Happy Roald Dahl Day!!! Today, the nation celebrates one of its greatest children’s authors. Please take the opportunity over the weekend to share some of his written masterpieces or watch films inspired by his writing. We will be looking at some of these in Monday’s assembly.

In this week’s assembly, we looked at ‘kindness’. KS2 pupils were told a story about Gandhi and how his kind acts impacted on those around him. The children were encouraged to carry our random acts of kindness through this week and beyond. Hopefully, you have either witnessed these or been on the receiving end!

Thank you to all of the parents who attended the ‘meet the teacher’ meetings for Yrs 1 to 5. It was a lovely opportunity to meet you and helpful for the teachers to be able to pass on important information. Having attended all five, and being aware that due to siblings, some keen parents attended two or more of the meetings, we could ensure next year that there is less repetition as we go further up the school. Any feedback on how you found the meetings would be much appreciated.

I met with Caroline from the PTA this week and planned the exciting year ahead. Read on to find out how you can support the PTA and therefore the pupils. Start collecting those 5p coins!!

Lastly, the senior leadership team has been working together to identify the key priorities for this year, to fulfil our goal of becoming ‘even better’. These will be shared in the coming weeks.

Have a restful/exciting weekend and I look forward to seeing Yr 6 parents at the meeting next week.

Vicki Lonie
Headteacher
you know anybody who does, please note that we are holding two Open Mornings when parents/carers can come and look around the school and ask any questions they may have. These will take place on Tuesday 12th and Tuesday 19th November at 9.30am. Please book a space on your preferred date by contacting our school office on 01732 355577.

Birthday Clothes!
For those of you who are new to the school (and a reminder for everyone else), at Woodlands we invite pupils to wear their own clothes on their birthday. If your child’s birthday falls in a holiday they can wear their clothes on the last day of the preceding term or on the first day of the next term. Please ensure that clothes are appropriate and allow children to run around (no heels!).

Allergy Alert
Please check that all items in your child’s lunchbox are nut-free. It is easy to forget things like Nutella or marzipan. We appreciate your co-operation to ensure the wellbeing of all our pupils.

New School Year Reminders – IMPORTANT please read!
• Please take time to familiarise yourself again with our school uniform so that you do not buy the wrong things! In particular, please remember that:
  ...Skirts, trousers and shorts should be GREY, not black
  ...Socks should be plain and either grey, white or navy
  ...Long hair should be tied back (to prevent the spread of our little headlice friends…)
  ...Hair adornments should be small and simple
  ...One pair of simple stud earrings
  ...Shoes should be appropriate and enable children to run around and have fun!
• Packed lunches should be as healthy as possible – we do not allow sweets, chocolate or sweetened and fizzy drinks. Sugar is not good for children (or us!) and can affect a child’s ability to concentrate – particularly after a lunch which contains a lot. Thank you.
• Breaktime Snacks – KS2 (Y3/4/5/6)
  We have a simple rule for breaktime snacks – fresh or dried fruit or vegetables ONLY. All other snacks will be put away in your child’s bag. No fruit winders etc. Fruit pots are available from the Oak dining room each break at a cost of 50p. Children do not need a snack in YR or KS1 (Y1/2) as they are provided with fruit or vegetables each day.
• Children in YR-Y2 only need book bags – they do not need a school bag.
• Yrs R, 1, 2, 3 and 4 children need to be taken to their classrooms (as usual) on the first day back and thereafter. As in previous years, they will need to be collected from classrooms at the end of the day. Please let us know when there are changes to collection arrangements.
• Yrs 5 and 6 children are allowed to leave by themselves at the end of the day. Please explain to your child where you will meet them and what to do if you are not there – they should return immediately to their class teacher or the school office.
• ALL enquiries/late bags/packed lunches are dealt with by the School Office which is in ACORN building. Please note this applies even if your child’s class is in OAK.

KS2 Lunch Money payments on ParentMail
Please note that KS2 lunches need to be paid for via your ParentMail account. The payment location is under the ‘Account’ option, click on your child’s name and you can then top-up their account. This was changed during the summer due to an upgrade by ParentMail.

Individual School Photographs
Braiswick will be taking an individual photograph of every child in school (excluding Year 3) on Monday 7th October.

Family Group Photographs
Braiswick will be taking family photographs and Year 3 individual photographs on Wednesday 30th October. If you would like a family photograph taken of your children (from Reception to Year 6) please email the name and class details of each child to be included to ddale@woodlands.kent.sch.uk by Friday 25th October at the latest. Please note that without parental confirmation the family photographs will not be taken.

