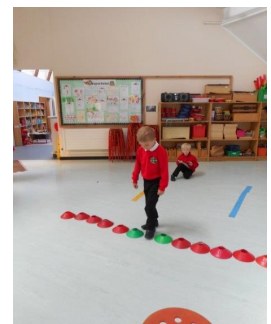


Key Stage 1 (Years 1&2):

This half term, our topic is called 'Under the Sea'. During this topic the children will learn about different habitats and how animals are suited to life in them. We will also look at life cycles and offspring. In DT, the children are making fish mobiles which are coming along beautifully. They have learnt how to saw wood (with an adult's support!) and next they will learn how to plait strings to hang their fish on. 90 children learning how to plait - what could go wrong?! In RE, we are learning about Judaism and how Shabbat is celebrated. In ICT, we have started to learn about coding and algorithms. Over the next term the children will follow a program on PurpleMash which teaches them the basic language of coding and how to debug when a problem arises. In English, KS1 have been writing poetry and over the next few weeks we will look at diary writing.

Show and tell for 'Under the Sea' will be on the last Friday of half term (26th May). Please encourage your child to bring in something related to our topic or a special event. We wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for the Easter Holiday homework. We enjoyed looking at them and all we were so impressed with the amount of hard work the children had done. The children have been rewarded with House Points and we will return the diaries to you at the end of half term.

Mrs Blakely, KS1 Phase Leader.



Curriculum News

Lower Key Stage 2: (Years 3&4)

After a well-earned rest, the Lower Juniors have returned to the summer term ready to learn with lots of enthusiasm.

We launched our new topic, 'America' with a whole phase drama session. We imagined we were sailing towards India when in fact we had discovered America! We talked about the food and conditions we would face when sailing on board a ship in 1492 and how we would feel if we set foot on unfamiliar soil.

In English, we have been reading a range of Native American stories which have been interesting. One of our favourite stories was 'The Clever Coyote' which some of us retold orally and acted out to our peers.

Mrs Powell, Lower KS2 Phase Leader



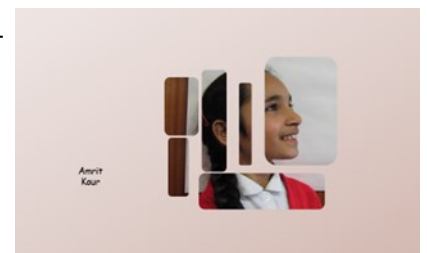
Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5&6)

After a welcomed Easter break, we are back to new engaging topics. In science, we are looking at the 'Circle of life', and have identified the different animals living in the rainbow garden and the tyres on the field. It was fun using the bug spotter and magnifying glasses. Our classification of animals, developed into some interesting discussions around turtles and seahorses. Whilst year 6s have been working hard in their revision sessions, Year 5s geography of the British Isles and in particular exciting class reader is set. 'Sky Hawk' is a novel are totally enthralled by it. Our literacy work is and their exciting discovery of Osprey on their farm. We will be writing newspaper articles on key events from the story and looking at birds of prey in more detail during the term ahead. Keep an eye on any 'red kites' visiting your own gardens! In ICT, we are developing our power point skills, Merging shapes, including transitions, animations and hyperlinking to create an interactive document called 'All About Me'.— we will be uploading them to our ESchools accounts when we are done so families can view them. Artwork this term is observational drawing and in particular, improving our sketching techniques. Again, our focus is on birds and landscapes, we are looking forward to painting a masterpiece.

Mrs Sharman, Upper KS2 Phase Leader.



have been learning about the Scotland. This is where our by Gill Lewis and the children set around the main characters



Sporting News

The summer term has arrived and cricket season has begun. We have entered the Wokingham League this year and the boys are enjoying cricket practises on Thursday lunchtimes. We played our first match against Willow-bank where the boys showed great team spirit and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. It was good to see boys who play outside of school coaching and encouraging their team mates.

Summer Term is very busy with many sports activities taking place. We have both boys and girls carnival tournaments this week followed by Woodley Sports Week 22nd - 26th May, which is always a great event. Please keep an eye on your emails as year groups 1-6 participate in one activity or another over the week.

Sports Day will be held on Friday 7th July starting with a family picnic from 11.30am followed by sports events all afternoon. In case the weather is unkind to us we have pencilled in Tuesday 11th July as our reserve date.



