

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 14th October 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

After a long wait – our project has finally started! I am pleased to say that the school’s running track is quickly becoming a reality. Groundwork started on Monday and as of today, this part of the project has been completed. Everything so far has been running smoothly. Many thanks to our Breakfast Club pupils, as well as their parents, for their flexibility and understanding, whilst the trucks have been on our site. Please click [here](#) to have a ‘peek’ as to what has been achieved so far. We are hoping that the children will be able to start enjoying the track after half term. We will also be arranging an “official” opening date in due course.

This is just so exciting and what a fantastic facility for our children to enjoy – hopefully for years to come. I think that it is only right and proper to acknowledge and say a huge thank you to some people, whose work and dedication enabled the school to start the project -in a first place:

- You— the parents/carers both current and past who have helped raise funds for the PTA over the past few years and, particularly last year to make our dream a reality—we honestly could not have even begun this journey without your on-going support. Without your generosity, this worthwhile project would have not happened. I am particularly touched that we were able to raise funds during lockdowns as well as during the ‘cost of living’ crisis. From the bottom of my heart -many, many thanks again.
- Our amazing PTA—who worked so tirelessly to arrange the events to raise the necessary funds for the project. Many thanks for all your dedication and time given to ensure that funds are raised in a fun and positive way.
- Farley Hire—for their substantial donation towards the project.

I would also like to thank a number of individuals who have dedicated significant personal time, energy and expertise to ensure that we created this amazing facility for our children of Woodside. The journey to this point has not been “smooth sailing” and their dedication and resilience has been inspirational. Thank you Tom Dixon (Kit and Jack’s dad); Andy Wiseall (Ivy and Elliot’s dad); Mrs Nickless (our School Business Manager) and Mrs Tandara (our PE Lead).

As I am sure you know by now, parents / teachers’ meetings will be held week after the half term. They will all be held in person, and you will also have the opportunity to look through children’s books. Parents/ teachers meetings are designed to last 10 minutes, and I am sure that our teachers will give you an invaluable feedback on your child’s progress so far this half term. I am hoping that all parents will be able to attend such an important event. I am looking forward to welcoming you all during Tuesday and Thursday. Please ensure that you will let the office know if you need to see Miss Richer, our SENDCo. Both Mrs Harrison and I will also be available on Tuesday 1st November 2022. Unfortunately, both of us are away on a Leadership course on Thursday and will not be back until quite late. My sincere apologies but this was arranged in advance.

As it comes to the end of the half term and children are getting tired, some behaviour can become a little challenging. I am sure that you, as parents, experience this from time to time. Good behaviour in schools is central to a good education and to harmonious playtimes. Our school follows our School Behaviour Policy and I am pleased to say that the large majority of pupils behave impeccably. I hope that you agree with me that our school developed a culture, where our pupils flourish academically and socially, in a calm and safe environment. It is my job, as a Headteacher, to ensure that this culture is reinforced and that everyone is aware of what good behaviour looks like, and where misdemeanour happens- it is dealt with swiftly and appropriately. This is especially pertinent to any incidents of bullying, discrimination, aggression, as well as derogatory language. I, therefore, encourage you to have a look at our Behaviour Policy, which is available on our website. This is a working document and any comments or suggestions will be hugely appreciated. The role of parents is crucial in helping schools develop and maintain good behaviour. Parents have an important role in supporting the school’s Behaviour Policy, and where a parent has a concern about management of behaviour—they should raise this directly with the school. I apologise for this long paragraph and please do not be under any impression that behaviour of our children is below of what is expected. As I said many times, children are absolutely wonderful and are credit to you all. However, from time to time it does not harm to remind about the school’s Behaviour Policy as well as expectations. Can I also remind all parents that the school’s Behaviour Policy is applicable to all pupils whilst off site and whilst wearing the school uniform.

My apologies if this week’s newsletter appears a little gloomy with regards to behaviour. I feel that it is my duty to inform parents about any potential dangers and worries. Please also take my word for it – behaviour of children at Woodside is good, if not excellent, and where it falls below the expected standard –our staff deals with it swiftly.

Finally, I am delighted to announce our House Captains, School Council representatives, Eco-Council Representatives, Sports Crew and Wellbeing Ambassadors. Please click [here](#) for the list.

I sincerely hope that you all will have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Milner, Headteacher

House Point Totals (since the start of term)

922	1018	816	887
Maple	Willow	Elm	Cedar

Plea for Items!

