



Woodland Grange Primary NEWSLETTER December 2017

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Merry Christmas from Woodland Grange

Well as we approach the Christmas holidays it's time to reflect on another busy term at Woodland Grange! Our first set of Year 6 pupils have continued to enjoy their first term with us. They had an amazing time on their residential trip to Bude at the start of the term. Despite the longer journey time they had an amazing time body boarding, climbing and canoeing (amongst other activities!) Many thanks to all the staff members who accompanied them.

Our new Year 4 pupils have also settled into their new classrooms too. The 'Barnes building' as it will affectionately be known is a wonderful space for them to work in. The building has been named after Beverley Barnes, our longstanding chair of governors who has been part of the school since it opened in 1991. Sadly Beverley passed away earlier this term and we felt it was a fitting tribute to name our new classrooms after her. It was officially opened by her close friend Sir Edward Garnier.

In November the school contributed to **Anti Bullying Week** tackling this difficult subject head on with work done in classrooms and assemblies. During the week children wore their odd socks to celebrate their individuality and enjoyed sharing what made them unique with others.

Sporting Achievement

It has definitely been a busy term for sport too. Our boy's football team played 2 and won 2 matches against Houghton and Launde and our girl's team played matches against Brocks Hill. In the Oadby and Wigston school cross country league we had an amazing turn out across KS2 culminating in first place for our Year 3 boy's team. We have also been represented in a Year 6 indoor athletics meeting and an inclusive event for supported pupils in KS2. Year 4 pupils have also begun swimming this term. They have used the pool at Parklands Leisure Centre and in addition to swimming in Year 2, KS2 pupils will also now have the opportunity to practise their strokes. A team of Year 5 pupils have also received training to become 'Sport's Ambassadors'. Part of their role is to encourage others to get into sport. In fact participation in sport is fast becoming one of our school's strengths. We have had more pupils than ever getting involved in lunchtime and after school sports clubs. There are over 300 places in these clubs and it is wonderful to see so many children making the most of all the sporting opportunities open to them at Woodland Grange. Many thanks to all staff members who help to provide these, especially Mr Smith.



Pupils wearing their 'odd socks' for Anti-Bullying week 2017



Sir Edward Garnier & members of Beverley's family at the opening of our new classrooms.

Woodland Wheelers

A massive thank you also has to go to Mr Flanagan who has set up the 'Woodland Wheelers' bike club at school. He has helped to teach many of our pupils how to ride a bike correctly and promoted bicycle safety when out and about.

Children in Need 2017

Children in Need this year raised an incredible £1,087.53! We thank all parents for their support with this annual event. The food inspired costumes were amazingly inventive and creative – a lot of hard work went into making them and the children looked brilliant. Owl's Hoot raised over £140 from their cake and biscuit sale too.

WG School Choir

Our school choir participated in a 'Singing Festival' at Manor High School with children from local primary schools. They practised many different songs during the day, ending with a performance to parents.

We have also had an amazing number of children taking up the opportunity of learning a musical instrument this term. Many thanks to Mrs Cobbold who organises all our music at Woodland Grange.



Uniform

At Woodland Grange we value the importance of school uniform. We would remind all parents that children should wear black school shoes (or trainers) to school.

Cracking Clubs!

We are very proud of our range of clubs at Woodland Grange. They are always popular and the list of available clubs is getting longer each term. A huge thank you to Mrs Hunter who organises these extra curricular opportunities for pupils.

It's Snow Joke!

It is always a difficult decision to close the school when we are faced with snowfall. We respect any other school in a similar position as well as parents who decide whether or not to send their children to school. We will always keep parents informed through Parent Mail, Twitter and the school website. A huge thank you to all staff (including Mr Morley our premises officer) who cleared and gritted paths and made sure our school was safe to remain open.



Christmas Performances

Well done to all our pupils who have worked so hard in their Christmas shows this year. Our foundation stage nativity and Year 4 & 5 '**Pantoland**' extravaganza were amazing. Thank you to Reverend Gamble and the team at St Peter's Church in Oadby for making our KS1 pupils and staff feel so welcome. We hope that parents enjoyed watching these fantastic productions. A final thank you to the staff and residents at Devonshire Court care home who welcomed our pupils from Year 3. The children sang a selection of seasonal songs. Massive thanks to all staff involved in these performances as well. Their hard work and enthusiasm helps to make them the successes that they are.



Community Yoga class open to parents and the public **TUESDAY 6.30pm to 7.30pm** every week, including in the holidays, in the school hall.

All levels, including beginners are welcome.

Please bring your own yoga mat (preferably a good quality non-slip mat) and a bottle of water. The class cost is £6.

Please arrive 5-10 minutes early so the class can start on time. If you would like to attend the class you can book a place by email:

lauriemaeyoga@gmail.com or call/text: [07715673525](tel:07715673525) OR just turn up.

FoWG round up

The **Friends of Woodland Grange** have had another busy term fundraising for the school. Our Eid and Diwali events raised an incredible amount of money (the samosa pop up shop was sold out in minutes!) The Hallowe'en discos also went very well (helped by the awesome DJ skills of Mr Hayles and Mr Parker). The final event of the term was the Christmas fair. Lots of families came along to join in with Christmas crafts and enjoy some festive food and drink. Pupils from year 3 along with our school choir sang some Christmassy songs and the whole evening was fantastic. A huge thank you to all the parents who supported our giving tree as well This years nominated charity is 'Toys on the table' and all the gifts will make a world of difference to children across Leicestershire and Rutland.

A huge Thank you to all the Friends. They volunteer their time and energy to raise much needed funds for school.

Seasonal e-safety advice

If you are planning to buy any presents that involve technology this Christmas the UK safer internet centre has a useful guide:

www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology

Term Begins

The children will return to school on Tuesday 9th January.

Pre-school returns on Tuesday 2nd January for year round pupils.