

Woodhead Primary School
and Nursery Class

Newsletter

August 2019



Head Teacher's Message

Welcome to the August 2019 edition of the Woodhead Newsletter. I hope you have had a wonderful summer break.

The beginning of term is a time of change as the children and staff settled back into the routines of a new school year. To all new members of the school community, pupils, staff and parents/carers, welcome to Woodhead!

The children all looked very smart in their new uniforms. We have some new and pre-loved items of school uniform available from the school office if you still need items of uniform. The school dress-code is available in our school handbook (<http://bit.ly/woodheadhbook19>)

It is natural that some children might be anxious about change or might need some extra assistance. Please speak to a member of the team if you have any concerns about your child or there is something that we can do - we are here to help.

One huge change to the school this year is the opening of the extension, which was officially handed over by Morrisons Construction on 28th June 2019. With additional classrooms, open areas and the much-anticipated nursery class, the second phase of the modern Woodhead building provides us with so much more space to ensure your child receives the best education possible. As is to be expected with new facilities, there will be some changes to the daily routines of the school and use of the playground, which are outlined in the 'School Extension' section of the newsletter.

If you have any other ideas 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 Jasnosz-Clark (Head Teacher).

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Staffing Update

Last term, we wished two members of staff a fond farewell following years of service to Woodhead Primary School. Mrs. Rose Cook retired from her post as Cleaning Supervisor and Mrs. Fiona McFarlane retired from her post as School Support Assistant. Both ladies have been a part of Woodhead for many years and we thank them both for their dedication and commitment to the children and staff. Here's to a long, healthy and happy retirement!

Mrs. Mackie is currently absent from school. Area Supply Teacher, Mrs. McPhee will remain at Woodhead on a full-time basis until Mrs. Mackie's return.

Mrs. Keltie will continue to lead our work around the Scottish Attainment Challenge, which will be a fixed-term temporary promoted position this year. For the duration of the post, Mrs. Keltie will be part of the School Leadership Team, filling the role of 'Acting Principal Teacher of Equity'.

Mrs. Waddell has decided to take a career break for a year. We wish her well and look forward to seeing her back at Woodhead in August 2020. In her place, we welcome Angela McAllister to undertake her 'New Qualified Teacher' probation year. She will be mentored by (and share a class with) Mrs. Mitchell.

In our nursery class, Miss Ashley Harkness began her post of Early Years Team Leader in June 2019. She will be joined by 4 full-time Early Years Workers: Mrs. Chelsea Roe, Mrs. Donna Yates, Miss Adele Pirire and Miss Jade Fulton as well as 4 part-time EYW's: Miss Louise Morton, Mrs. Kelly Ann McCormick, Ms. Kirsty McWilliams and Mrs. Fiona Betty. Mrs. McCleneghen will be fulfilling the role of Nursery Teacher as well as her Principal Teacher duties.

Joining our team of School Support Assistants this year is Mrs. Lynne McAuley and Mrs. Cetta McCormick, one of our cleaners, has been appointed by SLC Facilities to the vacant Cleaning Supervisor post.

A copy of the staff list for 2018/19 has been included with this newsletter and is also available on the school website at <http://bit.ly/woodheadstaff>

Car Park

In consultation with the local authority, it has been decided to continue the restrictions around access to the school car park. Only parents/carers of nursery pupils will be permitted access to the car park for drop-off/pick up of pupils. Parents/Carers who display a 'Blue Badge' will also be permitted access to the disabled spaces at the front of the school. All other parents/carers should not attempt to enter the car park at the start/end of the school day, even if the gate is open and unattended.

Pupil Collection at the End of the School Day

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 front playground but are asked to wait well back from the pupil doors. Parents are not permitted to the back playground.

IMPORTANT ALLERGY INFORMATION

Some members of our school community have severe allergies to some food items, therefore pupils, staff and visitors must not bring to school items which contain:

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

** Please note that this includes many chocolate spreads, Nutella products and Kinder Bueno and any items which 'may contain nuts or nut-traces'.*

Lost Property

Please assist in preventing items of being lost or misplaced by labelling all items of clothing, footwear, bags, packed lunches etc. 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.

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

Fizzy Drinks

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

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 need replaced.

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.

Animals in School Grounds

To ensure the safety of all members of the school community, only guide/assistance dogs are allowed into the school grounds.

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 school grounds 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 2019/20

This year, the focus of our curriculum improvement work of the school and nursery class will be on Literacy, Mathematics and Health & Wellbeing with a focus on further improving pupil attainment through high quality learning and teaching.

This year, we will take account of SLC and National advice to consider 'The Cost of the School Day'. Our position statement can be accessed at <http://bit.ly/costofday>

As part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge, we will continue to offer targeted support or resources to specific children to achieve equity for all learners wherever possible. Find out more about the Scottish 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: Raise attainment in Numeracy through the use of SLC Progression Pathways and developing a consistent approach to the learning, teaching and assessment of maths using a variety of teaching approaches and resources.

