

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 1st April 2022



Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Mon 7th Mar— Fri 8th Apr	Readathon
Tues 5th Apr 10am	Rocksteady Easter Concert
Wed 6th Apr 9.15am	Year 5 Easter Assem- bly
Wed 6th Apr / Thurs 7th Apr	Please bring cakes for Ukraine Fundraising Day
Thurs 7th Apr	Fundraising Day for Ukraine: Wear Blue & Yellow (small donation) Teddy Tombola £1 entry Cake Sale (big play- ground) Quiz £1 entry

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

I cannot believe that it now only one week before we break up for the Easter holidays. I was hoping that the weather will be conducive to the wonderful spring time. I do not know about you but I am cold! Let's hope it will warm up during the actual Easter weekend.

As always, such a busy week – I will try to be concise.

First of all, as you may be aware, the government has set out its agenda for living with COVID-19. The Department of Education updated its guidance and currently the guidance states:

- Free testing for COVID-19 will end for most people. You may still be able to get free rapid lateral flow tests if you work for the NHS or in social care, are going into hospital, or you're at high risk of getting seriously ill from COVID-19.
- Adults with the symptoms of a respiratory infection, and who have a high temperature or feel unwell, should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people until they feel well enough to resume normal activities and they no longer have a high temperature.
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, college or childcare when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
- Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 5 days, which is when they are most infectious. For children and young people aged 18 and under, the advice will be 3 days.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school if unsure about anything.

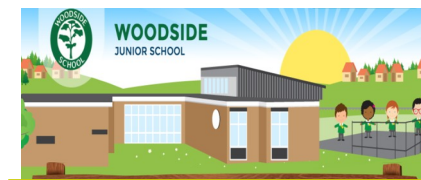
Yesterday we concluded our parent / teacher consultations. One thing that I miss the most, as a Headteacher, is the direct contact with parents of children who were in my class when I worked as a class teacher many years ago! Research shows that when a partnership between parents and teachers is evident and strong, children's attitudes, work habits, behaviour and social skills improve. I am, therefore, always very grateful to parents who come and talk to the class teachers during these consultations. It was also very important to me personally to allow our parents to come to the school and to meet their child's class teacher face to face. This personal connection is so very important. As always, if you feel that there are additional issues that you need to explore, at any time please contact your child's class teacher via Class Dojo. I hope that the Reading Guidance for Parents provided by the class teachers is useful. Please continue reading with your child on a regular basis (even for a few minutes daily). I cannot emphasise enough how important children's ability to read and infer from the text is for their future schooling.

A word from Mrs Tandara below

On the afternoon of Monday 28th March, a small group of Year 3 children were invited to take part in Have Fun, Be Active Festival (part of the School Games offer) at Dr Challoner's High School. The children were very enthusiastic and showed positivity and obvious enjoyment trying out all the activities. These included: hula hooping, skipping, playing skittles and dancing on a mini trampoline! Thank you to Mrs McCarthy for taking the children. Please see our photos on the school's Twitter feed. Well done to all the children who walked all the way to the Dr.Challoner's Girls school –and back!

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On Thursday we had a visit from Jane Barnes, the Deputy Town Mayor of Amersham. Woodside School is the first school in the area to work with Amersham Town Council to help the local recycling initiative and Amersham based charity Medictomedic. Please see [attached poster](#) to explain more. Thank you to our Eco-Council for initiating this very worthwhile initiative.

Please do not forget that on Thursday we will be raising funds for the Ukrainian refugees. Our cake sale will take place straight after school on our big playground (weather permitting – if poor weather we will set up in the hall). Please donate cakes for the sale –many thanks in advance! Thank you also for your kind donations towards the teddy tombola. I am sure that you all are looking forward to welcoming a teddy in your home –if won. 😊

Children can wear blue and yellow to symbolise the Ukrainian flag. I sincerely hope that we will be able to raise some funds to help this very worthwhile cause. Please be assured that I will also understand if you do not wish to participate, I know that times are hard now for so many families.



