

Woodlands Academy Newsletter



Autumn 1 - 2018

www.woodlands.ealing.sch.uk

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Head's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fantastic start to the year it has been! The new year has seen the start of a new & improved learning challenge curriculum, new computer suite, new library and so much more! In particular, I would like to thank you all for making sure you have been **at school every day and on time**. There has been an improvement in attendance and we are slowly getting closer to our **target of 96.5%**.

Welcome Back ...

To Ms Ashley who has returned from maternity as a Mummy! She has a lovely daughter & is now teaching in Early Years as well as teaching French to years 3, 4, 5 & 6. We have missed you!

To Ms Byers who has returned from long term sickness. She has missed being at school and is now class teacher of Year 4 Maple Class & responsible for Design Technology at Woodlands. We are glad to have you back!

Congratulations ...

To Miss Chaudhry who got married over the summer and is now known as Mrs Mock! Mrs Mock is now Head of Pastoral Well-being at Woodlands & is running some great workshops so watch this space! A special thank you to those families who have attended our workshops, coffee mornings and Parent Forum meetings with Miss Hasker & Mrs Mock. This partnership is key in driving our school forward.

A short message from me this time as there is lots of key information to read in this edition.

I would like to introduce our new Young Journalists who have been helping Mrs Magan put this newsletter together. They have done a wonderful job interviewing our pupils to find out what is going on.



I wish you all a safe and enjoyable half term.

Ms Rana

Attendance & Punctuality

A massive thank you to all our families to have made an extra effort to ensure their children are at school **EVERY DAY** and **ON TIME**. Since linking our new rule: '**Be at school everyday and on time**', to our Going for Green Behaviour System, we have seen a positive increase in our attendance figures and we are pleased to say that this week we have beaten our target of 96.5% with fantastic **98%**!

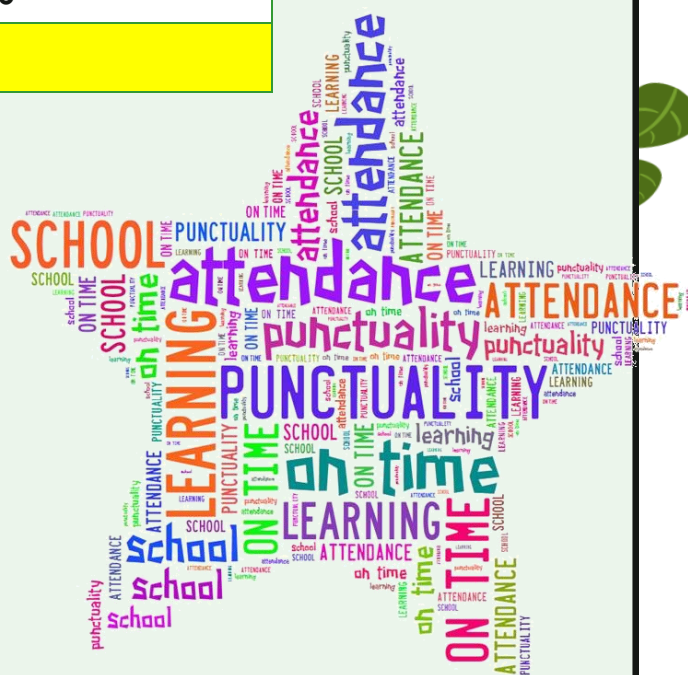
In order to ensure we sustain this and are in line with other local schools and national expectations, please continue to send in your pupils every day and leave a little earlier if you are just only getting in before the gate closes. Remember that the gate will close at 9am sharp & you will then have to go around to the front office. We really appreciate all your determination and hard work. Thank you.

Take a look at our attendance every week so far...

Target attendance is 96.5%	
Week 1	91.1 %
Week 2	94.8 %
Week 3	94.1 %
Week 4	95.3 %
Week 5	96.2 %
Week 6	98 %






Our total attendance for this half-term is 96.33% - very close to our target, but this needs to be consistent throughout the year. Please help us by avoiding days off during term-time unless absolutely necessary.

Remember, any time out of school (including lateness) = LOST LEARNING!



What is your attendance?

There are 175 non school days a year. That's plenty of time to go on holiday or visits, shopping and other appointments

Platinum 100%  WELL DONE! High attendance leads to improved and high achievement which means greater success	97% Up to 6 days absence from school  WELL DONE! High attendance leads to improved and high achievement which means greater success	96.9%-93% Up to 14 days absence from school  WORRYING! Too many missed school days. Less chance of success	92.9% - 90% Up to 20 days absence from school  CONCERN! Reduced chance of success. Possible court action	Below 90% Considerable absence from school  SERIOUS! Lowest chance of success. Possible court action
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School Matters!

