



Woodhouse Academy

Spring 2
2016

Newsletter

Attendance:

Our whole school attendance is currently at 96.85%

We would like to thank all parents and carers for your support throughout the year with attendance.

**Good Players
Inspire Themselves
Great Players
Inspire Others**

The playground leaders in operation at break time and lunchtime are doing a super job. Well done to Joe Heath, Mathew Beardmore, Nathan Cleaver, Callum

McMillan and Rob Hubbard. They are taking charge of the football games with maturity and proficiency and having such a great presence. The students in key stage two have responded really well to this recent change and are all trying to demonstrate good football skills and sportsmanship to earn themselves the accolade of man of the match. Well done to all—keep up the good work.

Clive Mark

Clive Mark are holding a 20% discount offer from 2nd—9th April at their Newcastle store.

Peer mentors - The peer mentors continue to do sterling work with all of our Y5 students. Peer mentor clubs, running twice weekly are still packed to the rafters with students socialising through board games and table top games. Additionally the peer mentors offer outside games each lunchtime for all Y5, ranging from skipping to 'bop it'. A fun way to spend lunchtimes. A big thank you to all peer mentors. Without your help this would not be possible.

Ancient Greece arrives at Woodhouse—The pupils in year 6 have been experiencing a little bit of Greece this week. As well as tasting humous, pitta break, tzatsiki, black olives and red onion (some of the faces pulled were quite a picture!), the children have been discussing how the Ancient Greeks sourced their food and what food is still eaten now.

Forthcoming Events—Parent Forum

Thursday 21st April—4-5pm

E-Safety presentation by Mr Reynolds

A chance to find out what we teach the pupils about e-safety.

Monday 25th April—4-5pm

Fractions with Mr Williams

Come and join in a maths workshop with Mr Williams and take the fear out of fractions. This will be especially useful for year 6 pupils preparing for SATs but everyone is welcome.

If anyone has any other suggestions for future workshops that they would like to see in school, please contact the school office either via email or phone.

Health and Wellbeing—At Woodhouse we are concerned about the growing number of pupils bringing unhealthy snacks and lunches into school. This includes pupils buying sugary foods and drinks on the way to and from school.

Please read the leaflet and letter emailed home and on our website about our Health and Wellbeing promotion, with lots of ideas for healthy snacks and lunch boxes and information about healthy changes to school meals. We believe with your support we can improve the health and wellbeing of all our children. Together we can teach them healthy habits that last a lifetime. Please note that from the beginning of the Summer term, snacks should not include crisps, sweets or chocolate, pupils will not be allowed to eat them at breaktime.

Uniform Reminders

Girls' trousers—these should be tailored, not tight fitting.

Shoes—Can all children please wear sensible leather shoes. Canvas shoes are not safe when doing DT/cooking and let in water in wet weather.



Congleton Rugby Club—are recruiting. The Congleton Bears cater for all children wanting to play rugby and offer teams from Under 7s through to Under 16s. If you are interested in joining please either visit their website: www.pitchero.com/clubs/Congleton or email: congletonbearsrugby@gmail.com

Science Department News—We have been very busy in the science department this half term. In February 40 of our top scientists went to Keele University for a session in their sustainability hub. They used data logging equipment to study environmental issues, including the effects of gritting roads and soil salinity, and the effects of sunscreens on light levels in sea water. They also tested the acidity of water samples and had fun removing a chocolate oil spill from water—a very messy experience! During the morning students from the university also took the pupils on a campus tour—hopefully inspiring them for the future!

More recently, we have been celebrating British Science Week. Pupils have done quizzes and activities on the theme of space—not just outer space but five different space themes. We also held 'Demo Days', where pupils planned and demonstrated experiments to their class. Popular experiments included coke and mentos, acid and alkali volcanoes and static electricity. One group even demonstrated how to dissect a fish!

We are holding a poster competition, where children have to produce a poster based on something they have done over science week. Extra activities to try at home and details of the rules of the poster competition can be found at www.britishscienceweek.org. Posters need to be brought into school on the first day back after Easter.

Humanities News—

In our Y7 & 8 Aspire afternoon we learnt about WW2 and the atomic bomb that hit Japan. We also had some students from Biddulph High School visit to help out on the afternoon. The first thing we did was watch several videos about the bomb. After that we had a debate about whether the Americans should have dropped the bomb on Japan or not. I enjoyed the afternoon and I learnt a lot about the atomic bomb. - Hannan Salmona 8d

In the Titanic afternoon we learnt a lot of things that we hadn't known before. We had to work in groups to decide who was at fault. When we had made our decision we went up in front of the class to tell them what we thought and justify our opinion. Overall I really enjoyed it and I learnt a lot more about the Titanic. - Harvey Washington 6t

