

all together better

WOODSIDE
ACADEMY

Volume 13 – 11th February 2022

The Woodside Way



Our very talented Early Years children have made some fantastic gifts to celebrate Valentine's day. Look how talented they are!

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been one of those terms where Covid has played a major role in all operations at Woodside culminating in high numbers last week which were discussed at length with Public Health and L B Bexley. ***I would like you thank you for your support and understanding especially if this has meant that your child's class has been closed and swapped over to remote learning.*** I am pleased to say that this week we have noted a definite decrease in both staff and pupil positive cases and we hope that this will continue after the break.

This half term we have launched our home reading scheme with books now available online. You should have received a home login and some information from your child's teacher. We are also planning to arrange some parent workshops in the next half term with a specific focus on Reading. Sessions are planned to reach all reading levels and ages and so do come along to connect with us and with other parents and carers.

Next half term will be a busy one with some whole school events to look forward to including World Book Day, Celebrate your Culture day and Red Nose Day to name just a few. Look out for updates nearer the time.

Two members of our team will be trained and licensed to deliver the National Autistic Society's Teenlife programme for parents and carers. This will mean that in the future we will be accredited to run this valuable programme for our families at Woodside.

We have also been nominated for the Music Mark in recognition of our growing partnership with Bexley Music.

Bexley Music is part of our multi academy trust, LSEAT, and is now based at Belmont Academy. We are aiming to enhance our music offer here at Woodside and we are in discussion regarding some exciting projects to offer more musical opportunities within and beyond school. In the meantime please see the offer of a half term choir for primary pupils and if your child is interested in learning an instrument then there is more information [here](#).

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We say goodbye to Mr Headley this week as he is relocating up North. Mr Headley has made a great contribution to Woodside and will be missed by all of us. He and Mr Barnes are real favourites with all of the children and young people and they do a fantastic job of keeping our school environment so welcoming, safe and suitable for us all. Our new facilities manager, Mr Quill is looking forward to joining us after half term.

Wishing you all healthy and restful half term.

Kathryn Freame
Head Teacher

Safer Internet Day theme: 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online'

This week the whole school has focused on Safer Internet Day which has been coordinated across the school by Mrs Adelaja and Mr Jenkins. Following some whole school training in which we were able to assess and define what safe use of the internet looks like from our youngest children to our adults in Post 16, all classes have participated in specific activities to support their safety online. Here are some links which you might like to use at home.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/young-people/resources-for-3-11s>

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/young-people/resources-for-11-19s>

How do we spend our Inset days?

Inset days at Woodside are always busy.

Themes for our next Inset day on 21st February are Reading, including promoting a love of reading, and Cultural awareness. Some staff will be refreshing their de-escalation and positive behaviour management skills through accredited training with Team Teach ©. Others will be gaining their hygiene and catering certificates to ensure that we are compliant with supporting your children at snack and lunch times and in Food tech lessons. Our amazing MDS team will all be refreshing their first aid certificates. We don't waste a moment!

We really are a learning community and Inset days are an ideal time for all staff across the school to be upskilled, refocus on development priorities and make sure that we are always improving on our journey towards excellence. They also provide us with the opportunity to re-connect with each other as it is not often that we are able to meet all together at the same time.



Sleeping Beauty Performance

In January, we had a visit from M & M theatre productions, who performed Sleeping Beauty for the whole school to enjoy. The pupils had a great time and joined in with the singing, dancing and jokes.

14-19

Construction Class Design and Decorate

The Construction class have been further developing their skills whilst working on the “Decorating and Inside Wall” unit. This involved careful planning to develop their skills in line with the assessment criteria and the allocated space they had in which to work.

They chose to make two false doors and decorate the area using a range of techniques to include preparing bare timber to take a prime, undercoat and gloss paint system. They also planned for part of the area to be decorated using emulsion paint and a wall paper covering.

For the finishing touches, they added windows, numbers and door knobs. They worked well as a team and supported each other to enable the task to be completed safely and within the given timescale. As the area was communal, they had to risk assess the task to avoid presenting any hazards to other users. They very much used their reading and comprehension skills for purpose; the students read the manufacturers guidelines for mixing the wallpaper adhesive and measured the correct amount of water to paste ratio.



