

## A word from Mr Lloyd

Friday 19th January 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a lovely week at Woodside, despite the freezing cold temperatures! This week, the children have been very fortunate as they have had the opportunity to see and hold samples of real moon rocks. Mrs Harrison has written about this in detail a little later in the newsletter, but I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Harrison for her work in arranging this for the children. It has involved a lot of planning, even including a pre-visit for the team to check the school's security ahead of the moon's arrival due to the priceless nature of the artefacts. It really has been a once in a lifetime opportunity for the children and I hope that they have enjoyed the experience!

We have also been working hard to make links with our local PCSO. Yesterday, Year 6 were visited by PCSO Day, who spoke with the whole year group to educate them on the dangers of knife crime and associated risks. It was a really important and educational session and we look forward to being able to invite PCSO Day into school for more similar events.

Whilst PCSO Day was in school, I spoke to her around some of the parking issues on Mitchell Walk. She has agreed that the PCSO team will aim to patrol the area more frequently and would like to remind parents that improperly parked cars can be reported, especially if parked dangerously. Since my earlier memo, I have noticed a drastic improvement in keeping the front of the school clear of parked cars. Thank you for your support with this.

This week has been a great example of the additional opportunities that Woodside provides for its pupils, above and beyond our excellent curriculum offering.

I hope that you have a lovely weekend,

Best wishes,

Mr Lloyd

### Termly Year Group Curriculum Letters

Click [here](#) for Year 3

Click [here](#) for Year 4

Click [here](#) for Year 5

Click [here](#) for Year 6



A big thank you to the below students for bringing in and sharing some special items from home for today's assembly...

**Henry** in Year 3 showed the children some medals he has been awarded for rugby, and **William** in Year 6 shared some rare signatures from some Maidstone United FC players!

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event
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
05.02.24 - 09.02.24	Children's Mental Health Week
07.02.24	Year 3 Mega Fest @ DCHS
09.02.24	PTA Mufti Day
09.02.24	Last Day of half term. School finish @ 3.15pm
19.02.24	Back to school - normal time
27.02.24	Year 5 Trip to the Living Rainforest
28.02.24	Year 3 Skipping event at Amersham School
01.03.24	Bags to School Collection
02.03.24	Cross Country
12.03.24	Year 4 Frisbee tournament at Amersham school
18.03.24	Year 4 Trip to Bhaktivedanta
Wk. Bg. 18.03.24	Last week of after school sports clubs
26.03.24	Rocksteady Concert 10am-12pm
27.03.24	Year 5 Easter Assembly
28.03.24	Last Day of half term. School finish @ 1.30pm No HOZ after school bookings, but breakfast Club is available.

### House Point Totals

This Week	443	385	416	452
	Maple	Willow	Elm	Cedar

[Click here for the calendar of](#)

[23/24 Term Dates](#)

