



Woodfield Newsletter

Creating opportunities, discovering success

Summer 1:

New staff update:

Welcome to the Summer Term at Woodfield. As we are steadily increasing the number of pupils at Woodfield, we have also appointed some new staff.

Welcome to Woodfield to Mrs. Jayde Flowers, Teaching assistant. Jayde has worked as an LSA at various Primary schools across Leicestershire. She has been responsible for managing behaviour and is currently in her second year studying psychology and counselling.

Mr. Gilbert Chikwira studied for his degree at the University of Free State South Africa, and then Pretoria, South Africa and is an experienced practitioner of Mathematics. He is a keen sportsman and has already tempted pupils in the art of chess playing.

Mrs. Tanya Gillot has a degree in PE, and a vast experience of teaching and leading schools for pupils with special educational needs in South Africa and the UK. She is a keen reader and enjoys long walks out in the countryside.

Term dates Academic Year 2023-24

Summer Term 1:	Monday 8 April – Friday 24 May
Bank Holiday	Monday 6 May
Summer Term 2:	Monday 3 June – Tuesday 9 July
Staff training Days:	Monday 8 April and Friday 7 June

Provisional dates for Academic Year 2024-25

Training days	Tues 27 and Wed 28 August
Pupils start	Thurs 29 August - Fri 18 October Mon 28 Oct - Fri 20 December
Training day	Mon 6 Jan
Pupils start	Tues 7 Jan - Fri 14 Feb Mon 24 Feb - Thurs 10 April
Training day	Fri 11 April
	Mon 28 April - Thurs 22 May
Training day	Fri 23 May
	Mon 2 June - Tues 8 July

Good communication is important to us -

At Woodfield, we are passionate about ensuring we communicate effectively with our pupils. Each week, all staff will be learning a new Makaton sign which we will also teach to all pupils.

Research tells us that feeling included and that you belong, allows children to feel safe and able to learn effectively.

This week's signs are:



sorry



Help

General updates and info

Attendance

As you are aware we have a school attendance target of 85% which is in line with other SEN schools nationally with Lower school at least 5% higher than this. We want all pupils to be in school every day so they don't miss out on learning and the experiences which matter. You may remember we have already shared the government's strapline '**Moments matter, attendance counts.**'

Attendance is reported on to parents/carers in termly data snapshots and over time we will work with families where attendance is not meeting our expectations so we can support and work through any concerns, together.

'Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing.' Thank you for working with us to ensure your child arrives by 8.45am and is collected by 3.00pm every day.

Reading

'Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.'

You can support your child with their education by encouraging them to read.

We are trying to increase the volume of reading materials we have to offer to our pupils and ensure we read to pupils daily as part of a healthy routine. If you have any books which you no longer need and would like to donate to Woodfield, please do drop them off to us. We are also looking to introduce a phonics programme so this can be delivered and followed by all staff through a consistent approach; it is likely to be Bug Club. We'll be in touch when we have firmer details so that you can support your child at home too.

Supporting your child to be equipped for school

Please ensure your child is equipped everyday by sending them with:

- A water bottle (especially as it starts to get warmer, so our pupils stay hydrated, and for when we go to the gym each week)
- A suitable coat for blustery showers
- Comfortable clothing: we expect our pupils to be dressed appropriately for school so they can learn. Currently they should have black trouser bottoms, a white polo t-shirt/shirt and a black jumper. We will communicate with you about updates for September as we would like to introduce some logoed items so pupils can feel they belong to the Woodfield family
- Wellington boots for days when we visit Brolay Farm- **Upper school this term**
- A swimming kit and a towel for days when we go swimming
- Any medication needed (please ensure you have communicated this with us)
- Lunch if they bring their own

All pupils at Woodfield can demonstrate the character strengths from ASK by working hard, showing resilience and determination, listening to each other and showing kindness.

We follow our ASK principles:

- We have **ambition** for everyone at Woodfield and we try our best in everything we do
- We **support** each other: we listen, we are respectful and polite
- We show **kindness** in our everyday actions so that everyone feels valued and part of something special – the Woodfield family

We have great pleasure in announcing ASK award winners from the Spring Term:

Upper school: Gold - Mackenzie, Silver - Amelia, Bronze - Cyrus

Lower school: Gold - Leon, Silver – Yussef and Jamie

Well done to all of our pupils who demonstrate kindness in their actions to each other and have ambition to be the best version of themselves.