



'The pathway to success'

Woodhouse Community Primary School

www.woodhousecommunity.durham.sch.uk

Summer Term

Weekly Newsletter – Friday 2nd May 2014

Forest School Sessions: This week, EYFS were the first class to enjoy an afternoon of 'Forest Schools' fun. They used 'alien hair' to create their own jewellery and went on a hunt to find as many colours in nature as possible. It was delightful to see our youngest children full of excitement and enjoying learning through the outdoors. I look forward to seeing the reactions of the other classes over the coming weeks.

Football Heroes! I was extremely proud to hear that WCPS Football Team is currently at the top of the football league as of this week, an achievement we have not enjoyed in a long while. This is testament to the hard work, good behaviour and enthusiasm of the children who participate, as well as the dedication of Mr Walker and Mr Lockey who run the team. Keep it up, boys!

I look forward to seeing how our newly established Girls Football Club progress in the coming term...

Basketball: we continually strive to improve opportunities and provide the very best facilities for our pupils and have recently had some fabulous new basketball posts installed in the school yard. A weekly basketball league has been established alongside an after school club and the infectious enthusiasm of the pupils who participate will be put to the test in a basketball tournament later in the term.

I believe that the range of sporting activities offered in our school is having an excellent impact on pupils' attitude and behaviour and the numbers of pupils taking part in a range of sports is extremely positive.

Pupil & Parent Voice: In the next few weeks, I will be asking pupils and parents to complete our annual questionnaires. These questionnaires are crucially important, as the results help us to continue to take the school forward, making the positive changes which will result in higher levels of achievement and improvements across our school.

For instance, following the comments from last year's questionnaires, we have improved our Behaviour Policy, introducing the Restart Room, which has led to a marked improvement in behaviour and attitudes across the school. We have also changed the way we run after school clubs, using our own highly -qualified staff to offer a wider range of activities and have introduced some clubs suggested by the children, such as gardening and cookery. We have also continued to improve our school environment, by re-decorating, refurbishing and installing a stage, whiteboards and sound system in order to celebrate the excellence of our pupils.

Finally, parents and carers were very clear in their feedback that you wanted more opportunities to be invited into school in order to share positive experiences alongside your children. As a result, we have worked hard to introduce School Fayres, Parent & Teacher Consultations & Craft sessions, class assemblies, music concerts, plays, Family Learning activities and coffee mornings.

I very much look forward to reading the comments from your next questionnaire, so that we can continue to improve and develop our wonderful school together!

Financial Audit: I would like to say a big 'thank you' to Mrs Dixon and Mrs Nicholls, our Shared Business Manager, who have undergone a very rigorous 2 day audit of school financial procedures this week. This is an important aspect of school life and I am grateful to have such hard-working and dedicated staff in the school office. Special thanks also go to Miss Sugden, Mr Walker and Mr Hodgson, who have also helped prepare for the audit. The auditors were very impressed with the stringent systems and procedures in place in our school. Thank you, everyone!

'Stars of the Week' this week are:

Y1: Millie Mae Hopper: excellent writing about snails, using Read Write Inc.

Y2: Connie Tissier for super maths problem solving

Y3: Lewis Metcalfe for excellent character descriptions

Y4: Tia Cooke for a fantastic weather forecast report

Y5: Raby Group: (Annaleaha, Macauley, Reece, Joshua, Emma & Cassie) for amazing division all week

Y6: Bailee Woods Adams for excellent improvement in maths





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Dates for your Diary:

School Closed Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May
<u>Forest Schools Sessions:</u> Old shoes / wellies, waterproof coat/ sun hat /cap will be needed as these sessions will happen in school grounds, regardless of weather.	Year 1 Tuesday 6 th May, 12.30-2.55pm Year 2: Tuesday 13 th May, 12.30-2.55pm Year 3: Tuesday 20 th May, 12.30-2.55pm Year 4: Tuesday 3 rd June, 12.30-2.55pm Year 5: Tuesday 10 th June, 12.30-2.55pm Year 6: Tuesday 17 th June, 12.30-2.55pm
Year 3 Tennis Festival	Thursday 8 th May 9am-12pm
Woodhouse Close Church Spring Fayre	Saturday 10 th May 1.30pm
Year 6 SAT week	Monday 12 th May – Thursday 15 th May
Year 1 Hardwick Hall Trip	Monday 19 th May
Break Up for May Week	Friday 23 rd May
Return to school	Monday 2 nd June
Y3 Overnight Residential Trip to Langdon Beck	Monday 16 th June
Y5 Curriculum Week	Monday 23 rd June – Thursday 26 th June: Bishop Barrington Friday 27 th June: St John's
Y5 & 6 2 Night Residential to Hadrian's Wall (Thrills & Skills for Life)	Sunday 6 th July – Tuesday 8 th July
Y6 Transition to Secondary School	Wednesday 9 th July – Friday 11 th July
SPORTS DAY: KS 1 & 2 Y3 & 4: 9.30-10.30am Y5& 6: 11.00am-12.00pm Y1 & 2: 1.15-2.15pm	Monday 14 th July
SPORTS DAY: EYFS	Tuesday 15 th July, 10.00am
EYFS Graduation Celebration	Thursday 17 th July 9.30am
Y6 Leavers Assembly	Friday 18 th July, 9.10am
Y6 Leavers BBQ (weather permitting)	Friday 18 th July, pm.
Break up for Summer	Friday 18 th July
Return to school	Wednesday 3 rd September 2014

Mrs Page
Headteacher

