

13 November 2023

Edition: 8

## LETTER FROM DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you have all had a lovely weekend, although certainly feeling much colder now.

Three of our Pupil Parliament members represented Woodstock CE Primary School at the Woodstock Town Memorial Service yesterday, by taking part in the Remembrance Day parade and laying a wreath at the War Memorial. Thank you to our Co-Chair of Governors, Lynne Hammond for accompanying the children, and to the children for their part in the morning. Thank you to everyone who supported the Royal British Legion by purchasing a poppy or some of their remembrance items.

A very busy week last week in terms of enriching curriculum experiences. Years 5&6 went to Blenheim Palace to take part in a monarchy workshop – which supports this term's theme 'Rule Britannia'. They had a tour of the palace to identify significant artwork and artefacts linked to our monarchy, some history of how Blenheim was gifted to the first Duke by Queen Anne and also got to meet a 'real' Butler – who talked to the children about his role.

Years 3&4 all visited Ardley Energy Recovery Centre which helps to reduce landfill waste in Oxfordshire. Children got to see the centre in action, find out about how they transfer our day-to-day waste into reusable energy, whilst also reducing the amount that goes to landfill. The children took part in a range of activities to support their learning and had an exciting tour of the centre in action – a highlight being the great claw grabber that is used to move the waste that comes into the centre into larger mounds ready to be sorted.



### Mathematics Parent Workshops

It is always so wonderful to open our doors and have parents in school being part of the children's learning. Thank you to everyone who was able to attend the Maths workshops last week – it was great to see so many of you. Key Stage 1 parents are invited to their workshop this Tuesday 14 November at 2.15pm, in the school hall. We hope to see you then.

All presentations will be available online later this week (after KS1 Workshop). You will also find last term's presentations for the English Reading Workshops here too. <https://www.woodstock.oxon.sch.uk/page/?title=Supporting+Learning&pid=25>

### Are you cold and wet weather ready?

Now that that colder spell (and wet weather) has crept in, we are asking that all children come to school daily with their jumper/cardigan, coats (warm and waterproof if possible), 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. We would even suggest packing a spare pair of socks and outdoor shoes in school bags too, for those wetter days.

### Celebrating Odd Socks Day

Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. We have everything you need to celebrate what makes us all unique and spread kindness! Odd Socks Day 2023 took place today, and we were overwhelmed by the number of brightly coloured odd socks the children and staff were wearing. The initiative is supported by cBeebies presenter & ABA patron Andy Day and his band 'Andy and the Odd Socks'.

This week, during our PSHE & RSE sessions, there will be a particular focus on the importance of relationships, kindness and preventing bullying – linked to the online world and how we behave towards others. This will be taught in an age-appropriate manner. Anti-bullying is a theme threaded throughout our whole school PSHE & RSE curriculum; however, this week helps to raise its profile.



### The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) Info

The ABA have a clear outline of What is bullying? And how it is defined.

***Learning to understand and manage conflict is an important part of growing up. Bullying is not simply a 'falling out'. Research shows that experiencing bullying can have a significant impact on a child's life well into adulthood. To ensure we are able to prevent bullying, act quickly when it takes place and avoid misidentifying bullying, it is vital that schools and other settings have a shared definition of bullying. This should be understood by the whole school or setting including parents, young people and all staff.***

The Anti-Bullying Alliance and its members have an agreed shared definition of bullying based on research from across the world over the last 30 years:

***The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face-to-face or online'.***

### ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE

#### Definition of Bullying

Our own school's anti-bullying policy is informed by information outlined by the ABA.

### Christmas is Coming!

I heard the first of our Christmas carols being practised by children last week – which is always a joy! The choir, being led by Mrs Christie will be representing the school at the Oxfordshire Music Service 'Christmas Big Sing' on Friday 1 December and rehearsals for this are well underway. We have published the dates of our various nativities and carol services in the church in previous newsletters. Here they are again just in case you haven't already noted them on the calendar.

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

Please see further information below for further events taking place over this term. 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Anna Poole'.

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](#)



## Message from Pupils' Parliament

During our Pupils' Parliament meeting we have discussed fundraising for charities and which ones we would like to support, locally and globally, over the year.

This Friday, November 17th, we will be supporting Children in Need for our first charity. Children are invited to wear any choice of sensible clothing, to be inclusive for all. This could include PJs or loungewear. We are asking for a contribution of up to £2 on the day. There will be a bake sale after school, and we ask for contributions of cakes or biscuits from families.

Please can these be brought into school on the morning of 17th and placed on the tables by the bike sheds. All bakes require a list of ingredients for allergy purposes. The more we have the more we can sell and the more money we will raise for this wonderful charity.

Many thanks for your support.

