



Woodmancote School  
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# Newsletter

[www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk](http://www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk)

## Newsletter 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

We all hope that the last few days have been positive and that the children are enjoying being back at school. During Assembly this morning many of the things that they said they were looking forward to this year were activities and events such as Young Voices, Clubs, Birthday parties and visits to places such as Woodmancote Church. Of course the older children also mentioned the Residential! All of these involve being together as a school community, something that we have all missed.

### Playground Supervision before school

Please be aware that whilst the school gates will open at 8.30, supervision of the playground will start at 8.40, when classroom doors will be opened by teachers. Can we also remind parents that children should not play on the climbing frame before or after school as it is not supervised by a member of staff? Thank you.

### Clubs

A list of school led clubs will be emailed out to parents early next week. If your child is interested in any of them, please follow the instructions on the Club letter.

### Reading

In line with the latest Reading guidance from the DfE and in order to provide children with books most suited for their reading development, our existing books (From PINK to ORANGE) have now been sorted into 2 types of reading sets:

- Phonics Readers - fully decodable (These are labelled 1-14)
- Enrichment Readers - to develop fluency, book talk and confidence. Not always phonetically decodable. (These are A-E).

The Phonics Readers have been sorted so that they cover sounds and tricky words progressively and fall in line with our new phonics scheme in Reception and KS1. Each book in these sets are fully decodable and therefore, completely accessible for children to read with greater independence.

Children using these books will bring home TWO Phonics Readers and TWO Enrichment Readers per week. The set in which they are given will relate to their most recent phonics assessment.

Please remember that it is hugely important for children at the start of the reading journey to read as much as possible. Daily is preferable although we recognise this can be tricky so at least 3-4 times per week. Books can be reread to develop confidence and fluency.

As it stands, books from Turquoise onwards, remain unchanged but these will be a priority for us in the coming months.

Please email me if you have any further questions.

Mrs Baxter

[kbaxter@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:kbaxter@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)

### Free to a good home

We have two wooden bookcases in good condition. If you would like them, please email [admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)



## Pastoral Support

As we are all aware via the media coverage and our own personal experiences, the covid-19 pandemic has had a great impact on everyone's mental health.

Here at Woodmancote School we are very aware that children are very much included in this and as a result, last year we trialled assessing every pupil's wellbeing using "The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire" (SDQ) both at the start and end of the academic year. This is a widely used assessment tool used by many professionals and helps offer an indication of children who may need additional support to help address any social, emotional or mental health issues they may be experiencing.

This trial was highly successful and helped identify a number of students who we were then able to support. As a result, I am pleased to announce that Woodmancote School will be continuing to support children's mental health and well-being and have decided to continue the funding for SDQ assessments to take place for this academic year.

In addition, and as always, if you have any concerns about your child/children from a home's perspective please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher or contact myself within the NEST team.

[lmnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:lmnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)

## Medicines

From time to time it is necessary for children to attend school, but also have prescribed medicines.

May we politely remind you that we can only administer prescribed medicines, rather than over the counter purchased calpol etc.

If your child does need medicine it should be brought directly to the school office, rather than to the child's classroom. A form will need to be completed at the office before any medicine can be administered.

Parents may also wish to access the appropriate *Supporting children with medical conditions policy* on the school website <https://woodmancoteschool.co.uk/school-policies/>

## Head Bumps

From time to time you may receive a text from school to say that your child has had a head bump.

Every child who has a head bump is seen by a qualified first aider. If there are no adverse effects, a text is sent to parents/carers to tell you about the head bump and to remind you to look out for any of the following.

Confusion/Memory Loss

Nausea /Vomiting

Vision changes

Excessive sleepiness

Severe headache

Slurred speech

Restlessness/Irritability

Dizziness

Whilst at school children will be monitored for the same symptoms.

Please seek medical attention if necessary.

If your child's head bump is considered to be more serious and require prompt medical attention we will make every effort to contact you. If we are unable to do so, we will take whatever action is considered necessary as for any other injury or medical emergency.



### Woodpeckers

This year we have had an unprecedented demand for Woodpeckers before and after school club, and have increased the number of children we can have at each session to try and meet demand. However, we are now at capacity on several afternoons a week. We now have very limited availability for afternoon sessions and will unfortunately be unable to accept ad-hoc bookings. Thank you

### School Dinners

We are so pleased to be able to offer hot dinners to all children once again. Please therefore ensure you have topped up your lunch account on Parentpay (unless your child is in KS1 or is entitled to FSM). Woodmancote School operates a zero debt policy for lunches, so please ensure the account is always in credit prior to ordering a lunch, or provide your child with a packed lunch. Thank you

### Contact Details

<a href="mailto:admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
<a href="mailto:head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
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<a href="mailto:chair@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">chair@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>

### Dates for the Diary

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> September 6.15pm	Year 6/7 Transition Meetings with Cleeve and Winchcombe. Parents of children in Year 6 are welcome to come along
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	INSET No school for children
22 <sup>nd</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup> October	Half term holiday
1 <sup>st</sup> November	Start of Term 2
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 4.30-7.30	Parent Consultations It is hoped that these will be face to face in school.
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 3.30-6.30	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET No school for children
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term 2
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET No school for children
5 <sup>th</sup> January	First day of term 3

### School Website:

[www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk](http://www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk)

### Pre-school Website:

<http://littlechestnutspreschoolwoodmancote.co.uk/>



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