



# Woodfield Newsletter

Creating opportunities, discovering success

Spring 1: March 2024

## Spring at Woodfield – plea for your support

You may have noticed that pupils at Woodfield have planted some pots with primroses at the front of our school to allow us to bring some Spring air and a smile to pupils, staff and the local community.

Pupils in Cherry Tree have started a project on plants in Science, and they will be exploring what the key ingredients are to support plants to grow.

Like our Woodfield tree, the roots of a tree represent the strong core foundations that we bring to our pupils through structured routines, clear boundaries, opportunities to share ideas, to receive and give information and to develop warm and trusting relationships with staff. The colourful leaves of the Woodfield tree are the many different opportunities and experiences, and the subject knowledge that our pupils receive through being part of the Woodfield family.

Hot off the press is the news that we are looking to secure an allotment in the local village so that pupils can have more opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, the hard work and patience of clearing a site and growing our own plants, fruit and vegetables.

**If you are able to support us by donating any gardening equipment, pots, plants or compost, we would be delighted to receive them to help us on our journey. Thank you in advance.**

## 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.

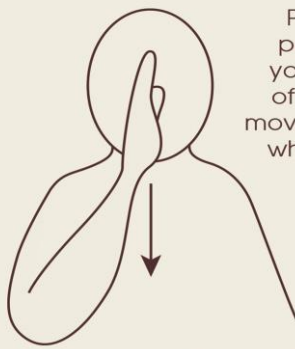
Research tells us that feeling included and that you belong, allows children to feel safe and able to learn effectively.

This week's signs are:



Both hands open. Palm of dominant hand taps palm of non-dominant hand twice.

### Happy



Place one hand perpendicular to your face, in front of your nose, and move it downwards while saying "Sad"

### Sad

### Key dates

Spring term 1:	Monday 8 January – Friday 16 February
Spring Term 2:	Monday 26 February – Friday 22 March
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:	<b>Monday 8 April</b> and Friday 7 June

# Teaching and Learning

Woodfield staff have been reflecting on the core ingredients of an effective lesson over the past few weeks. We have agreed that our teaching principles will focus on the following elements:

- Assessment for learning
- Behaviour for learning
- Engagement and enjoyment
- Personalised learning for all
- A safe environment for everyone
- Variety in task and style

We have key staff leading on particular subjects so that learning can be sequenced over time and our pupils can do, know and remember more. In the Summer Term, we will start training staff to use a whole-school phonics programme so this can be a consistent message in each class, and pupils can reinforce their skills in reading and spelling.

We know that as parents/carers you are keen to be an integral part of your child's education so we have prepared a data snapshot report which you should receive next week.

The report will provide information on your child's attendance this academic year, their effort and behaviour and rewards points from ASK: Ambition, Support, Kindness.

There will also be a teacher assessed judgment of progress on their programmes of study against four criteria:

- Emerging
- Developing
- Securing
- Mastering

A guide to explain this will be provided with your child's data snapshot report. Should you have any concerns, please contact your child's class teacher.

## 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
- 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 accept that we all make mistakes sometimes and a key character trait which shows integrity is in owning up to mistakes and saying sorry. What we will not accept at Woodfield is verbal aggression towards other pupils or staff, as this does not reflect our kindness values. Thank you for discussing this at home with your child.