

DECEMBER NEWS

The school have been preparing for Christmas by making giant decorations for the hall... glitter and sparkles galore!



'It's the most wonderful time of the year...'

Dear Parents, Carers, Governors, Friends, Staff and Pupils

Approaching the end of the Autumn Term, offers the time for reflection at what has been and gone, achievements and successes and the moments where 'Well, we won't do it like that again...' is heard.

However, the successes have far outweighed the 'Oh dear' moments I am pleased to say and I have to be so grateful to the children and staff who have guided me in this new journey.

All the staff and children are preparing for the upcoming Christmas events which we hope will ignite the magic of the season and provide opportunity for us to share the festive period with the Woodmansey friends and families.

The Foundation Year and Key Stage 1 are busily preparing for '**It's a Baby!**' Which will be performed on **Tuesday 12th December at 9.30am.**

We are also offering Parent places at the dress rehearsal on **Monday 11th December**, alongside Key Stage 2 who will also be in the audience. This will also begin at 9.30am. These times have been chosen to hopefully help parents with the potential for flexible working to attend, rather than it being in the middle of the day. Please complete the booking form at the end of the newsletter for tickets. (This form has also been sent out as a hard copy.) At the moment, there are a maximum of 2 seats available per family. If after the initial booking period there are spares these will be released on a first come, first served basis up to a maximum of 2 more per family. Please apply for tickets directly to the school office with your form.

Now of course it would be a shame not to let the children in years 3-6 shine this Christmas, so the Key

Stage 2 '**Festival of Christmas**' will take place on **Monday 18th December** at Beverley Minster at **7pm** where they will perform songs from '**Once Upon a Christmas Time**', alongside the children from Molescroft Primary School. We really hope that all the Key Stage 2 children and their families can join us for this event. If your child really cannot make it, please put this in writing to your child's class teacher so they are not given a key role. The doors of the Minster will open at 6.30pm where your child will find their class teacher and Parents and Friends can find a pew. This event is not ticketed.

Finally, let me wish all the Woodmansey Families and Friends a warm and blessed Christmas Holiday.



MINSTER TREES 2017

Once again the PTFA are kindly sponsoring a Christmas Tree for the school for the Minster Tree Festival. Children in Year 3 and 4 have designed and are busily applying the finishing touches for the tree along with the guidance and creative talents of Mrs Fisher and Mrs Owst. The Woodmansey tree, along with around 90 others are available to view in Beverley Minster from Friday 8th December 10 - 16.30, Saturday 9th 10 - 16.00 and Sunday 10th 12 - 17.00. Admission is £2 for adults and children are free. Please support the school by visiting if you can, and if you spot our tree, take a photo of you with it and tweet us @WoodmanseyPS.



'Woodmansey Journey to Bethlehem'
- Can you spot our tree from Friday 8th?

RAISING FUNDS WITH FESTIVE CHEER!

On Wednesday 13th December 2017, Key Stage 2 are Carol Singing at Tesco Beverley at 1.30pm. We will be using the Service Bus to take us to and from Tesco and will be back in time for the end of the school day. Any questions please ask Mrs Fisher.

THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

After all, Christmas is only once a year!

A special tradition at Molescroft Primary School is being brought to us at Woodmansey to welcome the decoration and lighting of the Christmas Tree. Mr Lancaster will be presenting a special Christmas Tree Assembly on Monday 4th December. Unfortunately we cannot invite everyone to attend, however if Governors, Staff, Volunteer Helpers and members of the PTFA are able to join us, they are most welcome. Guests attending, please let the school know and **please be on site by 10am**. Please do look out for pictures of the event on the School Twitter Feed (@WoodmanseyPS).

PARENTS OF YEAR 2 CHILDREN

Thanks to those who could attend the recent meeting for parents of Year 2 children regarding May SATS. We will be holding the same event in January for Parents that could not join us. Please see the Diary pages for information.

AUTUMN PHOTO COMPETITION

And the winner is...

Many thanks to those of you that entered the Autumn Photo Competition. I am pleased to announce that William Etherton's photo is the winner. Well done William for finding a very inquisitive squirrel!



SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAIR - PTFA

The annual Christmas Fair will be held on Friday 8th December, 2pm-3.30pm in the school hall. There will be a variety of stalls and activities to take part in. Parents, Carers and Friends of the school are invited to join us.

