



'The pathway to success'

Woodhouse Community Primary School

www.woodhousecommunity.durham.sch.uk

Spring Term

Weekly Newsletter – Friday 28th February 2014

HMI Visit: Following our Ofsted inspection in October, HMI (Her Majesty's Inspectorate) visited us on Monday. The visit was very positive and as soon as the report is available for publication, a copy will be sent to all parents and carers.

Samba Week! This week has been an opportunity to strengthen our Global knowledge, with a South American themed Samba week across the school. Mrs Burnip has worked very hard to organise a Samba artist, who has worked with all pupils to create some wonderful masks, headdresses and jewellery. We also had a superb visit from Alex and Hannah, who taught the children to play the drums (with ear protectors on as they were so loud!) The week culminated in an assembly for parents, to watch our Samba fashion show and to sample the lovely recipes made by Year 6 with Fairtrade ingredients. The pupils were responsible for designing, creating and selling Fairtrade Recipe Books – thank you to everyone who bought one! Year 6 will decide on what to buy with their profits, in order to help people in a third world country.

School Council Partnerships: As part of Samba week and in order to develop our local links with other schools, we invited the School Council of two other primary schools to visit us this week. Staff and pupils from St Joseph's, Blackhall and Wingate Infants shared their Samba experiences with our school council. They then worked together to email our partner school in Zambia, to tell them all about what we had done in all three schools. I was extremely proud of our school council, who were excellent hosts and very positive ambassadors for our school.

Year 6 SAT's: the dates for Year 6 SATs tests this year are the week commencing Monday 12th May. It is essential that all children attend school this week and that no holidays are booked up to or during these dates. The children are working hard to prepare for their tests with many attending Booster clubs after school from this week: we need as many as possible to attend these sessions, to make sure pupils achieve the very best they can at this important time.

EYFS Network Meeting: I was immensely proud for our EYFS Unit to host a network meeting for teachers across Durham this week. We had over 40 visitors to see our fabulous EYFS provision, where all staff worked exceptionally hard to showcase the exciting and creative activities we offer our children every day. The comments from everyone who attended were exceptional and I would like to thank all staff (including Mrs Makinson for providing a wonderful buffet!) for working so hard to show everyone how fabulous our school is!

Year 1 Parent & Teacher Consultations: Parents of children in Year 1 only will be invited to speak with Mrs Hindmarch about their children's progress on Monday 10th March. Letters will be sent shortly.

World Book Day: Is on Thursday March 6th (next week). We would like to invite everyone to come to school dressed up as a favourite book character on that day. We would also like each child to bring a book they no longer read or need in order to do a book swap.

Head lice: as I mention in almost every newsletter, the problem with head lice continues to be a real issue, not just in our school but in all schools. I cannot reiterate strongly enough that hair must be checked regularly and treated with the correct lotion and combing techniques. Staff in school are vigilant about following the County policy when noticing any live lice or eggs whilst working with children and parents /





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guardians are contacted immediately in order to treat the child. As a parent myself who has experienced this unpleasant matter, I share the frustrations of parents who are affected by this and would urge that everyone must check and treat hair. Thank you.

'Stars of the Week' this week will be announced in Assembly on Monday, due to Samba celebrations today.

Attendance for the last week of half term was: Well done to Class 5 for having the best attendance that week!

- Reception: 89%
- Class 1: 97.2%
- Class 2: 91%
- Class 3: 97.9%
- Class 4: 96%
- Class 5: 99.5%
- Class 6: 97.5%

Dates for your Diary:

World Book Day (dress up as your favourite book character and bring a book to swap)	Thursday 6 th March
Year 1 Parent & Teacher Consultations	Monday 10 th March 9.00- 11.30am
Year 3 Farm Visit	Tuesday 11 th March, all day.
Year 5 PE at Bishop Barrington	Tuesday 11 th March, am
Dance Show at Bishop Barrington	Tuesday 11 th March – rehearsals at Bishop Barrington, followed by Show at 5.30pm
Year 6 Safety Carousel Trip	Monday 24 th March all day
Bishop FM 'Primary Choice' radio show, hosted by our pupils	Thursday 27 th March, 3-4pm, on Bishop FM
Year 3 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Monday 31 st March 9-11.30am (appointments to be sent out soon)
Year 6 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Monday 31 st March 1.00-3.00am (appointments to be sent out soon)
Year 2 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Tuesday 1 st April 9-11.30am (appointments to be sent out soon)
Year 4 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Tuesday 1 st April 1.00-3.00pm (appointments to be sent out soon)
Year 5 Parent & Teacher Consultation/ Easter Egg Crafts	Wednesday 2 nd April 1-3pm (appointments to be sent out soon)
Easter Eggstravaganza Coffee Afternoon (come and see the family Easter eggs made all week)	Thursday 3 rd April 1.30-2.55pm
Break up for Easter Holiday	Friday 4 th April
Return to school	Tuesday 22 nd April

Mrs Page
Headteacher

