



Woodmancote School  
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**NEST NEWSLETTER**

**Friday 12th November Issue 1**

Welcome to our first NEST (Nurturing and Emotional Support Team) newsletter! The aim of this newsletter is to introduce the team, and highlight some of the upcoming events. Please do look at the NEST section on our school website for more details.

## **Meet the team - Who is who in NEST?**



**Mr Gary Tucker** [head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)

My role as Safeguarding Lead is to ensure that all children feel safe, secure and protected at school. This means that the curriculum promotes respect, tolerance and empathy. It also means that I liaise with other agencies so that children and families get the support they need, without judgement and in strictest confidence.

If anyone has a concern about a child in or out of school, please do make contact so we can keep all children safe in our community.



**Mrs Leanne McNamee** [lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)

### **NEST Lead Practitioner & Play Therapist**

Hi I'm Leanne McNamee. I have a BEd (Hons) in Primary Education and have been teaching for 22 years. In recent years, I have become very aware and passionate about supporting children with social, emotional and mental health needs and thus gained a further Post Graduate Diploma in Play Therapy qualifying in 2018. I feel very privileged to work with children in the way I do and the role I undertake at this school!



**Mr Richard Hoyle** [senco@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:senco@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)

### **SENCO**

My role at Woodmancote School is focussed on giving children the best possible support and opportunities in school. As SENCO, I aim to ensure that all children identified with special educational needs and disabilities receive the support and provision they need to help raise their achievement. I simply love trying to make a difference for children.



**Mrs Kirstie Workman** [kworkman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:kworkman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)  
**Designated Teacher for Children in Care and Children Previously in Care, Parent Support and Pupil Premium Lead.**

My role as Designated Teacher is to promote the educational, social and emotional achievement of every looked-after and previously looked-after child in the school. This includes those with Special Guardianship. This year I have taken on the role of Pupil Premium Lead and sharing the role of Parent Support.



**Mrs Lauren McDonald – NEST Support**



**Mrs Karen Holder**

My role is a varied one at Woodmancote School, you will mostly find me in the school office. As a qualified child carer I have many years of experience of working with children. I have been involved, in working with bereaved children and helping to support children who are experiencing difficult times in their lives. I supported Mrs McNamee for a year with the children in our nurture group, which was a privilege. I am part way through a three year counselling course, which I find very interesting and am learning so much. I have now undertaken extended parent training, and I am excited to start supporting Mrs Workman on the course we are offering in the Spring.



**Mrs. Emma Lee** [elee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:elee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)

**Medical Liaison Lead**

My current duties include overseeing the medical support of children within the NEST team.

## **Anti-Bullying Week November 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>**



Anti-Bullying Week is coordinated in England and Wales by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and takes place from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021, and it has the theme One Kind Word. We will be recognising this throughout the week in school with many different activities. The week will begin with Odd Socks Day on Monday 15<sup>th</sup>, so please embrace this with enthusiasm!

## **Would you be interested in “Understanding Your Child’s Behaviour?”**

### **FREE course – 26<sup>th</sup> January-6<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Kirstie Workman and Karen Holder have undertaken an extended parenting training programme and will be running a free 10 week course entitled “Understanding Your Child’s Behaviour” in the Spring Term. This will run from 7-9pm on a Wednesday evening in the school. Numbers are limited but we do plan to repeat the course if it is a success.

This will be a friendly, informal but structured course. ‘Understanding Your Child’s Behaviour’ is intended for parents and carers who want to know more about sensitive and effective parenting. It aims to develop a framework of thinking about parent/child relationships which can be developed into a lifelong skill. This in turn promotes effective behaviour management. It explores issues such as:

- Tuning into children
- Exploring feelings
- Parenting styles
- Communication
- Temper tantrums
- Sleep patterns
- Behavioural difficulties

If you are interested, and can commit to the full 10 weeks, please email:  
[kworkman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch](mailto:kworkman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch) .

### **Christmas Food Bank**

This year the Bishops Cleeve Christmas foodbank school session will be on Thursday 16 December from 12:45-2:30pm, at St Michael's Centre. Please do get in touch if you would like to order one and help alleviate some financial pressures over the festive season.

They will be offering Christmas hampers. They will come as standard to anyone redeeming a foodbank voucher. They are also available to people who are not receiving a foodbank parcel but might appreciate a few extra festive treats.

I also wanted to let you know that their revised Christmas hours for the Bishops Cleeve outlet. Bishops Cleeve will open on Thursday 23rd December (rather than Friday 24 December) from 9:45-11:15 It will open as normal on Friday 31st December. Further information on the opening hours of our other outlets can be found on our website:  
<https://northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk/>

Please do let me know if you would like to order one by Friday 26th November. I can be contacted via email:

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

Please remember any requests are confidential!

I'll look forward to hearing from you!



## **Parent Talk on “Understanding and supporting our children’s emotional needs in the present day” by Sarah Gothard**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December 7pm-8pm**

As promised, we are pleased to announce that our school Educational Psychologist, Sarah Gothard, will be holding a presentation on children’s behaviour. This has been at the request of school as we have become aware of so many children displaying extreme behaviours at home. Please know that if this resonates with you... you are not alone!!!! However, if you are simply interested in child development then please know you are most welcome to.

Sarah aims to talk about brain development in the primary school years and what happens, including children’s social & emotional development. She will also relate the possible impact of these developments with the recent pandemic and highlight why this could indicate another reason why children are having a particularly difficult time at the moment. In addition, Sarah intends to talk about the normalisation of feelings, share some strategies that might be helpful for different ages, and then also allow some time for discussion and sharing of ideas between each other.

We hope to see as many parents attend as possible and a survey will come out soon for you to indicate your intention to attend. This will help with organising refreshments and seating.

Do come along and see if you can take away some useful information and advice!

### **Useful links**

Domestic abuse: <https://www.gdass.org.uk/>

Mental health: <https://www.mind.org.uk/need-urgent-help/using-this-tool>

Financial problems: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/debt-and-money/>

Please see the school website for an abundance of other useful organisations.