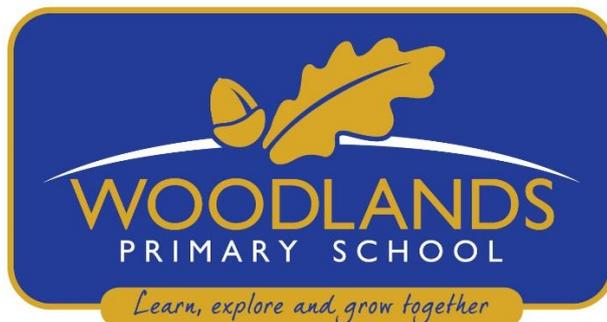


Woodlands Weekly



office@woodlands.kent.sch.uk
www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk

Friday 8th November 2019
Newsletter No.9

In assemblies this week, we have been looking at behaviour. We looked at the 'Snowball Effect' of mood and actions in FS and KS1 - how being kind can make others want to be kind and how unkindness can lead to negative experiences for others.

I was a very proud teacher this week, when 4 Yew performed for their class assembly. It was an excellent display of the deep understanding they have gained in science about 'sound'. It was great to see confident children, using clear voices, explaining their learning. There was also real kindness on display during the assembly, when pupils supported their less confident peers. Well done Mr Gosling and his team!

Count down to the Woodland's Fireworks Display has begun! Can't wait to see you there. Apologies to any of our neighbours – especially those with pets – but the event will be finished in good time. There will be food available – some not exactly healthy but in keeping with an annual fireworks evening - so get your toothbrushes ready for afterwards!! See below for more information.

We like to receive feedback from parents to help us to achieve our aim of being EVEN BETTER. I was delighted to receive communication from a parent of a pupil in Year R this week. His daughter had explained the knowledge she had gained about what to do in an emergency, from the visit from Police Officer Paul, in a real life situation.

Preparing children for real life and the challenges it presents is a key priority for staff at Woodlands, so this was fabulous to hear.

I have started to receive some lovely examples of photographs taken to reflect the beauty of Kent as part of this term's Headteacher's Home Project. The deadline is the end of the month, so keep them coming!!

Have a firework-tastic weekend! Keep safe.

Vicki Lonie
Headteacher

Year 6 Evacuee Day

On Tuesday, Year 6 were 'evacuated' to Tonbridge Methodist Church where they learnt about rationing, how to grow their own veg and 'dig for victory'. They also made a lavender bag to keep their sock drawer smelling sweet! Songs were sung and stories were told and there was even an air raid - thankfully a false alarm. So many volunteers made this a fun and informative day; thank you to all.



Year Group	% Attendance
R	96.5
1	98.1
2	97.4
3	96.6
4	97.7
5	98.3
6	98.2



Next Friday, 15th November, is Children in Need. To raise money for this great cause the children are invited to come to school in their pyjamas or lounge wear in return for a donation.

Parent Consultations

Our Parent Consultation evenings are taking place on Tuesday 19th and Thursday 21st November for all year groups between 3.30 and 6.30pm. **We aim to see all parents** – they are a vital part of our partnership with you and enable your child's progress to be discussed and celebrated and future plans to be agreed.

We will be using the ParentMail booking system enabling you to view available appointments yourself and book the one that is most convenient for you.

Children in KS2 who take Maths with Mrs Littlejohn or Mrs Tucker-Bays will get feedback on their Maths progress within the main consultation. If, however, you would like to

see them separately, please email direct to arrange a convenient time: alittlejohn@woodlands.kent.sch.uk or etucker-bays@woodlands.kent.sch.uk.

You will not be able to book appointments with our Inclusion Manager, Mrs Tarrant Blick by using the online system. If you wish her to join your consultation, please let your child's class teacher know and email her directly on: rtarrant-blick@woodlands.kent.sch.uk.

Book Fairs

We will be holding the Scholastic Book Fairs alongside Parent Consultations with books for sale on Tuesday 19th November and Thursday 21st November between 3.30 and 6.30pm. Please note that the sales will take place in Acorn Hall. The more books we sell, the more free books we can choose for school! **Cheques should be made payable to Scholastic Book Fairs Ltd and not Woodlands Primary School.**



Own It

The BBC has created a "wellbeing" smartphone app called 'Own It' available through app stores, aimed at supporting children and young people to interact safely and responsibly with friends and family online and through messaging apps.

The app enables users to install a special software keyboard which monitors the tone of the words being typed and language used. The app evaluates children's moods so it can offer advice, encourage them to talk to trusted adults, or prompt them to think again if they are about to share sensitive data or send an upsetting message. The app is not a monitoring or reporting system and does not report to parents about children's activity, however it is designed to enable children to develop resilience online and offers targeted help and support when necessary. The 'Own It' app also has its own content to help children manage the amount of time they spend looking at their screen and shares advice about responsible online behaviours.



Outdoor Learning Club

This week at Outdoor Learning Club, we created a woodland art gallery using the natural materials around us. We had great fun and the adults were impressed with the children's creativity.

