



Woodlands
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

News Updates from Woodlands Primary School
READY — RESPECTFUL — SAFE

8th Nov 2024

LUNCH MENU: 1

MENUS:

[https://
www.woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk/
serve_file/30583717](https://www.woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/30583717)

TERM DATES:

Term Dates

[https://
www.woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk/
serve_file/30055726](https://www.woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk/serve_file/30055726)



A Very Sweet 'Thank You'

WOWZA!

We would like to express a **HUGE** thank you to all who donated and purchased cakes from our 'bake sale' on the 24/10/24. We are delighted to announce that we raised **£240**.

To add to this, our incredibly generous and supportive PTA have match funded this amount, giving us **a grand total of £500!!!**

We are overwhelmed - what a huge success! We are very excited to spend these pennies on beautiful new thesauruses and dictionaries and vocabulary resources to enhance our language choices thus improving our writing - making it the best it can be!

Massive thanks, as always, to Hannah, our PTA chair, for helping to run the event.





Woodlands Primary School



Online Safety Newsletter

NOV 2024

How can I find age-appropriate games?

Do you need suggestions on age-appropriate games? You could use either of the following websites to search suitable games.

Remember, PEGI rates the gameplay so whilst it is important to review age ratings, you must also check if it has a communication feature as this might mean you decide a game is not suitable for your child.

- <https://www.askaboutgames.com/find-the-right-game>
- <https://www.familygamingdatabase.com/home>



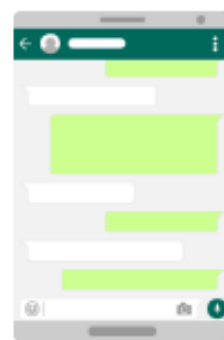
How to Remove Social Media Access After Granting It

Have you given your child access to social media but are now regretting that decision? Bark have published this article to help you take back control by removing social media:

<https://www.bark.us/blog/removing-social-media/>

WhatsApp

Users should be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp. We frequently receive reports of children not using WhatsApp appropriately, such as sharing images to embarrass others, sending hurtful messages, spreading rumours, or excluding people from group chats to make them feel left out.



Since WhatsApp lacks parental controls, it is important to think about whether it is really the right platform for your child. For example, you should consider if your child has the critical thinking skills to recognise bullying. Furthermore, do they understand how to manage peer pressure and refrain from joining in on harmful behaviour?

If your child is using WhatsApp, it is crucial to have regular conversations with them. Talk about who they are chatting with, encourage them to think carefully about the messages they send and how they might be perceived by others. Finally, make sure to model good digital behaviour yourself, as children often learn by observing the adults around them.

What should I be aware of if my child is using WhatsApp?

- **Group chats:** Everyone within a group, even if they are not one of your child's contacts, will be able to see all messages within that group. If your child is added to a group with someone that they have previously blocked, that person can still see their messages and send them messages within the group chat. If your child is using WhatsApp, check their group privacy settings to see who can add them to groups. Ensure your child understands that they can leave a chat at any time, and they know how to report users. Find out more here:

<https://faq.whatsapp.com/424124173736394>

- **Inappropriate content:** users can be exposed to content that is not suitable for their age.
- **Location sharing:** talk to your child about when this would be appropriate to use and the potential danger of sharing their location.
- **Chat lock/secret code:** users can lock chats as well as apply a secret code setting so a chat does not appear in the main chat.
- **Blocking/Reporting:** Show your child how to block and report other users. Find out how here: <https://faq.whatsapp.com/1142481766359885/>

Further information

Internet Matters have produced a how to guide available here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/whatsapp-safety-a-how-to-guide-for-parents/>

YouTube

YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13, however, younger children can still access YouTube with consent from a parent/legal guardian. When giving your child access to YouTube, there are different options you could choose depending on your child's age:



- **YouTube Kids** – this is a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age category you select: Preschool (ages 4 and under), Younger (ages 5–8) or Older (ages 9–12).
- **Supervised accounts** – this is a parent-managed version of YouTube that allows you to control the content your child can access. You can select one of the following options:
 - **Explore** - Generally for viewers aged 9+.
 - **Explore more** - Generally for viewers aged 13+
 - **Most of YouTube** - This setting includes almost everything on YouTube except for videos marked as 18+ and other videos that may not be appropriate for viewers using supervised experiences.

