



NEWSLETTER

**WOODLANDS
PRIMARY
ACADEMY**
*Creative
Education
Trust*

4 October 2019

Attendance

At Woodlands Primary Academy we know that good attendance is the key to successful schooling. Although we aim for 100% attendance, each year we set ourselves a target for attendance which is used to compare us to other schools. Our current target is 97% attendance.

Attendance for the week ending 27 September 2019:

RA: 99.7%	RB: 93%
1B: 99.3%	1B: 92.8%
2A: 96.7%	2B: 98.7%
3A: 96.5%	3B: 94.7%
4A: 93.2%	4B: 95.5%
5A: 89.7%	5B: 98%
6A: 98.7%	6B: 89.4%

A message from the Deputy Headteacher

It has been another busy week at Woodlands. The children continue to work hard. I have heard lots of music from yr 4 children playing ukuleles to yr 6 playing their p-bones and trumpets. Well done to the yr 3 and 4 football teams who represented the school so well on Monday - excellent behaviour and attitude demonstrated by all. We had some visitors from the trust in school this week. They came to see how we use the grounds and what improvements we might need. They were very impressed with the development of the classroom in the woods and how this is being utilised. I have attached some pictures of the nursery and reception classes using this great resource. Also attached are pictures of some year 6 children learning about evolution and Charles Darwin.

Amis Memorial Fund

I would like to thank the Amis family and the Amis Memorial Fund Committee. Every year this local charity donate money to the school to fund a project, last year their donation enabled us to purchase instruments for the year 6 children. This year they have donated £400 to support us in developing a garden. This garden will be used to give the children the opportunity to grow their own flowers and vegetables, developing their understanding of plants and where some

foods come from. We will also develop this as a sensory garden, hanging wind chimes, choosing plants for their specific smells, such as mint and lemon balm. This garden will provide a calm place for children who might need it. If there are any parents who feel they would like to contribute to this project, be it expertise or resources, please let me know.

The nursery mud kitchen

It is important that we give the children different areas to explore in nursery and foundation. Through this exploration they are developing their social skills, communication skills and their understanding of the world around them. The nursery are developing a mud kitchen in the woods and ask if there are any parents who have old pots and pans that they could donate. Thank you.

Our Town Week - 28 October - 1 November

Every year the trust run a project week across all primary schools - The Our Town week. Last year the children learnt about the history of the local area. This year the focus is on the diversity of the local community. We will be learning about the different cultures we have within our school community, and those



who live in the local area. This week will be a celebration of dance, food, stories, beliefs and art from around the world; activities will vary from learning traditional English sea shanties to Greek dancing to making Lithuanian cookies. If you would like to come in to school during that week to work with your child's class and teach them a traditional dance, tell tales or help prepare foods from around the world please speak to the class teachers. On the Friday afternoon we will be inviting family and friends into school to look at the work done during the week, possibly try different foods and dances!

Parents Evening

You should have received a letter about the upcoming parents evening. The dates are Monday 14th October, 3.30pm - 5.00pm, and Wednesday 16th October 3.30pm - 7.00 pm. Please return your slips to school as quickly as you can to enable the teachers to give you an appointment and ensure siblings appointments are spaced at convenient times.

Working together - dojos

The use of dojos has got off to a great start in school. Children are working hard to get dojos, thinking about their behaviour and effort in their work. They are always excited to share when they have been awarded a dojo. Through the dojo site you are able to contact the teachers directly, clarification about their homework for example, and they are also able to send reminders and messages home. Please continue to contact the school office for absences etc.

Year 4 residential to Manor Adventure

There is a buzz of excitement circulating in Year 4 as we begin to prepare for our residential trip from the 1st April 2020 until the 3rd of April 2020. Our year group will be heading to Manor Adventure situated on the Norfolk lakes. The children will have a once in a lifetime opportunity to access all the different activities that Manor adventure has to offer, including: archery, kayaking, rock climbing, water sports and many more. There are activities throughout the day and into the evening which are run by passionate and trained staff to give the children the best foundation to learn and build upon a wide variety skills. The Year 4 team are excited (to say the least) for this opportunity to take the children into a different environment and present them with fun, engaging and challenging activities, and we hope that the children are as excited for this as we are!

Sports news



Gold Award

For those who are not aware, Woodlands attained the wonderful achievement of a Gold School Games award for our commitment to promote clubs, participation, leadership opportunities and sporting competition in 2018/2019. This is the first year we have been awarded gold, and one of only 3 schools in our region to achieve this accolade. Well done to everybody and let's keep it going this year!

