



Education Resources
 Executive Director Tony McDaid
 Woodside Primary
 Head Teacher: Elaine Renwick

Woodie News December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Christmas is on its way in Woodside!



We are on the count down to our **'Festive Funday'** on **Wednesday 21st December**. Please remember that this is a non school uniform day and **there is no cost**. Anything goes..... Christmas jumpers, party clothes or just casual gear. Its going to be a packed day with P1-3 parties, obstacle adventures, crafts and movies. It's still a few weeks away so it's going to be challenging to contain all the excitement until then! On Thursday 22nd December our Christmas Service will take place in St John's Church at 10am. Our Primary 1 children are currently rehearsing the nativity. A big 'Thank You' to 'Team Primary 1' for organising this. Our Primary 1, Primary 6, Big Singing Group and musicians will be in the Church building and the rest of the classes will remain in school and beam into the service live. It will be great to be back down at the Church this Christmas, where all families and friends will be welcome to join us.

We were delighted to welcome you into the classes today for our 'Open Morning'. We know you will have been desperate to work alongside your child and find out what they have been doing in class. Our focus this session has been Talk4Writing. We have seen huge improvements in writing, right across the school and I hope you were impressed with your child's written work. An 'Open Morning' is another form of reporting to our parents. I hope you found this to be informative and gave to a chance to see how your child is progressing.

Some of the Primary 7s have created a Christmas Advent Calendar. Each day a different winter story will be posted to each of the Google Classrooms for your to enjoy.

Finally, whatever you and your family have planned over the next few weeks I'd like to wish you lots of festive fun. We are very grateful for your support in what we do.

Please take care everyone and best wishes,

Elaine Renwick

Head Teacher

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Dates For Your Diary

6th Dec	Drama Kirk workshops
14th Dec	Christmas Lunch
21st Dec	Festive Funday Dress down and be ready for fun.
22nd Dec	Christmas Service at St Johns Church at 10am
23rd Dec	School closes at 2.30pm
9th Jan 2023	School reopens
13th Jan	Newsletter online Panto visit in school

Staffing Update We have a few staffing changes coming up. Mrs Longworth leaves us on Friday 9th Dec to take up a new teaching post in sunny Abu Dhabi.



Mrs McLean leaves at Christmas as she is expecting twins in the New Year.



Mrs Lawson returns in January and once I have names of our new members of staff, I will let you know.



Panto Time

Something to look forward to in the New Year. On **Friday 13th January** the children will all watch Jack and the Beanstalk performed by Hopscotch theatre group. All money raised at our recent dress down day will help with the cost of this. Thank You!



Woodie News-December 2022

Absence rates We always monitor our absences across the school and will get in touch with you by letter if your **child's rate drops** or if they are **often late** for school. We will be sending out letters before the holidays. Evelyn McGonagle, our Youth, Family and Community Learning Officer can support families to improve attendance rates. The table below highlights the importance of being in school.

100%	0 days missed	Best possible chance of success and reaching full potential
95%	9 Days of Absence 1 week and 4 days learning missed	Is likely to make it harder to achieve full potential and secure the best possible outcomes
90%	19 days of Absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed	
85%	27 Days of Absence 5 weeks and 3 days of Learning Missed Almost half a term missed	Is likely to impact significantly on learning and progress which can lead to poorer outcomes in achievement, wellbeing and social and emotional development
80%	36 days of Absence 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed Half of a term missed	

Book Week Scotland

We had lots of fun celebrating Book Week Scotland this month. The children enjoyed visiting different classrooms and hearing stories read to them by another teacher. There was book chat and recommendations to inspire the whole school! We also announced plans for our community reading project called 'A Book, A Blether and A Bite with Woodie Weans' which will start in the New Year. More information to follow.



Book Bug bags will be gifted to our P1 –3 children during Friday's open event.

Finally huge congratulations to Mrs Smith who has been awarded professional recognition in developing reading for pleasure by the GTCS.

Mandarin

Our Primary 5, 6 and 7 children are currently receiving online Mandarin lessons each week in school. This is delivered in partnership with Strathclyde University.



Football Success

Our new girls team recently went to their first tournament and scored 12 goals and did not concede any!



Staff Training During our recent Inset day the whole staff took part in training delivered by 'Learning Through Landscapes'.



Thankfully the weather was kind to us as we were all out in the playground looking at ways to take our Maths lessons outside. We were also assessing our playground environment in order to create a classroom learning space outside. This part of our improvement plan for this session. More updates will follow.

Primary 5 swimming

Our Primary 5 children have now started their block of 12 week swimming lessons. This is part of the children's physical exercise programme and takes place in Hamilton Water Palace. Going forward, as part of our curriculum change in Woodside every child in Primary 5 will now receive swimming lessons.

Athletics Team Yesterday our Primary 7 Athletics Team were competing at Blantyre Sports Centre. This is the second event the team have went too, with fantastic results on both occasions. Great stuff!

Panto Stars We have a few children starring in the panto at Motherwell Civic. Good luck to Jasmine, Carla and Zara!