

# A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 29th April 2022



Dear Parents,

## Our school value this half term is—Be Inquisitive

How are you? I hope that you all had good Easter break. The weather was absolutely gorgeous and I sincerely hope that you had a chance to re-charge your own batteries. Now children are back at school, it quickly feels like we have not been away, at all. I am pleased to say that children, as well as the staff, settled into our routines quickly and I am hoping that this term will be very productive in terms of learning. Of course learning is the most important part of any school's life; however, all 'extras' are also important as they make a rounded experience for the children. I am particularly excited about Woodside's Got Talent, which will take place in July.

Just to update you on a couple of our projects and a few reminders:

**Running Track** We have now applied for planning permission to build our running track. We have contractors, who will be able to commence the works during the summer. We continue to seek community funding and will keep you posted. As you know, we are very excited about the prospect of our school having a running track as we will be the only primary school in our area to have one. We will obviously continue to keep you posted with the progress.

**New Website** Our new website is 'up and running'. It is not by all accounts a finished product, as yet and we will be adding new pages and updating content over the next few weeks. Any feedback from parents will be greatly appreciated.

## Amersham Community Board

On Thursday we met with the Amersham Community Board. The Community Board is a new way of bringing the Council, local voluntary organisations, and local residents together to look at issues in our area and find ways of improving them together. Please click [here](#) for a letter from the Amersham Community Board. Each year they will be allocated funds from Buckinghamshire Council to



fund or part fund projects that directly benefit the community. We, as a school, will apply for funds to help us with the running track project.

**School Uniform** Children now need to be wearing the school's summer uniform. Please check our website for the specific requirements. This also includes the school's requirements regarding it's PE kit –plain black or green joggers and polo shirt. Joggers with excessive logos are not permitted as well as sweatshirts that are either hoodies or of different colours. I sincerely hope that you will support our efforts to ensure the uniformity of the school uniform. I appreciate that many parents face financial pressures so, if need be, children may wear a simple white polo shirt without the logo. Our PTA often runs a second hand uniform sale where polo shirts with the logo may be purchased. Some parents inquired regarding girls dresses - please be assured that green/white/checked / culottes type dresses are allowed. Please ensure that long hair is tied up and if your child has a particularly long fringe – we expect them to wear a clip to ensure that hair does not cover their eye / eyes.

**Mufti Day for Maple House Friday 6th May** Well done to Maple for earning the most house points last term. There will be a mufti day on Friday 6th May for all Maple pupils.

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Fri 6th May	First Touch Football Club starts
Thurs 5th May	Year 4 Tri Golf Chiltern Hills Academy
Fri 6th May	Mufti Day for Maple House pupils
Fri 6th May	Year 6 Geography Field Study
w/c Mon 9th May	Year 6 SATS week
Fri 13th May	Year 6 VE Day Celebration. Dress up 1940s
Thurs 19th May	Year 3 Tennis Dr Chaloner's High School
Mon 23rd May	Year 6 Magistrates visit
Fri 24th May	School Photos
Fri 27th May	Queen's Jubilee Celebrations Wear red/white/blue
Tues 7th—Fri 10th June	Year 6 Bikeability Week
Mon 13th June	Drum Workshop Whole School
Tues 14th June	Bags2school
Sat 18th June	Summer Fair
Tues 28th June	Year 6 Games Dr Chaloner's High School
Wed 29th June	Year 4 to St Albans Verulamium Museum
Tues 5th July	Transition Day

## Upcoming term dates for your diary

Close Fri 27th May	3.15pm
Open Tues 7th June	Gates open: 8.35am
Close Wed 20th July	1.30pm

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**Attendance** I would like also to remind parents that attendance at school is compulsory. Following the changes to government guidance around attendance at school and COVID-19 at the start of April 2022, please note the following:

- Should your child be advised to take a test for COVID-19 by a health professional and test positive, they should not attend school for at least three days.
- If your child is not at school for a short time because they are unwell, the work will not be set for them while they are absent. Please do not Dojo class teachers to request work. If children are too ill to be in school, they should take the necessary time to recover their health and then catch up on missed work when they return to school. The only exception is any chronic medical condition, certified by a doctor or any specific personal circumstances as discussed with the Headteacher.

**Art Competition** Last Sunday, I attended a **prize giving ceremony organised by the Wycombe Museum**. I was so immensely proud of our pupils. Out of 30 winning entries, 10 were from Woodside. Well done to all boys and girls who took part.

**Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee Cake Competition** So now we are calling upon all amateur young bakers to enter a competition designed by the Buckinghamshire County Council. [Over to Mrs Bannister:](#)

A recent survey of the pupils highlighted how much children here at Woodside love their DT lessons. In celebration of our children's amazing design skills and creativity, we would like to enter a competition hosted by Buckinghamshire Council to design a cake in honour of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.