Secondary Transfer for Sept 2020
Y6 children will be coming home with a leaflet about their secondary transfer in September 2020. Please remember that in order to view the complete booklet, you need to visit www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions. Parents can make their secondary school application either online at www.kent.gov.uk/ola or by a paper SCAF which can be downloaded from the same website. The closing date for applications is Thursday 31st October 2019.

Music News
KS2 music clubs are starting next week, one week earlier than the other clubs. All children will receive an acceptance slip by today. It is important for all children to attend all sessions and practice their music during the week in order to make good progress. The Junior and Senior choir will have performances in the community towards Christmas and all clubs will be performing in school at the end of term 2. Letters concerning these events will go out via ParentMail in due course.

All children in year 4 will be starting recorder again shortly in their music lessons. A permission slip is going out so that children can take their recorders home to practice. Please sign and return to class teachers. Many thanks.

Re cuer Club: This is a club for continuers from Years 4 – 6 and children will be encouraged to follow simple music notation. (Please note Year 3 children will all be learning the recorder later in the year as a class and this continues into Year 4).

Ukulele Club: Ideally children will need their own ukulele but we have a few ukuleles that can be borrowed to start with.
School Band: Existing band members still need to put the club down on their list. Children applying need to be confident and able players and instrumentalists such as piano, clarinet etc will need to be able read music, which is specially arranged for them by Mrs Jones. All children involved in the music clubs will need to attend all sessions and practise their music at home.

Instrumental lessons: We currently offer lessons on piano, violin, guitar, clarinet, flute, saxophone and drums. Drumming lessons start next week on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. For drumming enquiries our teacher Dale Frost can be contacted on dale@tonbridgedrumstudio.com. For guitar lessons with Tom Williams please contact him on tomwilliamsmusic@hotmail.com. For piano lessons with Mrs Jones on Fridays or violin lessons with Mrs Butler on Mondays please contact Kent Music at www.kent-music.com

We are excited to be welcoming a new teacher, Nicky Catterwell, who is taking over from Sarah Trigg who has sadly left us after several years of teaching clarinet and saxophone. Nicky is an experienced performer and teacher and can also offer brass tuition. A flyer is attached to this newsletter.

Nicky can be contacted on 07713 164930 or at n.catterwell@hotmail.co.uk. For any other queries please contact Mrs Jones at mjones@woodlands.kent.sch.uk.

PTA News
This week has been about organising our event dates for this year, to give you as much notice as possible. So please make a note of them in your diaries. We are planning some social events during the year too and will pass on those details as soon as possible.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING – Friday 4th OCTOBER
As a welcome to the new school year and to all our new parents, we will be hosting a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan. It will be held in the Acorn hall at 9am on Friday 4th October.

OUR AGM
As a registered charity we have a legal requirement to have an AGM once a year. So we will be using the coffee morning as an opportunity to circulate our records with you.

SP CHALLENGE
Please see attached the poster for our 5p challenge. It’s quite a simple concept and will run throughout this term. Every classroom has an empty bottle for the 5p challenge - the idea is to fill it with 5ps. So raid those loose change pots around the house and see if your class will be the one to collect the highest amount by half term. The winning class will win an ‘own clothes day’!

OUR COMMITTEE
If you like the idea of helping to organise some of our events and would like to join the committee, please email: woodlandsprimarypta@gmail.com. We are a very relaxed and supportive team and look forward to welcoming any new members.

OCCASIONAL HELPERS
We are aware that everyone’s lives are busy and people would like to be able to dip in and out as their schedule allows. If you want to help but feel you can’t commit to the committee, don’t worry, we have our much valued ‘helpers list’. This is an email group we send requests out to when we need extra pairs of hands. You can then choose if and when you can volunteer help. You can do one task or all of them, there’s no obligation at all. If you would like to be added to the helpers list please email your details to: woodlandsprimarypta@gmail.com.

2ND HAND SCHOOL UNIFORM
If you have replaced your child’s school uniform for the new school year, and have items of old uniform that your child has grown out of, please do remember our second hand shop. If you would like to donate any items they should be washed with name labels taken out (but keep the size label on the item!), no old logo items please. Drop off at the Acorn office.

Community News
St Gregory’s Catholic School in Tunbridge Wells will be holding open mornings on Wednesday 25 and Thursday 26 September from 9am to 11am (last tour at 10.15am). Open evening will be on Thursday 26 September from 4.30pm to 7.30pm with the Principal talking at 4.30pm and 6pm. No need to book. Parking available on the school site. All Welcome!

Hillview School for Girls Open Events:
Open Evening Thursday 17th October 5.30 – 8.30pm
Open Morning Saturday 28th September 10.00 – 12noon
Open Mornings Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd October. Tours from 9.15 – 11.15am. Please contact the school on 01732 352793 or admin@hillview.kent.sch.uk to book a tour.

