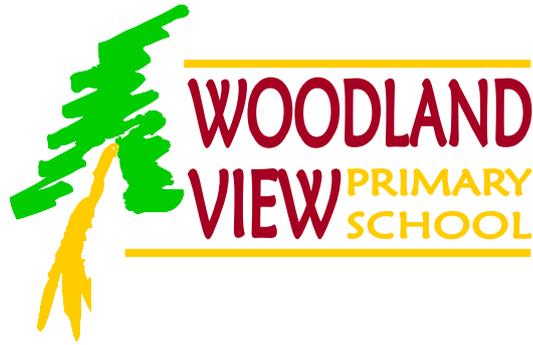


Thursday 30th November 2017

Headteacher Newsletter No. 320



Dear Parents,

It has been incredibly busy of late with a range of exciting opportunities and fundraising events for the children to get involved with. Here are some of the highlights:

Remembrance:

Children in Year 6 took responsibility for visiting classes and selling items for The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. It was fantastic to see so many children wearing their poppy with pride! All the children were also able to visit the Immersive Room for a Remembrance experience, allowing the children to reflect on the significance of the poppy and remember those who have served our country in the past, and those who continue to serve today. You helped raise over £600. Thank you.

Children in Need- Spectacular Spotacular!

School was awash with spots and dots on Friday 17th November as children supported Pudsey. We had a wonderful collection of Pudsey t-shirts, ears and accessories. As well as a range of superheroes! Children in Need is a brilliant charity supporting disadvantaged children and their families across the UK. We are delighted to announce that the children raised £427.20! A huge thank you! You can see some of the Spotacular clothing in photos on the school website.

Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair was held last Monday in the hall. Many thanks to all of you who supported the book fair, as all the money we raise helps to buy new books and resources for our classrooms and library. We hope the children enjoy reading their new books!

Football Success

We were very successful in the group stages and therefore progressed to the semi-finals and played Caroline Chisholm School. It was a tense match and at the full time whistle it was 1-1. It then went to golden goal and we managed to secure the goal to make it through to the final! In the final, our striker scored the goal of the tournament with an absolutely amazing 15 yard volley into the corner of the goal. This means we will represent Northampton in the County finals in January! Congratulations to all of the children!



Girls' Football

Seven girls from Year 5 and 6 took part in the Level 2 Girls Football Tournament at Elizabeth Woodville School. We played five matches, winning 2, drawing 1 and losing 2. The team played with terrific enthusiasm, stamina and determination in very cold conditions, doing themselves and the school proud!

Tag Rugby

Boys and Girls in Year 5 and 6 took part in a Tag Rugby tournament at CCS. They worked incredibly hard and showed great tactical awareness, coming second overall. The interest in representing the school in the Tag Rugby tournament was so great that we have put together our very own WVPS Tag Rugby tournament for children in Years 4-6! The mixed teams have put in fantastic performances and we are down to our final matches!



Strictly Sensational

Sixteen children from Year 5 and 6 took part in the UK School's Junior Strictly Dance Competition at the Royal and Derngate in Northampton. Over the last two months, the children have been working hard to learn a routine for a samba and an American smooth and have shown great team work, coordination and rhythm. The children gave a fantastic, professional performance. Well done to all involved for your outstanding commitment.

Hamlet

A group of Year 6 children stunned us all with a captivating performance of Hamlet at the Royal Theatre. They were taking part in the Shakespeare for Schools festival which is a brilliant project that allows children to access abridged versions of the Bards most famous plays. Our young actors worked tirelessly over the first half term to learn their lines and dances to create a stunning performance of this famous play. It was clear that the children had gained a fantastic understanding of the play and got to grips with the Shakespearean language-bringing the language to life on stage. Congratulations!



Henry VIII

Last half term, Year 4 learnt about the life and times of one of England's most notorious kings, Henry VIII. During this topic, the children covered his early life, hobbies and interests and of course, his infamous six wives. However, the end of the topic took a strange and unusual turn. The children were left speechless when they were able to put their questions to the man himself.



Dragons' Little Den

There were 37 applications from individuals or groups of children in Y4/5/6. Twenty made the shortlist and were asked to present their idea to the Dragons (staff and parents from the world of business).

The Dragons were typically ruthless and just 7 ideas were supported to take them forward. Successful ideas include a Crazy Hoops game for the Christmas Fayre, Healthy Popcorn sales, a World Record week in school, a wristband campaign for a local cause and a scheme to sponsor a child in Africa.

All the children prepared and delivered their ideas really well. I was very proud.

School Values

Last term we launched our WVPS school values with the children. Values are principles that drive our thinking and behaviour. As a school community we will be focusing on a different value each half term. Hopefully, your child will have told you all about our fantastic WVPS Values Awards ceremony, where children who had been ambassadors for the Respect Value, walked along the red carpet to receive their certificate! Respect was our first value as it is our golden value as we believe it is essential in all that we do.