We would be very grateful for any contributions of the following for use in activities across the school. Please bring items to the School Office:

- Empty cereal boxes (we cannot accept boxes from cereals that contained nuts)
- Clean empty jars with lids (any size)
- Plastic bottle lids (any size and colour)
- EASY children’s board games (suitable for primary school age)

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Week commencing 17.10.22	Chiltern Food Bank collections (click here for items requested)
17.10.22	Pre-loved uniform sale organised by our PTA (3.15pm)
18.10.22	Yr3 Harvest Assembly (Yr3 parents/ carers invited) - 9.15am
21.10.22	PTA Break the Rules Day PTA—Deadline for Christmas card and gift designs handed into school
Half Term	Break up Friday 21st October. Return to school Tuesday 1st Nov.
1.11.22	Parent/Carer Evening (day 1) - please book on MCAS
1.11.22	PTA meeting (at school) 8pm— all welcome
3.11.22	Parent/Carer Evening (day 2) - please book on MCAS
12.11.22	PTA Quiz Night (timings tbc)
16.11.22	Bag2School (all bags of clothing to be in school by 9am)
19.11.22	Cross Country Event at Hervines Park
1.12.22	Deadline for entries for Young Artist Competition
13.12.22	Rocksteady Concert @10am
16.12.22	PTA Christmas Cheer event (afterschool)
20.3.22-24.3.22	Yr6 Residential
17.6.22	Advance notice! PTA Summer Fair—SAVE THE DATE

OUR PUPIL LEADERS

2022-23

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Willow: Juliette and Luc

Elm: Avaneesh and Clara

Maple: Lily and Will

Cedar: Evie and Ryo

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Year 3: Aarna, Leo, Iris and Nathun

Year 4: Shrey, Pippa, Elsa and Tommy

Year 5: Carter, Olivia, Beatrix and Freddie W

Year 6: Maxim, Finley J, Emilia and Finley J

ECO COUNCIL

Year 3: Urvi, George, Poppy & Felicity

Year 4: Evelyn, Isabel, Isabelle & Max

Year 5: Neve, Samuel S, Emily A & Edie

Year 6: Ishani, Anvay, Rose & Lucas

SPORTS CREW

Year 3: Eva, Seb, Gaby & Ronnie

Year 4: Tom, Chloe, Ollie & Dulcie

Year 5: Emily, Isaac, William & Mahita

WELLBEING AMBASSADORS

Year 4: Ellie, Freddie & Tilly

Year 5: Beatrice, Darun, Harry, Saathvika, Joey & Maximo

Year 6: Amelia A, Franek, Isla, Daniella, Jessica & Leon

Mrs Harrison's Weekly Curriculum Update

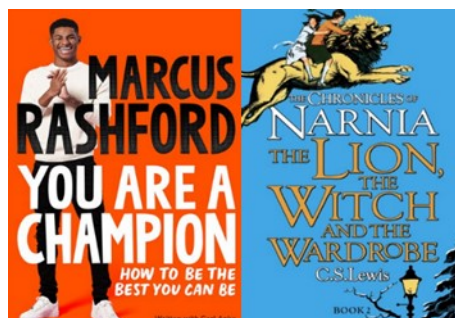
World Mental Health Day

Children's mental health and well-being is extremely important to us at Woodside and we know how important it is for children to feel supported and encouraged to express their thoughts and feelings. We address well-being in our PSHE curriculum through lessons on topics such as celebrating ourselves; developing and nurturing positive relationships; keeping ourselves healthy and safe; and exploring emotions and feelings. We speak about well-being in assemblies, Science and PE, have worry boxes placed around the school and have a team of pupil Well-being Ambassadors.

On Monday, we marked World Mental Health Day in a number of ways. The children thoroughly enjoyed watching a video of our staff all sharing their talents and hobbies and ways they look after their own mental well-being out of school. Classes read the book 'The Barnabus Project' and explored themes such as friendship, tolerance, teamwork and a celebration of what makes us all unique. The children all enjoyed sharing their 'self-soothe' boxes with each other and I managed to speak to some children in every class about theirs. Thank you for helping your children to create these.



This week's book recommendations:



Let's Celebrate



CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN'S TALENTS

EVERY WEEK IN OUR CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY, WE ALLOW TIME TO RECOGNIZE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CHILDREN OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL .

