

# Woodlands Weekly



**Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe**

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[www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk](http://www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk)

**4th November 2022**

**Newsletter No. 8**

We were delighted to receive the Mayor, Councillor Sue Bell, to officially open our new EYFS department this week. The Year R children were full of excitement, telling her all sorts of facts and stories during her visit. She sent a very kind thank you letter, in which she said:

‘Thank you so much for asking me to attend your school and see the splendid EYFS Department and all the hard work everyone has done to improve this part of the school.

The children are certainly engaged with their outside activities in the fresh air. You have quite an assortment of activities for them, and it was a pleasure to see them in action.

My thanks also go to the friendly and engaging staff I met in the office and the excellent teaching staff.’

Year 5 classes have spent 2 days and one night at Bawl Water taking part in organised activities this week. Despite the reservoir being topped up with a lot of rain whilst they were there, all the pupils enjoyed the activities on offer. Quotes from the trip include:

“The food was great and I really enjoyed all the activities,” Lacey

“My favourite activity was the scavenger hunt as we got to use a map and go to places on our own,” Tom

“The food was amazing and all the people that worked there were really nice,” Anna

“The scavenger hunt was fun because it was a challenge to read a map,” Jake

“I thought it was so good because my friends were there to support me,” Lillie

“I enjoyed the climbing wall because I got to the top,” Lily

“The axe throwing was really fun because I’ve never done that activity before,” Oliver

We’ll share photos next week!

We also have lots of exciting events coming our way this term, so hold onto your hats!!

On Monday, Year 6 pupils will be taking prospective parents around the school and showing them what we are about. We will be exploring anti-bullying week the week after, along with Children in Need on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Your child can wear anything yellow or spotty or any Children in Need accessories on that day for a donation. More information to follow. Then the Christmas events begin!

Alongside this, the PTA are beavering away with their plans – we hope to see you on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November for our Fireworks display. If you are going to buy glow items, please do so from inside the school site (some cheeky local sellers try to sell to parents before they get to us) so the children can benefit from the sales. They are also busy planning the Christmas fair for Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. If you can help out, please do so. The more parents who help, the bigger and more exciting the event can be!

Some dates for your diary:

Next Thursday lunchtime (10/11/2022) KS2 children will be able to buy cakes from the Year 5 pupils. The Year 5 pupils are raising money to purchase Young Voices T-shirts for their trip next term. Children are responsible for their own money and should bring it in in a named purse and keep it with them throughout the morning. We have asked for nut-free cakes but please make sure children with allergies know what they are allowed as staff will not be able to monitor this. Children will eat the cakes on-site.



The PTA will also be holding their Secret Presents event on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November so please see their communication for more information.

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November and Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – own clothes days for donations for the Christmas fair. PTA to advise on items soon but in the meantime, please get filling those jam jars with sweets and small toys as the annual Christmas jam jar filling contest across classes begins! (No nuts please)

They are also now collecting no-longer-needed Christmas jumpers to resell before our Christmas jumper day on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December. If you have any to donate, please place in the PTA uniform container in Acorn reception area.

Have a great weekend.

**Mrs Lonie**

## Superstar corner

Jake Bartholomew and Marshall Webster, 5 Hornbeam, braved the muddy conditions to take part in the Tonbridge Athletic Club cross country run on Sunday.



Last Saturday, Ryan participated in his first JKA International Karate Competition. There were over 400 participants from 8 countries and over 50 academies – a very daunting prospect – but Ryan faced his fears and took part brilliantly. Well done, Ryan!



Click here to see our very own Raphael in an advert: <https://youtu.be/Yiy8SCwtWc4>



Freya performed with The Royal Ballet Company at The Royal Opera House theatre recently and next, in the “Light of Passage” which is Choreographed by Crystal Pite. Freya successfully auditioned back in August and has been rehearsing in London at the Royal Ballet School since.

Congratulations to Ben Chamberlain (5 Sycamore) whose entry into the Atom Learning Young Author Award 2022 was awarded 'Highly Commended' recognition by the judges.

Congratulations to Emily Reeves in 5 Sycamore who attained a distinction in both her Grade 1 Modern and Tap exams which she had on the same day!

## PTA Message

PTA Dates to remember

12 Nov 22: Woodlands PTA Fireworks Night  
25 Nov 22: Secret Presents  
03 Dec 22: Woodlands PTA Christmas Fair  
09 Dec 22: Second Hand Uniform Sale

Children's Christmas cards coming soon!



