



NEWSLETTER

Woodlands
Primary School

News Updates from Woodlands Primary School
READY — RESPECTFUL — SAFE

26th April 2024

LUNCH MENU: 2

TERM DATES:

Term Dates:
https://www.woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/21528161

CLASS TWITTER NAMES
FROM SEPT 2023

[@WoodlandsSquir](#)

[@WoodlandsOwls](#)

[@WoodlandsBadger](#)

[@WoodlandsFoxes](#)

[@Woodlands1AA](#)

[@23Woodlands1Es](#)

[@Woodlands2DR](#)

[@Woodlands2PB](#)

[@Woodlands3LB](#)

[@Woodlands3HH](#)

[@Woodlands4AW](#)

[@Woodlands4RO](#)

[@Woodlands34LW](#)

[@Woodlands5MG](#)

[@Woodlands5SE](#)

[@Woodlands56LT](#)

[@Woodlands6BS](#)

[@Woodlands6DM](#)

Subjects:

[@Compwoodlands](#)

[@REandWorldViews](#)

[@MUSICwoodlands](#)

INTERNET SAFETY

WhatsApp has lowered its age limit from 16 to 13 years of age. Here is a guide with help and advice about keeping your child safe when using this app.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://www.thenationalcollege.com).

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP

With more than two billion active users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. This privacy issue has been in the spotlight recently, as the UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging; WhatsApp is unwilling to do so and has reportedly considered withdrawing its service in the UK should this legislation go ahead.

AGE RESTRICTION 13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EVOLVING SCAMS
WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency'. Plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to reset the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS
To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user that they want to message. If your child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that your child might be added to a group chat (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people that they don't know.

FAKE NEWS
WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allows news to be shared rapidly - whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

VIEW ONCE CONTENT
The facility to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate images or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't re-open them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this 'disappearing' content - but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing increased privacy.

CHAT LOCK
Another new option allows users to store certain messages or chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind a passcode, fingerprint or face ID authentication. The risk here is that this function creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content that they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of (such as age-inappropriate material).

VISIBLE LOCATION
WhatsApp's 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child's safely on the way home, for example. However, anyone in your child's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location - potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Carers ...TYPING...

EMPHASISE CAUTION
Encourage your child to treat unexpected messages with caution: get them to consider, for example, whether the message sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

THINKING BEFORE SHARING
Help your child to understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy - and all too common - for content to then be shared more widely (even publicly on social media). Encourage your child to consider how an ill-judged message might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS
It's wise to change your child's WhatsApp settings (go to 'Privacy', then 'Groups') to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval: you can give permission to 'My Contacts' or 'My Contacts Except...'. Additionally, if your child needs to use 'live location', emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need - and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY
Some parents like to check in with their child about how they're using WhatsApp, explaining that it will help to keep them safe. If you spot a 'Locked Chats' folder, you might want to talk about this sort of chats that are in there, who they're with and why your child wants to keep them hidden. Also, if your child has sent any 'view once' content, you could discuss their reasons for using this feature.

Meet Our Expert
Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

...HEY OSC #WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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[@wake_up_weds](#) [www.thenationalcollege](#) [@wake.up.wednesday](#) [@wake.up.weds](#)

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 12.04.2024



This Week's Year Group News

EYFS

Squirrels - The children have had a lovely week. They took part in 'Beep, Beep Day' where they pretended to cross the road, whilst holding hands with a teddy bear. When the bell was rung, they had to cross the road safely whilst looking and listening for the cars. The children have also taken part in painting, looking at different colours. Whilst playing outside, the children have been jumping and checking they land with 2 feet, as well as taking part in various climbing challenges! With Spring well and truly here, the children have enjoyed noting all the minibeasts they can find outside. **Don't forget about our temporary entrance and exit during the front playground renovation in the coming weeks!**

Reminder: If your child is a new starter in Squirrels we would love you to send in any family photos for the class family board.

Foxes - This week, we have celebrated 'Beep, Beep Day', where we learned all about keeping ourselves safe near roads. The children took part in lots of activities and created some beautiful posters! We have also been on a Spring walk this week and the children were able to spot lots of signs of the new season. We found lots of different flowers, leaves, insects, blossoms and bird nests. In Maths, we have been comparing different amounts and saying which group has more and which has less. Well done, Foxes!

Badgers & Owls - What an exciting week in Reception! We started off with Earth Day, talking about how to look after our planet. The children enjoyed going on a litter hunt around our playground to make sure we keep our own environment nice and safe. The children loved 'Beep, Beep Day' on Wednesday, learning all about staying safe around traffic and when travelling in a car. In Literacy, we have continued our focused story; 'Gigantosaurus' and the children have enjoyed writing about what the dinosaurs got up to in the jungle! In Maths, we have continued to work on numbers up to 20 and beyond, counting together and exploring counting patterns. **Badgers - Don't forget about our temporary entrance and exit during the front playground renovation in the coming weeks!**

Acorns - This week, the Acorns children have been going to the Hall to play some parachute games in a bigger space. We have really enjoyed exploring this new area and have adapted really well to a change in our routine - well done Acorns! We have also been introduced to 'Quiet Time' this week, where we have been fascinated watching the pretty patterns on the screen and listening to the calming music. It has really helped us to relax and to focus on something new.

