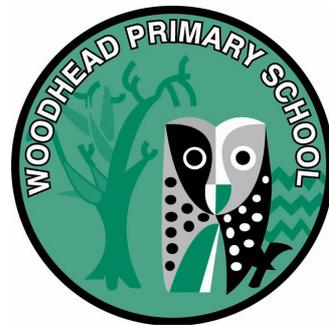


Woodhead Primary School

# Newsletter

August 2018



## Head Teacher's Message

Welcome to the August 2018 edition of the Woodhead Newsletter. I hope you have had a wonderful summer break.

It is lovely to see all of the children back in school, looking very smart in their school uniform and sharing all of their news about the holidays. I'd like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all new members of the school community; pupils, staff and parents/carers.

The beginning of term is a time of change and new experiences. While the majority of the pupils will make these transitions smoothly, please speak to a member of the team if you have any concerns about your child. We are here to help.

It is very important to me that every member of the Woodhead family; pupils, parents and staff alike, feel their voice is heard in matters of school life and school improvement. As part of this, staff participated in self-evaluation activities in the May 2018 inservice day. All pupils from P3-7 participated in a school evaluation activity during a learning assembly and all parents who attended Parents' evenings in May were invited to complete a School Improvement Questionnaire.

The collated results from these have been uploaded to the school website and have been used to inform the School Improvement Plan for 2018/19.

If you have any other ideas, questions or comments about how we can make Woodhead an even better school than it already is, I would be delighted to hear them. Please do not hesitate to contact the school using the details below or complete the tear-off slip at the end of this newsletter and pop it in your child's homework diary.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Mr. Scott Clark (Head Teacher).

### Twitter

@woodheadprimary

### Phone

01698 457669

### Website

[www.woodhead-primary.org.uk](http://www.woodhead-primary.org.uk)

### Email

[gw14woodheadpsoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14woodheadpsoffice@glow.sch.uk)

## New Depute Head Teacher

At the end of term, Mrs. Colette Watson was appointed as the second permanent Depute Head Teacher. She will hopefully join the team around the middle of October once she has worked her notice period to Glasgow City Council.

Once Mrs. Watson arrives, the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) will comprise of:

- Mr. Scott Clark: Head Teacher
- Mrs. Claire Fox: Depute Head Teacher
- Mrs. Colette Watson: Depute Head Teacher
- Mrs. Myra McCleneghen: Principal Teacher

For now, Mrs. McCleneghen will continue to fulfill the acting DHT remit.

## Staffing Update

At the end of term, we wished Mrs. Marie McCluskey a fond farewell following 14 years of service to Woodhead Primary as Support Assistant. She goes with our best wishes for a long, healthy and happy (early) retirement. The local authority have appointed Mrs. Clare Welby to the vacancy and she will join us in the next few weeks.

Mrs. Mackie is currently absent from school and P6/7 will be taught by Mrs. Victoria McPhee until Mrs. Mackie's return.

A copy of the staff list for 2017/18 has been included with this newsletter and is also available on the school website at <http://bit.ly/woodheadstaff>

## Car Park

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding with the changes to car park access due to the commencement of the extension work. Please remember that parents/carers will not be permitted access to the car park for drop-off/pick up of pupils until further notice. Please do not attempt to enter the car park at the start/end of the school day, even if the gate is open and unattended.

## Pupil Pickup

Please ensure your child knows where to meet you at the end of the day or what the arrangements are for walking home. Parents/Carers (or other relatives collecting children) are allowed into the playground but are asked to wait well back from the pupil doors and windows and **not to look/wave in classroom windows.**

## General start of the year reminders

### IMPORTANT ALLERGY INFORMATION

Members of our school community have severe allergies to some food items, therefore the following are not allowed in school:

- peanuts or products which may contain peanuts
- tree nuts – such as walnuts, brazil nuts, almonds and hazelnuts etc.

*\* Please note that this includes most chocolate spreads, Nutella products and Kinder Bueno.*

This applies to all pupils, staff and visitors

### Lost Property

Please assist in preventing items of school uniform being lost or misplaced by labelling all items of clothing, footwear, bags and packed lunches with the child's name.

### PE Lessons

Included with this newsletter is a copy of the school PE timetable. Please ensure children come to school with appropriate gym clothes – plain dark shorts, plain white t-shirt and suitable shoes or plimsols. All children will take part in a minimum two hours quality PE per week. If your child is unable to participate, please inform the class teacher in writing. Please remember that all jewellery should be removed for PE lessons.

