



Woodlands
Primary School

NEWSLETTER

News Updates from Woodlands Primary School
READY — RESPECTFUL — SAFE

6th Dec 2024

LUNCH MENU: 2

Quick Links:

Woodlands Menus

Term Dates

Reminders:

SNACKS & WATER

Further to our emailed reminder earlier this week, can we please ask that children are sent in with a healthy snack option. This is more for our Junior children as the EYFS and KS1 children are provided with fruit each day.

We also remind you that children should bring in a water bottle each day and that it should **ONLY** contain water, unless prior agreement has been given for children with special dietary needs.

SUNBEAMS - Closing Early Friday 20th December 2024

Please be advised that due to school finishing at 2PM for the Christmas Break, Sunbeams wraparound care will operate from 2PM - 5PM. Please ensure your child is collected promptly by 5pm on this date.



Dear Parent,

We are grabbing our festive boppers and holding our very own Festive Fun Run, on **Thursday 12th December** for the Hospice of the Good Shepherd

Our children will be taking part in the Hospice of the Good Shepherd's Festive Fun Run. They will be provided with a free set of festive boppers along with sponsorship envelope to gather as much sponsorship as possible to support their local Hospice. You can also donate online at <https://www.justgiving.com/page/woodlandsprimaryschool>

This is a great opportunity for us to show our support to a wonderful local charity and we do hope this is something you will be able to get behind. More information regarding timings will be sent closer to the event.

As you may already know the Hospice of the Good Shepherd, care for more than 1,600 patients each year from Chester, Deeside, Ellesmere Port and surrounding areas.

The Hospice aims to improve the lives of people with life-limiting conditions and care and support patients at the Hospice or in their own homes. It helps people to live as actively as possible after diagnosis to the end of their lives, however long that maybe. The highest value is put on respect and personal choice. These services provided by the Hospice are ran independently of the NHS and cost £5million each year to provide.

It is because of events like this that they are able to continue to provide this vital care to local children and families.

Thank you in advance for your support; it really is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

Woodlands Primary School



ASDA



We would like to say a HUGE thank you to all our Parents & Carers who have been shopping at Asda and have been using the Cashpot for School.

We are delighted to announce it has raised a staggering £736.35 for the school.

THANK YOU!

We would once again like to extend a thank you to our wonderful PTA for organising the Panto performances this week.

The children and staff thoroughly enjoyed the shows



Cheshire West & Chester - Physical Activity Survey.

Enter for a chance to win a free 3-month Brio Membership.

There is strong scientific evidence that being physically active at any age can help people have a healthier and happier life. Physical activity can support positive mental health and wellbeing and reduce a person's risk of developing major illnesses, such as coronary heart disease, stroke, type 2 diabetes, and cancer. It can also lower risk of early death by up to 30%. However, almost a fifth of adults in Cheshire West and Chester are not active enough to benefit their health. This can be for many different reasons, with time, cost, motivation, and even fear of being judged cited as common barriers for people not being active.

As part of the drive to support the health and wellbeing of residents, Cheshire West and Chester's Eat Well Be Active Partnership is launching a short survey for adults who live in the borough, to understand what activity they do, and what helps or hinders them to be active.

The survey will help develop a Cheshire West and Chester Physical Activity (adult) needs assessment, that will inform a physical activity strategy for the borough. The survey is open until Friday, 20 December.

By completing the survey, residents can choose to be entered into a prize draw for a chance to win one of four free three-month Brio Leisure memberships. To take part in the survey visit: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/C5P412/>



This Week's Year Group News

EYFS

Squirrels - The children have enjoyed taking part in Christmas crafts and singing this week. Our Christmas 'Stay and Play' session was wonderful. The children did so well with their singing and behaved beautifully. We would also like to say 'thank you' to all of you who were able to join us and for the lovely feedback, it is very much appreciated.

Foxes - What a great week we have had! The children were wonderful during our Christmas 'Stay and Play'. Thank you to all of you who were able to attend as well. During the week, we have been making Christmas crafts and cards. The children have also created some wonderful drawings based on our text, 'I'm Going To Eat This Ant' and we have even written sounds they can hear, when writing. Well done Foxes!

Badgers & Owls - This week, we have been very busy practising for our Nativity play. The children are doing so well and we can't wait to share it with you. In Literacy, we have continued reading our text, 'I'm Going To Eat This Ant' and have been looking at reading some 'tricky' red words (words that can not be sounded out) e.g. I, we, he. During our Maths sessions, we have been looking at 2D shapes and discussing the differences between squares and rectangles.

Acorns - This week, Acorns have started to celebrate Christmas with lots of festive activities. We have taken part in Christmas colouring our very own Snowmen and we have been listening to lots of Christmas songs. We have also continued to look at our 'Very Hungry Caterpillar' story, we are getting very good at helping the caterpillar eat all of his food! We have enjoyed singing some new nursery rhymes this week and have had plenty of 'WOW' moments to celebrate - well done Acorns!

As always, thank you for your continued support.

The EYFS Team

KS1

Year 1 - 1AA & 1LW - We are all feeling festive and are jingling all the way to Christmas! This week, we have started to write our reports about Owls. We have written an introduction, a section on appearance and a section on diet. Next week, we will complete our reports by writing about behaviour and adding a fascinating fact. In Maths, we have used number lines to solve subtraction problems and completed our end of unit quiz on addition and subtraction. We have sorted animals into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores in Science and made our own maps of the UK in Geography. All of the children really enjoyed our Pantomime treat on Wednesday afternoon - huge thanks to the PTA for arranging this for us. Thank you to all who were able to come to our Christmas Craft session on Tuesday morning, the children loved crafting with you. In **1KS** this week, we have been looking at 'how many' and matching the number of Owls to the correct number. We have also played with our Owl puppets as well as continuing Christmas countdown with some festive colouring and singing. We have a new 'dark tent' which the children have enjoyed exploring and on Wednesday, we met real Panto characters, Cinderella, Buttons and even an Ugly Sister!! We've also dressed up and had fun playing in costume. In PE, we have enjoyed jumping and rolling on the soft mats in the hall.

Year 2 - This week, we have continued using the wonderful 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson to inspire our English work. The children have been writing about 'Plop's' different experiences at night. They have continued to collect facts about owls as well as using 'but' and 'or' in their writing. As part of our English work, the children have also been learning to spell words with the split diagraph i-e. During our shared reading sessions, the children have been learning about the features of a non-fiction text and also about different habitats. This week they have been finding out about life in caves and what type of animals live in them. In Maths, we have continued learning about adding and subtracting two 2-digit numbers and solving mathematical problems.

Thank you for your continued support

The KS1 Team

Continued overleaf.....



This Week's Year Group News

KS2

Year 3 & 4 - In English this week, Y3/4 have read the end of the narrative, 'Leon and the Place Between.' Presented with a key question, the children enjoyed the opportunity to explore different characters perspectives and consider how they might feel or what they might think/say at different points in the story. We revisited our knowledge of inverted commas to demark speech and aimed to use high quality vocabulary for a range of emotions.

In Maths, Y3 have been practising the skill of estimation. We have also been using the inverse operation to check their exact answers. In Y4 we have now completed our unit of work on multiplication by exploring multiplying by 1 and the number itself and multiplying 3 single digit numbers. We discussed the commutative law and how multiplying 3 numbers in any order will give you the same answer! Please continue to encourage your child to practise their speedy times tables recall as much as possible by using URBRAINY MTC.

Reminder - Christmas concert performances - We are very excited to showcase our fantastic singing at our festive concerts next week at the Hope Farm Methodist Church. You should have received 2 tickets per child for either Tuesday 10th December (Y4) or Thursday 12th December (Y3). The performances will be 2pm and 5pm. Our fantastic PTA will be selling hot drinks and treats before the performance. Also, there will be a collection plate at the entrance to the church for any donations to support people who are less fortunate than ourselves at this time of year - so please bring along some change if you are able. Following the 2pm performance, the children will return to school and be dismissed as normal through their classroom doors.

Many thanks

The LKS2 Team

Year 5 & 6 - We've been working incredibly hard in Y5/6 this week! In English, Year 5 and 6 have read more of their key text, 'Queen of The Falls', story mapped 'Annie's' journey down the river and written short recounts in the 1st person to describe her journey. Next week, they will be completing their writeaway, a series of diaries from the POV of 'Annie Edson Taylor' about significant events in her life. In Maths, both Y5 and Y6 have been taking time to revise key methods and topics taught so far and have begun completing end of term assessments for Maths. The Y5/6 team have been so impressed with the children's attitudes and their efforts. In Geography, Y5/6 have been learning about the key features of rivers, finding out their definitions and identifying them on a diagram of a river. In Science, they have been coming towards the end of our 'Forces' unit, investigating the effects of friction and air resistance as well as completing their own escape room themed forces challenge! On Wednesday, Y5/6 absolutely loved watching the pantomime, Cinderella! The children (and staff) laughed so much and it really brightened their day. A big thank you to the PTA for organising this very special Christmas event! Also, a huge thank you for the generous donations of chocolates and treats for the Y5 and Y6 Christmas events that will take place on the last week of term.

