

all together better

WOODSIDE  
ACADEMY

Volume 15 – 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022

# The Woodside Way



Dear Parents and Carers,

The weeks have flown and as we approach the final half term break of this academic year, you will see that there is much to celebrate, not least the achievements and determination of the inspiring children and young people of Woodside.

Inside this issue you will find some exciting plans from the Friends of Woodside who met this week in school. We had a visit from Sir David Evennett, MP, to focus on the work that SeeAbility do performing sight tests in school. I am also delighted to share with you that we have once again achieved the Silver ArtsMark Award, more detailed information is included.

Our new virtual tour is available on the school website which aims to capture a child's journey through the school and will support our new families in September. It can be found [here](#). Thank you to those parents consenting to your child's participation in this project.

We return after half term on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June** and I wish you all a sunny and restful half term break.

*Kathryn Freame*  
Head Teacher

Hello, my name is Mrs Smith and I am delighted to have joined the team as Deputy Head Teacher here at Woodside. My role is predominantly quality assuring the Section F provision for our students. I was previously Deputy Head Teacher at Cleeve Meadow school and am looking forward to developing links between the schools. I work closely with our SENCO and Inclusion team. If you have any questions regarding our case officer for the school, her name is Sarah Jones.

Please see below the link to the Bexley Local Offer with case officer contact details. This page is kept updated when there are any case officer changes within the team:

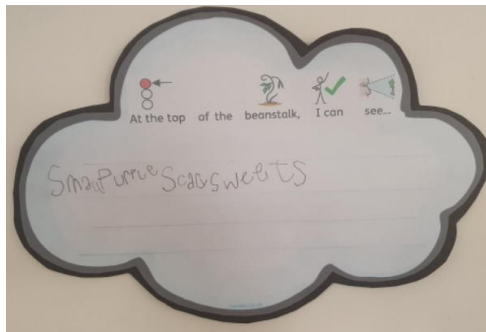
<https://www.bexleylocaloffer.uk/Page/21872>

This is me on a recent bike ability 5-mile ride with the students!

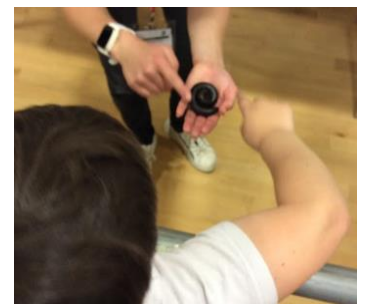


**EYFS and Key Stage 1**

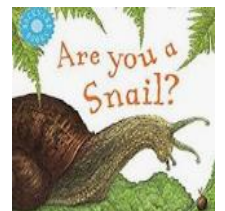
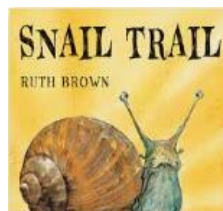
This half term in Daisy Class we have been learning about plants and insects. We have had lots of fun planting seeds to watch them grow and finding out what they need to be healthy. One of our favourite books this term was 'Jasper's Beanstalk.' We used our maths skills to measure different plants and objects in the classroom. We used our imagination to think about what we think would be at the top of the beanstalk and created a sentence to show this.



We were also lucky enough to have a visit from Zoolab this half term. We all enjoyed looking at the different animals and even touched some! This sparked some lovely conversations back in class about animals we have at home and what our favourite ones were!



These are the books we have enjoyed this half term:



## Key Stage 2

Poppy Class teacher, Miss Hookway, is getting married this half term and I am sure that you will join us in extending our congratulations to the happy couple.

During this term, pupils in KS2 have been learning to follow and write their own instructions for how to make recipes such as a pizza. Iris and Tulip class have been reading 'Perfectly Polite Penguins' and discussing what the best ways of being polite are and why it is important to show this.

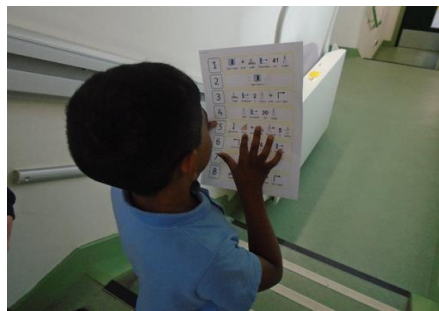


In maths, pupils have been learning how to recognise a variety of coins and how to find the correct amount to pay for items.

