

Friday 20th November 2020



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been strange in school this week without Year 4, we will be very glad to welcome them back after their two week isolation period. The young person initially affected was asymptomatic and continues to be well which is good news. We wish all our Y4 family group good health during this time and of course we hope they are working very hard! The learning is directly linked to their Year 4 curriculum so there are no excuses! We sincerely hope that all our very effective control systems in school, which have grown increasingly rigorous, ensure that the virus does not spread in this family group.

Covid-19 is gaining strength in our wider Short Heath Community as we hear how many of our families are affected by this awful virus. We wish all our families best wishes and good health at this time.

However, this means we need our parents help to ensure we restrict the entry of Covid-19 into our school. I am very grateful to two parents in two different family groups who responded very quickly to changes in their family during the past two weeks. They chose to not send their children into school from the beginning. In one situation a family member began to feel unwell and so the parents kept their other child at home, in the other situation their child in Reception was slightly off colour and again, they kept their child at home. Both families ultimately discovered it was Covid, but they kept two different year groups completely safe by their precautionary actions.

**So many of our families have responded to household illness in this precautionary way.
Thank you to your families from all of us at Woodlands.**

Please remember that It is absolutely essential that if any person in your family begins to feel unwell that you DO NOT send any of your children into school.

If any person in your household is considering going for a test, even on the off chance, then DO NOT send any of your children into school.

If you do send your children into school then you risk 60 children and 3 members of staff being put into isolation for two weeks.

It is our aim to enable our children to attend school and this approach will help us to do this.

It is becoming apparent that covid-19 can start as a cold; a sore throat or a bunged up nose as well as the main symptoms of a temperature; a new continuous cough or a loss of sense of smell or taste.

At this time I would be wary of any illness in your household. This time will pass; but do keep your distance, sanitise regularly and wear a face covering. These simple actions will help us all.

We send love and best wishes to you and your wider families, Mrs Newton and the Woodlands Family

Is the weather on the change? The windows are open in school to enable good ventilation but the heating continues to keep us warm. It is still at a good temperature in school at the moment but I sense this may be short lived.

A layer underneath your child's uniform will help and when the temperature begins to fall you may want your child to bring in an extra top layer such as a fleece or tracksuit jacket that they can put over the top of their uniform.

Birthday party afternoons this week**23.11.20**

We will have birthday parties in each classroom on one afternoon during this week (mainly Friday 27th) Children attend in normal uniform for that day and they do not need to bring anything with them. There will be fun and games!

Order children's Christmas lunch by 27.11.20 (Children who are entitled to a FSM do not need to order or pay for the lunch.

Christmas lunch for the children	9.12.20
Core subject reports for Y2, Y5 and Y6 to come home	11.12.20
Assessment summaries for all other year groups to come home	11.12.20
Christmas Jumper Day (and Christmas accessories) with school uniform	18.12.20
Break Up for Christmas	18.12.20
Staff training day, no children	4.1.2021
Children back in school	5.1.2021



These are the children that earned: **Star Of The Week. SUPERSTARS!**

Class	Name	Reason
RB	Luca S	For making a phenomenal improvement to his pencil grip! Luca has worked so hard in school and at home and it is really starting to show in his writing! Amazing! Keep up the brilliant work Luca!
RP	Peighton G	For making fantastic progress with both her reading and writing. Peighton joins in confidently with class discussions and applies her learning independently in learning labs.
1P	Lily-Mae S	For fantastic maths work. Lilly-Mai used lots of different methods to add and subtract and even tried to do numbers up to 20! Well done 😊
1S	Sophie P	For fantastic science knowledge! Sophie was confidently able to describe how we know if an animal is vertebrate or an invertebrate and name animals for each category! Well done!
2B	Lacie B	For being a positive role model for behaviour in the learning room and for volunteering to support another child with their learning.
2CP	Amber H	For using her computer skills at home to create a powerpoint about the Gruffalo using copy and paste.
3E	Rhys D	For showing a growth mindset attitude towards his learning. Rhys perseveres with his learning even when it gets really tricky. Well done Rhys. Your brain will get so much stronger with this attitude towards your learning.
3R	Nathaniel K	For excellent maths work. Nathaniel works with enthusiasm and can explain how he reaches his answers. Well done.
5M	Mia Y	For excellent work and contributions during our brand new learning – relative clauses. I am looking forward to seeing these in your writing. Well done Mia!
5G	Olivia W	For a great performance read of A Tragic Story. You used your volume and tone well to express meaning. You even added actions. Well done.
6E	Alfie H	For fantastic writing on The Piano. Excellent vocabulary choices and wonderful enthusiasm. Well done. Alfie.
6C	Oliver R	For fantastic learning in science. He has shown a super level of understanding of parallel and series circuits. Well done Oliver.



Mrs Macpherson and I have put our feet up this week and had a cup of tea as our children have led the daily assemblies for each family group

Remembrance Day in 1P

1P should feel very proud as they taught us about the importance of Remembrance Day in their class assembly. They were fantastic, remembering their lines and holding beautiful poppies that were created by Danielle and her Dad. 1P parents will be able to access the filmed assembly shortly through a QR code. I am sure you will enjoy the performance



A Star Sheriffs

A Star Sheriffs Cole Y, Ashante G, Alex H and Evie H from Year 5, came along to our assemblies this week with a wonderful powerpoint presentation and confident presenting skills. They reminded children about the best ways to stay safe when out and about during the dark winter months.

They also encouraged children to take part in a special competition, to design a rucksack that would be clearly seen in the dark, by road users. The closing date for entries is Friday 27th November. So, time to get the crayons out. Wonderful job A Star Sheriffs! Mrs Macpherson

Authors in Y2

As part of their English Lessons, Y2 entered a competition called 'An Acrostic for You' which was promoted by Young Writers and involved our children thinking about something or someone that was special to them.

Last week, Y2 heard that 39 children had been selected to have their poem published in a book called 'An Acrostic for you -Poetic Stars' which will be published in January.

This is incredible because there were 4000 entries nationwide. Wow Y2! Our children's entries were selected based on their imagination, creativity, originality and use of language. I cannot wait to read the book!



Parent Governor Vacancy

Would you be interested in becoming a Parent Governor in order to make a difference to the development of our school community? If so, then please contact the school for a nomination form via postbox@woodlands.walsall.sch.uk.

All nomination forms would need to be submitted by Friday 27th November 2020.