Google have created a guide to show the differences between YouTube Kids and a Supervised account to help in your decision:
<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>

My child wants to be a YouTuber

Many children want to start their own YouTube channel, but it is important to be aware of the potential risks and ensure that your child understands what information they should keep private and what to do if they receive negative comments. YouTube have produced these safety tips for teens when posting content:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802244>

You should be aware that there are different settings available when posting videos:

1. **Public:** anyone can view the video.
2. **Private:** video can only be viewed by users that you select.
3. **Unlisted:** only people who have the link to the video can view it.

What are the benefits and negatives of a YouTube channel?

Before allowing your child to start a YouTube channel, review the benefits and risks. This article discusses the pros and cons as well as provides recommendations to help minimise any risks:

<https://www.brightcanary.io/should-your-kid-become-a-youtuber-weighing-the-pros-and-cons/>

Further information

- <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802272?hl=en-GB>
- <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/youtube>

Among Us

This game has been rated as PEGI 7, meaning it is not suitable for those under the age of 7. **However**, whilst the gameplay may be suitable, there are communication features available, where issues such as inappropriate language and bullying may arise.

Additionally, it is important to note that Among Us does have the option for in app purchases so please ensure that a password (that your child does not know) is required for all purchases.

Find out more about Among Us from Parent Zone:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/among-us>

The NSPCC discuss online games in more detail here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-games/>

Screen time and your family

Vodafone discuss screentime and what you should consider when setting your own rules in this useful article:

<https://www.vodafone.co.uk/newscentre/smart-living/digital-parenting/screen-time-and-your-family-a-guide-to-what-works-and-what-doesnt/>

Band Runner Game

Band Runner is a fun interactive game created by CEOP to help 8-10 year olds learn how to stay safer online. Your child can play it here:

<https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/parents/articles/band-runner/>



This Week's Year Group News

EYFS

Squirrels - What a lovely week the Squirrels have had and it's been so nice to see you all back after half term. The children have been superstars coming back in and are so settled now. We have been looking at your half term holiday photos and loved talking about what they dressed up as to go 'Trick or Treating' in. We had witches, skeletons, pumpkins and cats! So thank you for sharing these. Many of you would have seen and heard the fireworks this week so I hope you had lots of fun. We are looking forward to the school fireworks display on Friday evening and hope to see some of you there!. The children have been making large chalk fireworks pictures, watching and listening to some fireworks on the big screen and talking about what sounds they heard and what colours they saw, 'bang, zoom, green, orange, twinkle stars" and where they saw them. The park, the garden, the window. We even pretended to be a firework, spinning and zooming outside with the ribbons! Thank you for your continued support and we always welcome any photo emails being sent in. Squirrels@woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk

Foxes - The children have settled so well back into school after their Autumn break and we have loved hearing all about their half term news! A big thank you to everyone who has emailed photos to share with us, it is very much appreciated! This week we have learned about Bonfire night and the children have created some beautiful and colourful fireworks pictures! Foxes loved their PE sessions this week; playing parachute games and getting to know 'Romeo Resilience'. He challenged the children to throw beanbags in a bucket and to keep going even when it got a bit tricky! Well done Foxes!

Badgers & Owls - What a busy first week back! This week, we enjoyed our first PE sessions. We explored different methods of jumping. We jumped forwards, backwards and sideways. We even tried jumping like different animals! In Maths, we have been thinking about finding and showing one more and one less than a number or amount. We have done this using our fingers and concrete resources such as cubes. In English, we have been learning about the story of 'Guy Fawkes' and the origins of Bonfire night. We have talked about different ways to stay safe around fireworks. We created our own firework posters and used our sound knowledge to add some labels.

Acorns - This week, the Acorns children have enjoyed painting some great firework pictures ready for bonfire night - we hope you have enjoyed looking at them in our class window. We have also started our new topic which is 'Minibeasts' and we have been counting ladybirds and their spots! We have settled really well after the half term and have really enjoyed getting back into our school routines.

