

Newsletter

March 2019



Head Teacher's Message

Welcome to the March edition of the Woodhead Primary School newsletter.

It has been a very busy term so far with lots of high-quality learning experiences taking place every day. It has been a term of real achievements both in and out of school and some of these are outlined in this newsletter. Our Achievements Wall in school is full of the photographs of the trophies, certificates and awards the children earn at clubs,

We continue to pride ourselves on the range and quality of the after-school clubs we offer and are delighted to have been able to run our Homework and Before School Learning Clubs again this term using funding from the Pupil Equity Fund. At the time of writing, I have been informed that it is intended for SLC to offer a Breakfast Club service at Woodhead from August 2019. If this goes ahead, it will be available to all children in P1-7. More information about this will be provided to parents when we have it.

Don't forget that school will close at 2.30pm on Friday 29th March 2019 for the Spring Holiday and will re-open on Monday 15th April at 9am. We are also closed on Friday 19th and Monday 22nd April 2019 as this is the Easter weekend. I hope everyone has a lovely Easter holiday when it comes.

Mr. Scott Clark (Head Teacher).

Vision, Values and Aims

Following consultation with the Parent Council, all staff and pupils, our Vision, Values and Aims have been reviewed and will be shared with all parents/carers at our upcoming Parent Teacher Consultations. As part of this review, we have created a school 'Core Purpose Statement' (motto). The children were asked to come up with ideas using the school initials of W.P.S. The suggestions were narrowed down to 12 and every one in school voted. The runaway favourite which will be adopted as our 'Core Purpose Statement' is:

'Woodhead Primary School – We Work, We Play, We Succeed!'

Easter Service

The annual Easter Service will take place on Friday 29th March 2019. As with the Christmas Service, we will hold this twice to accommodate all parents/carers who wish to come along. Pupils in P1 to P3/4 will attend the first service at 9.30am. Pupils in P4-7 will attend the second service at 11.15am. Parents/relatives may choose which service to attend (you may attend both but please note that the content will be the same). Tea/Coffee will be available from 9am and 10.45am. We look forward to seeing you then.

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Book Fayre

The Book Fayre will be in school between Monday 18th and Thursday 28th March 2019. All pupils will have an opportunity to browse the selection of books with their class. Books can be purchased during Parents' Night on Tuesday 26th and Thursday 28th March 2019. The school receives around 60% commission on all books sold which can be used to purchase new books for the school library, class libraries and our reading programme.

Pupil Equity Fund – Update of Spend

As you will be aware, the Scottish Government has allocated funding directly to schools with the purpose of this being used to close any poverty-related attainment gap. Woodhead was allocated £69,600 for 2018/19. Along with a carry-forward of £42,182 which was not spent in 2017/18, this made a total of £111,782 for this year.

In consultation with staff, pupils and the Parent Council, as well as analysis of the attainment profile of the school, our PEF money has been used to close the gap in the following ways:

Additional Teaching and Support Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attainment Challenge Lead Teacher• Additional School Support Assistant• Extra Teaching staff for group interventions• Supported Study (Homework/Breakfast Club etc)	£79,060
Additional Literacy Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none">• P1-3 and P4-7 Active Literacy texts novels• Active Literacy Teachers' Resources• Staff Training on Catch-up Literacy	£14,506
ICT Equipment to support learning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Interactive C-Touch and Laptops• Additional iPads to enhance active learning• Subscriptions to ICT Support Programmes	£15,376
Resources for Health and Wellbeing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emotion Works Training and Resources	£740

The Scottish Government have announced the next round of PEF for 2018/19, with Woodhead allocated **£75,600**. It is intended to continue to fund the additional staffing to support and target children's learning. A full report on the use and impact of PEF to date will be published later in the year.

Parent Pay

Parent Pay will be coming to Woodhead Primary in April! This is the facility for parents/carers to pay for school meals, trips etc. online using a secure website. For those parents who still wish to use cash, there will be a facility to use the PayPoint network at local convenience stores.

More information will be issued in coming weeks with guidance on how to set up and activate your Parent Pay account.



Woodhead Primary School

Comments/Suggestions

If you have any comments or feedback, please complete this tear-off and return it to school.

Name:

Pupil Name:

Date:

Burns Public Speaking Competition

On Wednesday 20th February 2019, four pupils from P4-7 participated in the Hamilton Burns Public Speaking competition. The standard of all of the pupils who put themselves forward for this competition was very high and over the past few weeks, the children, mentored by Mrs. Houston have worked hard on their poems and recitals. Only two pupils from P4-5 and two from P6-7 could be entered in the final and it was a hard job for the staff to select with such a high standard. The lucky four were Millie F. and James McD. representing P4-5 while Kia B. and Aimee L. represented P6-7.

