



Woodcote News

28th March, 2019

Dates for the Diary

March

Fri 29th – Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea

April

Weds 3rd – EYFS & Y1 Parents lunch

Thurs 4th – Y1 & 2

Warwick Castle

Fri 5th – House Well-Being Morning, Easter Craft Afternoon, Easter Bonnet Parade

Fri 5th – Last day of Spring Term

Tues 23rd – Children return to school – Summer Term

May

Weds 1st – Y5 & 6 Parents lunch

Mon 6th – May Day Bank Holiday

Week beginning Mon 13th – Y6 Assessment week (SATs)

Thurs 23rd – Netball tournament

Fri 17th – Science Fair Morning

Fri 24th – Sports Day afternoon

Fri 24th – Last day of half term

June

Mon 3rd – Children return to school

Tues 4th – Sports Day backup day

Week beginning 10th – Year 1 phonics Check

Fri 7th – Fathers' Day Breakfast

Mon 10th – PGL Visit

Weds 12th – Y2 Parents lunch

This Term

We've had a very busy term and it was lovely to see so many of you during our parent consultation meetings. The conversations with you are so valuable and help us to support your children further. After feedback, we will be holding an additional parents' meeting later in the year. More details will be sent out next week.

Lots of exciting learning has taken place this term. Year 3 & 4 have had a Viking Day and found out what it was like to be a Viking. Year 1 & 2 have had their Knight & Squire day where they all carried out challenges to become knighted. Year 5 & 6 have built some fantastic models and were able to discuss their scientific knowledge for the 3M challenge. EYFS have loved their forest school sessions, exploring the forest and planting more trees.

Thanks to everyone who came along to our first car boot sale last week. We will be holding another sale on Sunday 19th May. We'll send more details out after Easter.

Mothers' Day Afternoon Tea

For our annual Mothers' Day tea, we are following the same format as the Fathers' Day breakfast this year. All mums, step-mums, aunts and grandmothers are invited to come into school tomorrow afternoon. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served from 2pm and the choir will be singing a selection of their songs to entertain you. You will then be able to go into your child's class to spend some time with them.

We do hope that you can come and join us.

Parents' lunch

Bookings are now open for Ash and Pine Class (EYFS & Year 1) parents' lunch which takes place on April 3rd. To book your place, please visit: www.schoolinterviews.co.uk using the code: **t3prk**

Year 6

We would just like to say how proud we are of our Year 6 children in preparation for the challenges that they face ahead. SATs club has been very popular this year (nothing to do with the biscuits!) and the teaching staff across the school have enjoyed working with the children, seeing how far they have come.

SATs only assess a fraction of what our children learn at school and **all** of our children have skills and talents that may never be formally tested. Children across the school have a wide and varied curriculum and the staff look for opportunities to make learning fun and memorable. The learning opportunities that the children are given, help them to grow their knowledge and skills as well as developing their character 'muscles'. Perseverance, teamwork, resilience, independence, courage etc. are all life skills that we do not test, but are essential for the children to develop in order to help with their future learning. We are proud of achieving our Route to Resilience accreditation, but we are even more proud when we see our children use these characteristics every day in school.

Choir

Well done to our school choir who sang beautifully at the joint school concert. If you haven't heard them, there's a video clip on our Facebook page. Thank you Mrs Webb for giving up so much time to support our children and give them these opportunities.

Fri 28th – Race for Life
Fri 28th – Summer Fair

July

Weds 3rd – EYFS & Year
1 Parents lunch

**Thurs 4th – Class swap
day**

4th & 5th –

**Year 6 Ivanhoe
induction**

Fri 12th – Children's last
day of term

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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

Sporting Events

On our last newsletter, we let you know that our Boccia team got through to the semi-final. The team were amazing, winning overall in North West Leicestershire and bringing home a fantastic trophy. The team then got to spend a day competing against children from all over Rutland & Leicestershire. It was a wonderful experience for all four children.

This year, two of our cross country runners, Isaac and Jacob, made it through to the County final. Unfortunately, only one was available to run on the day but we are so proud of them for being selected. It was a gruelling course but with perseverance and determination, it was completed. Well done!

Well done to the Year 5 football team who have competed in various matches across the term. The children have worked really hard on their teamwork and this has consistently improved from match to match. Thanks to Mr Massingham for volunteering so much of his time to train the children and support them during matches.

Mornings

It has been lovely to see the children growing in independence during the mornings walking to their classroom. After Easter, only children will be able to go into the playground in the mornings but if you do have a message for the teachers, Mrs Foster (in the office) will happily pass it on. If you do have any large instruments (or homework projects) these can also be dropped off at the reception.

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

Please send in your batteries to recycle when you can. You can empty your box into the collection point (in the reception) and refill it. We do have spare boxes in school if you wanted to pass them on to family and friends. 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 lots of prizes for the children.

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.

Miss Tymon is in the process of creating us a new website. We're hoping to have this up and running during the summer term. Until then, our current website will continue to have the letters uploaded onto it.

Easter Parade

Next Friday we will be holding our Easter Parade. The children in Ash, Pine and Hawthorn will be decorating an Easter bonnet. Please could you send a hat into school next week that they can decorate. Birch, Oak, Rowan and Willow class will be decorating eggs (which we will provide). If your child would like to bring in anything to decorate their hat or egg with, they can do. You are welcome to come into school to help your child from 1.30pm. The parade will then start at 2.30pm where the PTFA will be serving refreshments.

Children's Centre

You may be aware that the children's centre has now closed. We are currently in the process of preparing the building so that it may be used as part of our school. We are hoping that this can be used for children with additional needs who may need a little extra support. The proposal has been approved by the Local Authority and we are awaiting confirmation from the Department for Education. We will keep you updated when we hear more news.

Parent Governor

If you are interested in becoming a parent governor, please return your nomination form to us by: **Tuesday 2nd April**

Our current parent governors are: Jane Lima, Rachel Walsh and Josie Jackson, and our Co-opted governors are: Tim Massingham (Vice Chair) and Gary Sirrell. Our Local Authority governors is: Steve Parker (Chair). I'm sure that they would all happily have a chat with you if you needed more information or want to know what the role involves.

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.

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.

Unless there are exceptional circumstances, term-time holidays cannot be authorised. Any unauthorised absences could lead to you being fined by the Local Authority.

This Year's Focus

This year we are continuing 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.