As always, thank you for your continued support.
The EYFS Team

KS1

Year 1 - 1AA & 1LW - Welcome back! We have loved listening to all of the children sharing their holiday news; thank you for sending in photographs for the children to share! This week in English, we have started our new class text 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark'. The children have shared what they know about Owls and have thought of some questions about the subject that they would like to find the answers to. We have also worked on using 'and' to join adjectives when describing a part of 'Plop', the Owls, body. In Maths, we have started our work on addition by using part/whole models. The children have investigated different ways of making the same whole number and wrote number sentences to match their part/whole models. We learnt about the Gunpowder Plot on Bonfire Night and sequenced pictures to retell the story. **A reminder that we have our Judaism workshop on Monday. If you have not yet given permission for your child to participate, please log into parent pay and do so.** In 1KS this week, we have had a fabulous first week back and we are settling in to our new theme for this half term, based around the stories 'Owl Babies' and 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark'. We have listened to our two main stories to start to get to know the narrative and we have talked about birds and flying. We have watched other stories about Owls too and done some colouring of Owl pictures, so that we can recognise and name these birds. In Maths, we have started our topic of shapes with a shape-matching activity and in PE we went to the hall to use the apparatus. For bonfire night, we made beautiful drawings of fireworks and we have learnt our new sound 'I' in phonics. A busy week indeed!

Continued overleaf.....



This Week's Year Group News

KS1 Continued...

Year 2 - It was lovely to welcome the Year 2 back after their half term break and listening to them chatting about what they had been up to during their week off. They all looked refreshed and eager to start learning. In English, we have started using the wonderful *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark* by Jill Tomlinson to inspire our English work. The children have been writing diary entries and researching information about owls. As part of our English work, the children have also been learning to spell words with the diagraphs ai and oi. In maths, we have continued learning about number bonds to 100.

Thank you for your continued support,
The KS1 Team

KS2

Year 3 & 4 - What a fantastic first week back we have had in Y3/4! It has been lovely to welcome the children back and hear all about their half term adventures. In English this week, we have begun our new narrative, 'Leon and the Place Between' by Angela McAllister. Using the front cover, we have made observed elements, explained what we thought could happen in the story and posed questions which we hope to answer as we read the narrative in the coming weeks. Later in the week, we wrote a first person recount as 'Leon' approaching the mysterious, spooky tent for the first time. The children did a great job of these, using high quality language choices, fronted adverbials and expanded noun phrases. In Maths, Y3 have been working on adding 'ones across a tens' and 'tens across a hundred'. They will be moving on to practise column addition and subtraction with and without an exchange. In Y4, we have been studying area this week. We have been counting squares, drawing different given areas and comparing areas using 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equals to' signs. Excitingly, this week, we have been to practise our Christmas songs for our Christmas Extravaganza at Hope Farm Church. More details to follow about this!

Many thanks
The LKS2 Team

Year 5 & 6 - What a lovely first week back it has been! In English, Y5/6 made predictions about their new text based on quotes and AI images created with facts about the 'Daredevil', their new book focuses on - 'Annie Edson Taylor!'. They investigated Niagara Falls, watched videos and checked out Google Earth to get a clear picture of the place that the incredible feat took place in 1901. In Maths, Y5 and Y6 have both begun their new fractions units. Y5 have been investigating equivalent fractions, simplifying fractions. They have also looked at converting between mixed and improper fractions. Y6, meanwhile, have simplified fractions, converted between mixed number and improper fractions and they have compared and ordered fractions with different denominations.

On Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th November (next week), Y5/6 will have art lessons. Our focus for this term is painting with acrylic paint. As acrylic paint stains, we ask that all children come to school wearing old clothing and footwear to prevent ruining uniforms or newer clothing items on these days. 5SE and 5RO's P.E lessons will be completed in their art clothing on these days.

Thank you for your continued support.
The UKS2 Team

Have A Wonderful Weekend!

Whole School Attendance 94.91%

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, regardless of length, via the Exceptional Leave of Absence forms which can be collected from the school office. These forms should be completed and handed to school 4 working weeks in advance of the first day of absence.

We aim to reply to you within 10 working days of your application.