THIS WEEK WE CELEBRATED THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF:

Antoni

Edie

Beatrice W

PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO LET MRS MILNER KNOW THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS BEFORE FRIDAY MORNING SO THEY CAN BE INCLUDED IN OUR ASSEMBLY

Safeguarding

I would like to touch on a topic that is perhaps more appropriate for the secondary school, nevertheless it can also happen in primary schools. This very uncomfortable topic involves child-on-child sexual violence and sexual harassment. The Government's guidance (September 2022) clearly states that:

- Schools should be clear in every aspect of their culture that sexual violence and sexual harassment are never acceptable, will not be tolerated and that pupils whose behaviour falls below expectations will be sanctioned.
- Schools should never normalise sexually abusive language or behaviour by treating it as 'banter', an inevitable fact of life or an expected part of growing up
- Where relevant, pupils who fall short of these behaviour expectations may be sanctioned whilst other investigations by the police and/or children's social care are ongoing
- Schools should be clear that even though the online space differs in many ways, the same standards of behaviour are expected online as apply offline, and that everyone should be treated with kindness, respect and dignity.
- Inappropriate online behaviour including bullying, the use of inappropriate language, the soliciting and sharing of nude or semi-nude images and videos and sexual harassment should be addressed in accordance with the same principles as offline behaviour, including following the child protection policy and speaking to the designated safeguarding lead (or deputy) when an incident raises a safeguarding concern.
- Many online behaviour incidents amongst young people occur outside the school day and off the school premises. Parents are responsible for this behaviour.
- Schools should have the confidence to sanction pupils when their behaviour online poses a threat or causes harm to another pupil, and/or could have repercussions for the orderly running of the school, when the pupil is identifiable as a member of the school or if the behaviour could adversely affect the reputation of the school.

All of the above points are covered in our Behaviour and Safeguarding Policies. Those policies are designed to ensure that the school remains safe, orderly and happy place for all pupils and staff.

Community Links & Wellbeing

I came across this warning and I thought that it will be useful to pass the information on to our community – so please read on.

Warning as criminals exploit cost of living crisis to target the public with energy rebate scams

Energy prices are set to increase on 1 October 2022 and in the last two weeks, more than 1,500 reports have been made to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) about scam emails purporting to be about energy rebates from Ofgem, the independent energy regulator for Great Britain. People are urged to follow the [Take Five](#) to Stop Fraud advice and think carefully before giving out their personal and financial details. In this instance, the reported scam emails claim that the recipient is due an energy rebate payment as part of a government scheme and provides links for the recipient to follow to apply for the rebate. The links in the emails lead to malicious websites designed to steal personal and financial information. All of the reported emails display the email subject header "Claim your bill rebate now" and the criminals behind the scam are using the Ofgem logo and colours to make the email appear authentic. However, the emails ask recipients to "apply for an energy bill rebate before September 2020", which prompted many recipients to realise the emails were not genuine and subsequently report the scam.

Please remind vigilant to all scammers. We all work too hard to part with our earned money. Personally, I get numerous phone calls from the pretend Microsoft customer service or the Internet provider. Recently, I have been receiving e-mails asking me to pay extra for a postage delivery or e-mail from Inland Revenue. However, the very latest one involved a WhatsApp message pretending to be from my son, telling me that he changed his number and consequently priming me to send some money.

Always be suspicious and report any scams.

COME AND BE PART OF OUR PTA



Open Position ASSISTANT TREASURER

We'd love to hear from you, email us at:
woodsideschool08@googlemail.com

We are delighted to announce that Mira Pitkin, Year 3, has kindly stepped forward to take on the role of Treasurer for Woodside School PTA. Thanks so much Mira, we're so pleased to have you join the team!

However, as we know a job shared is a job halved and it would be great if someone is able to offer their help to support Mira in her role as Treasurer.

Here's a taste of what the role involves:

- Handling money - putting together floats for events, making payments and paying in money
- Supporting the Treasurer with pulling together information ahead of PTA meetings
- Basic book keeping skills
- Attending PTA meetings as often as you can

Please do get in touch if you are able to help out.
Thanks, from the PTA team



CHILTERN FOODBANK
HELPING LOCAL
PEOPLE IN CRISIS

Harvest Festival Foodbank Collection

This harvest season, Woodside Parent Teacher Association is arranging a week of foodbank collections from 17th – 21st October 2022. All donations go to local people in crisis.

- When:** Monday 17th - 21st October 2022
- Where:** All donations to be brought to school and given to the class teacher or school office.
- What:** All non-perishable foods, toiletries and cleaning products.
- Urgently needed
- tinned fruit
 - tinned meat
 - tinned vegetables
 - tinned custard
 - tinned spaghetti Bolognese
 - rice 500g



For more information on Chiltern Foodbank and the work it does please visit: <https://chiltern.foodbank.org.uk/>

Woodside PTA email: woodsideschool08@googlemail.com Woodside Parents



*Just a friendly
reminder...*

Stationery in class

Please check with your child if they need any additional/replacement items. At this stage of the term, glue sticks and white board pens tend to run out! If you find it easier, you can order these items for your child (or even a full pencil case of items) on Bromcom—MCAS.