



Woodmancote School
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Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Newsletter 13 18th March 2016

Thank you to all those parents who are now parking a little further away from school or are leaving the car at home totally and walking to school. Your cooperation is very much appreciated!

Unfortunately, as you can see from these images, not everyone has got the message about safe parking.



The first image is perhaps the most shocking and one that has prompted me to show with number plates. This car is 'parked' at the junction with Woodmancote Vale. This is totally unacceptable and actually unbelievable.



I would urge all parents to be vigilant and continue to send the school images of parking such as this. An accident will occur very soon if this continues. We would also urge you to send the images to the local police and the Highways Department.

On a more positive note....

Girls Football

Recently, two teams of girl footballers have competed in local tournaments against other Cheltenham schools. The first tournament took place at Kayte Lane Astro Turf, where the girls played brilliantly all afternoon. The games were very close, with goals hard to come by! Eventually, the girls drew two and lost two from their four games.

The second tournament was played at Prestbury St Mary's Junior School, where again the competition was strong. The girls improved game by game, showing excellent commitment and work rate throughout. They managed a great 2-0 in their opening game, but unfortunately lost the other three games.

A huge well done to all the girls who continue to improve and enjoy their football, and who have represented the school brilliantly this year!

QuickSticks Hockey

Over the past three weeks, a team of 6 hockey players from Year 5 and 6 have taken part in a very competitive hockey league at Balcarras Sports Centre. The team, trained and managed by Mrs Fletcher, have been very successful, winning a high number of games. They have shown commitment, teamwork and plenty of skill each week - and have clearly loved the competitive nature to the competition.



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B Team Football Festival

Last week, a team of 10 footballers from Years 5 and 6 travelled to Bishops Cleeve to take part in a four team football tournament. The players, who have all shown excellent commitment to football club this year, were given their chance to represent the school in competitive matches. The boys played brilliantly, showing passion, teamwork and excellent skill. It was a successful afternoon, and they came away with a draw, a win and a loss. Well done to those boys who took part.



Cross Country

After a very good season in the Cheltenham Cross Country League, the last race was held last week at St Edward's School. Once again



Louis Mecklenburg came in the top three and secured his place in the Cheltenham Team that will compete at Newent tomorrow. Louis is one of many children who have improved tremendously over the season. He will be joined by Ben Williams who has also been selected to run for Cheltenham. The Boy's

team actually came in fourth this year, which is an amazing achievement.

Final standing for both teams can be found on the website.



Tag Rugby

On Friday 4th April, our Year 6 squad of nine boys and three girls entered a Tag Rugby tournament at Cheltenham North RFC. Seven other teams from local primary schools took part. After winning all three of our group games, we won the semi-final but narrowly lost to Holy Apostle's in the final 4-3. The children played with great skill and showed tremendous sportsmanship. They were a credit to Woodmancote School.

Class DoJo

After Easter this will be used throughout the school. We introduced it in selected classes earlier in the year and teachers have been trialing its use over the last few months. The overwhelming response from parents and children has been positive and those teachers who have trialed it have found it to be an excellent way of communicating with you regarding your child. Obviously some teachers have used more of the facilities than others, but we would like to take this opportunity to explain further about how it will be used from now on.



Appendix 2 Behaviour Policy

Class DoJo-Policy and Procedures

Class Dojo offers a classroom management platform for teachers to easily encourage any behaviour or skill in the classroom and keep parents in the loop.

Unlike most classroom management tools and behaviour trackers like gold-star charts, Class Dojo helps teachers focus on positive feedback. Teachers can customise the behaviours or skills, such as "Good effort" and "Resilience", and instantly award students in class Dojo points for doing the right thing.

Best of all, teachers can engage parents and provide them with a way to stay connected to the classroom and know how their child is doing. Parents can see their child's feedback from school in real-time, and view any comments made by teachers.

Positive 'Behaviours'

All staff are to use these positive/negative 'behaviours' when using Class Dojo. These include resilience, positive attitude, perseverance and challenging yourself. Further 'behaviours' can be added at the teacher's discretion but should always be based on learning behaviour.

Rewards

Positive points are to be awarded when children have displayed learning behaviours. To ensure the awarding of points remains manageable for teachers, points can be added at the end of a session, as long as children know why they have earned them. Further extrinsic rewards (e.g. stickers, certificates, trophies) can be used at the discretion of the teacher. Children who go above and beyond expectations in a particular area or consistently achieve a high number of points per day/week are to be rewarded with Head Teacher awards.

Negative 'Behaviours'

Before the loss of a Dojo point, the child should always receive a verbal warning, unless they have committed a serious offence. This provides them with the opportunity to change their behaviour. If they fail to change their behaviour, then a Dojo point must be deducted. These will be deducted for such things as showing a lack of respect, being unkind, being off task and interrupting the learning of others. At no point must a whole class point be deducted.

Ladder of consequences (per day)

Verbal Warning

-1 Dojo Point

-2 Dojo Points (different behaviours) = Discussion with Teacher

-2 Dojo Points (for the same behaviours) = Detention

-3 Dojo Points (for any behaviours) = Detention

-4 (or more) Dojo Points = Communication with parents (Formal or informal)

It is not necessary for parents to be unduly worried if their child loses 1 or 2 Class DoJo points. We would encourage parents to monitor the frequency and amount that they may lose, but not necessarily follow up each one with an in-depth discussion with their child. (We can all remember sometimes doing the wrong thing at school) If the class teacher feels it necessary to speak directly to parents, they will do so. It would not be manageable for the teacher to follow up with parents the loss of every DoJo point.

