

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 31st March 2023



Dear Parents and Carers

This is my last newsletter for this term, as today our children break up for their well-deserved Easter holiday. I know that Mrs Harrison has written in her curriculum update about all the amazing things that have happened at Woodside during this week, so I will just add a few very brief notes.

On Wednesday we had an Easter performance for our Year 5 parents and carers, and I know that it was very highly received by everyone. Well done boys and girls and a big thank you to all our Year 5 staff who helped with the production and another big thank you to all the families who attended. This week we also had an author visit, which, I was told, was brilliant! Thank you to Mrs Jonwood for organising this event. Yesterday, our Year 3 pupils attended a dance festival, and I was told that all the children represented Woodside with pride. Well done! On Tuesday, I was privileged enough to attend a Rock Steady concert. There were four bands performing, under a watchful eye of Bertie, with children across all year groups. Well done to our young 'rockers' and what a fantastic opportunity for our children to be able to be rock stars, albeit for a short time. Who knows...we may have a future Rolling Stones or Muse amongst our pupils. I feel tired writing this – what a busy, busy week!

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our parent / teacher meetings. Meetings between parents and teachers are such an important part of the partnership between the school and home, so thank you once more for giving us the opportunity to meet you and share our knowledge of your child. It is a privilege.

It is this time of the school year (as it is the end of the term) to say a few words of thank you and goodbye. We are saying goodbye to Miss Lang, who stepped in to support the school during this term. Miss Lang is an exceptional teacher, and we cannot be grateful enough for her dedication and commitment to the education and welfare of our pupils. We wish Miss Lang all the best for the future. As you know, Mr Nick Brown will be joining our team as a Year 4 permanent teacher, and I know that you will extend your warmest welcome to him.

I would like to say thank you to all Woodside pupils for their hard work this term. You are an amazing group of children: clever, funny, resilient, independent as well as frustrating (at times) but most importantly, kind and caring towards each other and to the adults who work here. I am looking forward to being your Headteacher during the summer term and I know that it will be our best term - ever! Have a fantastic break and a well-deserved rest.

Parents and carers – a huge thank you to you all, for all your support for the work that we do here at Woodside. Without your support and understanding -our job would be that much harder. It is such a pleasure to work with you all and I am looking forward to this continuing partnership during our summer term. Thank you once more on behalf of our staff.

Last but not least -thank you to our dedicated staff. Your job, supporting children's education and allowing them to flourish in a safe and caring environment, is, in my humble opinion, one of the most important jobs on this planet. So, thank you to you all, and please put your feet up during the next two weeks, as you truly deserve it.

On my part – I am planning to eat plenty of chocolate and enjoy, I hope, a bit of sunshine that will definitely come our way during the next two weeks.

Have a lovely, lovely break.

With my warmest wishes

Dorota Milner



Good News!!

Bucks County Council have decided to **EXTEND** the crown making competition until **Thursday 20th April** to enable children to get creative over the Easter break!!!

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
31.3.23	Break up at 1.30pm on Friday 31st March. No Hideout Zone afterschool club on last day of term. Breakfast club is still available. Return to school Monday 17th April.
21.4.23	Willow House Mufti Day
25.4.23	PTA Meeting in school 8-9pm
1.5.23	Bank Holiday
5.5.23	Year 4 Tri Golf Festival at Chiltern Hills Academy
8.5.23	Additional BANK HOLIDAY- His Majesty's coronation
9.5.23	Year 3 Tennis event at Dr Challoner's
5.6.23	Inset day
13.6.23	Group Photos
15.6.23	Year 5 Athletics at DCHS
17.6.23	PTA Summer Fair—SAVE THE DATE
27.6.23	Year 6 Games at DCHS
29.6.23	Sports Day (if this needs to be re-arranged due to bad weather, the reserve date will be 13.7.23)
w/c 3.7.23	Bike-ability (Yr6)
4.7.23	Transition Day
7.7.23	Year 5 to St Clement Danes School for Science Fair.
21.7.23	Break up 1.30pm
	Link to 2023/24 term dates on website

Congratulations to Willow, our winning house this term. As a reward all pupils who are in the Willow House will have a Mufti day on the **Friday 21st April**.

House Point Totals

This Week	508	520	491	428
Total this Term	5446	5813	5064	5571
	Maple	Willow	Elm	Cedar

Mrs Harrison's Weekly Curriculum Update

BSL: On Monday, we all had the opportunity to learn a new skill. We were really privileged to have a lady called Helen in to deliver an assembly all about British Sign Language. This was a new skill for the teachers and children alike, and it was so lovely to learn together as a school community. We learnt to greet one another and tell each other how we were. We also learnt the alphabet and to sign our own names. It really was a special assembly and we are ever so grateful for her time. We would all love to learn more in the future! The children will be coming home some BSL information sheets. It would be lovely if they could teach you some of the signs and even better if they could learn some more over the Easter holidays and teach us all in a future assembly!

hello	how are you?	please / thank you	sorry	help
good	bad	happy	sad	love

Can you sign your name?				



