



7th December 2018



@TEAM_Woodlands



Woodlands Ellesmere Port

@VicCarr6

Website: www.woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk

FOXES AND SQUIRRELS

This week, the children have helped to decorate their classrooms ready for Christmas and have started some big art work for display. We have been super busy learning the words to songs for our Christmas Sing-a-long next week.

We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone into our classrooms for the sing-a-long and stay and play sessions, if you haven't yet signed up for a session then please see a member of the Nursery team.

As the term draws to a close, each class will be putting together a box of non-perishable food / toiletries to help those less fortunate than ourselves. We would be grateful if you could send a small donation into school with your child to put into our box.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you all next week!

RECEPTION

The children in Reception have been super busy writing letters to Father Christmas, telling him what they wish for. They have been making and writing cards to friends and family too.

As well as continuing with subtraction, we have also been working on consolidating our understanding of numbers. For example, what does a number 6 look like? Looking at the numeral 6, counting out 6 objects, making a tower with 6 blocks, finding a 6 on the dice, how we can split a circle into 6 equal sections, 3 and 3 is 6 and so is 1 and 5...

We have been practising for our Christmas production ready for next week. We are looking forward to performing it for you. You will be very proud of all of the children.

YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2

Year 1 - This week, we started learning our Christmas songs in preparation for our Christmas activity afternoon on the 20th December. It has been a fun and exciting week and there has been lots of super learning happening across the Y1 classes.

Literacy — In Literacy this week, we have been looking at what makes a 'good' sentence. Focusing on capital letters, full stops and finger spaces. The Y1 children have been developing their vocabulary and have demonstrated this in their work. They have also been working really hard with their handwriting, ensuring all letters are clearly formed.

Topic and Science — In science, we have been identifying and naming different animals. We have been asking questions about animals and carrying out our own research. We have also been grouping animals and creating our own criteria.

Maths — In Maths, we have been focusing on the addition sign, learning to add two numbers together. We have looked at many different strategies to help add two numbers together. We have used a number line, the part, part whole model and pictorial representations.

Busy jobs: Creating sentences using adjectives, Correcting sentences, Practising number bonds to 10

Year 2 - The children have had a really busy and exciting week in school. They have had a visit to Quarry Bank Mill and found out all about life as a Victorian child. They also sang at Chester Cathedral with other schools from Cheshire. The events were fantastic and the children loved both experiences.

Next week, we will be:

- Continuing to use 'The Owl Who Was Afraid Of the Dark' to inspire our writing. The children will be learning how to write a fact file about owls
- We will also be continuing to learn about money, as well as going over different addition and subtraction strategies

Thank you for your continued support. Year 2 team

YEAR 3 AND YEAR 4

Year 3 — Our week started fantastically, with a visit from Xander and the Peace Pirates, which Y3 absolutely loved! They were certainly singing their hearts out.

Y3 children have been superb whilst we have been assessing all that we have learnt so far this term with some tests. We are super proud of them!

We have also had some of our wonderful Y3s speaking to Radio Merseyside this week, which was very exciting indeed.

We are very much looking forward to our Christmas Extravaganza next week! We are sure it will be fantastic for those who can make it. Just a polite reminder to bring in an empty jam jar, with your child's name on, so that they can make their snow globes!

Another small reminder for children to bring in their homework books every Wednesday, and to have their reading books in school every day to be checked by their class teacher.

Thank you for all of your support!

Year 4 — In Y4, we discovered that the toy gorilla in our story actually transformed into a real gorilla at night. We have been practising using inverted commas to punctuate speech. We have also been writing speech sandwiches (not the edible kind) to make our speech more interesting. In class 4CH they thought about exciting verbs to use instead of 'said' and had an interesting discussion about whether the gorilla would **shout or whisper** to Hannah so he wouldn't scare her. Using these skills we wrote a conversation between Hannah and the gorilla.

In Maths we looked at how we could convert between metres and kilometres. We discussed how many metres were in a kilometre and how we could use this knowledge to solve problems. We also began to look at perimeter and learnt a new word 'rectilinear!' Ask your children what it means!

YEAR 5 AND YEAR 6

Year 5 — Y5 have had a lovely week this week. On Monday we started to make Christmas cards and decorations. We have also started to look at perimeter in Maths, finding the size of complex composite shapes. In Literacy, we have written some fantastic stories, where the main character isn't as nice as they seem. The children have worked really hard writing these and it has demonstrated all of their hard work over the last few weeks.

We want to say a really big well done to the Y5 children and thank you for your continued support.

Year 6 — It has been another brilliant week in Y6. Time is really flying by!

In Literacy, we have been investigating a spectacular scavenger: the vulture. The children have gained greater independence this week, researching, planning and writing an information text all about this brilliant bird of prey. Next week, we will be completing our final piece of writing all about the elusive – and critically endangered – tiger.