Strategic Priority 3: Raise attainment in Health and Wellbeing: Developing a whole school approach to nurture and the tracking of pupil engagement in Health and Wellbeing.

Flu Vaccination Programme

Children in Primary 1-7 are once again being offered Flu Immunisation. 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 Monday 11th November 2019.

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>

Woodhead Primary School Nursery Class

Our nursery class will officially open on Friday 16th August 2019. We provide term-time early learning and child-care for eligible 3 to 5 year-old children in their 'ante pre-school' and 'pre-school' year. Our current capacity is 48 children.

The nursery hours are 8.45am-2.45pm and, within the '1140 hours' model, children are offered five, full-time sessions per week. There is also an optional facility for parents to apply to pay for one extra hour from 2.45pm-3.45pm.

All full-time nursery children are offered a free meal every day which is eaten in the school dining hall.

We have a small number of spaces still available for the 2019-20 session. For more information about applications, or any other information about the nursery class, please contact the School Office.

School Extension Update

Following the completion of the school extension, we will be using classrooms across the entire school campus. As a result, how pupils and parents access the school and the grounds has changed:

Use of the Playground:

- During playtimes and lunchtimes, P1-4 will use the 'Front playground' (amphitheatre side) and P5-7 will use the 'Back Playground'.
- Pupils will be able to use the newly resurfaced MUGA pitch during breaks, on a rota basis.

Entry to the Playground:

- Access to the school grounds at the start and end of the school day is via the gates near the MUGA pitch or at the path near the amphitheatre steps.
- Parents will be permitted to access the front playground at the start/end of the day and are asked to stand well back from the pupils lines/doors etc.
- Parents/Carers are not permitted to access the back playground.

There will no longer be access to the playground via the gates near the bin storage area (These were only in use for the duration of the building works).

Breakfast Club

Our new Breakfast Club service begins on Monday 26th August 2019. This is available free of charge to all Primary 1-7 pupils. A separate letter with information is included with this newsletter.

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Upcoming Diary Dates

Date	Event
Tuesday 20 th August 2019	P6 weekly swimming lessons begin.
Friday 30 th August 2019	Triathlon Event (Larkhall Leisure Centre) for some pupils.
Friday 30 th August 2019	Non-Uniform Day (Maximum donation £1 per family)
Tue 3 rd September 2019	Lockerbie Manor Info. session for P7 parents. (5pm-6pm)
Tue 3 rd September 2019	Parent Council AGM and PTA Meeting (6.45pm-8.30pm)
Thu 5 th & Fri 6 th Sep 2019	School and Nursery Photographs
WB 9 th September 2019	Scottish Maths Week
23 rd -26 th September 2019	P7s attending Lockerbie Manor Residential Outing
Thursday 26 th Sep 2019	P1-6 Non-Uniform Day (Maximum donation £1 per family)
Fri 27 th September 2018	School closed for September long weekend.
Mon 30 th September 2018	School closed for September long weekend.
Wed 2 nd October 2018	Target Setting Open Day – 9.30am and 1.30pm
Tue 8 th October 2019	Parent Council and PTA Meetings (6.45pm-8.30pm)
14 th -18 th October 2019	School closed for October Week Holiday
Tuesday 22 nd October 2019	Primary 7 and P.6/7 Learning Showcase (9.30am)
Thu 24 th October 2019	P1-3 Hallowe'en Disco (6.15pm-7.15pm)
Thu 24 th October 2019	P4-7 Hallowe'en Disco (7.30pm-8.45pm)
Friday 1 st November 2019	Non-Uniform Day (Maximum donation £1 per family)
Tue 5 th November 2019	Primary 6, P.5/6 & P.5 Learning Showcase (9.30am)
Mon 11 th November 2019	P1-7 Flu Immunisations
Tue 12 th November 2019	Parent Consultation Meetings (3.30pm-5.30pm)
Thu 14 th November 2019	Parent Consultation Meetings (6pm-8pm)
Mon 19 th & Tue 20 th Nov 19	INSET DAY 3 and 4 (School closed to pupils)
25 th to 29 th November 2019	Work of Work Week
Friday 29 th Nov 2019	Non-Uniform Day (Maximum donation £1 per family)
Friday 29 th Nov 2019	PTA Christmas Fayre (6.30pm-8.30pm)
Friday 6 th December 2019	Christmas Jumper Day

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

Also included with this newsletter:

- Annual Calendar of Dates/Events.
- Breakfast Club Information Letter
- SLC School Holiday for 2019-20
- PE Days

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Keeping in Touch

Our main method of communication continues to be the school Twitter account, which can be accessed on most web browsers at 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 emergencies. 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: woodheadprimary.co.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 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 and Nursery Class Comments, Feedback and Suggestions

Comments/Feedback:

Name:

Pupil Name:

Date:

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