



Woodlands
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

News Updates from Woodlands Primary School
READY — RESPECTFUL — SAFE

8th March 2024

LUNCH MENU: 3

TERM DATES:

Term Dates:
[https://
www.woodlands.ches
hire.sch.uk/
serve_file/21528161](https://www.woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/21528161)

**CLASS TWITTER NAMES
FROM SEPT 2023**

[@WoodlandsSquir](https://twitter.com/WoodlandsSquir)

[@WoodlandsOwls](https://twitter.com/WoodlandsOwls)

[@WoodlandsBadger](https://twitter.com/WoodlandsBadger)

[@WoodlandsFoxes](https://twitter.com/WoodlandsFoxes)

[@Woodlands1AA](https://twitter.com/Woodlands1AA)

[@23Woodlands1ES](https://twitter.com/23Woodlands1ES)

[@Woodlands2DR](https://twitter.com/Woodlands2DR)

[@Woodlands2PB](https://twitter.com/Woodlands2PB)

[@Woodlands3LB](https://twitter.com/Woodlands3LB)

[@Woodlands3HH](https://twitter.com/Woodlands3HH)

[@Woodlands4AW](https://twitter.com/Woodlands4AW)

[@Woodlands4RO](https://twitter.com/Woodlands4RO)

[@Woodlands34LW](https://twitter.com/Woodlands34LW)

[@Woodlands5MG](https://twitter.com/Woodlands5MG)

[@Woodlands5SE](https://twitter.com/Woodlands5SE)

[@Woodlands56LT](https://twitter.com/Woodlands56LT)

[@Woodlands6BS](https://twitter.com/Woodlands6BS)

[@Woodlands6DM](https://twitter.com/Woodlands6DM)

Subjects:

[@Compwoodlands](https://twitter.com/Compwoodlands)

[@REandWorldViews](https://twitter.com/REandWorldViews)

[@MUSICwoodlands](https://twitter.com/MUSICwoodlands)



Please remember to book your Parent-Teacher Review Meeting if you haven't done so already. These appointments will be face to face on 25th & 26th March and can be booked using this link: -

<https://woodlandsprimaryschool.parentseveningsystem.co.uk>

Please note: Acorns, squirrels and Foxes have different dates and booking system—
contact your class teacher for more information



FRIDAY 15 MARCH

For Red Nose Day the children are welcome to come to school in their own clothes if they wish. The PTA will have collection buckets on the gate or you can donate online directly to Comic Relief using the following link

[https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?
shopid=14863](https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=14863)

(Please note: Year 3 children must wear school uniform for their Easter trail trip)



This Week's Year Group News

EYFS

Squirrels - This week, the children have been exploring pouring and filling using different media such as water and rice. We have been using containers of different shapes and sizes. The children have enjoyed watching the flow of the water whilst developing their hand-eye coordination.

During our PE sessions we have been exploring different animal movements. We have talked about the importance of stretching and warming up our bodies, moving from side to side.

In our small world area, the children have enjoyed playing with the dinosaurs. We have also been busy creating Mother's Day cards.

Thank you for your support.

The Squirrels Team

DONATIONS WANTED - We are looking for donations of extra knickers, socks and trousers as spares. If you or anyone you know, works somewhere that may be able to donate or you feel you are able to donate these it would be much appreciated

Foxes - What a busy week! In Maths, we have been exploring numbers 0-5 and have been practising to match the right numeral and quantity together. We have continued to explore our focus text, 'The Pirates are coming'. The children have looked closely at the pictures and discussed the hiding places of each pirate.

In PE, the children demonstrated excellent listening skills and had lots of fun learning new games with our sports coach. It was lovely to see so many children dressed up for World Book Day! Everyone was very excited to tell each other which character they were dressed as and talk about their favourite books!

Badgers & Owls - In Literacy, we have continued our focused story; 'The pirates are coming' and the children have enjoyed writing messages to the pirates and making up their own stories in our tuff tray.

We have also talked about Mother's Day and the children have been busy creating their own special cards.

The children really enjoyed World Book Day and they looked amazing in their outfits, thank you for making such an effort to make it an extra special day.

In Maths, we have been thinking about measuring time and using language such as 'first', 'next' and 'after that'. We have also started to look at number 9 and 10. Perhaps you can look out for these numbers when you are out and about and feel free to email any pictures!

Thank you for your continued support.

The Reception Team

Acorns - The Acorns have had a busy week and have really enjoyed singing lots of new songs, especially during Circle Time. We have practised scooping, pouring and creating new sounds during our messy play with pasta - we have stayed very engaged throughout! We celebrated World Book Day this week by dressing up as our favourite book characters - everyone looked fantastic! The Acorns have been making some special Mother's Day cards to give to their families.

