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WOODSIDE
ACADEMY

Volume 17 – 21st October 2022

The Woodside Way



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the first issue of the Woodside Way for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Here you will find information about learning and events that have taken place right across the school over the past few weeks. Should you wish to find more detail about what specifically is being taught and the themes and texts each term, then do check out our website [here](#).

Understandably, given the many changes at the beginning of a school year, it has taken a while for the children to settle back into the new term, this is the case for those children who were existing pupils as well as those who have joined this term. We also welcomed a number of new staff to teams across the school.

The first week of the new term was a whole school Art Week. Art and artists studied were specifically chosen to educate children about different countries and cultures. Examples of these include Aboriginal, modern Japanese, 20th Century USA, and Mexican art. Further weeks are planned for Music, Literacy and Performing Arts throughout the year.

We enjoy considerable support from our Trust, LSEAT. Over the past year, they have funded several projects which have had great impact on pupil learning, enjoyment and environments. We have celebrated in style with our Woodside winners at the LSEAT Awards evening and we have had several visits from LSEAT directors including a visit in school by the CEO, Dr Sam Parrett, CBE, and the Chair of Trustees, Christine Whittard, OBE.

A number of parent workshops have been run and these will continue throughout the year. It has been very encouraging to see the growing support which the Friends of Woodside are generating amongst our community. We are hugely appreciative of the many ways which parents and carers support the school as we seek to provide the very best education for each child.

We are at the stage in the school's development where we are seeking excellence for each child in three main areas; through reaching the outcomes and targets in their EHCP, in their personal development and in achieving ambitious academic progress. The school development focus for this year and in the longer term is outlined later in this issue.

We take the education of your child extremely seriously and endeavour to equip them as best we can for the future. Our partnership with you is a vital part of that success and we are looking forward to welcoming you in to school for our first Progress Review Day on Monday 7th November. This is an important part of our partnership as we share with you more detail regarding your child's learning and progress and seek your views and opinions on how you think they are doing and how best we can support them and you in their learning.

This is now my fifth year at Woodside and it remains an enormous privilege to lead this school to educate your children who are our inspiration, alongside an amazing and dedicated team. We all wish you a restful half term and will return refreshed and recharged in November.

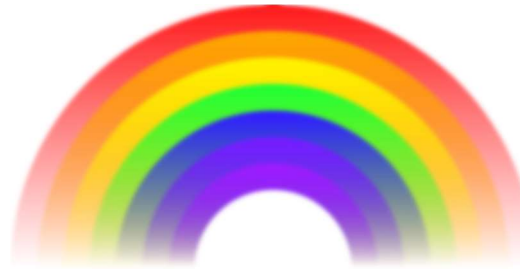
Kathryn Freame
Head Teacher

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Friends of Woodside Cake Sale

We would like to thank Parents/Carers for their very generous donations to the recent Friends of Woodside cake sale. There were some amazing artistic baking creations.

Friends of Woodside will provide us with an update in due course, as to how much was raised at the event.



All the children in EYFS and KS1 have enjoyed creating a canvas using a range of media and techniques to celebrate our 'Rainbow Day'



Please follow us on Twitter
[@LSEATWOODSIDE](https://twitter.com/LSEATWOODSIDE)

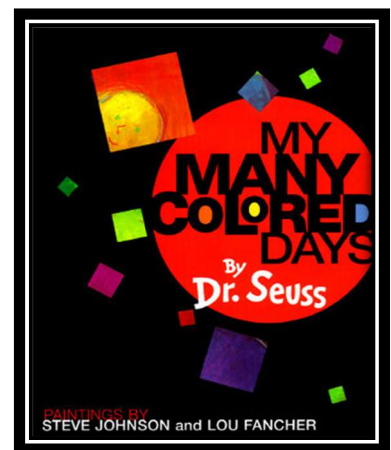
EYFS and Key Stage 1

It has been an exciting half term in EYFS with a new class of Reception/Year 1 children beginning their Woodside journey in Honeysuckle. All of the children have settled quickly into their routines and it has been a precious time getting to know each and every one.

Along with the other EYFS classes, we have been enjoying lots of activities based around the topic 'All about me.' Our small world area has been home to all of the Honeysuckle parents and our art area has been a hive of creative activity based around our homes and the people who live there. Through the activities, the children have been demonstrating their many different skills, including selecting and squeezing their own choice of paint colour, using aided language boards to ask for snacks and building and balancing tall towers before enthusiastically knocking them over!

We have investigated and explored lots of different books this half term and especially enjoyed 'My many coloured days' by Dr Seuss. This story led us into some fun colour mixing in the water tray, colour matching on the art easel and finding out about what makes us happy or sad through lots of playing with the key adults in the class.

