

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 30th September 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

I don't know about you, but I can certainly feel the autumn season in the air. Days are getting quite chilly now and extra layer of clothing is certainly required. I was therefore very pleasantly surprised that the weather was kind to our runners during last Saturday's cross-country event. The sun was shining and so were the children. I am going to let Mrs Tandara tell you about our achievements.

A word from Mrs Tandara

On Saturday morning, there were 27 Woodside runners representing the school for our first cross-country of the season. Gayhurst School kindly hosted this large event. As always, our children demonstrated Woodside values and encouraged each other.

Everyone should be congratulated for taking part. Some of the races had around 80 children running! A particular mention to Ollie for coming 3rd in the Year 4 boys, Lydia for coming 9th in the Year 6 girls and Dylan for coming 10th in the Year 5 boys.

Team medals are awarded for the collective three highest positions in each race. It is important to note that we do need at least three children in each race for this to happen. Well done to Year 4 boys: Ollie, Harry, and Freddie, for securing the 3rd place. In addition, our Year 6 girls, Lydia, Juliette, and Evie, gained 2nd place! Well done!

This is a sporting opportunity open to all children at Woodside – a maximum of 80 children can participate in each event. Year 3 and 4 run 1 mile and Years 5 and 6 run 1.5 miles. Why not give it a try? The next event is at Hervines Park on the morning of Saturday 19th November. Please speak to your child and encourage participation -who knows there may be the next Mo Farah amongst our Woodside pupils at this moment.

From my perspective, I would like to add that I am always moved by the sporting spirit of our pupils as well as their resilience. It really did not matter which place any of the children secured, as they were all clapped and cheered on by their peers and adults. Well done again boys and girls -you all deserve a medal and I sincerely hope that you enjoyed the event.

Today we had an announcement in our assembly relating to the House Captain elections. I am please to say that the following children are now House Captains for their houses (all Year 6 pupils);

Willow: Juliette and Luc;

Elm: Avaneesh and Clara;

Maple: Lily and Will and

Cedar: Eve and Ryo.

All children understand how important this role is -they represent their houses and as such need to be an excellent role models to all the school community. Congratulations and I am sure that you will be fantastic and responsible House Captains. Next week we are hoping to elect our Eco-Councillors as well as members of our School Council.

A slight change of topic. Can I please politely remind all parents that the school's expectation for attendance is 97% or higher. We obviously aim for 100%, but I also am aware that children get ill and therefore are unable to attend the school. Please refer to our Attendance Procedures, which are available for your perusal on our website. I would like you to pay a particular attention to some useful statistics available on our website, where they clearly state the impact of non-attendance on children's education. Currently, our whole school attendance for the last academic year stands at 94.8%. It is low, as historically it stands at 97%-98%. Last year, still have had absences due to Covid -19 but I am hoping that this year will be different and that all children will benefit from the regular school attendance. Thank you for your understanding.

Finally -a little moan. We received an e-mail from one of the residents of Mitchell Walk asking parents to be considerate and not to park across the driveways. To give you some context, this particular neighbour had to get her father to a hospital and was delayed because of inconsiderate parking of one of our parents. In her own words:

Following the introduction of parking restrictions on Mitchell Walk things improved significantly. But the parking on double yellow lines got progressively worse during the summer term of the last school year. Since schools returned a few weeks ago, the problem has been as bad as ever. In many instances, the double yellow lines are there for safety reasons, such as the parking on the blind corner outside no. 18.

I'd be grateful if you could remind parents to not block driveways, no matter how little time they think they will be there.

Please be considerate and park as appropriate. Thank you.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend. I cannot believe that it is only three weeks until the half term and 87 days until Christmas (not that I am counting).