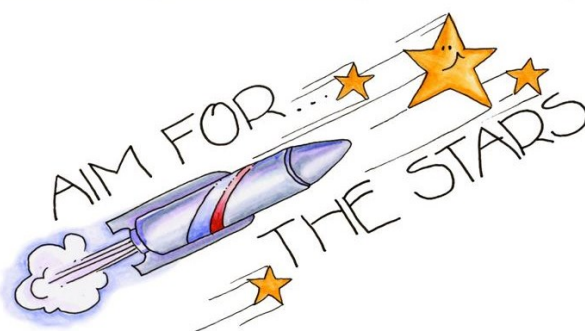


Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Punctuality means

Gates open at 08:45 ... Be on Time!

5	10	15	20	30
Minutes late per day	Minutes late per day	Minutes late per day	Minutes late per day	Minutes late per day
3	6.5	10	13	19
Days lost	Days lost	Days lost	Days lost	Days lost



**Lost minutes
=
Lost Learning**

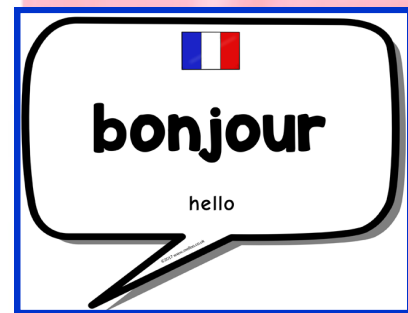
French

We have had a great start to learning French in KS2!

This half term we have been learning how to say hello, introduce ourselves, say how we are feeling, different ways of saying goodbye and counting to 10.

We also celebrated European Day of Languages on 26th September. It was really good to hear the children sharing their home languages with their classes and a special thank you to those parents who came in to share about their culture and customs.

Miss Ashley



Music

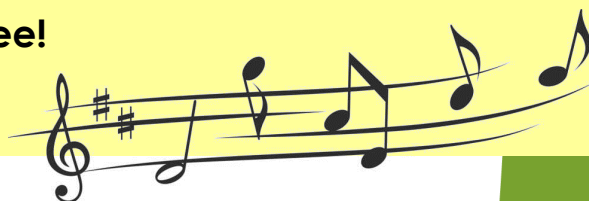
It's been a fantastic start for music this year at Woodlands Academy!

All classes have begun the year with a new timetable and are having 30 minutes of music every week to compose, play instruments and learn more about sounds across the world.

Our choir and recorder ensembles have both started the year strong with lots of new members and our choir actually had their first performance at a special harvest festival assembly this week! It was great!

Year 6 still reign as our Singing in the Round winners from last year but keep an ear out as our next competition is coming up in December. Will Year 6 keep the title? Or perhaps we'll have some new singing champions - we'll have to wait and see!

Mr Jones





Reading



Parents & carers who attended our Information Evening last week were delighted to hear about Reading at Woodlands & most importantly our new reading expectations at school.

You can find information on this on our school website, but here are some key points:

- ▶ Reading must take place every night.
- ▶ Please support us with ensuring this is happening by:
 - Giving your child a quiet space to read every night - this could be in bed just before they are about to sleep.
 - Listening to them read and talking about what they have read. Please see the hand out with information about what questions you can ask.
 - You could also read to them while they listen
 - Recording a comment down in their Reading Record to indicate this has happened. If you are short of time, this could be the date, book name & signature.
 - Pupils who are free readers (not following a banded system) can write their own comment about what they have read.
- ▶ Reading books will be changed once your child has finished reading them. If this is a colour banded book, this may be more often.
- ▶ They will also choose their own library book once a week to read for enjoyment.
- ▶ If a pupil is missing a comment in their Reading Record, an automatic letter will be sent home to you on that same day. It will be a reminder for you to complete the Reading Record or to ensure your pupil is reading at night.
- ▶ If a letter is sent out 3 times, you will be asked to come in for a meeting to find out why and if there is anything that we can do as a school to support you in making sure reading is taking place daily.

PLEASE NOTE: Reading record checks will begin from the first day back after half-term (Monday 29th October 2018)

Please note, if a Reading Record is lost, you will need to purchase another one from our School Office for £1.50

If a school/library book is lost, parent's will be asked to pay the price to replace the book.

Homework





Thank you to all of those who responded to our Homework Survey. Key feedback from this...

- ▶ 55% of parents feel that their child always enjoys completing homework.
- ▶ 87% of parents feel reading is an important part of home learning.
- ▶ 82% of parents feel spellings are an important part of home learning.
- ▶ 90% of parents feel times tables are an important part of home learning.
- ▶ 87% of parents would like their children to have a more creative project every half-term.
- ▶ 60% of parents felt it would be easier if their child received homework online via a computer/phone/tablet/iPad.
- ▶ 83% of parents feel that homework has a positive impact on their child's learning.

This told us that we needed to...