This is a picture of Amelia Hanstein and Sophie and Emily Powell from Y3, who joined Amelia's mum in her 'Mothers United' charity run on Sunday 27th March 2022. The girls ran the last kilometre with Mrs Hanstein, who as you know ran 4 miles every 4 hours during 48 hours to raise money for the Ukrainian

mothers. Well done to all!

If you would like to read more about Mrs Hanstein's achievement, please follow the link below:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/women/woman-48-miles-run-ukraine-mothers-fundraiser-b2044937.html> achievement here is the link:

Last but not least. Next Friday we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Potts and Mrs Randles –our two indispensable Learning Support Assistants. Both of the ladies have worked here at Woodside for 8 and 10 years respectively and contributed, over the years, to the achievement of the school. They supported many children in their learning and their service to the school was and continues to be, essential. Mrs Potts secured a full time job in another school in Buckinghamshire and Mrs Randles is looking at a career change. I am sure you will support me in saying a huge thank you to these two wonderful ladies and if you would like to drop a 'little something' to show your gratitude for their work with the children – please do so at our office. The role of a fantastic Learning Support Assistant can never be underestimated and I, personally, will miss both Marcela and Jeni very much. Good luck in your new endeavours- you both will be fabulous!

I love working at school and miss being a class teacher. Yesterday, I had the privilege to teach a wonderful 3JB during the afternoon and it was an absolute joy. All the children were absolutely amazing, they made me giggle a couple of times and I could have not thought of a better way of spending Thursday afternoon. Thank you 3JB 😊

I am looking forward to the Rock Steady concert on Tuesday and Year 5 Easter Assembly on Wednesday. It is going to be another busy but fun week.

I think that this is it for this week. I am bound to forget something but I will include this in our next and final newsletter before we break up for much needed Easter break.

Have a lovely weekend everyone and stay warm!

Dorota Milner

Out & About

Discover Bucks Museum

Amazing new Discover Bucks Galleries

Opening 2 April 2022

Discover the story of Bucks people and landscapes from 200 million years ago to today. Our exciting new galleries are packed full of objects and exhibits to delight and amaze. Book Now.

For opening times and ticket prices visit discoverbucksmuseum.org

AMAZING NEW Discover Bucks Galleries

Opening 2 April 2022

Discover 200 million years of Bucks history today

Five brand new galleries packed full of objects and activities will delight and amaze visitors of all ages. Your journey starts 200 million years ago in **Discover Bucks Geology** where fossils reveal prehistoric creatures that roamed in Bucks' seas and giant woolly mammoths that lived here during the Ice Age.

In **Discover Bucks Archaeology** meet the earliest people to live in Bucks, discover a spectacular 3000 year-old Bronze Age sword and the first named woman in Bucks from Roman times. **Discover Bucks People** features fascinating objects that tell stories about people from different communities. In **Discover Bucks Art** enjoy the unique visual story of Bucks through artists past and present.

Kids will love the hands-on discovery including measuring themselves against a Neanderthal, touching a mammoth leg bone and feeling the weight of a Bronze Age sword.

Discover Bucks Wildlife is due to open later this year but already features an intriguing Black Poplar Tree waiting to be explored.

Launch Day, Saturday 2 April, 11am

Come and celebrate the opening of our new galleries with a day of activities. Handle objects with our expert curators, meet a Bronze Age re-enactor, take part in art activities celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Paralympic Games and lots more.