In Maths, we have explored percentages (including percentages of amounts), and then used our knowledge of percent to compare and order percentages, decimals and fractions. Next week, we will be completing our end of term assessments in Maths, which will show the children's progress over the Autumn term.

With assessment week next week, we would like to take this opportunity to remind the children not to worry and just to try their best. They have all worked extremely hard this term and the Y6 teachers are certain this will be reflected in the outcomes of these assessments. Additionally, each Y6 class will get an exciting break from assessments next week when a special visitor comes in to complete some intriguing chemistry experiments with them!

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

PLEASE NOTE THAT NEXT WEEK WILL BE WEEK 2 ON THE LUNCH MENU.



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PE NEWS

Another busy week for Sports at Woodlands. Today, we finally managed to celebrate the many children that have represented the school this term in celebration assembly... and we had a lot of them to celebrate.

We also attended a dodgeball, boccia and curling festival this afternoon, giving some children in Year 5 the opportunity to experience sports that they have never participated in before. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves and we will be looking to weave some of these into an already busy club and PE timetable.

I would also like to write a special mention to Lewis in Class 16 today, who raised over £200 for Autism at the weekend completing the Santa dash. Well done Lewis – that's what I like to see from our Sports Ambassadors. Leading the way in both empathy for others and health and fitness.

For more information about Sports at Woodlands, see the school blog on www.yourschoolgames.com.

Dear Parents & Carers

The PTA would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came to the Christmas fair on Saturday, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. You have helped to raise money that will go directly back into the school for resources, transport for trips and equipment. We would also like to thank the following businesses for their support donating prizes and attending the fair:

David Lloyd Cheshire Oaks
Tranmere Rovers FC
Flipout Chester
Outpost Paintball
Doubletree Hilton Chester
Dynamics Dance
Laura from Gellular
Chris from AW coaching
Sammy-Jo Makeup
Allure Salon
The Flower House
The Port Grocery
Chester Brass Band

Woodlands School Choir (who sounded beautiful)

Thank you to S4YC for sponsoring our lovely grotto and also a huge thank you to all the parents and teachers who helped either on the day or during the lead up with donations and wrapping. These events wouldn't be possible without so many of you getting involved. If you have any great ideas for the PTA or are interested in getting more involved, please email us at woodlands.pta@hotmail.co.uk or find our facebook page (search Woodlands PTA). We would love to hear from you.

This week we've also been out helping Santa with his sleigh ride to raise money for the Ellesmere Port Round Table who give the money to local causes. It was cold and wet but we had a great time seeing the children's faces light up meeting Santa!

Don't forget to get your entries in for the Christmas Colouring Competition in by Wednesday 12th December.

The PTA xxx



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

This year, each class has created a reverse Christmas calendar/box and the children have been invited to donate a non perishable food or toiletry item, rather than receiving a gift.

If you would like your child to participate, then please send them into school with their donation by Tuesday 18th December. Your gifts will be donated to a local foodbank or shelter in time for Christmas.

Thank you for your support.

CLASS LISTS

Please note that for safeguarding reasons we are unable to hand out class lists to Parents and Carers

SPONSORED READ/LISTEN



Thank you to all who took part in the sponsored read/listen last week. The children really enjoyed their extra reading time. We are absolutely overwhelmed with your support for this event, and your incredible generosity. The current total of sponsorship money raised is £1365. If you have any outstanding sponsorship money, please return it to school with your child on Monday so that we can send it to Usborne books and start ordering our new reading books. Every little helps!

CLEANING VACANCY

We have a vacancy for a Cleaner, working at school 3.30–5.30 each day on our Junior Site. If you are interested, please contact Pat Bate at Edsential on 07710 706170

Reminders

- Monday 10th December, Nursery Christmas Songs, Parents Invited, 11.00–11.30am
- Tuesday 11th December, Reception Dress Rehearsal to KS1 children.
- Tuesday 11th December, Y3 Library Visit, 10.00am–11.00am
- Tuesday 11th December, Class 14 Swimming
- Tuesday 11th December, KS1 Christmas Lunch
- Wednesday 12th December, Reception Christmas Production, Infant Hall, Parents Invited, 9.30–10.30am
- Wednesday 12th December, KS2 Christmas Lunch
- Wednesday 12th December, Y4 Christmas Carol Concert, Junior Hall, Parents Invited, 2.15–3.15pm & 6.00pm
- Wednesday 12th December, Nursery Christmas Songs, In Class, Parents Invited, 2.30–3.00pm
- Thursday 13th December, Reception Christmas Production, 9.30–10.30am
- Thursday 13th December, Nursery Christmas Songs, In Class, Parents Invited, 11.00–11.30am
- Friday 14th December, Y3 Christmas Extravaganza, Junior Hall. Class 10–9.00-10.00am, Class 11–10.30–11.30am, Class 12–2.00–3.00pm
- Friday 14th December, Y2 Meet the Characters @ Whitby Methodist Church