- ▶ Continue to give homework, but make it more purposeful.
- ▶ Make homework more fun & engaging for all pupils.
- ▶ Keep key skills such as reading, spelling & times tables - making sure they are happening regularly and being monitored by school and home.
- ▶ Have a half-termly project which links to what children are learning in class. These should give pupils the opportunity to think creatively and take charge of their learning.
- ▶ Provide homework online: this will be fun for pupils, feedback can be given straight away, homework cannot get lost and cannot be forgotten.

Our new homework structure which begins after half-term...

Weekly Homework	Every Half Term
<p>Reading should be happening <u>every night</u>. No more than 10-20 minutes. This must be recorded in the Reading Record. (Books taken home from class/library & Bug Club)</p> <p></p> <p>Spellings given out once a week & tested once a week - records kept of results. (Spellodrome games for learning spellings)</p> <p></p> <p>Times tables/Key Maths Skills (Mathletics games for learning maths facts/times tables)</p> <p></p>	<p>A project will be given out at the beginning of the half-term. It will be linked to the learning question in class.</p> <p>Children will be able to pick from 1-3 ideas and will work on this throughout the half-term.</p> <p>They will need to be supported to complete this at home.</p> <p>At the end of the half term, they will need to bring in their finished project to share with the rest of the class on 'Sharing Day'. Parents will be invited to attend.</p> <p></p>

All homework will be given out online on DB Primary which is our online managed learning platform. Teachers and pupils will be able to communicate on a regular basis. Pupils will be able to 'blow the whistle' if there is anything that is worrying them. **Any pupils who are unsafe online or misuse DB will get a warning or a ban depending on severity or regularity of incident.**

Homework Club will be available for pupils who do not have access to a computer/tablet at home. This will be on Tuesdays & Thursdays. Letters have already been sent out for this.



Mrs Mock is the **Head of Pastoral Well-being** at Woodlands Academy.

She is available to support families and pupils.

There are many things you can talk to her about such as benefits, housing, PTA, volunteering, help with filling in forms for high school etc.

You will see her in the playground in the mornings and after school if you have a quick question. Otherwise, please book a meeting through our School Office.

Safeguarding Update from Mrs Mock

Here at Woodlands Academy we have been running 'keeping your child safe' workshops every Thursday from 9-10am. These workshops are specially tailored for our school based on what parents have asked for.

The topics we have covered so far are:

- What is safeguarding and how is it carried out at Woodlands Academy
- School safeguarding curriculum and what children learn in order to keep safe
- How to keep your child safe online
- Relationship Education in schools

Feedback from our parents who attended:

- 100% of parents said they found the sessions useful
- 100% of parents stated the information provided was excellent or very good.
- 100% of parents said they would recommend the workshop to others

Please do pop in and join us on Thursday 1st November at 9am.



Children are taught how to keep themselves safe using the NSPCC PANTS rule. See the poster on the next page which explains what PANTS stands for. It is really important to reinforce this at home.

LEARN THE UNDERWEAR RULE



P RIVATES ARE PRIVATE

A LWAYS REMEMBER YOUR BODY BELONGS TO YOU

N O MEANS NO

T ALK ABOUT SECRETS THAT UPSET YOU

S PEAK UP, SOMEONE CAN HELP

LEARN THE UNDERWEAR RULE

TALK PANTS AND YOU'VE GOT IT COVERED!



P RIVATES ARE PRIVATE
Parts of your body covered by underwear are private. No one should ask to see, or touch them. Sometimes doctors, nurses or family members might have to. But they should always explain why, and ask if it's OK first. No one should ask you to touch or look at parts of their body that are covered by underwear.

A LWAYS REMEMBER YOUR BODY BELONGS TO YOU
It's your body, no one else's. No one should make you do things that make you feel embarrassed or uncomfortable. If anyone tries, tell an adult you trust.



N O MEANS NO
You have the right to say 'no' – even to a family member or someone you love. Remember, you're in control of your body and your feelings are important.



T ALK ABOUT SECRETS THAT UPSET YOU
Secrets shouldn't make you feel upset or worried. If they do, tell an adult you trust. You will never get into trouble for sharing a secret that upsets you.



S PEAK UP, SOMEONE CAN HELP
Talk about stuff that makes you worried or upset. An adult you trust will listen, and be able to help. It doesn't have to be a family member. It can be a teacher or a friend's parent – or even ChildLine.



PSHE

Our PSHE at Woodlands continues to help our pupils to show our school values at all times. Our theme this term is **Health and Wellbeing**. In our PSHE lessons, we have been learning about what a balanced diet includes, what dental hygiene means and the negative effects of passive smoking.



All classes have created their calm corners for children to use when they want to regulate their emotions. They can use the calming strategies or the class worry box. We also have



circle time where children can talk about feelings and getting on with each other.

Year 6 Red Cross First Aid training



Year 6 have received First Aid training from the Red Cross. They learnt about how to save lives if they saw someone who had collapsed and needed help.

