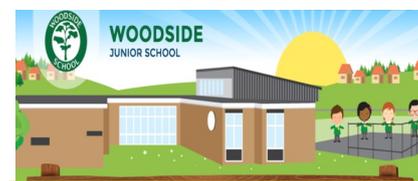


A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 18th March 2022



Dear Parents,

I did not know that 20th March is International Happiness Day. I found out about it whilst researching something else on the Internet. Initially I was quite dismissive of it as yet another initiative, but on a second thought, I think that it is worthwhile to pause and reflect. The purpose of the International Day of Happiness is to remind ourselves that our actions do matter and that we all have the capacity to build a more compassionate world. The website suggests three ways to help: Share Positive Messages, Connect with People and Give Directly. I know that recently you have been very generous and donated money to the PTA as well as today, during the Red Nose Day. Thank you so much on behalf of the school and all the charities.

As I mentioned to you previously, I would like our school to raise money to help with the unfolding humanitarian emergency in Ukraine and neighbouring countries. At least 3 million people fled their homes to escape conflict in Ukraine, which is unprecedented in modern day Europe. At Ukraine's borders with Poland, Romania, Hungary, Slovakia and Moldova, huge numbers of people are arriving with only what they can carry. The Disasters Emergency Committee is appealing for cash donations to help refugees. I would like, therefore, to organise a fundraising event on Thursday 7th April 2022, where all the proceeds will be donated to the above fund. Our School Council is currently consulting their respective classes to find out what fundraising activities we can do. From my experience – a cake sale is always popular! Also on that day if children would like to wear blue and yellow colours and bring a small donation – this will be appreciated. It is by no means expected and it is the children's and parental choice. I will let you know what fundraising activity we will do on the 7th of April 2022. Please put this date in your calendar. Thank you in advance.

This week was particularly exciting as the whole school took part in the British Science Week. We had a number of visitors talking to the children about their work and education linked to science and I am confident that they left a lasting legacy and positive impression on children's minds. I worked with Year 5 pupils yesterday, where the children were designing a car that can move without the need of pushing or pulling it. I was amazed at the children's inventions, teamwork, and resilience –all the skills that children will need now and later on in their adult life.

A word from Mrs Webber below:

Woodside's British Science Week news

This week has been full of excitement, with the children hearing from various of members of our wonderful school community. Mr Oades, one of school governors shared his knowledge and experience working with chemicals, especially solvents. Mrs Faulkner spoke to the children about her love of science and how science really is everywhere. Mrs Cripps, Mr Urmenyi and Mrs Hisatomi, our wonderful parents, also volunteered to speak to and inspire our curious children.

Woodside would like to say a huge thank you to all of you for making our science week so interesting and enjoyable. There will be further details of our science week in next week's newsletter, so watch this space.

Our governors work incredibly hard to ensure the strategic direction of the school. They were unable to visit the school and chat to both parents and children during the pandemic but now COVID restrictions have eased, they are looking forward to spending more time at school –when and where their time and work commitments permit. I am pleased to say that you will have an opportunity to meet one or two our governors during our forthcoming Parent/ Teacher Consultations. Please take your time to say hello and introduce yourself to them. They will really appreciate it.

Next week, our Year 6 pupils will be on their residential trip. I am so happy for the children and staff as the weather is forecast to be fabulous during the next week. I am sure that children will have a wonderful time and will come back full of exciting stories and experiences. On Thursday the remaining year groups have been invited to Dr. Challoner's Grammar School to watch their performance of the Lion King. I am looking forward to seeing some of our past pupils performing in the play as well as watching the performance myself.

I am so proud to announce that our wonderful Hideout Zone achieved Level 5 (the highest) Food Standard Certificate during an unannounced visit from the Health and safety Team from Buckinghamshire County Council. Well done to Mrs Winson (a recent proud grandma to not one but two children – grandson and granddaughter!) and her team – fantastic news!

I was approached by Mrs Hanstein (Mum to Amelia in Year 3), who has been particularly moved by the recent events in Ukraine. Mrs Hanstein is planning to take part in the remarkable personal challenge to raise money for the Ukrainian refugees. The challenge is called 4-4-48 Challenge, where participants run four miles every four hours over the period of 48 hours. If you would like to join Mrs Hanstein in this worthwhile charity event or help her with the logistics, please contact her via the school office. We all wish Mrs Hanstein the very best of luck.

This weekend the weather is going to be fabulous. I am going to indulge in my love of gardening and start getting my garden ready for the summer season. Following this physical activity will be a glass of nice and richly deserved rose wine! I hope that you all will have a lovely weekend –whatever the activity.