### Indoor Shoes

Children are required to change into suitable indoor footwear at school. Black plimsols are preferable. Indoor shoes that no longer fit or are 'past their best' will be sent home to let parents know they are no longer suitable.

### Water Bottles

Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school every day and to keep hydrated during lessons. Only water is permitted during class time. Children should take their bottle home each night to be washed. It is recommended that bottles be 'BPA Free' or 'PET Free' and that they are washed with soapy water each night.

**The re-use of disposable water bottles is not recommended.** Children may bring metal water bottles and flasks to school, but glass bottles are not permitted.

### **Fizzy Drinks**

Cans and bottles of carbonated drinks, including energy drinks are not permitted in school.

### **Mobile Telephones**

Pupils are discouraged from bringing their mobile devices to school however, if they require them for after school, they must remain switched off and in school bags at all times in line with our Mobile Technologies policy. Children are not permitted to bring any other personal electronic devices to school.

### **Dogs**

A reminder that only guide/assistance dogs are allowed into the school grounds to ensure the safety of all members of the school community.

### **Cycling to School**

Children are encouraged to cycle or scoot to school. Children are recommended to wear a suitable helmet and reflective clothing and must dismount their bike in the playground and push it to the bike rack. The school cannot accept responsibility for any loss or damage to bikes/scooters etc. while on school property. Electric scooters and 'hover boards' etc. are not permitted.

### **Medical Information**

Please inform the office staff of any medical conditions that may affect your child in school. If your child requires prescribed medication during the school day, please discuss this with a member of office or management staff. Children are not permitted to have any medication in school without the completion of a medical administration form. Medicines should not be sent to school in pupil bags.

### **Sickness and diarrhoea**

Children experiencing these symptoms should not return to school for 48 hours following the last period of sickness/diarrhoea

### **Annual Data Check**

In the coming days, Annual Data Check forms will be sent home. Please check that the contact details and emergency contacts are correct and up-to-date. All forms must be signed and returned, with any changes noted on them. It is important that the school holds the most up-to-date information for the children in case of emergency.

Please also complete and return the photograph consent form which will allow us to start sharing photographs of children as they work and learn.

## Establishment Improvement Plan 2018/19

For the second year, the focus of our curriculum improvement work will be on Literacy, with a focus on further improving pupil attainment through the implementation of the NLC approach to Active Literacy.

We will also continue to develop our approaches to nurture and pupil wellbeing and further develop our parental engagement and community involvement.

As part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge, we will continue to seek opportunities to offer targeted support to specific groups of children who may need additional support or resources to achieve and attain. Find out about the Attainment Challenge at <https://education.gov.scot/what-we-do/delivering-the-scottish-attainment-challenge>

The priorities for school improvement this year are:

**Strategic Priority 1:** Improve attainment in Literacy - continue to improve attainment in Reading and Writing through implementation of Active Literacy NLC.

**Strategic Priority 2:** Improve pupil health and wellbeing by developing programmes of Family Learning and community engagement and play-based early learning approaches.

**Strategic Priority 3:** Continue to close any attainment gap by identifying targeting intervention to pupils focussed on literacy, numeracy, health & wellbeing.

### Flu Vaccination Programme

Children in Primary 1-7 are once again being offered Flu Immunisation in school. Information and consent forms will be sent home when they arrive in school. At Woodhead Primary School, eligible pupils in Primary 1-7 will be given the vaccine on 31st October 2018.

More information about the programme can be found at <https://www.nhsinform.scot/healthy-living/immunisation/vaccines/child-flu-vaccine#primary-school-children>

An information leaflet can be downloaded at <http://bit.ly/flu vaccine2018>

## Learning Through Play in Primary One

Play is a very important stage of learning for all children. It allows them to explore and understand the world through role-play, imagination, and 'rehearsal' of real events. It encourages the development of social skills, turn taking, sharing and also improves vocabulary

At Woodhead, we integrate play into the Primary 1 experience. Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Waddell and Miss Casey, our P1 Teachers, have planned and organised their classroom environment to promote an active learning approach and children have regular opportunities to engage in play-based learning.

The core skills of 'reading, writing and arithmetic' are still at the heart of the curriculum for P1 learners and, by working in a stimulating and motivating classroom environment, children can explore literacy and numeracy in contexts that are relevant, engaging and fun.