FIRST AID

Here are some of their thoughts about the workshop.

"We used dummies to practice CPR. We learnt about how to do Hands only CPR which is when you only use your hands to do CPR. You have to spread your fingers 5- 6 cm and apply pressure 3 inches down. We learnt how to help someone who has collapsed. First talk to them and ask them if they're ok. Check if they are breathing and if not do hand only CPR." Aliya and Ramla, Year 6.

"We liked working together in groups and learnt about how much pressure to use to do CPR. We enjoyed the workshop because it will help us save lives." Amy and Arina, Year 6

Next term, we will have an ANTIBULLYING WEEK where we will be doing work on this year's theme 'Choose respect'

PSHE

Our healthy choices in school

Following its launch last year as part of our work to improve health and wellbeing at Woodlands, we have been running our Fruity Tuck Shop every playtime in the KS2 playground.

Congratulations for being healthier by making good food choices. Children are enjoying eating more fruit! Keep it up!

A big thank you to our Fruity tuck shop team Aliya and Betty in Year 6 who help to set up and sell the fruit everyday.

Getting active

We have also introduced a Flash Mob exercise with Mr Savage everyday after playtime, which is helping everyone stay active. It has had a positive impact on learning in our lessons after break time and is making us feel better about ourselves.



50p for a fruit pot

Fruity tuck shop

Choose to be more healthy by buying fruit from our Fruity tuck shop.

Open daily for all pupils at break time (10:45– 11:00) in the KS2 playground.

20p for a single fruit

Why is fruit good for you?

- Fruit is low in fat and calories.
- Fruit contains vitamins and mineral to support your development.
- Fruit has high fibre to help your digestive system work properly.
- Fruit can help improve concentration .

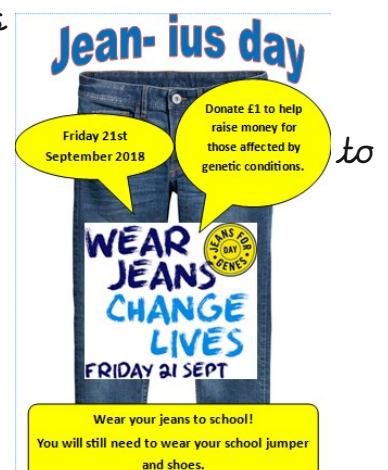
Thanks for your money donations for Jeans for Genes Day last month.

All money raised is going to help make a difference children born with genetic disorders.

To find out more visit the website:

<https://www.jeansforgenesday.org/>

Money raised: £144



Jean- ius day

Friday 21st September 2018

Donate £1 to help raise money for those affected by genetic conditions.

WEAR JEANS CHANGE LIVES

FRIDAY 21 SEPT

Wear your jeans to school! You will still need to wear your school jumper and shoes.

School Council



I am pleased to introduce our newly elected school council for this year. We have met a few times already this term to discuss the successes from last year and how we intend to help improve our school this year. I am looking forward to working with these fantastic role models this year!

Miss Moxom

Our school councillors: Fatima, Maya, Aiden, Angelika, Jebishan, Tella, Aliya, Arjun.

Anti-bullying

Our first project this year was to create an Antibullying code which explains what bullying is and how we can prevent it. We shared our Antibullying code with the rest of the school in assembly. Please read our Antibullying code poster in this newsletter. We will also be involved in organising events for our upcoming ANTIBULLYING WEEK in November.

Our plans for the week, based on your ideas:

- ♦ Antibullying assembly and workshops for all classes about antibullying.
- ♦ Learning about this year's theme 'Choose respect' using film.
- ♦ Friendship Friday



Harvest Festival and World Food Day

We will also be delivering your generous harvest festival food donations to St Melitus Church, we will find out about how the foodbank helps people.

If you have any suggestions for next half term please post them in our suggestion box on our display board or come and speak to us. We will discuss the ideas in our meeting.

School Council

What is bullying?

A bully is someone who hurts someone more than once by using behaviour which is meant to frighten or upset an individual or a group of people.

Different types of bullying:

- Emotional:** Hurting people's feelings, leaving them out, talking about them behind their back, blackmailing them (when you threaten someone to do something otherwise you will hurt them physically or verbally).
- Verbal:** Teasing, name calling, gossiping, including racist comments (about the colour of someone's skin, religion or culture) and banter (pretending to joke when being rude).
- Physical:** Punching, kicking, spitting, slapping, hitting, or pushing.
- Cyber:** Saying unkind things by text, e-mail or on social media networks and gaming platform chats.

If the action is intentional and it happens several times on purpose (on a regular basis), its time to say STOP!

Several
Times
On
Purpose

Be a buddy,
not a bully.



Anti-Bullying Code
2018-19



Who can help?