Thank you for your continued support and have a wonderful weekend!

Monday 16th December - Year 5 Christmas Quiz (Junior Hall - 3:30pm - 4:50pm)

Tuesday 17th December - Year 6 Christmas Bingo (Junior Hall - 3:30pm - 4:50pm)

Thank you for your continued support

UKS2 Team

Have A Wonderful Weekend!

Whole School Attendance 94.34%

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.** Ensure you provide the child's name, class and reason for absence.

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

Parents must inform school of any upcoming holidays, regardless of length, via the Exceptional Leave of Absence forms which can be collected from the school office or downloaded from the school website. These forms should be completed and handed to school at least 4 working weeks in advance of the first day of absence.

Dates – Week Beginning 9 December 2024

Lunches Week 2	
Mon 9 Dec	Reception (Owls and Badgers) Nativity 9.30am-10.30am - parents invited
Mon 9 Dec	Y2 Judo PE Sessions
Mon 9 Dec	After school club – Y3 & Y4 Table Tennis 3.20pm to 4.20pm - pick up Junior Playground
Mon 9 Dec	After school club – Y5 & Y6 Shadazzle Street Dance 3.20pm to 4.20pm - pick up Junior Playground
Mon 9 Dec	After school club – Y3-Y5 Young Voices 3.20pm-4.20pm – pick up Junior Playground
Mon 9 Dec	New Reception 2025 Parent Tours 3.30pm-4pm– please ring school to book a place
Tue 10 Dec	Y6 Boccia and NAK event at EPSV – 4 children by invite only
Tue 10 Dec	Reception (Owls and Badgers) Nativity - 9.30am-10.30am- parents invited
Tue 10 Dec	Y4 Visit to Hope Farm Church - Christmas Concert - 2.15pm-3pm - parents invited
Tue 10 Dec	Y4 Visit to Hope Farm Church - Christmas Concert – 5pm-5.45pm - parents invited
Wed 11 Dec	Badgers and Owls Christmas Stay and Play 8.45am-9.30am - parents invited
Wed 11 Dec	Y5 Hoops for Health with Cheshire Phoenix
Wed 11 Dec	After school club – Y5 & Y6 Table Tennis 3.20pm to 4.20pm - pick up Junior Playground
Wed 11 Dec	After school club – Y6 Football Team 3.20pm to 4.20pm pick up from Junior Playground
Wed 11 Dec	After-school club KS2 Create Music Guitar Lessons 3.20-4.20pm, pick-up Junior playground (book direct at admin@wecreatemusic.co.uk)
Thu 12 Dec	Whole School - Festive Fun Run/Christmas Jumper Day for the Hospice – own clothes
Thu 12 Dec	Y3 Violin Lessons - individual and small group (book direct with hello@edsential.co.uk)
Thu 12 Dec	Y3 Visit to Hope Farm Church - Christmas Concert 2.15pm-3pm - parents invited
Thu 12 Dec	After school club – Y3 & Y4 Boccia 3.20pm to 4.20pm - pick up Junior Playground
Thu 12 Dec	After school club – Y3 & Y4 Shadazzle Street Dance 3.20pm to 4.20pm pick up Junior Playground
Thu 12 Dec	Y3 Visit to Hope Farm Church - Christmas Concert 5pm-5.45pm - parents invited
Fri 13 Dec	Badgers and Owls - Christmas Party - own clothes
Fri 13 Dec	Y4 Swimming - Group B

Sweets for Stories



Pre-made pic-n-mix sweet bags



When: Thursday 19th December 2024
at 3:20pm

Where: Junior Playground

The funds raised will be used to
purchase fantastic KS1 and EYFS stories from
our recommended reading lists.





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.



Stanlaw Abbey Development Trust

Christmas Toy Appeal

10 Years of Bringing Joy to Ellesmere Port

We're teaming up with some amazing local charities! Koala Northwest, People's Pantry, KidsBank, Passion for Learning and Healthbox - to make a real difference in our community. Together, we're aiming to provide more gifts for children in need (last year, we supported 1,200 children and we hope to reach even more this year!) as well as much more....