Continued overleaf.....



This Week's Year Group News

KS1

Year 1 - Another busy week in Year 1! We have been measuring mass and capacity in Maths using practical activities. We have written descriptions of the characters in our new story 'The Curious Case of the Missing Mammoth', using adjectives, suffixes and prefixes to add detail.

In Science, we learnt about wooden toys and their properties, and drew our favourites. We had a brilliant time on World Book Day! It was great to see the brilliant costumes and hear about everyone's favourite books. We enjoyed designing our own book covers, creating book marks and sharing stories.

Year 2— In English this week, we have continued using 'The Curious Case of the Missing Mammoth' by Ellie Hattie to inspire our writing. The children have been learning to use the possessive apostrophe as well as ensuring their writing has the correct tense.

In shared reading, we have continued developing our comprehension strategies. This includes answering questions by using the strategy of reading and retrieving the correct information and making inferences based on what has been read. In Mathematics, we have been learning about capacity and temperature. The children have been using standard units of measure to estimate and measure mass (kg/g); temperature (°C) and capacity (litres/ml).

Thank you for your continued support,
The KS1 Team

KS2

Year 3 & 4 - Another jam-packed week this week!

In English, the children have worked hard to extend their sentences using conjunctions and have explored the migratory behaviour of Blue Whales.

In Maths, the Year 3 children have started work on measuring length, looking at m and cm, followed by converting mm into cm and cm into m. The Year 4 children have also begun working on length and perimeter, converting m into km.

We enjoyed celebrating World Book Day and took part in a 'Celebrity Masked Read' quiz, 'Guess That Story' and wrote book reviews for our favourite books.

Just a reminder that next week, Year 4 children will be attending St David's Church in Eastham to take part in the Easter Trail on Monday, with Year 3 children attending on Friday. If you have not yet given consent for your child to attend, please do so as soon as possible via Parentpay. Without consent, we will be unable to take your child out of school.

Can we please ask you to remind your child that they should not be bringing cameras or watches with a camera on them into school.

Thank you for your continued support
LKS2 team



This Week's Year Group News

Year 5 & 6 - It has been a brilliant week in UKS2!

In Maths, Year 6 have been working on the topic of ratio, firstly looking at ratio language and the ratio symbol before moving on to a range of worded ratio problems. In Year 5 Maths, the children have been working hard on their new topic: decimals and percentages. To begin with, they have looked at equivalent decimals and fractions, and have covered between them. Next week, they will continue their work and start to look at percentages.

In English, we have continued to investigate the Selfish Giant. Year 6 have written monologues from the giant's perspective whilst Year 5 have worked hard on letters to the giant as well as investigating the use of personification in the story.

Year 5 and Year 6 loved taking part in a range of World Book Day themed activities on Thursday, and it was lovely to see the children so engaged. Thank you to everyone who attended the Scholastic Book Fair this week - we really hope you enjoy your new books!

Thank you for your continued support.

The UKS2 Team

Have A Wonderful Weekend!

Here are some useful links from the NSPCC about the social media platforms:

Snapchat: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/is-snapchat-safe-for-my-child/>

And Whatsapp: <https://parents.snapchat.com/en-GB>
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>



Whole School Attendance 94.87%

Reporting Children's Absence

School must be informed of children's absence on the first day by ringing 0151 329 3164 and pressing 1 to leave a message. This must be done before 9am. Please ensure you provide the child's name, class and reason for absence.

If your child is absent due to sickness or diarrhoea, they will be unable to return to school for 48hrs after their last episode. This is inline with the Public Health Agency guidance to reduce the risk of the illness spreading. Any absence not explained is registered as unauthorised.

Appointments

Parents and carers should make every effort to book routine dental and GP appointments outside of school hours. Where this is not possible, children should only be absent for the time needed for the appointment and travel to and from.

For any prebooked medical appointments copies of appointment letters can be emailed to n.brown@woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk in advance so that a note can be added to the register. The school will work with all families on an individual basis if medical absences exceed the maximum threshold.

Holidays During Term Time

Can we politely request that parents inform school of any upcoming holidays via the Leave of Absence forms which can be collected from the school offices. These forms should be completed and handed to school 4 working weeks in advance of the first day of absence.