Detentions/Time out

At any stage, if the child is not responding to the consequences and needs to leave the



classroom, the child will be taken to the head of key stage to reflect on their behaviour until they are calm enough to return.

Detentions will be overseen by the head of key stage at lunchtimes between 12.15 and 12.45. Children who have reached this consequence will be escorted to the lunch hall at 12.45 to have their dinner. During their time in detention, children will be expected to explain what they have done and what they will do differently next time. This may be verbal or written. All detentions will be recorded.

Serious offences such as violence, inappropriate language and damaging property will result in an instant detention (without a warning) and a red form/letter/text to parents from the Head Teacher.

If a child has had 3 detentions within a half term, a formal letter is to be written to the parent(s) of the child. This may result in a formal meeting in school with the parents to discuss the matter further. If no improvement can be seen and negative behaviour persists and becomes consistent (possibly indicated by a low percentage) then a formal meeting including the teacher, parents and head of key stage will be held.

Communication with Parents

It is expected that teachers will use the messaging/blogging facility when they feel it is necessary. The messaging/blogging facility allows teachers to broadcast a message to all parents (such as sharing a reminder, assignment or homework), and also send private, meaningful communications like text messages and photos so that parents are connected to the classroom. Where possible, pictures will be focussed on the sharing of learning. However, should teachers wish to post pictures of children, they must check there is sufficient permission from parents to do so.

Parents are expected to primarily communicate through Class Dojo, however, home school diaries may still be used for certain communication should parents wish to use them. Parents should be aware that teachers will not necessarily respond to messages straight away, but will endeavour to do so within 48 hours. All parents wishing to share any formal information with Teachers, such as absences, should do so through the usual channels.

NB: If a parent wishes to share information with a teacher first thing in the morning, Class DoJo may not be the most appropriate as teachers will not necessarily have time first thing in the morning to access these messages as they will be setting up for the day ahead.

House points

To ensure House points remain significant and children have opportunities to earn points for their House, each Dojo point will equate to one House point. It is the child's responsibility to add House points to the class display/tally. These will be collected by Year 6 on a Thursday afternoon.

Dojo points may be reset daily or weekly depending on what works best for each class. House points will be reset on a Thursday afternoon once they have been collated.

I hope that this gives you enough information to understand how we envisage it working in the months ahead. We recognise that it is a shift in how we communicate with you and how children are encouraged to engage with their own learning.

This will focus on the learning process as it will focus on rewarding effort, resilience and cooperation. 'Getting it all right' is not always appropriate and there is a large body of evidence that suggests that recognising



effort is better than simply rewarding attainment. Sometimes the laziest learner can get everything right, but does that make them a good learner?

Thank you for your cooperation, but please feel free to contact the class teachers if you need further clarification about any aspect of this. Alternatively contact Mr Hoyle (Acting Head of Infants), Mrs Badham (Acting Deputy Head) or Mr Evans (Head of Juniors)

rhoyle@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

sbadham@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

revans@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

Easter Celebration Assembly

Wednesday 23rd March for Year 3 and Year 5 parents

If you have a child in either of these year groups you are welcome to come along at 2.30pm.

PTA News

Easter Egg competition this Monday, 21st March. If your child/children would like to take part please send them in with their hard boiled egg on Monday morning. Prizes per class for best decorated egg and egg rolled the furthest. Cost £1. Please send money in to school with your child/children on Monday 21st march.

School disco date has been changed from Thursday 28th April to Wednesday 27th April. Infants 5.45 - 6.45 p.m., juniors 7.00 - 8.00 p.m. DJ Dad will be providing the entertainment. If you would like to help out at this event please contact the PTA either by thepta@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk or via our Facebook page Woodmancote School PTA.

Dates for your diary

18 th March	Japanese Student Visit
21 st March	PTA Easter Egg Roll
22 nd March	Year 4 Play 1.30pm
	Year 4 Play 7pm
23 rd March	Easter Assembly for parents of children in Years 3 and 5
	Year 4 Play 7pm
24 th March	Last Day of Term
15 th April	Grandparents Afternoon for Oak and Ash class
20 th -22 nd April	Year 4 Residential to the Forest of Dean
27 th April	PTA Disco*
6 th -10 th June	Year 6 Residential to Whitemoor Lakes
14 th June	Sports Day Juniors-am (9.15 start) Infants-pm (1.30 start)
16 th June	Reserve Sports Day Juniors-am (9.15 start) Infants-pm (1.30 start)
20 th June	Year 5 Activity day at Cleeve School (details to follow)
23 rd June	Area Sports Field Events
29 th June	Area Sports Track Events
4 th July	Year 6 Induction Day at Cleeve and Year 6 Parents Evening Meeting



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11 th July	Year 5 to Cleeve to watch Bussy Malone
19 th July	Year 6 Disco (7-9pm)
21 st July	End of Year Service at St Michael's Church (TBC)

*Please note change of date

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