



Woodhouse Community Primary School Newsletter Aut 1 wk 2 2022

Term 1: week ending 7th October 2022

A message from our Headteacher ..



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy week! We started with a school photo day on Monday and it was lovely to see the children dressed so smartly and with gorgeous hairstyles, with their younger and older siblings. I really hope you are pleased with the outcomes.

Our Y6 children enjoyed competing at a Handball festival where I hear they did very well... in fact both teams came 1st in their leagues. A huge well done to Team Year 6!

Our Year 1 children enjoyed a little visit out to Woodhouse Close Church. They behaved brilliantly and asked some really thoughtful questions about the different things they found inside the church. I know Mrs Gorton was very impressed!

I was disappointed we had nobody turn up for our Preloved children's clothes and uniform shop. If you are in need of any uniform, clothing or shoes, please come along on a Tuesday at 2:45pm. Even if we do not have exactly what you need, we will try to source it for you.

Next half term, we will be starting Family cookery club. This will first be open to families/children of Year 6. It will run slightly differently to how we have done in the past. Sarah McAllister will still run the sessions but the first hour will be parents/carers only, with the 2nd hour devoted to cooking the recipe with your children, along with an additional recipe/bag of ingredients to take away to do at home. Letters will be going out next Friday. We intend to offer this opportunity to each year group over the year.

You may have noticed we have had a number of staff off in school this week due to sickness bugs and other unforeseen circumstances. Let us hope for a more settled normal week next week! I wish to thank you all for your patience and understanding.

As always, please contact school if you have any queries. Enjoy your weekend.

Mrs Smith

Headteacher

Notices and Important Information



POLICE ASSEMBLY Monday 17th October

We have had reports of a range of anti-social behaviour happening on the estate, involving younger children joining in alongside some of the older children. Therefore Beth, our local PCSO, plus her colleague will be coming into school to deliver an assembly about this aimed at our Year 4 to Year 6 children.

ONLINE SAFETY

Please find attached a link to the NSPCC website which has a good range of information for parents to support you in ensuring your child is safe online at home. Mrs Connor is our e-safety lead and over the coming weeks will be working with our E-Safety ambassadors on this very important issue.

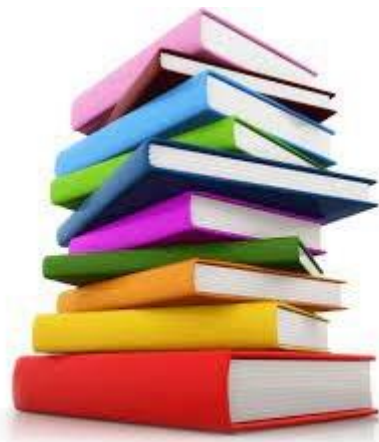
[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

Financial help and support for families - A dedicated web page [Help with your money](#) has been developed for County Durham residents and contains specific help for families. The page has information on a range of support available including applying for Free School Meals (FSM), debt advice/financial help and help with heating and fuel bills.

Help with buying items for school including school uniforms - A dedicated web page has been developed for families to find out about this support [Help with buying items for school - Durham County Council](#)

The Bread and Butter Thing (TBBT)- TBBT collects surplus food and staple goods that often end up going to waste from supermarkets, factories and farms, and distributes it at a discount price through 10 community hubs across County Durham (Our closest one is St Andrew's Primary). You will need to become a member to use the service, but this is free to do. For just £7.50, TBBT members' shopping bags can be filled with an average of £35 worth of items made up of quality, nutritious food. Each week members can access three bags of produce, including fresh fruit and vegetables, chilled goods, as well as cupboard staples such as pasta and cereal. [Bread and Butter Thing: membership](#)

School Term Dates 2022-2023



1 - Friday 21st October 2022- Break up for Autumn Half term

*Monday 31st October 2022- Staff Training day (**Children NOT in school**)*

Tuesday 1st November 2022- Children return to school

Tuesday 20th December 2022- Break up for Christmas

Wednesday 4th January 2023- Children return to school

Friday 17th February 2023- Break up for Spring half term

Monday 27th February 2023-Children return to school

Friday 31st March 2023- Break up for Easter

Tuesday 18th April 2023- Children return to school

Friday 26th May 2023- Break up for Summer half term

Tuesday 6th June 2023- Children return to school

Friday 21st July 2023- Break up for Summer

**In school we have 7 Rainbow virtues that we want our children to follow and practise at all times.
Our first virtue is respect**

What do we mean by Kindness?