For opening times, ticket prices and to book visit: discoverbucksmuseum.org

Discover Bucks Museum

Church Street
Aylesbury HP20 2QP
01296 331441

ONE WORLD ANIMALS

Easter Events Sunday 24th April
10.45am and 2.15pm

Farnham Royal Village Hall
Farnham Lane
Slough SL2 3AX

£10 tickets and information from www.OneWorldAnimals.com

More Woodside News

Safeguarding

Children's safety is our collective responsibility. On Tuesday, 20 of our pupils received a very comprehensive training from The Diana Award to become the school's anti-bullying ambassadors. The children will undertake work, supported by Mrs Harrison, to ensure that our school continues to be harmonious and happy. Thank you to all the children who volunteered to take on such an important and responsible role. The Diana Award is a charity set up in the memory of the late Diana Princess of Wales and its mission is to empower young people to lead change through a range of initiatives which inspire action. We will keep you informed about the work our young ambassadors will be undertaking. Thank you for your support – in advance.

Art Competition

We have a new drawing competition from a local charity for critically ill children in Aylesbury. The children draw a wish villa on paper—be creative, it's for critically ill children and their families to enjoy the space.

The winning entry will have their drawing transformed into a professional 3D model and ultimately be incorporated into the wish village!

Entries to Mrs McCarthy by Friday 8th April.

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



Red Nose Day - a big thank you to all the children and parents for supporting Comic Relief—you raised a huge £235.49

Message from Chartwells - Medical Diet Menus

Please find attached the [Meat Medical Diet](#) and the [Veg Medical Diet](#)

Please find attached the [Spring / Summer Menu](#)

Looking ahead to the Autumn/Winter menu, Chartwells have introduced an 'Annual Food For Thought' survey to gain feedback from all pupils and parents on tastes and service levels and help develop and improve within your school. The survey starts 12th March 2022 and ends 12th April 2022.

<https://servicemonitortabs.co.uk/chartwells/primary>

Governor Messages

A huge thank you to Mrs Helen Farndon, one of our governors, who came to the school to meet our parents during the parent/teacher consultations. I sincerely hope that you were able to share your thoughts about the school with Helen. Governors play such an important role in the school's life and their presence around the school is always welcomed. A word from Mrs Farndon: It was such a pleasure to attend Parents' Evening and meet so many parents and children. As a governor it was most reassuring to hear all the praise given to the school and its staff - "10 out of 10".

Wellbeing

A word from Miss Richer: Please find enclosed a poster from the Family Information Service about free webinar, [Managing boundaries in your family](#). You can book a place by calling 01296 383 293 or emailing earlyhelpduty@buckinghamshire.gov.uk Topics discussed, amongst others, deal with behaviour management –including teenagers.

A message for Year 6 parents: There are number of support groups running in the local authority for children who need help with transition, mental health issues and relationships. These groups are primarily targeting children who have social care involvement but my understanding is that they are open to any vulnerable families. The spaces are limited and the support groups are free. To find more information and book:

<https://familyinfo.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/youth/help-for-young-people/>

Or alternatively please come and talk to Mrs Milner in confidence.

For anyone who is thinking of joining a local class to improve their physical wellbeing, the school rents the hall out to various organisations outside of school hours. Please click on these links to look on their websites if you are interested in joining classes.

Pilates (Tues) – <https://sol-pilates.co.uk/>

Zumba (Wed) - <https://www.zumba.com/en-US/profile/susana-perrin/149933>

Taekwondo (Fri and Sun pm) - <https://btkd.co.uk/#whats-taekwondo>

Taekwondo (Sun am) - <https://sidhumartialarts.co.uk>

PTA Messages

Woodside PTA has **two big, fluffy Easter bunnies** waiting for names. Choose a name for a chance to win one of the bunnies. Mrs Milner will draw 2 names from a hat on 7th April.



There will be one winner from the lower school and one winner from the upper school. Send entries and a £1 donation via the link below: <https://pay.collectiv.com/name-the-bunny-11148>

When you make the payment use the message box to state the bunny name, your child's name and their class.

Click [here](#) for the flyer.

Easter Hamper Raffle

Woodside PTA are also pleased to announce the Easter Hamper Raffle — **two fabulous hampers** to be won. Please buy tickets through Classlist— click [here](#) for details.