What a fantastic start to the new academic year, Honeysuckle!



Key Stage 2

During the first week of this term, KS2 celebrated an art week by completing aboriginal art work. Classes used an artistic technique called pointillism by using dots to create aboriginal artwork of different animals. They used the text 'Where the Forest Meets the Sea' to explore rainforests and how we can help maintain them.



Our main topic this term has been 'Who Am I?' Tulip class drew around each other in the playground and were labelling the different parts of the human body.

For literacy, our younger classes read the story 'From Head to Toe.' The pupils explored following simple actions and were able to describe what was happening in the story using key words from the story. Sunflower, Rose and Iris class thoroughly enjoyed acting out scenes from 'Elmer's Weather' using props from the story to re-enact different weathers.



In older classes, pupils explored reading the text 'George's Marvellous Medicine' to celebrate Roald Dahl Day. The pupils were excited to make their own pretend medicines. They wrote ingredients lists for their medicines and then wrote instructions for how to make them. Bluebell class created their own chocolate factories based on the book 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.'

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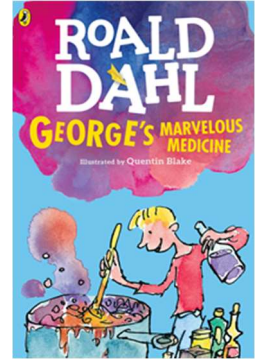
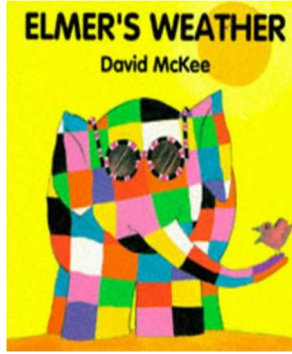
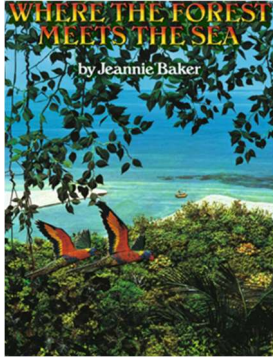
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Key Stage 2 continued ...

We have been reading:



Football Tournament



Some of our Key Stage 2 pupils recently represented Woodside at a football tournament. They were all amazing and worked brilliantly as a team. They experienced some fantastic individual highs and are excited for their next tournament and potentially winning a trophy.

Mr Foy
Senior Learning Mentor

Key Stage 3 - Everybody Counts

We have had a fantastic start to the new school year. The year started with a special art week which explored the work of Japanese artist, Takeshi Murukami. The pupils loved learning about Japanese culture, as well as developing a range of different art and technology skills. The curriculum was developed through our topic Everybody Counts - Where do we come from? We have also adapted teaching opportunities to represent the history that we have been living through recently, allowing everybody time to remember Queen Elizabeth II, the impact of the war in Ukraine, the changes in Downing Street, whilst also learning about black history month and mental health day.

In English, pupils have been exploring both fiction and non-fiction literature through reading and writing opportunities, as well as having daily reading opportunities to increase guided reading and comprehension skills.

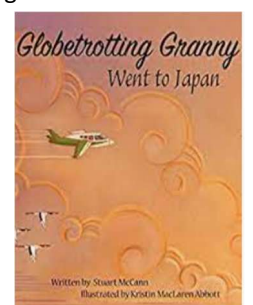
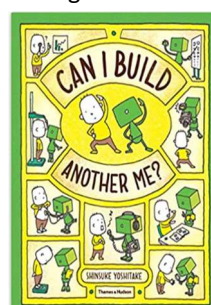
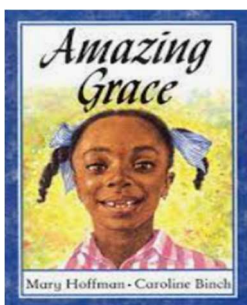
Key Stage Three have been developing their number and place value skills in maths this term, developing strategies to solve problems and deepening understanding through practical opportunities. The pupils have also been increasing their understanding of telling the time and recognising the value of money.

There have been thrilling opportunities in science, including Bunsen Burners, making slime, causing chemical reactions and exploring in the school nature area. Pupils have also been learning about Earth, space, the sun and the moon.

In our RSHE lessons, we have been developing our self-awareness skills to know how to react and respond to others, and how to make positive choices. In computing, we have created a personal profile, and learnt how to do so in a safe way. Art, ST and cooking have focused on the different cultures of Woodside and created some amazing and delicious work. Cycling and scootering have been the focus in outdoor PE, whilst learning new team games such as volleyball, and using the parachute, and using the fitness suite have been used indoors.



