

FEBRUARY NEWS



**SPOTTED:
The Little Match Girl
in Years 3 and 4!**

This newsletter is also posted on the school website: woodmanseyprimary.school. You will find a copy of communications to parents under the 'Letters to Parents' section.

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

They say never to second guess what is lurking around the corner and that has never felt more true than now. As all of you will be aware we had the OFSTED visit this week. Although expected, it always makes you stand back and evaluate the progress the school has made and prompts the question, 'If only we had more time!' However time is something we cannot control.

The children were an absolute highlight. Their behaviour was impeccable, their attitude to work was second to none and their manners and polite and caring natures just shone.

So a **huge thank you** to you as partners of the school for your support and kind words. Also, the responses on Parent View were gratefully received. I truly believe we are all in this together and this process has cemented that belief.

Off course I cannot say anything about the judgement or the inspection itself, but mine and Michael Loncaster's thanks extend to you all individually.

Now as we approach half term (I know after the long Autumn Term it feels a bit quick doesn't it!) you will receive your child's mid year report. This report will outline the progress your child/ren have made this academic year. These reports are generated by FliC, the reporting and assessment system the school uses. If you have't already please take a look at the information on FliC which can be found on the homepage of the school website: (www.woodmanseyprimary.school)

The report will have an accompanying letter which will explain the report but please contact your child's teacher if you have

anything to raise or need clarification on.

This half term there will again be a homework task. Please look out for it just before half term and as this is the only homework which will be sent out we strongly encourage this to be completed as it will inform an independent piece of writing when the children are back in school after the break.

Thank you again for your support and working with us to help inspire the next generation.

Kindest regards,
Mrs Bethan Nicholls
Head of School



PE KIT

It has been noticed that some PE kit is missing from PE bags. So I thought it would be worth a reminder about what is needed for PE. As PE is physical we need to ensure that the children are safe in carrying out their tasks. Therefore jewellery is not to be worn. Stud earrings must be removed by the child or if they are unable to do so, they will be taped up to avoid being knocked or caught. Each child should have a white or black plain t-shirt (unless it has the school logo) and black plain shorts (no stripes or badges). They should also have a pair of jogging bottoms and jumper for outdoor PE.

Trainers are essential for outdoor PE and should not be the same shoes that are worn as part of their uniform day to day.

If an item of kit is missing, we will send a text home to inform you and to ask that it is added at the quickest convenience so the PE can go ahead.



PARKING

A gentle reminder...

I know that the issue of car parking around the school has been long standing and I can totally appreciate that the position of the school is not ideal. Now as I cannot physical change the school's location I can remind you of all possible solutions.

1. The school car park can be accessed and used until 8.30am when the gates will be locked. The gates will be re-opened at 8.50am when children are safely inside the school building.
2. The Warton Arms and The Village Hall have kindly offered us use of their carpark for parents to park and walk the remainder of the journey to school.

I urge you all to consider the safety of the children and the staff when parking at busy times. Parking to cause obstruction to the crossing patrol or entrance to the school gate is parking dangerously and restricting access for emergency vehicles.

KS1 SATs

PARENTS OF YEAR 2 CHILDREN

Due to the cancellation of the KS1 SATS meeting for Year 2 Parents we are re-arranging the meeting for **Wednesday 21st February at 3.45pm**.

WINTER PHOTO COMPETITION

Get your entries in... there's still time!

Similarly to the Autumn Photo Competition, we are now holding a winter competition too. Get your cameras out and hunt for a spectacular view or just something that catches your eye. Photos can be sent to the school via woodmansey.primary@eastriding.gov.uk or to the school office as a hard copy.

Please get your entries in by Friday 9th February.



INTERNATIONAL WEEK!

Thank you for supporting our International Week by touring the school via the different countries! The children were buzzing all week with the facts and geographical understanding. The children used art, P.E, history, science and literacy to discover the wider Europe.

The children are still talking about the week and are making key links between their newly acquired understanding and things they already knew. From French café in EYFS to Tapás in Year 1 & 2 and sculpture in KS2, the learning opportunities were taken advantage of! I know I will certainly miss being offered a croissant and a coffee from the children when I make my way towards EYFS!