For more information Email: toyappeal@stanlawabbey.com

**Thank you for your continued support
our closing date for donations is: 13th December**

#EllesmerePort #CommunitySpirit #ChristmasToyAppeal
#BringingJoy @KoalaNorthWest @ThePeoplesPantry
@KidsBankChester @PassionForLearning @HealthBoxCIC

**Nearest Donation Point:
Woodlands Primary School**

We will be in touch with more ways you can get involved this year!



Ladies Pop-up Shop & Fun Fashion Show!

**SHOP YOUR FAVOURITE HIGH STREET BRANDS
AT UP TO 70% OFF!**

Colours.

[FUN]DRAISING
FASHION SHOWS



Saturday 15th February 2025
St David's United Reformed Church

St David's United Reformed Church, Eastham, Wirral, CH62 9DG

Doors open 2pm, show starts 2.30pm

Tickets: £10 *includes a free drink and nibbles*

Tickets to be purchased in advance

Raffle: FABULOUS prizes to be won at the show!

For tickets and more information please contact:
Judith Tel: 07845266831 or Email: jb.hill26@outlook.com





Christmas **Comic Con**

Chester



**Free
Entry**

Characters - Meet & Greet's - Photo Op's - Stalls & more

Saturday 6th Dec: 9am - 5pm

Sunday 7th Dec: 11am - 5pm

Grosvenor Shopping Centre, CH1 1EA



Cheshire West & Chester Council

The Autism Service

Transition to High School Online Event (Via Microsoft Teams)

Date: 11.2.25 Time: 10am–2pm

We are inviting all parents, carers and professionals supporting children in years 4, 5 and 6 to attend.

What's happening?

There will be opportunities to attend workshops via Microsoft Teams and these will be delivered by The Autism Service Teachers. Workshops will include:

- Supporting organisation and independence
- Developing strategies to address emotional well-being
- Supporting the communication needs of the young person

There will also be information provided by High school and Primary school SENCOs focusing on effective joint parent/school working. There will be regular breaks throughout the day.

Following the event you will receive a copy of The Autism Service Transition to High School Pack, and this will be a useful tool to use with the child you are supporting.

To apply please click on the link below OR scan the QR code to complete the short application form.

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/tranhigh1102/>



Please note that the closing date for applications will be Tuesday 4th February You will receive your link and any visual pre course information by Friday 7th February 2025.





CBT GROUP INTERVENTIONS FOR PARENTS OF ANXIOUS CHILDREN

WINTER 2024 / SPRING 2025
GROUPS

FREE NHS
group
interventions
for parents.

Fear-Less

For parents/carers of school aged children 6 to 14 years with moderate anxiety issues. Fear Less is an evidence based intervention delivered over 6 weeks and includes understanding about anxiety, learning to encourage your child's coping skills to manage their anxiety; building on problems solving skills and gaining confidence as a parent supporting your child



How?
Online group
2 x hrs a week for
6 weeks

When?
08/01/25 15/01/25 22/01/25
29/01/25 05/02/25 12/02/25
Wednesday 10.00 - 12.00

To join a group parents/carers **MUST** attend one of the registration sessions - please use the QR code or link to book on:
<https://forms.office.com/e/nW1TUcZQsb>



Watch our short video to hear a parent share their experience of attending a parent group

<https://youtu.be/ln5CfFF1a6g>

Support,
Friendly
non-
judgemental





CBT GROUP INTERVENTIONS FOR PARENTS OF ANXIOUS CHILDREN

WINTER 2024 / SPRING 2025
GROUPS

FREE NHS
group
interventions
for parents.

From Timid to Tiger

For parents/carers of primary school aged children 5 to 11 years with mild to moderate anxiety and anxiety related behavioural difficulties. An evidence based intervention delivered over 9 weeks and includes understanding the science behind anxiety, safely exposing your child to their anxious situations, and how to support your child in gaining confidence and skills.



Option 1

How?
Online Group
2 x hrs a week for
9 weeks

When?
07/01/25 14/01/25 21/01/25
28/01/25 04/02/25 11/02/25
25/02/25 04/03/25 11/03/25
Tuesday 10.00am - 12.00 noon



Option 2

How?
Face to face group
2 x hrs a week for
9 weeks

Where?
Victoria Road Children's
Centre, Neumann Street,
Northwich
CW9 5UT

When?
09/01/25 16/01/25 23/01/25
30/01/25 06/02/25 13/02/25
27/02/25 06/03/25 13/03/25
Thursday 10.00am - 12.00 noon

Support,
Friendly
non-
judgemental

To join a group parents/carers **MUST** attend one of the registration sessions - please use the QR code or link to book on:

<https://forms.office.com/e/nW1TUcZQsb>



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