



'the pathway to success'

Woodhouse Community Primary School

NEWS LETTER

Summer 1 Week 1: ending 20/4/18



Welcome Back! It was good to welcome everyone back after our cold and wet Easter holiday but at last we have the sunshine! Everyone has had a settled week, getting straight back into the swing of things from day 1. Year 6 and Year 2 will be working extremely hard towards their SAT preparation, whilst still enjoying a wide- ranging curriculum and lots of events.

OPAL: Many thanks to everyone who has brought in unwanted items for our new Outdoor Play and Learning venture. So far, we have had dolls, teddies, straw hats, sun glasses, handbags, dressing up costumes, a full-sized pushchair, plastic tea sets, a guitar and even a pair of flippers! Two classes were chosen to trial the equipment at play and lunchtimes this week but from Monday, every class will have a specific day to choose to play with whatever they wish. Every child who brings wellies into school is allowed access to the field every day (not just when it's their class's turn for OPAL equipment). Please keep bringing in any unwanted items (nothing glass or electrical, please) . Please keep donating your unwanted items: 5 Dojo points for every donation! Later this term, we will be extending our equipment to include old tyres, ropes, wood, tarpaulins etc, for den-building etc, so don't throw anything away!

Oriental Museum: This week, Year 3 visited the Oriental Museum in Durham as part of their topic. Mr Lockey was very impressed by their behaviour and attitude, well done, everyone!

Bishop Barrington Sports Event: Year 4 enjoyed an afternoon of sporting events at Bishop Barrington on Tuesday. As always, behaviour was excellent although if children are not able to behave sensibly whilst walking to / from Bishop Barrington, they will not be invited to attend the next event. 4 children from Year 2 have been invited to help staff deliver some PE training at Bishop Barrington next week: how lovely that we are a 'go to' school for such events, as our pupils are known to be exemplary in their behaviour and attitude!

Year 5 Junior Education Police: Y5 have a programme of working with the Junior Ed Police this half term and this week, learned all about illegal badger baiting. Their focus and questioning was superb and Mrs Connor was very impressed with her class!

Food Festival: Year 4 & 5 this morning visited Bishop Auckland College to participate in an interactive cookery session as part of the Bishop Auckland Food Festival celebrations. The organiser specifically spoke to Miss Elmes to praise the behaviour and attitude of our pupils and has asked to work with us again in the future as we were so good! Well done to you all.

Joseph and his Technicolour Dreamcoat: Auditions are being held this afternoon for our Summer production of 'Joseph'. We will be starting after school club next Thursday after school for those successful candidates.

Spanish Links: This morning, I was invited to attend a meeting with the Spanish Ambassador and Spanish Minister for Education, who are visiting Bishop Auckland from Spain. They are keen to develop links particularly with teaching Spanish in schools, as there is a lot of positive links with the Auckland Castle Project, the new Spanish Museum in Bishop Auckland etc. I am hoping to make a link with a school in Spain in the near future and will keep you posted.

Dufton Residential Trip: Mr Lockey requires the final payment of £15 for those still outstanding by Friday 27th April, please. If payment is not made by this time, unfortunately the place will be offered to the next person on the reserve list, as we do have children desperately wanting to go.



Astronomical Attendance:

WEEK 5	Whole Class Attendance % this week	% of class with 100% attendance this week	Minutes late lost per class
Reception	85	80	0
Year 1	97.1	88.5	28
Year 2	89.2	86.7	13
Year 3	96.1	93.1	16
Year 4	94.8	89.7	9
Year 5	91.7	83.3	15
Year 6	96.6	89.7	7

Average attendance this week for Rec- Y6 = 92.9%: this is slightly below the expected average: let's see if we can improve to over 95% next week, everyone please.

Lateness: 88 minutes lost due to being late. This is a big improvement, well done and thank, parents! Referrals to Durham County Council Enforcement Team have been made this week for those children persistently absent (ie. Attendance falling below 90%). This may result in a fine or even court prosecution. From this week, persistent absentees will be visited by Kirsty to ascertain reasons for persistent absence.

Unauthorised absence: 3.33%

Absence due to illness: 3.63%

Diary Dates:

Children Return to school	Tuesday 17 th April
Monday 23 rd April	Y5 Bowes Museum Trip
Tuesday 24 th April	Y2 Locomotion Trip
Wednesday 25 th April	Y5 Commonwealth Trip to Durham
Thursday 26 th April	'Joseph' Drama Club 3-4pm
Friday 27 th April	Y6 Den Building (bring old clothes)
Thursday 3 rd May	Y4 Class Assembly
Monday 7 th May	School Closed for May Bank Holiday
Friday 11 th May	Y1 Lighthouse Trip
Monday 14 th May – Thursday 17 th May	Year 6 SATs: NO ABSENCE THIS WEEK, PLEASE
Tuesday 22 nd May	Y5 Class Assembly
Thursday 24 th May	Photographer for all classes including EYFS
Friday 25 th May	Photographer for Y6 Class Photo

Mrs T Page

Headteacher