At Woodlands Academy, the governors, staff and pupils work together to:

- Make our school a safe and happy place.
- Understand when it is bullying: Several Times On Purpose (STOP!)
- Help STOP bullying by Starting to Tell Other People (STOP!)

Our children know that bullying will not be tolerated. We have a **Going for Green behaviour policy** and **Anti-bullying policy** to ensure that any worries are listened to and dealt with.

Start
Telling
Other
People

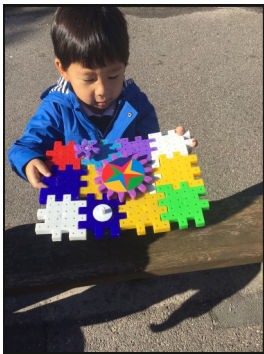


Created by our school councillors.

EYFS

We have made a fantastic start to the year in EYFS.

We have made new friends and have enjoyed exploring our lovely classrooms



Still feels like summer!



Remember our chicks in EYFS?

We'll look at them now, happy on the farm in Devon!



Look how our plants have grown!

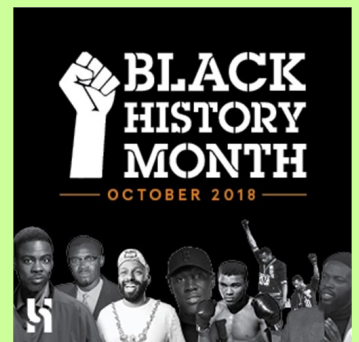
Humanities

Year 5 visited the RAF Museum in Hendon as part of their learning about World War 2. They also saw planes that were flown in the First World War.



On Friday 9th November 2018 we will be commemorating 100 years since the end of the First World War.

Please support us by wearing red, white and blue clothing and donating £1



We have been celebrating Black History this month!

Each class has chosen a significant person or group of people to learn about.

EYFS - Mo Farah

Year 1 - Nelson Mandela
Year 2 - Garrat Morgan
Year 3 - Usain Bolt
Year 4 - Martin Luther King
Year 5 - Barack Obama
Year 6 - Strong female leaders

We look forward to seeing their work on display!

Reported by our Young Journalists..

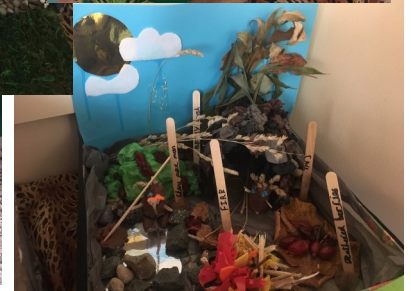
Year 3

During Cherry class's visit to Celtic Harmony camp on Wednesday 19th September 2018, they had a range of work-shops set out for them. They were lucky enough to have fun activities such: playing on climbing frames, imitating Stone Age hunters and also used co-operation by building a den in teams. They had to make their dens waterproof in order to avoid them falling down in the rain. Not only did they do that, but also they touched different types of rocks that Stone Age people used to make their houses out of. They had to compare which stone was the strongest which was quite a challenge for the year 3's to make. The opinion I got from one of them was: "I want to come here again!" Year 3 had quantities of fun during the trip and they are hoping that their next trip is just as much fun!



By Danya, Year 6

Look at their
fantastic home
learning projects!



Year 6

On Thursday 4th October Year 6 went on a trip to HOAC (Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre) with Mrs Dharsani, Miss Helen and Mr Savage by coach. They did many activities to develop the skills of teamwork, self-belief, determination & respect. All of our school values!

Caving was one of the most popular activities there since many people found it a challenge, but felt proud when they completed it! A child in Year 6 said: "I wish I could go again!". Most of them thought it was a really fun experience!

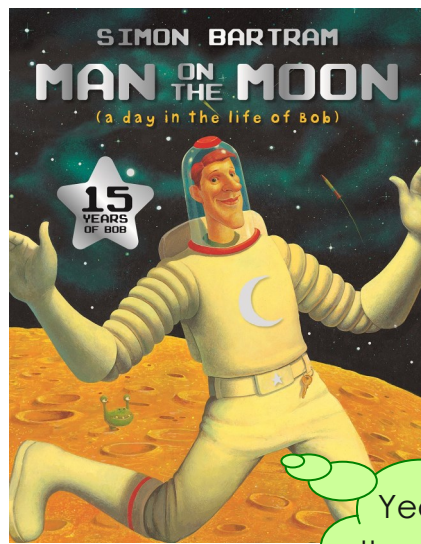
They got to stay for about 6 hours. Year 6 enjoyed it so much that they are looking forward to PGL at the end of the year.

By Noor, Year 5

Year 2

In Woodlands, Year 2 have been learning about significant people and their achievements in history they have done a assembly about this topic . Yusuf said "practicing for the assembly was easy." The assembly included some dancing, art and a song . "Their assembly was full of facts " told Thubishan . Year 2 has also been to the science museum to learn about science. There was lots of inventions to look at, "The engines was my favourite part in the science museum also I learnt lots about them," Shueib explained.

