



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

Woodie News April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well that was another pretty crazy term! What I have learned is how extremely adaptable our children, families and staff are when faced with new challenges. Google Meets were a learning curve for us all but with the challenge came many new opportunities. When else would you have the chance to show your class mates and your teacher your pet live!

It has been such a relief to have all our children back together under the one roof. Although there has been a lot of tired faces, the children have all coped extremely well bouncing back into the old routines very quickly. P4-7 teachers have also been impressed with the majority of children's learning on Google Classroom and this has impacted on their progress back in the classroom. The focus for the past few weeks has been on numeracy, literacy and health and wellbeing so I am sure all children are now looking forward to a few weeks break.

Over the past two weeks our teachers have spoken to 95% of our parents. I hope your call gave you some reassurances about how your child has settled into school and what they need to continue working on. It has been strange not welcoming you into the building this year however we were hugely impressed with the number of parents we could make contact with over the phone. Later next term we will issue a written report. More information on this new format will follow nearer the time.

Today we are having a whole school 'live' Assembly. We recently purchased webcams for every class so now I can actually see all 473 faces when I'm online. It is quite an incredible sight! Today, Joanne from St Johns will be online too sharing a story and the children will be taking part in some 'live' fun challenges. We also wanted to finish the term on a positive note, hoping brighter times lie ahead, so the children will all be planting a sunflower seed which they will bring home to nurture. I have included a letter from Miss McLarnon with more information.

Finally, I know I keep highlighting it but your parental support has been incredible throughout both lockdown and the school year. Your continued cooperation has managed to keep our children, our families and our staff safe. We have made a short film to show our Woodside appreciation! I hope it makes you smile and allows you to see how happy the children are in school. Enjoy the break from the school routine and a wee haircut if you are lucky, (Mine is booked!).

Keep safe and fingers crossed brighter times lie ahead next term x
 Elaine Renwick
 Head Teacher

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| Dates For Your Diary | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 19th April | School returns |
| 3rd May | HOLIDAY |
| 6th May | INSET School closed for pupils |
| 7th May | Newsletter |
| 27th May | Dress down day (no cost) |
| 28th May | HOLIDAY |
| 31st May | HOLIDAY |



Homework

Next term we will return to our initial homework plan of:-

Week one – Homework completed in a jotter and returned to school at the end of the week

Week two – Homework completed on the Google Classroom.

Homework will begin on **Monday 19th April.**

Check out our new window. Thank you to the creative Mrs Muncie.





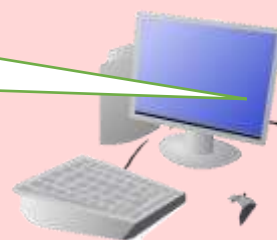
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Lockdown Review

Now that the children have all returned safely to school we have reviewed our Woodside lockdown experience. Have a wee read at the many positive facts below:-

| Overview of Online Engagement | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------|
| Week Beginning | No. of children actively online | % |
| 11-1-21 | 410 | 87.2 |
| 18-1-21 | 421 | 89.6 |
| 25-1-21 | 425 | 90.4 |
| 1-2-21 | 426 | 90.6 |
| 15-2-21 | 417 | 88.7 |
| 22-2-21 | 226 (P4-7) | 89.6 |
| 1-3-21 | 245 (P4-7) | 97.2 |

We gave out 33 Chromebooks



Evelyn visited 39 families



I need to give a special mention to Evelyn McGonagle, our Youth, Family & Community Learning colleague who has been an incredible support to many of our families this lockdown. She only joined our team before Christmas and her timing couldn't have been more perfect. Evelyn was out on doorsteps visiting many families and building relationships. She has a vital role supporting parents to engage with their child's learning and is a valued 'go between' for our school. Moving forward next term Evelyn will be in touch to offer a variety of parental workshops. Look out for this information soon.

School Lunches

SLC are launching a new summer menu starting on Monday 26th April. Please be aware that there are two major changes.

- The price of a lunch is increasing to **£1.95**
- The **colours of the trays** are changing.

Please make sure you look carefully at the menu selection and discuss this with your child. You can find a copy of the new menu by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk/primary-menu>

Breakfast Club

The safety of our pupils and our families has remained paramount throughout this year. Therefore, at this current time **we are not** in a position to restart our Breakfast Club provision.

This will be reviewed again a few weeks into the new term. I will keep you updated with further developments.