Children will be invited to design a cake for this special occasion and entries will be judged by our School Council. Designs should include an ingredients list. Our favourite designs will be submitted to the competition in the hope of winning £150 worth of vouchers. Designs that are shortlisted will be invited to bake and show their cake to the panel at The Gateway School on the 7th June.

Designs must be submitted no later than Monday 9th May to give the school council time to judge the entries. Good luck everyone! I can't wait to see what you come up with.

I sincerely hope that many young bakers will be able to enter this competition- how exciting!

[A word from Mr Ahmed:](#)

Woodside boys' football team played against the Little Kingshill School on Wednesday afternoon. All the boys showed commitment and dedication throughout the entire game. The final score was 5-2 to Woodside. Special mention needs to go to Riley (6A) who scored a hat-trick and Theo (6A) for his leadership skills. Well done to all the boys who attended and represented the school in a positive manner.



Well done boys and I know that you have a tough game coming up against the Elangeni School.

Before I sign off –a couple of things. First, please make a note in your calendar for our annual Summer Fair, organised by our PTA. It will take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June 2022. Secondly, I need to share with you my quick reflection. Being a teacher or Headteacher is, in my opinion, the best job in the world 😊 Not only can you influence children's minds, help them to learn and to become a well rounded person –but also there is no other job where you can have so much fun. Children are absolutely amazing –they frustrate you sometimes but most importantly make you smile every day. Their talents never stop to amaze our staff and I personally love our Friday's achievement assemblies where children are encouraged to share their successes –however small. Yesterday both Mrs Stanton and I were quite amazed by one our pupil's talent. Caleb (4C) can recite, in a verse, every single London Underground station. It took him about 3 minutes but a year and half to master. Well done! Following this –we would like to learn and know more about your children's hidden talents/ achievements etc. We will be therefore sending a short survey to all parents asking for this information but obviously only if parents or children want to share this. We will also send a general survey to all parents as your feedback helps us to make improvements –if and when necessary.

Every week I promise myself not to write a lot but every week there is so much to share with our parental body. Please continue to encourage your children's natural curiosity – the more questions the better! Have a lovely Bank Holiday weekend and enjoy (hopefully) the sunshine.

With warmest wishes

Dorota Milner

## More Woodside News

### Safeguarding

Today I would like to draw your attention to a challenging topic of 'peer on peer abuse' and sexual harassment amongst children. As a school we have the statutory duty to protect your children against any form of abuse. Understanding what peer-on-peer abuse is one of the preventative steps that the whole community can take in order to eliminate any instances within schools.

What is peer-on-peer abuse?

Peer-on-peer abuse is any form of physical, sexual, emotional and financial abuse, and coercive control exercised between children, and within children's relationships, friendships, and wider peer associations.

Peer-on-peer abuse can take various forms, including (but not limited to): serious bullying (including cyberbullying), relationship abuse, domestic violence and abuse, child sexual exploitation, youth and serious youth violence, harmful sexual behaviour and/or prejudice-based violence including, but not limited to, gender-based violence.

Online peer-on-peer abuse is any form of peer-on-peer abuse with a digital element, for example, sexting, online abuse, coercion and exploitation, peer-on-peer grooming, threatening language delivered via online means, the distribution of sexualised content, and harassment.

Primary school aged children

Although some aspects and principles are applicable to primary school aged children, some are not. For example, some of the specific forms of peer-on-peer abuse will not be relevant for primary school aged children; however, other forms such as bullying, sexualised language, and/or sexualised behaviour will be relevant. In addition, the response to concerns/allegations of peer-on-peer abuse will differ depending on the age of the child or children in question. For example, the police will take welfare rather than a punitive approach towards children aged under 10, which is the age of criminal responsibility in England and Wales.

Schools, including Woodside, teach children age appropriate PSHE curriculum, which focuses on healthy relationships and how to keep safe.

I will be sharing resources with parents, which will help to support our children with ensuring that they continue to develop healthy approaches to friendships.

### Wellbeing

An important part of being a parent is the ability of looking after our own physical and mental health. I apologise if I appear patronising but sometimes we forget this as we are so focused on well-being of our children. Good well-being helps us to cope with everyday pressures –and currently there are many for so many families. This NHS website has some useful tips on how to elevate some every day stress. Please have a look and I sincerely hope that this will be helpful to some parents:

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/tips-to-reduce-stress/>

### Chartwells Lunches

Please remember to book your school lunches by Tuesday 8 pm for the following week

[Spring / Summer Menu](#) [Meat Medical Diet](#) [Veg Medical Diet](#) [April-July Menu](#) [Ingredients](#) [Medical/Diet Ingredients](#) [Nutrient Counts](#) [Allergy Reports](#)

### After School Clubs

Taekwondo [click here for details](#)

Netball (Yr5/Yr6) please speak to Mrs Tandara

First Touch Football [click here for details](#)

Hideout Zone - the school's wrap around care / afterschool club [please click here for details](#)



Cedar



Elm



Maple



Willow

House Points: Weekly Totals