



Woodmancote School  
Belong · Aspire · Achieve

# Newsletter

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

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

Welcome back to the new academic year. I hope that this finds you all well and that your children are looking forward to the year ahead.

We hope that you find this first newsletter of the year informative as it will outline a few things that you maybe didn't know or have forgotten over the last few months.

## Parent View

As many of you may already be aware the school receives an inspection from OFSTED every few years. As our last one was in the Autumn of 2017, we are expecting one very soon and would therefore welcome your views via the link below.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

If there are any very specific things that you would like us to be aware of, please do contact us directly to explore further

## Acceptable Use Agreement

Thank you to the overwhelming majority of parents who returned this earlier this week. There are still 30 outstanding returns. Please get these back to us as soon as possible as until they are returned, your child will not have access to the internet at school.

## Transfer to Secondary School

It is time to start the Secondary transfer process again. Letters for all Parents/Carers of Year 6 students will be sent home today. The deadline for to apply is **31<sup>st</sup> October 2023!** There is a meeting next Thursday at 6.15pm

## Childhood Nasal Flu Programme

Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due. The NHS nurses will be doing this at school on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October and Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. Vaccination Consent Forms will be sent home with the children today. Please return the paper consent form to school by next Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> September.

## Communicating with school

We have a very welcoming and open door policy at Woodmancote, but there are several ways in which this can operate more effectively for children, parents and staff.

As teachers welcome the children in at 8.40, please avoid chatting to the teachers about issues, other than those that would impact on the well-being of your child that day. All other issues can wait until 3.15 on collection.

Emails are not checked during the teaching day, so please do not expect a reply from the teacher immediately. It is far better to email things through to the office, where messages can be passed to the teachers at an appropriate time.

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

## Absences

Informing the school of absences on the day can be done by phoning the office and leaving a message on the absence line, sending an email to [admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk) or using the absence notification facility on our school website.

For upcoming absences, please complete a 'Request for a Leave of Absence' form, available from the office, and return for reply from Mr Tucker.

## Do Jo

We hope that you accepted invites to your child's class and we are confident that you will enjoy seeing what is going on in school throughout the year.

Please be aware that DoJo should **not** be used for the following:

- Reporting absences
- Informing the school who may be picking your child up on the odd day.
- Sending personal details about possible safeguarding concerns, marital issues, etc.

Please do not expect your child's class teacher to respond to DoJo messages



during the school day or in the evenings or at weekends. All teachers have release time at some time over a two week window and will use some of that time to respond to messages.

### **Climbing Frames**

These are not staffed in the morning before school or after school, so please supervise your children if you allow them on to them.

### **Parentpay**

Parentpay is the school system that allows all parents to make online payments for school dinners, trips and visits. To all our new families, you will be issued a letter in the next 10 days, this will detail how to login and your unique login reference. If you have any questions or require any support in setting it up, please speak to the school office.

### **Meal Price**

Caterlink, our catering providers have informed us of a price increase for September. The meal price will be £2.54.

Children in reception, year 1 and year 2 all receive infant free school meals.

However, we would urge parents to consider following this link to find out whether their children are able to claim Free School Meals.

Not only would this mean your child would have a free cooked meal each day, regardless of age, the school would then receive additional funding that may be used to support families with the cost of things such as residential and day trips. If you are unsure, please just have a look or contact the school and we will help you through the process.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support

- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

### **School Uniform**

Part of our approach to living our ethos of Belonging is that all children wear and present themselves at school in a similar manner. Last year we saw several children coming to school pushing the boundaries in terms of jewellery, hair styles and 'accessories'. Can we remind parents of the following expectations.

- All children should wear appropriate dark school shoes unless they have a medical reason not to do so.
- Hair that is long enough to fall into eyes should be tied up or a child should wear a plain hair band. *This goes for boys and girls.* If a child comes to school and their hair is hampering them accessing their learning they will be given a simple elastic band to tie their hair up with.
- If worn, ear rings must only be simple studs.
- No necklaces, bracelets, rings or bangles should be worn to school.
- Hair bands should be plain and not 'ears', sparkly unicorn bands or anything similar.



Jumpers and other items of clothing should be labelled. Last year we accumulated a mountain of lost property! Naming items of clothing and also lunch boxes really helps us to return items.

Our school uniform policy can be found at <https://woodmancoteschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/School-Uniform-Policy.pdf>

### **School Gates**

A gentle reminder that all children should be in school by 8.45 ready for registration. They can come into the classroom from 8.40, so any child not registered at 8.45 will be classed as late.

### **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.

### **School Car Park**

Can we remind all parents that the car park at the front of the school is only for staff, visitors to the school and parents displaying Blue Badges or School Parking Permit Badges. If you are dropping off or picking up from Woodpeckers you may also use it, but we politely ask all other parents to park on surrounding roads in a safe manner, even if this means parking a little further from the school.

### **Autumn Term Clubs**

With this newsletter you will also receive an outline of clubs available this term. Please take time to look through with your children and contact the relevant members of staff via email.

If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium and is interested in hockey, please contact Mrs White asap to receive a code for this particular club.

### **Congratulations**

Dylan in Year 6 was nominated by Mr Guest to attend trials for the Cheltenham Primary Schools FA under 11's representative team and has been selected for the team. This is an amazing achievement and we look forward to hearing all about it in the months ahead.



