



# Woodcote Newsletter

13<sup>th</sup> April, 2018

## April

Fri 13<sup>th</sup> – James Dasaolu school visit and workshops

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> – Cargo Carrier 3M competition

Tues 24<sup>th</sup> Year 3 Tri-Golf

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Eco-Tech 3M Competition

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> – Oak Class Assembly – 2.30pm

## May

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> – Next Steps Year 6 Parents – session 1

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> – Marble Run 3M Competition

Weds 2<sup>nd</sup> – PGL Parents' Meeting 5.30pm

Fri 4<sup>th</sup> – Year 3/4 Greek Day

Mon 7<sup>th</sup> – May Day Bank Holiday

Weds 9<sup>th</sup> – 6.30pm New Starters Parents' Meeting

Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> – UEFA Football day @ Loughborough University

Fri 11<sup>th</sup> – Rowan Class Assembly

Week beginning Mon 14<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 Assessment week (SATs)

Tues 8<sup>th</sup> – Next Steps Year 6 Parents – session 2

Tues 15<sup>th</sup> – Next Steps Year 6 Parents – session 3

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> – Whole school Science Fair – am

Fri 18<sup>th</sup> – Year 6 Science afternoon at Ivanhoe

Mon 21<sup>st</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> PGL Boreatton Park

Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> – Next Steps Year 6 Parents – session 4

Fri 25<sup>th</sup> – Last day of half term

## June

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> – Summer Term begins

Tues 5<sup>th</sup> – Next Steps Year 6 Parents – session 5

Wed 6<sup>th</sup> – New Starters EYFS afternoon

## Welcome Back!

Welcome back to our Summer Term. As you will see from the dates added this is an incredibly busy term for all of the children. It is at this time of the year that we have to carry out more formal assessments with particular years groups

Our Year 6s will be taking their SATs assessments in May. We are encouraging the children to try their best and use it as an opportunity to show what they have learnt during their time in Primary School. The SATs only test a tiny fraction of what the children learn in school and all children have a whole wealth of skills and strengths quite apart from the English and Maths that are formally tested. We don't want the children to worry about these assessments, and we feel very strongly as a school not to 'teach to the test' and carry out numerous practice tests. We want to prepare the children for their next stage of education not just prepare them for a test that is only a reflection on how well they 'perform' on that specific day. Our children will try their very best and that is all that we can ask for.

Year 2 will also be taking their Key Stage 1 SATs. These are carried out in a less formal way and are used to help to inform the teachers' judgement on deciding whether each child has reached the expected standard or not. Unlike the Key Stage 2 SATs, these tests are not sent away to be externally marked and it is the Teacher Assessment that is recorded, not the test score.

Year 1s will be having their phonics check in June. This is carried out one to one with each child and checks to see whether they have reached the expected standard in phonics. Any child who did not achieve the standard last year, will also be re-checked in Year 2.

All Teacher Assessments will be reported to you on the end of year report. Your recent parents' consultation meeting will also have given you a good idea of whether you child is expected to reach the end of year expectations and what they need to do in order to improve further. If you weren't able to come along to the meeting, please do call the school and another appointment can be arranged.

## Today!

We have been so lucky to have James Dasaolu visit us today and complete workshops with children from Year 2 upwards. The children all had an opportunity to ask James questions and he talked about perseverance, resilience and the hardwork needed to achieve success. The children had an absolutely amazing afternoon and particularly enjoyed seeing his medal! We're so grateful to James for giving up his time to visit our school.