Best wishes,

Dorota Milner

Link to Year Group Termly

Newsletters

[Year 3](#)

[Year 4](#)

[Year 5](#)

[Year 6](#)

(these were also included with last week's newsletter)

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
4.10.22	PTA AGM (8-9pm) Join Zoom Meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/575394916
5.10.22	Yr 3 Circuits at The Misbourne
21.10.22	PTA—Deadline for Christmas card and gift designs handed into school
16.11.22	Bag2School (all bags of clothing to be in school by 9am)
19.11.22	Cross Country Event at Hervines Park
13.12.22	Rocksteady Concert @10am

Wraparound care (breakfast club and after-school club can be booked through [Ms ChildAtSchool \(MCAS\)](#)). Activation codes for accounts were sent via email. Please remember to verify your email account to gain access (please check your junk items if you can't find the email).

Upcoming term dates for your diary

Close Fri 21st Oct (Oct half term)	3.15pm
Term resumes Tues 1st Nov	Gates open: 8.35am

Mrs Harrison's Weekly Curriculum Update

House Captain elections

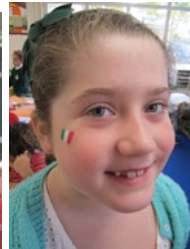
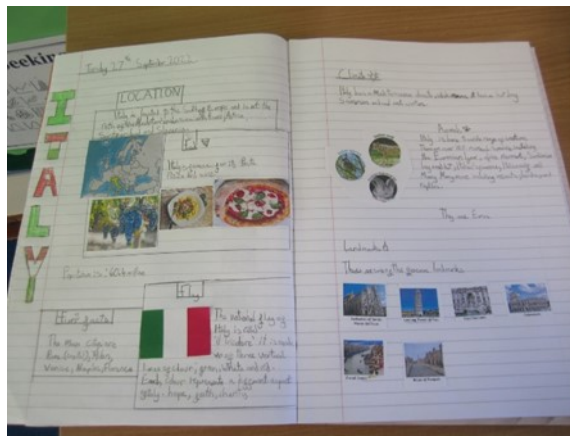
This week, each of our houses held their leadership elections. I managed to visit all of the houses and, as always, was incredibly proud of all of the children. Giving a speech in front of your peers is not easy, but the children stood up and spoke with confidence and passion. Well done to all of the children who put themselves forward to be a part of the democratic process.

Italy Day

New to our curriculum this year is an in-depth study of a region in Europe. In recent weeks, the children have been learning about the countries, capitals, landmarks, culture, seas, rivers, mountains and human and physical features of Europe. This culminated in a day of learning on Tuesday all about Italy. I kept hearing the children speaking in Italian as they walked around the school. They enjoyed some tasty Italian treats and produced some beautiful work- and they finally discovered that the Leaning Tower of Pisa was never intended to lean!

Throughout their time at Woodside, our pupils learn about the UK, Europe and North and South America. The knowledge and skills they learn in one year provide the building blocks for the next. This unit of work also provides a useful context to the children in Year 4 as they move on to learn about Ancient Greece and Rome as well as the Alps.

Thank you to all of the staff in year 4 who made this learning come to life!

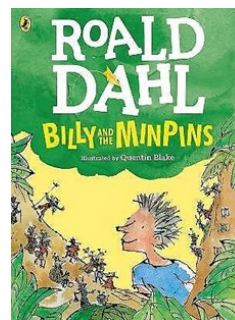


This week's book recommendations:

Finally, I will leave you with my book recommendations of the week. I absolutely love the Wild Robot by Peter Brown. Robot Roz opens her eyes for the first time on a remote island, after the boat transporting her sinks. As a robot, at first she only knows how to survive and the wild animals are terrified of her. But things change when she adopts a gosling and learns to become a wonderful mother and friend. This a thought-provoking and heart-warming tale about what it is to be human, and at the same time a fun adventure.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Harrison



Click the link below for more details on this amazing competition:

ROTARY YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION 2022-23

Dear all

Please click on the title above to see details of a lovely ART COMPETITION- the Rotary Young Artist Competition, which your children may like to enter.

