



## Woodside Junior School

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10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents

Welcome back to all our Woodside children and their families. It has been wonderful to see the school full of curious children who seem rested and ready to learn. We have a great autumn curriculum planned for children to enjoy.

Please find below some useful information related to your child's learning and how you can support your child at home.

### Communication

Please use Class Dojo to contact your child's teacher. This is an efficient way to discuss any queries, concerns or to simply to pass on some information directly with the class teacher. If you have not yet accepted the invitation to join this form of communication, please contact the class teacher directly. Any absence or the notification of an upcoming appointment should be sent to the School Office as usual.

### Timetable

You will be able to find the year group's general week timetable on the class page of our school website.

### Reading

We expect all children to read at home daily and we are introducing a new way of monitoring your child's reading. A reading log will be created on Google Classroom to be signed electronically each week. Questioning your child about what they have read will greatly assist the development of their comprehension skills. Teachers or support staff will check the reading log every week. We hope this will make the use of reading logs easier.

### School Library

We are hoping to reopen our school library after the half term break in October. The children will be able to change or return any books borrowed during a specified lunch time and, at least once a half term, the children will all be taken for a dedicated library / reading session. This is designed to support and complement ongoing weekly opportunities to read in class.

### Homework

Google classroom will continue to be used for Homework tasks which will be set on a **Thursday** and all tasks should be 'turned in' the following **Monday**. The children will be asked to only submit completed homework via Google classroom and should not be handed in on paper unless specifically asked to do so. Homework will be marked on Google classroom.

Maths homework will be set online on a **Thursday** using My Maths, or other resources, which the children will need to complete by the following **Monday**. The children all have their own login details and should ask their teacher if they have forgotten it. A spelling activity will also be sent home on a **Thursday** in the children's spelling homework books.



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This will also be due in on a **Monday**.

### PE Kit

All children are to come to school in their full winter PE including trainers, only on the days they have a PE lesson – please check the website for the weekly timetable. PE kit is as follows; green PE t-shirt, jumper and joggers. Joggers may also be black. Trainers should be plain, simple and comfortable for running. Your child will have **PE on a Tuesday and a Friday** each week.

**ENSURE ALL KIT IS NAMED WITH PERMANENT MARKER, INCLUDING TRAINERS.**

### Writing Pens

Can you please ensure that your child has a blue handwriting pen (if the Pen Licence has been given to your child). Biro's are not allowed. We recommend Frixion pen made by Pilot.

### School Trips

We have an exciting Greek themed day at **Ufton Court**, near Reading booked for Thursday October 14<sup>th</sup>. We have an activity (yoga) morning scheduled on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> November at Amersham School.

### Water bottles and Fruit Snacks

Please make sure that your child brings a named, filled water bottle and fruit snack every day. **Please avoid sending in a new bottle of water in plastic bottles. Please use reusable bottles.**

We are sure you will appreciate that this is not an exhaustive list and these details are subject to change as we respond to the needs of the class.

Parental support at home is a key factor in children's progress and we look forward to working with you this term.

We would like to offer parents and opportunity to volunteer in class, subject to having a full DBS check. Please speak to one of the teacher if you would be interested in supporting in reading, sewing, basic number work or we welcome other suggestions. Regular, weekly helpers are appreciated rather than occasional ones!

We hope this information is helpful and will enable you to support your child in his or her schoolwork.

With kind regards,

**Mrs Carver and Mr Harvey-Mott**



## Year 4 AUTUMN Curriculum

### Year 4 Autumn Topic Map The Greeks

History	Geography	PSHE
<p>This term we will be learning about the Ancient Greeks. We will be looking at who the Greeks were, how they lived, their democracy system and the differences between Athens and Sparta.</p> <p><b>Useful websites</b>  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z87tn39">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z87tn39</a>  <a href="http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Greece.html">http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/Greece.html</a>  <a href="https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/greek-life-and-culture">https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/greek-life-and-culture</a></p>	<p>This term we will be looking at where Greece is on a map and labelling the main Ancient Greek towns, cities and mountains. We will also be looking at the water cycle and understanding the processes involved.</p> <p><b>Useful websites</b>  <a href="https://greece.mrdonn.org/maps.html">https://greece.mrdonn.org/maps.html</a>  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/geography-ks1--ks2-the-water-cycle/zbcmxyc">https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/geography-ks1--ks2-the-water-cycle/zbcmxyc</a></p>	<p>This term we will be focusing on friendships, feelings and social relationships.</p> <p>Some useful websites to support this are  <a href="https://www.annafreud.org/">https://www.annafreud.org/</a>  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zndp6v4">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zndp6v4</a></p>
PE	Computing	Music
<p>This term Year 4 will be encouraging the children to become fit and healthy by taking part in the daily mile. In PE lessons they will be taking part in gymnastic activities, coordination activities and basketball.</p> <p><b>Useful websites</b>  <a href="https://kids.lovetoknow.com/kids-activities/basketball-activities-kids">https://kids.lovetoknow.com/kids-activities/basketball-activities-kids</a>  <a href="https://kidshealth.org/">https://kidshealth.org/</a></p>	<p>This term we will be exploring Google Classroom further and learning to use Google Docs, Slides and Drawings. We will also be finding out more about networks and how the internet works. We will also be developing more efficient typing skills.</p> <p><b>Useful websites</b>  <a href="https://www.typing.com">https://www.typing.com</a> (log in using school email address)</p>	<p>For the Autumn term, we will be focusing on singing skills in small groups and as a whole class. We will be using songs from BBC Key Stage 2 Music- Heroes of Troy. For the second half term, we will be focusing on preparing songs and music for our Christmas production.</p>
RE	Art/D & T	French
<p>This term we will be learning about pilgrimage. We will look at what a pilgrimage is, why it is important to religions and where different religious people travel to on pilgrimage.</p> <p><a href="http://request.org.uk/life/spirituality/pilgrimage/#">http://request.org.uk/life/spirituality/pilgrimage/#</a></p>	<p>This term we will be exploring the art from Ancient Greece, making our own repeating patterns and then printing these patterns using printing blocks. We will also be learning how to use different stiches and sewing skills.</p> <p><b>Useful websites</b>  <a href="https://www.redtedart.com/basic-hand-stitches-beginners/">https://www.redtedart.com/basic-hand-stitches-beginners/</a></p>	<p>This term we will be learning how to introduce ourselves, counting and ordering numbers and learning more about life in France.</p>



