

Hethersett Woodside Primary & Nursery Community Newsletter September 2023

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

I want to thank you all for your support and warm welcome at the end of my first full week at Hethersett Woodside. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children this week, and I am excited to get to know the school community even better this half term. We have lots of exciting opportunities ahead, and I hope my letter to you will help to outline my vision and some of the immediate opportunities I will be introducing.

Louise Mainwaring

Premises Update

Throughout the summer, we have had a number of contractors in school working hard to improve some areas of the school. In KS2, we have converted the overcrowded cloakrooms into teaching spaces and have had lockers installed in the classrooms for the children to use. We have created a music room for all the peripatetic music lessons to take place in.



Downstairs, we've had a mural painted in the Pastoral room as well as one in a stairwell. Nursery and Reception outdoors spaces have been re-developed with a few items left to be installed. Our trim trail has now had a safety surface installed too.



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Moving forwards, we are excited for work to begin on the south side of the school with more share, play spaces, bouldering wall on the hall, pond works and a play trail on the field.

Children's Advice and Duty Service

Norfolk Children's Advice and Duty Service (CADS) is made up of a team of Consultant Social Workers who have had specialist training and use a coaching style to empower partners to be more confident in working with families and meeting needs. The Consultant Social Workers will provide advice, support and signposting, identifying the correct services and support for the child or young person.

At times, school might have worries which might need us to contact CADS. We might ask for permission to ring them when we contact you.

Members of the public can contact CADS Norfolk County Council's Customer Services on **0344 800 8020**.

Hethersett Hundred News

The planning is underway for our first Hethersett Hundred Event of the new school year! We will be starting our fundraising with a Bake Sale on Thursday 19th October. Last year, your generous donations were the key to our fundraising success and so once again we are asking for families to donate cakes to the sale. These can be brought into the school office from Tuesday 17th October. Please ensure that any donations are nut-free in line with our school policy. Cakes will be sold for 50p each and the children will have the chance to buy one cake during the school day. If we have any cakes leftover, we will be selling them after school - fingers crossed it will not be as wet and windy this time!

In the Summer 2 half term, Year 5's Enterprise Project and donations from Norfolk Welcomes Day also added to our fundraising for the Hethersett

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Hundred. This raised £871.96 for our charities! This means that a further 8 charities were selected in random generation and these are:



The Scar Free Foundation is working hard to achieve scar free healing within a generation and transform the lives of those affected by scarring.

Save the Children is a charity who offer support in a variety of ways to ensure children keep safe, healthy and learning both in the UK and internationally.



Since 1927, the Cats Protection has worked towards supporting a society where every cat has their best possible life because they are protected, cared for and understood by everyone.

The Norfolk and Norwich SEND Association aims to be a real catalyst for real change across the region for those living with, or those caring for others with special educational needs and/or disabilities.



The Lullaby Trust raises awareness of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), provides expert advice on safer sleep for babies and also offers emotional support for bereaved families.

The Salvation Army is a worldwide Christian Church. They work to put their faith into action by offering practical help for people without discrimination, sharing good news, seeking justice and reconciliation, caring for creation and nurturing people in need



Opened in 1994, Hethersett Village Hall is shared and hired by local residents, local groups and organisations. They support their local community throughout the year.

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The charity believes that homes are our foundations and it is where we thrive. Millions of people are devastated in current housing emergencies and they work to support these people and families to have a safe home as everyone deserves.



Karate Sessions

Earlier this half term, Years 3 -6 all took part in a taster session from Norwich Karate Academy. The children were all fantastic at taking part and trying to follow the moves the instructor was demonstrating. They were able to learn and perform moves in isolation but then also as a simple sequence. Our children showed great respect during the sessions and we are very proud of the way they represented themselves and their school.



School Council

It has been the time to launch and elect our new school council representatives. This is an opportunity for children in Years 1-6, who have not yet had this role, to represent their class and share their views on issues which impact them. Thursday 21st September was Campaign Day and this was the day when children had the opportunity to speak and present their reasons to the class for why they believe they should be a school councillor. Last year, we were wowed with the campaigns that our children presented and we are already looking forward to seeing what this year brings.



On Friday 22nd September, it was Election Day. The school ballot box was brought to the classes and each child had the chance to vote for their representative; results will then be announced to the children this week.

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Rock Steady

Rock Steady sessions have begun at Woodside. The children who signed up have been sorted into groups with drums, guitar, keyboards and vocals. We look forward to seeing them perform at the end of the term.



Pastoral Lead

My name is Mr Kev McCabe and I am the Pastoral Lead here at Woodside. I am here to help children, offer advice and overcome any problems or barriers to the children's learning and general well-being. I'm a strong believer in listening to children and then trying to empower them to feel able to cope and thrive in the world that we live in. I am also happy to speak with parents/carers and offer any advice or strategies that may help our families and wider community. I often talk with children and families on a wide range of topics such as; anxiety, home issues, friendship concerns and much more. Please feel free to speak to me in person or you can also speak to the class teacher who can also contact me on your behalf.

The Importance of Reading

Reading is fundamental to education. Learning to read involves many aspects, but the most essential element to develop is reading for pleasure. Parents, carers and families are indispensable in supporting children in becoming committed and enthusiastic readers.