## Clubs

- Please ensure you collect your child/ren from after school clubs at 4.15, no children will be permitted to walk home alone due to the darker evenings.
- **Have fun with your friends and learn French at Woodlands Primary School French Club!**  
**Would you like your child to start learning French while it's still instinctive and lots of fun?**  
Pupils are invited to join a lovely, friendly group to learn French through games, songs and other fun activities. Sessions are held from 3:20-4pm on Tuesdays in 3 Whitebeam.

For more info and prices please contact [CCK112@hotmail.com](mailto:CCK112@hotmail.com) or 07884 255749, Please state your child's year group (everyone welcome) and that you are enquiring about French Club at Woodlands.

## Job Vacancies

- Teaching Assistant Full-Time (32.5 hours) – Monday to Friday
- Early Years Teaching Assistant—Term Time 08:30 to 15:30 Monday to Friday
- Caretaker Part-Time (16 hours) – Monday to Friday

Please look on [www.kent-teach.com](http://www.kent-teach.com) for more information.

## Letters

- Fireworks Night
- Job advertisement for a Community Lead at Tonbridge Methodist Church
- PTA News
- Primary Entry 2023
- Princess Christian's Farm



## Events

The mum and aunt of one of our Year 1 pupils have been offered a charity place with MND (Motor Neurone Disease) to run in the London Marathon, April 2023. They have a target of £6,000 to raise. If you would like to contribute to this, please go to: #TeamMND - London Marathon 2023



## News from the Library

Elena in 4 Chestnut was delighted to receive an email (via the library) from the author of a book she recently reviewed. Cliff McNish visited us last year and kindly wrote back thanking Elena for her 5 star review of The Doomspell!

The librarians do an amazing job, keeping our library looking spic and span. However they report that there have been some accidents with books, particularly involving water bottles, recently. Please do encourage your children to take the greatest care of the books they **borrow**.

We continue to receive donations of books – for which we are so grateful. Please do think of us if you plan a pre-Christmas tidy of the bookshelves!

The Librarians.



## Reminders

- Please ensure your child arrives at school for 8.45am when doors open. If your child is brought to school after doors have closed (and is therefore late), please sign him/her in at Acorn Office. Gates being open is not a sign that doors are open, as the gates are shut afterwards to allow parents to leave. Your child will then be taken to class. Parents are responsible for ensuring any relatives dropping children off are aware of this.
- Can you help? We would love to help all our families and children at Woodlands to access all clubs. We know how costly this can be with growing children and would appreciate any donations of children's football boots (non metal studs please), shin pads, football kits/sportswear. Please can these be dropped to the School Office for the attention of Jo Stone (Pastoral Support ) Manager).

## Term Dates

### 2022/2023

1 Sep	INSET Day
2 Sep	INSET Day
5 Sept	Term Starts
21 Oct	Term Ends
31 Oct	Term Starts
16 Dec	Term Ends
3 Jan	INSET Day
4 Jan	Term Starts
10 Feb	Term Ends
20 Feb	Term Starts
31 Mar	Term Ends
17 Apr	INSET Day
18 Apr	Term Starts
26 May	Term Ends
5 June	Term Starts
7 Jul	INSET Day
21 July	Term Ends

## Diary Dates

### 2022/2023

08 Nov	Yr 3 Birch parent consultations
09 Nov	Family photos
10 Nov	Yr 5 cake sale
10 Nov	Visit from Jonny Williams
10 Nov	Whole School Flu Vaccination
10 Nov	Yr 3 Birch parent consultations
12 Nov	PTA Fireworks
15 Nov	Parent Consultations
15 Nov	Book Fair
17 Nov	Parent Consultations
17 Nov	Book Fair
18 Nov	Children In Need
25 Nov	Secret Presents and own clothes day
02 Dec	Own clothes day for Christmas fair donations
03 Dec	PTA Christmas Fair
09 Dec	Uniform Sale
14 Dec	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch day
20 Jan	KS2 Disco
27 Jan	EYFS/KS1 Disco
19 Jun	KOOTH Visit—Year 6

New dates/times in blue

**Tom Williams has a slot to start guitar lessons immediately! Acoustic/Electric, all levels & years 1+ welcome. First come first served. Contact Tom directly 07736051082 / [tom-williamsmusic@hotmail.com](mailto:tom-williamsmusic@hotmail.com)**



**The Scholastic book fair is back!** Children will have the opportunity to purchase books during parent consultations on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 3.15pm to 6.30pm in the lower hub in Oak Building.

All purchases help our school earn rewards so that we can buy more fantastic books for our libraries.

**Come and see what is on offer!**