



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

# Woodie News November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Our October dress down day was a huge hit. Your kind donations amounted to an amazing **£300**. Our next dress down day will take place on St Andrew's day **Thursday 30th November**. Children can come to school wearing casual clothes. Again, any donations, will be greatly received. Monies raised from these two events will be used to purchase the crafts for our 'Festive Fun day'.

**It cant believe I am mentioning Christmas already! As a school we try to consider financial costs for everyone, so as a staff group we have decided not to purchase gifts for each other or for our classes this year. We will insteard be donating toiletries to the Hamilton Food Bank. Please do not send in gifts for staff as your support of what we do is the best gift you could give us.**

Our 'Charity Champions' Pupil Voice group will be organising a Woodside food collection for the Hamilton Food bank, look out for more information soon.

For families who have recently joined us, we celebrate Christmas in style at Woodside having one, big, crazy Festive Fun day! This will be held on **Wednesday, 20th December**. Our Primary 1-3 children take part in stage parties and our P4-7 children participate in a Christmas obstacle course. More information will follow.



We will be hosting our annual **Open Event** on **Friday, 1st December** where you will get the opportunity to visit your child's classroom for a short time. Times are organised by your child's house and are as follows:- **9.30am - 10.15am Ash and Chestnut**

**11am—11.45am Maple and Oak**

**Due to our class sizes, we will only be able to accommodate 1 parent/ carer**

I will be in touch with details nearer the time.

We were lucky to have the Fire Brigade in school this week giving us a safety talk. Whatever you are doing this bonfire weekend, take care.

If you have any questions regarding school, please remember to pop in or give the office ladies a call.

Elaine Renwick  
 Head Teacher

Woodside Primary, Johnstone Road, Hamilton, ML3 7JR Phone: 01698 427811

Email: [gw14woodsidepsoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14woodsidepsoffice@glow.sch.uk)



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## Dates For Your Diary

<b>Wed 8th Nov</b>	School closed due to Strike Action
<b>Thurs 9th Nov</b>	Parent Council meeting at 7pm. All welcome
<b>13th Nov</b>	INSET day. Children not in school.
<b>14th Nov</b>	Book Week Scotland.  More information will follow
<b>Thurs 30th Nov</b>	St Andrews Dress Down Day. Donations welcome
<b>Fri 1st Dec</b>	Open Event details to follow
<b>Fri 15th Dec</b>	Christmas Service P1 Nativity 10am St John's Church
<b>Wed 20th Dec</b>	Festive Fun Day
<b>Fri 22nd Dec</b>	School closes at 2.30pm

## Parent Council

A massive thank you to our Parent Council for organising our recent Disco. Woodie was bouncing! The DJ commented that he had never seen so many children having so much fun! Thanks also for organising the Christmas Cards. This is a huge job and I know you all look forward to receiving your order.



# Woodie News - November 2023

## Relationship Blueprint Questionnaire



A big 'Thank You' to everyone who completed the questionnaire at our Parental Meetings. Your comments and feedback have blown me away and I will share the results with you later this month.

As stated on the questionnaire we are developing a Woodside Anti Bullying policy too. I will be sending home a questionnaire for you to complete on Scotland's Anti Bullying week which takes place on 14th November. During this week we will be talking to the children about Bullying and seeking their views on our policy too. We have a lot of work to do explaining to our children the definition of bullying and talking about a fall out or conflict with our friends. I will keep you updated with how we get on.

This week is also Scotland's Book Week and we are linking these events together.

## Remembrance Time

Next week we will be selling poppies in school. Any small donations would be gratefully received. Thank you.



Some of our Primary 7 children will be performing at the Lanarkshire Festival of Remembrance on Sunday afternoon at the Hamilton Town House at 2.30pm. Thanks for supporting this.

**Diwali** Many of our families will be celebrating Diwali—festival of lights, this month. We will be talking about the festival in class and at our Assembly on the 10th of November.

## Masterclasses, Values and Rights

Our first sessions of Masterclasses were a real hit. There was so much fun, creativity and confidence to be seen all across the school. A big 'Thank You' to the team of S6 pupils from Hamilton Grammar who are running some of these. I think they had loads of fun with our Woodie children. Our next Masterclass session will take place on Friday 17th November.

We continue to ensure our Friday Assemblies have a real learning focus. This term, we will continue to talk with the children about their Rights. Our school value focus will be **HAPPY**.

## Staffing updates

Huge congratulations to Miss McLarnon who was recently successful at interview for the position of full time Principal Teacher at Woodside. We are delighted for you! Well done!



Mrs Aitcheson successfully graduated with a Postgraduate in Middle Leadership from Glasgow University. Congratulations!



Finally, Mrs Yates is at home recovering from surgery. We welcome Miss Smail into Room 3.





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## Playground Toys

There were a lot of excited and happy children when we brought the toys back out into the playground. The children can now play anywhere in the playground during morning breaks. At lunchtime, every year group has a timetabled zone which they move to each day. Each zone contains different toys like, balls, skipping ropes and building blocks. On Friendship Friday we have no toys out and again the children can play anywhere in our playground.



We officially opened our new Reading Sheds in our playground too. A big 'Thank You' to Miss McLarnon who has organised this programme. She even painted them too!



Thank you to our parents for the lovely donations of books. We have filled both sheds. I know our Reading Sheds will be very popular with many of our children.

As we approach the winter months and the wet and colder weather comes, please ensure your child knows that they have to keep their jacket on during break times.

## Clothing bank

Are you having a clear out of old clothes? Please remember that



Woodside has

its own clothing bank

positioned in the back car

park at the wee **Sainsburys**

**Local on Low Waters Road.**

Each month we receive a sum of money from this. We reckon over the years we have received about £9000.

## School Travel Plan (STP)

Here are the targets we are all working towards.

- To reduce the speed of traffic outside our main school gates
- To encourage our parent/carers to park safely outside our school at drop off and pick up times.
- To enhance the safety of our pupils when crossing the roads outside our school by using the crossing patrollers available.
- To enhance the safety of all pupils as they enter and leave the school .

Be mindful of where you park and the importance of safe parking in our streets outside of school. Our neighbours in Laburnum Lea are becoming very concerned about the dangerous parking.

The Mercedes gate area continues to be very busy and another area of concern. Please ensure parking is safe here too. It is important we **ALL do our best to keep our children safe.**



Our new Lollipop Lady, Carrie popped into Assembly to introduce herself and to remind everyone to cross with her outside the school.

Please continue to encourage your children to do this too!