

Woodlands Weekly



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Friday 6th December 2019
Newsletter No. 13

What a fantastic week it has been! On Saturday, the PTA worked their Christmas magic to provide an excellent fair, full of competitions, crafts and prizes. The choir impressed with an ensemble of Christmas songs and a great time was had by the huge number of parents who attended. Well done everyone – another fabulous show of support for the school.



Earlier this week, Year 3 wowed us with an outstanding performance of 'Silent Night'. Clear speaking voices, top quality singing and musical instrument playing too – it was a real treat!

Year R then followed suit, with their Christmas performance which had hearts melting across the board. I don't think I've ever felt such excitement at an event – and that was just the parents!! I'm looking forward to next week, when Years 1, 2 and 5 will have their chance to shine. (Year 4 will have their chance at Easter.)

In amongst all of these Christmas celebrations, we have also had real sporting success at events arranged by Mr Levett in both KS1 and 2. Keep up the good work athletes!



Mr Levett – sports coach and elf extraordinaire!!

Have a lovely weekend.

Vicki Lonie
Headteacher



Year Group	% Attendance
R	95.3
1	97.5
2	97.2
3	93.2
4	96.7
5	96.5
6	95.6

Come and talk to us!

As some of us are 'Tonbridge Mums', we are aware that recently there have been some less than positive comments posted relating to the behaviour of our pupils and the management of this behaviour. Could we please encourage you to come and talk to us regarding your concerns, in order that we can be aware and then work together to find a solution? Some of the comments have been quite distressing for members of staff, especially when posted at weekends when they are themselves trying to be mums.

As always, our aim is for us to work together to improve outcomes for our pupils.

Christmas Productions CORRECTION

Please note that Mrs O'Keefe (one of our governors) has kindly offered to open the back gate in Sullivan Road for access to the **AFTERNOON** Christmas performances. The gate will be open 15 minutes before the start of each **AFTERNOON** performance so don't arrive too early as you will be waiting in the cold! Apologies for the confusion.

Our house names are changing and we need your help!

We have decided to change the names of our four houses and we would like the children's help! We want our new names to be **memorable, follow a theme and to be inspiring for our pupils**. Could you encourage your children to think up ideas for the four new house names and send any suggestions to mburns@woodlands.kent.sch.uk. We will

choose some of the best suggestions to be put forward to all pupils to vote on their favourites. Thank you in advance!



Christmas

We want everyone in our school community to feel as excited about Christmas as we are! If you are worrying about it and would like to know what is on offer for families over the festive period, please have a chat with Mrs Hardcastle. There are plenty of schemes locally that we can refer to; from tickets to events and lunches, to food packs and toys. Perhaps you'd like to nominate someone else? That's fine too – just get in touch!

Christmas Carol Concert Thursday 12th December 6pm in Acorn Hall

Please join us for a fun and festive sing-song at our annual Christmas Carol Concert on Thursday 12th December in Acorn Hall at 6pm. Young and old are all welcome! The concert will be held in the warmth of Acorn Hall and will include some wonderful performances by the Junior and Senior choirs, the recorder group and even by the staff! Key Stage 1 pupils will also be leading us in singing a Christmas classic! Children representing each class from Year 1- Year 6 will be reading short festive extracts. Our lovely PTA will be kindly serving complimentary mulled wine and hot chocolate for those who attend. Please come along and join us in singing a few carols at this lovely Christmas celebration! We are aware that many of you will want to vote on that evening, so please try to fit this in with our celebrations. It may well lift your spirits!

Menu change for Wednesday 18th December

Please note that on the last day of term the children will be offered fish & chips or a vegetarian option and ice cream (not a roast lunch as advertised). New menu for Winter 2020 is attached.

Sportshall Athletics Competition



The sun was shining for the Woodlands teams at the Sportshall Athletics in the Angel Leisure Centre!

Well done to all the pupils who took part in the recent Sportshall Athletics Competition at The Angel Centre. We had some fantastic results with Beau and Harley winning the one lap relay. Elsie, Molly, Ivy and Pamela produced brilliant runs in the Obstacle Relay just finishing second in a very close race. The girls also produced a fantastic display of controlled running in the Over and Under Relay recording second place in a very tight finish from another school.

In the distance events, Jessica, Rosemary, Harry and Harrison ran well judged runs managing third in both events. All the pupils had a go at two field events with notable performances from Oliver in the Javelin, Reuben in the Speed Bounce and Ivy and Isla in the Vertical Jump. In the boys Over and Under Relay, Oliver, William, Reuben and Kai ran a tactical race to finish a superb first, whilst in

the final event of the day Beau, Harrison, Harley and Samuel lead home the other schools to win the four by one lap relay. The girls relay team also produced a great team effort with Caitlin, Pamela, Isla and Madeleine finishing in second place.

Overall the Woodlands boys and the girls finished in an incredible 2nd place behind Paddock Wood Primary in the Tonbridge area out of a total of 10 schools. Well done to all the pupils who took part.

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**.

We have one remaining tour of the school available on Monday 13th January 2020 at 2pm. If you would like to visit on this date please call our school office on 01732 355577.

Year 5 Christmas Production Tuesday 10th December

Please note that the Year 5 Christmas production on Tuesday 10th December will start at **1.30pm**.

School Clubs

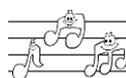
Please note that lunchtime and after-school clubs will **NOT** be running during the last week of this term (Monday 16th – Wednesday 18th).

In **Term 3**, lunchtime and after-school clubs will start again from the **second** week of term, **w/c Monday 13th January**, only Mrs Jones' Senior Choir will start from the first week back.



