



# Woodcote News

28<sup>th</sup> January, 2019

## Dates for the Diary

### February

**Fri 5<sup>th</sup> – Rowan Class**

**Assembly**

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> – Y3 & 4

Parents lunch

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> – Birch Class**

**Assembly**

**Tues 12<sup>th</sup> – Y5/6**

**Gymnastics**

**Weds 13<sup>th</sup> – Y3/4**

**Gymnastics**

**Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> – Y1/2**

**Gymnastics**

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> – Hawthorn**

**Class Assembly**

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> – Last day of 1/2 term

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> – Children return to school

### March

**Fri 1<sup>st</sup> – Willow Class**

**Assembly**

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> – Y2 Parents lunch

**Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day: DRESS AS A BOOK CHARACTER**

**Fri 8<sup>th</sup> – Pine Class**

**Assembly**

**Tues 12<sup>th</sup> – Y3/4 Viking Day**

**Fri 15<sup>th</sup> – Ash Class**

**Assembly**

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> – Y3 & 5

Parents' meetings

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> – Y4 & 6

Parents' meetings

Weds 27<sup>th</sup> – EYFS & Y1

parents' meetings

Weds 27<sup>th</sup> – Parents' evening

Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> – Y2 Parents' meetings

**Fri 29<sup>th</sup> – Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea**

## This Term

It's hard to believe that we're half way through this half term already! The weeks are whizzing past and the children are working really hard across all areas of the curriculum. You should have received your Curriculum Fact Sheet which outlines what your child will be learning this term. If you haven't received it, just a reminder that all letters are available on the school's website.

## Wear a Funky Scarf!

On Friday we raised over £60 wearing Funky Scarves. Thank you for all of your donations. This was to support Charity Link who help local people in times of need. For more information about the charity please go to [www.charity-link.org](http://www.charity-link.org)

## Sporting Events

Well done to our Boccia team who did fantastically well and have got through to the semi-final. We will keep you updated on how well they do.

The children from Years 1 to 6 have all had a Judo lesson this week with British Judo. The children loved the experience and enjoyed throwing the adults to the floor! 😊

We have three teams of gymnasts who are ready to compete next week. The practices are going really well and the children are working so hard to learn the routines.

The girls in Year 1 are having football sessions every Friday for the next few weeks. The training is linked to storytelling and the Year 1s loved their first session last week.

## Contacting Parents

We have found that several of our parents have not been receiving the texts sent from school. In some cases, this is due to contact details not being updated. However, we've also noticed that if you have downloaded the Teachers2Parents app, it may not be so obvious that a message has come through, as you'll only receive notification via the app and this can be missed.

## The Big Battery Hunt

Last week the children were sent home with a box to collect used batteries. We have entered into the national initiative to recycle batteries. As well as teaching the children about recycling, we will also be entered into a competition and prize draw where we have a chance to win:

- A 2-night class trip to the sustainability centre
- A 3-year subscription to MyMaths worth £1,000
- £2000 worth of school equipment vouchers
- iPads
- Certificates and trophies

We have a large collection container inside the front office. Please come and drop your used batteries off as soon as you've filled your box. We also have lots of other boxes in school if you'd like to pass them on to family or friends. Thank you

## April

Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> – EYFS & Y1

Parents lunch

**Fri 5<sup>th</sup> – House Well-Being Morning, Easter Craft Afternoon, Easter Bonnet Parade**

Fri 5<sup>th</sup> – Last day of Spring Term

Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> – Children return to school – Summer Term

## May

Weds 1<sup>st</sup> – Y5 & 6

Parents lunch

Mon 6<sup>th</sup> – May Day Bank Holiday

Week beginning Mon 13<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Assessment week (SATs)

Fri 24<sup>th</sup> – Last day of half term

## June

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> – Children return to school

Week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> – Year 1 phonics Check

**Fri 7<sup>th</sup> – Fathers' Day Breakfast**

**Mon 10<sup>th</sup> – PGL Visit**

Weds 12<sup>th</sup> – Y2 Parents lunch

## July

Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> – EYFS & Year 1 Parents lunch

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> – Children's last day of term

## Contact us:

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office21@woodcote.leics.sch.uk

## Website:

woodcoteprimary.com

## Twitter:

@WoodcoteSchool

## Facebook:

Woodcote Ashby

## Severe Weather

Should the forecast snow make an appearance over the next few days, we will, wherever possible, keep our school open. The only exception to this will be if not enough staff are able to get into school or if the school site is considered not safe. On these rare occasions, the decision is made as early as possible; we do aim to let all parents know by 7.30am at the latest. If this is the case, we will text parents to let them know and will notify the local radio stations. We will also update our Facebook Page and Twitter.

