



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

# Woodie News December 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

## It's the countdown to Christmas in Woodside!



We are on the count down to our '**Festive Funday**' on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December**. Please remember that this is a non school uniform day and **there is no cost**. Anything goes so party clothes, Christmas jumpers or just casual gear. Its going to be a packed day with P1-3 parties, obstacle adventures, crafts and movies. I've got a feeling the staff may need a wee lie down once it is all over! On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December we will post our Christmas Service on the Google Classroom. Our Primary 1 children are currently rehearsing the nativity. A big 'Thank You' to 'Team Primary 1' and to Mrs Yates our ICT whizz. Now that all our IT skills have been enhanced I am excited to see what she comes up with.

We are really missing having parents in to visit our classes and also the support of the many parent and grandparent helpers who come in each week. We know you will be missing being in school too. To help with this, today we are sharing a '**sneaky peak**' into your child's class.

Apologies if this was filmed when your child was absent or maybe busy somewhere else in the building. Make sure you log onto your child's Google Classroom to see how they learn their phonics and spelling strategies in school. This is a new approach and our pupils are all doing really well with it. To help you understand and support your child at home with this Mrs Faloon has produced a short guide which will come to you soon. Please take time to read this. As a follow up Mrs McKellar will be offering parental workshop in the new year. Look out for this too.

Although we are trying to make school life as 'normal' as possible we do still have many restrictions in place. Our Woodie children are always full of personality and their smiles and enthusiasm ensure no day in Woodside is ever dull. I would like to say a special 'Thank You' to all the staff in Woodside, it has been a fast paced term and I know that they are all looking forward to a well deserved break soon!

Finally, I'd like to wish you and your families lots of 'safe' festive fun. Your support of our big, busy school continues to help us all navigate our way through this challenging time!

Please take care everyone and best wishes,  
 Elaine Renwick  
 Head Teacher

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## Dates For Your Diary

15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Lunch
17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Festive Funday Dress down and be ready for fun.
21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Christmas Service on the Google Classroom
22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	School closes at P1-3 - 2.15pm P4-7 - 2.30pm
5 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2022	School reopens
7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Newsletter online
17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	New Primary 1 enrolment week More information to follow

## Staffing Update

Mrs Lawson finished today to go on maternity leave. We wish her well and I will update you on baby Lawson news in the New Year. Mrs Callaghan will take over Room 1 on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Miss McLarnon will also take over the position of Principal Teacher on a full time basis during this time too. Mrs Hendry will now join us also on a Wednesday and we welcome Mrs Meek to our team on a Thursday and Friday.





# Woodie News-December 2021

**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 our 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. At this time if periods off are for Covid, pupils will not be sent an attendance letter.

<b>100%</b>	<b>0 days missed</b>	Best possible chance of success and reaching full potential
<b>95%</b>	<b>9 Days of Absence</b> 1 week and 4 days learning missed	Is likely to make it harder to achieve full potential and secure the best possible outcomes
<b>90%</b>	<b>19 days of Absence</b> 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed	
<b>85%</b>	<b>27 Days of Absence</b> 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
<b>80%</b>	<b>36 days of Absence</b> 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed Half of a term missed	

## Toast to Go

Our new 'Toast to Go' service is certainly a big hit in Woodside. Some mornings there have been over 200 boys and girls munching on toast. What a great way to start the school day.



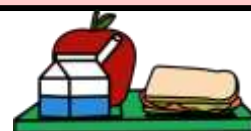
Mrs Brownlie, our Support Assistant, who helps each day, has commented on the lovely manners and behaviour of all the children who pop in.



Please remember that the gates of the playground open at **8.30am**. School staff will be present as from **8.40am**. Well done boys and girls!

## Changes to Free

### School Meals



As from January all **Primary 5** children will be entitled to a **free** school meal, joining all our P1-4 children.

## Parent Pay

Please ensure you top up funds regularly if your child pays for their school meal. This will stop debts being incurred. Over the last few weeks we have sent out letters regarding dinner debts that have continued to grow. If there is anything we can do to help then please contact the office.

## Books and Comics

Woodside Reading Ambassadors are looking to update our upper school library with some new and exciting texts. We would greatly appreciate any donations of comic books, Manga or good quality non fiction texts. Thank you.



## Place2Be

Joanna, are Place2Be councillor continues to support lots of our boys and girls. Our children can indicate that they would like a special chance to talk with her during break time. If your child is to receive specific support from Joanna she would give you a call.