Jane Poole - PE Co-ordinator

Reminders from the Office

Crossing Patrol / Safety outside school

We have had two incidents within as many weeks where children have nearly been caught by moving vehicles because they are being dropped off from parked cars and not using the crossing patrol. We are aware of how dangerous our road is during morning drop off and evening pick up times and we urge you to please encourage your children to walk to the crossing and cross the road safely. Wokingham are currently assessing the amount of traffic that use the road. A reminder that you are also not allowed to come into the staff car park unless you have authorised access.

Email address

If you change your email details please make sure you update your details at the office. We are communicating with you via email more and more now. Please keep an eye out for letters concerning Woodley Sports Week. Copies of letters are also available from the school office if you are unable to print at home or work.

Hay fever Season

More and more children suffer with hay fever each year. If your child is a sufferer, if possible, please make sure they take a hay fever tablet in the morning before school. This should be enough to help them through the school day. We have an increasing amount of Piriton and eye drops that we are having to administer.



Dates

May

Monday 15th - Y4 start swimming (every Monday until 17th July)

Wednesday 17th - Fur and Feather visiting Year 5/6

Wednesday 17th - Yr 5/6 Boys Carnival Football - Woodford Park 12.30-4.30pm

Wednesday 17th - PTA Meeting - 8pm

Thursday 18th - Yr 5/6 Girls Carnival Football - Woodford Park 5.30-7.30pm

Monday 22nd - Yr 5/6 Kwik Cricket - Woodford Park 1-5pm (letter to follow)

Tuesday 23rd - Yr 3 Paralympics - Woodford Park 9-11.45am (letter to follow)

Wednesday 24th - Yr 5/6 Swimming Gala - Bulmershe 9-12.30am (letter to follow)

Wednesday 24th - Yr 1 Multi Skills - Woodford Park 12.45-3pm (letter to follow)

Thursday 25th - Yr 4 Diamond Cricket - Woodford Park 12.15-3pm (letter to follow)

Friday 26th - Yr 2 Aqua Splash/Goals - Bulmershe 9.25-12.30 pm (letter to follow)

Monday 29th - Friday 2nd - HALF TERM

June

Monday 5th - INSET Day - school closed

Tuesday 6th June - school returns 8.40am

Thursday 8th - Yr 5/6 Cricket Match against Coombes, Wokingham 3.30pm

Thursday 8th - Final Yr 6 Little Canada Meeting 7pm

Thursday 8th - PTA Meeting - 8pm

Friday 9th - Yr 5/6 Quad Kids - Palmer Park 2-4.15pm (tbc)

Friday 9th - Woodley Carnival float preparation evening (details to follow)

Saturday 10th - Woodley Carnival - Yr 6 children on float

Monday 12th - Bags to school day

Wednesday 14th - Foundation Stay and Play afternoon 2pm

Thursday 15th - Class / team photographs

Thursday 16th - Yr 5/6 Cricket match away to Highwood 3.30pm

Thursday 22nd - New parents information evening 6.45pm (details to follow)

Friday 23rd - Year 6 Residential trip to Little Canada

Monday 26th - Year 6 return from Little Canada

Wednesday 28th - Year 6 transition day to secondary schools

Friday 30th - Yr 5/6 Cricket match away to Rivermead 3.30pm

July

Monday 3rd - Sex Education video shared with Year 6 parents 6.30pm (more details to follow)

Friday 7th - Picnic lunch followed by sports day from 11.30am

Friday 7th - PTA Summer Fair 6-9pm

Tuesday 11th - Reserve sports day from 11.30am

Thursday 13th - Year 5 information evening for Little Canada September trip 6.30pm



Dates Continued ...

July

Monday 10th - Final week for clubs (parents invited to watch)

Thursday 13th - Whole school transition day

Monday 17th - Yr 5/6 performance 6.30pm

Tuesday 18th - Yr 5/6 performance 2.30pm

Wednesday 19th - Yr 5/6 performance 6.30pm

Friday 21st - reports home

Monday 24th - opportunity to discuss reports with teachers 3.30pm

Tuesday 25th - Yr 6 Leavers Assembly - parents welcome 1.30pm

Tuesday 25th - Term Ends 2.30pm

Tuesday 25th - Yr 6 Leavers party 5pm (more details to follow)

