

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 13th May 2022



Dear Parents,

Another week has just flown by and it is now only two more weeks until half term. Year 6 pupils have just finished their SATS exams and I am pleased to say that our pupils have been remarkably resilient. The children coped well sitting five assessment papers and remained cheerful throughout. Well done Year 6 –this message is for you. Thank you for all your hard work. No matter what the final results are going to be, I know that you ‘gave it all,’ and this is what really counts. As you have heard me on many occasions, being kind, honest, hardworking with plenty of integrity will help you onto your path onto adulthood; therefore these skills are also so important in life. Anyway –it is all over now and I sincerely hope that you will enjoy the rest of your time –here with us.

As always there is plenty of good news to share with you. I do not know how many of you are aware but we have a real performing star amongst our staff. Last weekend Mrs Harrison sang with her choir at the European championships. Her choir, Amersham A Cappella, were invited to represent the UK in Helsingborg Sweden after winning the UK gold medal in 2019. In the end they placed 9th in Europe which was an incredible achievement. They are now aiming for a podium place at the Nationals in October. This incredible achievement was possible due to all members working incredibly hard as a team. Resilience also comes to mind, as in order to achieve results such as the above all choir members had to focus on their strengths to overcome challenges and work through setbacks. Well done to Mrs Harrison and all the members of Amersham A Cappella.



Amersham's Deputy Mayor, Jane Barnes, popped in on Thursday to collect our recycling. She was very thankful and was delighted with the amount we have managed to collect. The partnership with Amersham town council that we have established helps to support the local recycling initiative and Amersham based charity, MedictoMedic. We are continuing to collect Pringles tubes, used pens, used toothpaste tubes and toothbrushes, marigold gloves and used make-up.

This afternoon Year 6 classes celebrated VE (Victory in Europe) Day. Children were studying World War II and today marks the end of the topic. On the 8th May 1945 celebrations erupted around the world to mark the end of

nearly six years of war. The day marks the end of European conflict and millions of people held street parties, danced and sang. Our pupils as well as class teachers dressed in clothes traditional to this era, played games relating to 1940s, danced and had tea and cake in the field. Thank you to Year 6 team and Mrs Tandara especially, for making this day so special for the children.



Last but not least – Mrs Carver will be participating in Walk the Walk charity walk in aid of a breast cancer charity. The walk takes place this Saturday 14th May and Mrs Carver will cover the distance of 26.2 miles –starting at Clapham Common in London. If you

would like to sponsor Mrs Carver in this very worthwhile cause, then please log in onto the WalktheWalk website using the link below.

<https://walkthewalk.org/challenges/the-moonwalk-london>

You can then click ‘donate’, sponsor a Moon Walker, search for a friend and Jackie Carver.

What a fantastic effort, Jackie and we all wish you the best of luck –hoping that you will raise a substantial amount of money for this very worthwhile cause.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With warmest wishes,

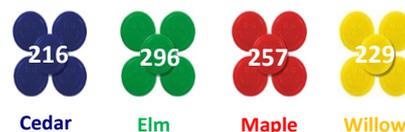
Dorota Milner

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Thurs 19th May	Year 3 Tennis Dr Chal-loner's High School
Mon 23rd May	Year 6 Magistrates visit
Tues 24th May	School Photos
Thursday 26th May	PTA School Disco Yr3/4 4-5pm Yr5/6 5.30-6.30pm
Fri 27th May	Queen's Jubilee Cele-brations Wear red/white/blue Bring nut free cake / snack
Tues 7th—Fri 10th June	Year 6 Bikeability Week
Mon 13th June	Drum Workshop Whole School
Tues 14th June	Bags2school
Sat 18th June	Summer Fair
Tues 28th June	Year 6 Games Dr Chal-loner's High School
Wed 29th June	Year 4 to St Albans Verulamium Museum
Tues 5th July	Transition Day
Thurs 7th July am	Sports Day

Upcoming term dates for your diary

Close Fri 27th May	3.15pm
Open Tues 7th June	Gates open: 8.35am
Close Wed 20th July	1.30pm



House Points: Weekly Totals

More Woodside News

Safeguarding

Next week is a national Safeguarding awareness week. Safeguarding children is our collective responsibility. Safeguarding means protecting children's health, well-being and enabling them to live free from harm, abuse and neglect. All members of our staff have a responsibility to ensure that children in our care are safeguarded and well –cared for.

