



Woodland Grange Primary NEWSLETTER ~ October 2020

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 @Woodland_Grange

Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much. *(Helen Keller)*

The Autumn term is certainly continuing to prove eventful and not always in a way we would like. Whilst we continue to keep things as normal as we can in school, we know that events outside have been difficult to manage and are constantly changing. We are hugely grateful to our amazing staff who continue to shoulder the risks and responsibilities, stepping in wherever they're needed. Parents, we are also grateful to you for supporting us in our decisions and also responding positively to any changes in government guidance. Finally our pupils have also been amazing. Their positivity (even when returning from self isolation) is incredible and their smiles and enthusiasm have helped to brighten each day at school. They are a credit to their families.



Microsoft Teams

For any pupils that have to self-isolate during the COVID pandemic we will continue to provide online learning through our year group Learn sites.

We are also launching **Microsoft Teams** to run alongside (and eventually replace) them. Mr Mason (our IT technician) has set up usernames and passwords which we have now shared with parents (along with a guide to online learning and protocol for live lessons). We hope this will offer children the chance to access live (or pre-recorded) lessons and have the opportunity to engage more with their class teacher. We have already started this in Years 2 and 4 with very positive results.

Safety Covid update

Following our last newsletter we wanted to keep everyone updated on Covid at Woodland Grange. Unfortunately we have had confirmed cases in different year groups which has resulted in them self isolating for a set period of time.

Cases in Oadby and Wigston remain high and we fully expect that there will be more cases in school.

We are now expecting everyone entering the school to wear a mask and to observe social distancing around school at all times.

The one way system appears to be working well and we have now altered the drop off zone in Year 2 to ease traffic in and around the caged playground.

We are now asking all parents & visitors to wear a mask on school ground.



Please remember to be socially distant in the playground at the beginning and end of the day (2m or 6ft).

Curriculum evenings

Unfortunately we have not been able to invite parents and carers in to school for our usual curriculum evening meetings this year. Teachers have produced a virtual presentation with narration that will hopefully answer any questions you might have at the start of the year. These will be available on the school website as soon as possible.

Autumn Parents Evenings

This year our parents evening appointments will be made via a telephone call. Parents can still sign up in a similar way to previous years with a timed slot. Teachers will then call each family in turn (please be patient) for the 10 minute appointment to discuss the start of the year. The focus will be on how they have settled back into school. The dates are:

Wednesday 28th October

Monday 2nd November

Wednesday 4th November



Friends of Woodland Grange

Due to recent events FOWG are being creative about ways to raise funds on behalf of the children of Woodland Grange Primary School.

With that in mind they have set up a Woodland Grange Primary School lottery! This has been organised specifically to raise money and make a

difference for the children of our school.

It's a fantastic way to bring Parents, Teachers and the wider community together, in partnership with our school, and at the same time give something back. They hope to raise funds that can support and enrich the education of our children, and aim to provide extra resources for the children, improve the school environment as well as much, much more!

Your support is greatly appreciated and we wish you good luck!

The first draw will take place at the end of October and we will keep you updated on it's progress in future newsletters. Look out for more virtual fundraisers in school as the year progresses. To play, visit:

www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/woodland-grange-primary-school



Poetry by Heart

We are pleased to announce that we were winners in the recent Poetry by Heart competition. Well done to Riya – who was highly commended for her poetry recital. She received a certificate and £10 book voucher. Well done to Dishan (who left us in July) who was the regional winner for his recital of 2 poems: ‘The Secret Place’ and ‘Someone’(which can be viewed on) poetryby-heart.org.uk. Sadly, the trip to the National Poetry Library was stopped by Covid. However, Dishan received a wonderful Record of Achievement as well as feedback on his performance. He also received a certificate, £10 book voucher, goodie bag and poetry books. What a prize!

Reading Champions

As we move through the Autumn term we are on the look out once again for our class reading champions. Teachers will nominate a member of the class who has demonstrated a fantastic attitude to reading or someone who has shown great perseverance with their reading. As well as receiving a special certificate and badge each winner will get the chance to win a book voucher (courtesy of Kibworth Books). Good luck and get reading!

Virtual PE

Whilst we are not able at the moment to enter school sports competitions in the usual way, we are pleased to report that Woodland Grange is getting involved with some ‘virtual’ competitions including a 5km running event. Mr Evans has organised year groups in KS2 to complete a timed relay for 5000m, we will keep you updated on their progress.

There are upcoming competitions for striking and fielding, athletics and football dribbling before the end of term. Mr Evans is also entering a KS1 team for a relay competition (once everyone has returned from self isolation). Many thanks to LSLSSP for organising these competitions across our area.



Walk

Cycle

Scot

Park with care

Parking at Woodland Grange

We are becoming increasingly aware that some parents are continuing to park around school in a way that causes problems for other road users. Whilst we understand the pressures on parking outside school, we would remind all parents to be considerate when doing so.

Do not park on the zigzag lines (even to drop off and pick up pupils)

Do not park close to/obstruct junctions (see Rule 243 of the Highway code **‘You must not park within 10m (32ft) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space.’**)

Do not block or use residents driveways.

As you can see by the pictures sent in by other parents, it is an issue that can only be solved by everyone playing their part.



Online Safety

It is more important than ever for parents to understand and support their children with online safety. Children may want to download new apps and games or set up social media accounts. We are expecting children to access learning online especially if they are self isolating. O2 and the NSPCC have set up an advice line for parents to call if they have any questions about parental controls or privacy setting. Call: **0800 800 5002**. Talking to your child about their screen time, livestreaming and video apps and being safe on social media platforms such as Tik Tok, is more important than ever. We will keep our e-safety web page up to date with further advice and guidance as well.

Diary Dates:

All dates can be found on our school website calendar:

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------------|
| 19/10/20: | Autumn Half term |
| 28/10/20: | Immunisations |
| 28/10/20: | Parents’ evening |
| 30/10/20: | FOWG Hallowe’en non-uniform day |
| 2/11/20: | Parents’ evening |
| 4/11/20: | Parents’ evening |