

Another Brilliant Week at Woodham Ley

It has been another brilliant week at Woodham Ley. A big thank you to everyone who wished me a happy birthday yesterday - it was very much appreciated! There has been so much to celebrate across the school again this week, from fantastic learning in classrooms to children representing Woodham Ley superbly beyond the school gates.

Colour Run - An Amazing £3,400 Raised!

We are delighted to share that our Colour Run has raised approximately £3,400! A huge thank you to everyone who sponsored the children, contributed to the event and helped to make it such a success. Your generosity will make a real difference to the school. We are already looking at purchasing 30 new laptops for the children to use. These will be part-funded by the money raised by the PTA and part-funded by the school. We are also looking to invest in new history resources for each class to further support our curriculum. I am also pleased to report that I have finally managed to get all of the paint and slime out of my hair!

Girls' Football - Representing Woodham Ley with Pride

A huge well done to our Year 5 and Year 6 girls who represented the school superbly at the Castle Point and Rochford football tournament this week. The girls played with real skill and resilience throughout the competition, winning two games and losing three. Most importantly, they represented Woodham Ley brilliantly and should be very proud of their performances and the way they conducted themselves.

Learning Across Woodham Ley

There has been another busy week of learning across the school. In Reception, children have been immersed in Handa's Surprise, tasting fruit, creating story maps and exploring patterns. Year 1 have been developing their storytelling through drama while strengthening their understanding of number lines and part-whole models. Year 2 have been learning about life cycles in science and using evidence from the past in history.

In Key Stage 2, Year 3 have explored why Stonehenge was built and investigated the layers of the Earth in science. Year 4 have been finding out how Alexander the Great became King of Macedon, alongside using drama and role play to deepen their writing. Year 5 have investigated entertainment in Tudor England, explored forces by asking which shoes grip best and developed descriptive poetry. Year 6 have continued their work around the workhouse, debating whether a character should escape before planning and drafting their own escape stories.

It is wonderful to see the breadth of our Here We Are curriculum coming to life across the school as children build knowledge, make connections and develop the skills they need to be rooted in Benfleet and ready for the world.

Mental Health Day - Friday 9th October

Next Friday, 9th October, we will be marking Mental Health Day at Woodham Ley. Children are invited to come to school wearing a splash of yellow to help us recognise the day. Looking after our mental health is just as important as looking after our physical health. Marking the day gives us an opportunity to remind children that it is normal to experience different emotions, that talking about

how we feel is important, and that there are trusted adults who can listen and help when things feel difficult. Across school, we want every child to feel safe, valued and supported, and to understand that asking for help is a positive thing to do.

Parents' Evenings

Parents' Evening bookings are now available on the booking system. Please see the letter sent out on Jotter for further information about how to make your appointment.

Please note that Reception Parents' Evenings will take place on Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th October, as Mrs Hambleton is attending a course on Wednesday. Parents' Evenings for Years 1-6 will take place on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October as planned.

Attendance

Our whole-school attendance is currently 97.2%, which remains above our school target of 96%. Thank you for continuing to support good attendance and punctuality. Congratulations to Year 3, who have the highest attendance this week at 99.6%.

Class	Weekly Attendance
Reception	98.7%
Year 1	99.2%
Year 2	99.1%
Year 3	99.6%
Year 4	98.6%
Year 5	97.5%
Year 6	94.3%

Dates for Your Diary

Date	Event
Friday 9th October	ROBUS Cross Country at Thundersley. Children taking part should be collected from school at 2:30pm and be at Thundersley for a 3:00pm start. If you are collecting a child taking part and also need to collect their sibling from another year group, you may collect the sibling at 2:30pm too.
Friday 9th October	Mental Health Awareness Day - children may wear non-uniform
Friday 16th October	School Disco.
Monday 19th October	Reception Parents' Evening – 3:30 – 5:00
Tuesday 20th October	Reception and Years 1-6 Parents' Evening - 3:30pm-7:00pm.
Wednesday 21st October	Years 1-6 Parents' Evening - 3:30pm-5:00pm.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a lovely weekend.