Author visit: On Wednesday we were joined by another brilliant author- Steve Cole. He was highly entertaining and the children thoroughly enjoyed his talk. Steve worked with astronaut Tim Peake to produce this exciting action-adventure book and Steve managed to entertain the children with fun facts about space- age science as well as inspiring them to read and write.

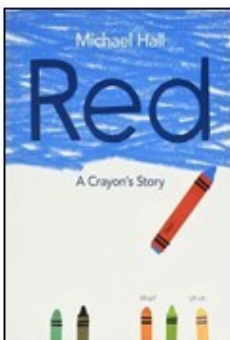
Three Little Trees: On Tuesday, the year 5 children performed their play 'The Three Little Trees' which told the Easter story in an interesting way. It was beautifully told and all of the children sang and spoke with such enthusiasm and confidence. Thank you to the Year 5 teachers and children for this wonderful performance.

Mrs Harrison's Weekly Curriculum Update continued...

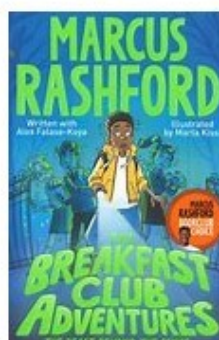


Dance Festival: On Thursday, the year 3 children took part in a dance festival with a number of other local schools. They have all been working so hard over the past few weeks with their teachers. I know I will miss hearing the Waka Waka song blasting out every week!

Easter competition: We have received some fantastic entries for the Easter Egg competition. Thank you to all of the children who took part. Some of them must have taken you a very long time!



PSHE: We have woven a number of books into our PSHE curriculum which the teachers and children love. Year 3 read 'Red. A Crayon's Story' and the children made their own really sweet crayons which show what they are like on the outside and on the inside.



This book has been recommended to me by a pupil who gives it 5 stars! It's an exciting mystery full of surprising clues. The Breakfast Club Investigators realise things aren't as they seem and find something strange lurking behind the fence.

It's been another busy week and term here at Woodside. Thank you to all of the children for always embracing their learning with such enthusiasm and to all of the staff for planning such interesting, challenging and fun activities. I think we are all looking forward to a break! Wishing you a wonderful Easter break, Mrs Harrison.

A note from Miss Richer, SENDCo.

World Autism Awareness Week 27th March until 2nd April 2023

World Autism Awareness Day 2nd April 2023

In support of these important events and to raise awareness of autism, we would like to draw your attention to the following resources:

Buckinghamshire Family Information Service Autism Toolbox

<https://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/send/autism-toolbox-parents-and-carers>

The National Autistic Society www.autism.org.uk

The Autism Education Trust www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk

If your child, or another person you know is on the autistic spectrum, this would be an ideal time to access resources which help them to understand the challenges they may experience. Books are a great way to raise awareness and improve understanding of different experiences. The book titles below are just a few ideas from the many available titles.

www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/a/aspergers-syndrome-and-autism/

If you would like to share any concerns about your child, please speak to their class teacher or contact Vicki Richer (SENDCO) via the school office.



Ages 5-8 All My Stripes: A Story for Children with Autism (Shaina Rudolph and Danielle Royer, 2015; Magination Press)



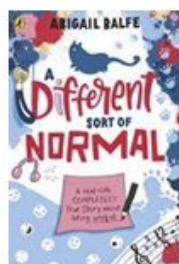
Ages 6 and Up The Autism Acceptance Book (Ellen Sabin, 2006: Pathway Book Service, 2006)



Ages 10-17 "The Asperkiddo's (Secret) Book of Social Rules: The Handbook of Not-so-Obvious Social Guidelines for Tweens and Teens with Asperger Syndrome" (Jennifer Cook O'Toole, 2012, Jessica Kingsley Publishers)

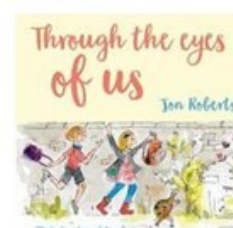


Ages 8 and up "Car Wash Wish" (Sita Brahmachari)



Ages 8 and up "A Different Sort of Normal" (Abigail Balfe)

Ages 5 and up "Through the Eyes of Us" (Jon Roberts)



Special thanks...

A message from Mr Neil Boobier – 3PEAKS CHALLENGE

On the 3rd of June 2023 I will be walking the three peaks challenge with work colleagues at VINCI. We are collecting for a couple of great charities, but I also wanted to raise funds for Woodside Junior School.

The challenge is to climb Ben Nevis (Scotland), Scafell Pike (England), and Snowden (Wales) within a 24 hour period. My main goal is not to break myself - having underestimated the scale of this 'walk'. This only truly dawned on me when I told others about the challenge and they all went 'oh that's really hard'. So I've begun training, lost some weight, and started going on long walks

My other goal is to raise some money for Woodside Junior School. As we know there is very little school funding right now and any extra £ that can be raised will go a long way to support the Children and their education at this fantastic school.