'sharing with our friends.' **Luke Y1**

' playing with people at lunchtime.' **Sophia Y5**

' letting people who are alone join in with games. ' **Amelia Y5**



2 - Introducing... Our School Council

SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Council meets every few weeks with Mrs Gorton in school. There are 2 children from each class in the School Council - from Year 1 to Year 6. They are chosen by a vote in their classes (democracy in action!)

Our School council is a really important element of Pupil Voice- it allows our children to have a say in fundraising ideas, themed days and events and decisions about spending money raised at school fairs. We have just purchased some play equipment based on what the children asked for last year.

Our School Council this year

Chair: Vito (Y6)

Vice chair: Kensie Jade(Y6)

Secretary: Hollie (Y5)

Other Council Members: Connor (Y5), Noah (Y4), Andrea (Y4), Poppie Anne (Y3), Malachi (Y3), Amelia(Y2), Keaton (Y2), Levi (Y1) and Skylar-Rose (Y1)

PLAY AND SPORT AT WCPS

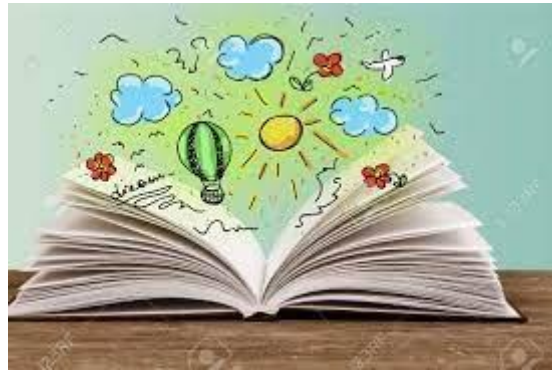


PLAY: At WCPS we encourage positive play and value the importance of play in ensuring our children stay active, develop confidence and important social skills and improve mental health and wellbeing. That is why at playtimes, we have a range of resources and equipment our children can use.

This week, we have finally received some more of our equipment order. The children have enjoyed playing with hoops and using the giant chalks to play 'Tic,tac toe' and write messages on the playground. My favourite message was 'School is the best!'

SPORT: On a lunchtime, Mr Walker has been running a Key Stage 2 Netball league. Teams of mixed Key Stage 2 children compete against each other and at the end of the half term, we will have 1st and 2nd placed teams who will receive medals. Good luck to all who are taking part!

What we are reading this week



'We read Supertato in class. It was funny and he took all of the food.' **Emily-Rose Year 1**

' I read an information book about Night Animals. It was very interesting. Animals that come out at night are nocturnal.'

Nylah Grace Y3

'I am reading Diary of a Wimpy Kid- Snow Meltdown. I have read some of the other Wimpy Kid books. I like them because they are really funny and you can learn lessons from some things that happen.' **Hollie Y5**

FOCUS ON....RECEPTION



Reception have settled in amazingly. It is a big step starting big school but boys and girls, you have smashed it!! Since starting Reception, children have worked really hard together on our class charter – our school rules and we are getting there. Children are starting to use the areas, playing and co-operating well and its lovely to see this grow and flourish. Day by day children are starting to find and develop their independence skills and this is something that will grow and develop throughout the year.

We started the week by making our first tally chart. This was to see how each of us get to school each day. The children have enjoyed discussing with each other and their teachers the different modes of transport we use to get to school and then marking their tally on the interactive board. We used language around transport but also mathematical language such as more than, less than and the same as.

Following on from this we then went for a walk around our local area, the children enjoyed showing Mrs Taylor, Mrs Kent and Brogan around Woodhouse estate. We talked about the different sized houses we could see and learnt all about bungalows and houses and the differences between them. It was interesting to hear the children talk about where they lived and them showing us as we walked.

