"Growing together, learning forever"



WOODSTONE NEWS

Friday 12th February 2021 Newsletter 5 (2020/21)

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Read Page 3 for a very important message about stranger danger.

THANK YOU

As we reach the half term break we wanted to acknowledge the hard work and support parents have given to us here at Woodstone since we entered this latest lockdown.

We all appreciate that home schooling is not easy but want you to know that your efforts don't go unnoticed.

Please have a good half term break. Please get the children off their screens for a few days and please keep your fingers crossed that we can open up again on March 8th!



LOTTERY NEWS

We know we have been a bit quiet about our school lottery in recent weeks but don't forget you can still help us out with our fundraising by buying a lottery ticket (each week or by direct debit) and encouraging family and friends to do the same.

Since our lottery started back in November we have raised £860 for our classroom project and given away £650 in prizes.

Remember the lottery is drawn every Saturday. You can follow the link on our website or go to yourschoollottery.co.uk and search for Woodstone.

A big thank you for your support.



CLICK & COLLECT - no not Tesco this is now available at WOODSTONE LIBRARY!

We are pleased to announce that we are offering a new service here at Woodstone to hopefully create a love for reading and maybe to help with home learning too.

We will now be offering a click and collect service for any book from our library or from our Key Stage 2 reading books.

It's a very simple system—just email

library@woodstone.leics.sch.uk with your email address and the name of your child. Mrs. Edwards will pick this up and email you a link and instructions for how to place your order.

So for now, just email the above address, express your interest and we will do the rest. First orders will be ready to collect after half term. Thank you.

Woodstone Primary School Heather Lane Ravenstone



Loughborough University is offering an opportunity for adult members of the public to take part in a new health study called FOODS, which aims to help adults improve their eating habits and health, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. The study is conducted entirely online and participants are asked to follow Twitter or Instagram for information about unhealthy snack foods (e.g. cakes, crisps & chocolate) to help them reflect on their food intake and reduce their consumption of high calorie foods.



SAFER INTERNET DAY

This week all classes took part in a number of activities designed to keep children safe when they are online as part of Safer Internet Day.

We'd like to remind you about the internet search engine which is specifically designed to keep children safe when they are searching online. The site is called **KIDDLE**.

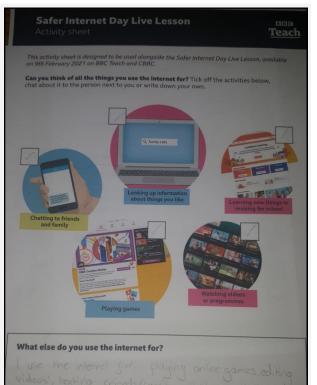
Our Reception Class listened to Smartie the Penguin who'd had a new tablet for his birthday whilst children in Year 1 listened to the story of Detective Digiduck who helped them decide if things on the internet are true or not true. Many of our older classes used the BBC re-



sources and videos.

And finally don't forget on our own website under the parent info tab there is an E Safety tab with lots of information and videos from CEOP all

designed at keeping children safe online.





STRANGER DANGER

We have been informed by a local secondary school that a man in a silver/grey car with balloons attached has been approaching children and offering them sweets. The Police are aware of this and are trying to track the man down.

Please ensure that over the half term break your children are aware of stranger danger and remind them not to take anything from someone they don't know. Thank you.

Did you know...the History of Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is a time to celebrate love and friendship and the joy of having other people in your life. It's a day of flowers, chocolate and cards decorated with hearts. This special day's origin, though, is not so rosy.

There are many theories on how Valentine's Day began, but the most noted one begins in Rome in the year 268. Emperor Claudius II wanted a fierce team of young men to fight in his armies. He found that when young men are in love or sharing their lives with a wife and children, they tended to be more cautious.

To ensure large numbers of soldiers for his armies, Claudius outlawed marriage for those young men.

Claudius may have outlawed love, but he could not stop it. Young men and women still fell in love and wanted to become couples in the eyes of the church. A brave—and obviously romantic—priest named Valentine thought the law was horribly unjust.

Putting his life in danger, Valentine continued performing marriage ceremonies, doing so in secret and hidden from the eyes of authorities.

Still, word of Valentine's secret ceremonies made its way back to Claudius. The priest was found and put to death, as some versions state, on February 14th. Centuries later, the Catholic Church made that kindly priest a saint, one of three saints named "Valentine."

No one knows exactly when St. Valentine's Day was first celebrated, but there is a poem in existence that is considered to be the first ever written Valentine's Day card. It was sent from a prisoner in the Tower of London to his wife in the year 1415.

Today, greeting card companies estimate that over a billion cards of love and affection are sent each St. Valentine's Day.

While Valentine is a Catholic Christian saint, his death and the tradition of love that he created is celebrated world-wide by people of all religions. People send cards, flowers and chocolate in many countries around the world.

Some countries have banned St. Valentine's Day, but people in love show the courage of the doomed priest by celebrating the occasion. Repressive governments may confiscate all of the red roses available in the country. Still, no one can ever halt the flow of love and affection.

Today's click-and-post culture is tossing aside many old traditions and rules. Still, the history of Valentine's Day lives on annually every February 14th in a worldwide celebration of love.

Happy St. Valentine's Day. Tell everyone in your heart how much they mean to you. And remember when you sign those cards how love and friendship lives on, even in the face of adversity.