As always, thank you for your support and it was wonderful to see so many of you travelling to the other classrooms to see what the children had achieved that week.



MID-YEAR REPORTS

A chance to see how your child is getting on...

Shortly, you will receive a mid-year report showing assessments made by the teachers for your child/ren in Writing, Reading and Maths. They are designed so you can see objectives where security has not been achieved yet, or perhaps where a child is already enhancing in that subject area. However, it is also hugely important to remember that the year is not over yet. Most objectives will be revisited and the teachers have time to fill in the gaps of attainment. If you have any questions about your child's report then please get in touch with your child's class teacher ASAP so we can work together. I apologise that there is a delay in the reports getting to you as per the original date in the last newsletter, but the Ofsted visit has meant that the reports could not be generated and checked at that time as planned. We hope you can understand this and accept our apologies.

BUDGING BASKETBALLERS!

On Tuesday 23rd January, the children took part in a basketball tournament held at Beverley Grammar School.

Scoring an impressive 9 goals the team only lost one game, having won 3 and drew three. Overall the team came second in the tournament narrowly losing out by a single point to the winning team of St Johns Primary. The children played so well and their teamwork was impeccable.

Well done Team Woodmansey!

Thank you to the Sports Partnership for organising this event and to Miss Williamson for supporting the children.



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.

Estella Champion Foundation Governor



I am Estella Champion, one of the Foundation Governors. This means that I am one of the Governors appointed by the Church of England.

I am Mum to two wonderful boys (who have suddenly become young men). My eldest son is studying music at university, and the youngest is currently at Longcroft School. I am married to Ian, who is a retired teacher. I love cooking for my family, this has become a little more challenging recently, since my eldest has embraced a vegan diet.

I became a Christian in my 30's and play an active part in Beverley Minster's family of church. 4 years ago I trained to become an RPA (recognised parish assistant) for Beverley Minster.

Professionally I have had a variety of careers in different organisations. I originally trained as a nurse and worked as a staff nurse in intensive care and coronary care. I have a degree in education and became a primary school teacher in the late 1990's. I have worked in a variety of primary schools, some have been big city schools and some small village schools of a similar size to Woodmansey.

In the past I combined my my nursing and teaching roles as a manager of sure start children's centres. I also have experience of running my own small business, helping young children with their early language development. In the recent past I have worked as an inspector on behalf of OFSTED. So I have lots of different experiences to draw on to help me in my role of Governor.

Currently, I enjoy working on the senior leadership team of a multi academy trust in Hull. My day to day job is leading the teaching of the youngest children at a primary school in West Hull.

As a Foundation Governor I aim to provide support (and challenge when needed) to help the school community provide all children at our school with a relevant and engaging curriculum in an environment which reflects the school's Christian ethos and values. As a Governor I work with others from the school community and the Local Authority to help all children to feel safe, included, respected and able to reach their potential at our school.

DIARY



PLEASE PIN THIS PAGE TO YOUR HOUSEHOLD NOTICEBOARD

February

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| Thurs 1st | Finance, Premises and Management Governors Meeting |
| Wed 7th | Mid Year reports published |
| Fri 9th | School Closes 3.30pm for half term. |
| Mon 19th | School re-opens |

March

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| Thurs 8th | Full Governing Body Meeting |
| Mon 12th | STEM Week |
| Thurs 15th | KS2 Orienteering event |
| Mon 19th | Easter Bonnett entries due |
| | Sport Relief Week |
| Thurs 22nd | Easter Bake Off Judging |
| Fri 23rd | TBC: Easter Service at St Peter's Church, 1.30pm. PTFA Easter Fayre, 'Share a slice', 2.30pm School Hall. 3.30pm School closes for Easter break. |

April

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|-----------|------------------------|
| Mon 9th | Training Day for staff |
| Tues 10th | School open for pupils |

Yours sincerely,

B Nicholls

We give thanks and rejoice in the hard work, fun, and fellowship that our staff, volunteers, and all those unknown to us played in making our event a wonderful experience for all.

May we find gladness and satisfaction in all of our successes, and even in our challenges and lessons.

May this experience of teamwork and sacrifice strengthen our bond as a staff and deepen our commitment to our mission to serve others.