

WOODSTONE NEWS

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As October draws to a close, I would like to extend my gratitude to all our families for their patience and endurance during these first weeks back at school after the summer, as we learn to live under these difficult circumstances. The children came back to school so positively and have settled back into their learning with a great attitude and the staff have done their very best to keep the school day as normal as it possibly can be. The Senior Leadership team and I have been busy drafting the priorities for the year ahead but our most important priority is to keep the children, staff and parents safe and to ensure the children are taught a broad and balanced curriculum throughout the year.

You will notice that each class we will be starting to bring homework home again – please encourage the children to do this (some may be set on line). At the moment it looks like all tests (Year 1 phonics, Year 2 SATs, Year 4 times tables tests and Year 6 SATs) will go ahead so we will continue to not only provide a broad and balanced curriculum but also ensure children are well prepared for these tests. There is a national campaign to have the tests scrapped due to the current situation but I will keep you informed should things change.

As we are unable to invite parents into school to share work/assemblies etc please keep an eye on the school website under the 'classes' tab where we will endeavour to give you a taste of some of the things happening in classrooms.

Thank you for your continued support.



**NEW
SCHOOL YEAR
NEW
CHANCES TO WIN**

**BOOST School Funds &
WIN up to
£25,000**

- Help raise vital school funds
- Tickets cost just £1 a week each
- Cash prize winner every week
- You've got to be in it to win it!



To start supporting, visit:
YourSchoolLottery.co.uk
and search for: Woodstone Community

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older.

WOODSTONE SCHOOL LOTTERY

As you know we have our first draw this Saturday for our own school lottery. At the last count we have over 100 supporters which will generate the school over £2000 annually for our fundraising project (the classroom/Woody's Shack – up near the woods).

Thank you so much for your support.

If you still haven't registered and would like to play each week simply log onto www.YourSchoolLottery.co.uk and search for Woodstone.

Good luck to everyone taking part!

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO HAS A CHILD WHO SHOULD BE STARTING SCHOOL IN 2021. If you do please remind them that they must apply to School Admissions www.leicestershire.gov.uk/admissions by JANUARY 15th 2021.

WALKING SUCCESS

You may remember a few weeks ago we took part in the Leicestershire walk to school week. Part of that was Happy Shoesday when children could come to school in shoes of their own choice and even decorate them if they wanted to. I entered a few photos into the competition and we were pleased to hear we won – a scooter pod was the prize (see photo) .



CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS

Despite the current situation we want to try and keep a little normality as we approach the Christmas break.

We **WILL** be having Christmas Dinner and we **WILL** be having a party day. Christmas Dinner will take place for Reception and Year 1 on Tuesday 8th December, for Year 2 and Year 3 on Wednesday 9th and Years 4, 5 and 6 on Thursday 10th. Our Christmas party day will be Wednesday 16th December when children will be able to come in their own clothes.

We will send more details nearer the time.

ATTENDANCE

Since returning to school after the summer break we have had amazing attendance figures. Thank you to our families for trying your very best to get children into school each day. National attendance figures in primary schools currently stands at 89% whereas, as of today, Woodstone's attendance is 97.6%. This is fantastic and is currently above our target of 97%.

Attendance for the week beginning 12th October saw our Reception Class come out winners with 99.3%. Year 2 were second with 98.3% and Year 4 third with 97.2%. **WELL DONE.**

CHILDREN IN NEED

Obviously, we want to support this national charity but we also understand that for many families handing out money to other causes is not easy at the moment. We are therefore keeping this event fairly low key this year. However, if children want to dress in their own clothes on FRIDAY 13th NOVEMBER for a donation they are very welcome. If every child and member of staff donates a pound that will be over £250 for some fabulous, worthy causes.



HALLOWEEN 2020

At a time when coronavirus rates are rising it seems an unnecessary risk for children to be ringing doorbells, rummaging in the same bowl of sweets etc.

It is possible to transfer the virus on sweet wrappers as they are very difficult to clean plus the virus can remain on door knockers/bells for up to three days. It has been nice to hear many families considering fun and safe alternatives such as family pumpkin hunts.

However, if children are going out please ensure they are accompanied by an adult, are in a group of no more than 6 and consider vulnerable residents who may be feeling particularly anxious at this time.

Whatever you are doing please stay safe and always consider others. Thank you.