We talked about road safety, roundabouts and road signs. The children knew that a road sign informed us about the direction of a particular place. All the children were so well behaved and we had such an enjoyable afternoon – they were a pleasure to be out and about with.

When we got back to school, we then drew our own map from our walk, adding places and pictures on to the map. Staff were blown away about what the children had remembered whilst out on our walk, mirroring some of the language staff had modelled.

In English, we have been exploring the Rainbow Fish story. Reception staff are astounded with the children's descriptions of the story, the language they have used. Mrs Curry and Mrs Smith popped down and heard lots of children using personification and alliteration when describing the waves. We have explored and talked about the different textures of treasures we can find under the sea and learnt a variety of new vocabulary to build our own sentences.

We have also had a teddies bear picnic this week. During the picnic we have expanded our mathematical language when we were comparing to see which teddy had less and more? Which teddy's cup was empty and which one was full. The children really enjoyed this, sharing the tomatoes out equally to make it fair on the teddy.

To those who have been in school all week, well done! We have had amazing week! Let's keep it up. Staff are excited to see where this adventure will take us.

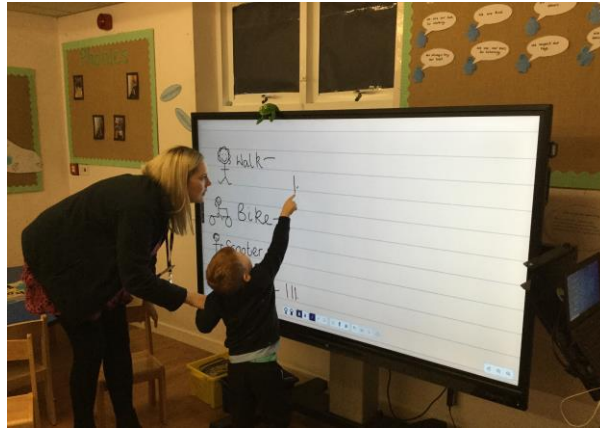
Attendance is so important. In Reception staff work incredibly hard to lay the foundation of learning which children build on throughout their time in primary school. Inconsistent and poor attendance will have such negative implications not only on your child's academic progress, but also their social and emotional development too.











Attendance



Article 28: You have the right to a good quality education.

Attendance has been hit this week drastically and no classes have hit the school target. I really hope there is drastic improvement next week. **Every day at school counts and makes a difference.**

Class of the Week: Year 5 96.3 % WELL DONE! You win the extra playtime reward

2nd place: Year 4 94.5%

3rd: Year 1 90.3%

4th: Year 3 89.3%

5th: Year 6 85.4%

6th place: Y2 84.9%

7th place: Reception 73.8% **Come on Reception- you have been in last place 2 weeks in a row!**

Target for attendance is 97%!

We continue to place high importance on attendance and punctuality. Classes receive rewards and shout outs in our celebration assemblies for having the highest attendance and punctuality on a weekly basis. We teach our children the importance of attending school regularly and on time. If your child's attendance falls below 97% then the attendance team will be in touch with you to offer support and work with you to improve your child's attendance. This will also be the case for those children who are persistently late or who have an emerging pattern of attendance over a time period.

If you require any support around attendance or getting your child to school on time, please speak to one of the members of the attendance team - Mrs Curry, Mrs Bone or Kirsty :-)

House Points

Diamonds 47 points

52 points

Emeralds 47 points

56 points

Rubies

Sapphires



This week's Awards ...



Star of the Week

Reception - **Kayden**- trying and working so hard on his Phonics

Y1 **Emily-Rose** -working so hard in her writing this week and developing independence

Y2 **Jackson** - excellent independent writing this week and working hard in maths

Y3 **Paislee**- having a super attitude and being a good role model for others

Y4 **Harleigh-James**- for superb independent writing this week

Y5 **Edie**- for always having a great attitude to her learning and completing work to a high standard

Y6 **Charley**- for super resilience in Maths and great independent writing.



WELL DONE to Jorgie in Year 3. She was the winner of our Mascot competition and will be a Mascot at the Durham vs Manchester Utd women's football game in Durham over half term. We look forward to hearing all about your special day Jorgie!

