



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

Woodie News - August 2024

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 **74** 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 9 new children throughout the school, taking our school roll to 511. We will continue to have the children in their 'zones' in the playground 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. Our new times are:-

Primary 1– 5 ~ 12.30pm -1.15pm

Primary 6&7 ~ 12.45pm - 1.30pm.

The **ONLY** way for us to communicate with you is by using your 'Parents Portal' account. Our new families and Primary 1 parents will get information home about how to create an account on Monday. **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 any extra documents relating to our school.

The strong, positive partnerships we have with our families are so valuable and we look forward to working with you throughout this year. I will send you a calendar of dates next week on Parents Portal.

I need to highlight 2 important pieces of information which I need your support with. Our school **MUST BE NUT FREE** at all times. Therefore please think about snack and lunches. Kinder bars and chocolate spreads are not allowed because of allergies.

We have new parking lines outside the main school building. These have been added to increase traffic safety outside our school. Please be aware of these.

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

Elaine Renwick
 Head Teacher

Woodside Primary, Johnstone Road, Hamilton, ML3 7JR

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Dates For Your Diary

19th August	Primary 1 pupils collected at 2.55pm at the school gates.
26th Aug	Primary 7 to Lockerbie for the week.
29th Aug	Primary 1 disco and Parental Workshops Letter to follow
2nd Sep	Homework begins
Week begin 2nd Sep	Class Newsletter Online
5th Sep	Parent Council Meeting at 7pm. All welcome
6th Sep	Dress down day . House Colours £1 donation Newsletter online
26th Sep	School photos Details to follow
27th & 30th Sep	Holiday
3rd Oct	Parents Meetings in school. Details to follow.
14th Oct - 18th Oct	Holiday

We share all up to date news, different events, successes and photographs on the school X page :-@**woodsidepschool**

If you are not a follower yet, please click to follow the page. Our X 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. Our Willow classroom had a 'make over' during the summer, complete with its own walls.

We have welcomed 2 new permanent members to our teaching staff:- Miss Mooney and Mr Hoggan.

We have Miss Harris, Miss Stirling and Miss Sutherland joining our teaching team for the year.



Finally, we are delighted to welcome back, Miss Mearns, Mrs McDonald, Miss McAvoy, Mrs Grady, Mrs Smith, Mrs Bisset and Miss McEnroy!

Our classes for this session are as follows:-

Primary 1 Room 1– Mrs Smith
Primary 1 Room 2 - Mrs Ferguson
Primary 1 Room 3 - Mrs Yates
Primary 2 Room 4 - Miss Hendry
Primary 2 Room 5 - Miss Harris (Mon,Tue,Thurs & Fri) and Miss McEnroy (Wed)
Primary 3 Room 6 - Mrs Callaghan
Primary 3 Room 7 - Miss Mooney
Primary 3/4 Room 8 - Ms More and Mrs Dundas
Primary 4 Room 9 - Mrs Bisset (Mon,Tue,Thurs & Fri) and Miss Sutherland (Wed)
Primary 4/5 Willow - Mr Hoggan and Miss McAvoy
Primary 5 Room 10 - Ms Lennox
Primary 5 Room 11 - Mrs Burke (Mon-Wed) Miss Sutherland (Thurs - Fri)
Primary 6 Room 12 - Mrs Meechan
Primary 6 Room 13 - Miss Stirling (Mon,Tue,Thurs & Fri) and Mrs Smith (Wed)
Primary ^/7 Room 14 - Mrs McDonald
Primary 7 Room 15 - Miss Noble
Primary 7 Room 16 - Miss Mearns



Each class will have another teacher in class for 2½ hours per week

This maybe either :- Mrs Smith, Miss McEnroy, Mrs Grady or Miss Sutherland

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 Rice continues to lead our amazing Support Staff team. She will be joined in the office by Mrs Mitchell and Miss Shanahan.

Our Support staff team will provide targeted learning supports for children across the school. They will also support our children's wellbeing in the playground at break times, lunchtimes and throughout the school day. Supports will be delivered from :- Mrs Abercrombie, Mrs Brownlie, Miss Shanahan, Mrs Dalton, Mrs Muncie and Miss Grieve.

We continue to work in partnership with Place2Be. Our new Councillor is Megan Blaney (Mon and Tues) and our Youth, Family and Community Learning officer Evelyn McGonagle (Wed).

Nikki is our school Janitor and Lorraine is our School Cook.



Mrs McKellar provides pastoral care for all our Primary 1-3 children and manages their learning. Miss Officer provides pastoral care for all our Primary 4 -7children and manages their learning.



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Our School Improvement Plan

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

- Enhance our curriculum by focussing on skills development, Sustainability and working towards the accreditation of our Silver Rights Respecting Schools Award.
- Introduce a 'Teach, Target, Play' approach in Primary 1 for maths and numeracy.
- Develop a 'Learning, Teaching and Assessment' policy to ensure consistency across the school.
- Continue to reduce our Numeracy, Reading and Writing gap.
- Continue to focus on school attendance.
- Continue to work in partnership with Place2Be and Youth, Family and Community Learning Officer to provide supports for our targeted families and pupils.



For a quick and easy read I will send out a parental version of our School's Quality Improvement Plan next week via ParentsPortal. This highlights are key achievements from last session.

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. Lost property is cleared out at the end of each term.

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