



'The pathway to success'

Woodhouse Community Primary School

www.woodhousecommunity.durham.sch.uk

Spring Term

Weekly Newsletter – Friday 24th January 2014

Read Write Inc. Update: just before Christmas, we launched Read Write Inc. which is a phonics and reading programme in school. This is a very structured teaching programme, proven to raise standards and accelerate progress for children from Reception to Year 6. We had our first visit from the RWI trainer this week, to see how we are getting on and she was impressed with how well the teachers, teaching assistants and most importantly children have embraced the programme. We will continue to assess and monitor progress and keep you informed about your child's progress in the programme.

Mrs Hindmarch and Miss Hez are holding a meeting for parents to explain the importance of the Phonics Screening Test for Year 1 pupils and to give a mini demonstration of how Read Write Inc. works in practice. It is really important that school and home work in strong partnership to ensure your children achieve the very best they can therefore it is important that you attend if you can.

Year 5 visit to Bishop Barrington: this week, our pupils in Class 5 enjoyed an afternoon of African drumming at Bishop Barrington. We are very proud of our excellent links with Bishop Barrington and have lots more exciting activities planned in the coming year!

Beanstalk Reading Volunteers: this term we have extended a programme called Beanstalk Reading Volunteers to include pupils in Years 4 and 5 who read with volunteers for 2 sessions per week, to improve progress in reading. We are constantly looking for ways to raise standards and improve children's achievement and progress in school and those children who have been chosen to be involved this term are enjoying working with the programme.

Feb Fest '14: This year (as last year) our school have been invited to display art work in the Feb Fest Art Festival which takes place in February in Bishop Auckland Town Hall Art Gallery. The theme is 'Japan' and this week, children across the school have worked collaboratively to create a fabulous piece of sculpture, creating piece of Japanese- inspired armour. I look forward to taking some children to the official launch in a few weeks' time.

Sunderland v Manchester United: On Wednesday, a number of our staff volunteered to travel to Old Trafford, enabling 4 lucky pupils the once in a lifetime opportunity of experiencing a 'big' match! As you all know, the result was fantastic for Sunderland and everyone had a memorable time. I would like to say a big thank you to all the staff who, after a full day of teaching, travelled to Manchester with our children and did not arrive back until 1.30am on Thursday morning. Staff and pupils were all in school the following day without exception!

I am truly grateful that our pupils have such dedicated staff, who are prepared to go the extra mile (or miles in this case!) to give our pupils the best opportunities possible, both in and out of school. Thanks everyone.

Leaving Service for Rev. Brenda: on Sunday 26th January, there will be a Leaving Service for Rev. Brenda at Woodhouse Close Church at 3pm. The Woodhouse Community Primary Choir will be singing, to show our gratitude for everything Rev. Brenda has done for to support our school, both as a governor, vicar and valued member of the community. We would love to see as many of you there as possible, to give her the send-off she deserves, so please come along.



Healthy School investing in children





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Collection at home-time: can I please remind all parents and carers to remain outside of the school gate, on the path at home-time. Several members of staff have are very concerned that due to the rising numbers of adults standing at the top of the steps at home-time, they are unable to see clearly who is collecting the children. Our priority has been and will always be the safety of your children. Please cooperate with us to ensure this is the case, even if it means you have to be patient for a few extra minutes whilst all the children are able to leave the school premises safely.

On a separate note, I have received several complaints about a minority of adults using inappropriate language either towards their children or in front of children on the school premises. In school we have worked extremely hard to improve behaviour and attitudes, setting high expectations of how children speak to each other: please can I remind all parents to do the same. Thank you.

'Stars of the Week' this week are:

- Year 1 -
- Year 2 -
- Year 3 -
- Year 4 -
- Year 5 -
- Year 6 -

Attendance for last week is: Well done to Class for having the best attendance!

- Reception: %
- Class 1: %
- Class 2: %
- Class 3: %
- Class 4: %
- Class 5: %
- Class 6: %

Dates for your Diary:

Year 4 Class Assembly (parents invited for refreshments and tombola afterwards)	Thursday 13 th February 9.10am
End of Half Term Disco: Classes 1 & 2 1-2pm : Classes 3,4,5 & 6 2-2.55pm	Friday 14 th February
Break up for Half Term	Friday 14 th February





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Return to school

Monday 24th February

Mrs Page
Headteacher

