

# Woodstock Weekly



The weekly newsletter from Woodstock CE Primary School

16 October 2023

Edition: 6

## LETTER FROM DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you have all had a lovely weekend, enjoying the sunshine. Although, having to defrost the car the past few mornings came as a bit of a shock. Now that that colder spell has clearly crept in quickly, we would suggest children are coming to school daily with the jumper/cardigan, coats, hats and gloves. We encourage children into the outdoors in all weather therefore having the right clothes in school is vital to ensure they don't get too cold or wet. Half-term is on the horizon and the children have all had a great term settling into the new school year. When it arrives, enjoy the rest

It's been a busy few weeks in school with lots of amazing learning experiences. Last week, the Years 3 and 4 children visited Blenheim Palace to meet with the Gardener to talk about food and sustainability which supports their work on supporting local produce and grow your own. Later this week they are visiting the Ardley Waste Management Centre to support their learning on the importance of recycling. If you had been in school last Thursday morning in KS1, you would have been checked into a flight to travel across the world. Children all managed to get through the security checks with no unusual items in their suitcases – I am not sure all the teachers did! The children also went on to make fruit smoothies which linked to their work about finding out where fruits come from around our world. The children had a lot of fun and thoroughly enjoyed their curriculum launch day.



## World Mental Health Day 2023: Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October

Last week children enjoyed reading with other children across the school to support our work on developing children's positive mental health and wellbeing. Teachers also led story time sessions, which the children thoroughly enjoyed. It was also an opportunity for the younger children to meet some of the older children and teachers share stories in different classes.



### Girls U9s Football Tournament (Report by Mr McKay)

Last week a group of year 4 girls took part in the West Oxon girls football event in Witney. The event was really well attended with 16 schools entering teams, making up four groups. The girls scored ten goals in their three group games and ultimately qualified for the quarter finals. Despite taking the lead in their knockout game the girls narrowly lost 2-1 against The Batt. However, they can hold their heads extremely high after performing fantastically throughout. Massive thanks to Mrs Leslie for supporting the team as always and well done to the girls who put a lot of practice in in the build up to the event.

Thank you to the many parents who attended the Reading workshops hosted by teachers in each phase. There are dates below for the forthcoming maths workshops which we will hold after the half-term break. Thank you for the teachers and TAs for your hard work in making these happen – a lot goes on behind the scenes. We received some wonderful feedback from parents about the workshops which we have shared with the teachers – your kindness is much appreciated. I will make sure these presentations are available for you to look through on our school website this week, please follow the link [here](#).

**Reminder:** Parents evening is this week, Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023.

| Maths Parent Workshop |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Phase                 | Date  |
| KS1: Years 1 & 2      | Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> November @ 2.15pm  |
| KS2: Years 3 & 4      | Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November @ 8.50am   |
| KS2: Years 5 & 6      | Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November @ 8.50am |

**The combined EYFS English and Maths workshop will take place on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 2.15pm.**

Last week we announced the dates for the Christmas performances – remember to put them in your diary.

| Phase                   | Date  |
|-------------------------|---|
| EYFS Nativity           | Wednesday 13th December 2023 at 9.45am and 2.00pm |
| Key Stage 1 Nativity:   | Thursday 14th December 2023 at 9.45am and 2.00pm  |
| Years 3&4 Carol Service | Wednesday 13th December @ 6.00pm                  |
| Years 5&6 Carol Service | Thursday 14th December @ 6.00pm                   |

### PTA & Blenheim Thank you!

We would like to say a big thank you to Blenheim Palace, who have donated some money towards supporting the school's curriculum. The PTA have also kindly agreed to contribute a significant amount to fund aspects of our school curriculum also (THANK YOU!). This is very much appreciated and will help towards reducing the cost of various trips and curriculum events over the forthcoming year. We know how much children gain from these exciting opportunities and your generosity will really make a difference.

Many thanks for your continued support – it is always a pleasure to see so many of you at the school gates at the start and end of the school day. Do come and say hello if you haven't had a chance to yet this term.

Yours sincerely,



Anna Poole  
Deputy Headteacher

## Safeguarding Children Updates:

### What to do if you have concerns about a child

If you have any concerns about a child relating to Safeguarding, please get in touch with one of our Safeguarding Leads immediately by contacting the school directly on 01993 812209 or by email [safeguarding@woodstock.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@woodstock.oxon.sch.uk)

If you are unable to speak to a member of our Designated Safeguarding Team at school and have a safeguarding concern, please contact the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) directly who will be able to advise you.

**If you have a concern about a child, please call MASH on 0345 050 7666.**

### NSPCC Updates for Parents and Families

The NSPCC have updated some of their guidance on supporting children with mental health issues. Please follow the links to some very useful pages on their website.

**Child Mental Health:** click [here](#)

**The Safeguarding Network:** click [here](#)







## Key Dates When Applying For Primary Schools

| Key dates for applications |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| Key dates                  | Event   |
| 1 November 2023            | Applications open via Oxfordshire County Council's website.                                       |
| 15 January 2024            | Closing date for applications.  |
| 29 January 2024            | Last date for confirmation of change of address.  |
| 16 April 2024              | Offer letters sent by second-class post where needed and emails sent to those who applied online. |
| September 2024             | Start of the school year.   |

## Collective Worship Weekly Theme

|                                   |  |                    |   |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------|---|
| Week Beginning: 16/10/23          |  | Collective Worship |  |
| Key Idea: Tree of knowledge       |  |                    |   |
| Biblical Link:                    | <b>Genesis 2:9</b> <i>"The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil." (NIV)</i> |                    |   |
| Christian Value:                  | Forgiveness  |                    |   |
| Understanding Christianity Theme: |   |                    |   |
| Worship Song:                     | Who put the colours in rainbow?  |                    |   |

### Invitation prayer

Dear God,  
Thank you for the beauty and wonder of the world that we can enjoy,  
We are sorry for times when we don't care for it as we should,  
Help us to protect and care for all Creation,  
Amen

## Our World



How can we remember things that were important to us?