On another note, the children are loving the mud kitchen and would love more cooking utensils, saucepans, small spades and buckets to share. Therefore, if you have any of these items that you would like to donate we would be very grateful. In addition, if you have any bags of top soil that you would like to donate we would love these too as it is amazing how much mud the children can get through while having fun in the woods.

After School Dance Club with Miss Gould

Miss Gould's Dance Club will go ahead as planned on Tuesday 19th November despite Parent Consultations and Scholastic Book Fair

Year 5/6 After School Reading Club Thursday 21st November

After School Reading Club for Year 5 & 6 children on Thursday 21st November will be cancelled due to Parent Consultations after school that day.

After School Ball Skills Club Thursday 21st November

Please note that the After School Ball Skills club will be cancelled on Thursday 21st November due to Parent Consultations.

Drainage

I'm sure you will have noticed that it's been a bit of a wet autumn. Due to the school site having an elevated field, the run-off moves at a very quick rate in heavy downpours. This can lead to standing water, particularly at the bottom of the steps near the Year 4 classrooms. The drains are being emptied of silt regularly, and during the school day this does not present an issue. If heavy rain has occurred during the night, or for prolonged periods of time during the day, you may want to make the decision to use the main front entrance to avoid the standing water at each end of the day. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

Message received from Linda Baker PCSO

Following a complaint from a local resident Linda Baker 'It has come to the attention of the Police that some parents are parking on the forecourt of the private garages which are situated on the right at the top Higham School Road. Please can I ask that parents do not continue to do this. Access to the garages is required by the people that own them and their visitors.

It is also quite dangerous as drivers of the vehicles parked there are then reversing with limited visibility onto Higham School Road whilst other parents/children are walking past. Please find a more suitable location to park and please do not put others at risk by parking illegally. This includes yellow lines, on junctions, blocking dropped kerbs, parking on residents driveways and parking on the footpath, which causes an obstruction.'

Admissions to school in September 2020

If you have a child due to start school next September 2020 you can now make an online application for a school place at www.kent.gov.uk/ola and a booklet explaining the admissions procedure is also available online. If you have any questions please contact the school office, the Primary Admission team on 03000 416111 or email primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk. The closing date for applications is **Wednesday 15th January 2020**.

As mentioned in previous newsletters we are holding 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 2019 at 9.30am. New dates added are **Thursday 14th November 2019 at 2pm and Monday 13th January 2020 at 2pm** for parents who are unable to attend the two main Open Mornings. Please book a space on your preferred date by contacting our school office on 01732 355577.

Christmas Lunch Tuesday 17th December

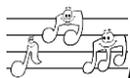
If your child has lunch every day then they will automatically be catered for. If your child usually brings in a

packed lunch you will need to advise their teacher or the school office (office@woodlands.kent.sch.uk) that they would like Christmas lunch. The reason for a deadline is to prevent any unnecessary food wastage and so please let us know by **Friday 6th December**. Please ensure that KS2 children have sufficient funds in their lunch account to cover the cost of the lunch. Thank you



Superstar Corner

Congratulations to Tamsin in Y2 Hazel for coming first in her ballet age group at the Orpington Festival over half term.



Music News

The Senior Choir are involved in a live broadcast for Children in Need on Friday 15th November. Look out for them between 8 - 8.30pm! A smaller group will also be performing on the local BBC News at 6.30pm.

We are very excited to be involved. A final information ParentMail is being sent out today- please read carefully!

The Junior Choir are going to the Methodist Church on 21st November for 2pm and we would welcome one or two more parent helpers. If you could walk with the group please let Mrs Jones know (mjones@woodlands.kent.sch.uk).

School Fair: There will be singing at the school fair at 12.30pm. Both Junior and Senior choirs will be singing. Please look out for a ParentMail about this soon, also for the School Carol Concert, when they will also be singing. Please can the children attend all rehearsals and learn their song words.

School music concert (KS2) 18th December 2.30 pm- last day of term! The school band, ukulele and recorder groups and both choirs will be performing. If your child would like to perform a solo please let Mrs Jones know (mjones@woodlands.kent.sch.uk). Please come along and support the children!

Tonbridge Carols - The Senior Choir are singing at this on Saturday 14th December. Tickets have been going fast and will soon run out- please check the Tonbridge Philharmonic Society's website if you would like to purchase tickets.

Our instrumental teachers in school can be contacted as follows:

Dale Frost (drumming): dale@tonbridgedrumstudio.com.

Nicky Catterwell, (wind and brass) can be contacted on 07713 164930 or at n.catterwell@hotmail.co.uk

For piano lessons or violin lessons please contact Kent Music at www.kent-music.com or tel: 01622 691212.

Tom Williams has very limited spaces available for guitarists starting January 2020. Tomwilliamsmusic@hotmail.com / 07736051082

PTA News

We are looking forward to our Fireworks night tomorrow! A big thank you goes to the staff and parents who have offered to help man the stalls and be marshalls - we can't hold the events without you. Gates are open from 4.30pm when food and drinks will be on sale. Tickets may be purchased on the gate for £5 (family tickets are pre-sale only).

