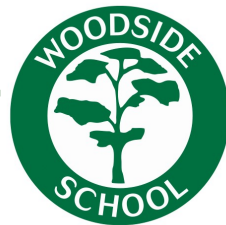


A word from Mr Lloyd

Friday 10th November 2023



Dear Parents/Carers,

During this week, the school were visited by our Trust's Challenge Partner. The purpose of this visit was to look at assessment across the school and the impact it has on pupil results. Rob, our Challenge Partner, spoke with a group of children, interviewed five subject leaders and carried out a learning walk during the morning lessons. It was lovely to be able to share our excellent practice with the Trust and Rob was very impressed with the lessons he saw and how well the pupils spoke during their interviews. It was lovely to hear many of their comments about learning at Woodside, including one Y6 who said that he "never wants to leave the school"! Well done also to all the staff involved, who worked very hard to prepare for the day. It is really clear how well staff know the school and their subjects.

Today, we are celebrating Diwali and I'm looking forward to seeing all of the activities planned in the classrooms. I know that many of the children and staff are excited about this day and I am sure that everybody will learn lots about this celebration. To those celebrating Diwali, we wish you a Diwali that brings happiness, prosperity and joy to you and all in your life.

This weekend also sees our next Cross-Country event. I know that these are a highlight of life at Woodside and that the staff and pupils involved are greatly anticipating this event. I wish good luck to everybody involved and look forward to hearing about the event!

Finally, I am delighted that we will be joined by our new School Business Manager, Mrs Edwards, on Monday. I am sure that everybody will welcome Mrs Edwards into our school community and I look forward to working with her in this role.

I hope everyone has a great weekend and stays warm and dry!

Best wishes,

Mr Lloyd

Well done to Neev in Yr4 for player of the week in FTF



Odd Socks Day

Monday 13th marks the beginning of **Anti-bullying week**. It is also **World Kindness Day**. The Well-being Ambassadors will be running a photo booth at lunchtime to celebrate friendship and kindness.

Children are invited to wear odd socks on Monday 13th. This is a national campaign run by the anti-bullying alliance to celebrate what makes us all unique.

Children in Need

On Friday 17th November, children are welcome to come to school in pyjamas/onesies or loungewear to show their support for this charity. If possible, we ask the children to also bring some loose change as a donation. However, we understand that it is sometimes difficult to find extra pennies to support a charity during these challenging economic times, so we understand if parents/carers do not wish to donate. We do not want any child to feel excluded, therefore all children can dress up – regardless of whether a donation is made or not. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity.



Dates for your diary

Date	Event
11.11.23	Cross Country event Hervines Park
13.11.23	2nd hand uniform sale after school
13.11.23	Odd Socks Day for Anti-Bullying Week
14.11.23	Year 4 Ancient Greek Day
16.11.23	Childhood Anxiety Workshop @9am
17.11.23	Children in Need- wear Pyjamas/loungewear/onesies
21.11.23	PTA Disco
W.C 04.12.23	Last week of After School Clubs
05.12.23	Year 5 Trip to Oxford Science Museum
08.12.23	Deadline for Rotary Young Artist competition
13.12.23	Year 5 Yoga @ Amersham School
13.12.23	Year 4 Christmas Production
15.12.23	Christmas Jumper Day, Santa dash and Christmas Cheer !
19.12.23	Rocksteady Christmas Performance
19.12.23	Last Day of Term (Autumn) School finish @ 1.30pm

[Click here for the calendar of](#)

[23/24 Term Dates](#)

Parking

Please can all parents park safely when dropping or collecting children at school. Many parents are still stopping on the single yellow lines, which is not allowed between 8am and 5pm. This causes huge congestion, making it very dangerous for pedestrians including the many children who walk to school alone in the upper years.

This morning, several cars stopped in the middle of the road to drop their children at the gates. Again, this causes dangerous congestion and should not be happening.

Please remember to drive and park safely, for the benefit of all in our community.