By Jebishan, Year 5



Year 2 book. Man on the Moon! They loved it so much!

Reported by our Young Journalists..



Year 5

During a Science experiment, Year 5 used the following: water, milk, vinegar and washing up liquid to understand how different liquids react.

Here is a quote from one of the participators: "When we mixed the baking soda with vinegar, bubbles appeared which made a cool-looking gas!". Earlier on in the half-term, they also got to participate in a chocolate workshop. They learnt about where it originated from and even got to taste it! In addition, a visitor came in and lead the workshop. Here is a quote from Catalin: "We learnt how chocolate was made. We also got sugar free chocolate and had fun!"

Lots of fun in Year 5 this half-term, they also got to go to the RAF museum. They saw loads of ancient planes which fought in WWII. It was an amazing day and they learnt lots of interesting facts about who fought in WWII and why. Here is a quote from George "We got see so much cool planes and we got to 1 workshop which had somebody being a war-den!"

By Nadif, Year 6

Reported by our Young Journalists...



Very happy with their sticky ice experiment!

Year 1

This half-term, Year 1 went to

Whipsnade zoo where they got to touch some animals and even got to see a bird show! After that, they got to see the lion and the meerkat which was their favourite!

In topic, Year One have been learning about how seasons impact on what we do. In English, Year One have been reading a book called Meerkat Mail which is about a meerkat called Sunny. They have been learning to write a beginning, middle, and end and to write mail to sunny. They did an experiment & did sticky ice! It was like magic! Also, in PE they have been doing balancing and coordination. In maths, they have been learning to read and write from 0 up to 20 and to count back from 20.

By Thubishan, Year 5

Year 4

During this term Year 4 have been learning about London in Topic. Because of this, they will be going on a trip to London next half-term. Hear from the children themselves to see what they are looking forward to seeing...

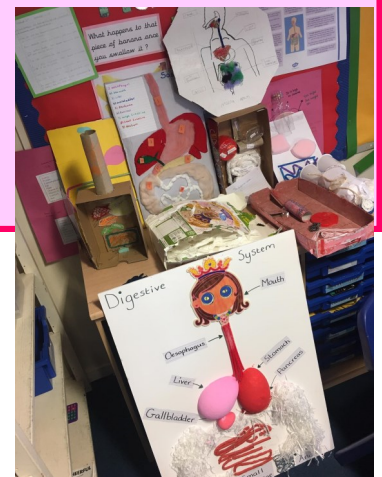
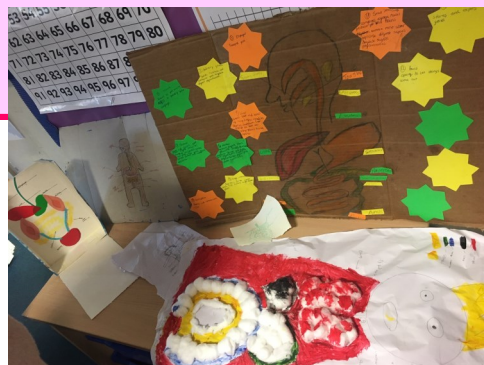
- You can go on the London eye - Anamika
- The Royal family live here - Daawud
- You can take pictures of popular places - Angelika

Their work links to the book that they are reading in English 'The London Mystery.' It is about a mystery in London.

In science they have been learning about the digestive system and what it looks like inside of your body. They also made some models of the human digestive system as part of their home learning project. Here are some images. Don't they

look fantastic? Well done Year 4!

By Aliya, Year 6



Welcome to our new Library!

After months of hard work and determination, teachers & pupils at Woodlands have worked as a team to complete this wonderful space for all to enjoy!

Thank you to all those parents who attended our Parent Forum last year & were a part of generating ideas for our new library.

Pupils are really enjoying attending the Library in their weekly sessions & are taking a new book home every week.

The library is also being used to hold School Council meetings and group learning.

Still to come...

- Computers & tablets to be used for re-search
- New books!
- Some more art work

I would like to introduce to our Library Leaders on the next page...

Thank you from
Mrs Magan



We are the...



Arjun



Tanera



Vida



Ridiola

Our job is to...

Please note... If a school/
library book is lost, a letter
will be sent home
requesting parents to pay
the price of the book. This
is so we can replace it.
Thank you

- Keep the library tidy & organised
- Return books from the Drop Box to the correct place
- Recommend books to other pupils & teachers
- Add missing labels to books.
- Put new books in to the correct categories.
- Listen to others read & read with them.
- Show our library to visitors/parents on event days.
- Speak to teachers about books that have not been returned for a few weeks.
- Suggest new ideas for the library area

When?

During lunchtimes.



Welcome to our new Computer Suite!

