



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

Woodie News November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Winter is coming! The last few weeks have been tough for all of us! Not only has the weather been dark and gloomy, there isn't a lot of positive news out there at the moment. I hope this newsletter lifts your spirits as I have loads to share with you this month from a very busy, socially distanced Woodie!

We welcome Mrs Arianne Hughes to our Support Staff team. We have bought Mrs Hughes in for the year from our Pupil Equity Funding, she is already working hard with our Primary 3 pupils. It is great to have her with us!



I'm a wee bit hesitant to mention the word 'Christmas' at the moment as who knows what its going to be like! As you can imagine, our festive timetable takes a lot of planning and organisation, and we know that this year will have to be a little different from the usual. I will consult with our Parent Council on some of our ideas and will be in touch with what we plan to do.

Unfortunately, the usual parties can't take place as there are just too many risks associated with them, so please save your pennies and don't go buying party outfits for school. As a staff, we know that Christmas puts a financial strain on everyone and even more so this year. Your support of all our staff and what we do **is the best gift you could give us**, so please don't feel the need to send in gifts for us at Christmas. Better to keep your money for your special wee people.

Your amazing support was highlighted over the last couple of weeks during the parental phone calls. We managed to contact 96% of our parents. It wasn't the same experience, but I hope you found it informative and helped with ideas on how you can support your child at home. The teachers all commented on your general positivity and it was great to hear from you about how happy your children are being back in school. We did miss having you all in the building. Please read on as we have a wee idea on how you can have a sneaky peak into your child's class during Book Week Scotland.

In these tough times I want to reassure you that we are always here and doing the very best we can to keep our Woodside school community safe.

Keep safe everyone,
 Elaine Renwick
 Head Teacher

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Dates For Your Diary

6th Nov	Newsletter Online
16th Nov	INSET day. Children not in school.
16th-22nd Nov	Book week Scotland. Look out for updates
4th Dec	Dress down day Newsletter online
22nd Dec	School closes at 2.30pm
6th Jan 2021	School reopens

Dress Down Day

Our October dress down day was a big hit. We were blown away with the donations which amounted to **£533**. A huge thank you for this.

This money goes into our school fund and is used to purchase special extras for our classes.

Parent Council

A massive thank you to our Parent Council for managing to organise their annual Christmas cards.

It hasn't been an easy task. The children's designs are now all away to the printers so hopefully your order will be with you soon.

Their next 'online' meeting is on **Thursday 12th November at 7pm**. If you wish to be included in this email :woodsideparentcouncil@hotmail.co.uk



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Our Recovery Curriculum Rationale - Stage 2

Now that our children are all settled back into school life, we will be carrying out brief assessments to help us establish the next steps in their learning. In line with Government guidelines, at present our priorities continue to be :- Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Well-Being. Following the updated guidance, Physical Education can now take place **indoors**. Each class will now get **one indoor and one outdoor PE slot per week**. We are still happy for your child to wear joggers or leggings along with their school sweater for PE. Obviously, this will be weather dependent! As we are still in our recovery phase, the teachers are focusing on Literacy, Numeracy and Health and Well-Being, however along with Science and ICT we will now introduce a Social Studies topic which I'm sure the children will really enjoy.

Our first full week of online homework via the Google classroom went really well. Please continue to ensure your child can access this from home. If you require any support with passwords or ICT help, please email:- gw07williamsonstephe@glow.sch.uk

Homework will be online again next week. Week beginning Monday 9th November

Emotion Works

The children and staff have now looked in more detail at some of the Emotion Works cogs. They have expanded their vocabulary about emotions through the orange cog, used the green cog to link the behaviours they might show for these emotions and the sensations their bodies might feel on the inside through the red cog. We are looking forward to the next fortnight where we will look more closely at the yellow 'triggers' cog and the blue 'regulations' cog. Please ask your child about what they have been doing in class.



Wellies

As our playground becomes wet and dirty we appreciate that wellies are not the most comfortable shoes to wear all day in school. To help you can now provide your child with a pair of gym shoes to change into in school. Please ensure your child is able to do this independently. Many thanks!



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. The table below highlights the importance of being in school. At this time if periods off are for self isolation, pupils will not be sent an attendance letter.

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	

Remember **FACTS**
for a safer Scotland





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Book Week Scotland: 'Woodside Reads!'

This year, National Book Week Scotland runs from **16th – 22nd November**. This annual event is a wonderful celebration of books and of reading and we are all really looking forward to it! We are using the title '**Woodside Reads**' for the celebration. Staff and pupils will be working hard to promote reading for pleasure throughout the whole Woodside Community. You will already have received an email through your child's Google Classroom asking for willing volunteers to film themselves reading stories which we can share with our boys and girls. We would encourage as many people to take part in this as possible to help share the love of reading with our young people. During the week you will also get a sneaky peek into the classrooms and a chance to have the children read to you! At the end of the week, our P1-3 pupils will be given their Book Bags. Please enjoy sharing the books and activities with your children at home. Keep an eye on our Twitter feed and the school website for further details.



Houses

Our Primary 1 children all had the opportunity to sit under the 'sorting hat' last week and get placed into one of our school Houses. I wonder if your child remembers if they are in

Ash, Chestnut, Maple or Oak.

21 Primary 7 children have nominated themselves to be a House captain. This year they have recorded their speeches and these will be shown to our Primary 4-7 pupils who will vote for their favourite. I've had a sneaky wee peek and I think its going to be a difficult task. Good luck boys and girls, I am proud of you all! I look forward to sharing more House news with you soon.



Buddies



It is a very exciting time for Primary 1 and Primary 6 as they now know the name of their 'Big 'or 'Wee' Buddy! As things are very different this year, we have had to come up with a creative way for them to meet each other. Primary 6 are currently working on short videos to share! Primary 1 keep your eyes peeled on your Google Classroom. Primary 1 have created something special which will be shared with their Big Buddies soon.

Look out for a change in our big square window. Our Primary 5-7 are supporting the Poppy Scotland appeal in a

different way this year. Watch this space! Next week small cash donations would be gratefully received. Thank you.