So if you wish to support me by donating to a good cause - your help will be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to support Mr Boobier in this remarkable challenge please go to:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/neil-boobier?utm_term=3Dnr38DPK

Can I please mention that Carter, Flynn Ferguson and his Dad Barry have all been walking with Neil to help him train.

On behalf of the school and all the children -a huge thank you to Mr Boobier for undertaking this challenge and we all wish you all the success. Please keep us posted!

Winners...

Thank you to our PTA who organised a fantastic Easter raffle.

All the prizes were drawn during todays' assembly.
Congratulations to our winners:

1st Place: Bhuvi (3F) and Abigail (5HM)

2nd Place: Ronnie (3J) and Pippa (4A)

3rd Place: William (5HM) and Christina (6DR)

Easter Egg/basket Competition Winners:

1st Beatrice -Year 5

2nd Edie -Year 5 and Isabelle -Year 4

Pupils of the Term...

Maxim and Chloe- 6C

Tiffany and George- 6CH

Surabi and Flynn- 5HM

Samuel and David- 5WM

Evelyn and Thomas- 4A

Ollie and Mina- 4TB

Yaryna and Jackson- 3F

Audrey and Finlay- 3J

Well done...

Well done to our pupils:

Raffy- Duathlon – came third and had to run and ride a bike

Herby – rugby competition

Anaya- Mai and Niaz – gymnastic competition

Safeguarding

Please click [here](#), for a poster from the Family Support Service - **Early signs of exploitation**. Information session for parents designed to learn about the early signs of exploitation. **The workshop is on line and will cover topics such as:**

- What child exploitation is
- Teenage development and the new 'normal'
- Recognising early warning signs
- How to respond if you're concerned
- The importance of asking curious questions
- Where to get help

Date: 24th April @ 6:30pm

I sincerely hope that you take this opportunity to learn more about this very important safeguarding topic.

Please see below, a poster from the SASH Bucks – a service based in Aylesbury that covers Buckinghamshire to offer support to young people who have been affected by sexual harm and domestic abuse. SASH Bucks -offers a range of services including counselling, project work, group work, parent support and a ChIDSVA service for those who are currently going through the criminal justice system. Young people can self-refer or professionals and family members can refer on their behalf.

Charlie Haroon-Doyle *she/her*

SASH Bucks Project Worker

Working Days: Monday – Friday 9am-5pm

Mobile: 07912 402580

SASH Office: 07546 561186

www.sashbucks.org.uk



Safe! Support for Young People Affected by Crime

Charity Number 1143532

SAFE! Head office: 01865 582495 / 0800

1337938

www.safeproject.org.uk

Support after Abuse and Sexual Harm
Buckinghamshire

Have you or your family been affected by sexual harm or domestic abuse?

SASH provides support to children and young people aged 5 to 18 years across Buckinghamshire.

Online Referral

- Counselling
- One to One Support
- Parent/Carer Support
- Group Work
- Independent Advocacy

Get support
www.sashbucks.org.uk
07546 561186

Safe! Support for Young People Affected by Crime

Sexual Assault & Abuse Support Service
Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes

Safe! Support for Young People Affected by Crime

All our support is free, non-judgemental, voluntary, and confidential.

Registered charities Sexual Assault and Abuse Service Buckinghamshire & Milton Keynes (1175021)
SAFE! Support for Young People Affected by Crime (1143532) funded by Buckinghamshire Council.

Wellbeing

Space available at holiday clubs for vulnerable children in Buckinghamshire

Funded by the Department for Education, the aim of the HAF programme is to offer free holiday clubs or activity places over the longer school holidays to children who receive benefits-related free school meals.

HAF provides an opportunity for children and young people to engage in a range of holiday activities, from football to photography, music to art, science to drama, there is an activity for every age and interest. The offer also includes a healthy hot meal for children attending each holiday session.

HAF clubs aim to give children enriching experiences and enable them to have fun and socialise with friends.

If you would like to sign up your child/children for this project, please follow the link below.

Please follow the link: <https://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/advice-and-support/buckinghamshire-haf/haf-information-for-families/>

The camps are available to book via their website at <https://apactivitycamps.org/services/buckinghamshire/alfriston-school-multi-sports-camps-150333404>

Make lunch at Kings Church Amersham for PP or FSM children- Easter holidays - flyer attached [here](#)...

Attached [here](#), is some information related to additional needs drop-in session that the **family support service** is delivering towards the end of April.

St George's Day Royal Historical Fayre and Parade, held at Discover Bucks Museum and Aylesbury's Market Square on Sunday 23 April. The event is completely free and will be interactive, educational, and fun. Full details are available at <https://bit.ly/3mD3wVb> or click [here](#) for more information.