Autumn Fair & Dog Show Sunday 15th September 12 – 3pm at Sackville School in Hildenborough. ‘A fun afternoon for the family’. For more information call 01732 838888

Tonbridge LIONS Club presents The Queen of Hearts performed by Tonbridge Community Pantomime at the Angel Centre, 13th December 7.30pm, 14th December 2pm & 6pm and 15th December 2pm & 6pm. Adult £12/Child £10/Family £35 01732 359966. Pure Football Academy are holding FREE trial sessions for footballers to receive advanced training in addition to playing and training for their current football teams. Pure are an independent training academy who are passionate about coaching and helping youth footballers develop. In addition to the training, players are invited to play in show case matches against other local teams in addition to professional academies. Request a trial at info@purefootballacademy.co

Kent Adult Education Teaching Assistant Courses at Tonbridge Adult Education Centre. For more information visit www.kentadulteducation.co.uk or call 03000416999.

Water Wise Swimming Tuition lessons now available at Carroty Wood for children and adults. For details and booking contact Pauline Youngs on 07821037078 or email mydogbrian@icloud.com or boxerbrian11@gmail.com

LOCAL INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED MUSICIAN RETURNING IN CONCERT IN HIS HOME TOWN
Jon Sanders, born and brought up in Tonbridge, is a leading international bouzouki, ukelele and guitar player. He is variously called “The Bard of the Bouzouki” and “The Duke of Uke”. Jon’s music has gone round the world.

This latest concert will also feature special guest award winning singer songwriter Frank Burkitt. His music is not confined to one genre but it has a very unique sound and feel at its core, influenced by blues, country, bluegrass, swing and Scottish folk – “good old-fashioned song writing. His last album won the Tui folk album of the year in New Zealand this year.

Jon has been based in west coast Ireland and New Zealand for over 25 years, touring extensively across the globe with a wide variety of acts. His three critically acclaimed albums, Latitudes, Twigs of the Neem Tree and Zoukele were described as “deeply meditative, impishly playful and jazz tinged.”
Don’t miss Jon’s forthcoming concert at St Saviour’s Church, Dry Hill Park Crescent, Tonbridge at 7.30pm on Friday 27 September 2019.

Tickets £12 (accompanied children under16 free)
Seat reservations from Sally Musson 01732 838411
mussonsally@btinternet.com or on the door (subject to availability). More information about Jon’s music at www.jon-sanders.com and Facebook Jon Sanders Music.

Letters Home
Y1 – Y6  Woodlands Fund
Y6  Transfer to Secondary School leaflet
All  5p Challenge poster
Y4  Recorder permission
Y4 – 6  After School Cricket Club

Diary Dates
2019
18th Sept Y6 Year Group Info meeting in Oak Hall 6.15pm
3rd Oct Y2 visit from Astrodome
6th Oct Macmillan Coffee Morning 9am
7th Oct Braiswick Photographic Co – Individuals not Y3
7th Oct Y3 trip to the British Museum
14th-18th Oct Y5 Carroty Wood trip
30th Oct Braiswick Photographic Co - Family Groups + Y3
1st Nov KS2 Disco
9th Nov Fireworks Night
14th Nov PTA Christmas Card order deadline
22nd Nov Secret Presents
26th Nov Whole School Flu Vaccination
30th Nov Christmas Fair

2020
24th Jan BAGS2SCHOOL
1st May KS1 Disco
5th Jun KS2 Disco
20th Jun Summer Fair
18th Jul Y6 Leavers Party

Dates/times which have been changed or added

Class Assemblies – 2.45pm
8 Oct  5 Chestnut
15 Oct  4 Fir
5 Nov  4 Yew
12 Nov  4 Oak
21 Jan  5 Hawthorn
28 Jan  3 Elm
4 Feb  3 Palm
11 Feb  3 Cedar
10 Mar  5 Bay
11 Mar  1 Cherry
18 Mar  1 Magnolia
25 Mar  1 Tulip
29 Apr  R Baobab
10 Jun  R Acacia
17 Jun  R Marula
1 Jul  2 Juniper
8 Jul  2 Willow
15 Jul  2 Hazel

Term Dates
18th Oct  Term Ends
28th Oct  Inset Day
29th Oct  Term Starts
18th Dec  Term Ends
6th Jan 2020  Inset Day
7th Jan  Term Starts
14th Feb  Term Ends
24th Feb  Inset Day
25th Feb  Term Starts
1st Apr  Term Ends
16th Apr  Term Starts
8th May  Bank Holiday
22nd May  Term Ends
1st June  Term Starts