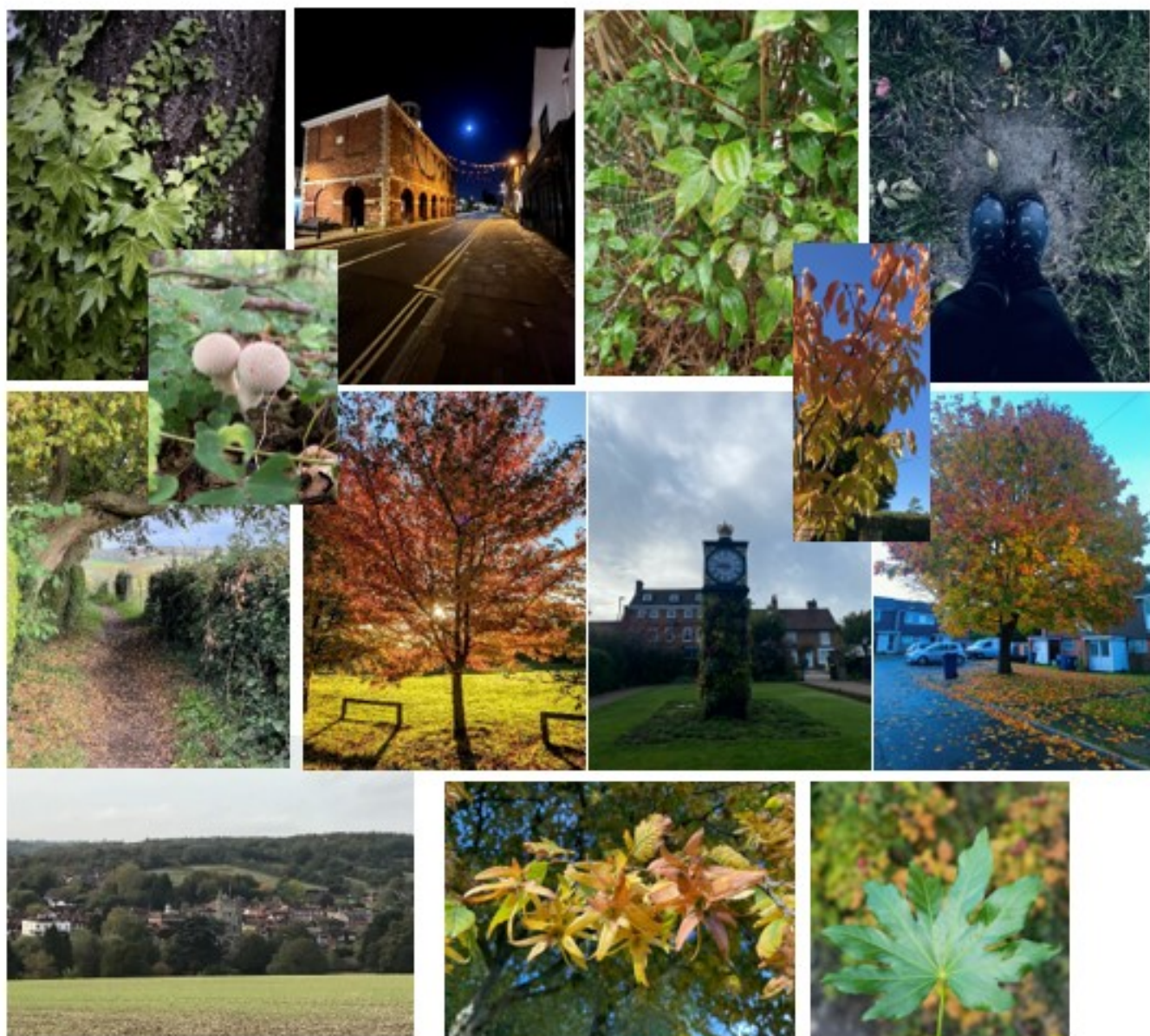
House Point Totals

This Week	342	388	319	369
	Maple	Willow	Elm	Cedar

Mrs Harrison's curriculum update

Amersham in Autumn photography competition

Well done to all of the children who took part in our first inter-house photography competition. On Tuesday, the House Captains chose the finalists and then children were invited at lunchtime to vote for their favourite photo. This was a nice way for all of the children to feel involved and have their say. A special mention to Darun, Daisy and Milo whose photos were voted into the top 3 by the pupils.

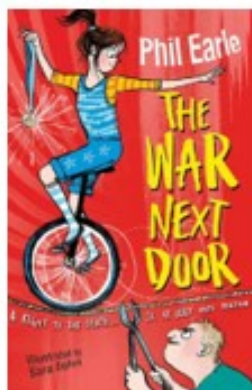


Year 6 Music

I just wanted to say a big thank you to the PTA for purchasing 10 additional Djembe. Year 6 have been learning songs from African cultures and learning to sing in rounds and in harmony. They have also been learning to read notation and play the djembe. On Wednesday we had a full complement of Djembe and the children (and I) were very excited about this. We are hoping to perform to the rest of the school this half term so all of the children can hear what we have been up to.



My book recommendations of the week



Next Week is anti-bullying week and World Kindness Day. So I have included some books that explore these themes through story-telling. The first, 'the night Bus Hero', portrays a community of homeless people and Hector, a boy labelled a bully and a menace, goes on a journey of self- discovery. He not only becomes a part of a crime-busting mystery but also goes on a personal journey of compassion and learning to reach out to others. 'The War Next Door' is about 'Masher' the bully of the street and a newcomer, Jemima. Masher is torn between his Dad's menacing attitude towards the circus newcomers and the kind and fearless nature of Jemima. This story is funny whilst also opening discussions about tolerance, acceptance and friendships.

On behalf of Kings Church Amersham, please click [here](#) if you would like to see information regarding some upcoming family celebrations and click [here](#) to view some Christmas events taking place throughout December.

Aylesbury Town Council have sent the flyer [here](#), regarding a free Christmas event taking place at the end of November.