

A word from Mr Lloyd

Friday 6th September 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back for a new school year at Woodside!

I hope that you have all had a lovely break over the summer holidays and managed to spend some time with your families. I'd like to take this opportunity to wish a very warm welcome to all of our new families who have joined us in Year Three. We are really looking forward to working with you over the coming years.

This week has been very busy with two INSET days. On these days, we met as a staff to receive training on oracy, safeguarding and the school development plan for the coming year. It was a great opportunity to reset as a staff following a very successful year last year and to ensure that the whole Woodside team is aware of our aims for the forthcoming year.

One of our aims is to embed the new values: Curious, Kind and Collaborative. To this aim, I have launched a competition today for the children. They have been asked to create an A4 poster representing one of the values. They may do this in any way that they like and be as creative as possible. The winning entries will be framed and displayed around the school. Entries should be brought to school by Friday 20th September.

It's been lovely to see and hear all the children around the school over the last two days. They have settled into school well and all our staff are proud of the way everyone has returned to school routines. Well done, Woodside!

I'd like to finish with two notices. Firstly, there has been a change in which the Department for Education are handling attendance in schools and the associated penalty notices. It is much harsher this year and schools have far less discretion. A penalty notice of £160 per parent, per child, may be issued if a child misses 5 consecutive days of school due to unauthorised absence. A penalty notice may also be issued if a child is absent for 10 or more sessions (am or pm) within a ten-week period. Many children would have fallen into this category last year. There are also substantial increases in the penalty notices for second and third offences within a three-year period. I would like to stress that the school does not benefit from any penalty notice and we are eager to work with families to avoid these situations occurring. However, school attendance is crucial and we ask that you work with us to ensure that your child attends school as much as is possible.

Secondly, we have a vacancy for a parent governor. This is an exciting role in which you can help shape the future of Woodside School. Please see later in our newsletter for a brief advert from Jenny Faulkner, our Chair of Governors.

Best wishes,

Mr Lloyd

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
11.09.24	TKD after school club starts back
11.09.24	Open classroom for parents 3.15pm
12.09.24	11+ exam—Year 6 only
13.09.24	ZKT Dance after school club starts back
19.09.24	FTF after school club starts back
20.09.24	Netball after school club starts back
25.09.24	Kittle individual and sibling photos
28.09.24	Cross Country—Gayhurst School
30.09.24	Year 3 Personal Best @ Amersham School
30.09.24	Year 4 'Italy Day'
08.10.24	Parents Evening 1 from 3.40pm-6.10pm
08.10.24	Year 5 Basketball @ Amersham School
10.10.24	Parents Evening 2 from 4.30-7pm
11.10.24	4TB Hockey Tournament after school - <u>Invitation Only</u>
23.10.24	Year 3 Harvest Assembly to parents 9.15am
25.10.24	Last day of half term - School finish at 3.15pm

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

****Save the date****

First cross country of the new season
will be Saturday 28th September
2024 at Gayhurst School, Gerrards

Please see our brand new Easyfundraising QR code for anyone who is able to make a donation towards school activities and events which are additional to the regular curriculum. If you are able to, please scan the below code and donate what you can- thank you on behalf of all at Woodside!



House Point Totals

This week	House Points will start from next week			
	Maple	Willow	Elm	Cedar

Advert for a New Parent Governor...

Could you make a difference to Woodside School?

We are looking for a parent or carer to join our Local Governing Body. The LGB plays an important role in leading our school. It helps set the strategic vision and direction, approve the budget and hold the senior leadership team to account. Our LGB is made up of external governors, and governors elected by parents and by the staff. We need to appoint one more Parent governor this term. The current governors bring a wide range of experiences to the LGB and we like to think that we are friendly and supportive, whilst taking our responsibilities seriously.

You need to be able to attend 6 evening meetings each school year and to have time to get to know the school and to take part in the training which is provided. A DBS check would be done if you decide to apply. If more than one parent applies, an election will be held which all parents and carers of children at the school can vote in.

If you might be interested you can find out more here <https://www.nga.org.uk/about/become-a-governor-trustee/>, or contact the Chair of Governors, Mrs Jenny Faulkner at lgbchair@wsd.odbst.org to arrange an informal chat.

Please see below for some useful and interesting links to webpages shared with the school office for your information...

- Free Eco Fair will be held at Amersham Free Church on Woodside Road, Saturday 14th September 10am-2pm.
- Please click [here](#) if you would like to see any information on The Misbourne Open Evening 2024.
- If you would like to know further details on [RugbyKids](#) or [RugbyTots](#) in the local area, please click on your preferred option.
- Please click [here](#) if you are interested in some information on Early Years afternoons at Restore Hope.

**WELCOME
BACK!**