Dates – Week Beginning 11 March 2024

Lunches Week 3

Mon 11 March	Before-school club – KS1 Judo with Judo Education 8 to 8.45am, drop off Junior Hall (book direct with Judo Education)
Mon 11 March	Y4 Out – Easter Trail at St. David's Church.
Mon 11 March	Foxes and Squirrels – Easter chicks arriving
Mon 11 March	Y6 Maths Quiz Final – by invite only
Mon 11 March	5/6LT Forest School—Suitable outdoor clothes and shoes needed
Mon 11 March	After-school club – KS2 Create Music Guitar Lessons 3.20-4.20pm, pick-up Junior Playground (book direct at admin@wecreatemusic.co.uk)
Mon 11 March	After-school club – Y3 & 4 Recorder 3.20-4.20pm with Miss Hughes pick-up Junior Playground
Mon 11 March	After-school club – K5 & 6 Cheerleading with Shadazzle 3.20-4.20pm pick-up Junior Playground
Mon 11 March	Nursery/Reception 2024 Tour for prospective parents/guardians – please call office to book on
Tue 12 March	After-school club – Y3 & 4 Table Tennis with Vara Sports 3.20-4.20pm, pick-up Junior Playground
Tue 12 March	After-school club – Y4 Times Tables Club with Miss Woodland 3.20-4.20pm, pick-up Junior Playground
Tue 12 March	Y6 Reading Workshop 3.20 to 4.10pm – book on via Parentpay
Wed 13 March	After-school club – Y5 & 6 Indoor Athletics 3.20-4.20pm pick-up Junior Playground (Outdoor kit this week please)
Wed 13 March	After-school club – KS2 Create Music Guitar Lessons 3.20-4.20pm pick-up Junior Playground (book direct at admin@wecreatemusic.co.uk)
Thu 14 March	Reception Drawing Club – Lunchtime (club full)
Thu 14 March	After School Club – Mad Science 3.20-4.20pm pick up Infant Office or Junior Playground
Thu 14 March	Y6 Maths Workshop 3.20 to 4.10pm – book on via Parentpay
Fri 15 March	Red Nose Day—non uniform day (Whole school except Year 3) in return for donations to Comic Relief
Fri 15 March	Y3 Out - Easter Trail – St David's Church (School Uniform required)
Fri 15 March	Y4 Swimming - Group C – don't forget to bring your kit to school. Please give consent on Parentpay if you haven't done so already.

VACANCY - MIDDAY ASSISTANT

We have a vacancy for a Midday Assistant. If you or someone you know are interested in this position and would like more information, then please contact admin@woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk or speak to Sue in the Junior Office. This would be for 1.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, 38 weeks per year, working with KS2.

Sports for Champions: Thursday 18th April 2024!

Olympian

Dan Purvis

Artistic Gymnastics

Year of Birth: 1990

Coach: Jeff Brooks

Representing: Great Britain
& Scotland



Danny Purvis, Olympic medallist Gymnast, will be coming to Woodlands to go head-to-head with the pupils! Danny will be delivering an inspirational assembly all about his career, achievements, training regimes and sacrifices made. As well as talk about the highs and lows of his career. After this the children in classes will go head-to-head with Danny to complete 4 simple circuits.

If you would like to **sponsor your child** here is the link for our crowd funding page! <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/woodlands-primary-school-1>

Your child will also be bringing home a sponsor form this week to fill in if they wish to receive sponsors from family or friends. Alternatively, we are organising an **own clothes day** in order to raise funds for our event so if any children are unable to get sponsors, do not worry!

DINNER DEBTS

Despite weekly emailed reminders and often phone calls, our dinner account is regularly in arrears. As such, we would like to once again remind all Parents & Carers whose child is not entitled to a free meal, that we do require all meals to be paid for in advance.



World Down Syndrome Day Thursday 21st March 2024



Please note that we will be raising money for Down Syndrome Cheshire on 21/03/24 but selling Gingerbread sock biscuits in support of World Down Syndrome Day.

Sales will take place on both school sites in the playgrounds at the end of the school day. Biscuits will cost £1 each.