The event took place at the Guide Hall in Hamilton Town Centre with many local schools competing. Every pupil performed with confidence and the standard was very high. Woodhead had great success on the night with Millie taking second place for the P4-5 category and Kia securing first place for P6-7 category. Both girls will now represent the school at the SLC Finals at the end of the month.

Literacy Week

Our annual Literacy Week will take place between 3rd and 7th March 2019. There will be lots of different activities for all classes that promote the fun of reading and encourage the children to try new books and authors. There will also be some fun events through the week including a whole school 'Readathon', a Door Decorating Competition for each class and an 'Extreme Reading' photograph contest. A timetable of the different events planned has been sent home separately.

School Photographs

Thanks to everyone who ordered school photographs from Maze Photography at the start of the year, the school has earned £450 in commission. This will be added to school funds and will be used towards school events such as transport for trips, visiting specialists etc.

PTA Update

The PTA Movie Night planned for Tuesday 5th March has been cancelled. Apologies for any disappointment this may cause. The annual Easter Disco will be held on Thursday 21st March 2019. The P1-3 disco will be from 6.15pm to 7.15pm and the P4-7 disco will be from 7.30pm-8.45pm. The cost of the disco is £2.50 which includes tuck. Tickets are available from the school office and can also be purchased at the door. In addition, the PTA will be selling tickets in the school foyer from 2.30pm on Wednesday 20th March for any parents/carers who can pop in then.

The PTA would also be grateful for donations of bottles/chocolates for the summer fete tombola. These can be handed in during the Parent's nights in March.

Non-Uniform Day

Our second non-uniform day of the year took place on Friday 22nd February 2019. Everyone looked great with their crazy hair styles and funky hats. The Pupil Council would like to thank everyone for their effort. Thanks to the generous donations, the grand total of £215 was raised towards school funds. This will be used to subsidise the cost of transport to outings and sporting events. The next two non-uniform days are:

- Friday 29th March 2019: Bright Colours
- Friday 26th April 2019: Happy Feet (footwear that makes you feel happy/special)

Upcoming Diary Dates.

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

Date	Event
WB Mon 4 th March 2019	Literacy Week
Tuesday 5 th March 2019	PTA Movie Night CANCELLED
Thursday 7 th March 2019	World Book Day
Thursday 14 th March 2019	International School Meals Day (Alternate School lunch menu)
Thursday 21 st March 2019	PTA Easter Disco (P1-3: 6.15pm to 7.15pm) (P4-7: 7.30pm-8.45pm)
Friday 22 nd March 2019	Easter Craft Day
Tuesday 26 th March 2019	Parent Teacher Consultations (3.30pm-5.30pm)
Thursday 28 th March 2019	P3a excursion to New Stevenston Mosque
Thursday 28 th March 2019	Parent Teacher Consultations (6pm-8pm)
Friday 29 th March 2019	Easter Service (P1 to P3/4 – 9.30am) (P4 to P7 – 11.15am)
Friday 29 th March 2019	School closes at 2.30pm for Spring Holidays
Monday 15 th April 2019	School re-opens
Friday 19 th April 2019	Good Friday – School closed to staff and pupils.
Monday 22 nd April 2019	Easter Monday – School closed to staff and pupils.
Tuesday 30 th April 2019	Parent Council and PTA Meetings (6.45pm-8.30pm)
Thursday 2 nd May 2019	P6/7 and P7 excursion to National War Museum, Edinburgh
Monday 6 th May 2019	May Bank Holiday – School closed to staff and pupils.
Tuesday 7 th May 2019	INSET Day 5 – School closed to pupils
Friday 17 th May 2019	Pupil Report Cards issued to parents/carers.
Wednesday 22 nd May 2019	Primary 1a and Primary 1b Learning Showcase (9.30am)
Friday 24 th May 2019	May Long Weekend – School closed to staff and pupils
Monday 27 th May 2019	May Long Weekend – School closed to staff and pupils
Tuesday 4 th June 2019	Parent Council and PTA Meetings (6.45pm-8.30pm)
WB Monday 10 th June 2019	Fit Planet Health Week
Tuesday 11 th June 2019	P1-3 Sports Day (pm)
Wednesday 12th June 2019	P4-7 Sports Day (pm)
Thursday 20 th June 2019	P7 Leavers' Ball (6.30pm-8.30pm)
Wednesday 26 th June 2019	P7 Leavers' Assembly (9.30am-10.30am)
Friday 28 th June 2019	School closes at 1pm for summer
Tue 13 th & Wed 14 th Aug 2019	In-service Day 1 and In-service Day 2
Thursday 15 th August 2019	School reopens to pupils