### Tour of Britain

The Men's Tour of Britain Cycle Race is taking place in Gloucestershire this *Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September*.

If you want to watch the race live, the action starts in Tewkesbury at 11am and finishes in Gloucester Docks at approximately 3:15pm with the route going through both the Cotswold and Stroud Districts.

For details of the route and timings, please follow this link <https://www.tourofbritain.co.uk/stages/stage-seven/>.

From 12pm, there will be an exciting finish event in Gloucester Docks including a BMX display, Stunt cyclists, Smoothie bikes, Cycle Scalextric, balance bikes, mini racing bikes, a circus bike workshop, a watt bike challenge, live music and more.

### Your School Needs You!

We believe in spending the school budget on providing children with the best resources, staffing and opportunities that it allows. With a superb Parent and Teacher Association (PTA), and other sponsors, we have been able to provide your children in recent years with a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA), large climbing frames and a host of additional resources.

We have upgraded toilets across the school and created a learning environment that we believe supports your child's learning.

However, there is only so far the budget goes and there are many things that we believe parents could help us with! Below you will see a list of possible ways that you could help. If you feel that you can, please email Mr Tucker asap and

we can liaise with you as to time and day!

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

- **New Goal Posts**-We have invested in two new sets of goals, but have been quoted a considerable sum to put them together. Can you help?
- **Flat pack IKEA furniture**-We have revamped many classrooms with new furniture, but need a few doors being put on. Can you help?
- **Gardening**-We have several key areas such as the Growing Hope garden that need some edging and TLC in order that the children can restart their gardening club. Can you help?
- **Strimming** the Forest School Area to create paths and remove brambles. Can you help?
- **MUGA** – to keep the MUGA maintained we need a number of bags of sand brushed into it each year. Can you help?

### Nurturing and Emotional Support Team

This Team is at Woodmancote to help children and families when things are not going as well as you would like them to and when a little bit of additional support is needed. Our dedicated team offer a range of services that are outlined in our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy under Parent Offer 2023-24 pp53-57

<https://woodmancoteschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Safeguarding-and-Child-Protection-Policy-Sept-23.pdf>

Mr Tucker          Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs McNamee      NEST Lead



Mr Hoyle Special Educational Needs Coordinator  
 Mrs Holder Family Support Worker  
 Mrs McDonald Higher Level Teaching Assistant  
 Mrs Lee Medical Conditions  
 Mrs Baxter and Mrs Galley

Designated Teacher for Children in Care and Previously looked after children. These two members of staff are also supporting children who have been adopted

Mrs Workman

Mrs Workman is our Lead for Personal, Social and Health Education

Mrs White Pupil Premium Lead

If you feel that you and your family need support, but are not sure what kind of support, please email either Mrs Holder [kholder@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:kholder@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk) or Mrs McNamee [lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)

Alternatively contact Mr Tucker for any safeguarding concerns or Mr Hoyle for any SEN advice.

**Dates for the Diary**

<b>September</b>	
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Talk for parents of children in Year 5 and 6 6.15pm-Winchcome representative 7pm-Cleeve
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	6.16 Talk for Parents of new Reception children
<b>October</b>	
Black History Month	
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Annual Flu Vaccinations – whole school. Please return consent forms by Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup></b>	6.15-7.15 Headsight Talk to all Parents about Relational Practice
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	School Photos

<b>Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent Consultation Evenings
<b>26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup></b>	INSET Days No school for children
<b>November</b>	
<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	First day back after half term
<b>w/b 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Anti-Bullying Week
<b>13<sup>th</sup></b>	Wear Odd socks day
<b>December</b>	
<b>22<sup>nd</sup></b>	INSET No school for children



### Staff Emails

Mrs Baxter	<a href="mailto:kbaxter@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">kbaxter@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Dodwell	<a href="mailto:rdodwell@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">rdodwell@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Jordan	<a href="mailto:sjordan@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">sjordan@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Grosvenor	<a href="mailto:rgrosvenor@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">rgrosvenor@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Badham	<a href="mailto:sbadham@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">sbadham@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Workman	<a href="mailto:kworkman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">kworkman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs McCormack	<a href="mailto:cmccormack@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">cmccormack@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mr Guest	<a href="mailto:tguest@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">tguest@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mr Adkin	<a href="mailto:padkin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">padkin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Howard	<a href="mailto:nhoward@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">nhoward@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mr Evans	<a href="mailto:revans@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">revans@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs White	<a href="mailto:jwhite@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">jwhite@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mr Ridal	<a href="mailto:lridal@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">lridal@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Pearman	<a href="mailto:gpearman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">gpearman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Holding	<a href="mailto:lholding@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">lholding@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>

Mrs McNamee	<a href="mailto:lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Miss Cowan	<a href="mailto:hcowan@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">hcowan@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mr Wood	<a href="mailto:lwood@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">lwood@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Miss Niblett	<a href="mailto:lniblett@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">lniblett@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Searle	<a href="mailto:ksearle@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">ksearle@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mr de Gruchy	<a href="mailto:Ddegruchy@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">Ddegruchy@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>
Mrs Turfrey	<a href="mailto:aturfrey@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk">aturfrey@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk</a>



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