Christmas Post Boxes

The Christmas Post Boxes will be now up in both buildings. If your children would like to send a card to other children or members of staff, all they need to do is write the **name (and class if applicable)** on the envelope and pop it in. Our Christmas elves have asked me to remind you that we cannot send cards to mums, dads, nannies or grandads – **only to people in our school**.



Music News

Senior Choir have their final rehearsal after school on Wednesday 11th December. Please see the latest ParentMail for all information. We are looking forward to our Carol Concert on Thursday 12th December at 6pm. The Senior and Junior Choirs and recorder club will be performing. Please send your slip back if you have not already done so.

Our end of term Music Concert will be on Wednesday 18th December at 2.30pm in Oak Hall and you are very welcome to come along. The school band, ukulele group, recorders and both choirs will be performing, as well as a few solo items. If your child has a piece ready to perform and is keen

to be included there are still one or two spaces. Please let Mrs Jones know (mjones@woodlands.kent.sch.uk). Music clubs run by Mrs Jones will start again in the first full week of next term apart from the Senior Choir who meet on Wednesday 8th January to work on the Young Voices songs. Please look on YouTube to find the lyric videos to practice at home. (Search for Young Voices 2020 playlist). The songs are also available on Spotify. Please encourage all the children to learn their pieces and song words in order to be ready for their performances. Thank you for your support.



Superstar Corner

Congratulations to Jake in 2 Juniper who has achieved his Stage 3 Learn to Swim Badge and is now well on the way to obtaining his Level 4. Well done Jake.

PTA News

Wahoooo we made it to the end of November - and what a crazy PTA month it has been. It may have felt relentless so we thank you for humouring us.... it has aged us a little bit too!

It's our busiest month of the academic year, but all worth it in the end. In this month alone we have raised a staggering £13000.00! This all goes towards supporting our children within the school. We are currently funding laptops, class reading projects, new curriculum books, author visits to the school and contributions towards school trips. After the new financial year, we are looking to fundraise towards a big project, so watch this space for more information about that!

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thank you to everyone who came to the fair at the weekend, together we raised £5100.00! An extra BIG thank you goes to the staff and parents who gave up their time to help run a stall. It goes without saying, that we can do all the planning in the world, but if there's no-one to run the stalls we wouldn't have a fair, so thank you!



Thank you to the amazing Christmas Fair committee who worked their socks off, Amy Green, Gill Carter, Anne-Marie Palmer and Raquel de Dicuru. The grotto had a big overhaul this year and, we hope you agree, it looked fabulous! Which leads onto an additional thank you to the infamous Mr Matthews, for his Father Christmas role and kept going, non-stop, so as many children as possible got to visit... and of course not forgetting Mr Levett who must have been the coldest elf south of the North pole!

RAFFLE

We'd like to say a big thank you to Leanne Mepham who worked so hard to round up a fantastic set of raffle prizes. The raffle was drawn at the end of the fair, so if you were one of the lucky winners you will have been contacted with your prize details.

WREATH MAKING EVENING

What a lovely evening everyone had making some winter wreaths. The glue guns were flowing and Oak hall looked

like a scene from our local woods! Thank you to Amy Reeves and Alice Sinclair & her mum Kate for running the event and raising £406.00.

CAROL CONCERT

We like to give back as well as fundraise for the school, so the PTA will be providing complimentary mulled wine and hot chocolate at the carol concert. So come and join us on Thursday 12th December at 6pm in Acorn hall for a warming drink while listening to the children sing.

OUR NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Tuesday 14th January 2020 at 7pm in the staff room. At this meeting we'll be planning our events for the next term - everyone is welcome!

Community News

University of the Arts (UAL) – 'Future Creatives' @ Hillview Art & Design courses for Primary children

Our partnership with UAL has continued to grow over this term with the first groups from our primary contacts now coming to an end next week. Next term's dates are available on the Future Careers website and to book simply follow this [link](#). Our school has been issued with a 10% discount code which your school may also use when checking out. Use code School10. All courses are held at Hillview and term begins on Thursday 16th January with after-school on Wednesdays and Saturday mornings from 18th January 2020. If you have a budding, creative young person in your family who has not yet seized the opportunity to try these courses, do take a look to see what's on offer for them. They may be surprised!

Letters Home

All Superhero Census menu

All Winter 2020 Menu

Diary Dates

2019

9 th Dec	Year 1 Christmas Production 2.15pm
10 th Dec	Year 1 Christmas Production 9.30am
10 th Dec	Year 5 Christmas Production 1.30pm
10 th Dec	Year 5 Christmas Production 6.30pm
11 th Dec	R Baobab ALJ Session 2-3pm
12 th Dec	Year 2 Christmas Production 2.15pm
12 th Dec	Carol Concert 6pm
13 th Dec	Year 2 Christmas Production 9.30am
13 th Dec	R Marula ALJ Session 2-3pm
14 th Dec	Senior Choir Carols at Tonbridge School 4pm
16 th Dec	KS1 Christingle 9 – 9.30am
16 th Dec	KS2 Christingle 10 – 10.30am
16 th Dec	R Acacia ALJ Session 2-3pm
17 th Dec	Christmas Lunch
17 th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
18 th Dec	KS2 Music Concert 2.30pm in Oak Hall

2020

16 th Jan	Superhero Census Day
22 nd Jan	O2 Concert for Senior Choir
24 th Jan	BAGS2SCHOOL
1 st May	KS1 Disco
5 th Jun	KS2 Disco
15 th -19 th Jun	Y6 Isle of Wight trip
20 th Jun	Summer Fair
18 th Jul	Y6 Leavers Party

Dates/times which have been changed or added

Class Assemblies – 2.45pm

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