Woodlands Nursery/Pre-School September 2024

If you, family or friends have a child who turns 2 or 3 before the 1st September 2024, please do not hesitate to ask us about our Nursery & Pre-School provisions. Woodlands offer half day and full-time sessions up to a maximum of 30 hrs per week and you can use your 15/30hrs free childcare funding with us. You can also use our wraparound to top up your provision with Breakfast & After-School club. Holiday Clubs can be booked and paid for separately so that all your childcare needs can be met under one roof. For more information, please email or call Jann in the Infant Office on 0151 329 3164 Opt 2 or j.bell@woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk



**25 SPACES
AVAILABLE!***

EASTER DANCE CAMP

*** 15 SPACES RESERVED FOR CHILDREN
ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

**TUESDAY 2ND -
FRIDAY 5TH APRIL**

FROM 9:00AM - 1:00PM

**AT UNITED REFORM CHURCH
2 PARKFIELD DRIVE, WHITBY, ELLESMERE
PORT, CH65 6SN**

*Hot Lunch
included*



INFO@PURPLEGECKOFITNESS.COM

BETTER BEHAVIOUR PARENT GROUP – DROP IN SESSION



The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) in Ellesmere Port continues to offer this evidence based intervention in a small group setting for parents of Primary aged children who want to encourage better behaviour at home. The group runs for 7 weekly sessions.



We have arranged a drop in day for interested parents to attend – on **MONDAY 18TH MARCH 2024!** There will be a 1 HOUR TASTER SESSION about the group, followed by time for questions.

The same taster session will run twice - at 09.30am and then again at 2pm so please attend whichever session suits you best.

We hope to run the next group after the Easter break at Kingsley Resource Centre each Wednesday morning 09.30am – 11.30am. This will run from Weds 1st May – 26th June 2024 – these dates include breaks for half term etc. *The taster session looks at; What is Challenging Behaviour? Understanding Children's Behaviour, Factors Impacting Child Behaviour & What Happens in a Group Session.*

MONDAY 18TH MARCH 2024 @ KINGSLEY RESOURCE CENTRE (CORONATION ROAD, ELLESMERE PORT, CH65 9AA – by the Fire Station)

Please come along, we would love to meet you! It is a great chance to learn more about the group & ask any questions you may have.



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Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust

ANXIETY PARENT OFFER – A DROP IN SESSION!



The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) in Ellesmere Port continues to offer evidence based interventions in a small group setting or online for parents of children of primary age who are experiencing anxiety.



Small changes,
big differences.



OSI

Online Support
and Intervention
for Child Anxiety

We have arranged a drop in day for interested parents to attend – on **FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 2024!** There will be a 1 HOUR INFORMATION SESSION about the MHST offer, followed by time for questions.

The same information session will run twice
- at 09.30am and again at 2pm - please
attend whichever session suits you best.

We hope to run the next parent group after the Easter break at Kingsley Resource Centre – dates and times to be arranged.

The information session looks at; What is anxiety? Why parent work? What Happens in a Group Session? What is our current offer for parents - including TripleP Fear-Less and our online offer (OSI – Online Support & Intervention for Child Anxiety)?

FRIDAY 22ND MARCH 2024 @ KINGSLEY RESOURCE CENTRE (CORONATION ROAD, ELLESMERE PORT, CH65 9AA – by the Fire Station / Cherry Bank)

Please come along, we would love to meet you! It is a great chance to learn more about our anxiety parent work offer & ask any questions you may have.



NHS

Cheshire and Wirral
Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust



Changes to Childcare Choices from April 2024

Childcare Choices: Get the help that fits your family, so you can juggle work and life

Thousands of families could be saving money on their childcare costs. But some simply don't know what support they might be eligible for.

The Childcare Choices website brings together all the existing childcare offers in one place, so parents can get the help that fits their family. This could be through Tax-Free Childcare, 30 Hours Childcare, or Universal Credit Childcare. Some families might be eligible to use more than one childcare schemes together and get the most out of it. Visit the site at <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/> to check your eligibility and see if you can benefit from additional support.

And from this year even more help is on the way:

From **April 2024**, eligible working parents in England with children aged 2 will have access to 15 hours childcare.

From **September 2024**, the 15 hours childcare offer will be expanded to eligible working parents in England with children between 9 and 23 months old.

From **September 2025**, eligible working parents in England with children between 9 months up to school age will have access to 30 hours childcare.

If you are eligible, you need to apply for your funding at <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-childcare-if-youre-working>.

You do not need to apply if you are only claiming the standard 15hrs from the term after your child's 3rd birthday. This is automatically in place for all children of that age.

Support is also expanding for primary-school aged children – from September 2024, parents are expected to see an expansion in the availability of childcare in their local area before and after school, between 8am and 6pm, also known as '**wraparound care**'.

Don't miss out on getting the support you are entitled to. Visit the Childcare Choices website shown above to check what offer you might be eligible for and sign up to our newsletter to get the latest updates about the childcare support expansion.

We would also encourage parents to sign up to the Childcare Choices newsletter to receive updates about the changes coming from April 2024.

More information on wider financial support is available on the Help for Households website and leaflet at:

<https://helpforhouseholds.campaign.gov.uk/campaign-toolkit/>
