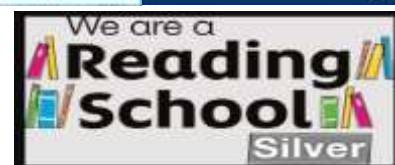




Education Resources
Executive Director Lyndsay McRoberts
Woodside Primary
Head Teacher: Elaine Renwick



Woodie News October 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

We were delighted to welcome you in to our Parental Meetings yesterday. It was really good to see everyone and I hope you found your meeting helpful and informative. We reckon **94%** of our parents came along. If you were unable to come along, we will be doing catch up phone calls on Wednesday 8th October in the morning, after 9.15am. The class teacher will be in contact with you then. Please look out for a call from a withheld number. Next term, we will be inviting you in to visit your child's classroom to find out more about how and what they are learning. More information regarding this will follow, but keep the morning of **Friday 28th November** free.

Thanks to everyone who shared comments and suggestions about our draft Mobile Phone policy which we had on display in our Gym Hall. I will look through these and share these with you later next term. We also asked your thoughts on the use of Sumdog for maths homework. Once I have collated all your results I will be in touch to update you on our Homework policy.

Our House Captains and Vice Captains are busy organising our first 'dress down' day of the year on Friday 10th Oct. This will be a House Colour dress down day. On this date we are having our first 'House Building' morning. The children will spend some time with their House peers taking part in a variety of activities. We kindly ask, if you can, for a donation of £1. On our dress down days we are going to try both Parents pay and 'chuck it in the bucket'. All money raised from this date will be used to purchase treats for our Festive Fun day! Thank you.

Coming soon..... **Woodies Wonder Wall.**

After the October break I will be sending home a special postcard for each child. We are looking to celebrate all our pupils achievements out of school. Our new Wonder Wall will let us share everyone's photograph when they return their postcard to school celebrating an achievement from home, at a club or in the community. Look out for my letter coming home after the holiday in your child's school bag containing more details.

We have lots to update you this month so please read on and look at our Reading Schools update from Mrs Smith too!

Finally, enjoy the October break when it comes.

Kind regards,
Elaine Renwick
Head Teacher



Dates For Your Diary

8th Oct	Catch up Parental phone calls
10th Oct	Dress down day (House colours) £1 donation
13th - 17th Oct	Holiday
31st Oct	Flu vaccination
7th Nov	Newsletter
6th Nov	Parent Council School Discos (evening) More information to follow
10th Nov	INSET day. Children not in school.
19th Nov	Parent Council meeting at 7pm.
21st Nov	Dress Down day (PJs) Donation £1
28th Nov	Parental Open Event (morning) More information will follow
5th Dec	Newsletter online

Staffing Updates Mrs Lawson will be returning from her maternity leave early in November. This means Mrs McAvoy will be leaving us. Mrs Ahmed has also left our Support Staff team. We wish both ladies well and thank them for being part of our team.



Woodie News- October 2025

School Improvement Plan update

Our targets for this session are as follows:-

- Continue to develop skills and embed them into our learning and teaching.
- Enhance staff's knowledge of differentiation.
- Develop our technology curriculum and staff's knowledge and skills to enhance learning and teaching.
- Continue to reduce our Numeracy, Reading and Writing gap.
- Continue to focus on school attendance.
- Continue to work in partnership with Place2Be to provide supports for our targeted families and pupils.

In Woodside, so far this year

- *All staff have received input from the Educational Psychologist in supporting neurodiversity within our classes.*
- *Almost all teaching staff have received input on differentiation.*
- *All staff have been trained how to use Adobe Express.*
- *Almost all teaching staff have been trained in 'Read and Write'*
- *Targeted support groups for literacy and numeracy have been timetabled .*



Maths Week Scotland Last week we enjoyed a focus on Maths Week Scotland. The theme this year was **Wild Maths** which looked at bringing nature and numbers together. Many of our classes took their maths learning outside and have worked on activities that have been using natural resources and linking with different elements of maths. Mrs Barton also set up maths challenge cards around the playground that linked with the Global Goals. She took many of her classes outdoors for some problem solving fun. We have also participated in the Sumdog Maths Week Scotland competition, so we will look forward to seeing how our Woodie Weans have got on. We hope the homework encouraged you to get outdoors and link maths with things you would find outside; from lampposts to leaves.

Young Leaders Of Learning

I was blown away with the number of children who completed the application to be a Young Leader of Learning. It was a really difficult decision to choose 2 participants for each stage. I learned so many new facts about the children and I was delighted to know that many of them kept their bedrooms tidy!

