



Woodland Grange Primary NEWSLETTER December 2018

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www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk



Wishing you a very relaxed and happy Christmas...

It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of the autumn term. The Christmas holidays are around the corner and staff and pupils are looking forward to a well earned rest! The school is looking very festive thanks to our annual decorations day. We had 198 parents sign in at the office this year but we know that plenty more made their way straight to the classrooms. It was a bumper turn out, thank you to all who attended and helped their children make some amazing decorations. Our Christmas performances have also now taken place. The Foundation and Pre-School nativity was fantastic and the KS1 performance featured incredibly catchy songs and the appearance of some members of staff! Year 3 & 6 performed at St Pauls church in Oadby and were well supported by church staff. A big thank you to them and all staff for putting together such wonderful performances.



Happy New Year from everyone at Woodland Grange!

Keeping it clean

We have to mention the litter picking campaign that has been sweeping the playground (literally!) Two girls in Year 4 have been making posters to remind all children to keep the school tidy as well as picking up any litter in the playground at break and lunch times—Well done girls!



FoWG review...

It has been another busy term for our amazing band of parent volunteers. The Hallowe'en discos were a sell out and the children had a very spooky time. The Friends of Woodland Grange organised some more Samosa Fridays which went down very well! Unfortunately the planned Diwali event had to be cancelled but they did organise the raffle draw (with some brilliant prizes) which still managed to raise money for the school. The Festive FoWG evening was also a great success. Thanks to Mrs Cobbold and her choir for providing some musical accompaniment as well as all the volunteers who organised the crafts and refreshments.

This year the Friends are raising money for new outdoor equipment for the Foundation Stage (to replace our ageing climbing tower) and visualisers for the rest of the school!

Sport at WGPS - round up

Well done to our school football team. This term we have played 2, won 2. The team are looking forward to more matches and competitions next term. Thank you to our coaches Mr Healey and Mr Pickering for creating a fantastic team spirit.

We have also participated in a Sports Hall competition sending a team from KS2. One pupil, Sofia came back with the overall girl's silver medal.

A group of Year 6 pupils represented the school in a dance workshop at South Wigston High School.

Congratulations to all the cross country runners this term. The school won the participation competition at the Oadby & Wigston league with more runners than any other school!

Finally we would all like to wish Mr Evans (one of our Premier Sports coaches) good luck! He is getting married over the Christmas holidays!

Staff changes

It is with regret that we say goodbye to **Mrs Hibbard** at the end of term. Although she has worked at Woodland Grange for a relatively short time she has made a huge impact and settled in to her role as a Foundation Stage teacher. We will all miss her and wish her good luck for the future. We are welcoming **Miss Murdock** to the Foundation Stage after Christmas. The children have already met her and she has worked in school on a number of occasions to get to know the school and pupils as well as possible.

Food Bank

Woodland Grange has started supporting the **Oadby Food Bank**. People find themselves in desperate need for all sorts of reasons (change of circumstance or job, waiting for benefits or pension, being homeless or having physical or mental needs). The scheme has been running for 4 years and was organised by the Oadby Stakeholders Group. They are open to the public from 11.30 to 12.30 on Fridays once a fortnight, in Oadby Trinity Methodist Church hall.

The Food Bank is publicised in GP practices, the Walk In Centre, Oadby library, Helping Hands, the Citizens' Advice Bureau and through the local First Contact scheme. A Leicestershire County Council scheme which distributes information to many agencies such as social services, probation service, libraries, Age UK, and Leicestershire Partnership Mental Health Trust. If users can afford it, the organisers ask for a 50p donation for the food, as this lessens the stigma of coming to the Food Bank, and helps with running costs. The Food Bank gives out about 35 grocery packages every fortnight. The amount has steadily increased in recent months and there is a national upward trend in people needing help and support.

There will be a collection box near the office for any donations to the Food Bank. The donations must be in date and in good condition. Tinned or dried food is best (no fresh or chilled/frozen produce please). Any donation will be gratefully received and the food will be collected every fortnight from school.

On behalf of the **Oadby Food Bank**, thank you for your support.

Tis the season for coughs and sneezes!

It's that time of year again! We know that it can be difficult when children are ill, organising childcare, taking time off work can be an issue for many of our parents. However we would remind all parents that sending your child to school when they are unwell has a huge impact on school too. We often see illness spreading through classes and year groups as a result of one or two children coming in when they should be tucked up in bed at home. There is also increased strain on caring for children that are unwell at school as well as staff coming down with illness too.

Getting the right balance

We are delighted to inform parents that we have just secured a grant from the 'Choose How You Move' team at the County Council to purchase some balance bikes. We will be organising some training for younger pupils very soon. If you have any helmets that have never been **dropped** or **involved in an accident** at home that you would like to donate (age 3-6 years) bring them to the office.

Newsletter subscriptions

Did you know that you can subscribe to our newsletters via the School Website?

Head to www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk click on 'Parents' and 'Newsletters'. Then enter your name and email address (click to say you're not a robot!) and a copy will be emailed out as soon as it goes live on the website, it's that simple! **(We always send out newsletters via parentmail too)**



A Gift to Lift

We always choose a charity for the collections for our Christmas performances that has a personal connection to school. We have a child at school who is currently suffering from leukaemia and have themselves been supported by 'A Gift to Lift'. The charity supports patients with different types of blood cancer. They offer gifts to individuals as a way to lift their spirits. With your kind donations we managed to raise a staggering **£520!**

Thank you

Dates for your diary:

- 2/1/19: Preschool opens (year round pupils)
- 8/1/19: Main school opens
- 9/1/19: Year 1 & 2 to visit Curve
- 21/1/19: Year 6 to visit Warning Zone
- 18/2/18: Spring Half term

All dates are on the school website calendar. Visit www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk and click on the calendar on our homepage.