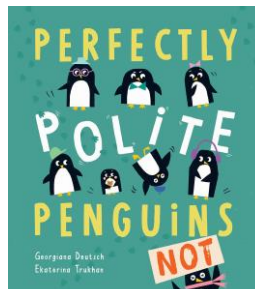
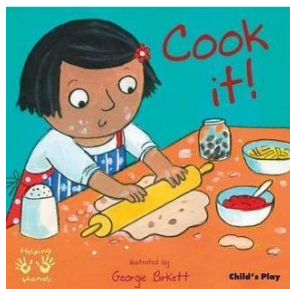
Our pupils have been learning about plants in science and have been planting seeds to grow flowers.



Across the department the children have been learning to follow directions in geography. Sunflower class followed directions to visit different places in the school.



These are the books we have enjoyed this half term:



## Key Stage 3

This half term, the KS3 pupils have been learning about jobs, including those around the home. Everyone has been able to think about how they contribute around the home and classroom, and consider what more they could do. Everyone has had the opportunity to show our core school value of independence through classroom jobs and also through their wonderful school work. It has been great to see pupils growing in independence when completing tasks. Ukraine Day was a huge success and we were able to raise money, donations and awareness to support our friends from Ukraine. We have also been preparing for the Queen's Platinum jubilee, by preparing and planting seeds to grow in the formation of WA to celebrate, which you can see at the front of the school.

Pupils have continued to read more. Teachers have been updating the Big Cat online series of books, so please remember to log on for a personalised library. Writing has focused around instructions, poetry and narratives this term. It has been great to see the progress the pupils have made throughout the year.

KS3 have been developing their knowledge of statistics, data handling and fractions, as well as reviewing addition and subtraction, money and time, in Maths.

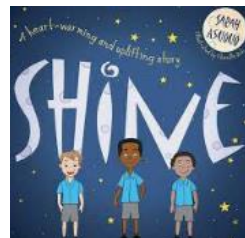
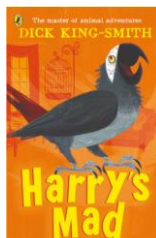
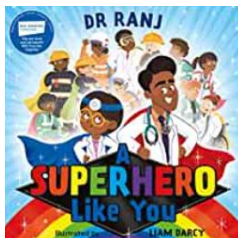
In science this half term, KS3 have been learning about animals and their habitats, life cycles and food chains. This topic was made even more memorable by the amazing Zoolab visit, where some pupils were very brave and held or stroked a corn snake, a giant millipede, a giant snail, cockroaches and even rats. We were able to learn about their habitat and diets, which supported our learning this half term.

KS3 have also been exploring colour through art, making plant pots in DT, cooking foods from around the world and considering the values of Judaism and how this links to important jobs and celebrations. We have considered how to stay healthy, including having a healthy body, as part of our PSHE / RSE topic and PE.

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:



## 14-19 Summer Show Case

On Thursday the 5th May the 14-19 Phase opened the doors to parents, carers and KS3 pupils to sample some of the skills that our students have developed over the year.

The hall was set aside for the morning to accommodate an array of displays and practical exhibitions to include art work, interactive maths puzzles, science and the human body, sporting challenges, a practical brickwork demonstration, alternative communication with confidence from the independent living group and on offer were homemade cakes!



The event was inclusive, exciting and reflected the considerable achievements of all groups of learners whatever their ability. The children shone with pride, and spoke enthusiastically and confidently to all the visitors. The efficient running of the event was overseen by our school council members who were on hand to ensure that all of our visitors were escorted safely to and from the venue.

## BTEC Pre-Vocational Study group



This term, our BTEC unit has been 'Engaging in a Team Activity'. The students decided as a class to have a Toy and Book Sale to raise money for Bexley Snap.

The students did a great job of preparing for the event by writing letters to parents and making posters to advertise around the school.

We were lucky to receive a huge amount of donations from parents and staff.

