



Woodmancote School
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Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Newsletter 18th March 2022

Over the course of this past week you might have noticed that we have had a significant number of staff off with covid. At one point there were 16 members of staff off from across the school.

Apologies to those parents whose pre-school children normally attend Little Chestnuts. We look forward to welcoming you all back next week, when staffing levels will be back to normal.

It is testament to the dedication, flexibility and resilience of the staff at Woodmancote that we avoided having to close any class this week and I wanted to start this newsletter with a very public thanks to each and every one of them.

Road Safety

In recent weeks I have received several reports of 'near misses' just outside of school. The latest one was this week when a pre-school child ran out from between parked cars near the mini roundabout on Station Road.

Can I please urge parents to park responsibly, even if that means further away from the school, in order to reduce the number of cars around the school?

It is also essential that children are reminded of the importance of road safety, if they walk or cycle to school. Reports of Year 6 children cycling without helmets down the middle of Station Road to school in recent weeks has horrified me!

Once again, if you can walk to school, please do and if not, please consider parking further away from the school.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Bridge Club

After Easter, one of the after-school clubs Woodmancote will be running is a bridge club, for a number of children from years 4, 5 and 6. The participating children will receive full instruction in this fascinating game at the club. The clubs list will open later on this term.

In the meantime, if children are itching to learn, or get a head start, then on the 9th and 10th of April there is an exciting youth bridge weekend, which is hosted by Cheltenham Bridge Club and Cheltenham Ladies College. All levels are welcome from beginners to junior experts.

Children can go for the day, or even stay over. There will be fun competitions, tournaments and prizes.

It is £65 per person including overnight accommodation, or £35 if children are not staying over. It is £20 for Saturday only. For more information, and application forms, please contact Ro Kaye on 07843 082665 or rokaye@hotmail.co.uk

Year 6

Last Friday, Year 6 carried out their John O'Groats to Land's End sponsored walk. The children had chosen to raise money for Young Lives vs Cancer (formerly CLIC Sargent).



603 miles later (3618 laps of the school field) - they had done it!! The whole year

group were an absolute credit to the school - no grumbling or complaining (even in pretty miserable weather conditions!!) and just showed positivity and enthusiasm.

They have currently raised a spectacular total of over £2000 for the charity! Well done, Year 6!

Grapes

These can be a choking hazard, especially for younger children, so please consider cutting them long ways if sending them in your child's lunchbox.

Wonderful World! house photo competition.

Well done to everyone that entered our 'Wonderful World!' house photo competition. All of the photographs are amazing and it was hard to choose between them! All the children that entered have been awarded house points with additional points for these winners and runners up. Nottingham House were the runaway winners with a total of 230 points. Well done Nottingham!



Cleeve House came second with 110 points and both Malvern and Leckhampton were awarded 60 points. All of the photographs sent in will be entered into the Gloucestershire Young Photographer competition. If you do not want your child's photograph to be entered, please email gpearman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk before Wednesday 23rd March.



We are making arrangements for our Easter Holiday Activity and Food programme. This is a government-funded programme that aims to ensure that children on free school meals can access food and activities over the Easter break.

For primary-aged children on free school meals, we are offering:

- A choice of a food hamper (meat-based or vegetarian-based) that will make four meals that will be delivered to your school, OR



The option to choose your own food at one of Cheltenham's community food pantries.

Both options will be subject to availability and are offered on a one per family basis.

We would like you to book which food option you would like by using the link below by **3pm**

Monday 21 March:

<https://nochildleftbehindcheltenham.coordinate.cloud/list>

If you have not yet registered on the system, you will need to create an account - there is more information here if you need any help:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/register-for-our-childrens-activities-booking-system/>

Registering on the system will also give you the opportunity to book a range of other activities that will go live from Monday 28 March.

The No Child Left Behind team

Email: nochildleftbehind@cheltenham.gov.uk

Red Nose Day-Friday 18th March

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=6904>

Many thanks for supporting today. If you still feel like donating, follow the link above.

World Down Syndrome Day-21st March

To mark this day and to help raise awareness of Down Syndrome, children are encouraged to wear bright, colourful socks on Monday 21st March.

Further information about this campaign can be found by following the link below.

[About #LotsOfSocks - Down Syndrome International \(worlddownsyndromeday.org\)](https://www.worlddownsyndromeday.org/)

Cross country Finale

The winter cross country season has finished, and team Woodmancote have done extremely respectably. Overall, through the whole season, Woodmancote's combined cross country team came tenth out of 21 local schools (many of which are bigger than us), which is an achievement that all the competitors should be extremely proud of. Yew class's Harrison Tyrrell came a spectacular second out of all of the year 5 and below boys in the whole of Cheltenham, and Yew class's Izzy Hunn came 7th out of all the year 5 and below girls in the whole of Cheltenham.

