



Woodland Grange Primary NEWSLETTER ~ November 2020

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Staying positive

As we move through the second half of the autumn term, it seems more important than ever to see the positives in the ongoing difficult times that we are all going through. School remains a place of optimism (thanks to your children and our amazing staff) and the support of our parents and carers is as important as ever.

A few year groups have now experienced online learning during self isolation. Children have responded well to the adjustment, continuing to work hard at home and join in with live lessons. Teachers said that it was great to see their classes and have enjoyed setting work through Microsoft Teams.

Parents evening was certainly a new experience for everyone this year! Teachers enjoyed making their phone calls (the best option under current conditions) and most parents responded positively to the comments and ideas to support learning at home. We will see what the coming weeks bring and hope everyone stays safe and well.

Covid update

A few general reminders:

- Please remember to be prompt at pick up times. Make sure you stand in the correct place in the playground to help staff dismiss the children.
- Please remember to be socially distant at all times on the school site.
- It is extremely important to keep school informed about any children that are self isolating (whether with or without symptoms) as well as any test results.
- Make sure you follow advice from the UK Government including 'hands, space, face'.
- Remember to check your child's MS Teams login. If you cannot access Teams, let the office know.

We are now asking all parents & visitors to school to wear a mask before entering the school building.



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

We can be heroes

We are incredibly lucky to have such an amazing and dedicated staff at Woodland Grange. Quite simply it would not have been possible to keep our school running to the highest standard, during the COVID crisis, without them.

We would like to take this opportunity to single out a few staff members who have demonstrated a massive commitment in caring for your children. Mr Flanagan and Miss Jackson took over our half term provision at a very late stage and did a fantastic job. The children that attended had a brilliant time, learning new skills and having fun with their friends. This would not have been possible without both of them stepping up. Mrs Merriman has also taken over the morning shift in Owl's Hoot (and covered some aftercare sessions too) in Mrs Patel's absence. She has also continued with her full time role in the classroom.

Finally, we know that other members of staff have stepped into cover classes for short term absences or whilst a teacher has been on a CPD course.

All these heroic efforts have not gone unnoticed by the senior team in school. We are immensely proud of everyone that works at Woodland Grange and we know parents would join us in saying a **MASSIVE** thank you!

Hello!

We would like to welcome some new members to our support staff team:

Mrs Bailey will be supporting Year 4 (we must not get confused having 2 Mrs Baileys in school!)

Mrs Purshottam is supporting Foundation Stage.

Mrs Patel will be supporting Year 5 (we must also not get confused having more than one Mrs Patel in school!)

Welcome to WGPS!



Friends of Woodland Grange

Despite the current restrictions FoWG have still been very busy this term. In the last newsletter we shared the new School Lottery fundraiser. So far there have been 3 weekly prizes and the total amount raised for school is increasing each week. If you haven't signed up yet, do it! The spooky Hallowe'en dress up day made over £400, incredible! They are also organising a Christmas jumper day on December 11th. Simply wear your festive knitwear and bring £1 for FoWG. Forms are also coming home for a special, sponsored event. More details can be found on the form itself. It is due to run over the Christmas break. As ever, thank you to all the FoWG volunteers. They are raising money for every child in school.



In other news...

A HUGE thank you to all the children who made the effort to come to school dressed as a **Key Worker Hero** for **Children in Need 2020!** The costumes were amazing and all the money raised will go to support projects across the UK. We will let everyone know the overall total very soon.

Our curriculum videos have now been uploaded onto the school website. Click 'Our Class' on the homepage and select the year group page.

School has linked up with **COG Youth Services** (a volunteer led, Leicester based, not for profit company) to recycle pens and oral hygiene items (toothbrushes and empty toothpaste tubes). Look out for collection bins near the office.

Parking

A **BIG** Thank you to all parents who are parking responsibly out side school. We continue to receive reports of people blocking driveways and junctions to roads around school. **'You must not park within 10m (32ft) of a junction (243 Highway code).**



We were amazed by this brilliant poem written by one of our talented pupils. He wrote it during self-isolation and it is a reminder that we need to stay positive, even though we are living through difficult times.

Happiness

*Happiness is being around my family and reading about Liverpool and history,
Happiness is eating food which is lovely and watching Marvel movies,
Happiness is painting and drawing,
Happiness is swimming,
Happiness is being in fabulous restaurants and eating and eating,
Happiness is kicking around a ball, dribbling, passing, shooting and all,
Happiness is being in martial arts, kicking, punching and stance,
Seeing the World, seeing the beauty, Sweden, Switzerland and Saudi,
Happiness is riding my bike in the park and building my house in Minecraft.
Happiness is a quick hug at night, warm hot chocolate and a good book,
Finally I switch off my light,
But most of all, happiness is being thankful for my life, my health, my childhood, my all!*

By Jakob

Walk Cycle Scoot Park with care

Anti bullying week 2020

Well done to everyone at school for supporting **Anti Bullying Week** again this year. The week kicked off with **Odd Socks Day** with staff and children wearing odd socks to show that we are all different and all equal. During the week the children learnt about different forms of bullying and what to do if they feel they are a victim of bullying. Understanding bullying and using strategies to help to stop it is crucial. We must all play our part.

The effects of bullying can be devastating and long lasting. By working together to stamp out bullying of any kind we can make our school a happier place for everyone.

We're all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we're united against bullying.



Children putting on their Odd Socks for Anti Bullying Week 2020.



Oadby Food Bank

The Food Bank is open to receive donations every Wednesday 2pm to 4pm at Trinity Methodist Church in Oadby. If you want to make a donation our collection box is inside the main door near the office. For further information, please call: 07913 525718.



Diary Dates:

All dates can be found on our school website calendar:

- 11/12/20: FOWG Christmas jumper day
- 18/12/20: End of term

Year groups will be organising Decorations Day sessions before the end of term. Unfortunately, we will not be able to invite parents or carers.