Well done to Finlay and Robyn in Primary 7, Oliver and Emma in Primary 6, Noah and Alice in Primary 5 and Ryan and Rosie in Primary 4.

This programme was developed by Education Scotland to give children and young people an increased say in their education and their schools. The programme supports the empowered system and also the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (articles 12 and 13). Our group took part in an online training session which focussed on the skills they would need when going to visit other schools. Hopefully we can get out on a visit to both Chatelherault Primary and Auchinraith Primary soon.



Participatory Budget

Thank you for voting on what we should spend our £6063.75 Participatory Budget on. Once the votes have all been counted we will be in touch to announce the winner.

Period Products - Just a reminder that we offer free period products to all our female pupils. The girls on the top floor all know where to access these in school. If extra products are required during school holidays, please contact the school office.



Community Grant

We were very lucky to be gifted the sum of £4500 from a local community grant.

We used this amount along with a top up from our Pupil Equity Fund to purchase a massive amount of new reading books.

Woodie News- October 2025

Absence rates

We know and understand that ill health and injuries do happen but we always monitor our absences across the school and will get in touch with you by letter if your **child's attendance rate drops below 90%** or if they are **often late** for school.

We will be sending our letters out before the October holiday.

The table highlights the importance of being in school.

Absence phone calls should be made to the school before 9.30am.

100% Attendance	0 Days missed	Gives a child and young person the best chance of success and ensures that their full potential is achieved
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 week and 4 days learning missed	Is likely to make it harder to achieve full potential and secure the best possible outcomes
90% Attendance	19 days of Absence 3 weeks and 4 days of learning missed	
85% Attendance	27 Days of Absence 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
80% Attendance	36 days of Absence 7 weeks and 3 days of learning missed Half of a term missed	
75% Attendance	45 Days of Absence 9 weeks and 1 day of learning missed Almost 1 whole term missed	



Outdoor Maths and Outdoor PE

As the weather now takes a turn it is really important that you send your child to school with a waterproof jacket on. All our children can take part in outdoor maths lessons, and most of our classes will participate in outdoor PE. We try our best to ensure our children get outdoors at break times and lunchtimes too, unless it is extremely wet!

Lost Property - Please can I stress the importance of labelling all your child's school clothes and packed lunches as already our lost property is overflowing.

Any unclaimed items without names will be taken to our school clothing bank at the back of Sainsburys Local at the end of next week.

October Rights Of The Month

Theme:
Harvest/
food banks



Article 6 (Life, Survival & Development)

The right to be alive.



Article 24 (Health, Water, Food, Environment)

The right to health care, safe drinking water, nutritious food and to learn about being healthy.



Article 27 (Food, clothing, a safe home)

The right to a safe place to live, appropriate clothing and food to eat.





Woodie News - October 2025

Reading Schools Gold Accreditation

As some of you may already know, Woodside gained our Reading Schools Silver Accreditation in May 2023 and we have been working towards GOLD.

We continue to strive for our Gold Accreditation this year and our action plan is due in April 2026.



Author Visit

Primary 2 and 3 were delighted to welcome Debbie Quinn to Woodside Primary on Monday 15th September for an author's visit. Debbie wrote and illustrated 'Leonard's Lunch'. She came along to read us the story, answer questions and teach us Leonard's favourite dance. The children danced so well that Leonard even made a surprise visit to see the children!



Adult Book Swap

Please remember we have a selection of adult books in our 'bubble' at the front door which we encourage you to take/swap/read.

BookTrust research has shown that children are 40% more likely to enjoy reading if their parents/carers do.

Things to look out for this year:

- * More book swaps at Parents' Nights.
- * Woodside's Reading Café—Each class will have the chance to host a Reading Café for parents/carers and the wider community in school.
- * P1-3 Bookbags given home.
- * Book Week Scotland— 17th-23rd Nov. This year will have a 'Bedtime Story' theme and children will be able to come to school on the Friday in their jammies.

How can you help?

1. Could you spare 15-30minutes during a school day to come and read a favourite children's story to one of our classes?
2. Are you passionate about reading for enjoyment and available on a Friday afternoon for 30minutes to come along to our 'Reading Rockets' meetings? (10th Oct, 12th Dec, 23rd Jan, 13th Mar)
3. Do you have a shop, business etc in the local area that we could display some of our reading recommendation posters?
4. Do you have a local business e.g dentist, hairdressers, salon etc where we could provide some 'Read as you wait' materials? Children will make own books, comics, posters etc for others to read and enjoy.

If you have answered YES to any of these questions please, please get in contact with us as we would love to hear from you. Call the office and ask for Mrs Smith or Mrs McKellar.