



Education Resources  
 Executive Director Carole McKenzie  
 Woodside Primary  
 Head Teacher: Elaine Renwick

# Woodie News - August 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back!

I hope you and your family managed to have fun over the last 6 weeks.

I am delighted to welcome everyone back to another busy school year. Our main aim this week has been to settle everyone back into school life. The children are all looking very smart and are excited to be with their new teachers.



A special welcome to our **62** new Primary 1 children and their families. It is lovely to have you as part of our school. The children have been fantastic, although there are a few wee tired faces today. We have also welcomed 7 new children throughout the school, taking our school roll to 500. We will continue to have the children in their 'zones' at breaks and the toys will be introduced back into the playground at lunchtime soon once our Primary 1s are all settled. We have one break in the morning and there is a cross over at lunch times. Times are:-

**Primary 1- 4 ~ 12.15pm -1.00pm**

**Primary 5 -7 ~ 12.45pm - 1.30pm.**

This makes the lunchtime experience for all our children much more settled and enjoyable.

The **ONLY** way for us to communicate with you is by using your 'Parents Portal' account. Please check this daily and if you haven't logged on yet please find the instructions on the attached letter.

**ALL** letters will be on the Parents Portal **starting from Monday**. If you are having trouble, or are unsure of anything, please contact the school office.

As always, our Newsletter is published on the website and will also be emailed to you on the **first Friday of every month**. If you require paper copies of anything please let the office know. On our website you will find copies of all our documents and an updated guidance from NHS about Covid.

Our strong, positive partnership with our families is so valuable and we are delighted that we can welcome you back into the school to build on this and be able to work more closely with you in the year ahead. Look out for a calendar of dates coming soon.

If you need any information or have any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Have a great weekend.

Elaine Renwick

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## Dates For Your Diary

<b>21st August</b>	Primary 1 pupils collected at 2.55pm at the school gates.
<b>24th August</b>	Parental drop in from 9.15- 10.30am see Community
<b>28th Aug</b>	Primary 7 to Lockerbie for the week.
<b>31st Aug</b>	Primary 1 disco and Parental Workshops 6.15- 7.15pm
<b>1st Sep</b>	Newsletter Online
<b>4th Sep</b>	Homework begins
<b>7th Sep</b>	School photos Details to follow Parent Council meeting in school at 7pm. New members welcome
<b>22nd &amp; 25th Sep</b>	Holiday
<b>5th Oct</b>	Parents Meetings in school. Details to follow.
<b>16th Oct - 20th Oct</b>	Holiday

We share all up to date news, different events, successes and photographs on the school

Twitter page :-

**@woodsidepschool**

If you are not a follower yet, please click to follow the page. Our Twitter account is one way communication only.





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## Our Staffing

I am delighted to say our big school team are well rested and ready to go. A massive 'Thank You' to all the staff for their hard work in preparing all our classes. The classrooms are all looking fantastic.

We have welcomed 7 new members of our teaching staff:- Miss O'Hanlon, Mrs McCahon, Mrs McDonald, Miss McAvoy, Mrs Grady, Mrs Moffat and Miss Noble

Our classes for this session are as follows:-



- Primary 1 Room 1– Mrs Smith
- Primary 1 Room 2 - Mrs Ferguson
- Primary 1/2 Room 3 - Mrs Yates
- Primary 2 Room 4 - Miss Hendry
- Primary 2 Room 5 - Mrs McCahon (Tues pm– Friday) Mrs Moffat (Mon & Tues am )
- Primary 3 Room 6 - Mrs Callaghan
- Primary 3 Room 7 - Mrs Dundas
- Primary 3/4 Room 8 - Ms More
- Primary 4 Room 9 - Miss McAvoy
- Primary 4 Room 10 - Mrs Mackenzie
- Primary 5/6 Willow - Ms Lennox
- Primary 5 Room 11- Mrs Meechan
- Primary 5 Room 12 - Mrs Burke ( Mon-Wed) Miss Noble (Thurs - Fri)
- Primary 6 Room 13 - Miss O'Hanlon (Tues-Fri am) Mrs Grady (Mon & Tues am)
- Primary 6 Room 14 - Miss Mearns
- Primary 7 Room 15 - Miss Wilson
- Primary 7 Room 16 - Mrs McDonald



Each class will have another teacher in class for 2½ hours per week  
This maybe either :- Mrs Moffat, Mrs Grady or Miss Noble

Mrs Aitcheson and Mrs Lawson will be supporting children throughout the school. Miss McLarnon will be our Pupil Equity Lead and supporting children throughout the school.

