



Woodie News June 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now on the 'express route' to the summer holidays.



This time of the year is extremely busy for the team, as we evaluate our work and start making plans for next session. We have lots to think about and organise before the end of term!

It's been another busy year for us in Woodside, with curricular developments, staff changes and lots of good fun mixed in there too.

However, we are not finished just yet! Primary 5 have been off to the SLC Games at the Palace Grounds, Primary 6 have taken part in the 'Wear Yellow Walk' at Strathclyde Park and will soon sit their 'Bikeability' assessments! We still have Health Week, Infant Presentation and our House Prize to squeeze in too! Phew!

I would like to thank all the staff for their hard work and dedication shown towards our 'Woodie Weans'. As we continue to grow in size, our 'big team' approach ensures that we continue to maintain that family feeling. Everyone has a very valuable and important part to play in our Woodside machine!

Thank you to all our parents and friends for their continued support and interest in all that we do. We have worked really hard this session to further strengthen our links with our parents/carers and we aim to continue and grow these partnership and successes next session.

Finally, a special thank you to all our 445 Woodside children. Their enthusiasm for learning and fun makes it a real privilege to come into school every day. We are very lucky to work with all of you.

As many families start to get ready for the holidays, please can I ask that you update the office if your children are going to be off? This will save us calling you when you are on the beach!

Have a fantastic summer break, making lots of new and special memories. Take care and we will see you back on **Thursday, August 15th at 9.00am.**

Kind Regards,

Elaine Renwick
 Head Teacher

Dates For Your Diary

Mon 10th June	Lunch will take place from 12noon - 12.45pm due to show
Wed 12th June	Lunch will take place from 12noon - 12.45pm Whole school to see show.
Thurs 13th June	Lunch will take place from 12noon - 12.45pm Performance at 1pm Performance at 7pm
Fri 14th June	Parent Council School Fayre from 6.30pm - 8.30pm
Mon 17th June	Health week begins
Tue 18th June	Sports day for P3,4 & 5
Wed 19th June	P6 to Scotland Street Museum
Thurs 20th June	Sports day for P1,2,6 & 7 6pm - P7 Leavers' Treat
Tues 25th June	House Prize Day
Wed 26th June	Infant presentation 9.30am - letter to follow
Thurs 27th June	Leavers' Service at 10am in St John's Church
Fri 28th June	School closes at 1pm Happy Holidays!
Tues 13th Aug	INSET day
Wed 14th Aug	INSET day
Thurs 15th Aug	School re-opens! We look forward to seeing you all.



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Staffing Updates


We are currently updating our staffing for next session. A letter will be sent home with the name of your child's class teacher and room number as soon as we have everything finalised. At the moment, it looks like we will have 16 straight classes. As we currently have 2 composite classes, there will be a change for a few children next session.



After three very successful years leading the Science programme across the school, Mrs Reilly has decided that she would like to return to a class. I know that science is a highlight for many of our children as Mrs Reilly has made her lessons very active and exciting. She has introduced STEM challenges into school and of course the excitement of those cute wee chicks. Thank you Mrs Reilly for your passion and for inspiring our Woodie learners. Mrs Smith will continue our Science curriculum and we look forward to her new ideas.



Miss Walls and Miss MacMillian, will both be leaving us after the holidays. Thank you for all your hard work and care shown to our children. We wish you both every success with your future teaching career. Mrs Aitcheson will be back with us at the end of this month as she returns from maternity leave. Mr Scott, our Principal Teacher will remain at Heathery Knowe Primary as Acting Depute Head Teacher until further notice.

 Miss Sutherland will return after the holidays as Mrs Bisset. Good luck on your wedding day and we hope the sun shines for you!

Finally, after 19 years teaching in Woodside Mrs Macdonald has decided to 'hang up' her pencil and jotter and start a whole new chapter in her life on the beautiful island of Lewis. Mrs Macdonald has always been a popular teacher in Woodside and is known for her calm, consistent and caring approach with all her pupils. She has been such a big part of the Woodside story for many years and we all wish her well as she embarks on this exciting new adventure! She has promised to send us updates on 'island life'! Good luck Mrs Macdonald and thank you for all you have done for Woodside!



On line Questionnaire

A big 'Thank you' to all the parents who took the time to complete our short online questionnaire about our 'Parental Engagement' events this session.

Unfortunately, we only received 33 responses.

However, we have taken on board all your comments and this will help shape our ideas for next session. One person left feedback which highlighted a few points and I would be grateful if you would contact me in school so that I can catch up with you in person. Thanks! Here is a very brief snap shot of some of the comments we received:- "Great events!"

" I feel like the report was excellent."

" I'd rather visit and get hints and tips from teacher."

" Class blogs is not easy system to work around. I find it difficult to access/find information."

" Parental involvement events have been relatively good and informative."

" Great idea having parental engagement activities during school discos but they have often felt rushed."

Primary 1 in August 2019



We had a busy couple of days last week, as we welcomed 72 new Primary 1 children in for their 2 day visit. It was great to finally meet the new children and watch their excitement as they confidently left their mums and dads behind and ran into their classrooms to play.

Over the course of the two days we provided parents/ carers with all the information they will need to guide them through the first few days of starting Primary 1. Importantly, parents were able to get a 'feel' for our big, busy school as they got the chance to meet a few pupils who shared their Woodside experiences with them! I was very proud of our 'big buddies' as they explained to the parents how important they felt their role was and how much they cared for their 'wee buddies.' It was totally unscripted and brought a tear to my eye. We look forward to seeing them again in August.