UNIT CON 11 – Decorate an Inside Wall

Level 1 Introductory to Construction

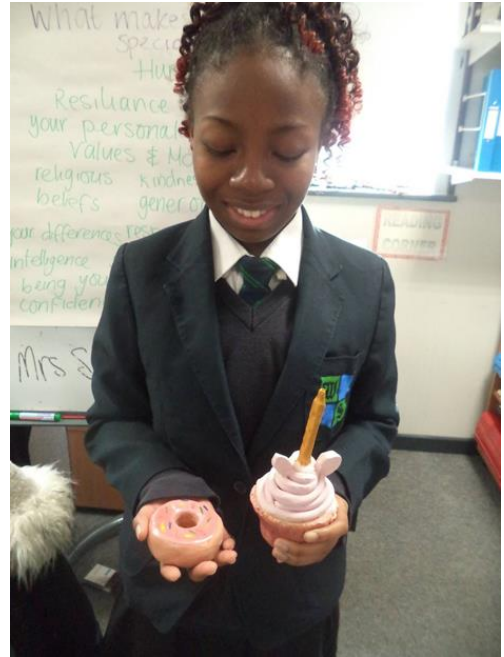
Ben and Tegan communicated well in their team to ensure that the task was carried out safely and to the standard required to meet the assessment criteria.



14-19 Continued ...

College Placement Gained

Great news Des'ree (KS4 Art student) has secured a place on a Level 1/2 Art and Design course at Shooters Hill College. Des'ree worked very hard practising her answers to predicted questions and creating a fantastic portfolio. Well done Des'ree!



Healthy Advice from Post 16

In RSE, Post 16 students have been learning to understand the effects of nicotine consumption and its associated risks. They have learnt about passive smoking and the physical harms related to different age groups. The students researched how many chemicals are in each cigarette and also how expensive it is to smoke. The students created a very informative poster, which is on display in the 14-19 corridor.



Key Stage 3

The pupils in Key Stage Three have started 2022 with a great attitude to learning. The pupils have enjoyed recycling week, learning about recycling, reusing and reducing. There has also been a theatre production of Sleeping Beauty, which the pupils enjoyed and many joined in with the singing, dancing and jokes. We have also been celebrating the Chinese New Year and considering how this is celebrated in different cultures.

The pupils have been learning about honesty and communication through the holistic curriculum. This has led to some amazing learning about different methods of communication, allowing pupils to learn about how people with different disabilities can communicate, including learning some sign language, and how communication has changed through history.

Reading books have matched the learning through English and topics, and the focus on quality texts and reading opportunities is highlighted by the increased love for reading and listening to stories that the pupils are showing.

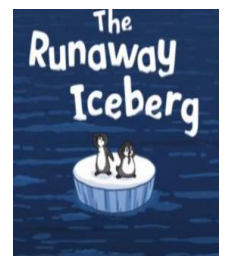
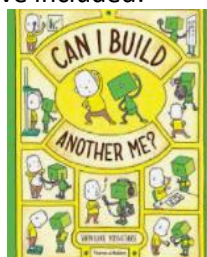
In maths this half term, pupils have been developing skills in number, multiplication and division. The pupils have been solving questions using concrete resources, pictorial support or by using formal written and mental methods.

In science this half term, Key Stage Three has been learning about animals, including humans, identifying what you need to be a living thing and classifying animals based on different criteria. It has been an enjoyable half term and as we reach the halfway point in the year, it is a great time to celebrate all the progress the pupils have made.

Here are some photos which show the wonderful learning we have been completing this half term:



Some of our favourite books that we have been enjoying reading in class and learning about have included:



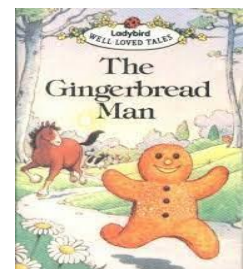
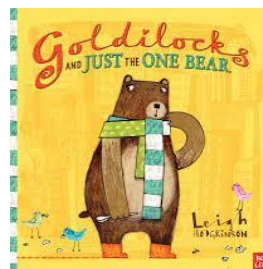
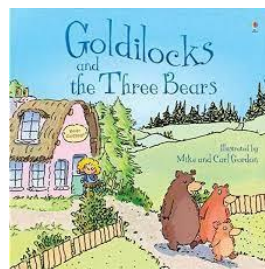
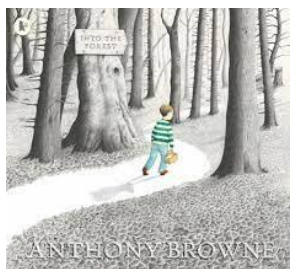
Key Stage 2