Football tournament

Congratulations to our squad of 33 Year 3 and 4 Footballers, both boys and girls, who competed in our first competition of the year - a friendly football tournament at Wroughton Primary. The children had been working hard in clubs and that showed, with all teams playing some great football. All children demonstrated the values of respect, sportsmanship and fair play that are compulsory when representing Woodlands in sporting competition. A special thank you to our 11 wonderful Year 6 helpers who managed the 4 teams on the day.

Clubs

Well done to everybody at Woodlands for our club attendance so far this year. A recent count showed 328 places were taken up in just one week of clubs, a simply outstanding number! Children are always welcome to come and try even if they have not attended clubs yet! Parents can help by encouraging their children to attend extra-curricular clubs.



Harvest time

This year we will be having Harvest assemblies at St Nicholas Church, Bradwell, led by the Reverend Sue Upton. Last year, we were unable to go to the church for the Harvest celebration so we are very happy that we are able to go this year and once again enjoy this wonderful building. The services will be on the morning of Monday the 14th of October. We are inviting the children to bring in any food donations over the next few weeks. We will collect all of the food together and then arrange, through the church, to have it distributed to members of the local community, in need of help.



We thank you, as always, for your support of the school in helping those in need.

School dinners

The week commencing Monday 7 October will be Week 1 of a new menu, which is sent with this newsletter. We would appreciate any feed back regarding the new menu from you.

Some of this week's learning....

Monday afternoon, Year 6 put their knowledge of Charles Darwin's theories to good use when they demonstrated Evolution and Natural Selection. Using their creativity and collaboration, they produced freeze frames, role play and narration to present to their peers. Mrs Gee and Miss Barnes were extremely impressed with their understanding and enthusiasm for the topic.





Reception have been using the outside environment for learning. They have been on a hunt for signs of autumn and toasted marshmallows over an open fire.





The nursery have also been in the woods - exploring the area and finding natural resources for a display in the class.



Calendar



Tuesday 8th October	Year 3 Assembly - Rotary Club presenting dictionaries
Tuesday 8th October	Year 5/6 girls football competition - Cliff Park
Wednesday 9th October	Year 3/4 girls football competition - Cliff Park
Thursday 10th October	Reception Open Phonics Session
Monday 14th October	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 16th October	Parents' Evening
Thursday 17th October	Flu immunisation
Thursday 17th October	U11 Boys Cup Round 1 Martham v Woodlands
Saturday 19th October	Norfolk Sportshall Athletics League - UEA
Monday 21st - Friday 25th October	Half term break
Wednesday 30 th October	Yr5 basketball competition against Wroughton - Woodlands
Wednesday 30 th October	Class 4A swimming starts
Friday 1 st November	Class 4B swimming starts
Friday 1st November	Our Town parents' event
Monday 4th November	Year3/4 Tag Rugby Festival
Tuesday 5 th November	Choir rehearsal for RAH event at St Andrews Hall - Norwich
Friday 8th November	KS2 Choir rehearsal for Festival of Carols - Pavilion Theatre
Sunday 10th November	Choir rehearsal for RAH event at Langley School
Monday 11th November	Remembrance Event
Monday 11th November	Y3/4/5/6 Cross Country Competition - Bure Park
Wednesday 13 th November	Choir perform at The Royal Albert Hall
Saturday 16th November	Norfolk Sportshall Athletics League - Kings Lynn
Tuesday 26th November	KS1 Choir perform at Sounds4Christmas - Great Yarmouth Minster
Wednesday 27th November	Y3/4 Sportshall Athletics Competition - UEA
Thursday 28th November	KS2 Choir rehearsal for Festival of Carols - location TBC
Friday 29th November	Y3 trip to Gressenhall
Saturday 30th November	Norfolk Sportshall Athletics League - UEA
Tuesday 3rd December	KS2 Choir dress rehearsal for Festival of Carols - Great Yarmouth Minster
Tuesday 3rd December	Festival of Carols Performance - Great Yarmouth Minster (evening)
Wednesday 4th December	Years 5 and 6 Christmas Performance (AM and PM)
Wednesday 4th December	Festival of Carols Performance - Great Yarmouth Minster (evening)
Friday 6th December	Years 3 and 4 Christmas Performance (AM and PM)
Monday 9th December	Nursery Christmas Performance (AM and PM)
Tuesday 10th December	Reception Christmas Performance (AM and PM)
Wednesday 11th December	Pantomime (in school)
Thursday 12th December	Year 2 Christmas Performance (AM and PM)



Friday 13th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 17 th December	Year 1 Christmas Performance (AM and PM)
Tuesday 17th December	Creative Education Trust Christmas Carol Concert - Gt. Yarmouth Minster
Thursday 19 th December	Last day of term
Friday 3 rd January	Staff training day
Monday 6 th January	Children return to school