



City Community  
Learning Trust



**WOODHOUSE WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
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Headteacher:

Mrs Anne-Marie Bailey

Deputy Headteacher:

Mr Mike Bywaters

Assistant Headteachers:

Miss Megan Hill

Mr Leigh Rimmer

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

Christmas is one of my favourite times of year as the school is filled with excited children and parents. Our term finishes much later than usual this year and so we are planning to hold most of our Christmas events in the last two weeks. We hope that you will be able to join us for as many of these as possible. Plans for the church visit are slightly different this year and details of this can be found over the page. If you are still unsure please ask your child's class teacher.

The weather is becoming much colder and already we are having to grit paths and playgrounds in order to keep children safe. Please ensure your child has appropriate footwear which will help prevent slips and trips along with a warm scarf, hat and gloves. Although some children feel they do not need a coat please make sure your child has a coat with them at all times.

In the Spring term, we have plans to develop our outside area in order to make much better use of our fabulous grounds. In order to do this, we need your help. Are you good with your hands? Can you be creative? Do you know how to use power tools to build things from wood? If the answer to any of these questions is yes, you will be very warmly welcomed to our, 'make it weekend'. Details of this will be issued in the next newsletter, so please look out for an update and let class teachers know if you would like to take part.

As I'm sure your children will by now have told you, I was married during the half term holiday and am now Mrs Bailey. Many parents have passed on their best wishes so thank you for all of these.

I hope you have a wonderful family time over the Christmas period and can't wait to see your children performing in our various carol concerts and productions.

School closes on **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017**. We look forward to seeing you on the first day of term on **Monday 8 January 2018!**

**Anne-Marie Bailey**  
**Headteacher**



**Feedback from Parents and Pupils**

During parents' evening, parents were asked to give their feedback about things that were going well, and things school could do to improve further. 91% of parents said that their child behaves well most or all of the time, with 9% saying their child got back on track with a reminder. However, parents also said that several of their children had been bullied. Pupils were also interviewed in small groups to gather their views. A number of pupils also reported that they were being bullied. When the pupils talked about this further however, these incidents were one off behaviour incidents rather than bullying.

You said...	We did...
Bullying is an issue in school	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Whole school assemblies on the difference between bullying and being mean / hurting, how to deal with bullying, and how to solve playground problems.</li> <li>- Whole school anti-bullying and online safety days. Each class has an anti-bullying charter.</li> <li>- A flowchart showing how bullying allegations will be dealt with, including for confirmed instances of bullying. This is on the website (<a href="#">LINK HERE</a>).</li> <li>- A 'worry box' in every classroom. Children can post notes to their teacher saying if they are worried about anything; these will be discussed as a class or 1:1 as appropriate.</li> <li>- Mrs Holmes (Learning Mentor) will offer further support through 'drop-in' sessions on Wednesday lunchtimes.</li> <li>- Y6 children will be trained as 'Playground Friends' and 'Peer Mentors' to help address minor fallouts between friends.</li> <li>- New personal, social and health education (PSHE) curriculum will be starting in January.</li> </ul>

**Adverse weather**

In the event of adverse weather, Woodhouse West will endeavour to remain open unless:

- The **health and safety of pupils** and staff are compromised
- **Insufficient numbers** of staff attend to manage the school safely
- There is **significant damage** to premises, or failure of **essential utilities**.

If school has to close in an emergency, a text message will go out to all parents. We will also inform Radio Hallam and Radio Sheffield that school is closed. Please always check both the 'ourschoolapp' and the school website for the most up to date information [www.woodhousewest.org.uk](http://www.woodhousewest.org.uk).



**Christmas Performances**

Below is a list of our festive dates for December, including year group parties and our school church service.

Nursery & Reception	Y1&Y2
12/12/17 10:00am to 10:30am	18/12/17 1.45pm to 2.45pm
14/12/17 2.00pm to 2.30pm	19/12/17 9.20am to 10.20am
Y3&Y4	Y5&Y6
18/12/17 9:15am – 10:15am Carol Concert	20/12/17 9:15am – 10:15am Carol Concert

- Fri 15<sup>th</sup> 10.00am Church Visit (**KS1 & KS2**)
- Fri.15<sup>th</sup> Christmas Jumper Day
- Wed.20<sup>th</sup> 09.00am FS1 & 2 Green Card Assembly
- Wed.20<sup>th</sup> 12.00pm School Christmas Lunch  
(another opportunity to wear your Christmas Jumper!)
- Thurs. 21<sup>st</sup> 1.00 pm Christmas parties
- Fri. 22<sup>nd</sup> 9.00 am KS2 Green Card Assembly
- Fri. 22<sup>nd</sup> 2.45 pm KS1 Green Card Assembly
- 3.15 pm School Closes
- Mon. 8 January 2018** School reopens

**Attendance**

Our whole school attendance is currently **94.17%**. Attendance figures 9<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> December .