On Thursday 19th May, they ran the toy sale. It proved to be extremely popular and the group raised a whopping £169.87.

Thank you so much for the support and a huge well done to the 'Pre-vocational Study' BTEC group. You were all amazing!

*Mrs Cranmer  
and The BTEC Pre-vocational Study group*

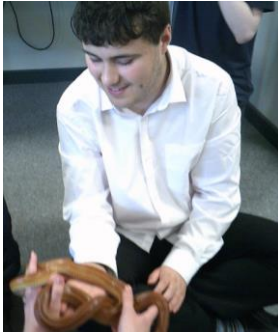


## Our Libraries

Woodside were lucky to receive some lovely promotional material to decorate our EYFS and Key stage 2 libraries.



## Animal day at Woodside Academy



On Tuesday 17 May 2022, the pupils of Woodside Academy had a visit from Zoolab, a company that specialises in engaging pupils in an informative way through their unique animal workshops.

The visit was tailored towards the National curriculum objective, as our KS3 are currently learning about living things and their habitats. It was an opportunity to educate the pupils as well as provide animal therapy and sensory experience. It was amazing to see the faces of the pupils (from early years all the way to post 16) as they looked at the animals close up and touched them.

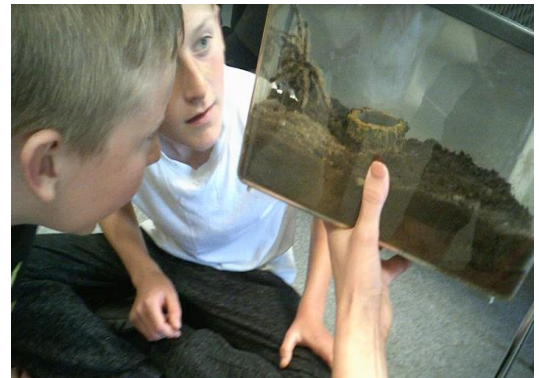
Pupils who were initially reluctant to come close to the animals, gained enough confidence that they could no longer hold back but came in and held the animals. Pupils were very attentive and asked lots of questions, it was a huge success, according to the feedback below:

*'The pupils really enjoyed holding the animals and it kept the pupils interested so that they could all sit and engage together.'*

*'My class (EYFS/KS1) loved the Zoolab visit yesterday and enjoyed seeing all the animals and getting to touch them.'*

*'My class (Poppy class - year 3) really enjoyed it. They liked being able to touch the animals.'*

*'Lily class really enjoyed looking at the animals, the handler was great and the added bonus that they got to touch animals that they normally wouldn't be able to, was a huge success. Although a lot of my class are non-verbal, the smiles on their faces spoke volumes.'*





Volume 15 – 27<sup>TH</sup> May 2022

# The Woodside Way

## Update from Friends of Woodside

Thank you to everyone that made our first Friends of Woodside coffee morning on Wednesday. It was wonderful to meet you all and we are so excited to put plans into place for our first events. We can't wait to get things started over the next couple of months and start our fundraising for the school. Thank you so much for all your support in advance.

### Cake Sale

We are starting things off with a cake sale on Friday 10th June which will take place during school hours. We are asking for cake donations (either baked or bought!) to be brought into school from Tuesday 7th June onwards which will then be sold on site by the Post-16 students (along with Friends of Woodside committee members) with any cakes that are left over being sold at the end of the day for parents and carers. The more cakes the merrier! If donating baked cakes, please remember to include a list of ingredients.

More details will follow in due course but please don't forget those cake donations on the first day back to school after the half term break. Thank you.

### Family Movie Night & Raffle

Whilst an exact date is yet to be confirmed we are putting the plans in place for our first big event which will be a family movie night on school premises before the summer holidays. Family tickets will go on sale once details have been confirmed and we hope lots of you will join us. It will be a wonderful opportunity to meet other Woodside families and for our children to socialise with their school friends in a familiar setting.

We will also be running a raffle with the winners announced at the movie night. Do you or someone you know run a business that could donate a prize? We would love to hear from you!

We are so looking forward to meeting you all and for Friends of Woodside to become a vital part of our school community.

