

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 11th February 2022



Dear Parents,

A crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the importance of teamwork. I am more than happy to say that the Woodside team is an exceptional one –where all members of our team work together to ensure continuity of education for the children. Unfortunately, during this week we had some members of our teaching team self-isolating with COVID, and as such, the school faced challenges ensuring that we had enough adults teaching the children. This particular crisis is acute amongst many schools across the country and I am sure you have heard it mentioned on the news many times. The Woodside team pulled together to ensure that classes were covered and that the children’s educational experience was not hugely compromised. I would like to say a huge thank you to all members of our Woodside Team for their dedication and hard work. Children –thank you as well, as you have coped rather remarkably with different adults delivering your teaching. I am pleased to say that next week will be much easier as some members of staff will be back on Monday. Thank you once more.

I would like to explain the school’s procedure regarding placing work online for children who are not at school. We will provide online learning for children who have to self-isolate (and who are well enough to do the work) due to COVID-19. Please Dojo your class teacher for details of the work. If your child is not well and absent from school due to illness then we will not provide work as our reasoning is that if your child is poorly, then it is best that they recuperate. If they are well enough to do school work –then they ought to be at school. The only exception is any chronic medical condition, supported by a doctor’s note, where a child needs to be at home and is well enough to do school work. I sincerely hope that this is clear to all parents.

On Wednesday we celebrated Dress to Express Day as part of our Mental Health Week. Children were asked to wear non uniform clothes that represent them as individuals. It was lovely to see so many children freely expressing themselves, be it their emotions or something that makes them unique. I hope that you agree with me that it was a very positive initiative. I know that many classes had additional PSHE lessons as part of the Mental Health Week – thank you to all adults who helped to make this a positive learning experience for the children.

Thank you also to Mrs McCarthy who has now collated all the entries for the external art competition – watch this space! We may have our next Vincent van Gogh or Pablo Picasso in the making. I was amazed at the quality of children’s work and I hope that all pupils, who took part, enjoyed this particular extra curricular experience.

Yesterday we had a visit from the Department of Education continuing their Woodside Building Study project. Talking to the reviewing architect today made me realise how very privileged we are to be able to occupy such an architecturally significant building. So many of its original features are still here with us, which makes the history of the building real. I hope to share some interesting facts from the report with all the parents once we receive it. Mrs Harrison’s Mum (who spoke to the children back at the start of term about her experiences at the school as a child) very kindly agreed to also share her experiences and memories, as a Woodside pupil, with the DfE team - we are very thankful to her for providing her insights.

Have a lovely weekend,

Kind regards,

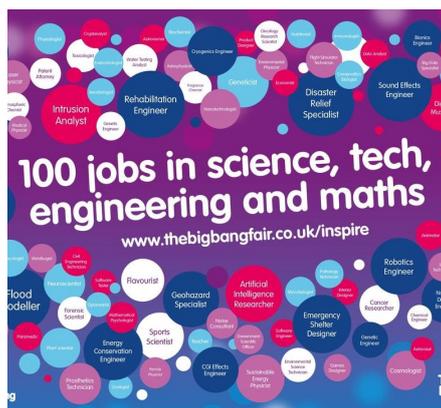
Dorota Milner

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Tues 15th Feb	Next PTA Zoom meeting (evening)
Wed 16th Feb	Yr3 Egyptian Day
Fri 18th Feb	Break The Rules PTA Day
Wed 2nd March	Yr6 trip to Imperial War Museum
Wed 2nd March	Yr5 trip to The Living Rainforest
Sat 5th March	Cross Country— venue tbc
Wed 9th March	Bags 2 School
Fri 18th March	Red Nose Day— wear red!
Mon 21st- Fri 25th Mar	Yr6 residential trip to Osmington Bay PGL

Dates for your diary

Close Friday 18th February	3.15pm
Open Monday 28th February	Gates open: 8.35am
Close Friday 8th April	1.30pm



Parents, please help if you have ever worked in STEM!
 We haven’t heard from many parents yet and we would really like to inspire our children and educate them about the wide range of careers in STEM. If you have any kind of experience to share, please can you spare some time to come in and chat to the children?
 Email Office@woodside.bucks.sch.uk



USEFUL RESOURCES (for parents)

Safeguarding

Tuesday marked the Safer Internet Day and as such children participated in a special assembly designed to draw their attention to the correct way of communicating online.

I very strongly suggest that parents have a look at the Childnet website, where parents can get advice, help and resources regarding safety on the Internet. The website is: <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers/>

Please have a look and discuss with your child how to stay safe and happy on line. Please use your parental discretion with regards to any conversations around websites that may be inappropriate for the children to access.

Well-being

Half term is almost here and I hope that all children will have a 'down time.' This is so important to their mental health and general well-being.

Please visit:

<https://www.buckinghamshirelive.com/whats-on/family-kids/half-term-buckinghamshire-7-free-5459015>

You will be able to have a look at a range of free activities available to families in Buckinghamshire and beyond.



During the week, we received an e-mail from the Junior Bake Off production team, looking for budding bakers (9 to 12 years old) to take part in the Junior Bake Off.

If interested - please contact the production team:

applyjuniorbakeoff@loveproductions.co.uk or phone 0207 067 4833. Applications close Sunday 13th March 2022.



Buckinghamshire
Family Learning



Everyday First Aid

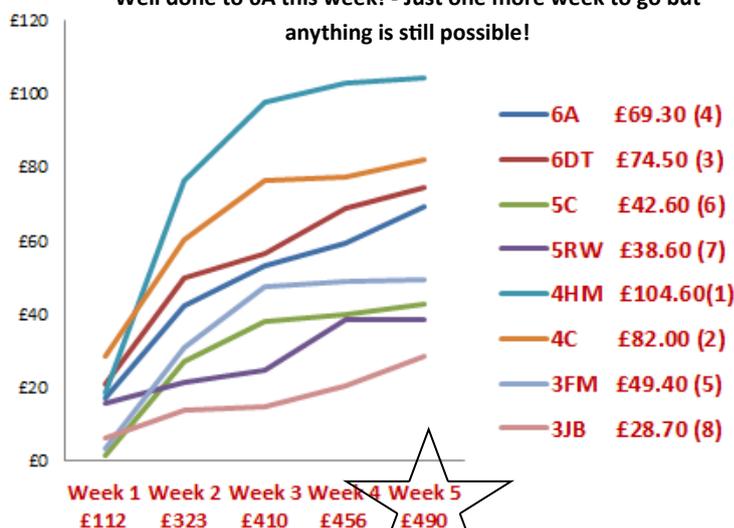
Join our free, 2.5-hour workshop with a medical professional who works for the ambulance service For parents and carers of children at Primary school in Buckinghamshire. Learn, simple first aid for the family including basic CPR. Discover hints and tips using everyday items from home.

On Friday 4th March 2022 Newtown Family Centre, Chesham 9.30am – 12pm

To book your place, please click on: Family Learning Courses or call the enrolment team on 01296 383582 For more information text/call Wendy on 07768 044813

PTA 5p Challenge Weekly Update

Well done to 6A this week! - Just one more week to go but anything is still possible!



Chartwells lunches

Please remember to order in ParentPay by midnight on Tuesday for the week after half-term. Click [here](#) for Pancake Day menu

2022/2023 TERM DATES click [here](#)