Have a lovely weekend!
Dorota Milner

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Mon 7th Mar— Fri 8th Apr	Readathon
Mon 21st- Fri 25th Mar	Yr6 residential trip to Osmington Bay PGL
Tues 22nd Mar	Yr3 Dance Dr Challoner's High School
Wed 23rd Mar	Yr4 Handball Amersham School
Wed 23rd Mar 3pm	2nd Hand Uniform Sale
Tues 29th Mar	Parent Consultation Evening (Day 1)
Mon 28th Mar	PTA meeting 8pm
Thurs 31st Mar	Parent Consultation Evening (Day 2)
Tues 5th Apr 10am	Rocksteady Easter Concert

Upcoming term dates for your diary

Close Friday 8th April	1.30pm
Open Monday 25th April	Gates open: 8.35am
Close Friday 27th May	3.15pm

House Points: Weekly Totals

133	190	177	160
Cedar	Elm	Maple	Willow

More Woodside News

Safeguarding

I am pleased to say that the government's Online Safety Bill has been introduced to Parliament. The Bill is designed to tackle a wide range of online harms, such as bullying and fraud. It attempts to force Big Tech companies to police their networks. It will protect children from harmful content and limit people's exposure to illegal content, whilst protecting freedom of speech. Amongst the many recommendations are:

- ⇒ An explicit duty for all adult sites to make sure children cannot access them
- ⇒ Scams and fraud - such as fake adverts designed to trick users
- ⇒ The bill should cover not just content, but "the potential harmful impact of algorithms"
- ⇒ It should also be expanded to cover paid-for advertising, such as those involving scams
- ⇒ Promoting or "stirring up" violence against women, or based on gender or disability
- ⇒ Knowingly distributing seriously harmful misinformation
- ⇒ Content "promoting self-harm" should be made illegal "Cyber-flashing" - the sending of unwanted naked images - should be illegal

I hope that you agree that this is important step in make the Internet space safer for all of us and children in particular.

Common Childhood Conditions

It has been reported that there has been a few cases of threadworms in school. Threadworms are very common in children and can spread easily. Treatment is medicine from the pharmacy with no need to see a GP or keep your child from school. Regular washing of hands is the best way to avoid getting threadworms. Teachers will continue to remind children to do this at school. Please have a look at the link below for more information:- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/>

Headlice is also very common in school age children and easily treatable; with no need to see a GP or keep your child off school. Please find below link with more information on how look out for them and how best to treat them:- <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

If you ever need guidance about health conditions the NHS has a very useful website <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Readathon

On Monday 7th March we started our month long Readathon sponsored read. It will end on the last day of term (Friday 8th April 2022). Please support your child with the sponsored read. Click [here](#) for more information.

Parents Evening

A link to book your parents' evening appointment was sent out by email last Friday (11th March). Parents evening is on the following dates:

Tuesday 29th March
Thursday 31st March

Wellbeing

I found a link to World Health organisation, where parents can find mental well-being resources for the public:

<https://www.who.int/news-room/feature-stories/mental-well-being-resources-for-the-public>

The page provides resources to help the general public keep mentally healthy and to reduce stress. I hope you will find them useful.

PTA Messages

65 Challenge – thank you to everyone who participated in this challenge. We sincerely hope that the children found it enjoyable. It certainly promoted healthy living and raised an amazing amount of money for the school –over £800. It was the participation that really mattered but for those who enjoy a competitive element below are the results: The top 5 loggers of activities were Chie-Leng W, Jack D, Kit D, Pari B and Hugo C.

	No. Activities	Ranking
3FM	58	8
3JB	88	6
4C	164	3
4HM	327	1
5C	203	2
5RW	81	7
6A	149	4
6DT	91	5

2nd Hand Uniform Sale

We plan to hold a 2nd hand uniform sale outside school on **Weds 23rd March at 3pm.**

Good quality uniform, plenty of stock, cash preferred

Governor Messages

A word from Mrs Jenny Faulkner –Chair of the Governing Body

'Getting to Know You!'

It has been difficult over the last 2 years for governors (some very new to the role or the school) to meet staff, children or parents. We hope to begin to change this. Some governors will be around at the Parents Evenings next week - do come and say hello. We will also have a regular slot in this newsletter. You can always contact the Governors through the office if you want to raise anything with us or by emailing

governors@woodside.bucks.sch.uk.

We still have a vacancy for a Parent Governor. If you might be interested, do get in touch or talk to me about it at the Parents Evening.