

Woodlands Weekly



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Wednesday 19th December 2018
Newsletter No. 15



We thought we would squeeze in one last newsletter this year – why not?!

Well done to our musical groups and soloists for a lovely performance in Monday's music assembly. The Christingle services yesterday formed a magical end to the term. The children thoroughly enjoyed making their Christingles and we finished each assembly with one child from each class lighting their candle whilst we all sang *Away in a Manger*. Beautiful! Thank you to Rev. Sharon from the Methodist church for coming into school to support this.



A few seasonal reminders....

Don't forget to:

- take the opportunity to read as many stories with your children as possible (Christmas or otherwise) – even when they are in Y5 and Y6. I read with my son (who is now 30) right through his primary years.
- play lots of games! Christmas games are a great opportunity for practicing maths, general knowledge and social skills. Don't forget to use the links on our school website where the children show you how to solve number problems. (Curriculum/mathematics and on the menu on the right hand side, useful videos).
- keep your child safe on-line. If Santa should bring some kind of electronic game for your child, remember to bear in mind how to keep them safe - and the importance of limiting screen time to encourage good mental health.
- encourage your child to write thank you notes – not only does this encourage children to think about saying thank you, but it is an opportunity to practice writing!

Thank you again for your Christmas wishes. We all wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas. We look

forward to seeing you back at Woodlands on **Thursday January 3rd 2019**.



Sports News

Beech House win Inter House Cross Country after a close Competition.

Over the last couple of days pupils in Key stage 2 have been battling it out over a 1200m course (Year 3-4) and 1600 m course (Year 5-6). The course itself was muddy in places but this didn't stop pupils running around and scoring points for their houses. There were some fantastic notable performances on Monday with Faith opening up a big lead in the Year 6 races to win a great run. In the boy's race, Luke won despite a close run race with Blake who closed the gap towards the finish with Alec moving through the field to finish a brilliant third. In Year 5, both Sam and Maisy looked impressive in their runs and managed to open up decisive gaps in their races.

Yesterday, with more rain falling overnight the conditions underfoot were softer, despite this Harry and Jessica made light work of the mud as they both recorded impressive wins despite being under pressure from Oliver and Tilly. In the Year 3 races Annabel pulled away from the field on the second lap to record an impressive win and Oliver took the lead early on and never looked back. Well done to everyone who took part in the races across the year groups. The final Inter-House Cross Country positions were:

1st – Beech 296 pts
2nd – Elm 237 pts
3rd – Oak 217 pts

Year 5/6 Sportshall Athletics

On Wednesday 12th December 2018, 18 children from Year 5 and 6 took part in the yearly Sportshall Athletics competition at The Angel Centre run by The Tonbridge and West Kent school sports Partnership. The children competed in 5 track and 5 field events and faced some tough competition. The children showed great team work and as a result, finished 5th out of the 12 teams that competed. Well done to all those who took part.

The Daily Mile

Woodlands have recently joined the many schools around the world taking part in the daily mile. The aim of the daily mile is to improve the physical, social, emotional and mental health and well-being of our children. It is non-competitive, fun and the perfect opportunity to get outside. If you would like to find out more, see the link below.

<https://thedailymile.co.uk/>



Severe Weather Information!

May we remind you of the ways in which we communicate with parents in the event of severe weather, for example heavy snow. We always make every effort to open the school and we would only close if it is no longer safe for staff or pupils on site. However if we have to close, we publicise this in several ways:

- An emergency news item on the school website
- Parentmail - texts and e-mails sent to all parents
- Kent Closures website (www.kentclosures.co.uk)
- KMFM, BBC Radio Kent or Heart FM will also publicise closures
- ***On such occasions, please only telephone the school in an emergency. Thank you.***

Ways you can help:

When accessing the site on icy or snowy days, please keep to pathways which have been cleared and gritted around the school site.

- Children will need to have warm coats, hats and gloves as well as wellington boots (or similar) so that they can play outside - as we like to make the most of the snow.
- It is possible that you would need to provide a packed lunch, if the kitchen team are unable to cook – but we would always let you know if this is the case.
- Please make sure that if you are working some distance from the school, you have a back-up plan in place should we require to close early.

Please access www.kent.gov.uk/winter for more information about gritting routes etc. so that you can plan your journey.