Dates – Week Beginning 11 November 2024

Lunches Week 1

Mon 11 Nov	Y1 & Y2 – Jewish Workshop
Mon 11 Nov	Y2 Judo PE Sessions
Mon 11 Nov	After school club – Y3 & Y4 Table Tennis 3.20pm to 4.20pm. Pick up from Junior Playground
Mon 11 Nov	After school club – Y5 & Y6 Shadazzle Street Dance 3.20pm to 4.20pm. Pick up from Junior Playground
Mon 11 Nov	After school club – Y3-Y5 Young Voices 3.20pm to 4.20pm pick up from Junior Playground
Mon 11 Nov	New Reception Parent Tour 3.30 to 4pm – to book a place please call the school office
Tue 12 Nov	Y5/6 Girls Football – 10 children by invite only
Wed 13 Nov	After school club – Y5 & Y6 Table Tennis 3.20pm to 4.20pm pick up from Junior Playground
Wed 13 Nov	After school club – Y6 Football Team 3.20pm to 4.20pm pick up from Junior Playground
Wed 13 Nov	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 Nov	Parent Governor Election Deadline
Thu 14 Nov	Y3 Violin Lessons - individual and small group (book direct with hello@edsential.co.uk)
Thu 14 Nov	After school club – Y3 & Y4 Boccia 3.20pm to 4.20pm. Pick up from Junior Playground
Thu 14 Nov	After school club – Y3 & Y4 Shadazzle Street Dance 3.20pm to 4.20pm. Pick up from Junior Playground
Fri 15 Nov	Whole School Own Clothes Day – Children in Need – Online donations only via your ParentPay Account
Fri 15 Nov	Parent Governors Election Count
Fri 15 Nov	Y3 Group Violin lessons with Edsential
Fri 15 Nov	Y5 URENCO Workshops
Fri 15 Nov	Y4 Swimming - Group A



Headlice - Polite Request

Please note that we have seen an increase in the number of Headlice cases this term. As such, we politely ask that you check your child's hair carefully this weekend and be vigilant moving forward.

We appreciate that Headlice treatment can be expensive but the metal lice combs are reusable and very effective at removing live lice and eggs. You can pick them up from as little as £2.09 on Amazon.

For more information about other forms of treatments, please access the following link:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Treatment.aspx>

Thank You!



Vacancy - School Cook



We currently have a vacancy for a School Cook for 25-30hrs per week, term time only. If you or anyone you know may be interesting, please contact Mrs Moss on 0151 329 3164 for more information.

Thank You!

Parking and Driving around School

We are very concerned to hear of a couple of incidents of late whereby parked vehicles have been hit/clipped by drivers on Broadland Road. If you have experienced this, we would ask you to report the incident to the non emergency Police line on 101. We also ask all Parents and Carers to drive carefully around school. A damaged vehicle can be repaired, an injured child is a far more serious matter.

KS2 ONLY



EVENT DETAILS

START DATE:

November 12th 2024

END DATE:

November 14th 2024

TIME:

Daily 7:30am to 7:30pm

LOCATION:

England

DAILY CAP:

1 hour per player

Dear KS2 Woodlands' families,

As part of our commitment to make maths exciting and high profile in our school, we are taking part in a friendly competition involving schools in England. The competition runs from 07:30 GMT Tuesday 12th November 2024 to 19:30 GMT Thursday 14th November 2024. It's all done online via play.ttrockstars.com.

Children can play in any game mode with every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, earning themselves, their class and the school a point. The Times Tables Rock Stars platform will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours, subject to a daily 60-minute limit). Winning classes in the school and in the competition as a whole will be the ones with the highest average.

To support player wellbeing, there is a daily time limit of 60-minutes per player. In other words, each player can earn competition points for up to 60-minutes between 07:30 GMT and 19:30 GMT on 07:30 GMT Tuesday 12th November 2024 to 19:30 GMT Thursday 14th November 2024. Once the player goes beyond 60-minutes of play on that day, they will still earn coins but will no longer earn points towards the competition.

We are so excited to be involved and cannot wait to see how well the children do.

Many thanks,

Miss Roberts and Mrs O'Hara



Stanlaw Abbey Development Trust

Christmas Toy Appeal

Add an extra gift to your list and make a difference this Christmas.