During this term our topic has been 'Once Upon a Time,' we have been reading a variety of traditional tales across the KS2 classes. Poppy and Lily class have been role playing 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears,' this has helped them to develop their language and retell key parts of the story. Our older classes have also been using traditional tales to record speech for different characters by writing a play script. The stories have also been a good opportunity to explore emotions and how others may feel.

During our recycling week, pupils learnt why it is important to recycle different materials and how this helps the environment. Pupils practised sorting different materials into groups. Sunflower and Bluebell classes made musical instruments from recycled materials. While Lily class used their construction skills to create models by reusing materials used around the school. They learnt how to join two different objects together.

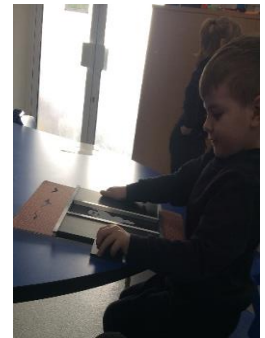


Some of the books we have been reading are:



EYFS and KS1

In Honeysuckle class we have been exploring the different outside areas around our school. We have really enjoyed visiting the wild garden where we have been looking at what we can see and hear. We really liked when the grass was frozen and listening to it crunch under our welly boots! We have also been looking at reading books with adults and really engaging well and interacting with our new bag books.



Collins Big Cat Reading at Woodside Academy.

From early phonics development to fluency, Collins Big Cat books are a whole-school programme that provides complete support for reading. Big Cat deliver effective phonics with fully decodable books, expertly aligned to Letter and Sounds and foster a love of reading with hundreds of levelled readers to support guided, independent and whole class reading. The children in Sunflower class have really enjoyed reading the eBooks online and are exploring the vast library available to them. Teachers are encouraging all students to use their unique log in details to share books at home as part of the reading scheme.



Supporting children in and around school



Ms Corcoran



Miss Avery



Mr Foy



Miss Bunting



Ms Vincent



Mr Bramble

The Pastoral Support Team at Woodside work tirelessly alongside the class teams to ensure the best possible care and support for all individuals. The services offered vary immensely and include: a listening ear, in class support, leading small group interventions, working 1:1 with children, supporting with the Dog Mentor in and out of class, liaising with external agencies and providing mentor support.

As you can see, there are a variety of ways that a child can receive additional support from different adults across the school. Whenever a pupil or groups of pupils is working with the Support Team, they are always kept at the heart of the work and any targeted work will take place at a pace that they can manage. The type and length of support offered will depend on the need but could range from a regular check in for a number of weeks, to a weekly small group session for a term. Where appropriate, the Support Team will liaise with the class team and the parents/carers to let them know of progress and of any information that would need to be passed on. This aligns with our school motto, all together better.

Individuals are offered this support as a need arises, or in response to outcomes set on Personalised Learning Plans, which are reviewed regularly. In addition to this, a child may be offered support in response to concerns raised by a parent or information provided about life events that may have an effect on a child; this could be things such as, birth of a sibling, bereavement, illness or parental separation. It is always helpful if you can let your child's class teacher know if there is anything going on outside of school so that the staff are aware, should there be any change in behaviour. It also means that we can be ready to provide any necessary support should it be required.

Ms Corcoran, DHT Pastoral and DSL

Thinking about Mental Health – Mental Health Week 7th – 13th February 2022

As Parents/Carers, the role you play in supporting your child's development is key. This is not only true of their physical and cognitive development, but also for their emotional development. You can help them to understand and manage their feelings as they are growing up and this article will hopefully help you to understand a little more about how to do this.



Talk - Find time and talk with your child - just the two of you. 'Check in' with them whilst you are doing something together, to get them used to talking about their feelings.



