



Woodmancote School  
Belong · Aspire · Achieve

# Newsletter

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

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October**

**Attention all Parents**

**Don't miss this amazing opportunity**

**"To be, or not to be – Therapeutic"**

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October 6.15-7.15pm

We are incredibly honoured to host a talk by Tony France from Headsight. The evening promises to be reflective, challenging and thought-provoking and incredibly relevant to parents and children in our community. Tony will gently explain the benefits of becoming trauma informed and the value of working therapeutically with children and young people.

Tony has been working with vulnerable children and families for over 35 years, originally starting his career as a mental health social worker.

Following twelve years in young people's addiction services he went on to work internationally for the British Council developing services for vulnerable children in South Africa, Nova Scotia and Sweden. He has worked as an advisor to Local Education Authorities, schools and charities.

Tony's time in addiction services led him to recognise that many of those attending services had common experiences of early trauma and adversity. With a desire to make the biggest difference at the earliest opportunity, Tony focused his study and practice on addressing early trauma. Please contact [lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk) if you are attending.

**School Ambassadors**

Our amazing School Ambassadors have already played a key part in the life of the school this term. Not only have they met Mr Burr, the OFSTED inspector, but have also played a key role at break and lunchtimes with helping the younger children in the hall and on the playground. They have done so with enthusiasm and good humour.

In the coming weeks they will be showing prospective parents around the school and telling them a little more about what goes on here at Woodmancote.

**Harvest and Supporting Families**

Over the last few years we have seen more and more families forced to use the local Foodbank at St Michael's. In recognition of this, we have decided to try something a little different this year and hope that parents will support us.

Rather than having a one off harvest assembly, we are seeking to set up an informal Foodbank here at school where those families who would like to, can donate items of food on a regular basis. This food will be available to any parent who needs it. They can simply pop in and collect it from the shelves at drop off or pick up time.

Every family will have access to this area within school, to either drop off or collect food from. It will be overseen by NEST, but will not require Foodbank Vouchers. This will not replace St Michael's, but will act as an additional source of support.

Several local schools run similar Foodbanks and we are confident that parents here at Woodmancote, where 'Belonging' and Inclusion are so important, can feel that they can help in some small way.

We are evaluating where would be the most appropriate place, but keep an eye out in the coming weeks. We will text you further details in time.

- All food should be in date
- Dried and tinned/jarred/packaged foodstuff only (fresh food would prove hard to monitor)
- Toiletries such as toothpaste, shower gel, etc are welcome
- Please bring recyclable bags

We look forward to your support.

**Homophobic comments**

It has come to my attention that some children have been using homophobic language at school. Despite warnings, some boys have continued to use gay in a derogatory and demeaning way and that as a school we will not simply ignore this.



Can I please ask that you discuss with your child that saying 'you are so gay' and using gay as a term of abuse can be deemed to be a Hate crime. It is important that we address this now in order that they do not continue thinking it is ok to use such language into adulthood.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

### **PTA News**

Well done to all those who submitted entries to the sunflower competition! The winner was Emma S whose sunflower reached over 10ft! Well done!!

The **PTA AGM** will take place on the 16th of October at 7pm. If you're interested in joining the PTA or would like to find out more information on what we do, please come along!

The **UV Halloween Disco** will be on Friday 20th October:  
Year 1, 2 and 3: 6:15-7:15pm  
Year 4, 5 and 6: 7:30-8:30pm

Entry is £2 payable on the door and includes a soft drink and treat. Children can come dressed in Halloween costumes or in a white t-shirt to glow in the UV light.

We will need volunteers to help at the disco. Please email [thepta@woodmancote.gloucs.such.uk](mailto:thepta@woodmancote.gloucs.such.uk) if you can help.

Thank you, The PTA

### **Consultation on school admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools (GCC Schools) Academic Year 2025/2026**

The School Admissions Code 2021 requires all admission authorities to consult upon their admission arrangements if changes are to be made or if there are no changes, at least once every 7 years.

Gloucestershire County Council, as the admission authority for all Community (C)

and Voluntary Controlled (VC) schools last consulted upon their admission arrangements in 2016, therefore we are now due a full consultation.

### **The current oversubscription criteria give priority in the following order:**

- 1.** A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements order or special guardianship order (1) including those who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
- 2.** Children who will have siblings attending the school at the time the applicant child is admitted.
- 3.** Children with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home address (including flats) to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

**We will not be making any changes to these admission arrangements for the academic year 2025-2026 therefore the priority for admission to Community and Voluntary Controlled schools in Gloucestershire will remain the same as above.**

The link to this consultation is

<https://haveyoursaygloucestershire.uk.engage.mentha.com/school-admission-arrangements-2025-consultation>

One of our schools is also consulting on a reduction of their Published Admission Number for 2025. The link for this consultation is

<https://haveyoursaygloucestershire.uk.engage.mentha.com/beece-green-primary-school-school-admission-consultation>

If you have any comments to make about the admission arrangements for 2025-2026, please do so via the consultation page.

Named points of contact;

Holly Ryland and Amanda Johns

### Dates for the Diary

October	
Black History Month	
<b>Thursday 12th</b>	6.15-7.15 Headsight Talk to all Parents about Relational Practice
<b>Monday 16th</b>	PTA AGM at 7pm
<b>Tuesday 17th</b>	School Photos
<b>Friday 20th</b>	PTA Disco
<b>Tuesday 24th</b>	Parent Consultation Evenings
<b>Wednesday 25th</b>	
<b>26th and 27th</b>	INSET Days No school for children
November	
<b>6th</b>	First day back after half term
<b>w/b 13th</b>	Anti-Bullying Week
<b>13th</b>	Wear Odd socks day
December	
<b>12th</b>	Nativity at 9.30am
<b>13th</b>	Nativity at 9.30am and 1.45pm
<b>18th</b>	Year 2 Christmas Party
<b>19th</b>	Reception and Year 1 Christmas Party
<b>20th</b>	Year 5 and Year 4 Christmas Party
<b>21st</b>	Year 6 and Year 3 Christmas Party
<b>22nd</b>	INSET No school for children

### Staff Emails

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