**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> – Sports Day Afternoon – followed by picnic on the field**  
**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> – Birch Class Assembly – 2.30pm**  
Mon 11<sup>th</sup> – EYFS & KS1 visit to Forest Farm Park  
Week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 phonics Check  
Tues 12<sup>th</sup> – Next Steps Year 6 Parents – session 6  
Weds 13<sup>th</sup> – Class Photographs  
**Weds 13<sup>th</sup> - New Starters EYFS afternoon**  
**Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> – Reserve Sports Day Afternoon (if previous week is wet)**  
Fri 15<sup>th</sup> – Fathers’ Day Breakfast  
Weds 20<sup>th</sup> – Unity Celebration Evening  
**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> – New Starters EYFS afternoon**  
**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> – Pine Class Assembly – 2.30pm**  
**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> – Summer Fair**  
**Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> – New Starters EYFS afternoon**  
**Fri 29<sup>th</sup> – Ash Class Assembly – 2.30pm**

**July**  
**Fri 6<sup>th</sup> – Hawthorn Class Assembly – 2.30pm**  
**Mon 9<sup>th</sup> – End of year reports sent home (SATs results will not be in at this point)**  
**Tues 10<sup>th</sup> – Leavers’ Performance – 6.30pm**  
**Weds – Leavers’ Disco – 6.30pm**  
Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> – Children’s last day of term  
**Thurs 12<sup>th</sup> – Leavers’ Assembly – Time TBC**  
**Fri 13<sup>th</sup> – STAFF ONLY – INSET 1<sup>st</sup> Aid training**

## Contact us:

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## Parental Questionnaire

Thank you to the parents of 40 children who responded to our recent questionnaire. We were overwhelmed by the positivity and the comments and have looked carefully at the suggestions given as to how we can further improve as a school. This is something that the governing body will look at in more detail over their coming meetings. A summary of the questionnaires will be shared with you shortly.

Well done to Ms Bullock whose questionnaire was randomly selected. We will be in touch next week to pass on your prize. 😊

## Online Gaming

We have had a spate of fallouts over the Easter holidays concerning children messaging each other inappropriately whilst playing online games. Parents have reported that insults and inappropriate language has been used.

On the back of this, over the past term we have noticed an increase in pretend violence in playground games, which inevitably leads to accidents and games getting out of hand. For the vast majority of cases, children who have been involved in the playground games have also been spending a lot of time out of school playing violent electronic games (games involving shooting, fighting and killing the opposition).

As a parent, we know it is incredibly difficult to not allow your child to play these games, particularly when their other friends are playing them and you don’t want your child to be excluded from an online friendship group. However, this is having a dramatic affect on the children’s imaginative play. Whilst this seems to be mainly involving children in Year 4 upwards, there have recently been cases where children as young as 4 have been graphically describing and reenacting violence – not that we are saying they are playing the games, but they are witnessing older siblings or parents playing them instead. Even with the volume turned down (to avoid the inappropriate language) the images do affect the children.

One of our parents recently shared with us an Xbox App for her phone, this allowed her to see all conversations that were taking place between the friends online. She was shocked by some of the language and the way they spoke to each other.

Fortnite is one game that has really taken off. The recommended age for this game is 12, however, we know that some of our 7 and 8 years old are playing it regularly. Whilst I believe that the scenes aren’t as graphic as they could have been, the aim of the game is to kill off your opposition and use gun skills and strategy – this is why it has been rated a 12!

The other concern about online gaming is that not all ‘children’ logging on (befriending your children, playing the games and messaging) are actually children. This is a huge concern for all of us. We do talk to the children about what to do if they are uncertain or worried about anything that they see or hear online. The NSPCC has some good resources for school and home to help you to keep your child safe online.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

## Ashby Easter Egg Hunt

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Ashby Easter Egg Hunt. We’re thrilled to say that our school was the winner of Healthiest School in Ashby. We achieved 22.7% of our children took part (39 children) which was the most out of the Ashby Schools. We have won £100 towards next year’s Club Actic8 subscription. Well done everyone!

## Name the Stag!

Bellway, who are currently building Ashtree Gardens development, have asked our children to name two stag sculptures and are running a competition to do so. They would like the sculptures’ names to have links to the local area. The winning children will each receive an art set, as well as knowing that they have named the sculpture. The children have two weeks to decide upon a name, we will collect the names at school and then pass them onto Bellway. Bellway have also donated a substantial amount of money to put towards some additional play equipment for the children. More details about this will follow shortly.

**The next Newsletter will be coming out after half term.**

**If we do need to inform you of any changes of dates etc. we will use the texting system and/or email to keep you updated.**