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Research in the United States has shown the impact of parents reading with their children. Here's how many words children would have heard by the time they were five years old, when:

Never read to	4,662 words
Read to 1-2 times per week	63,570 words
Read to 3-5 times per week	169,520 words
Read to daily	296,660 words
Five books a day	1,483,300 words

(Science Daily, 2019)

Children benefit hugely from listening to family members reading aloud to them. For children who are learning to read through the RWI systematic synthetic phonics scheme, they should continue to read these books independently, with an adult listening and supporting, as these books are sent home to align with their developing phonic knowledge. However, family members should read stories to children which are beyond their current level of reading, allowing them to develop their literacy skills to a greater extent.

Reading stories to your child:

- Make reading aloud feel like a treat! Make it a special quiet time and cuddle up so you can both see the book.
- Show curiosity about what you're going to read: 'This book looks interesting. It's about an angry child. I wonder how angry he gets...'
- Read through the story the first time without stopping too much - let the story weave its own magic!

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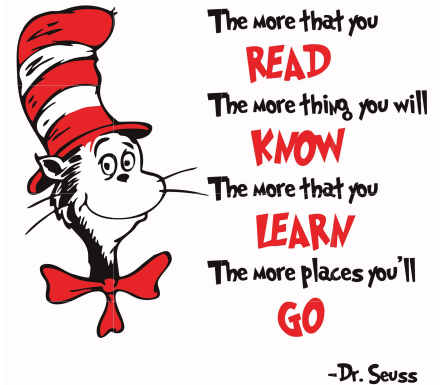
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- Read with enjoyment. If you're not enjoying it, your child won't!

Read your favourite stories over and over again. On later readings:

- Let your child pause, think about and comment on what they've noticed.
- If you think your child did not understand something, try to explain: 'Oh! I think what's happening here is that...'
- Chat about the story: 'I wonder why she did that?'; 'Oh no, I hope she's not going to...'; 'I wouldn't have done that, would you?'
- Link the stories to your own family experiences: 'This reminds me of when...'
- Link the stories to others that your child knows: 'Ah! Do you remember the dragon in...? Do you remember what happened to him?'
- Encourage your child to join in with bits they know.



Friends of Woodside



The Friends of Woodside will be holding an Annual General Meeting before half term. This will be communicated with you once a date has been arranged. The Friends of Woodside support the school by raising funds for things that the school budget does not cover. Miss Adcock collected a cheque for £500 from the Wymondham & Attleborough Charity Darts league Presentation evening on Wednesday for the Friends of Woodside.



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Office Messages

When calling the school to report your child is ill, please state clearly, the child's name, class and the reason why they are not in school. Some messages have not been clear.

We have emailed all parents in Years 1-6 with a Free School Meals and Pupil Premium form. Please fill this in and return to the school office. Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. For each child in receipt of Pupil Premium, the school receives extra funding. As part of our strategy, we have been giving each child a package of resources - more information coming soon!

Online Safety

This month we are highlighting the free app Discord, which allows users to communicate in real time via text, video or voice chat. Some parents have rightly raised concerns regarding the safety of the app if precautions are not put in place to safeguard children. Click [here](#) to read '**What Parents and Carers Need to Know Guide about Discord**'.

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SANDRINGHAM

NORFOLK · ENGLAND

WALKS WITH WOODLAND JULIE

Join me for stories, games, nature activities and more!

**24TH SEPTEMBER, 29TH OCTOBER,
26TH NOVEMBER**



Sessions at 10:30am & 13:00pm



**Sandringham Estate, Sandringham,
Norfolk, PE35 6EN**



Join Woodland Julie, an experienced outdoor educator, through the Royal Parkland woods to see what you can find, listen to stories and enjoy a game in nature. Wrap up, meet new friends and be inspired in nature.

Approx 1½ hour activity starting at 10.30am or 1pm, meeting outside the Ticket Office in the Courtyard.

Please dress and wear appropriate footwear as the walk will go ahead in all weathers.

For all ages (all children must be accompanied by an adult) and places must be booked in advance. £9 per child with one accompanying adult free. Advance parking online £4.

Visit www.sandringhamestate.co.uk/events to book a woodland walk place.

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www.hethersett-yc.co.uk

Back Lane, Hethersett
NR9 3JJ

Youth Club

During term time

Wednesday 5:45 - 7:15
(School Years 5 & 6)

Friday 7:00 - 8:30 (Year 7+)

£2 per session (Tuck is also available for a small amount on the night)

 @Hethersett Jubilee Youth Centre

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CLASSES FOR LITTLE
ONES FROM 6
MONTHS TO 6 YEARS

Dancing at
HETHERSETT
VILLAGE HALL
Mondays and
Fridays!

Book your 3 week
trial today with OUR
HALF PRICE OFFER!

**SPECIAL OFFER FOR WOODSIDE PRIMARY AND NURSERY
FAMILIES...book your 3 week trial for £11 only in our
NEW Friday afternoon sessions...that's half price!!**

Class times: Tots (6m-18m) 13.30
Tinies (18m-3yrs) 14.15
Movers (3yrs-4yrs) 15.05
Groovers (4yrs-6yrs) 16.00

Email norfolkcentral@babyballet.co.uk to book
mention 'WOODSIDEHALFPRICEFRIDAY' to claim.