Warmest Wishes,

**Jess, Sukina, Balvinder & Emma**  
Friends of Woodside Committee



## MP visit for SeeAbility @ Woodside Academy to meet our own very important children and young people



Woodside Academy was delighted to host a visit from Sir David Evennett MP today.

The MP for Bexleyheath and Crayford came to the school to see pupils having their eyes tested by SeeAbility – a UK sight charity specialising in supporting people with learning disabilities or autism.

Located in Colyers Lane, Erith, Woodside Academy is a special school for 4-19-year-olds. Part of London South East Academies Trust, the school supports children and young people with ASD and moderate needs.

SeeAbility has been working with Woodside as part of NHS England's programme to establish a Special Schools Eye Care Service. Woodside is one of 90 special schools across the country currently supporting the scheme - and it's already having a fantastic impact.

This new NHS service aims to provide sight tests and glasses in the familiar and convenient environment of special schools. This has come after research by SeeAbility highlighted that half of children in special schools have a sight problem. Yet over four in ten children in special schools have never had a sight test before.

SeeAbility is now helping to introduce this pioneering service and was keen to showcase the positive impact it is having on children and families at Woodside Academy.

After a short tour of the school, Sir David was taken to the sight testing room to observe sight tests and glasses fittings, meeting the SeeAbility optometrist, dispensing optician, staff and children.

**Speaking to Woodside Academy staff and children during his visit, Sir David Evennett said:** "I'm delighted to have had the opportunity to visit Woodside Academy and meet with the dedicated staff and children. This is a brilliant school and an important part of our Bexley community.

"Regular eye examinations are so important, especially as having your vision corrected can significantly improve the quality of your day-to-day life. I was therefore pleased to have the opportunity to see first-hand the pioneering and very important work SeeAbility are doing in schools like Woodside Academy".



**Kathryn Freame, Head Teacher at Woodside Academy added:** “We are delighted to host a visit for Sir David to see the important service SeeAbility is providing to our pupils here. Their Eye Clinics are extremely beneficial, enabling the children to have their eyes tested and glasses dispensed in a familiar environment, by an optometrist who understands their needs.

“This is having a such positive impact on our children, improving wellbeing, reading and communication. We are so proud of our school – pupils and staff - so today’s visit has been a great opportunity to showcase some of the fantastic work being carried out every day to give the children the excellent education they deserve and to which they are entitled.”

**Lisa Donaldson, Head of Eye Care and Vision at SeeAbility said:** “We are so delighted to showcase this work with our colleagues at Woodside Academy. Thinking creatively about the way eye care services are delivered can mean everyone gets a more equal right to sight – this is so important for children with learning disabilities who are 28 times more likely to have a sight problem than other children.”

For more information about Woodside Academy and London South East Academies Trust, [click here](#).

SeeAbility provides specialist support to enable people with learning disabilities, autism, and sight loss to achieve their ambitions and participate fully in society. It is also the only organisation leading on making eye care more accessible for people with learning disabilities. Children with learning disabilities are 28 times more likely to have a sight problem than other children. More on SeeAbility’s work: <https://www.seeability.org/eye-care>.

In June 2021 SeeAbility was awarded the Overall Award for Excellence at the Charity Awards, the longest-running and most prestigious awards scheme in the charity sector for its work in special schools, and in May 2022 was a runner up at the NHS Improvement Awards for Improving Health Equity.

More information on the NHS Special Schools Eye Care Service can be found [here](#).



**Date 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

### **Woodside Academy receives prestigious Artsmark Award**

Pupils and staff at Woodside Academy are celebrating after receiving a prestigious Artsmark Award in a momentous year for the programme as it celebrates 20 years of arts, culture and creativity in schools.

The Artsmark Award is the only creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England. It supports schools to develop and celebrate arts and cultural education, putting creativity and wellbeing at the heart of the curriculum. Artsmark ensures every young person can be creative and access a diverse, high-quality cultural education.

In order to achieve their Artsmark Award, Woodside Academy had to develop their arts and culture provision to embed a broad and ambitious curriculum. This was achieved by creating an overall plan that was committed to and delivered across the whole school.