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## The core subjects:

Subject	What we will be teaching the children	How you could help your child
<p><b>English</b></p>	<p><b>Reading:</b> Pandora’s Box, Greek myths, A novel set in Ancient Greece  <b>We would ask that children refrain from reading the books that we will be studying in class, but they may wish to read books by the same author.</b></p> <p><b>Spelling:</b> We will be focusing on a range of suffixes including ing, ed, ly, ness. Some children will also be working on their phonic knowledge.</p> <p><b>Punctuation &amp; grammar:</b> We will be recapping basic sentence structure and punctuation, looking at expanded noun phrases and introducing fronted adverbials including comma placement.</p> <p><b>Composition:</b> We will be completing a series of short writing tasks inspired by Pandora’s box and then planning and writing our own Greek myth.</p>	<p>We would like your child to read at home daily for at least 10 minutes. A record of this should be kept in their home- school book. Questioning your child about what they have read will greatly assist the development of their comprehension skills.</p> <p><b>A suggested reading list can be found on this link</b>  <a href="https://www.booksfortopics.com/year-4">https://www.booksfortopics.com/year-4</a>            (Please do not read When the Mountain Roared, Survivor: Escape from Pompeii or A Roman Invasion as we will be reading these in class later in the year).</p> <p><b>Suggested spelling practice activities</b>            A menu of suggested spelling activities will be provided at the back of your child’s spelling homework book.</p> <p><b>Suggested grammar practice activities</b>            There are lots of different spelling and grammar activities and information on the websites below  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhrd2p">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zhrd2p</a>  <a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/english-games/7-11-years/spelling-and-grammar</a>  <a href="https://www.teachwire.net/news/7-of-the-best-online-grammar-games-for-ks2">https://www.teachwire.net/news/7-of-the-best-online-grammar-games-for-ks2</a></p>
<p><b>Maths</b></p>	<p><b>We will be following the White Rose Maths programme of learning.</b> This term we will be covering the following units: place value, addition and subtraction, length and perimeter and moving onto multiplication and division at the end of term. We will be working with numbers up to 4 digits and understanding the place value of numbers up to 10,000.</p>	<p>Here are some helpful learning resources;  <b>Useful websites</b>            Times tables rockstars - <a href="http://trockstars.com">trockstars.com</a>            Topmarks.com (hit-the-button) for number bonds, times table practice &amp; division <a href="https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button">https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button</a></p>



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	<p>Times tables always plays a huge part in all areas of maths so please encourage your child to maintain their skills using the TT Rockstars link.</p> <p><b>Mental maths focus</b> Timetables and number bonds to 100</p>	<p><b>How you could link maths to real life situations</b> Shopping: recognising coins, counting and adding money and finding change.</p>
<p><b>Science</b></p>	<p>This term the children will learn about States of Matter (solids, liquids and gases).</p> <p><b>The children will focus on the following skills;</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To understand the differences between solids, liquid and gases and their properties and characteristics</li> <li>• Investigating whether gas has mass</li> <li>• Investigating how states of matter can change e.g. melting, freezing, evaporating</li> <li>• The water cycle</li> </ul> <p><b>Working scientifically skills</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Asking relevant questions and using difference scientific enquirers to answer them</li> <li>• Set up simple practical enquiries such as comparative and fair tests</li> <li>• To record findings using scientific language and diagrams</li> <li>• To take measurements using a range of scientific equipment</li> </ul>	<p>Here are some great websites that the children can use to continue their understanding and enjoyment of science:</p> <p><b>Useful websites</b></p> <p><a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkgg87h">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkgg87h</a>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhz12vamHOnaY7nvpgtQ0S1buJdC4HA5O">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhz12vamHOnaY7nvpgtQ0S1buJdC4HA5O</a>  <a href="https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-are-states-of-matter">https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-are-states-of-matter</a>  <a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkgg87h/articles/z3wpp39">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zkgg87h/articles/z3wpp39</a></p>



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