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



14-19

GallifordTry Partnerships

Construction Visit a
“live building site”

Students in the Construction Class had the opportunity to visit a “live construction site” on the 20th October. The site is a new SEN school which is under construction in the London Borough of Bexley.

The visit started by the students having to sign in before being taken to the safety induction suite to be explained site procedure and expectations. All of our students were fully engaged and asked/answered very relevant questions.

The site agent focused on keeping safe on site and also touched on the environmental responsibilities of the construction industry. The students were then given the opportunity to walk around the site, following the designated pedestrian route.



We have now been given the opportunity to extend this learning experience via a Zoom link after half term to ask any questions and check on progress of the site.

We have also been asked if any of our students would like a WEX opportunity on site for a day or week with a trade’s person. This in my opinion is an excellent opening and one that should be given serious consideration.

Reading also came to the forefront of the visit with regards to signage and safe working systems.

Mr Jenkins
14-19 Phase Lead

It is now time for students to think ahead to the next stage in their education. Year 10 students can also take advantage and begin to prepare by looking at the different provisions. The colleges and further education providers will be holding their coffee mornings and open days in the next few weeks.

Please see links below for more information. Unless specified, there is no need to register beforehand, but please check first.

https://www.woodside.bexley.sch.uk/images/Autumn_Coffee_Mornings_002.png

https://www.woodside.bexley.sch.uk/images/2022-23Bex_and_Gren_college_list_Sept_2022.pdf

We are planning on hosting our own coffee morning with representatives from our local colleges in-house at Woodside Academy. A date has yet to be finalised but will be shared via parent mail when confirmed.

Careers news and events

Following the very successful careers fair that was held in the summer term, we are currently planning another for the spring term. Watch this space for the date to be announced.



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Visitors to Woodside

Key stage 3 and 4 students have had the opportunity to attend two presentations by visiting speakers this half term.



Michelle from the mental health agency KOOOTH gave a presentation on how to access and register onto the online mental health resources, and also how to recognise stress and anxiety.

www.KOOOTH.com



As part of the hate crime awareness week, PC Semih and two colleagues gave a presentation on how to recognise and report hate crime. The students were then able to ask questions during their break time.

All three PCs were kept busy with conversations, and questions from our students, and they were impressed in how polite, and engaged they all were.

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We are always striving to include ways of improving individual's personal development throughout the year. We have already elected Play Leaders and have some pupils who are trained to be Diana Award Anti-Bullying Ambassadors, as well as classes deciding who their School Council representative will be. All of these roles enable the children to provide Pupil voice and take an active part in the areas they would like to make changes across the school. We are also hoping to introduce Eco Champions in the second part of the Autumn Term.

In addition to these roles, after half term we will be introducing the Duke of Edinburgh's Award to all pupils in Key Stage 4 and Post 16. According to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, the programme supports the development of a whole range of skills and attributes such as resilience, confidence, commitment, drive, self-awareness, empathy, team working and problem solving, which support them in navigating adult life.

We have secured funding to enable us to register those that are interested free of charge and also to purchase lots of equipment to support with the running of the expedition section; this includes tents, rucksacks, sleeping bags, hiking boots and waterproofs. This has been funded by the D of E Boosting participation fund. Several staff have received training and are looking forward to getting started.

To enable younger children an opportunity to develop their skills, we will also be introducing the Woodside Challenge Awards. Although this is not a nationally recognised Award, this will mean that individuals will have individual goals and challenges that they work towards completing so they can achieve the colour of the award they are focusing on before moving on to the next level.

Ms Corcoran
Deputy Head Teacher

Woodside's SEN Team

Hello, I would like to introduce myself, and my new SEN team.

My name is Mrs Smith and I started here at Woodside Academy in April this year. I am one of the Deputy Head Teachers, and my area of responsibility is Quality of Education SEND. My amazing team consists of Mrs Aucott, AHT, Mrs Lloyd, SENCO and Ms Tubb SEN administration.



My name is Mrs Aucott and I am one of the Assistant Head Teachers here at Woodside. I have been working at Woodside since September 2016. My areas of responsibility are consultations, transitions, assessment & accreditation and parents' evenings & progress review days.



My name is Mrs Lloyd. I am the SENCo here at Woodside Academy. I have been a SENCo for many years, but only just started at Woodside in September this year. My main responsibility is to make sure that EHCPs are kept as up to date as possible through the Annual Review Process. I also oversee referrals to outside agencies who offer support to the students at Woodside Academy to make sure that everyone has access to what they need to learn in school. I will sometimes need to talk to parents who will be able to help me with making referrals or help by providing their expert knowledge of their child. I have enjoyed getting to know many of the students and parents in the last few weeks, and look forward to meeting even more of you as the term progresses.