Play together. Play helps children to stay curious. They may learn new things, solve problems and could express their feelings without words.

Be a role model - Show your child how you cope with difficult feelings and how you look after yourself.



Build positive routines - Try to keep to structure, including healthy eating, exercise and a good night's sleep.

Other ways that you can support both your own mental health and that of your child(ren) is to think about some of the following and try to include them in daily routines:



Connect - with the people around you. This could be; family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. At home, work, school or in your local community. Building these connections will support and enrich you every day.

Be Active - Go for a walk or run. Step outside. Cycle. Play a game. Garden. Dance. Exercising makes you feel good. Most importantly, discover a physical activity you enjoy and that suits your level of mobility and fitness.

There are many organisations available outside of school if you are worried about your own, or your child's mental health. Some are listed at the end of this section, but also please let your class teacher know if you are worried about your child's wellbeing or mental health in order to allow us to support this in school.

To support wellbeing and mental health in school, we have a strong Pastoral Support team who children can speak with, or spend some time with if they are not ready or able to talk about something that is an issue for them. Staff can make referrals for additional support from this team, or children can access it themselves. The Support team offers a variety of group sessions or one to one sessions, depending on the nature of the concern. The one to one interventions include Room 2 Talk where children can have regular check ins, or one off sessions with a Mentor. We offer Draw and Talk sessions for children who may find it easier to engage whilst drawing. There is The Nest, which is a specified room where children can access a variety of resources, alongside a Mentor. Many children benefit from time with the Dog Mentor, Mr Bramble - sometimes this is arranged in advance and at times it may be in response to a need at any given time.

In addition to these sessions, children may also have access to several sensory spaces in order to support self-regulation.

Where children have ongoing problems or concerns, there is the possibility that staff will suggest a referral to an external agency for more specialised, or continued support.

Classes use Zones of Regulation as a way of 'checking in' how they are feeling; this helps children to identify a range of emotions and communicate with staff if they might need some time, space, or support to regulate themselves. There will be some parents/carers workshops about Zones of Regulations being offered after half term for anyone that might like to learn more about this in order to support the use of this at home. Please look out for the information and invitation.



We use The Daily Mile to encourage pupils to be physically active and ensure they have time to move around and rest their minds. Children might complete a sensory circuit or an in class activity that encourages movement in a structured way. Many children also undertake mindfulness activities and yoga sessions during the school week.

Some organisations that support Mental Health and Wellbeing:



Shout, 24/7 text service 85258



Advice and information at www.youngminds.org.uk



Advice, information and support at www.mind.org.uk



4994

Advice, information and support at www.themix.org.uk or call  0808 808



'Kooth' is an online counselling and emotional wellbeing service and offers children and young people aged 8-25 in Bexley, free, anonymous mental health support, online. www.kooth.com

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The Woodside Way

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HeadScape is a 'one stop' source of self-help about a range of mental health issues and conditions for young people to browse at leisure.

<https://headscapebexley.co.uk/>



HeadScape

An **early intervention support service that offers one-to-one befriending and specific group sessions to young people, aged 8-17**, who may be experiencing material or emotional deprivation, in crises, at risk or have a caring responsibility.

Website: <https://www.bexleymoorings.co.uk/about-us/>

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Let's Get Bexley Singing!

Bexley Junior Choir

KS1 & KS2 ages 5-11

February 14th and 15th 2022

10:00- 14:00

Please bring a packed lunch

£10 for both days

Contact

Web: bexley-music.co.uk

Phone: 01322 358 824

Email: info@bexley-music.co.uk

 **BEXLEY
MUSIC**

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Does your child or young person have a Special Educational Need or Disability?

Bexley Information, Advice & Support Service (IASS) can provide confidential information, advice and support around issues relating to special educational needs and disabilities.

Bexley Information, Advice & Support Service (IASS)
are running

IASS COFFEE MORNINGS starting in January 2022

Where: Virtual via MICROSOFT TEAMS

When: Every 3rd Tuesday of the month: 18TH JAN, 15TH FEB, 15TH MAR, 19TH APRIL, 17TH MAY, 21ST JUNE, 19TH JULY, 16TH AUGUST, 20TH SEPT, 18TH OCT, 15TH NOV.

