



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

# Woodie News March 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Before putting this together I looked out last years Newsletter for March. It was full of dates including discos, trips to the Science Centre, Careers Events and our Easter Service arrangements. It's crazy to think that nearly a year ago, I rang the school bell on Friday 20th March and life for us all became so very different.



Our Primary 1-3 children have been fantastic over the last two weeks. You should be very proud of them all. They never fail to amaze us with their ability to quickly adapt to school life and their continued enthusiasm and energy. It has been great to see and hear them all around the school building and I know the P1-3 staff are also delighted to be back teaching in their classrooms again. We have noticed the impact of your input and support with school work over the past few weeks at home. Thank you, as your time and patience has made a huge difference. We took a wee break from homework to allow the children time to settle back into the old routine. Homework will begin again on **Monday 8th March** for all P1-3 children and this will be via the **Google Classroom**.

Following the First Minister's announcement on Tuesday, we are now looking forward to the rest of our 'Woodie Weans' returning to school on **Monday 15th March at 9am**. They have continued to work on their Google Classrooms throughout this time and I know for many of them they have had the added challenge of siblings now at school or nursery. Hang in there boys and girls, the end is in sight and we cant wait to welcome you back with us.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for continuing to follow the rule of not gathering outside the school gates. This will become even more important when the P4-7 children return. Can I again highlight the importance of wearing a mask and not hanging about outside. Together we will all try to keep our school community safe.

I'm hoping the brighter days and having all our children back will give us all a little hope that better times are coming!

Take care everyone,

Elaine Renwick

Head Teacher

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## Dates For Your Diary

<b>15th March</b>	Primary 4-7 children return from 9am-3pm Yahooooooooo!
<b>26th March</b>	Dress Down day (NO cost)
<b>1st April</b>	School closes :- <b>P1-3 at 2.15pm</b> <b>P4-7 at 2.30pm</b>
<b>19th April</b>	School returns
<b>3rd May</b>	<b>HOLIDAY</b>
<b>6th May</b>	<b>INSET</b> School closed for pupils

## Parents Meetings and

## Report Cards

Usually in March we would be sending out our Parental Reports. We have decided to delay these until late in the final term to allow staff the opportunity to work face to face with the children again and provide you with up to date information.

Our relationships with parents is always high priority and we plan to organise parental phone calls later this month. These calls will let you know how your child has settled back into school and now that they are back, any areas you could support with at home. More information on this will follow.



# Woodie News - March 2021

## Place2Be

My name is Joanna and I am the Mental Health Practitioner based in Woodside Primary. I work on behalf of Place2Be, a mental health charity that has over 25 years' experience working with pupils, families and staff in UK schools. I offer a service called "Place2Talk" which is a fifteen-minute counselling drop in for children if they are wanting to have a chat about anything that is on their mind. Children are able to make an appointment to come and see me using the red letter boxes throughout the school

I also offer one to one intervention. This will happen after a child has specifically been referred for this from teachers or parents. Consent will always be needed from the parent before this service can take place. My room in the school is a quiet, safe space filled with various toys and art materials where the counselling intervention takes place.

Place2Be also offer "A Place for Parents" which is a counselling service specifically for parents/guardians. These sessions take place through my colleague Gillian Davidson. Gillian is doing her sessions from home during this current time, so this gives her the advantage of being incredibly flexible for clients. If this is something that you feel would be interested in, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07790977884.



## Staffing Updates

Next week we welcome back Mrs Smith. Mrs Smith will take over from Mr Williamson on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. School has changed a lot since Mrs Smith was last with us however, she has had a few visits to see our new organisation and routines.

I am delighted to say Mr Williamson will continue to be with us on a Monday and Tuesday. He has been a great support to the staff, pupils and many parents with his ICT skills and Google Classroom knowledge.

We have also welcomed a new Support Staff member to our team, Mrs Lynne McKechnie who is with us a couple of days a week and is currently supporting our Primary 1 children.

Over the next few weeks and months we will be having numerous teaching and support staff students on placements in our school, so listen out for a few new names being mentioned.



## World Book Day

On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day. Despite the P4-7s not being with us, we hope everyone enjoyed both the classroom activities and 'The Masked Poet' which took place via the school Twitter feed. Our thanks go to our now *unmasked* poets, Andy Cameron, Gary Hollywood, Dougie Imrie, Gary King and Steven Purdon. We would also like to say a huge thank you to Hamilton Accies football club for persuading our masked poets to get involved and their huge efforts in helping to make it a memorable event. We look forward to building our partnership with the club in the future.

## Beat The Street

This giant game is coming to Hamilton and Blantyre. All children will receive a fob, map and card for their parent/carer. These need to be registered online. The aim is to get everybody moving, whether it is walking, cycling or scooting. You use your map to find 'Beat Boxes' on lampposts in the area and then hover your fob or card over the Beat Box. Each box you visit gets points for our school and a chance to win a prize. The game is Covid safe and runs from 17th March—28th April. More information will follow.

**Fundraising**— As school life is quiet at the moment our school fund is looking healthy. We will not be organising any more fundraising events this school year. Any dress down days etc **will not** require a donation.