TASK: To produce a 2D piece of artwork up to A2 size based on the theme 'SUNRISE and SUNSET'

The children can use any art mediums, eg pen & ink, paint, collage, print making.

To accompany the submission, each entrant must provide a brief sentence describing the relationship of the artwork to the theme.

All entries need to complete a Young Artist Entry Form (see attached) stating their age as of 31st Aug '22. Parents must sign this.

At all stages of the competition, competitors will receive a certificate of participation.

All entries must be in school by **Thursday 1st December 2022.**

Some Prize Details: The first three winning entrants of each of the age groups in the LOCAL HEAT will receive Waterstones Gift Vouchers, THREE FIRST PRIZE £50; THREE SECOND PRIZE £25; THREE THIRD PRIZE £15... In total NINE prizes to be won.

We look forward to seeing your entries!

Mrs McCarthy

REMINDER: A message from the PTA

CHRISTMAS CARD AND GIFT DESIGNS 2022

Don't miss out on the chance to have your child's design made into Christmas cards and gifts this year!

Your child will have come home with the template (piece of paper) from school today and your child needs to complete their design at home (there are instructions on the top of the template). You then need to fill in the table at the top of the template to say what cards/ gifts you would like to order and hand it in to school by Friday 21st October. Payment needs to be made via [Classlist](#) by Friday 21st October. Thank you.

You can contact the PTA via [Classlist](#) or on email at: Woodsideschool08@googlemail.com .If you need another template—you can download another copy [here](#)

**OCTOBER HALF-TERM
SPORTS MEGACAMP**

MONDAY 24th - FRIDAY 28th OCTOBER 2022

🕒 Times: 9am - 4pm 📍 Venue: Amersham School (HP7 9HH)
👥 Boys & Girls - Aged 5-14 🎁 20% Sibling Discount

TOTTENHAM STADIUM TOUR MULTI-SPORTS GO APE

FOOTBALL Amersham School DANCE

SWIMMING CLIP N' CLIMB GO KARTING

📱 Go to www.first-touch-football.co.uk for all information about this camp and to sign your child up!
☎ Contact tel: 01494 267574 / 07824 336705

🏆 Daily & Weekly Prizes To Be Won

More Woodside News

Safeguarding

Sometimes parents are not sure when it is OK to leave their child / children at home alone. As the law stands there is no legal age as to when a child can be left alone; however, please read below from the Government's website.

The law does not say an age when you can leave a child on their own, but it's an offence to leave a child alone if it places them at risk.

Use your judgement on how mature your child is before you decide to leave them alone, for example at home or in a car.

The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC) says:

- children under 12 are rarely mature enough to be left alone for a long period of time
- children under 16 should not be left alone overnight
- babies, toddlers and very young children should never be left alone

Parents can be prosecuted if they leave a child unsupervised 'in a manner likely to cause unnecessary suffering or injury to health'.

Please click [here](#) to access the NSPCC leaflet that will give you any additional information relating to the topic.

Community Links & Wellbeing

As a school, we try to point parents towards different organisations that may be of use to our parents. Some of them are charitable and some of them are not -they offer a paid service. We as school do not endorse any specific service or product. I thought that it is important to make this clear. Below I draw your attention to a service that Hope UK provides. Hope UK is a drug education charity.

Online Drug (and related information) Sessions for parents and others:

Hope UK offers 1-hour, online (Zoom) sessions for parents and others to help them quickly learn information and skills about drug use and relevant life skills.

Our sessions are varied, and may cover:

- *Information about specific substances, or drugs in general*
- *Things for organisations or families to think about (e.g. drug laws, drug policies, interventions)*
- *Ways to help children and young people develop helpful life skills that may keep them safe from drug-related harm.*

We would be grateful if you could pass this to parents or others who may find the courses helpful. Please click [HERE](#) to download the flyer.

Thank you! Kind regards, Sarah Brighton CEO of Hope UK