The Time: 10am – 12noon

This is an opportunity for you to meet other parents in a similar situation to yourself, relax over a coffee / tea in a friendly, non – judgmental environment and take a breather.

The sessions will be organised and facilitated by the Bexley IASS Parent / Carer Champions and attended by a member of staff from Bexley IASS.

If you would like to book a space on a session, please contact Bexley IASS to let them know you are attending.

Email: bexleyiass@bexley.gov.uk

tel: 0203 045 5976

You are welcome to drop in anytime throughout the session, when you have a spare moment.



Woodside Academy Term Dates for 2021 to 2022

Term Three

EYFS/Primary return to school – Wednesday 5th January 2022 to Friday 11th February 2022
Secondary return to school – Thursday 6th January 2022

(Half term holiday – Monday 14th February to Friday 18th February 2022)

Term Four

Pupils return to school – Tuesday 22nd February 2022 to Friday 1st April 2022
(Easter holiday – Monday 4th April to Monday 18th April 2022)

Term Five

Pupils return to school – Tuesday 19th April 2022 to Friday 27th May 2022
(Half term holiday – Monday 30th May to Monday 6th June 2022)

Term Six

Pupils return to school – Tuesday 7th June to Thursday 21st July 2022



Woodside Academy 2021/2022

September 21						
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June 22						
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July 22						
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August 22						
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Holidays (School closed)

Teacher Training Day (School closed to pupils)

Bank Holiday (School closed)

Progress Review Day (Pupils+parent/cares in by appointment only)

Primary start of term

Secondary start of term



Woodside Academy 2022/23



September 2022						
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February 2023						
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March 2023						
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April 2023						
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June 2023						
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July 2023						
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August 2023						
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- Holidays (School closed)
- Teacher Training Day (School closed to pupils)

- Bank Holiday (School closed)
- Progress Review Day (Pupils+parent/cares in by appointment only)

- Half day at school



Keeping Children Safe

If you're worried that anyone under the age of 18 might need help, or is being neglected or hurt, you must tell someone.

Call Children's Services at the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 020 3045 5440 and speak to a social worker. If you're worried you'll be put in a difficult position, you can speak to them anonymously. The opening hours are Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm

if it's out of hours, call 020 8303 7777 or 020 8303 7171

drop in and see us at Civic Offices, 2 Watling Street, Bexleyheath DA6 7AT

If you are a parent and you have concerns about your child's mental health,

Bexley CAMHS: 0203 260 5200 Monday to Friday 9am-5pm.

During weekends, evenings and bank holidays emergency support is available from the following services

The urgent advice/crisis line CAMHS : 0800 330 8590

Child Line: 0800 11111

Samaritans: 08457 909090

*We welcome communication from parents and carers, please see guidance sheet attached - **Communication between home and school (v2) May 2021***

Information and Helpline Numbers

[Bexley Coronavirus Helpline](#) London Borough of Bexley has setup a helpline for vulnerable residents who may need help, advice, and support linked to the coronavirus. Tel - 0203 045 5398

NSPCC Internet Safety - <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>

You can also visit our School website for more information - <http://www.woodside.bexley.sch.uk//>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak>



Covid Testing/Guidance over half-term break

Secondary pupils should:

- Continue to test twice weekly over the half-term break.

We request that all secondary pupils complete a test on the evening before/morning of returning to school on Tuesday 22nd February 2022.

- Should you obtain a positive LFD result, or have Covid symptoms you should self-isolate.
- Please inform the school office if your child has had a confirmed case of Covid over the half-term break.

Dates for Diary

Monday 14 – Friday 18 th February 2022	Half Term break
Monday 21 st February 2022	Inset Day (staff only in school)
Tuesday 1 st March 2022	Class photographs
Thursday 3 rd March 2022	World Book Day
Friday 18 th March 2022	Red Nose Day
Wednesday 30 th March 2022	Parents evening
Monday 4 th – Monday 18 th April 2022	Easter Holiday
Monday 2 nd May 2022	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Monday 30 th May 2022 – Monday 6 th June 2022	Half Term break
Thursday 21 st July 2022	Last day of term for pupils
Friday 22 nd July 2022	Inset Day (staff only in school)