

Hethersett Woodside Primary & Nursery Community Newsletter

October 2023

Thank you to all in our community for your support and positivity during this half term. I have been so impressed with the enthusiasm, passion and hard work I have seen from children and staff alike.

I wish you all a relaxing half term break, and hope to get to know more of you face to face over the coming weeks

Kind regards

Mrs Louise Mainwaring - Headteacher

Attendance Update

Thank you to those parents who are calling to tell us each day of their child's absence. Please ensure you do this daily. A 'Leave of absence' form must be completed if your child is absent for a reason other than illness. (Please contact the office or access the form from our website).

All classes are thoroughly enjoying the attendance awards given each Friday in celebration assembly - it is an exciting moment as we wait for the winner to be announced!!

Online Safety

One of the more heartwarming, life affirming aspects of social media is being able to share special moments in our children's lives with family and friends; from the first day at school or blowing out birthday cake candles to smiling holiday selfies and cute Halloween costumes. Is there, however, such a thing as too much sharing - and can it actually put children in danger?

With potential risks such as accidentally displaying identifying details (images showing where a child lives or what school they go to, for example) and photos being seen and saved by strangers, perhaps we need to take a little more caution over what we post and where we post it.

You can read this guide for parents about Sharing Photos Online [here](#).

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Planetarium Visit



Year 5 and Year 2 had a great time at the Wonder Dome planetarium that visited us at the end of September. We learnt all about the planets, stars and universe generally. Some of us were even inspired to become astronauts! We explored Space travel and enjoyed watching the galaxies swirling over our heads! Some of us even completed astronaut training on a simulation flight through space!

Hethersett Hundred

This week, we held our first Hethersett Hundred Event and once again we are very thankful for your generosity and



support with this project. The cakes which were donated looked so fabulous and the children very much enjoyed choosing from the amazing selection. We had lots of kind donations and we raised an amazing £701.71!



This means we were able to randomly select 7 more of our charities. Here are the charities which will each receive a £100 donation from the school this time:



Dementia UK and their Admiral Nurses work hard to ensure that when someone has dementia, their family and friends can access vital, specialist advice, support and understanding to help them and their loved one.

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National Trust is Europe's biggest conservation charity and they look after nature, beauty and history for everyone to enjoy. Their work includes tackling climate change, protecting historic sites and helping people and nature to thrive.



ASD Helping Hands has grown to be the biggest charity supporting those with Autism within Norfolk. Their services include a family support service which offers support on an individual basis to parents, carers, children and adults.

Barnardos support and protect children and young people facing a wide range of issues from drug misuse to disability, from abuse to violence. They believe that with the right help, children can change their lives and achieve their potential.



Since 1921, the Royal British Legion is a charity who provides financial, social and emotional support to members and veterans of the British Armed Forces, their families and dependents, as well as others who are in need.

Treatments for kidney disease can be gruelling and currently there is no cure. Kidney Research UK is a charity who are conducting research which they hope will offer kidney patients and their families hope for the future.



Guide Dogs is working to create a future where every person with sight loss has the support and confidence to live their lives to the full. Their current strategy is: 'By my side' where they are aiming to support 500,000 people by the end of 2023.

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Year 4 Church Visit

Year 4 visited St Remigius Church in the village earlier this month. We were met by Rev Michael who answered our varied and probing questions about what it means for him to be a Christian. Exploring the church, we found out more about the church building and what is in it. We discovered different representations of animals hidden around the building and marvelled at the number of people we saw in the stained glass windows!



Wellbeing Workshops

Earlier in the month, Year 5 and 6 were visited by WAC Arts to complete some workshops. This organisation works hard to find creative ways to support children with their wellbeing and we were lucky enough to have them visit! The sessions started with fun warm up games and then we moved into creating freeze-frames to complete the sentence: "I am..." the children then created positions to share their feelings. Examples included: I am a superhero, I am brave and I am good enough.



Year 3 and 4 and 5 and 6 Football

The KS2 children selected for the first football matches in the NSSP League got off to a great start in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. The Year 5 team won both their games and played some really nice attacking football, and the Year 6 team drew their first game and won their second game. Year 3 won both their

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games with some brilliant team goals, and the Year 4 team drew their first game and snatched a last minute winner for their second game.



All the children showed great determination and loved showing off their football skills.

I was so proud to hear of the great sportsmanship shown by all footballers - a credit to our school - very well done! (Mrs Mainwaring)

National Poetry Day

Did you know that poetry can provide huge benefits to individuals? 66.5% of children and young people agreed that writing poetry made them feel better during lockdown (The National Literacy Trust, 2020). Also, poetry is an important vehicle to explore individual identity and the identity of others (CLPE The Power of Poetry, 2017). With this in mind, during the first week of October, Woodside spent time celebrating National Poetry Day! This year, the theme was **refuge** and ideas related to seeking sanctuary, having places of safety and reasons for journeys were discussed.

In KS2, we launched a competition where children were invited to create their own poems linked to these ideas. Many took inspiration from Michael Rosen's wonderful 'On the Move Again', but many used their own sources of inspiration and creativity when writing their own. We were blown away by the wonderful writing demonstrated across the classes and finding just one winner from each year group was incredibly difficult!

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We have displayed our winning entries on our 'Woodside Welcomes' display which also contains our School of Sanctuary work summer term last year, as well as proudly sharing them with you here. Please read and enjoy the winning entries from the talented wordsmiths in our school:

On the move again with walking,
Walking so much,
Going by plane, plane, plane, plane.
You gotta move while you prove yourself.
Where did you move, move, move...move!
Moving all over the place,
Where you stay is where you... stay.
Away from danger.
Find home that is not close to danger.
Home needs to be safe.
Where you can rely on anyone.

Autumn, Year 3

Danger around gotta flee
It is only you and me
We go outside to find a new home
You know just take a train or an aeroplane
Danger around gotta flee
Hope is what I see
Hope is up but people are down low
I wonder what their life is like
Because mine is chaos
Did you know?

Eden, Year 4

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Home is a place where you feel safe with your family,
Your home is made with love and pride,
Home is where you relax,
And finally home is where you belong.

Sophie, Year 5

My Brand New School

I felt so small,
In my brand new school,
June 19th 2023,
That day will always stay with me,
I remember feeling so scared,
But all my classmates really cared,
Leaving my old friends behind,
There are always new friends to find,
I felt so small,
In my brand new school!
But no, I'm stronger now!

Bella, Year 6

School Office

From Monday 30th October, your child's pupil asset account will need to be in credit before your child can order a lunch. This is a new system introduced to reduce administration time. Please ensure all arrears are paid in full through your Pupil Asset app. This does not apply to children who are entitled to free school meals & Universal Infant Free School meals. Lunch is £2.30 per day.