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# Newsletter

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

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

## **Adoption and Fostering Coffee Morning**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March @9am - 10am. This is our third session so far this year and feedback from parents and carers has been overwhelmingly positive.

I would love to welcome you along for an informal chat with a cup of tea or coffee with myself and Laura Galley at school after drop off.

Please do contact me at [kbaxter@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:kbaxter@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk) if you have any questions.

Kathryn Baxter - Designated Teacher for Looked after Children

## **Year 5 - Star Gazing**

On the coldest night of 2024 so far, a group of brave Year 5s and their parents took part in an evening of star gazing at Cleeve School. They were lucky enough to see: the Moon, Saturn, Jupiter (and its moons), Orion's Belt and a Satellite! Josh Lane even managed to spot a cluster of stars called the Severn Sisters. A huge thank you to Mr Squire at Cleeve for organising such a magical evening.



## **Year 5 - Design and Technology trip.**

Yesterday, a few Year 5s took part in a DT activity evening with Mr Ward and Mr Ridal at Cleeve School. They were tasked with measuring, manufacturing and finishing a candle and matchbox holder using all the tools that you get to use when you go to "big school" We learnt about how to keep ourselves and others safe in a workshop and how to operate the machinery safely. Well done to Year 5 for your independent spirits!



## **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 sufficient contributions do not come in.

## **Swimming**

Year 3 will be swimming between 11<sup>th</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup> July. Please look at the letter sent out this week and respond by **Mon 5<sup>th</sup> February**.

## **Volunteer Recruitment Morning Monday 29<sup>th</sup> 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



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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](mailto: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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> January. We will be based in the Year 6 Block from 8.45am until 10.45am.

### **“Working with your children when things go wrong”**

Following feedback from our October therapeutic parenting session by Tony France, we are now following this up with some next steps of what this might look like in the home. In preparation for Dr Sarah Gothard's discussion on the evening of Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, we are interested in gaining your views on examples of challenging behaviours you are seeing in the home environment. Please take 2 minutes to fill in the survey (link sent via T2P today) and we look forward to providing you with more information in the coming days. It will be held in the Year 6 block from 18.15 to 19.15 and entrance will be via the side gate off the car park.

NEST Team

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Alternatively come along on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January to the Activity Room in Year 6 and meet with Mr Tucker.

[head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto: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 <sup>th</sup> January	Volunteer Recruitment Fair Activity Room 8.45-10.45am
w/b 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Children's Mental Health Week
6 <sup>th</sup> February	PTA Pancake Flip
7 <sup>th</sup> February	Sarah Gothard (Educational Psychologist), 6.15 - 7.15pm
9 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day of term 3
19 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 3 Roman Day
20 <sup>th</sup> February	Gold Cup Visit
23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Year 3 Trip to the Corinium Museum
26 <sup>th</sup> February	Phonics Session for parents of children in Reception 8.45 Activity Room
26 <sup>th</sup> February	The Pioneer Centre Year 4 Residential Trip Meeting on TEAMS
w/b 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 6 Bikeability
w/b 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 Bikeability
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Class assembly – Cedar 9.00-9.20am
5 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Consultations
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Consultations
12 <sup>th</sup> March	Adoption & Fostering Coffee Morning
13 <sup>th</sup> March	Class assembly – Willow 9.00-9.20am
18 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 4 Residential at The Pioneer Centre
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Class assembly – Maple 9.00-9.20am
21 <sup>st</sup> March	PTA Easter Disco
22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Last day of term 4

### Staff Emails

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