



Woodmancote School
Belong · Aspire · Achieve

Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Friday 6th September 2024

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. Much of this newsletter contains information that most of you are already aware of. However, it is always worth reminding everyone at the beginning of the year of a few things that help the school day go more smoothly!

Mr Hoyle

Mr Hoyle, our wonderful SENDCo, will be retiring at the end of this term. Mr Hoyle has been at the school for over 20 years as a class teacher, SENDCo and member of the Leadership Team.

He has been an invaluable source of support to many families, but also other colleagues and we will miss him enormously! His good humour, caring attitude and organizational skills will leave a large hole in the school community, but we wish him every happiness and success in the future.

He will be with us until Christmas and until then parents should continue to contact him for any concerns they have about their child's needs.

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 shortly. In the meantime Winchcombe and Cleeve School will be coming to school on Thursday 19th September (6.15 onwards). If your child is in Year 5 or Year 6, you are very welcome to come along and speak to representatives from both schools.

Please note that the cut off date for submitting your school preference list is **31st October**.

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.

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

Childhood Nasal Flu Programme

Your child's annual flu vaccination is now due. The NHS nurses will be doing this at school on **16th September for Years 1-6** and on another date for new reception children (date TBC). Further information and a link for giving consent on-line was emailed to parents of children in Years 1-6 earlier this week. Please ensure you use this to give your consent **by 12 noon on Friday 13th September** when the system closes. Once we have the date for new reception children we will email out the consent link to use for this year group.

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 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.

Finally, please do not message teachers other than your child's class teacher via DOJO.

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 shortly. 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 £2.71.

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.

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 child and contact the relevant members of staff via email.

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.

On days when PE is taught, children should not wear football socks, shorts over leggings or long sleeved tops under t-shirts. On days when children have PE, they are expected to come in their PE kit, which includes the school sweatshirt.

Class teachers in each Year group will liaise with you directly about Forest School/Outdoor Learning sessions.

	Uniform Items
Required Standard School Uniform	Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore
	White shirt, blouse or polo top
	Bottle green sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan with logo
	White or grey socks or grey tights
	Black / Dark shoes
Required School PE Kit	Green and white checked summer dress
	House colour t-shirt with logo
	Black shorts
	Black tracksuit trousers or joggers
	Trainers
Other Optional Items	Children are expected to wear their school jumpers with the above on the days that they have PE
	Book Bag
Little Chestnuts	Rucksacks
	Bottle green sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan with logo

Forest School/ Outdoor Learning	<p>Long sleeved tops</p> <p>Black tracksuit trousers or joggers</p> <p>Sweatshirts (these should be their school sweatshirts)</p> <p>Waterproof trousers or 'all in ones'</p> <p>Wellington boots</p>
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Please note

- Hair that is long enough to fall into eyes should be tied up with a plain hair tie or elastic band. *This goes for boys and girls.*
- If worn, ear rings must only be simple studs.
- Nails should be short, with no nail polish or extensions!

What our school uniform is not...

- Necklaces, bracelets, rings or bangles, unless agreed with the Headteacher and of a religious or cultural significance.
- Hair bands should be plain and not 'ears', sparkly unicorn bands or anything similar.

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.

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.

Safeguarding

As some parents are allowing their older children to now walk to school on their own we are receiving more and more phone calls into the office from parents, asking if their child has turned up at school. We take our safeguarding obligations very seriously, but we are finding that the number of requests means that office staff are having to follow up on each phone call rather than undertake their normal attendance duties in the morning.

Can we respectfully ask that you do not phone to check whether your child has made it to school? If we have not registered a child and have not heard from a parent, we will follow it up in the usual manner. Thank you for your cooperation.

Reception 2025 Open Sessions

As we are starting the new academic year, we are looking ahead to our 2025 Reception starters. With this in mind we would like to invite prospective parents and children to one of the following open sessions;

Mon 7th October 9am & 1.45pm

Thurs 17th October 1.45pm

Tue 19th November 9am

Tue 26th Nov 9am & 1.45pm

Places are limited so please call to book your place.

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.

Mr Tucker

Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs McNamee

NEST Lead

Mr Hoyle

Special Educational Needs Coordinator

Mrs Holder

Family Support Worker

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 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 or Mrs McNamee lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

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

Dates for the Diary

September	
Monday 16th September	Annual Flu Vaccinations - Years 1-6 (YR date TBC) Please complete on-line consent by 12 noon Fri 13 th Oct for years 1-6 only
Wednesday 18th September	PTA Colour Run after school
Thursday 19th September	Talk for parents of children in Year 5 and 6 6.15pm-Winchcome representative 7pm-Cleeve
Thursday 26th September	6.16 Talk for Parents of new Reception children
October	
Black History Month	
Tuesday 15th October	School Photos
Tuesday 22nd and Thursday 24th October	Parent Consultation Evenings
Friday 25th October	INSET Days No school for children
November	
4th November	First day back after half term
w/b 13th November	Anti-Bullying Week
15th November	Children in Need
December	
20th December	Last Day of Term

Staff Emails

Mrs Baxter	kbaxter@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Dodwell	rdodwell@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Jordan	sjordan@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Grosvenor	rgrosvenor@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Badham	sbadham@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Workman	kworkman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs McCormack	cmccormack@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr Guest	tquest@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr Adkin	padkin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Howard	nhoward@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr Evans	revans@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs White	jwhite@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr Ridal	lridal@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Pearman	gpearman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Holding	lholding@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs McNamee	lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk



Woodmancote School

Miss Cowan	hcowan@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr Wood	Lwood@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Miss Niblett	Lniblett@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr de Gruchy	Ddegruchy@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Holder	kholder@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk



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