Our shared understanding of Respect is: *To treat others how you would like to be treated.*

This half term's value is **Kindness**. Our shared understanding of kindness is: *The willingness to help, show concern for and be friendly to others.*

We will be exploring the importance of kindness with the children across the term. What does it mean to be kind? How does it feel when we are kind to others? How does it make them feel? We will be encouraging children to undertake small acts of kindness. Already this term, we have seen children thinking of others and showing their generosity through supporting the Poppy Appeal and Children in Need. Yet, we have also explored with the children that sometimes it is the smallest acts of kindness, a simple smile... a kind word that can make the biggest difference to someone else's day. We have also discussed how kindness is contagious. In fact, kindness keeps the world afloat!

"No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted." - Aesop.

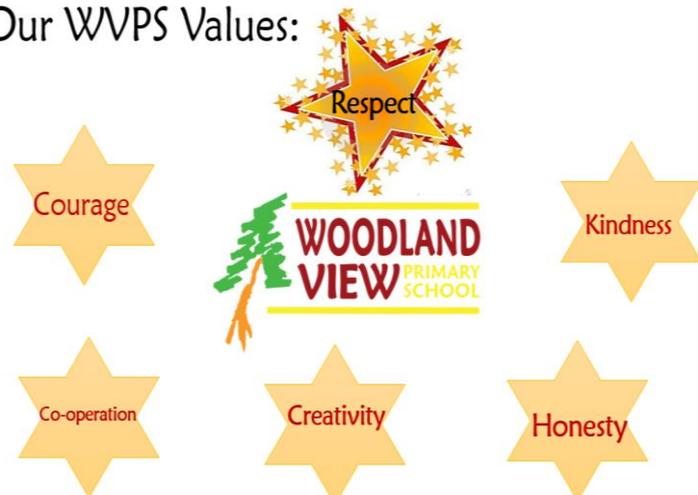
Before Christmas we will be asking children to take part in a 'Random Act of Kindness Countdown'... what small things can they do to bring happiness to others at this time of year?

Christmas



Already the children are beginning to learn some Christmas songs and traditional carols. Our Year 6 children will be spreading the Christmas joy by singing at Richmond Village, whilst Year 4 are working on a melody of songs for a performance for our dedicated Lunchtime Supervisors. We will be hosting visits from the Northampton Waste and Recycling team as they help the children understand the importance of reducing waste at Christmas time! Our youngest children will be delighting us with their first school performance at their Nativity, which is always a festive highlight! As always classes will celebrate on 'Christmas Party Day' (19th December) with food, party games and general festive fun! More details will follow from class teachers regarding party food requests.

Our WVPS Values:



FOWV will be holding their annual **Christmas Fayre** after school on Friday 8th December, 3.15pm-5.15pm. There will be a great range of stalls on offer and Father Christmas and his reindeer will be flying in for a visit!

Christmas Jumper Day

We will be having a Christmas Jumper Day on the last day of term (Wednesday 20th December). This follows on from party clothes the day before (19th). This will allow you all, from Monday 18th, to get the school uniform washed, dried and put away well before the children break up. We are so good to you! We are suggesting that children can bring in a voluntary contribution of 50p for wearing the Christmas Jumper. All the money we raise as a school will be donated to Save the Children.

We look forward to seeing you at the many upcoming Christmas events.

Ofsted

Our last Ofsted Inspection was in 2008 and the school was rated Outstanding in all areas (except Attendance which was Good). Ofsted undertake an annual desktop review of the school's pupil performance data to ensure attainment and progress levels remain at the highest levels.

So, in effect, our Outstanding rating is verified annually and they are only likely to undertake a further inspection if there are any significant changes to our overall performance.

I wish to applaud and thank my brilliant staff team for their consistently high levels of performance, care and commitment.

Key Dates

Friday 1 st December	Mufti Day for Christmas Fayre: please bring a donation of a bottle, gift, etc.
Monday 4 th December	A Storyteller will lead sessions with all children
Tuesday 5 th December	Christmas Crafts with Northampton Waste & Recycling Team
Wednesday 6 th December	Christmas Crafts with Northampton Waste & Recycling Team
Friday 8 th December	Y6 singing at Richmond Village FOWV Christmas Fayre 3.15pm
Monday 11 th December	FS Nativity Performances 2pm & 6.30pm Y6 Trip to Harry Potter Studios
Wednesday 13 th December	FS/KS1 Christmas Puppet Show from Grange Park Church Y4/5 Trip to see the Jungle Book- Royal theatre Special Christmas Lunch day - Chartwells caterers
Monday 18 th December	Y2 Performance Evening 6.30pm
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Party Day
Wednesday 20 th December	WVPS Christmas Jumper Day Close for Christmas 3.15pm
Wednesday 3 rd January	School Closed: Teacher Training Day
Thursday 4 th January	School re-opens

Yours sincerely,



Mark Thomas- Headteacher

Merry Christmas to you all!