Thank you for your continued support
The EYFS Team

KS1

Year 1 - In English, we wrote descriptions of what toys could see, hear and feel, if they were left outside overnight. We also used question marks and exclamation marks to write speech bubbles. In Maths, we continued our counting in 2's, 5's and 10's and made equal groups to count. In Science, we learnt about garden and wild plants, sorting those we plant and those which grow independently of us. In History, we sorted old and new toys into groups, thinking about who in our family would have played with them. We were interested to see that there are many old toys we still enjoy today! **Year 2** - In English this week, we have continued using the wonderful 'Toys in Space' by Mini Grey to inspire our English work. The children have been learning to use apostrophes for contracted forms and we have explored what homophones are. In Mathematics, we have been learning to recognise, name and write fractions. The children have also continued to revisit strategies for addition and subtraction of 2 2-digit numbers. In History, we have been learning about toys from the past and how to put them in chronological order using a timeline.

Thank you for your continued support
The KS1 Team

Continued overleaf.....



This Week's Year Group News

KS2

Year 3 & 4 - This week in English, the children have written in role as 'Atir', describing the journey down the River Nile towards the sea, using all of their senses and the present perfect tense. In Maths, the Year 3 children have been finding fractions of an amount whilst the Year 4 children have been working hard on equivalent fractions and converting mixed numbers to improper fractions. This week in Science, we have learnt about the different parts of plants and their functions. We were amazed to see how much our cress seeds had grown, even those in the dark cupboard! In History, we have located Egypt on a map and thought about the difference between the terms 'old' and 'ancient'.

YEAR 4 MENAI 2025 - We are very excited to begin planning our 2 night residential visit to the Conway Centre, Menai when your child is in Y4. The visit will take place in January 2025. To share details of the visit, we will be holding a information meeting on Thursday 23rd May at 6pm. This meeting will be held in the Junior hall. Please do bring along your child so they can hear about all the wonderful things we will be doing during our visit.

The LKS2 Team

Year 5 & 6 - This week in English, both Year 5 and 6 have been loving their work on 'The Twits'. They have been using expanded noun phrases and speech to advance action and they have even come up with some disgusting revenge tricks to play on Mrs Twit! We can't wait to read their finished pieces next week! In Maths, Year 5 have been investigating area and perimeter of different rectangles and rectilinear shapes. Meanwhile, Year 6 have focused on the area of triangles, the volume of cubes and cuboids and have also begun to revise key topics for their SATs. In Science, we have continued to look at the circulatory system, including the different types of blood cells and the functions of different blood vessels. We have also begun to think about how the circulatory system is affected by exercise. In PE, we have enjoyed our second cricket session with Cheshire cricket and we have also practised our sprinting techniques in athletics. Have a great weekend!

Just a reminder to save the date of Tuesday 21st May for the Year 5 group assembly. Details have been sent out separately and the event will be added to ParentPay in the coming week.

The UKS2 Team

Have A Wonderful Weekend!

Whole School Attendance 94.7%

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 in line 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 29 April 2024

Lunches Week 2	
Mon 29 April	Y2 Visit to Warrington Museum 'Toys from the Past Workshop'
Mon 29 April	After-school club – KS2 Create Music Guitar Lessons 3.20-4.20pm, pick-up Junior playground (book direct at admin@wecreatemusic.co.uk)
Mon 29 April	After-school club Y5&Y6 Football (Vara Sports) 3.20-4.20pm - pick up Junior playground
Mon 29 April	After-school club Y3&4 Recorder Club (HH) 3.20-4.20pm – pick up Junior playground
Tue 30 April	After-school club Y3&4 Football (Vara Sports) 3.20-4.20pm - pick up Junior playground
Tue 30 April	Y6 Reading Workshop – 3.20-4.10pm
Tue 30 April	PTA Discos Nursery and Acorns in school Reception – 2pm – 3pm Years 1&2 - 3.15pm – 4.30 Years 3&4 – 4.45pm – 6.00pm Years 5&6 – 6.15pm – 7.30pm
Wed 1 May	Y5 PE with Cheshire Cricket
Wed 1 May	After-school club – KS2 Create Music Guitar Lessons 3.20-4.20pm - pick-up Junior Playground (book direct at admin@wecreatemusic.co.uk)
Wed 1 May	After-school club Y5&6 Cricket (Cheshire Cricket) 3.20-4.20pm – pick up Junior playground
Thu 2 May	After-school club Y3&4 Dodgeball (Vara Sports) 3.20 - 4.20pm – pick up Junior playground
Thu 2 May	Y6 Maths Workshop 3.20 to 4.10pm
Fri 3 May	Y4 Swimming Group C Class 4AW



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

Working at Woodlands...

We currently have a vacancies to fill:

- **Midday Assistant**—1.5 hours per day, 5 days per week, 38 weeks per year.