Play based learning also allows children to work in small groups and one to one with their class teacher more often. Through a 'teaching activity', children will be introduced to spelling, phonological awareness, numbers, counting etc.

Please visit our school website and Twitter feed regularly throughout the year to follow the progress of Primary 1 and our play-based approach to learning.

## Reporting to Parents

Following feedback from parents/carers, we have made some improvements to our 'reporting to parents' procedures. We will now provide four opportunities for parents/carers to be able to learn about pupil achievements and next steps (one per term) and have planned for these to be much earlier in the school year.

- **Term 1 (Aug-Oct):** An informal 'Meet the Teacher' event where pupil individual learning targets will be shared (*This will replace written Interim Reports*)
- **Term 2 (Oct to Dec):** Parental Consultation meeting (Parent's Evening) to meet and discuss pupil progress with class teachers.
- **Term 3 (Jan to March):** A second Parental Consultation meeting (Parent's Evening) to meet and discuss pupil progress since Term 2 with class teachers.
- **Term 4 (April to June):** A formal, written report outlining overall progress made in pupil learning this year and any planned next steps for the remaining term/next year.

Planned dates for each of these events are outlined in the Annual Calendar issued with this newsletter.

## Upcoming Diary Dates

Date	Event
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> August 2018	Triathlon Event (Larkhall Leisure Centre) for some pupils.
Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	Lockerbie Manor Information Meeting for P7 parents (6pm)
Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	Parent Council and PTA Joint Meeting (6.30pm-8.30pm)
WB 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	Scottish Maths Week
17 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	P7s attending Lockerbie Manor Residential Outing
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> September 2018	School closed for September long weekend.
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	School closed for September long weekend.
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	'Meet the Teacher' Event – Time tbc
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2018	Parent Council/PTA Meeting (7pm-8.30pm)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2018	Primary 7 and 6/7 Assembly/Learning Showcase (9.30am)
15 <sup>th</sup> -19 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	School closed for October Week Holiday
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	Primary 5 Assembly/Learning Showcase (9.30am)
Thu 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	P1-3 Hallowe'en Disco (6.15pm-7.15pm)
Thu 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	P4-7 Hallowe'en Disco (7.30pm-8.45pm)
Tue 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2018	P1-7 Flu Vaccinations
WB 5 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	STEM Focus Week
Tue 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Parent Council/PTA Meeting (7pm-8.30pm)
Tue 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Parent Consultation Meetings (6pm-8pm)
Thu 15 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Parent Consultation Meetings (3.30pm-5.30pm)
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	INSET DAY 3 (School closed to pupils)
Tue 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Parent Council/PTA Meeting (7pm-8.30pm)
Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2018	Primary 2/3 Assembly/Learning Showcase (9.30am)
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Primary 5 Assembly/Learning Showcase (9.30am)
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	Primary 4 Assembly/Learning Showcase (9.30am)
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2018	PTA Christmas Fayre (6pm-8pm)
Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Pantomime for P1-7 (Visiting school)
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2018	Christmas Jumper Day
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2018	P3a and P3b Assembly/Learning Showcase (9.30am)

All dates are correct at the time of writing and are subject to change.

## Keeping in Touch

Our main method of communication continues to be the school Twitter account, which can be accessed at [www.twitter.com/woodheadprimary](http://www.twitter.com/woodheadprimary). It is not necessary to have a Twitter account to view the page. If you do have a Twitter account, follow @woodheadprimary to keep up to date.

Text Messaging will continue to be used to inform parents/carers of important information and attendance. Please inform the office if your mobile phone number has changed.

In our aim to keep parents/carers as fully informed as possible, the school will:

- publish a monthly newsletter
- send home letters via 'pupil post'
- share news and information on our website: [www.woodhead-primary.org.uk](http://www.woodhead-primary.org.uk)

If you have any questions or comments, please get in touch. You can telephone the school on 01698 457669 or email [gw14woodheadpsoffice@glow.sch.uk](mailto:gw14woodheadpsoffice@glow.sch.uk) or fill in the tear-off below and send it to school inside pupil diaries.

The teachers escort the pupils to the school doors at the end of the day, but this is not always the best time to speak with them as they are supervising the pupils. If you wish to speak in person to a member of staff, please contact the office to arrange a mutually suitable appointment.



# Woodhead Primary School Comments/Suggestions

Comments/Feedback:

Name:

Pupil Name:

Date: