

## A word from Mr Lloyd

Friday 15th December 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's the final newsletter of a very successful Autumn term! The staff and children at Woodside have excelled themselves throughout the year so far and we have many wonderful memories to look back upon.

The last couple of weeks have been full of Christmas joy. We thoroughly enjoyed the fantastic Year 4 production of Cinderella and Rockerfella this week. All of the shows were incredible, and it was clear to see that the children really enjoyed putting on such a fun show. Woodside staff worked hard to put the show together, making props, helping with costumes, as well as managing all the sound and lighting. It became a real community effort and the whole school took great pride in the performances of the Y4 team. Well done everybody involved!

There have also been several choir performances over the last two weeks, which have been a highlight of the term so far. Mrs Harrison has written a section of the newsletter about this later, but I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Harrison for her hard work in arranging these concerts and running the choir club.

Today, we have been enjoying the Christmas festivities, with Christmas jumper day and the Santa Dash! I hope to see many of you at the Christmas Cheer event, arranged by our hard-working PTA who do so much for the school.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year!**

Mr Lloyd

### Message from the Governors...

Dear Parents and Carers

This has been an exciting and, at times, challenging term for the school. I want to say a huge thank you to all the staff, especially Mr Lloyd (I can't believe it's been his first term as Head Teacher) and to the children who make it such a lovely school to work with. We have quite a new Governing Body so it has been a rewarding time for all of us as we get to know each other and the school.

We aim to provide a rich curriculum for every child and it is a real joy to see them grabbing the opportunities with both hands. Whether I am in school watching the children hard at work or attending performances like last weekend's choir concert with Amersham Acapella, or the Y4 production, hearing about sporting successes or seeing their commitment to the environment or helping others less fortunate, I feel very proud of them all and I hope you do too. None of this 'just happens' – it takes many hours of additional work by the staff and commitment by all of you to get your children to different events, fund raise through the PTA and simply supporting them every day.

Thank you all and enjoy a peaceful and joyous time this Christmas.

Jenny Faulkner

We would like to inform you that we are currently recruiting for someone to help at our ever popular Breakfast Club here at Woodside. Please find details of this opportunity [HERE](#) to join our team in the Hideout Zone. Don't hesitate to pop into the office if you have any questions or are interested in the role and please share the details with your friends and family.

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event
19.12.23	Rocksteady Christmas Performance
19.12.23	Last Day of Term (Autumn) School finish @ 1.30pm
04.01.24	INSET DAY
05.01.24	INSET DAY
08.01.24	First day back to school for Spring term 2024
10.01.24	First Taekwondo (after school) session
11.01.24	First FTF (after school) session
17.01.24	PTA Meeting 8-9pm @ school
19.01.24	First Netball (after school) session
26.01.24	Year 3 trip to British Museum
29.01.24	Year 4 Fitness @ Amersham School
31.01.24	Year 6 Benchball @ Amersham School
02.02.24	Year 5 Basketball @ Amersham School
02.02.24	Year 4 Hockey Tournament
03.02.24	Cross Country Event @ Lowndes Park, Chesham
07.02.24	Year 3 Mega Fest @ DCHS
09.02.24	Last Day of half term. School finish @ 3.15pm
19.02.24	Back to school - normal time

[Click here for the calendar of 23/24 Term Dates](#)

*Congratulations*

**Huge well done to Sophie in Year6 for reaching the next round of the BBC 500 words with her story!**

**Also....**

**Well done to Dhwaiyne in Year3 who took part in his first ever Taekwondo Competition at the weekend and took home bronze in patterns!!**

### House Point Totals

This Week	356	338	342	355
	Maple	Willow	Elm	Cedar

# A choir Christmas Cracker!



The Woodside School Choir had a Christmas cracker of a week, ending with the most fantastic concert on Saturday evening. On Monday, the children sang to an Age Concern lunch and children from Lindfield Nursery came and joined us. It was a wonderful community feel- which moved some of our audience to tears- and a brilliant warm up for our week ahead.



On Wednesday evening, a small group of children sang at the Mayor's carol service with other local schools. Again, the children did themselves and Woodside School proud.



Saturday evening was a real treat. The children were invited to join Amersham A Cappella, a multi-award-winning local choir, for an evening of festive fun. The standard of singing and performance from our school choir was absolutely amazing. The choir also joined Amersham A Cappella for several joint songs which, as I'm sure the parents in the audience will agree, was phenomenal. For me, our joint performance of Jingle Bells, complete with 4-part harmony, bells and moves was a real highlight. Thank you so much to the adults who supported their children to learn the songs and who came along on the night. I was an incredibly proud teacher that night! Well done to all of the children for your hard work- we made an amazing team and did so well in just 6 weeks!





# More Musical Magnificence!

This term, I have had the pleasure of teaching year 6 the djembe. In an assembly on Thursday, every member of year 6 performed songs from the African continent as well as call and response djembe patterns. The children demonstrated their ability to sing in a round, sing in harmony and play different djembe patterns on top of one another. I was very proud of their teamwork and for their dedication and hard work in working towards this common goal. In these photos, the children are in some of their composition groups. The children spent two weeks collaborating to compose their own patterns. Well done year 6!



Wishing you a wonderful Christmas break, Mrs Harrison



# Chiltern Arts Festival- new exciting art competition

## Competition Theme: Everyday Heroes

Heroes do not have to wear capes or have superpowers. Every day our lives are enhanced by small acts of heroism — and our competitions this year explore those real human stories: the stories of everyday heroes. Those real life, everyday experiences that remind us how lucky we are to have these good people in our worlds.

You do not have to reveal the name of your hero, and your work doesn't have to be about someone you know. It could be your best friend who makes your dark days that little bit brighter; it could be a stranger whose good deed turned your day around; or it could even be a well-known public figure whose actions have impacted your life — but whoever you choose, your piece of art must explore an experience that, in your world, is heroic. So, show us and be creative!



### DETAILS

- Your artwork must be **2D** and can be produced in any medium or mixed medium e.g. -paint, collage, pencil, watercolours, pen and ink and must not be bigger than **A4** in size.
- Please write your **FULL NAME, CLASS** and **AGE** on the back of your artwork.
- Entries to be handed to **Mrs McCarthy** by **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2024** who will submit all entries.
- You will retain copyright of your work, but by submitting an entry, you give Chiltern Arts permission to reproduce and use the work at its discretion, digitally and in print.
- Winners will receive a **£20 High Street gift card**.
- Shortlisted and winning entries will receive certificates and have their work displayed at selected **Chiltern Railways stations**.
- These entries will also be showcased in **Chiltern Arts Festival online 2024 art gallery**.

Good Luck and enjoy using your artistic talents to be creative!

**Mrs McCarthy**

