

## Makaton

## Woodfield Newsletter

Creating opportunities, discovering success

Autumn 1: October

#### **Personal Development**

As part of Woodfield's curriculum offer, we are strongly focused on personal development and character education as we believe this supports our pupils to understand what it is like to be them in their world and to have opportunities and experiences which allow them to be the best version of themselves.

Our learning through PSHE focuses around understanding the following key aspects:

- the importance of celebrating difference
- helping pupils to realise their dreams and goals and what is important to them
- how to maintain healthy lifestyles
- the different types of relationships they encounter and how to ensure these relationships are positive
- how to recognise their own changes in growth and development.

Pupils also study key themes through Relationships and Health Education, Careers and the World of work, Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural development, and British values.

Through our ethos and reward points, Ambition Support Kindness, we foster a culture of respect and appreciation which helps develop pupils' self-esteem, resilience, and confidence.

Each month, we also raise awareness of and celebrate national events so that pupils gain a better understanding of the world in which we live.

This week, our focus has been on National poetry day, and we have been using materials from the Literacy Trust

<u>https://literacytrust.org.uk/</u> - Upper school pupils particularly enjoyed Michael Rosen's poem, Chocolate Cake <u>Michael Rosen</u> Chocolate cake (youtube.com)

Pupils have also learnt more about Harvest Festival and enjoyed Helen's pumpkin soup which was delicious!

Next week our focus turns to World Space week.

**Autumn Term dates** Thurs 29 August - Fri 18 October

Mon 28 Oct - Fri 20 December

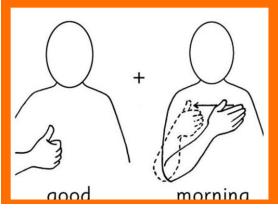
School photographer Wed 16 October

## Effective communication is important to us -

We will be continuing our work on learning Makaton this year, so we celebrate and demonstrate inclusivity for all.







# General updates and info

We say welcome and farewell to some of our staff this month: Ms. Helen Manley is moving off to a new school and Mr. Jack Morris-Bailey joins us as a teaching assistant. Mr. Morris-Bailey is keen to develop his skills in teaching and shares a real passion for sport. We wish them both luck in their respective roles. Next term, we also welcome Miss Louise Cannon and Mrs. Jess. Williams. Miss Cannon has a wealth of experience working in SEN schools and enjoys horse riding and walking, and Mrs. Williams is a trained dance teacher and has a passion for performing arts and creativity.



#### **Attendance reminders**

Thank you for your continued support working in partnership with us to ensure your child has good attendance. For all pupils we expect high standards of attendance to school, and we will talk to you when patterns start to emerge.

Pupils who secure 100% attendance each week enter a prize draw. Well done, to Mackenzie and Jamie who celebrate 100% attendance so far, this academic year.

If your child is due to be absent through illness, please call us by 8.30am and if you have a planned absence for which you are requesting permission, please call the school or email the principal at principal@henrydavidlearning.co.uk.

We follow government guidance on carefully considering requests for absence, and holidays during term time are unlikely to be authorised.

### Ready for school

We want our pupils to dress appropriately for school so they can learn.

In Lower School, they should have black trouser bottoms, a white polo t-shirt/shirt and a black jumper with black shoes or trainers.
In Upper school, pupils wear appropriate and comfortable clothing free from offensive logos, with appropriate footwear.
Our site is surrounded by beautiful countryside – in wet weather, pupils would benefit from having a spare pair of shoes/boots.

Wellington boots for days when we visit Brolay Farm – After half term this will be lower school.

A swimming kit and a towel for days when we go swimming.

Any medication needed- please see the attached form to inform us of any specific details.

Homework or reading book bag as advised by your child's class teacher.

We will celebrate **World Mental Health Day on Thursday 10 October**. Staff and pupils are invited to wear items of yellow clothing alongside their main school uniform/dress code. If they can also bring £1 - £2 it means we can also contribute to our whole school charity fundraising and £100 target.

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