The Artsmark assessor commended Woodside Academy, *'The Arts are beginning to play a central role in meeting the complex and diverse needs of your children and young people at Woodside, and this pedagogy is reflected within your whole school motto of 'All Together Now'. Your highly personalised approach to teaching and learning, along with arts-based therapies, such as 'Play and Draw' are enabling children to express themselves and communicate with the world and helping to raise their aspirations.'*

On receiving the award, Kathryn Freame, Headteacher said: "We're extremely proud of achieving our Artsmark [**level**] Award. We are committed to delivering a high-quality arts and cultural education and we look forward to continue to grow with Artsmark."

Dr Darren Henley OBE, Chief Executive of the Arts Council, said:

"I would like to congratulate Woodside Academy on their Artsmark Award. Becoming an Artsmark school demonstrates that through offering a broad, ambitious, and creative curriculum, every pupil can develop character and resilience, increasing their knowledge, curiosity and skills that will remain with them through to adult life."

### **About Artsmark Award**

This year, the Artsmark Award celebrates its 20th anniversary as the only creative quality standard for schools and education settings. It can help unlock young people's potential, building their confidence, character, and resilience.

Artsmark's clear and flexible framework can be used to embed creativity across the whole curriculum, address school improvement priorities and ensure every young person can access a diverse, high-quality cultural education.

Artsmark is open to primary, secondary, and special schools, pupil referral units, secure settings, youth offending teams, hospital schools and sixth form colleges. Artsmark is awarded at three levels; Silver, Gold and Platinum.

Visit [artsmark.org.uk](https://artsmark.org.uk) for more information.

### **About Arts Council England**

**Arts Council England** is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in *Let's Create* that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision.

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million **Emergency Response Package**, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of the bodies administering the Government's unprecedented £1.96 billion **Culture Recovery Funds**. Find out more at [www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19).

Visit [artscouncil.org.uk](https://artscouncil.org.uk) for more information.

all together better



Volume 15 – 27<sup>TH</sup> May 2022

# The Woodside Way



Woodside Academy  
Careers Fair

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022

9.30am – 12.30pm

Caplin Room



Woodside Academy are pleased to announce that we will be showcasing our first careers fair next term for the 14-19 phase, plus invited students in the lower school. We have secured several employers to come into school to run stalls and tell students a little about their company and working life. Post 16 will also be running some activities as well as providing refreshments for the visitors.



**MY FAMILY  
COACH**

Powered by **TEAM TEACH**

We know it is hard to understand children's behaviour and find the best ways to support them as they grow up. If you need support, are looking for advice, or have a parenting question, you'll find everything you need at [MyFamilyCoach.com](https://www.MyFamilyCoach.com).

My Family Coach is a free website produced by experts in child behaviour, parenting, and education. They have over 20 years of experience working with schools to understand children's behaviour. Their training is used in 5,000 settings, training over 100,000 individuals each year.

The website is full of resources on popular parenting topics, such as screen time, bullying, and mental wellbeing. They have a wide range of blog posts, podcast episodes, and videos available, along with bookable 1:1 coaching, courses, and classes.

My Family Coach provides support when you need it most.

**It's simple to sign up and completely free to register.**



## Woodside Academy 2022/23



September 2022						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2022						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2022						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2022						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 <small>1.30pm break</small>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 <small>1.30pm break</small>		

April 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19 <small>1.30pm break</small>	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August 2023						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- Holidays (School closed)
- Teacher Training Day (School closed to pupils)

- Bank Holiday (School closed)
- Progress Review Day (Pupils+parent/carer 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>



### Current Trust Covid Advice

- As there is no testing now, pupils who are showing symptoms of COVID should remain at home for 5 days and return once they have no fever following this time period
- If a pupil becomes symptomatic at school then we will require them to be picked up immediately and remain at home for at least 5 days as per the previous bullet point
- Any pupil with confirmed or suspected COVID will not be permitted to attend school, in order to protect other pupils and staff from infection

Thank you for your continued support with this.

### Dates for Diary

Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 – Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Half Term break
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	Pupils return to school
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 – a.m.	Sports Day EYFS/KS1
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	Sports Day KS2
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	Sports Day KS3
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	Sports Day KS4/5
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2022	Last day of term for pupils
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2022	Inset Day (staff only in school)