If you are interested in applying, please email: admin@woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk or speak to Sue in the Junior office





Cheshire Horse Sanctuary

Car Boot Sale

Monday, 6 May

Come and join us for our 2024
Boot Sale at the Cheshire J

The Six Acres, Picton

On

pm


Unfortunately, we have had to cancel this event due to the recent adverse weather affecting the conditions on the field. We hope to reschedule soon. Thank you

coordinator@gmail.com

07515857082

Thank you for your support ❤️

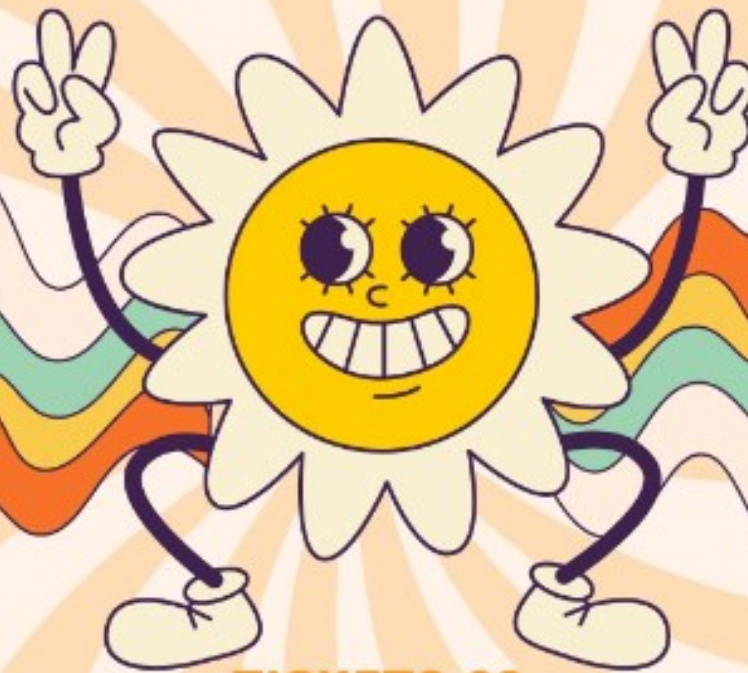




WOODLANDS PTA PRESENTS...

Spring Disco

TUESDAY 30TH APRIL 2024
JUNIOR HALL



TICKETS £3

INCLUDES DRINKS, A SNACK & GOODIE BAG

RECEPTION – 2PM – 3PM
YEARS 1/2 – 3.15PM – 4.30PM
YEAR 3/4 – 4.45PM – 6.00PM
YEARS 5/6 – 6.15PM – 7.30PM

Tickets on sale at
www.pta-events.co.uk/woodlandsheshirepta



HOPE FARM METHODIST CHURCH

MONTHLY LEGO CHURCH

**FOURTH SUNDAY
of each month
4.00pm until 6.00pm**

**For children, accompanied by an adult,
in Reception and up to Year 6**

FREE ENTRY – donations welcome

**Building fun! • Challenges!
Stories • Hot food • Drinks**

For any further information, contact Rev. John Yaxley
Phone: 0796 1046 366
Email: johnandlizyaxley@gmail.com

Hope Farm Methodist Church
Hope Farm Road, Great Sutton
Ellesmere Port CH66 2LF



The Methodist Church

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 lasting 2 hrs.



We have arranged a drop in day for interested parents to attend – on **TUESDAY 23rd APRIL 2024!** This is an opportunity for you to meet the team, find out more about the group and register your interest. **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.**

During the drop in we will think with you about; What is Challenging Behaviour? Understanding Children's Behaviour, Factors Impacting Child Behaviour & What Happens in a Group Session, and the group content e.g. play and special time, praise and rewards, selective ignoring, consequences and using time out to calm down.

TUESDAY 23RD APRIL – PLEASE DROP-IN ANYTIME BETWEEN 09.30AM & 3.00PM @PARKLANDS CHILDRENS CENTRE, PARKLANDS, CH66 3RL

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.



NHS
Cheshire and Wirral
Partnership
NHS Foundation Trust



Parentalk – The Primary Years is a video-based parenting course that is specifically designed for use with small groups of parents in a relaxed and informal setting. One of the things that makes Parentalk effective is that it gives parents the chance to get together and talk about the realities of bringing up their children. Over six sessions, Parentalk looks at valuable principles that can be applied on a day-to-day basis with children. We hope that by the end the group will have discovered a range of practical strategies and tips to help them in their family life.

Wednesday 5th June. 6pm-7pm- It's Not Just Me

Wednesday 12th June. 6pm-7pm- Love Them and Let Them Know

Wednesday 19th June. 6pm-7pm- It's Good to Talk

Wednesday 26th June. 6pm-7pm- Boundaries and Battles

Wednesday 3rd July. 6pm-7pm- Parenting with Elastic

Wednesday 10th July. 6pm-7pm- Creating a Sense of Belonging

Sessions will be held on the Junior site.

Ran by SEND/Pastoral Team (Mel Gittins, Alice Morphet, Clare Cotton and Sharon Liversey)