Annie Watkins, Prime Minister



## PTA News

🎄 🕯️ ✨ Get in the festive spirit with our Christmas Hamper Raffle! ✨ 🕯️ 🎄

As the festive season approaches, we are thrilled to announce our next exciting PTA initiative to celebrate and support our amazing Woodstock CE Primary School community. Back by popular demand is the Class Christmas Hamper Raffle!

On Thursday 7th December, we warmly invite all the children to join in the festive fun by wearing their most dazzling and merry Christmas jumpers. In the spirit of giving, we kindly request each child donates an item for their class hamper. This is a fantastic opportunity for our children to embrace the joy of giving and spread the holiday cheer. To make the process as easy as possible, our wonderful PTA volunteers will be waiting at the gates on Christmas Jumper Day morning to collect the donated items. Class tables will also be set up, making it simple for the children to place their items on their designated tables.

Wondering what to donate? The possibilities are endless! We encourage you to contribute items that you would love to find in a Christmas hamper. From luxurious toiletries to delectable food items or even a bottle of bubbly, your generosity is deeply appreciated and will help us create truly amazing hampers. We kindly request that all donated items are nut-free though. In the true spirit of giving, any items that do not fit in the hampers will be donated to the Oxfordshire Food Bank. This way, we can support those in need in our wider community during this festive season too. With our thanks to the coordination efforts of Lynne Hammond for helping with the food bank donations.

With the participation and support of our incredible Woodstock CE Primary School families, we hope to have a total of 12 amazing class hampers to raffle off! But there's more! The teachers and staff will also be kindly creating a hamper in return for one special competition winner. Just for fun, children will be sent home with a teacher and staff Baby Photo entry sheet. The family who guesses the most correct teachers and staff members from their baby photos will win the teachers and staff members' hamper!

Please mark your calendars for Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 7th December. And for the raffle prize draw on Friday 15th December. As always, we deeply appreciate your ongoing support. Every contribution, no matter how big or small, plays a vital role in enhancing our school community and providing valuable resources for our pupils. And finally, why did Santa go to music school? Because he wanted to improve his "wrap" skills!



Thank you for your warm-hearted generosity and for embracing this festive season with the PTA!



## 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: 13/11/23		Collective Worship	
Key Idea: Can a robot do that?			
Biblical Link:	Romans1:20 "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse." (NIV)		
Christian Value:	Service		
Understanding Christianity Theme:	<div> Creation</div>		
Worship Song:	God in his love		

Invitation prayer

Dear God,  
Thank you for the technology that enhances our lives  
and the wonderful world,  
Help us to use technology to protect and care for all  
Creation,  
Amen

## Our World:



Are there some jobs robots could never do?

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

A new robot called Digit, designed to be human-like and that is capable of lifting and moving items, is being tested in warehouses of the online retailer, Amazon. The robot is in its first few weeks of trials at Amazon's facility in Seattle, USA, as the company tries to improve automation in its processes. To begin with, the robot is being taught to pick up and move empty boxes to ensure that they are ready for reuse. The yellow boxes, or totes, are used throughout the company's fulfilment process.

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 be protected from doing work that is dangerous or bad for our education, health or development. There are some dangerous jobs that robots can do instead of humans.





**British Values**

**Mutual Respect and Tolerance**

Robots feature in some people's lives more than others. Life is not the same for everyone and we can show respect for the beliefs others have and the choices they make.



Part of our Online Information Series



What you need to know about ...

# FAKE NEWS

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## WHAT IS FAKE NEWS

Parven Kaur, Kids N Clicks Founder

Fake news can be false information, photos or videos purposefully created to confuse or misinform. It can also be genuine information that has been manipulated to deceive. It is important that children learn how to distinguish between real news and fake news, so that they don't inadvertently share something which isn't true or believe something which could be misleading.



## KNOW THE RISKS

### SHOCK VALUE

Fake news can cause upset or shock to readers or viewers. Many fake news stories are written with appealing headlines and have content designed to create 'shock value', so the news spreads rapidly (common examples include the 'death' of a celebrity, company giveaways, news relating to supernatural events, or terror-related posts that provoke reactions).

### EMBARRASSMENT

Fake news is often deliberately created to misinform people - whether for fun, out of malice or to support an ideological or political agenda. As it's often difficult to tell the difference, young people can easily believe what they see and then share something which is a hoax or a joke, leading to embarrassment or ridicule.

### INFLUENCE BEHAVIOUR

Ultimately, fake news is designed to shape people's beliefs, thoughts and decisions: influencing them into believing something which has been misreported or which simply isn't true. This can shape how children think, behave or act in real life. It can especially affect their trust in the media or even in democracy itself.



## SPOT THE SIGNS

### CONSIDER THE SOURCE

Fake news stories can sometimes be identified simply because they are too ridiculous or outrageous to believe. Make sure that the website that published the story is a credible source, like a major news network or local paper which has the resources to fact-check published stories.