We are loving our new computer suite! It has 20 computers and plenty of space for off-line learning to!

We have reminded ourselves of the E-Safety rules & children are now using DB Primary to develop their computer science skills by learning the basics of coding.

Every class uses the computer suite at least once a week. We apply our information technology & digital literacy skills by researching carefully and using information we trust to publish facts in different ways.

We have also hosted parent workshops in the Computer Suite, welcoming Year 6 parents to complete their high school applications using our facilities.

If you have any ideas about further workshops which may be beneficial to you, please inform us via the School Office.

Thank you from Miss Hasker



Be smart on the internet
Childnet International
www.childnet.com

S SAFE Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information – such as your full name, email address, phone number, home address, photos or school name – to people you are chatting with online.

M MEETING Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents' or carers' permission and even then only when they can be present.

A ACCEPTING Accepting emails, IM messages, or opening files, pictures or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain viruses or nasty messages!

R RELIABLE Information you find on the internet may not be true, or someone online may be lying about who they are.

T TELL Tell your parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone or something makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online. You can report online abuse to the police at www.thinkuknow.co.uk

www.kidsmart.org.uk
Visit Childnet's Kidsmart website to play interactive games and test your online safety knowledge. You can also share your favourite websites and online safety tips by Joining Hands with people all around the world.

KidSMART

Bug Club

Spellodrome

All of the online learning platforms we use for learning at Woodlands...

Mathletics

db primary

Our new & improved CURRICULUM...

This year, we have adapted our curriculum so that it is:

- More personalised to our pupils
- Fun & engaging
- gives our pupils a challenge question to solve
- encourages cross-curricular learning
- more challenge for all our pupils
- more enrichment opportunities so that pupils are engaged throughout (Wow Days & Fantastic Finish days)
- development of skills in all subject areas.

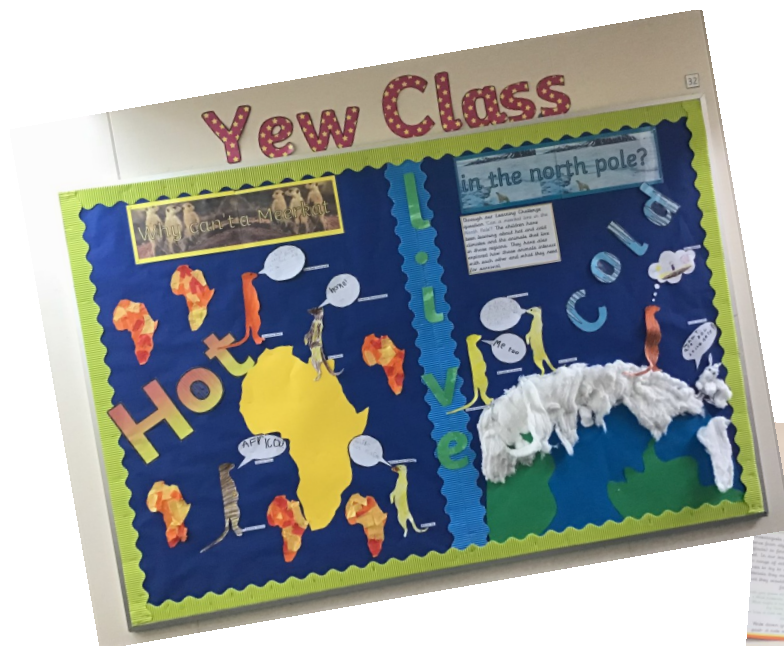
It is called the 'Woodlands Learning Challenge Curriculum'. Pupils are presented with **big learning question for every half-term** which they will go on a journey to answer.

Reading is important so they will continue to learn through a core reading text which also links in to their challenge.

History & Geography are usually the key drivers and all other subjects are taught through this.

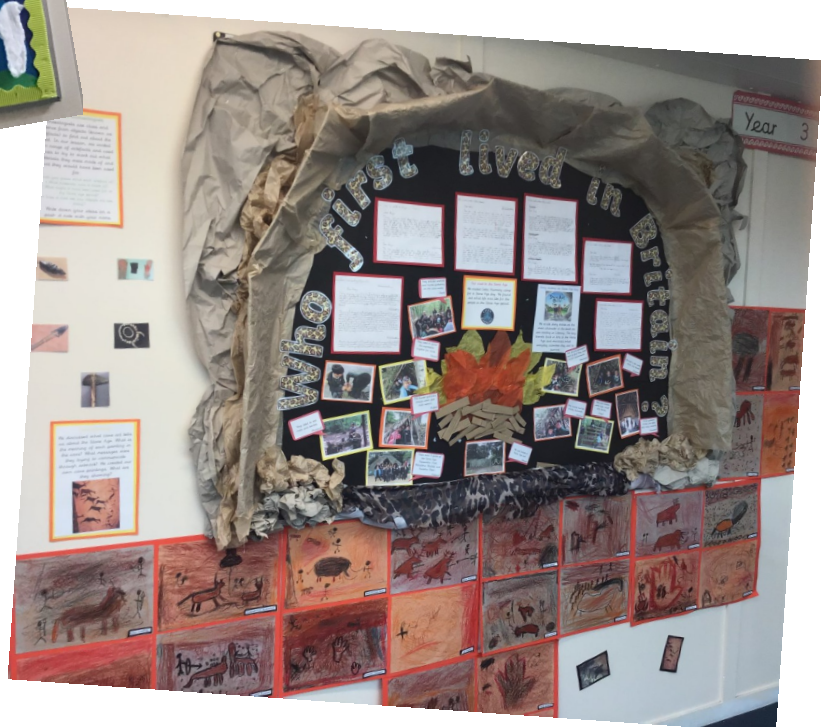
We have also started weekly French lessons and have our specialist Music Teacher in twice a week.