My name is Ms Tubb. I joined Woodside in September 2006 as a Cover Supervisor. I became the Attendance Officer two years ago and last year joined the SEN team as administration support.





School Priorities 2022-23

- Support all staff in their continuing professional development, especially staff new to the school or moving into a new role to ensure quality of education in all phases.
- Strengthen and further develop subject and middle leadership.
- Broaden pupil voice and pupil leadership opportunities through introduction of Duke of Edinburgh and KS3 Woodside challenge scheme.
- Assessment policy implementation- target setting, progress measures, more active involvement of parents.
- P16 curriculum review.
- Maintain prominence of reading across the curriculum and continued promotion of a love of reading across the school.

Woodside Academy Development Plan Priorities 2022/2025

The following long-term priorities will inform the short-term annual school planning and review cycle. These priorities will be kept under review and will be amended as necessary.

- 1. To embed and further enrich the Woodside Curriculum ensuring that every child is offered consistently excellent opportunities to make the best progress.**
- 2. To strengthen provision to ensure:**
 - Aspirational SEND pedagogy and collaboration combined with ...
 - Empowering Personal Development leading to ...
 - Ambitious academic progress.
- 3. To strengthen the learning culture of all, maintaining a growth mind-set so that children and staff are resilient, able to manage change, and can continue to flourish, achieve and exceed.**
- 4. To grow and develop specialism in Creative & Performing Arts; art, music, drama, dance across the school and including the whole community.**
- 5. To continue to strengthen parent, community and wider links with all stakeholders, through trips and through outreach with other schools and settings.**

We also aspire to gain the Mentally Healthy Schools Award, the ADHD-friendly Schools Award and NAS Accreditation.

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Thrive Online

Advice for parents and carers of young people aged 11 and over with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities covering healthy relationships, digital wellbeing, online pornography and nudes. Part of the Thrive Online resources:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/supporting-young-people-with-send>



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.

My Family Coach has three free online parent classes over the next few months. It is free to register and book onto these courses.

- Healthy Screen Time Habits: A chance to listen to one of our behaviour experts discuss ways to find a healthy balance and reduce conflict around screen time. Wednesday 19th October, 7.30-8pm. <https://www.myfamilycoach.com/events/free-class-screen-time-communication-conversation-online-behaviour-social-media-healthy-screentime-habits/>
- Understanding Anxiety-Driven Behaviours: Find out more about the triggers behind behaviour and strategies to help your child calm down. Wednesday 9th November, 7.30-8pm. <https://www.myfamilycoach.com/events/parent-class-mental-wellbeing-conversation-communication-anxiety-deescalation-understanding-anxiety-driven-behaviours/>

Building a Stronger Connection with Your Child: Understand the barriers that can get in the way of family relationships and develop strategies for respectful communication between everyone. Wednesday 7th December, 7.30-8pm:

<https://www.myfamilycoach.com/events/parent-class-communication-conversation-family-bond-build-stronger-connection/>

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SEN Breakfast with Santa

Exclusive to Woodside families

We are over the moon to have been offered the opportunity to attend an exclusive 'Breakfast with Santa' event at the Morgan in Belvedere just for Woodside families. How exciting!

When: Sunday 18th December

Time: 9-11am

Where: The Morgan,
1 Clydesdale Way, Belvedere
DA17 6FD

Cost: £10 per person (includes
breakfast, unlimited
squash/tea/coffee and a gift
for child as you leave)



To book please contact The Morgan directly on 020 3137 9902

Places are LIMITED to ensure the environment is comfortable for our children, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Please note that this event is hosted by The Morgan and NOT Friends of Woodside, so please contact them with any queries.

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www.bexley.gov.uk

Youthfest

A FESTIVAL OF YOUTH WORK

WELLING YOUTH CENTRE
DA16 3JQ



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Woodside Academy 2022/23



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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>



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Dates for Diary

| | |
|---|--|
| Monday 24 th October 2022 – Friday 4 th November 2022 | Half-Term |
| Monday 7 th November 2022 | Progress Review Day (pupils and parent/carer in by appointment only) |
| Tuesday 8 th November 2022 | Pupils return to school |
| Tuesday 20 th December 2022 | 1.30 p.m. finish |
| Tuesday 20 th December 2022 (p.m.) – Monday 2 January 2023 | Christmas break |
| Tuesday 3 rd January 2023 | Teacher Training Day (school closed to pupils) |
| Wednesday 4 th January 2023 | Pupils return to school |