Potteries Museum Visit—On 10th March, Mrs Palin and Mrs Barry took a group of 8 boys from Y7 & 8 to the Potteries in Hanley. They were able to visit all the galleries. The boys found the Staffordshire Hoard, with Anglo-Saxon relics and artefact very interesting. They were able try on a helmet and shield and sit on a replica throne. They found out that boys of their age would be trained to fight and take part in real battles! The boys' favourite gallery was where the Spitfire was displayed. They were surprised that Reginald Mitchell, the inventor, came from Stoke and that there are still 55 Spitfires in the world that can fly! 'This was an awesome trip. I loved it',

Fusion Project— Following on from the very successful combination of dance and the Woodhouse choir at the Christmas concert, it was decided that we would put on an even more adventurous show entitled 'The Fusion Project'. Parents and Y5 children were treated to African dance and drumming, two items from musical theatre for chorus and dance, and a Japanese drumming and vocal piece. It has been very exciting for all involved and we hope it has laid the foundations for even more art projects. We would like to say a huge thank you to Miss Condliffe, Mr Kirkham and Mrs Bowers for their help in organising the event along with all those who participated in making it an amazing afternoon.

Y7 & Y8 Netball—Well done to all of the girls who have represented Woodhouse in this year’s netball season. For the year 7’s it was their first time competing against all 7 schools across the district. They played some fantastic netball and worked exceptionally well as a team. They came a very respectable 4th in the league and 3rd in the district tournament. The year 8’s have had an exceptional season. Following their success last year in the district, they set themselves high standards and did not disappoint. They finished runners up in the league and tournament, narrowly missing out on first by 1 point. They have been a pleasure to coach over the last 3 years and I hope they will continue playing when they reach the high school.

The teams: Y7: Olivia Smith (Captain), Katie Maxwell, Natasha Sandbach, Niamh Cornwell, Millie Crawford, Freja Bainbridge, Anna Veloni, Stephannie Ball.

Y8: Alisha McCue, Lucy Percival, Lacey Hanley, Isobella Chivers, Zara Anthony. Alice Agnew, Madison Cornwell (Captain), Sinead Burnham, Ellie Yoxall, Charlotte Coombes, Millie Machin, Chloe Fearn.

Y5 & Y6 Netball—This half term saw the start of the year 5 & 6 netball season. Well done and thank you to all of the girls who represented the school; you did yourselves and the school proud! On Tuesday 22nd March the year 5 & 6 teams competed against St Edwards, Churnet View and James Bateman in the district tournament. The year 6A team came up against some tough competition but managed to earn themselves a win and a draw in the matches they played, finishing overall in 3rd position. For the year 5A team it was their first time representing the school and they rose to the challenge! They won 2 games and drew against St Edwards. They finished on the same points as St Edwards but narrowly missed out on first position by goal difference! To finish in 2nd position in your first tournament is a fantastic achievement, well done girls!

The teams:

Y5: Summer Lawton, Mary Roberts, Niamh McQuade, Sacha Bailey, Leah Shaw, Jeanine Ball (Captain), Coco Farrall – Hadley.

Y6: Tilly Bradbury, Jessica Bailey, Ruby Sagar, Madison Hawthorne (Captain), Sophie Baker, Lauren Collins, Ruby Price, Lexy Pointon.

Orienteering Championships

Well done to the 50 students, from across the school, who competed in the Staffordshire Schools Orienteering Championships on Thursday 17th March 2016. The pupils had a fantastic day and got the opportunity to showcase their orienteering skills on a larger scale course at Hanley Forest Park. A special mention to Niamh McQuade and Sacha Bailey, both in year 5, who finished in bronze position overall in their age category. Well done girls.

Inspire 2016

Good luck to the 50 dancers who will be performing at the Victoria Theatre as part of the Inspire 2016 dance show on Thursday 24th March. Thank you to the dance leaders from BHS who have taught our students since January.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS	Lunch time 1:15pm – 1:45 pm Cricket Year 5+6 		Rounders Year 5+6 Boys and girls 	Rounders Year 7+8 Boys and girls 	
	After school 3:35pm – 4:35 pm Bubble Football 	Street Dance Victoria Condliffe 	Athletics Year 7+8 	Athletics Year 7+8 AND Year 7+8 Cricket 	

Planners—We have been reviewing planners this half term in order to improve their use and wanted you to know the following:

- We will ensure that form tutors check and sign planners once a week. We will let you know the check day each half-term so that you can sign the planners ready for the weekly check. (Form time activities and assemblies change each half term and so planners cannot be checked the same day all year.
- If you need school to take action or respond to a message between planner checks, please email or ring the school office. (Often children don’t remember to show their planners to their tutors and messages therefore arrive too late.)

Y5—Tuesday,
Y7 & 8—Thursday,
Y6—Friday