Date for Parent Forum – Thursday 10th January 2019 at 6.30pm

Each term we run a Parent Forum linked to a subject either requested by parents – for example, last year we ran a forum around the topic of 'Homework' - or around a topic on which we would like your input. All parents are invited to attend and take part in what is often an interesting and lively debate. In January, Mrs Hardcastle and Mrs Tarrant-Blick are leading the discussion around '**Working Together to Support Anxiety**'. Please email the school office if you would like to attend (office@woodlands.kent.sch.uk) so that we have some idea about numbers.

A parent correctly spotted that support can mean 'encourage'! We mean the opposite of this – perhaps we shall refer to the session as, '**Working Together to Reduce Anxiety**'!



In term 3, clubs run by staff will start again in the **second full week** of term (w/c 14th January 2019). However, all clubs run by Mrs Jones will resume in the first full week back (w/c 7th January 2019).

Admissions to school in September 2019

If your child is due to start school in September 2019 you need to make an online application for a place at www.kent.gov.uk/ola and a booklet explaining the admissions procedure is also available online. **The closing date for applications is Tuesday 15th January 2019.**



Music News

Congratulations to the Senior Choir who gave a lovely performance at the Tonbridge Family Carols on Saturday at the Tonbridge School Chapel, an event organised by the Tonbridge Philharmonic Society. It was a wonderful occasion with readings, carols for everyone and performances by the Philharmonic Choir, ourselves and the Tonbridge Girls' Grammar Motet choir. The Senior Choir will next be meeting on 9th January 2019 for the first of four practices for our Young Voices trip on 31st January.

Senior Choir – a date for your diary: Thursday 28th March - Choir Competition at 6.30pm at Tonbridge Baptist Church



Superstar Corner

Congratulations to Reuben in 5 Ebony for passing his Grade 2 piano exam with a merit mark. Well done Reuben!

COMEDY NIGHT - 1ST FEBRUARY 2019

New Year, new laughs! We are holding our comedy night again at the beginning of February. This has been a very popular event for the last 2 years with a high standard of comedians currently working the London comedy circuit. Tickets are £12.50 each and available on ParentMail or via the booking form. If you would like to sit together on a table, please email details to: woodlandscomedynight@gmail.com

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES:

COMEDY NIGHT - 1ST FEBRUARY 2019

KS1 DISCO - FRIDAY 26TH APRIL 2019

KS2 DISCO - FRIDAY 7TH JUNE 2019

CLOTHING COLLECTION - FRIDAY 17TH MAY 2019

SUMMER FAIR - SATURDAY 22ND JUNE 2019

FIREWORKS NIGHT - SATURDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2019

Letters Home

Reception

Chatham Historic Dockyard trip

Diary Dates

2019

10 th Jan	Parent Forum 6.30pm
31 st Jan	Senior Choir at Young Voices, O2
1 st Feb	PTA Comedy Night (tickets on PMail)
26 th April	KS1 Disco
17 th May	Clothing Collection
7 th June	KS2 Disco
22 nd June	Summer Fair
9 th Nov	Fireworks Night

Dates/times which have been changed or added

Class Assemblies – 2.45pm

17 Jan	5 Nutmeg
24 Jan	3 Oak
31 Jan	3 Yew
12 Mar	1 Hazel
19 Mar	1 Juniper
26 Mar	1 Willow
4 Apr	R Magnolia
9 May	5 Damson
23 May	R Cherry
13 Jun	2 Elm
20 Jun	R Tulip
27 Jun	2 Palm
4 Jul	2 Cedar

Term Dates

19 th December	Term Ends
3 rd January 2019	Term Starts
15 th February	Term Ends
25 th February	Inset Day
26 th February	Term Starts
5 th April	Term Ends
23 rd April	Term Starts
6 th May	Bank Holiday
24 th May	Term Ends
3 rd June	Term Starts
19 th July	Term Ends
22 nd July	Inset Day
23 rd July	Inset Day
2 nd Sept 2019	Term Starts
18 th Oct	Term Ends
28 th Oct	Term Starts
18 th Dec	Term Ends
6 th Jan 2020	Term Starts
14 th Feb	Term Ends
24 th Feb	Term Starts
1 st Apr	Term Ends
16 th Apr	Term Starts
4 th May	Bank Holiday
22 nd May	Term Ends
1 st June	Term Starts
22 nd July	Term Ends

(Please note that Inset Days for the academic year Sept 2019 to July 2020 have yet to be confirmed)