

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 11th March 2022



Dear Parents,

I am proud to say that yet again our school excels in providing the children with all the extra-curricular activities that make our curriculum so rich and interesting for the children.

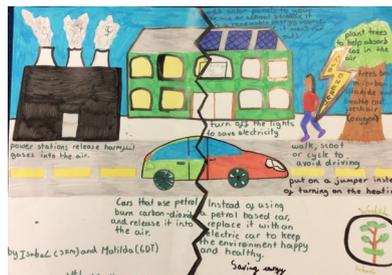
A word from Mrs Tandara, our PE and Sport Lead

On Saturday, 5th March, 34 children represented Woodside and took part in the final local schools' cross-country event at Gayhurst School. It was a very cold morning with a muddy track but, as always, it was a delight to watch the children's determination and sheer enthusiasm. All children showed team spirit with encouraging everyone and completing the course. A particular mention goes to Kit for coming first out of the Year 6 Boys' race! Zain and Lydia both came tenth in their respective races and Lydia, Evie and Juliette gained a 3rd place Year 5 Girls' team medal for their efforts. Thank you to all the children and parents for your support throughout this first cross-country season. It is open to all children and we look forward to September when we will participate again.

On Tuesday 8th March, ten Year 6 children participated in a Kin-ball afternoon at Dr Challoner's High. We were introduced to this new game by their Sports' Ambassadors and then had some games with another school. It was a fun afternoon and the children showed impressive teamwork and positivity.

On my part, I would like to say thank you first of all to all the children who represented the school so proudly in many sporting events. Thank you also to the parents who, in turn, supported our children, our Woodside staff who supported the children during their events, and last but not least – Mrs Tandara. Her dedication and enthusiasm ensures that PE and sport across the school continues to thrive.

A word from Mrs Webber, our Science Lead



The energy saving poster competition was a huge success, with over a hundred entries! Year 5 and Year 6 Eco Council and I had a tough decision choosing the winners but we did finally choose two winning posters, which were created by Matilda (Year 6), Isabel (Year 4) and Pavan (Year 5). These posters are now displayed around the school to inform the children of what they can do to help save the use of electricity.

Next week is our Science Week and children will be able to participate in many exciting science activities as well as listen to inspirational talks provided by our visitors. Science is all around us and I personally think that it is one of the most important subjects for the children to experience and learn. Teaching science offers children an opportunity to increase their overall understanding of how and why things work and it teaches them about the world around them. A huge thank you to our visitors for giving up their time to come and talk to the children as well as to inspire them to consider the many different career opportunities that science can bring. Thank you to Mrs Webber for organising this very worthwhile event.

A word from Miss Croot, our Writing Lead

Our Year 5 pupils are currently learning about the Amazon forest and dangers of deforestation. They are currently starting a petition for all palm oil products to be sustainably sourced.

"Did you know there are over 600 different names for palm oil? This means that it is extremely difficult for customers to know when they are buying products which use unsustainable palm oil. Therefore, the UK must become a country which promotes sustainable palm oil production in order to save the World's precious rainforests."

Below is a link to a petition started by our Year 5 pupils. Please help them to achieve their goal of getting 100 signatures. A very worthwhile cause. Many thanks on behalf of our Year 5 'Eco warriors.' :)

<https://chnq.it/dh2zkbSYbs>

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Fri 18th Feb – 12 Mar	PTA 65 Challenge
Mon 7th Mar – Fri 8th Apr	Readathon
Mon 14th Mar	Foodbank Collection
Fri 18th Mar	Red Nose Day – wear red!
Mon 21st-Fri 25th Mar	Yr6 residential trip to Osmington Bay PGL
Tues 29th Mar	Parent Consultation Evening (Day 1)
Mon 28th Mar	PTA meeting 8pm
Thurs 31st Mar	Parent Consultation Evening (Day 2)

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

[Link to the term dates for the next academic year 2022/23](#)



Cedar Elm Maple Willow

House Points: Weekly Totals

More Woodside News

Friday 11th March 2022



I think that at this point it will be a good idea to update our community on the school's progress towards building a running track. A huge thank you to Mr Dixon, who is helping the school with this project. His time and involvement is appreciated very much indeed. We have now invited companies to tender for the project and continue to work hard to ensure that we have the extra funds needed to. I will keep you informed as we progress.

Please can I just remind all parents that attendance is now compulsory. Our overall attendance figure now stands at 94%, which is below the government's expectation of 95%. Our pre-COVID attendance figure stood at 98%. I fully understand that we cannot prevent pupils being unwell or having to self-isolate but please help us by building resilience in your child. If they have a minor ailment- please do send your child to school and we will look after them and call you if necessary. Everyday they miss from school is a day that their missed learning that is very difficult to regain and this combined with school closures during the last two years, will have a negative impact and may influence their life chances in the future. Regular attendance is also a good preparation for their future working life. Thank you once more for your cooperation and understanding. We always endeavour to work with families to improve attendance and we will continue to do so.

I am looking at the ways of how we, as a school community, can support a huge humanitarian crisis that is unfolding in front of our eyes. The war in Ukraine has triggered Europe's biggest refugee crisis in decades, with more than two million Ukrainians fleeing their country within two weeks. I will hold an extra School Council meeting on Monday to decide, with children's help and ideas, what we can do to help. I will keep you informed as soon as I can.

I hope you have a lovely weekend,

Dorota Milner

Safeguarding

As with any social media Apps, TikTok is now increasingly popular with primary age children. This is unfortunate as the minimum age for a TikTok user is 13 years old. However, it is important to note that that TikTok doesn't use any age verification tools when new users sign up, consequently primary school age children are able to register. Please have a look below at the parents' guide to TikTok to help you understand how you can protect your child from any potential harm presented by this App.

<https://www.openvieweducation.co.uk/tiktok-parent-guide/>

Quite interestingly NFT token (Non Fungible Tokens) are becoming more and more popular amongst teenagers. Whilst, this is not necessary applicable to the younger age groups, I thought that for those of you who have older children –you may find the below guide useful. Buying and selling NFT tokens can lead to a gambling addiction –as a worst case scenario.

<https://www.waynedenner.com/blog/nfts-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-in-2022/>

Well being

I would like to end my letter by saying that with all the chaos in the world today—war, the continuing coronavirus pandemic, rise of energy and food prices—it's easy to become worried and distressed. It is, therefore, more important than ever to look for things that make us smile—even if it for a small moment. For me it is the sight of Mrs McCarthy dancing with our Year 3 pupils to the tune of The Bear Necessities from The Jungle Book! Well done Mrs McCarthy and Year 3 pupils! 😊😊😊



Chartwells Lunches

Please remember to order in ParentPay by midnight on Tuesday for the following week. Click [here](#) for the Spring Summer menu



In celebration of Woodside's 65th anniversary, Immersion Theatre has sent PTA a discount code for **The Wind in the Willows** at The Elgiva Theatre on Saturday, 2nd April, 2.30pm.

<https://elgiva.com/wind-in-the-willows/#20220402>

The code is **WILLOWS**.

COMIC RELIEF
Red Nose Day
Friday 18th March

Children are **invited to wear red** and pay **£1** for Red Nose Day charity, Comic Relief.

School Council will run a **quiz** for children to take part in (on paper) and to enter it will be an **extra £1** for the charity.

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.



Collection:

Monday 14th March 2022
8.30—3.15pm click [here](#) for details.

A link for the **Parents Evening** meetings was sent out this afternoon

Please also note the change of date for the next **PTA meeting**—8pm Monday 28th March 2022