As I am sure you are aware regular school attendance is an important part of giving children the best possible start in life. The aim should be to attend 100% of the time – unless obviously your child is unwell. The government issued a document Working Together to Improve School Attendance, which will become statutory from September 2022. The report clearly defines persistent absence, which is when a pupil misses 10% or more of school. Schools will continue to work with parents to understand wider issues relating to absenteeism; however, schools will continue to have a right to protect pupils' right to education when parents do not engage or when this engagement is not successful. This will involve evoking parental contracts as well as legally bounding Education Supervision Orders and can culminate in attendance prosecution in the Magistrates Court.

I will write to all parents at the beginning of the next academic year, clearly stating this school's expectations in relation to any holidays taken during the term and relating to 2022/ 2023 year. This academic year has been slightly different. I fully understand that it has been a difficult year for many families, where travel plans frequently changed as a result of COVID-19 and where many families considered holidays during term time. Many families requested leave of absence from the school in advance and had discussions with me relating to this – thank you and I really appreciate this.

Many thanks for your support in the matter and as stated above, I will communicate clearly to parents, the school's expectations regarding attendance as well as any related consequence if a pupil fails to attend the school. Currently Woodside's attendance stands at 94.7%.

Wellbeing

I would like to draw your attention to the Buckinghamshire Family Information Service, where families can find information and support for children and young people from birth to 19 years (25 years with disability / additional needs):

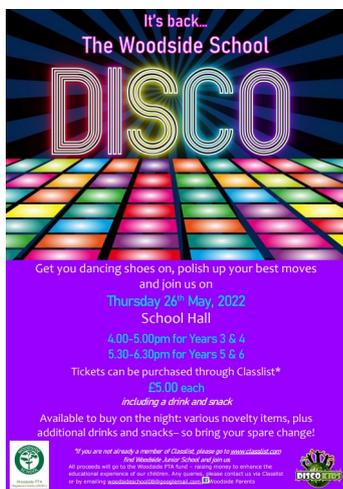
<https://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/>

Another useful website is Mind Buckinghamshire, where parents can find a plethora of information:

<https://www.bucksmind.org.uk/guide/buckinghamshire-family-information-service/>

I hope that parents will find time to look at these two very useful resources.

PTA Messages



It's back...
The Woodside School
DISCO

Get your dancing shoes on, polish up your best moves and join us on
Thursday 26th May, 2022
School Hall
4.00-5.00pm for Years 3 & 4
5.30-6.30pm for Years 5 & 6
Tickets can be purchased through Classlist*
£5.00 each
including a drink and snack
Available to buy on the night: various novelty items, plus additional drinks and snacks – so bring your spare change!

*If you are not already a member of Classlist, please go to www.classlist.com and create a new account. All proceeds will go to the Woodside PTA Fund - please ensure you receive the educational approval of your children. For queries, please contact us via Classlist or by emailing woodsidepta@woodsideprimary.co.uk or Woodside Parents.

The school disco is on Thursday 26th May - there are two time slots 4-5pm for years 3&4 and 5.30-6.30pm for years 5&6. Tickets are available through Classlist at £5 each and include a drink and small snack.

Please click [here](#) for the flier. Thank you to the PTA for all your hard work!



We are very excited to be celebrating the Queen's Jubilee on Friday 27th May.

The children will learn about the Queen, make flags for our flag parade, the choir will sing and we will celebrate with cake!

Please can the children wear red, white and blue. PLEASE CAN WE ALSO ASK FOR EACH CHILD TO BRING IN THEIR OWN NUT FREE CAKE / SNACK.



Foodbank

The next collection for Chiltern Food Bank will be held on Monday 16th May 2022. Please bring what you can and help support local people in crisis.

Please click [here](#) for the flier.



Food Bank Collection
The next collection for Chiltern Food Bank will be held on Monday 16th May 2022. Please bring what you can and help support local people in crisis.

When: Monday 16th May 2022
From 8.00am - 3.00pm

Where: A green order will be left outside the main entrance of Woodside Junior School.

What: All non-perishable foods, toiletries and cleaning products
 - canned food
 - instant noodle
 - canned vegetables
 - instant cereal
 - tea bags
 - instant langoustine bouillabaisse

Chiltern Food Bank: 01494 444444 | www.chilternfoodbank.org.uk
Woodside PTA: woodsidepta@woodsideprimary.co.uk | Woodside Parents