Woodie News

November - 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,



We returned from the October break to one whole school lunchtime, 12.30-1.15pm. Along with this, a group of children helped me reorganise our lunchtime toys timetable. It is very early days, however the simple change of ensuring each year group has their own MUGA time has made a difference, along with the introduction of a gymnastics slot on a Monday and a boogie on a Friday! We will continue to monitor our changes but I need to thank the following children for their wise words and input:- P2 - Ruaridh, P3 - Sophie and Brodie, P4 - Thomas, Alexxa and Leo, P5 - James and Aria, P6 - Alistair and Arran and P7 - Ava, Renee and Luca.

The weather has not been kind to us the past couple of weeks which has meant we have had lots of 'wet plays' at break times. As you can imagine the children (and the staff) hate these. Where possible, we try to get the children outside at breaktimes so please make sure your child brings (and wears) their jacket every day. A big 'Thank You' to our Parent Council who kindly donated £80 to each class to purchase some new resources. They have also kindly purchased loads of new playground toys to top up our school supply. Many thanks for all the support.

Your kind 'dress down day' donations amounted to £211.59. Monies raised from this will be used to purchase the crafts for our 'Festive Fun day'. We really do rely on your donations from our dress down days so 'Thank You' to everyone who contributed.

I might as well mention the C word! As a school we try to consider financial costs for everyone, so as a staff group we do not purchase gifts for each other or for our classes. Please do not send in gifts for staff as **your support of what we do is the best gift you could give us.** We will celebrate Christmas in style at Woodside, having our annual Festive Fun Day! This will be held on Wednesday, 16th 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, 27th November 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 for Maple and Oak and 11am - 11.45am for Ash and Chestnut. Due to our class sizes, we will only be able to accommodate 1 parent/carer per child. I will be in touch with details nearer the time. If you have any questions regarding school, please remember to pop in or give the office ladies a call.

Kind regards,
Elaine Renwick
Head Teacher

Dates for your diary

- 9th November - Inset Day
  Pupils not in school.
- 16th November
  Book Week Scotland - More info to follow
- 20th November - PJ Dress Down Day
  £1 Donation
- Friday 27th November - Open Event
  Letter to follow
- 4th December
  Newsletter
- Friday 18th December - Christmas Service
  P1 Nativity, St. John's Curch 10am
- 19th November - Parent Council Discos
  More information to follow
- Wednesday 16th December
  Festive Fun Day
- Tuesday 22nd December
  School closes at 2.30pm

Infant Enrolment Online

from:
MONDAY 16th NOVEMBER
Please log on to:

www.southlanakrshire.gov.uk and follow the link.

We will contact our new enrolment families during week beginning 23rd November. We look forward to speaking with you all.

Kids Kitchen

Our Primary 5,6 and 7 classes have all been taking part in SLC's Kids Kitchen cookery classes. For 4 weeks, Chef Robert is working alongside the children to develop practical cooking skills, improve their understanding of healthy eating and support budget-friendly meal planning. I have been so impressed with what the children have been doing, along with all the resources and equipment they have been working with. Some of the smells have been delicious!

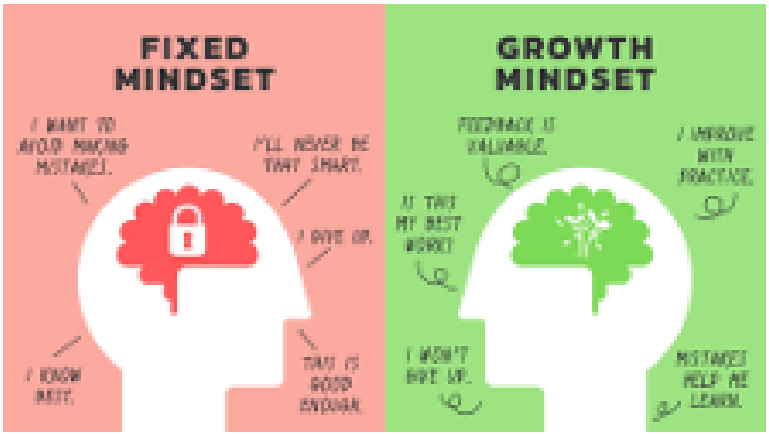


Fire Safety

All our Primary 5,6 and 7 children took part in a Fire Safety presentation delivered by the Fire Officers from the station in Hamilton. The message is always very clear about how dangerous fireworks are and the importance of keeping themselves safe.

Growth Mindset

As part of this years Improvement Plan we are focussing on the feedback we give to our children and we will be discussing this with staff during the Inset Day later this month. However, before we give children feedback they need to be ready to accept it. To support them in this progress our teachers have been delivering Growth Mindset lessons, which have been focussing on the power of the word 'YET.' An example would be: you cant read the whole book 'yet'. Please have a chat about this as it is a powerful word to use at home too.



Treehouse Talks

Mrs Lawson has launched our new initiative 'Treehouse Talks' for all Primary 4-7 children. This is a chance for children to request a wee catch up with her if they have any big emotions they feel they need to share. We based the model on the popular Place 2 Be service we previously had in the school and I will keep you updated on how this new idea goes.



Centenary Gardens

All our Primary 3-7 children are now in their Pupil Voice groups and they shared their plans with everyone through short videos last month. Our Primary 2 children have started visiting our lovely neighbours at Centenary Gardens Sheltered Housing Complex where they will take part in crafts and activities with the residents there.
It's always a heart warming experience.

Staffing Update

Mrs Allan is delighted to announce the safe arrival of baby Rebecca earlier in October.



Masterclasses

Our very popular Friday Masterclasses start back on Friday 13th November. Each child chooses their top 3 from the selection list and then they are allocated their Masterclass from these. Masterclasses take place over each floor and the children get a chance to meet new friends, new staff and be in different classrooms. We are delighted that a group of S5/S6 students from HGS will come along too and lead their own Masterclasses. This year our Masterclasses will have specific skills focuses. It's all good fun and gives our children the opportunity to extend their learning , develop new skills and their confidence.

Woodie Wonderwall



PLEASE remember to share with us your child's out of school achievement on their Woodie Wonder Wall postcard. Its important that all children get their photograph represented on our long wall in the corridor. The postcard can be used to celebrate an achievement in an out of school clubs or if they have learned a new skill like riding their bike. We have loads of spare postcards in our school office in case you have misplaced yours. You have until June to send your postcard into school.

Participatory Budget

Thank you for voting on what we should spend our £6063.75. The votes have been counted and After School clubs and Enterprise Activities was the winner.



November's Rights of the Month



Cross Country

A selection of Primary 6 pupils got muddy when they participated in the Hamilton Schools Cross Country event. A big 'Well Done' to Rachel McTaggart who qualified for the South Lanarkshire's Primary Schools Final. Mrs Barton said that together, our Woodie team had our best ever results.