<b>FS1</b>	<b>89.3 %</b>
<b>FS2</b>	<b>95.4 %</b>
<b>Year One</b>	<b>93.8%</b>
<b>Year Two</b>	<b>92.5%</b>
<b>Year Three</b>	<b>96.2%</b>
<b>Year Four</b>	<b>93.7%</b>
<b>Year Five</b>	<b>93.7%</b>
<b>Year Six</b>	<b>93.7%</b>

Green indicates good attendance and above the national average. Amber indicates attendance of below the national average and Red indicates absence of less than 90% which is well below the national average.

Every day counts for every child. If you are having difficulties and need school support, please contact the Inclusion Team.

**Class News**

**Nursery** This term we are enjoying learning about woodland animals, we know which animals are nocturnal, and we know what they eat and where they live. We have read 'The Owl Babies' by Martin Wardell and learnt about the jobs 'Percy the Park Keeper' does through listening to his stories. These stories can also be watched on YouTube.

**Reception** The children are enjoying reading Julia Donaldson stories and celebrated with their very own character dress up day. Christmas rehearsals are well underway so watch this space!

**Y1** The children have been jetting to outer space in our topic this half term. We have been learning all about Helen Sharman and have been designing our very own planets.

**Y2** In our topic "Are we poles apart?" we have been learning all about our polar regions. We have written our own fiction and non-fiction texts on different animals. We are now busy practising for our Christmas performance at the end of this term!

**Y3** The children have been enjoying finding out about how shadows are affected by different light sources.

**Y4** The children have been learning about "What did they play back in the day?" We have looked at all different types of old fashioned toys and how they have changed over the years.

**Y5** This half term in year 5 and 6 we have taken part in some fantastic learning. In Year 5, classes have had a go at creating a castle made from clay which they based around the real castle they visited at Skipton.

**Y6** Year 6 have been heading through the 80s and 90s over the last few weeks investigating toys and technology. We can't wait for our big fat quiz of the decades at the end of the year!

**Nursery**

We currently have places for 3 and 4 year olds in our nursery. Children are eligible to start nursery the term after their third birthday, and they can access up to \*30 hours free nursery entitlement for working parents taken in either morning or afternoon or full day sessions. Please pick up a form to register your interest at the school office.

**PiPs (Parents in Partnership) Fundraising Update:**

Thank you to everyone who helped with cakes for our Macmillan Fundraiser in September. We raised an amazing £72.85 for them.

We bought lots of new play equipment: Big Connect Four, Jenga and Card games – Den and brick building kits and new football goals. They will be available for fun and play in the New Year.

The competitive bake sale started well with Y6. Next up are Y1 on December 8th – Remember: the year group that raises the most of money will be able to spend this amount on something fun for them in the Summer Term.

<b>Friday 8th December 2017</b>	<b>Year 1</b>
<b>Friday 19th January 2018</b>	<b>Year 5</b>
<b>Friday 9th February 2018</b>	<b>Year 2</b>
<b>Friday 9th March 2018</b>	<b>Year 4</b>
<b>Friday 27th April 2018</b>	<b>Year 3</b>
<b>Friday 18th May 2018</b>	<b>Reception</b>

Our next fundraiser is going to be a January Raffle – please save your unwanted Christmas Gifts for us! More details in January.

Do you have any ideas, experience or suggestions about what else to do or how to do things better? Come along to our next meeting on **Tuesday 9th January 2018** at **2.30pm**.

**Thank You!**

Finally, thank you for your generosity we raised an impressive £1,050.00 for Children in Need and £164.65 for the Royal British Legion.

**Church Service Arrangements**

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December our Y1 to Y6 children will attend a Christmas performance at St James Church at 10:00 am. This year the arrangements are slightly different, children will come to school as normal and will walk to the church following morning registration. Children should then be collected at the end of the school day from school.

Over the years, we have tried several ways but feel that this is the best way of ensuring the safety of the children. If you would like to volunteer to accompany the children from school please speak to the class teacher. Unfortunately, there isn't the capacity within church to accommodate all parents.