



Woodland Grange Primary NEWSLETTER February 2020

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 @Woodland_Grange

It's incredible to think that we are now approaching the halfway point of this academic year, where has the time gone? One thing about school is that there is always something happening and it has definitely been a busy half term. We have had a positive response to our mid-year reports from parents. The reports not only show where your child is working at this point of the year but also how they are working with our learning attitude score. The ability to work independently, support others and get involved in lessons is incredibly important and will have a massive impact during their time with us.



We have also completed our Spring term parents' evening appointments. Teachers understand the importance of good quality support at home and the results it can bring. Sharing your child's learning and discussing what they have done at school is valuable for you and your child. We thank parents for everything that they do at home.

Finally it was brilliant to welcome the Spark Arts Festival back into school this half term. They brought in two different shows for the children to watch, both of which were fantastic. The children really enjoyed the performances. Making sure they get to have these experiences is something that we value at Woodland Grange and we will continue to welcome these opportunities into school.

Getting Active

We have recently had a special visitor in our Monday assembly. 'Active Anita' is the mascot for Active Travel month.

Active travel month is happening throughout March. We want our children to think about how they travel to and from school. Active Travel aims to increase the number of children travelling to school by walking, cycling and scooting. Actively travelling to school has many benefits for our pupils. It helps to keep them fit and healthy, can increase concentration levels in class, helps to develop road safety skills and above all is fun! An additional benefit is reducing the congestion outside school. It will also help to make our area quieter and safer for all.

In May we will also be promoting 'Walk to School' week. This is our annual drive to try and get as many children walking to school as possible. It's on from the 18th to 22nd May, more details soon.

POETRY BY
HEART

We are poets, and we know it!

We have been gripped by **poetry fever** at Woodland Grange this term. On Monday pupils from Year 5 & 6 performed their poems in the hall in front of our 'judging panel' (Mrs Francis, Mrs Bailey & Mr Parker) and the rest of their year groups. Class winners were awarded as well as an overall winner who will now be entered into the regional (& possibly national) finals. Well done to Dishan.

Years 3 & 4 also chose class winners from their performances. Pupils in Key Stage 1 chose & practised their poems as a class.

On Friday 14th February as part of our assembly we heard all the individual winners as well as Year 1 & 2 class poems. The standard from all the children was amazing. Not only had they learnt their poems by heart but also they were able to bring them to life when they were performed.

We also welcomed in parents from the winning entrants in Key Stage 2 to listen to the performances. It was great to see them enjoying the poems as much as the children, proud parents indeed!

Special thanks to Miss Smith for organising the competition in school and making sure everyone was involved. Class teachers also deserve a special mention for getting behind the competition along with parents for helping their children learn their poems.

Thanks also to Kibworth Books for supplying the prizes.



Active Anita came to visit us in assembly.

Being Safe in the Online World

E-safety is something that we take very seriously at Woodland Grange and we have recently taken part in safer internet day 2020. The theme for this year was: **Together for a Better Internet**. The online world is an incredible place. Technology is constantly evolving and is a daily feature of all our lives. In assemblies and classrooms we have been thinking about the different areas of e-safety and the key messages that we must all remember. At school we have our **SMART** rules:



S	Safe: do not give out personal information.
M	Meeting: never meet up with anyone that you only know online.
A	Accepting: think about accepting messages from people you don't know, is it safe?
R	Reliable: not everything on the internet is true!
T	Tell: ALWAYS tell a trusted adult if you are worried about anything online.

There are lots of really useful websites that parents can visit to find out more about e-safety:

internetmatters.org

Lots of advice for parents on a variety of e-safety issues

saferinternet.org

Home of the UK safer internet centre

nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe

A variety of tips and advice

Much of the work we do in school centres around these rules. We want our young people to be 'share aware'. In other words once you've posted it, you have no control over it. We want them to question things that seem 'too good to be true' online especially when they are playing games. We want them to consider whether they really know someone or just know them 'online'. Above all we want parents and children to share what they do online and talk about the associated risks.

A Spark of Excitement

A huge thank you to Mrs Chadwick who coordinated our annual Sparks performances. KS1 watched **SAME SAME BUT DIFFERENT** a blend of dance with music and storytelling. KS2 were lucky enough to see **MR SWING & THE BEAT RANGERS** which combined break dancing, beat boxing and music. The children were enthralled by both shows and the performances were fantastic. Don't forget that Sparks Arts Festival is on until February 16th (some events are free) visit **sparkarts.co.uk** for more information. *The festival offers the unique opportunity for families to enjoy music, dance, comedy and drama.*



Well done to one of our pupils who recently became Taekwondo Midlands Champion. Alina overcame many other competitors to become the overall Yellow belt winner...

Amazing!



Friends Of Woodland Grange

The Friends are looking forward to their next school event. They will be holding **CRAFTY BOOKS** on Friday 28th February. The event will combine book related craft projects such as masks and bookmarks with quizzes and much more. Look out for posters around school. Later on after half term they will also be organising our annual Spring discos and a special event for Sport Relief (more details coming soon).

As ever we are eternally grateful to all the Friends. Without their dedication and hard work we would struggle to fund many of the projects that are ongoing around school.

The next FOWG meeting is on: **Thursday 5th March**. 7pm in the staffroom.



PE at Woodland Grange

The Spring term is proving to be a busy time for all things sporty at WGPS.

We have recently entered teams in basketball and dodgeball competitions. The basketball team comprised of pupils from Year 5 & 6. The team worked together really well and showed great enthusiasm and team spirit. In dodgeball our KS2 team made it all the way to the final where we were narrowly beaten. However, we have done enough to progress to the next stage of the competition at Lutterworth later this term.

We also sent along a group of pupils to a GALS (Girls Active Lifestyles) event. Our girls tried out various sports including judo and had a great time.

Finally on Thursday 13th February we took part in the Oadby & Wigston schools cross country selection race. Several of our children have made the team and will represent our area in the finals at Prestwold Hall on Saturday 29th February, very exciting!

Important dates:

Wb 17th February:	Half term break
28th February:	FOWG Book event
5th March:	World Book Day 2020
5th March:	FOWG meeting
13th March:	Sport Relief 2020
27th March:	FOWG Spring discos

Don't forget: All dates can be found on the school website calendar. Visit www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk and click on the calendar on the homepage...