**Let's look at this week's story**

The tree at the centre of the world - famous 'Sycamore Gap' on Hadrian's Wall, England, has reportedly been deliberately felled on the night of 28<sup>th</sup> September and was discovered by walkers the next morning. The National Trust said it was 'shocked and saddened' by the felling of the tree, which won English Tree of the Year in 2016.

Learn more about this week's story [here](#).  
Watch this week's useful video [here](#).  
This week's Virtual Picture News [here](#).



**UN Rights of a Child**

We have the right to give our opinions freely on issues that affect us and things that are important to us. Adults should listen and take us seriously.



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RESPECT FOR CHILDREN'S VIEWS



**British Values**



**Individual Liberty**

We can choose whether to care for and protect the places and things that are special to ourselves or others. It is important to remember our actions have consequences.



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many devices which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about GOOGLE CHROMEBOOK

Google Chromebooks were first introduced in 2011 as a budget-friendly alternative to Windows laptops. They have a cloud-based desktop operating system created by Google that performs internet-based tasks simply and quickly. Although primarily optimised for Google apps – such as Gmail and Google Drive – newer devices also support Android apps and offer a range of parental controls via the Google Family Link tool. Nonetheless, whilst these tools are comprehensive, there are some limitations which means there are a number of risks trusted adults should be aware of.

## SETTING UP

### SET UP FAMILY LINK

To do this, first install the "Google Family Link" app onto your smartphone to set up an account for your child. If you're setting up a new account, it's important you follow the setup process and sign in with your parent account, as this has access to special privileges. Once this is done, you can add your child's account to the Chromebook.

### DISABLE GUEST MODE

If "Guest mode" or the ability to add new users is available, your child may be able to bypass the Chromebook's parental controls. To disable this, sign into the Chromebook with your parent account, head to "Settings > Manage other people" and turn on "Restrict sign-in to the following users" – from there, you'll be able to turn off the "guest browsing" feature.

### SET UP PARENTAL CONTROLS

In your child's account, head to "Settings > People > Parental controls set up" to begin the process. This will confirm the child's account you want to enable parental controls for and will list the devices that can be protected. You'll then be asked to enter the email and password, before being prompted to ask your child to confirm the supervision via their password.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### ONLINE, ALL THE TIME

As "internet-first" devices, Google Chromebooks are reliant on a Wi-Fi connection, with only limited support for offline tasks. This means your child has access to the internet at all times, with an enduring risk of being exposed to online harm, particularly as Family Link is only able to block most inappropriate content. Even if your child isn't searching for inappropriate websites and information, there's always the chance that they might see something that could upset them.

### ADDICTIVE NATURE

Like most technology, laptops are addictive in nature, and you might find your child spending too long staring at their Chromebook – particularly given its support for Android apps, such as games and social media platforms. This could lead to irritability, mood swings and a loss of interest in more important tasks.

### BEWARE OF MALWARE

Although Google's Chrome OS features a number of built-in security measures, that doesn't fully eliminate the risk of malware, which can be downloaded onto the machine via phishing emails or from downloading malware-laced content. This should be a particular concern if your child is taking their laptop into school, as the malware could find itself entering the school's network and infecting other pupils' laptops.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

There are a number of safety features that you can enable to keep your child safe while using Google Chromebook:

- 1 Disable guest mode and control who can sign into your child's Chromebook
- 2 Restrict or block access to apps from the Chrome Web Store and the Google Play Store
- 3 Disable Incognito Mode so you can always track what sites your child has been on
- 4 Manage the websites your children can visit on Chrome
- 5 Limit your child's ability to grant permissions to websites
- 6 Check Family Link to ensure the Chrome browser default is set to block sexually explicit and violent sites from being shown to children
- 7 Set bedtimes, screen-time limits, and lock devices when not in use

## Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Inquirer, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



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Sources: <https://about.instagram.com/blog/announcements/introducing-family-center-and-supervision-tools> | [https://about.instagram.com/blog/announcements/introducing-family-center-and-supervision-tools](https://about.instagram.com/en-us/blog/https://about.instagram.com/blog/announcements/introducing-family-center-and-supervision-tools) | <https://about.instagram.com/blog/announcements/introducing-reels-and-shop-tabs>



# HOW TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO LOOK AFTER THEIR MENTAL HEALTH EVERY WEEK

 @BELIEVEPHQ



Encourage students to talk openly about their feelings and thoughts



Support students to learn how to be kind to themselves and others



Encourage students to seek out help if they are struggling with things



Encourage students to be curious about what things they can do each day to contribute to maintaining their mental fitness



Encourage students to take time each day to pause, breathe and relax



Support students to take care of their physical health (diet and sleep)



Encourage students to take part in weekly activities that provide them with a sense of self care



Actively encourage students to engage in regular physical activity

