



Woodland Grange Primary NEWSLETTER November 2019

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www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk

 @Woodland_Grange



A change in the seasons

November is always a time for reflection. It is a month full of celebrations from Diwali & Bonfire night to the important task of remembering those that gave their life in conflict with Remembrance Day (made all the more poignant with the upcoming 75th anniversary of VE day).

At school we are also reflecting on what has already happened this term, whilst looking ahead to December, Christmas & the end of term (it's never too early!) A huge thank you everyone who came along to our Autumn parents' evenings. We hope that you left feeling reassured that your child has had a positive start to their new school year, knowing any areas of concern and what you can do to support them at home.

Many year groups have already had school trips: Year 3 & 4 visited Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre (for a Tudor & Roman day respectively). Year 4 also visited Flag Fen and Year 5 had a Greek day at Conkers. Year groups have also been working very hard in the classroom. It was lovely for school governors to visit and speak so warmly about the amazing work that they saw taking place.

We are also looking ahead to the remaining weeks of term. During November we will be supporting Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need, which is an opportunity for children to think about issues that can affect many children. Road Safety week will also be taking place this month. We hope all children (and parents) will take note of the key messages, including learning about the Highway Code and crossing the road safely. At the end of the month we will be breaking out the glitter and glue (not to mention mince pies) ready for decorations day, we hope to see you then.

School Governors

We would like to thank Mr Mo Chatra for many years of service as both a school governor and chair of governors. He is moving on to start a new position and will be replaced by Mrs Sheetal Patel and Mrs Najma Sabat, our new co-chairs. We would also like to thank Mr Amit Kanabar, who is stepping down, for his work as governor.

Our governing body is incredibly important and we see them as part of our school family. For more details of the role they fulfil as well as a full list of school governors please visit the school website and click on 'Governance'.

Reading Champions!

Reading is a crucial part of any child's education and we want to praise those children who have a love of reading (regardless of their ability). Every half term teachers will choose a 'Reading Champion' from their class. These specially selected children will be awarded a certificate and a badge and have their success celebrated in our Reading Champion display (in the hall). In return we want the children to write about a favourite book, author or simply write about why reading is important to them. At the end of term each Reading Champion will also be entered into a draw for a special prize organised by the Friends of Woodland Grange.

FOWG NEWS

FoWG have organised their first events of the new school year.

The popular **Hallowe'en** discos were well attended and proved to be a spooky success! Parents got to grips with online ticketing and the children had a brilliant time. A huge thank you to everyone that helped to organise and volunteered on the night.

The next event planned is the **Diwali** evening on Friday November 22nd, tickets are on sale now. The evening will include a live DJ, food, henna and lots more. **Don't forget Samosa Friday too!**

Later in the term we will also be organising our regular **Festive FOWG** event. This will take place on Friday December 13th. To contact FOWG head to the school office or email:

fowg@woodlandgrange.leics.sch.uk



Music at WGPS

We are delighted to let parents know that we have been awarded the 'Music Mark' for schools.



SCHOOL
MEMBER

Music has always been an important feature at Woodland Grange. Children have opportunity to learn a wide range of musical instruments in Key Stage 2. In Year 4 we have ensemble music teaching for every child. We also have a school choir and orchestra and are always looking for ways to link up with other schools and organisations to promote and raise the profile of music in school.

A huge thank you to Mrs Cobbold and every other member of the school team that is involved in music at our school.

Feeling Fit & Getting Active

The school year is now in full swing and (despite the weather) there have been lots of sporty and active things happening around school. We are looking forward to the rearranged completion of the Cross Country League (hopefully happening soon). The girls football team have been competing in a competition at South Wigston High School. The Year 6 football team will also be looking ahead to playing some matches very soon (once the field dries out!) Year 3 & 4 pupils will be taking part in the Change for Life festival later in November. Many children have benefitted from the Big Moves club that's been happening before school. It's great to see the improvements that have been made and also the additional impact in the classroom. Mr Flanagan and Mr Pickering have been busy completing the Bikeability training in Year 6 (75% of pupils in Year 6 have passed the award). They have also set up balance bike training for Foundation Stage children—getting them started on their cycling journey! Finally we have welcomed in Jack from Oadby & Wyggestonian Rugby Club who has been working with children in Key Stage 2, helping them practise their skills and giving them an opportunity to try a new sport.



Parking Issues

We would urge all parents to not park on the zig zag lines outside of school. Even if it is just a quick drop off or pick up, blocking the area immediately outside of school is dangerous for any pedestrians crossing Beaufort Way especially when they have younger children. Please be courteous and respect the parking signs outside our school. There seems to have been a recent rise in parents ignoring the markings. The rules are there for everyone to follow, thank you.



E-Safety update: Loot Boxes

If your children enjoy online gaming then you may be familiar with 'Loot Boxes'. They are virtual items users can purchase in games with real money. In the box users will find a randomised selection of items that customise or alter the user's experience of the game. **Loot Boxes** can be found in many of the most popular games including Fortnite and FIFA. They are exciting and offer the user the opportunity to win 'big' in the game, in many cases they are able to make multiple purchases. However there are some risks. In the news there have been stories of children racking up thousands of pounds in purchases within games. One child reportedly spent over £3,000!



Make sure that your child is using **Loot Boxes** safely and responsibly. Talk to them about this issue in a calm and open way. Explain that **Loot Boxes** cost real money and encourage repeat-purchases. It is important that they respect any rules that you have set about money and responsibility. Both Microsoft and PlayStation allow you to set spending limits on your account.

If your child gets into trouble with this issue than contact the game publisher. In September 2019, MPs called for loot boxes to be regulated under gambling law and ban their sale to children. For additional information go to www.saferinternet.org



Chance to Dance

A **BIG** well done to one of our Year 6 pupils who recently took part in a prestigious show called 'Chance to Dance'. Nyah, who is part of the Leicester Dance Company, performed 2 pieces during the show: a ballet piece called 'Paper Planes' and an energetic Musical Theatre piece entitled 'One Vision'. The performance took place at the Birmingham Hippodrome in early November. All the dancers did amazingly well and executed a fantastic performance.

Well done Nyah!



Beavers and Cubs

A reminder that Beavers and Cubs are meeting every Thursday between 6pm and 8pm in the school hall. Come along and join in the fun!

Yoga

Yoga sessions will be continuing to run in the school hall every Tuesday beginning at 6.30pm. The sessions are open to anyone (beginner to expert) and will cost £6.00 per session.

Mats can be provided.

ADULTS ONLY PLEASE

Dates:

- 11/11: Anti-Bullying Week
- 11/11: Remembrance Day
- 12/11: Odd Socks Day
- 15/11: Children in Need 2019
- 18/11: Road Safety Week
- 22/11: FOWG Diwali disco
- 29/11: Decorations Day
- 2 & 3/12: Foundation Stage & Preschool Nativity
- 10 & 11/12: Year 4 & 5 Christmas production
- 13/12: KS1 at St Peter's Church, Oadby

All dates can be found on the school website. Visit www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk and click on the calendar on the homepage...