Mrs Gibney continues to lead our amazing Support Staff team. She will be joined in the office by Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Hughes. We welcome a new Support Staff member Mrs Shanahan  
The following staff will support children across the school.

- Primary 1—Mrs Rice and Mrs Abercrombie
- Primary 2— Mrs Brownlie
- Primary 3—Mrs Shanahan
- Primary 3/4—Mrs Hughes
- Primary 4—Mrs Dalton
- Primary 5—Mrs Swan
- Primary 5/6—Mrs Hughes
- Primary 6—Mrs Muncie
- Primary 7—Mrs McKechnie



We continue to work in partnership with our Place2Be Councillor, Claire Blaney ( Mon and Tues) and our Youth, Family and community Learning officer Evelyn McGonagle (Wed and Thurs). Nikki returns as our school Janitor and Lorraine is our School Cook.

## Team Boys

Miss McEnroy, Mrs Bisset, Mrs Smith all welcomed healthy baby boys in July. Wee Harry, Alexander and Arran are all doing well and will be hopefully popping in for a visit soon.



# Woodie News - August 2023

## Our School Recovery Plan

Every session we evaluate our current position and plan our improvement strategies for the year ahead. Our priorities this year are:-



- Continue to ensure our curriculum design and learner pathways are fit for purpose.
- Introduce Talk4Writing non-fiction approach.
- Build a learning environment that is built upon positive, nurturing and appropriately challenging relationships.
- Continue to close out numeracy and literacy attainment gap and develop parental engagement.

For more detailed information, copies of both our 'School Improvement Plan 2023-24' and our 'Standards and Quality Report' will be added on our website. We will keep you updated regarding the progress of our work throughout the session. For a quick and easy read I will send out a parental version of both documents next week via the ParentsPortal

Miss McLarnon is leading our Equity Priorities. Each year the school is allocated money to be used to close our school equity gap. This year we have been allocated £121,275

5% of this budget, £6063.75 is called our Participatory Budget and is to be used in consultation with our children and parents. This means **we are looking for your input and help.**

Miss McLarnon will send out an email soon with more information.

## General School Updates

### School Gates

We have three main entrance gates into our school. These gates are managed by a member of our Support Staff Team every morning from **8.45am**. Please can I ask that you select the school gate which works best for your family and continue to use this the whole year, as our staff do a great job of getting to know the children and their families on their gate.

### Toast to Go

Due to the size of our school we run a 'Toast To Go' service every day from **8.30am**. Children can only enter from the small gate at Johnstone Road where they then head round to our Dinner Hall for some toast, fruit and a drink before heading back out to play.

### Gym Shoes

Can I ask that, if possible, you send in a pair of soft shoes which your child will change into every day for walking about in the building. We do have a supply of pre-loved shoes. If you require some just call the school office. Thank you.

### Afterschool and Buses

If your child is attending an Afterschool Club or travels home on the school bus please can you send the class teacher a note to let them know which days this will be happening. If arrangements change, please inform the Office. At present, children who use our school buses will not be allocated a specified seat number. This may change as the session progresses.

### Lost Property

Please make sure all clothing, water bottles and packed lunches are all clearly named.

### Toys

We appreciate that some children bring small toys to school as a comfort. Can we kindly ask that these are kept safely in schools bags, in the classroom during learning time. Please speak to your child about keeping them safe in school as it can cause upset when they are lost or damaged.



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Please see the table below to find out which days your child will take part in physical education. Our PE lessons will take place both indoors and outdoors. This will be completely weather dependent!



**On outdoor PE days** your child can wear jogging trousers or leggings along with their school sweater. Please ensure they also wear a water-proof jacket, just in case. ( A change of clothes may be an idea too!)

**On indoor PE days** your child will require to bring shorts and a T shirt to school with them to change into. Your child will wear their indoor shoes for PE lessons in the Gym Hall.

**Jewellery**—Sharp objects including items of jewellery should be removed wherever possible. Some items e.g. in newly pierced ears, may be covered over with tape. If you wish your child to continue wearing their earrings during PE lessons please can you provide a letter of consent for the class teacher.

Room	Indoor	Outdoor
1	Monday and Wednesday	
2	Tuesday and Wednesday	
3	Wednesday and Friday	
4	Thursday and Friday	
5	Monday and Thursday	
6	Tuesday	Wednesday
7	Monday	Wednesday
8	Monday and Thursday	
9	Friday	Monday
Willow	Tuesday	Friday
10	Wednesday	Monday
11	Tuesday	Monday
12	Friday	Monday
13	Monday	Thursday
14	Tuesday and Thursday	
15	Wednesday	Tuesday
16	Wednesday	Tuesday