



'The pathway to success'

Woodhouse Community Primary School

www.woodhousecommunity.durham.sch.uk

Spring Term 2014

Weekly Newsletter – Friday 30th January 2015

SUDs Champions: This week, Elaine Smith our SUDs coordinator from Northumbrian Water brought 10 guests from South Tyneside Local Authority to discuss our project. These included head teachers and council officials, who have heard about the exciting rain garden and pond created in our school grounds. Although the site still looks bleak and muddy at the moment, when planting occurs in the spring, it will be a fantastic resource for our school. We look forward to our official 'launch' in the summer term!

School Council presentation: I was extremely proud to welcome the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary of our School Council to the full Governing Body meeting held after school this week. The children have worked closely with Mr Walker and Miss Hez, discussing school improvement issues with their classes, feeding back the outcomes and then creating a formal Power Point presentation to Governors to inform them of their findings. The Council were very clear in the improvements made in our school over the last year, outlining the positive impact made on behaviour and progress. More important, the pupils were very clear about the focus for further improvement, particularly focusing upon further improvements in behaviour and developing extra-curricular clubs. I do not know of any other School Councils who present to the full Governing Body in such a way and this is a huge credit to our pupils, showing confidence and maturity in being fully involved with school improvement. Well done Owen, BillyJoe and Megan!

Holocaust Memorial Day: On Tuesday 27th January, it was Holocaust Memorial Day. I am sure many of you will have seen some moving reports about this in the news. Through assembly, the children reflected upon how even though we are all different, we are all the same and the importance of treating everyone with kindness, compassion and respect.

Homework: Staff have asked me to remind parents about our Homework Policy. There seems to be a number of children who regularly fail to complete and / or return homework to school. Please can all homework be returned at the given time. Thank you

Packed lunches: Some concerns have been brought to me regarding the inappropriate content in some packed lunches. It is really important that children have a balanced, healthy packed lunch. Fizzy drinks are **not** permitted in packed lunches and if a chocolate bar, biscuit or crisps is included, please limit this to one item. If anyone needs some support or advice in preparing healthy packed lunches, please contact Kirsty, who will be happy to help. Thank you

Bad weather: Please make sure all children have wellies, coats, hat, gloves and scarves in order to play out in the snow. They will also need a change of shoes whilst indoors. In the rare event that the school needs to be closed due to snow, we will contact you: please do not ring the office to check! We also put notices on the school website if there is any emergency closures.

School Support Group: We welcomed Mrs Cochrane from the Local Authority at our regular school support group meeting this week. She continues to be complimentary about the hard work of pupils, staff and governors in moving our school forwards and commented upon the calm, positive ethos throughout the school. Well done everyone!

Pupils of the Week are:

Reception: Karla Jones: our first Reception pupil to come to the Good Book for
Year 1:- Ellie-May Barker for solving addition and subtraction word problems independently
Year 2: Bradley Ellison for writing an African riddle
Year 3: Charli-Alan Wilkinson for a super stained glass window
Year 4: Bruno Grey for an amazing piece of descriptive writing
Year 5: Matthew Islam Bell for fantastic bar chart work
Year 6: Benjamin Dunn for working well in all subjects





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Astronomical Attendance: This week, the winners of Astronomical Attendance are Year 6 with 94% attendance, well done! Attendance has been particularly disappointing, but we have been struck a sickness bug throughout school this week. Let's hope for a better week next week!

Reception: 87.9%

Y1: 87.9%

Y2: 87.6%

Y3: 90.3%

Y4: 77.3%

Y5: 80%

Y6: 94%

Lunchtime Supervisor's Good manners award this week goes to Maddison Cooke for always having impeccable manners and behaviour and setting an excellent example to others: well done!

Dates for your Diary: (please also check the school website diary pages for key dates throughout the year)

Thursday 12 th February	1.00pm E Safety Assembly: parents invited, refreshments served afterwards.
Friday 13 th February	1.00-3.00pm: Ks1 & KS2 Valentines Disco (KS1 1-2pm KS 2 2-2.55pm)
Friday 13th February	2.55pm School Closes for Half Term
Year 6 SATs	Monday 11th May – Thursday 14th May: <i>under no circumstances must children be absent from school during this week.</i>

Mrs Page
Headteacher



Healthy School investing in children