The PTFA are working tirelessly to fundraise for the school to improve the environment or help fund new resources for your children, so please support them if you can.

SPRING CLUBS

There aren't many occasions where I like to let the weather defeat us, but I feel we have now reached that point with our after school clubs. The nights now have the potential to cut short the outside clubs. However, I have spoken to First Steps Sports who provide the clubs for us and I have agreed the following for the Spring Term:

Monday lunchtime: KS1 Football (Please provide jogging bottoms and hooded top)

Monday after school: KS2 Seated Volleyball

Tuesday after school: KS2 Gymnastics

Friday after school: KS2 Street Dance

All the after school clubs will finish at 4.15pm. Please look out for letters to sign up. The clubs have been a huge success and I hope it will continue and entice others with something new on offer. These new clubs will begin after Christmas with the current clubs running until the end of the term.



DRESSING UP FOR CHARITY

The last event of the Charity Campaign

Our final day is a non-uniform day but children may also choose to be more creative and come in fancy dress. The same applies to staff! The fine for this is £2. The aim is, as you know to encourage the children to think of those less fortunate than themselves and to make some small sacrifice in the terms of time, effort and pocket money. It is not designed as a major assault on parental purses and wallets! The Pupil Council, with suggestions from the classes, will decide on the charities we will support throughout the year.

WOODMANSEY'S CHOCOLATE FACTORY

In past years, the chocolate tombola has been a really hit at the school Christmas Fair (Friday 8th), so the PTFA are asking again for chocolate contributions to be sent into school ready for the tombola stall. Please hand all donations into the school office...if they were to stay in my office I would be worried that not all made it to the tombola...! Whereas Mrs Scott has far more self control! Thank you in advance of your generous donations.



SNOW POLICY: IMPORTANT

The following is taken from the school's Safeguarding Policy and should prepare parents/carers for what to expect when it snows.

The school will only close without prior notice as a last resort. The Head of School or her representative will remain on site until the last child is collected.

Policy in Practice **What the school does to assist in the event of icy weather conditions.**

It is not practical to grit the entire site, but as part of the gritting policy, safe routes round the site and across the Playground have been identified and will be gritted before giving access to the site, thereby minimising the risks to children parents and visitors. The car park will also be gritted.

Children are not allowed to make slides on the playgrounds. Playgrounds are gritted if practical before 8:30am and when not, by morning break. At playtimes a decision as to whether children are to be allowed outside will be made by the senior teacher on duty in conjunction with the Head of School.

Children may not throw snowballs on the playgrounds. However if the field is covered by thick snow pupils may be allowed to play on the field in the snow, make snowman and throw snowballs. Those not wishing to throw snow (or indeed be hit by snowballs) should stay on the playgrounds. The school believes that playing in and throwing snow is part of a child's life experiences.

In extreme cases the Executive Headteacher may decide that there is no option but to close the school if there is presented a severe health and safety risk. This done, the Chair

of Governors and the local radio stations will be informed. A severe Health and Safety Risk would be presented if insufficient staff could reach the school or indeed the health and safety of staff meant that they should leave early. Due to the location of the school it is expected that the school will be able to remain open. Closing a school at short notice including closing mid way through a day poses considerable difficulties for parents and will only be taken as a very last resort.

A complete heating failure in the winter and/or a loss of the water supply would however result in the school having to close.

Good communication is essential. Parents receive a copy of specific instructions during the autumn and winter months via the monthly newsletters and the website. Children have the processes explained to them in the classroom. It is expected that parents adhere to these instructions and pass all relevant information to friends and relatives who may also come to school to bring and fetch children. Parents/Carers are asked to be responsible and plan more time for their journey, suitable footwear for having to walk further, wrapping up to keep warm etc....Parents should not expect to be able to park close to the school at these times! Parents and visitors are expected to use the gritted paths rather than walk across the snow and ice.

Snow Policy and Procedures - information for teaching and support staff

In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow the prime concern of the school must always be the safety of the pupils and staff.

It is expected that all staff will make every reasonable effort to undertake the journey to school.

It is appreciated that the journey may take longer than normal and therefore some staff may not be

able to arrive before the normal start of school time.

The school will only close without prior notice as a last resort. The Head of School or her representative will remain on site until the last child is collected.

In the event of severe weather, a decision to close the school for day pupils will be made by 7am. The Head of School will contact Radio Humberside and Viking Radio to ask them to broadcast the information.