Head Lice We continue to receive a few reports of head lice throughout the school. Please be vigilant in **checking your child's hair.** The most current guidance from the NHS can be found on our Website. You can also receive support from our School Nursing Team on 01236 713982



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Scottish Primary Engineering Leaders Award



A massive well done to Perrie in Primary 1. She has won the 'Scottish Primary Engineering Leaders Award' for her age group and was presented with her award at a lavish ceremony at Strathclyde University last night. It was a great privilege to go along and see her on the big stage. We are really proud of you. Well done also to Lucy, in Primary 4, who for the second year will have her design displayed at the event.

Mrs Reilly was delighted to see Perrie win the award as she had put so much thought and effort into her idea. Over the last 3 years, we have submitted entries into numerous competitions and have been very lucky to have 4 pupils win first place and 3 pupils recognised as highly commended. It's amazing the number of girls who have entered and been placed in the winning groups, with 3 out of the 4 winners being female. It is clear to see that Science is flourishing in our school community and we look forward to more winning applications in the years to come.

Playground in the morning

After a number of successful weeks we have decided to continue with our new morning routine!

A member of staff will remain at each gate at 8.45am every morning to welcome the children into the playground. Thank you very much for your support with this arrangement. The safety of all our children remains a priority for us at all times.



Swashbuckle Visit



There was massive excitement in the school the other week when a team of producers from the Cbeebies 'Swashbuckle' series visited all our Primary 1 and 2 children. They were on the hunt for some wee stars for their future shows. I am really excited to let you know that they have selected 7 children from our school. Their names are still 'Top Secret' but some lucky parents will be receiving a call from the Cbeebies team very soon! Great news!

Parent Council

Thank you very much to our fab Parent Council for all their support and ideas this session. Their time and dedication makes a real difference to the experience we can offer all our children in Woodside. Please remember it's the **Summer Fayre on Friday, 14th June** from 6.30pm. It's a great family evening and I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Start crossing your fingers for some sunshine!

SLC Pupil Achievement Awards

Well done to Hannah in Primary 3 and Chloe in Primary 6 who both picked up awards at the SLC annual 'Pupil Achievement' award ceremony in the Townhouse on Monday. Both girls were nominated for their fantastic entries in the BBC Radio 2 '500 Words' competition, as both pieces of writing successfully made it into the final. Well done girls! We were very proud of you!

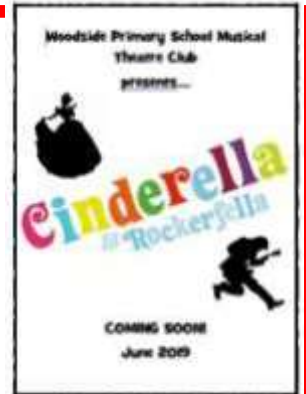




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'Cinderella & Rockerfella'

The wait is nearly over! Mrs Smith has been working extremely hard with a very dedicated group of Primary 4-6 children who are extremely excited to be putting on their production next week. It was been a power of work and I can't believe the number of hours the children have dedicated afterschool, missing music lessons, football training and family time to stay behind to sing and dance with their friends! Thank you very much to all the parents for making this work. It has been greatly appreciated. I can't wait to see the whole production come together. I have purposely tried to keep away from the rehearsals and have only had a sneaky peek in a few times! This has been difficult as the singing has filled the building when the school is quiet! I think Mrs Smith must be dreaming about this show as we spend this week rehearsing every day to bring it all together. Well done Mrs Smith, your 'wee idea' is really coming alive and will be fantastic!



A very special thank you to the team of mums, grans and friends :-Pamela, Jacqueline, Dorothy and Alison who have helped out with the amazing scenery and costumes.

The show will take place on Thursday, 13th June at 1.00pm and again at 7pm. The whole school will get to see it on Wednesday! Please note that we will have early lunches next Monday, Wednesday and Thursday to let everyone get ready in time. Good luck boys and girls!

Parentpay

As you know, Woodside is now a cashless school for lunches and trips. School lunches are £1.70 and milk is 20p. We are delighted, as we now have a 93% uptake which equates to 420 children. For parents of our Primary 7 leavers, please check your account and make sure it has a zero balance at the end of term. All other debits/credits will transfer over for the new session in August.

Sports days

Please remember that our Sports days take place on Tuesday the 18th and Thursday 20th June. Unfortunately if the weather isn't great, the sports will take place in the gym hall and due to lack of space we are unable to host parents inside to watch the children.

Let's hope the weather has improved by then!



Our lovely Primary 7s

Primary 7 visited Hamilton Grammar for 2 days last week, to follow their August timetable and experience High School life. They absolutely loved it and seemingly all the teachers were really nice.

The children are currently sneaking round the building organising their final Leavers' Service. It's all apparently 'top secret'!

The P7 Leavers' Committee have been working hard to organise their end of term party. This year it's a 'Festival' theme. They had loads of fun getting very wet last Friday at their 'Soak the Sevens' fundraiser. They managed to raise the massive amount of £350 which will help pay for the food and goodies at their party on Thursday, 20th June. Have a great time, everyone.

We wish you loads of luck as you move on to your new adventures at HGS. We will miss you!



Have a great summer holiday everyone. See you all in August!