Donations of new toys or gifts for children from Newborn to 17 years can be dropped off at Woodlands Primary School

Email: toyappeal@stanlawabbey.com
Tel: 0151 356 5896

Unlike other charities ALL our donations stay within Ellesmere Port. Last year we supported over 1000 local children and we envisage this year will be just as busy.

Thank you for your support

Our closing date for donations is

13th December

Supporting Ellesmere Port children since 2014



Mystery Readers wanted..

Who?

All parents, older siblings, grandparents or other special people! Surprise your child by being a mystery reader in our classroom!



Why?

Children at Woodlands LOVE to read! We can not wait to welcome family members into our classrooms to share in our learning by sharing a favourite story aloud with the class, during ERIC time, at the end of the day.

What?

Mystery readers can bring in a book from home or one chosen by the teacher selected from our class libraries.



If you are able to be a mystery reader, please contact your class teacher using the class email address e.g. 31b@woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk to arrange a suitable day and time.

We are so grateful for any volunteers and are hugely grateful of the time given to enhance our child's story time experiences.





'WOODLANDS WAR ON FOOD WASTE'

We are pleased to announce that Woodlands Primary School is one of four schools within the local area working with The Port Grocery to promote 'War on Food Waste'.

The Port Grocery has been serving our community with good healthy food for coming up to 8 years. They operate from the centre of our town.

Woodlands have arranged for The Port Grocery to be on site every

Tuesday

(term time only) in the junior staff car park.

The Grocery will bring 20 bags of shopping that parents are able to purchase for £10 each (cash or card). The bags will include: Greggs, KFC or Nando's, sometimes meat, ready meal items from Tesco, Costco, M&S and fruit & veg from various stores. The value of each shop should be approximately £30.00 sometimes more.

The bags are offered on a first come, first serve basis and do not need to be reserved, just turn up at 2.50pm and purchase a bag from the Port Grocery team!

For any further information, please contact c.cotton@woodlands.cheshire.sch.uk.

Please be mindful that Eddisbury Road remains closed between 2.45pm and 3.30pm. Please ensure you park safely away from school if you wish to purchase a bag.





ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL



The Poppy Appeal Boxes will coming around school from 04/11/24, for children to purchase a selection of the above items. Please see the poster for the suggested donation guide.



BBC
CHILDREN
IN NEED

WE'RE RAISING MONEY

WHAT

Own Clothes Day

WHEN & WHERE

Friday 15th Nov
Woodlands Primary
School

CONTACT

Donate online using this link (please do not bring cash donations to school)
<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=15331>





SPORTSHALL ATHLETICS TRAINING INVITE

West Cheshire Athletic Club coaches will be delivering Sports Hall Athletics in the Ellesmere Port Sports Village Sports all between 6-8pm on Fridays from 1st November, with the aim of helping youngsters prepare for the Schools Sports Hall Athletics fixtures early next year. Please come along and support the sessions. The cost is £2 per training session.

CROSS COUNTRY RACES INVITE

West Cheshire Athletic Club are organising cross country races for youngsters in Year 3, 4, 5, and 6 at Ellesmere Port Sports Village on Saturday 9th November, Saturday 7th December, and Saturday 18th January, all 10am start and all free of charge.



Guided Self-Help for Better Behaviour Group

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) in Ellesmere Port is pleased to offer this 7 week evidence based intervention group for parents & carers who want to encourage better behaviour at home.



Kingsley Resource Centre
Coronation Road,
Ellesmere Port
CH65 9AA

**9.30am -
11.30am**

Session 1 Goals and Play/Special Time - Tuesday 5th November
Enhancing the relationship with children through play

Session 2 Praise and Rewards - Tuesday 12th November
Promoting positive behaviours and routines with praise and rewards

Session 3 Selective Ignoring - Tuesday 19th November
Reducing undesirable behaviour through selective ignoring

Session 4 Effective Instructions - Tuesday 26th November
Increasing compliance with clear calm commands

Session 5 Consequences - Monday 2nd December
Promoting boundaries with consequences

Session 6 Time Out and Family Rules - Tuesday 10th December
Creating clear expectations with family rules and time out to calm down

Session 7 Ending and Trouble Shooting - Tuesday 17th December

Please note you must book a triage appointment with us before starting the group. These will be held on Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th October. Please email cwp.cheshiremhstadmin@nhs.net to book an appointment