

# Woodlands Weekly



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

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**www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk**

**1st December 2023**

**Newsletter No. 112**

This week, Alan Edwards came to visit Year 1 to show toys that he used to play with when he was younger. As well as a puppet and the game 'Hoop The Penguin', Mr Edwards also showed a castle which had been made of 4,762 matchsticks! The children compared the toys he showed them to the toys they usually play with including iPads and remote control cars as part of their history topic.



This week year 2 has been focused on programming on Scratch Junior. They have learnt how to input commands to make our 'sprites' (characters) output various actions like movement, speech and size.

Recently, Year 3 have been reading the book 'Dear Earth' by Isobel Otter, which was recommended to us by Mrs Brown. The children have been discussing how humans are damaging the earth and what we can do to help it instead. They made promises to take care of the land, the oceans and the animals.



As part of their Science topic on Forces, Year 5 had the opportunity to learn about how we measure the force of gravity on objects. They learned about the difference between 'mass' and 'weight' and how these are measured. They were introduced to Newton meters and worked together to measure the amount of force acting against different objects.

Well done to members of Journalism Club who featured in FYI Sky Kids News this weekend. They were asked what message they have for our world leaders. You can see what they said by watching the episode here

[FYI episode 245 - First News Education](#)

We will keep you informed of further episodes where our children may be featured.

Have a good weekend and keep warm – the colds a-coming!!

Best wishes,

Vicki Lonie

## Car Park Reminder

Only parents with direct permission from the school should be using the car park on the grounds of disability/special circumstances. We have seen a few parents sneak in recently (you know who you are! :-)) The car park is for staff parking. Breakfast club parents are reminded to park temporarily in the spaces on the left as you enter the site.

## Christmas Cards

If your child wishes to send Christmas cards to their friends, please ensure the envelope has:

- First name
- Last name
- Class name

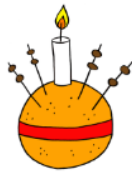
There will be a post box in both KS1 and KS2.

## Joke of the week

Why was the basketball court wet?  
Because the players dribbled all over it.  
Henry M, 5 Rowan

## Christingle

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December Reverend Kirsty will be taking a Christingle service in each Key Stage. She will be showing KS1 how to make a Christingle and what it means. In KS2 (year 3 upwards) all the children will have an opportunity to make their own Christingle. Please could each child in KS2 bring in a bag or plastic box containing 1 orange, 1 small candle, 4 cocktail sticks and some dried fruit e.g. raisins. Please bring this in on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December. Thank you.



## Guitar lessons

Tom Williams is now taking names for pupils who would like to start guitar lessons in January! Acoustic/Electric Rock/Pop years 1 and up, beginners very welcome! Contact Tom: [tomwilliamsmusic@hotmail.com](mailto:tomwilliamsmusic@hotmail.com) / 07736051082



## Woodwind Lessons

Please contact Miss Catterwell if you are interested in your child learning a woodwind instrument. She also teaches beginner trumpet and cornet. Vacancies available. Please contact her on 07713164930 or [n.catterwell@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:n.catterwell@hotmail.co.uk)



## Superstar corner

Congratulation to Sofia from 3 Whitebeam on getting Bronze medal in Judo Competition last Saturday. She had to withdraw from competition due to pulling her shoulder muscle, so could not compete for Silver or Gold. But despite this, she managed to keep her spirit high! We are super proud of her!



## Job vacancies

[Teaching Assistant \(32.5\)Teaching/Child Support at Woodlands Primary School, TONBRIDGE \(\[kent-teach.com\]\(http://kent-teach.com\)\)](#)

## Year 3

In RE lessons this term Year 3 have been learning how the Bible can help Christians when they need advice. To finish our learning, we created our own class book of 'Wise Words', which we can turn to when we are in times of trouble or need a confidence boost!

In DT, our project this term has been sewing Christmas cushions. We learnt the skills of cross-stitch and applique and used this to create our Christmas themed crafts! The Year 3 Team want to say a big well done to all the children for being so patient and persevering with these new tricky skills.



## INSET days next year

Following our trial this year with moving INSET days to create a two-week half-term for pupils, the following term dates will apply next year:

Term 1: 02/09/24 - 25/10/24

Term 2: 11/11/24 - 20/12/24

Term 3: 06/01/25 - 14/02/25

Term 4: 24/02/25 – 04/04/25

Term 5: 22/04/25 – 23/05/25

Term 6: 02/06/25 – 22/07/25

## School Lettings

Woodlands school are now able to offer lettings of the Oak Hall, Muga and Field.

Letting charges evening (up to 5pm) / weekend users

Hall £20 per hour + £30 unlock and lock

Muga £35 per hour + £30 unlock and lock

Field £50 per hour + £30 unlock and lock

Please contact the school business manager for bookings on [SBM@woodlands.kent.sch.uk](mailto:SBM@woodlands.kent.sch.uk)

## Forest school competition

Our 2 amazing forest school areas need a name!

We would like the children to get imaginative and submit an entry for naming them.



Please email [tbrown@woodlands.kent.sch.uk](mailto:tbrown@woodlands.kent.sch.uk).

5 forest school area names will be picked and then the children will vote for their favourites. The top 2 will win!

## Sporting News

On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November, ten children from Years 5 and 6 represented the school in a mixed basketball tournament at Leigh Academy. The children worked fantastically as a team and grew in character throughout the tournament resulting in the children producing a superb display in the final game – winning 15-5. As always, the children had so much fun and were a credit to the school. Emily R (6 Ash) said, “The basketball tournament was really good even though we didn’t win all our games. It was a great experience for us all.”



## Letters Home

- Year 5 Taster Lesson at MGGS
- Tonbridge & Malling Children’s Centre Christmas Timetable

## Diary Dates



2023/2024

4th Dec	AM - 3 Whitebeam performing at Waterside Care Home
	PM - 3 Birch performing at St Giles Care Home
4th Dec	Christingle
7th Dec	Reception Christmas performance 9.30am
7th Dec	LGBT information evening , 6pm
08 Dec	Reception Christmas performance 2.15
8th Dec	Year 3 Carol Concert (Methodist Church) 9.30am
8th Dec	Year 6 WWII song showcase 2.30pm
9th Dec	Christmas Fair
11th Dec	Year 1 Christmas performance 2.15pm
11th Dec	AM - 3 Elder performing at Waterside Care Home
12th Dec	Year 1 Christmas performance 9.30am
13th Dec	Christmas Dinner
14th Dec	Year 2 Christmas performance PM
15th Dec	Year 2 Christmas performance 9.30am
26th Jan	EYFS/KS1 disco’s
02nd Feb	KS2 Disco’s
08th Mar	Family Bingo
1st Jul—5th Jul	Year 6 Residential
New dates/times in blue	

## Term Dates

2023/2024

1 Sep	Term 1 Starts
20 Oct	Term 1 Ends
06 Nov	Term 2 Starts
15 Dec	Term 2 Ends
02 Jan	Term 3 Starts
09 Feb	Term 3 Ends
19 Feb	Term 4 Starts
28 Mar	Term 4 Ends
15 Apr	Term 5 Starts
24 May	Term 5 Ends
03 Jun	Term 6 Starts
23 Jul	Term 6 Ends