PARENTS WILL BE INFORMED BY TEXT IF THE SCHOOL IS TO CLOSE.

Updates will be posted on the Twitter Feed - @WoodmanseyPS

In the event of the normal timetable being suspended, a programme of activities will be organised for pupils who arrive at school. Teachers and Teaching Assistants will be delegated to supervise these activities.

Rather than a full closure it is more likely that the school will remain open on a reduced capacity. In such an event, parents/carers will be asked if it is possible to make alternative arrangements for pupils. Where this is not possible the school will remain open for those who need to come to school or for those who cannot go home in the case of an unexpected early closure. As the number pupils remaining decreases, they will be moved to other classes or the hall.

GOVERNOR NEWS

As you may know, Woodmansey CE Primary has not only been through some leadership changes but the Governing Body has seen big changes over the last couple of years. It is important that as parents and carers you are aware of the people within the team that governs the school and what their role is. Governance has taken a different direction in recent years but essentially they are to:

- ensure the school continues to raise standards
- ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Over this academic year we hope to provide you with a Governor biography for each governor so you can get to know their faces and understand their role within the governing body.



Mrs Sara Fletcher **Community Governor**

I am the newest governor at Woodmansey having been appointed in November 2017 although I had previous governor experience at another school. I have a long connection with Woodmansey School; I was a pupil myself and now my children attend the School. I am also involved with the school's parent, teacher and friends association (PTFA) and support Woodmansey Woodlets, the school's parent and toddler group.

At work I'm involved in secondary and post 16 education. I support schools, colleges, universities and other organisations with a range of initiatives to improve the curriculum and their outcomes for young people. I have a particular interest in special educational needs, disadvantage, careers education, and Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM).

Outside of school I attempt an occasional run and tap dance classes; I'm not very good at either but they provide a bit of fun and I think it's good to (slightly) challenge ourselves with things that are outside our 'comfort' zone.

It is a real privilege to be involved as a governor at Woodmansey, I really want to contribute positively and being a governor is the best way of achieving that. Through my work I see the challenges some children face when they become adults and about to enter the world of work and I hope to contribute that experience in my role as governor. High quality primary education is so important in setting a child on their journey in life. I am excited to play a part in the Woodmansey School 'journey'.



*“And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.”
Luke 2:40*



PLEASE PIN THIS PAGE TO YOUR HOUSEHOLD NOTICEBOARD

December

- Mon 4th Christmas Tree Assembly led by Mr Loncaster
Pedestrian Training Y3/4
- Fri 8th Woodmansey Primary Christmas Fair 2pm-3.30pm
- Sat 9th PTFA Family Disco at the Village Hall 4pm-6pm
- Mon 11th FSU/KS1 'It's a Baby', Christmas Performance dress rehearsal to school
- Tues 12th FSU/KS1 'It's a Baby', Christmas Performance to Parent/Carers
- Wed 13th KS2 Carol Singing at Tesco 1.30pm
- Mon 18th KS2 Christmas Festival at Beverley Minster 7pm-8.15pm
- Tuesday 19th EYFS and Year 1/2 Christmas Party
- Wed 20th School Music Service Brass Ensemble Concert to children
KS2 Christmas Party
- Thurs 21st School Christmas Dinner
Christingle Service
- Fri 22nd COME DRESSED AS YOU LIKE DAY (£2 fine for non-uniform)
School Closes at 3.30pm for Christmas Break.

January

- Mon 8th School Training Day
- Tues 9th 8.50 am School Opens for Pupils

Yours sincerely,

B Nicholls
Head of School

Christmas at Woodmansey CE Booking Form

**PLEASE REFER TO THE NEWSLETTER FOR FULL DETAILS
PLEASE RETURN BY WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2017.**

IT'S A BABY

Name of one child in EYFS, YEAR 1 OR YEAR 2

.....

Please reserve me tickets as indicated below. (Please Circle). **MAXIMUM 2 IN
TOTAL AT THIS STAGE.**

Number of tickets

Monday 11th December 09.30 am.(Dress Rehearsal)	1	2
Tuesday 12th December 09.30am.	1	2

Signed Parent/Carer

.....

***Please note the Year 3 to Year 6 Festival of Christmas at
Beverley Minster on Monday 18th December at 7 p.m.
is open to all and has no ticket reservations.***

.....