At Woodlands we pride ourselves in providing a broad & balanced curriculum.

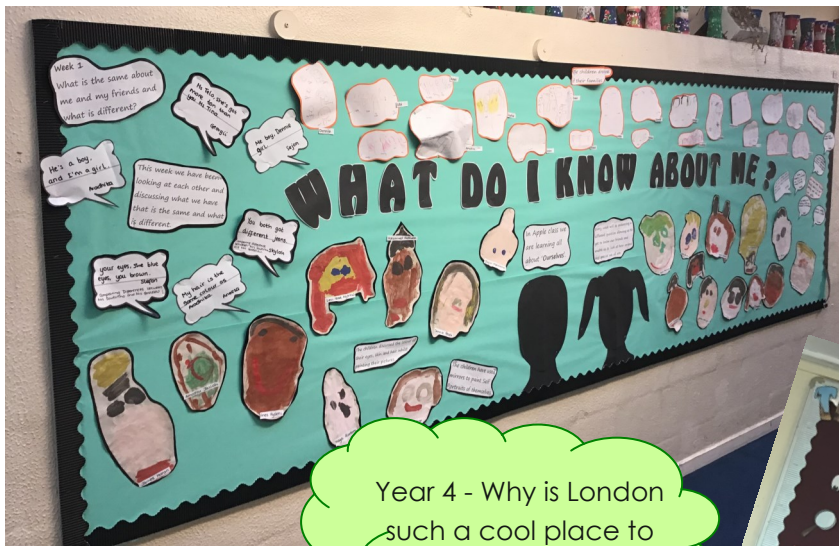


Year 1—Why can't Meerkats live in the North Pole?

Year 3 - Who first lived in Britain?



Our new & improved CURRICULUM...

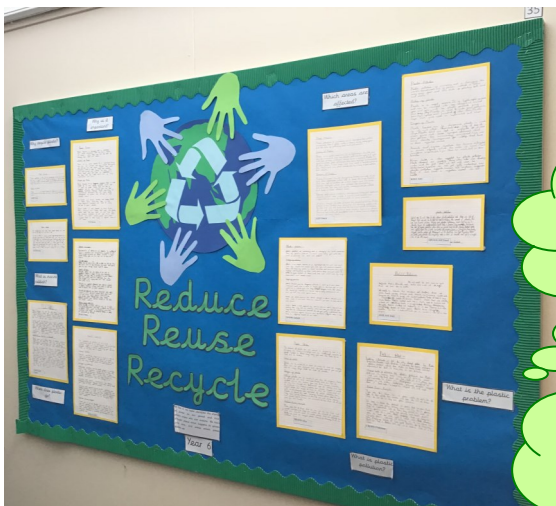


Reception - What do I know about me?

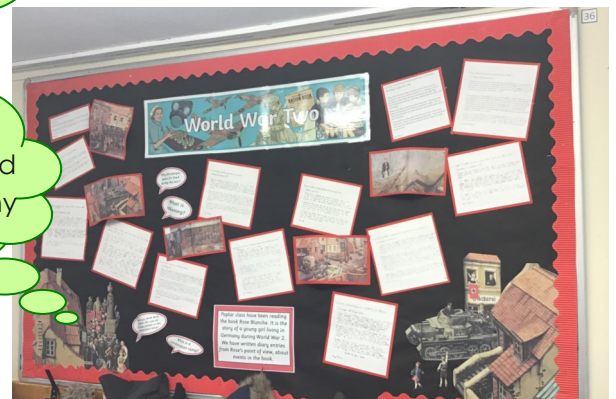
Year 4 - Why is London such a cool place to live?



Year 6—Are we destroying our planet?



Year 5 - How could Hitler have convinced a nation like Germany to follow him?



Nursery - Who lives in my house?

Year 2—Why were Christopher Columbus & Neil Armstrong brave people?

