



Woodlands Weekly



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Junior School Newsletter No 17

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I was very pleased with the superb quality of the Headteacher Question of the Term responses before Christmas. At the end of the newsletter you will see the new question – I can't wait to see what will be coming my way.....

Reading Workshop (17th January)

We were treated to an excellent evening on Tuesday by the literacy team. All those who attended went home with lots of ideas and renewed enthusiasm for reading. The only disappointment was that there were not more parents attending. Mr Grey has kindly allowed me to print part of a letter he wrote to the school following the evening:

I am writing to say thank you to you and your staff for the informative presentation this evening.

I have to admit I was a little skeptical that I would gain anything from attending. I am so pleased I was convinced to come and listen. I found the teachers' enthusiasm and obvious pleasure at being able to share with the parents that attended how to stimulate our children's interest in reading inspirational. The information provided was clear concise and invaluable. I learned how to stimulate interest, to test their comprehension and fluency amongst many other useful hints and ideas. I will certainly be trying many of the methods outlined and I hope this will encourage both my sons to enjoy reading as much as I did as a child.

I am sure that those who attended have learned a great deal which will be of benefit. Unfortunately I do not have any sure fire way of stimulating other parents and carers to attend but I am happy for you to include this in the weekly newsletter to tell people just how useful these events are and of course to reiterate that the staff made the effort to stay late to impart their substantial knowledge for the benefit of our children. I am still in awe of the presentation and passion of the teachers and yourself for this important subject. I will be telling other parents how useful I found this in the hope they will attend other topics you present.

Thank you again for the time and effort that everyone put in.

We will be running the evening again later in the term and hope that even more of you will be able to come.

If the timing of the event prevented you from coming this time, please drop an e-mail to the School Office suggesting a better time of day and we will do our very best to arrange it so that as many parents as possible can come.

Athletics at the Angel Centre

Miss Tye and 19 children from Years 5 & 6 were at the Angel Centre yesterday afternoon participating in the Kent Schools Sports Hall Athletics competition. We are very proud to announce that they were awarded first place and will be going on to represent this area in the Kent Finals. Well done to all who took part – an excellent achievement.

Cookery Club Report from Hannah and Erin

This week we made a pasta salad. The ingredients we used were pasta, ham blocks, red pepper, cheese, green pepper, pesto. Remember to wash your hands. 1) We got the pasta and put it in a bowl. Then you should put in the ham blocks. 2) Put in the red and green pepper. Then the cheese. 3) Put in the pesto and mix well. Then enjoy! Alternatively you could make this with rice or any other salad or vegetables. Try tuna instead of ham!

Christmas Production DVDs

We shall be placing our final order for Christmas DVDs on Friday 27th January. If you would like to order a copy, please collect an order form from the School Office.



Superstar Corner

Just before Christmas, Sam Williams took part in the Tonbridge and District U10 Cricket Trials. He has just been told that he was successful and will be a full team member this year. Congratulations Sam!

Kent Schools Swimming Association

If your child is interested in taking part in the KSSA Championships (for which the qualifiers take place on 3rd March), one of our parents is kindly offering to co-ordinate entries so please contact him at

alan.crewe@axa-ppp.co.uk or 07974 832693. The registration deadline is the end of January so don't delay, act today! Information is available at the KSSA website www.kssa.sports.officelive.com or from the school office. There are 13 races open to Woodlands age children: 4 boys and 4 girls individual events; 2 boys and 2 girls relays and 1 mixed relay. Children must be 7 years old and under 11 on 31st August for the individual events and the mixed relay. For all but one of the relays, they must be between 9 and 11 years old. The top 6 swimmers from each qualifying session gain entry to the finals on 24th March.

Toy Sale

Don't forget Joshua's forthcoming Toy Sale at Tonbridge Methodist Church on Saturday 28th January (from 10 am to 12 noon) in aid of Fundo School, Uganda and Medina Angaleh School in Gambia (both linked with Woodlands Junior School). If you can help him stock up with unwanted toys or books, please contact the Methodist Church (Marie-Anne Kent) on 368183 or at makent@sky.com

Half Term Trampoline Training Camp

7Oaks Acorns Trampoline Club are running a Trampoline Camp at Hayesbrook School from 10am to 3 pm on 17th February. Everyone is welcome but numbers are limited so please call Ian Rainbow on 01732 505919 or 07740 300079 to book a place.

And Finally.....

If you're as hooked on Brian Cox's star-gazing programmes as I am, you'll be hoping for some lovely clear skies this weekend. I wonder if any of the children can spot 'Orion' before I can.....

Mary Priestley
Headteacher

Diary Dates

24 th January	5B Class Assembly
7 th February	4BF Class Assembly
10 th February	End of Term
20 th February	Inset Day
21 st February	Term Starts
16 th March	Spring Disco
20 th March	3N Class Assembly
30 th March	End of Term
16 th April	Inset Day
17 th April	Term Starts
1 st May	5T Class Assembly
29 th May	4K Class Assembly
1 st June	End of Term
11 th June	Term Starts
25 th – 29 th June	Y6 Trip to Isle of Wight
26 th June	3RW Class Assembly
6 th July	Sports Day
7 th July	Summer Fair
13 th July	Summer Disco
19 th July	Leavers' BBQ (Y6)
20 th July	End of Term
4 th September 2012	Term Starts
26 th October	End of Term
5 th November	Term Starts
21 st December	End of Term
7 th January 2013	Term Starts
15 th February	Term Ends
25 th February	Term Starts
28 th March	Term Ends
15 th April	Term Starts
6 th May	Bank Holiday
24 th May	Term Ends
3 rd June	Term Starts
24 th July	Term Ends
3 rd September 2013	Term Starts

******* Headteacher's Question of the Term - January 2012 *******

The theme for the second question this year is 'Transport'.

If you are unsure where to start, the following themes may help to focus your ideas:

- What types of horse-drawn vehicles can you find out about?
- Trains - the first train, steam locomotives, high speed trains;
- Aeroplanes - the first flight, spy planes, sea planes;
- Hot-air Balloons - find out about the longest balloon journey or the first balloon flight;
- The first car - who invented it, what did it look like?
- What do you think future travel machines may look like - design your own model;
- Submarines - what does the inside of a submarine look like, how do they work?

Present your findings in an exciting and eye-catching way. Surprise me...

- Make a model
- Write a leaflet
- Design a poster
- Use lego, papier mache, or clay

Hand to me by Wednesday 21st March (so certificates can be written before the end of Term 4). Thank you!