We have TOFS providing the bar, Mochafella making hot drinks and we'll be serving hot dogs and chips. Sweet treats on offer range from candy floss, crepes, hot doughnuts and new for this year farm fresh chocolate apples! We also have a range of glow items ranging from £1-£5.

We are always looking for ways to reduce our impact on the environment during our events, with this in mind we are now using fully recyclable hot drink cups and lids, and remember the larger glow items are all reusable with batteries that can be replaced.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Your child's artwork was sent home yesterday. We hope you like their creative talents - thank you to all staff for helping make this possible.

If you wish to order some Christmas cards, tags and/or wrapping paper, please log onto:

www.apfsorders.co.uk/index.php and use your personal code sent home attached to your child's artwork. This is a portal where you can personalise your cards, see a preview and then make the payment online. The cut off deadline is **14th November**. Orders placed after this date will incur a late postage fee. Your orders are then expected to be delivered back to school on Thursday 28th November.

SECRET PRESENTS

On Friday 22nd November we are running our ever popular Secret Presents event! For those new to the school, this is where we have a selection of small gifts for mums, dad, brothers, sisters, grandparents and even pets. The children then get to purchase presents (in secret) to give as Christmas presents.

KS1 all presents will be £1.50. Please could you fill in the gift list form and return to school by Friday 15th November. We are offering payments via Parentmail this year which opened on Monday 4th November, but you still need to return the gift list form. So we can ensure we have enough for everyone, presents are limited to 4 per child.

KS2 are welcome to bring in their money on the day to shop independently (present costs range from 50p-£1.50).

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

You should have received raffle tickets in your child's bag last week. Can we remind you that due to gambling rules, the raffle is for over 18's only. We will be running our children's raffle on the day for children to purchase tickets. If you would like more raffle tickets please collect them from Acorn office.

BAKERS

We have a list of home bakers who we call upon to make us homemade cakes for our fairs. This could be a tray of cupcakes, a tray bake or a single cake to slice up. The cakes we've had donated always look delicious and makes the refreshment stalls very popular! If you think you could help and would like to be added to the bakers list please email: woodlandsprimarypta@gmail.com



WREATH MAKING

Our wreath making evening is on Wednesday 4th December at 7.30pm. Join us for a crafty evening making a beautiful wreath. £20 per ticket including equipment, materials and a glass of prosecco. Book your tickets now via ParentMail.

OUR NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday 26th November 7pm in the staff room. At this meeting we'll be busy doing the last preparations for the Christmas fair - everyone is welcome!

Community News

Stonepitts Christmas Trees. Once again Stonepitts Farm, Watery Lane, Seal Chart are offering a £2 donation to the school for every Christmas tree bought by families and staff. You just need to produce a copy of this newsletter article when buying a tree. Additionally they are continuing their custom of making a donation to Help for Heroes for all trees sold, last year they donated £1350. Go to www.stonepitts.com for details and directions.

Letters Home

All BBC OwnIt poster
All Sama Karate flyer
Y5 Star books letter

Diary Dates

2019

9th Nov PTA Fireworks Night
14th Nov PTA Christmas Card order deadline
15th Nov Children in Need – pyjamas/loungewear
19th Nov Parent Consultations
19th Nov Scholastic Book Fair 3.30-6.30 in Acorn Hall
21st Nov Junior Choir to sing at the Methodist Church 2pm
21st Nov Parent Consultations
21st Nov Scholastic Book Fair 3.30-6.30 in Acorn Hall
22nd Nov Secret Presents
26th Nov Whole School Flu Vaccination
26th Nov PTA Committee meeting 7pm Staff Room
29th Nov Climate Change Fun Day Lunch
29th Nov Own clothes day for PTA contributions
30th Nov Christmas Fair
3rd Dec Year 3 Christmas Production 2.00pm
3rd Dec Year 3 Christmas Production 7pm
4th Dec Reception Christmas Production 9.30am
4th Dec PTA Wreath Making Event
5th Dec Reception Christmas Production 2.15pm
9th Dec Year 1 Christmas Production 2.15pm
10th Dec Year 1 Christmas Production 9.30am
10th Dec Year 5 Christmas Production 2pm
10th Dec Year 5 Christmas Production 7pm
12th Dec Year 2 Christmas Production 2.15pm
12th Dec Carol Concert 6pm
13th Dec Year 2 Christmas Production 9.30am
14th Dec Senior Choir Carols at Tonbridge School 4pm
16th Dec KS1 Christingle 9 – 9.30am
16th Dec KS2 Christingle 10 – 10.30am
17th Dec Christmas Lunch
17th Dec Christmas Jumper Day
18th Dec KS2 Music Concert 2.30pm in Oak Hall

2020

22nd Jan O2 Concert for Senior Choir
24th Jan BAGS2SCHOOL
1st May KS1 Disco
5th Jun KS2 Disco
15th-19th Jun Y6 Isle of Wight trip
20th Jun Summer Fair

18th Jul Y6 Leavers Party

Dates/times which have been changed or added

Class Assemblies – 2.45pm

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

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