As the weather is unpredictable, if a definitive decision cannot be taken this early, the Breakfast Club will not be opened until we are certain that the school will be open. If the weather takes a turn for the worse and it is necessary to close the school early, we will text all parents to let them know. The school will not close until all children have been collected.

All children are expected to attend school if the school is open and any not attending will have to be recorded as unauthorised. We do understand that when it snows it can take longer to get into school whether travelling by foot or car; bearing this in mind, the register will not be closed until later, meaning that your child will not be marked as late until after 9.20am.

## Parents' lunch

Bookings are now open for the Year 3 and 4 parents lunch which takes place on February 4<sup>th</sup>. To book your place, please visit: [www.schoolinterviews.co.uk](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk) using the code: t5gk8

## Social Media

This term we are having a real push on updating you via our social media accounts. The teachers are updating Twitter daily with the fantastic activities that your children are doing during the day. We have also started our own Instagram account – more details to follow soon.

Miss Tymon is looking into updating our website. We're hoping to have this up and running by next term. Until then, our current website will continue to have the letters uploaded onto it.

## Holiday Dates

After discussion with our local schools, during the next academic year we will be adopting Leicestershire's Local Authority holiday date patterns. Please be aware that the dates published on the Leicestershire website **do not** include the five training days. Our website dates, and those on the app, include the training days.

## School Gates

Our damaged school gate is finally being repaired today 😊 In order to keep our children safe, we will be continuing to close the gates at the beginning and at the end of the school day. This will prevent cars driving up across the entrance to the school at our busiest times.

For everyone's safety, please remember the following:

- If it is necessary for you to drive onto the school grounds at any point during the day or after school, can we please remind you to keep your speed at a walking pace.
- Please park considerately, being mindful not to block pathways or our neighbours' driveways
- Please walk up the path rather than on the driveway
- Please ask your children to push their bikes and scooters up the path

As a school we welcome your feedback in order to help us to develop further.

We also encourage you to share your views with Ofsted, this can be done at:

[parentview.ofsted.gov.uk](https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk)

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast club is available every day from 7.45am until the start of school. We do endeavour to keep the costs as low as possible in order to make it accessible for our families. The cost per day is £3.00. We believe that this is exceptional value for money and is run by school staff who know the children very well.

## Judo Club

Dan Harrison runs a before school judo club on a Tuesday in our school hall. Children from Year 1 upwards are welcome. No special kit is needed, just turn up at 7.45 in your PE kit and join in. The cost is £3.00 per session. Dan's sessions develop discipline, confidence, respect and self-awareness. It is an ideal way to improve cardiovascular fitness, endurance and core strength too whilst having fun.

## School Uniform

Just a reminder that the children in Key Stage 2 need to wear a white shirt and a tie to school every day. We are noticing that more children need to be spoken to about their uniform and the expectation is that every child looks their smartest, ready to come into school to learn.

All children should also be wearing black school shoes. We do appreciate that on occasions a child will need a new pair of shoes when you least expect it, and there may be very occasional times that your child may need to wear non-school shoes for a short period of time – but this is only during exceptional times.

Thank you for your support with this and thank you to the parents that ensure their children wear the correct uniform on a daily basis.

## This Year's Focus

As a school, we strive to continue to improve in order to give your child the very best education. To ensure this we have key areas of focus which are identified through observations, looking at children's work and data analysis, this is in addition to any external advisors who come into Woodcote (for example the Local Authority, OFSTED and colleagues from other schools).

**This year we will continue to build upon our key focus of having higher expectations and aspirations for all children.** We want our children to be positive and aim high – believing *and* achieving!

Other focused areas will feed into this, for example:

- Diminishing the gap between how well different children achieve
- Further improving the teaching of English and Maths so that more children are challenged and have consistently outstanding teaching and learning
- Improving children's attendance and punctuality
- Building on the Route to Resilience work, giving all children the opportunities and experiences to help them to succeed
- Giving more opportunities for outdoor learning and creative learning (further developing our 'Forest Schools')

We will also be continuing to work closely with parents and carers; encouraging parents to come in to share their own skills and celebrate achievements. If you have any time available to come into school, either as a regular volunteer or a one off, we would love to welcome you in. Please see your child's teacher or Mrs Jones.