



Woodmancote School
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Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Friday 12th January 2024

Happy New Year to you all. I hope that the Christmas break was the kind of one you were looking forward to!

This term feels incredibly and ridiculously short, but the Spring term is a key one for learning, so we hope that everyone is ready for whatever the year brings.

School Council

We would like to introduce our new school council, who will be working hard throughout the year to help the school in lots of ways. Bella, Finlay, Mia, Harvey, Alice, Lizzie, Lilac, Barney, Kya, Aalok and Sam are really looking forward to the challenge.

Gold Cup Visit

We are delighted to announce that the Cheltenham Gold Cup (the original 1924 trophy) will be in school on 20th February. Every year we see the helicopters fly overhead, hear the roar of the crowd and battle through the traffic, but here is an opportunity for the children to actually see the cup up close.

Year 4 and Year 6 Residential

These trips are only possible if we receive enough voluntary contributions to cover the costs. We recognise that many families are finding things financially difficult, but the school is not in a position to support these trips if contributions do not come in.

At the present moment, it does not look as if we have enough contributions to make the Year 4 trip viable and we may need to cancel it next week if we do not see further contributions come in.

Swimming

Year 3 will be swimming between 11th April and 4th July. Please look out for a letter in the coming weeks.

Volunteer Recruitment Morning Monday 29th January 2024

We know many of you already support the work of the school in different ways, whether that is on the PTA, attending events or helping with your child's reading at home. Some of you help transport children to matches and tournaments and some of you come into school to help with reading. However, since COVID we have had fewer people volunteering to come in and help with hearing children read or with craft activities. This has coincided with a more rigorous procedure for volunteers, due to the Safeguarding expectations from the Department for Education.

Many of you work and time is incredibly precious, but some of you may be able to spare some time each week, fortnight or indeed, once a term, to come in and help with some aspect of school life. Recognising that the process can be time consuming and potentially overwhelming, we would like to offer a morning session when members of the School Leadership Team (SLT) will be able to help you complete the necessary forms to become a Volunteer here at Woodmancote. We really do need you!

If you are interested, please email me at head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk as soon as possible and we can earmark a slot for you to sit down with someone from the SLT. Alternatively, just pop in at drop off time on the 29th and we can talk you through the process, help complete the necessary forms and give you an overview of ways in which you could help the school and ultimately, your child.

Volunteering roles include

- Hearing children read
- Helping to change reading books
- Helping with art and craft activities
- Cooking with the children as part of their learning



There are also opportunities to help with maintaining the school grounds, with things such as clearing the Forest School Area, spreading sand in the MUGA, maintaining the pond and making resources for children outdoor (dens, etc)

If you feel you would like to know more or to sign up, please come along on Monday 29th January. We will be based in the Year 6 Block from 8.45am until 10.45am.

Relationship and Behaviour Policy

We are currently reviewing this policy and would welcome input from parents. Please can parents look through our draft (attached) and send any comments to Mr Tucker by 2nd February. Alternatively come along on Wednesday 31st January to the Activity Room in Year 6 and meet with Mr Tucker.

head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

Parking...again!

Only parents displaying a Blue Badge or our own Woodmancote pass are allowed in to the school's car park. We have a number of blue badge holders who have been unable to park due to other parents simply coming into the car park because it is convenient for them to do so.

Can I also take this opportunity to highlight yet again parking on roads bordering the school. Can I please ask parents to be mindful of driveways and access routes when dropping off and picking up.

Thank you.

Dates for the Diary

29 th January	Volunteer Recruitment Fair Activity Room 8.45-10.45am
w/b 5 th February	Children's Mental Health Week
6 th February	PTA Pancake Flip
7 th February	Sarah Gothard (Educational Psychologist)
9 th February	Last day of term 3
19 th February	Year 3 Roman Day
20 th February	Gold Cup Visit
23 rd	Year 3 Trip to the Corinium Museum
26 th	Phonics Session for parents of children in Reception 8.45 Activity Room
w/b 26 th	Year 6 Bikeability
w/b 4 th March	Year 6 Bikeability
26 th	The Pioneer Centre Year 4 Residential Trip Meeting on TEAMS
5 th March	Parent Consultations
7 th March	Parent Consultations
18 th -20 th March	Year 4 Residential at The Pioneer Centre
21 st March	PTA Easter Disco
22 nd March	Last day of term 4



Staff Emails

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