



'The pathway to success'

Woodhouse Community Primary School

www.woodhousecommunity.durham.sch.uk

Spring Term

Weekly Newsletter – Friday 28th March 2014

Parent & Teacher Consultations: Thank you to everyone who attended our parent & teacher consultation meetings this week. These meetings are a vital opportunity to discuss pupil progress and ensure that parents and carers are aware of children's achievements. Making Easter Eggs with the children has clearly been a huge success again this year and the standard of entries was extremely high! I am so relieved the job of judging them did not fall to me: my thanks to Mr Taylor, our Chair of Governors, who had that unenviable task!

Easter Eggstravaganza! Another huge thank you to everyone who came along to our Easter Eggstravaganza on Thursday afternoon, to see the wonderfully creative eggs made throughout the school this week. Such events are vitally important, as the children are always very proud when parents attend school for celebration events. We have worked hard over the past 18 months to provide as many opportunities as possible to invite parents into school and I believe the positive relationships between school and parents is a real strength of our school, which we continue to develop at every opportunity.

We managed to raise the fabulous total of £300 all of which goes toward our School Fund. This allows us to provide resources and opportunities for our children such as subsidising trips, transport, residential visits and even purchasing iPads. Without your continued support, this would not be possible and we are very grateful for the support parents and carers give us at such events.

Decorated Egg Winners:

Morning Nursery: Alicia Wilson

Afternoon Nursery: Logan Ashurst

Reception: Elliot Chollerton

Year 1: Codey lee

Year 2: Tianna Johnson

Year 3: Ronan Morgan

Year 4: Sophie Hutchinson

Year 5: Tyler Jackman

Year 6: Ellis Simpson

Gardening Club: I was delighted to accompany our Gardening Club to Homebase this week, in order to buy some new gardening equipment and plants in order to improve our school grounds. The children wrote a very eloquent and persuasive letter to myself and the Governing body, requesting some money to do this, which was agreed. The children were met by the store manager and were helped by another member of staff to get the best value for money we could! Homebase kindly donated additional compost, seeds and herbs for our creation of a school herb garden free of charge and then gave a 20% discount at the till! Thanks to Mrs Gorton, Miss Fitch and Mr Lockey for giving their time in order to transport the children and enable this valuable visit to happen.

Children's Easter Raffle: The children were very excited on Thursday morning for our Easter Raffle. The staff very kindly donated Easter eggs, teddies and prizes to allow this event happen. Every child was given a free raffle ticket, so everyone had the opportunity to be a winner.

School Dinners: A reminder that after the Easter break, school dinners will increase to £1.95 per day (£9.75 per week)

Lost Coat: A black Trespass coat has gone missing, with Patrick Taylor's name in it. Please check at home in case it has been taken by mistake. Thank you.



Healthy School investing in children





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Supportive Staff: I have reiterated throughout this newsletter (and indeed, every newsletter) my gratitude to the staff in our school, all of whom go above and beyond their job description in order to provide the best opportunities and learning for our pupils. Without their dedication, enthusiasm and absolute love of our school and its pupils, many of the opportunities we are able to provide for the children in our school simply would not happen. We work extremely hard to provide an open, supportive environment, where parents and families are supported through our exceptional staff. This 'open-door' policy means strong relationships between home and school, based on mutual trust and respect, which are absolutely crucial in meeting the needs of and developing our children. I would request therefore that in order to ensure staff are able to deal with individual issues and provide the level of support that they do, parents who need to speak with Kirsty limit the number of people to 2 during a visit. As you are aware, office space is very tight in school and any more than 2 adults in Kirsty's room is not feasible. If a circumstance requires a greater number of people, please make an appointment at the school office to speak with Kirsty or myself, where we will then make arrangements to accommodate this need. On a similar note, although Kirsty is always happy to address any issues, it has become increasingly the case that she has a queue before she even starts on a morning! Where possible, please can any visits be from 8.45am onwards, allowing her time to begin her day.

Finally, there is an expectation throughout school that pupils, staff and visitors treat each other with respect and courtesy. If a situation arises whereupon any member of staff feels threatened or vulnerable by anyone coming into school, immediate action will be taken and procedures followed to ensure the safety and well-being of all within our school is upheld. Thank you.

'Stars of the Week' for this week are:

- Year 1: Shannon Haswell for excellent ordering of numbers
- Year 2: Jak Bryan for a fabulous pom pom in D&T!
- Year 3: Faith Brookes for high quality homework all term
- Year 4: Christopher Walling for an amazing Topic review completed at home
- Year 5: Jordan Nicholson, persistence and positive attitude during assessments
- Year 6: Patrick Taylor, for making excellent progress in maths

Astronomical Attendance: Well done to Year 3, who had 99.1% attendance last week: excellent!

- Reception: 95.9%
- Y1: 92.3%
- Y2: 94.2%
- Y3: 99.1%
- Y4: 88.3%
- Y5: 97.2%
- Y6: 96.3%

And finally... I would like to thank our pupils, staff, governors and parents for working so hard this term, in order to help our school progress further on our journey. I am proud to be the Headteacher of such a vibrant, forward-thinking school and feel very fortunate to lead such an amazing team of staff who now need to switch off and enjoy the Easter break! Don't eat too many chocolate eggs...

Dates for your Diary:

Break up for Easter Holiday	Friday 4 th April
Return to school	Tuesday 22 nd April

Mrs Page
Headteacher