The performance of these two Woodmancote children meant that they qualified for the county final at St. Edward's on Saturday 12th March.

It was a gruelling course, where the top runners from Gloucester, Cirencester and Stroud competed against each other for the chance to represent the county in the National finals.

Despite a recent injury, Woodmancote's Izzy Hunn came 24th in the whole of



Gloucestershire, which is just superb. Izzy's performance also contributed to the Cheltenham girls lifting the gold trophy for their overall performance in the regional finals. Well done all of

the Woodmancote runners, and all of the members of the club for all their hard work, and the progress they've made this year. Cross country club will start again in September.

Mr. Adkin



May Day - Maypole

How about dancing the maypole?! We are on the look out for some parents, grandparents and maybe Secondary school children to join in with the May Day Maypole at the Woodmancote May Day. You may have danced before or maybe not. No experience is necessary, just enthusiasm and eagerness! We plan to have a practice one or two evenings just before or after the Easter holidays and then dance at May Day on 2nd May. If you are interested please email Helen.

helen.macleod@blueyonder.co.uk

We've not held this event for two years so it would be fabulous for lots of people join in and contribute to their local community. Can't wait to hear from you!

Swimming for Year 2 and 3

As we approach our new and exciting swimming experience for Years 2 and 3, here is a little more information about what the children will need during the two weeks and how the lessons will work.

- Swimming trunks/costume and towel will need to be in school each day, in a bag.
- Footwear to put on, such as sandals, jelly shoes, trainers for the short walk from the changing rooms to the pool itself. Do not buy these especially as they can put school shoes on if needed.
- A member of staff will be deployed to oversee the changing of each group.
- The pool will be positioned on the top playground, so weather permitting, children will be on the field at break/lunchtimes.
- No one is to enter the swimming pool area without permission before or after school

- When the pool is being filled, there will be a hosepipe from the school to the pool, which will cross the path. We will ensure that it is not a trip hazard as much as possible, but please be aware of it if you come to school via Station Road

If you have any specific questions, please do email Mr Tucker, who will endeavour to answer them.

head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

Internet Safety

As I am sure you are aware, internet safety of children across the UK has been in the news recently and continues to be a concern.

We know that the best protection we can give to young people is knowledge of the dangers so that they are aware and can protect themselves, as well as letting them know where they can go for help and support with regards to Cyber Bullying.

In order to do this, we are presenting an interactive play to our Year 4 pupils on 17th June, which will tackle some of the issues around Safe Internet Use, Cyber Bullying and prevention of exploitation. The play is age appropriate and is called 'In the Net'. It will last for approximately 40 minutes and pupils will be provided with a support pack at the end of the production.

This activity is part of a programme of work around raising and tackling the complex nature of Internet Use and is being supported by the Education and Early Years Sub Group of the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership (GSCP).

We hope that this will be a memorable way to enhance their safe internet usage and help our young people to stay safe on-line.



Finally...

Today sees the departure of Mrs White, who is now on maternity leave. We look forward to her news in the coming weeks!

atlas camps



3 WEEKS TO GO

Until Atlas Camps Woodmancote open their doors!

'Outstanding' Ofsted registered holiday childcare.
Activities running all day including:

- A wide range of Sports
 - Nerf Wars
 - Arts and Crafts
 - Face Painting
 - Talent Shows
 - Plus lots more!

Book your place now at www.atlascamps.co.uk

#COUNTDOWN

Dates for the Diary.

Further events will be added to the calendar throughout the year.

Mon 21 st March	Downs Syndrome Awareness Day An opportunity to wear bright socks!
Mon 21 st - Wed 23 rd March	Year 4 and 5 Residential https://activity-centres.naycacuk.co.uk/pioneer-centre/
Mon 28 th March-8 th April	On-site Swimming Pool for Years 2 and 3
29 th March and 1 st April	Year 1 to Woodmancote Church for Easter activities
7 th - 14 th April	Books for bugs virtual book fair
Tues 5 th April	M and M production of The Railway Children for Years 4-6
Fri 8 th April	Last day of Term 4
Mon 25 th April	First day of Term 5
Monday 2 nd May	May Day
w/b 9 th May	Year 6 SATS Week
Mon 16 th to Fri 20 th May	Year 6 Residential https://activity-centres.naycacuk.co.uk/whitemoor-lakes/
Fri 27 th May	Last day of Term 5
Fri 27 th May	Platinum Jubilee Celebration Details to follow
Mon 6 th June	First day of Term 6

Contact Details

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head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
thepta@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
woodpeckers@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
chair@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
School Website: www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk
Pre-school Website: http://littlechestnutspreschoolwoodmancote.co.uk/



Woodmancote School

Friday 17 th June	Year 4 to see In the Net
Fri 17 th June	Prince of Wales Athletics Competition for KS2 children
Thurs 21 st July 2022	Last day of term.



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