### CHECK THE URL

Does the website address at the top of the page look real? An easy way to spot suspect stories is if they're located on a news site with an odd domain name. So check the URL. Some shady websites try to incorporate a legitimate news source into their URL (such as [www.therealbbc.co.uk](http://www.therealbbc.co.uk)) or will slightly misspell a popular domain name.

### VERIFY FACTS AND IMAGES

Authentic news is usually backed up by official data or surveys and previous, similar instances of the occurrence being reported. Similarly, fake news stories often include photos which have been manipulated. Perform a Google reverse image search to see if the picture has been stolen from another source and doctored.

### RESEARCH THE WEBSITE

Be wary when a big story comes from a news organisation that you've never heard of. Some hoaxers will quickly set up a website just to spread fake stories and so-called 'breaking news'. Use the internet archive to research how long a site has been running - and check if the same story is being reported by more credible news outlets.

## ARE ALIENS HARVESTING OUR WIFI?!



*Suspected footage of alien craft*

Our groundbreaking exposé on page 4 ...

## FURTHER SUPPORT

### REPORT THE CONTENT

Google and many social media platforms now have dedicated methods for fake news stories to be reported to them. This can range from sending a feedback message to Google via the page itself to the 'Report Post' buttons on Facebook and Twitter.

### PROVIDE REASSURANCE

If your child feels as though they have been negatively impacted by a fake news story, or has suffered some form of embarrassment because of fake news, it's important to be supportive and reassuring. Discuss with them how not everything that's posted online is true.

### IMPROVE THEIR DIGITAL LITERACY

If your child has been tricked by a fake news story, try to encourage them to think more rationally about what they see and hear on the internet. Advise them to question the motivation behind a story - such as why it's been written, and if it's trying to make them form a specific opinion or influence their actions.

## OUR EXPERT PARVEN KAUR



Parven Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



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# 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



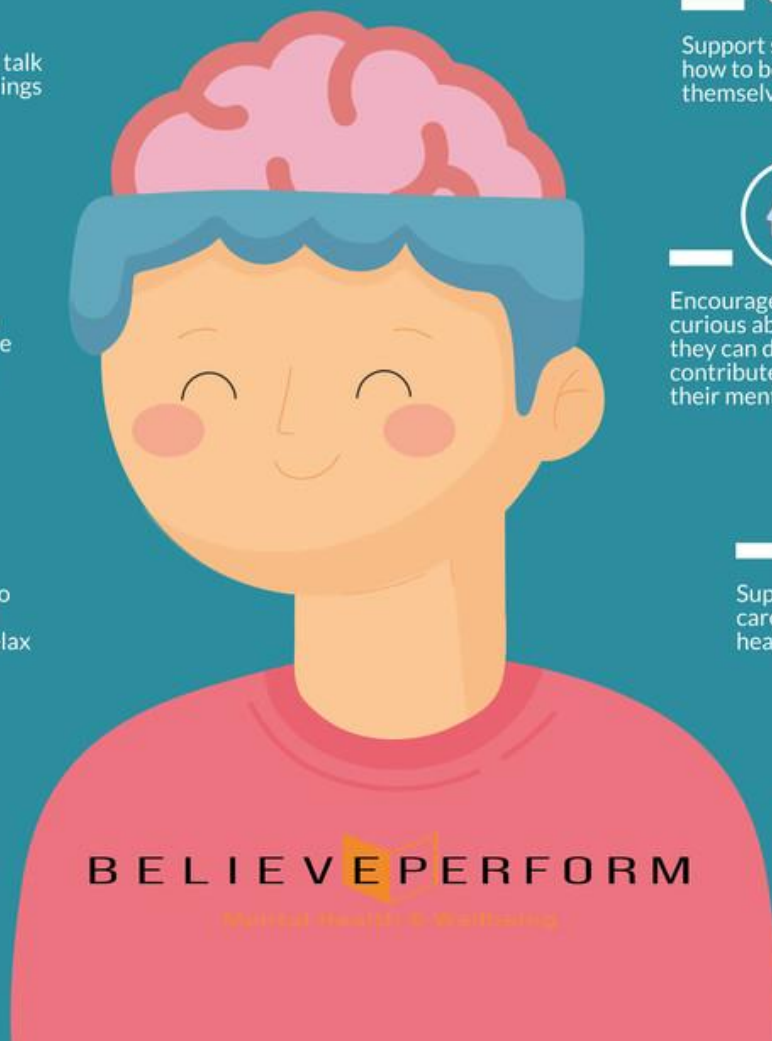
Support students to take care of their physical health (diet and sleep)



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



OVER  
**30**  
CHRISTMAS  
CHALETs

# Witney CHRISTMAS MARKET

DECEMBER 08-10<sup>TH</sup>

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10:00AM - 6.00PM

SUNDAY

10:00AM - 4.00PM



FOOD & DRINK



CHRISTMAS GIFTS



HOMEWARE & ART

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

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