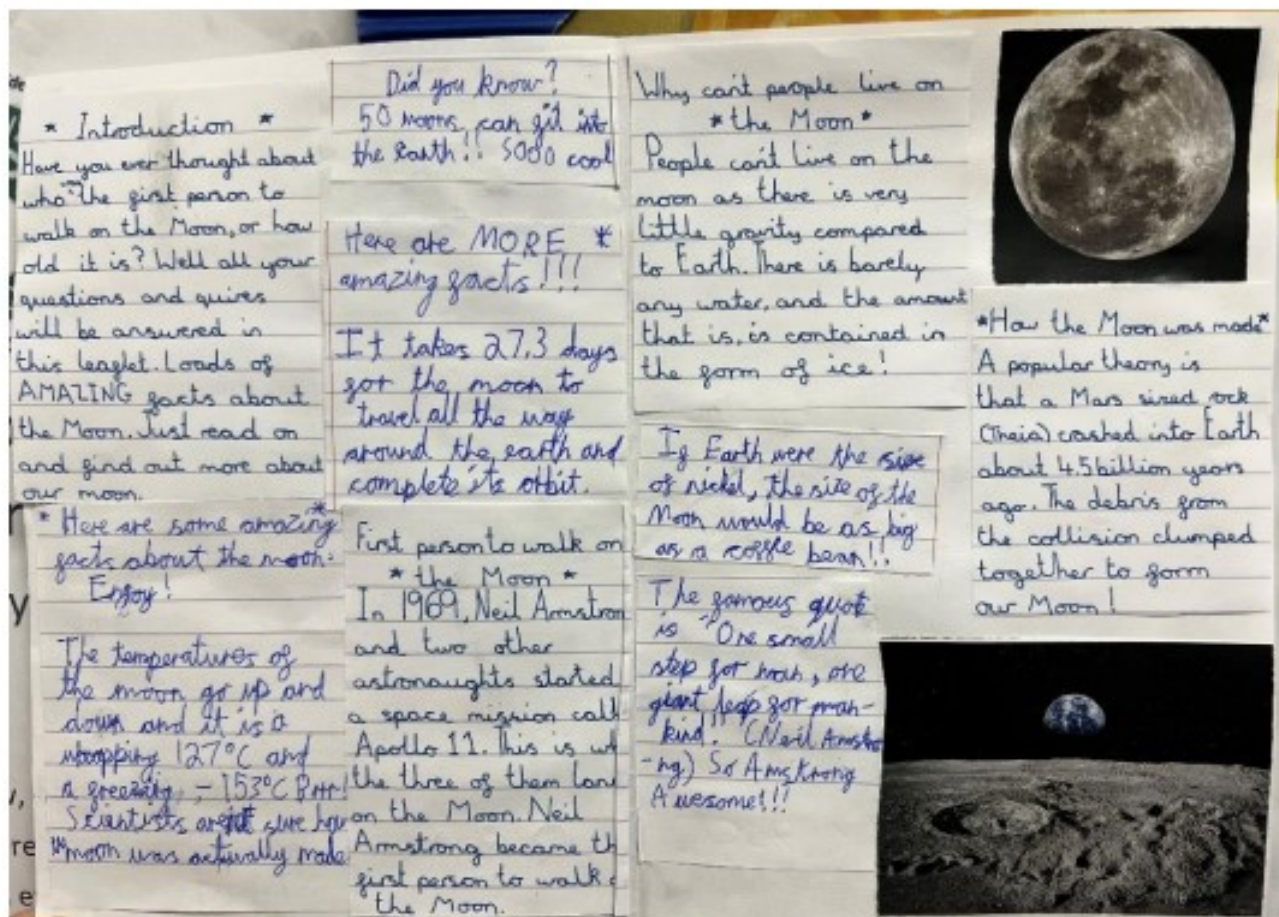


## Mrs Harrison's curriculum update

This week has been very exciting as we were able to hold pieces of the moon! Between 1969 and 1972, six manned Apollo missions successfully landed on the moon, allowing the Astronauts to collect samples and bring them back to Earth for study.

Some of these samples have been preserved in acrylic disks for educational use by NASA, and the Science and Technology Facilities Council now runs a loan scheme to allow schools, museums, and outreach organisations across the UK to access not only these lunar samples, but also a range of other meteorites and interesting rocks. The STFC is the only body that lends out these precious samples (not to mention I had to book the samples almost a year ago) and as such, provided a **truly unique and exciting opportunity for the children to engage with a true piece of space history.**

Children in Year 5 spent the whole day learning about Space and the moon landings- as this is a part of their Science unit of study. They carried out research and spent lots of time using their scientific skills to make observations and classify a whole range of rocks and meteorites. The children also made moon paintings. The rock samples were also an excellent learning opportunity for the year 3 children who are studying rocks as a part of their science lessons this term. They studied all of the rocks and samples and even made edible igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary rocks! All of the children in the school had the opportunity to hold the moon and meteorite samples. The iron meteorite- discovered 1000km from Buenos Aires in 1576- was also pretty magnificent to hold given the how heavy it felt! Security was pretty tight, so your children may have come home talking about their moon and space experiences this week, but we have been unable to share this with you until now!







### What some of our children had to say

"I really liked it when I could hold the rocks and the meteorites. My favourite was the gigantic iron meteorite because it felt really heavy. We sorted the rocks into Earth rocks and Space rocks. Later on we made edible rocks and I liked making the metamorphic rock because it was so creative." Year 3

"I really enjoyed Science Day because we got to hold the MOON! We also got to hold some other specimens such as an iron meteorite and a stony meteorite (also known as a chondrite). In the afternoon, we asked questions about the rocks and meteorites and tested them to see if they were magnetic. We classified them using a branching data base. My favourite part of the day was the meteorite hunt because we got to handle so many different amazing items." Year 5

Many thanks to the teachers for embracing this amazing opportunity and enthusing the children during their moon experiences this week. And to the children, who were enthusiastic, engaged, curious and sensible with the precious samples. It was a joy to see the whole school (children and adults alike) enjoying having the moon with us.

Mrs Harrison 😊



February Half Term flyers below along with links to webpages shared with the school office for your information...

- Children's Services, Buckinghamshire Council are running a Wellbeing Matters Group- click [here](#) for more information.
- Chiltern Table tennis camp will be running again this half term- please click [here](#) for more details.
- First Touch Football are running another February Half-Term Sports Mega Camp- if you would like more information and details on booking, please click [here](#).
- Another sporty camp this half-term, for more details regarding the Premier Education February Multi-Sports camp, please click [here](#).
- Mini Monets Saturday Art Classes still have some available places if you were interested in having a look at further details- including possible scholarships, please click [here](#).
- Bucks Music Trust has sent us some information regarding music lessons which take place during school hours at Woodside- to find out more, please click [here](#) for the introduction letter and click [here](#) for the application form.
- Amersham Music Centre - Discovery Day. Please click [here](#) for more information.
- Citizens Advice Bucks are conducting a new opportunity for students and adults to sign up to- Money Matters which is aimed to enhance financial literacy skills and build a brighter financial future. Please click [here](#) for more details.



The poster features a green and orange color scheme with illustrations of various food items: a carrot, a yellow pepper, a corn cob, and a green bean. In the top right corner is the Woodside School logo, which includes a tree and the text 'WOODSIDE SCHOOL' and 'Woodside PTA Registered Charity 299361'. The main title 'FOODBANK COLLECTION' is in large, bold, green letters. Below it, a green rounded rectangle contains the text 'WE'RE COLLECTING FOR THE CHILTERN FOODBANK ALL NEXT WEEK - W/C MONDAY 22ND JANUARY'. The instructions 'PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO CLASS, OR DROP IN THE GREEN CRATE BY THE SCHOOL OFFICE ENTRANCE' are in bold orange letters. A list of items in need is provided in green and orange text. At the bottom left is an illustration of a cardboard box labeled 'Donations' filled with various food items. At the bottom right is an illustration of several cans of food, including 'PEAS', 'spaghetti', 'corn', and 'TOMATO SOUP'.

**WOODSIDE SCHOOL**  
Woodside PTA  
Registered Charity 299361

# FOODBANK COLLECTION

WE'RE COLLECTING FOR THE CHILTERN  
FOODBANK ALL NEXT WEEK -  
W/C MONDAY 22ND JANUARY

**PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO CLASS, OR DROP IN THE  
GREEN CRATE BY THE SCHOOL OFFICE ENTRANCE**

**In particular need of the following items:**

Fruit squash	Chocolate biscuits
Cooking oil	Deodorant
Smash/powdered potatoes	Household cleaner
Sardines	

Donations