

Woodstock Weekly



The weekly newsletter from Woodstock CE Primary School

5 December 2023

Edition: 12



LETTER FROM THE DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you have all had a lovely weekend. As we fast approach the end of the Autumn Term, school is a hive of festive busyness. It really is a delight being able to walk through school and hear the various nativity rehearsals and Christmas carols – the children and staff are doing a fantastic job. You will hopefully have the pleasure of being in the audience to watch your child/ren in one of the many performances we have this week. See the performance dates and times below – we look forward to seeing you over the week.

Christmas Performance Dates

Please see below a reminder of the dates of our various nativities and carol services in the church.

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

Curriculum Class Celebration Events

Following on from the success of last year's Curriculum Celebration Assemblies, where children in each class had the opportunity to share their learning with their parents and look at the work they have been doing in class, we are pleased that dates have now been confirmed for the new terms ahead. Please put these dates into your diaries now. The children thoroughly enjoyed sharing their learning with you and it is a fantastic opportunity for you to see the children in their class and their teachers.

Date @ 2.20pm	Class
Wednesday 24 th January	Red Kites Years 5&6
Wednesday 31 st January	Falcons Years 5&6
Wednesday 28 th February	Kingfishers Years 3&4
Wednesday 6 th March	Kestrels Years 5&6
Wednesday 13 th March	Woodpeckers Years 5&6
Wednesday 20 th March	Cygnets Years 1&2
Wednesday 27 th March	Goslings Years 1&2
Wednesday 1 st May	Nightingales Years 3&4
Wednesday 12 th June	Ducklings Years 1&2
Wednesday 26 th June	EYFS: Reception
Wednesday 3 rd July	EYFS: Nursery



Christmas Tree Festival at the Woodstock Methodist Church

Woodstock Methodist Church is holding its first Christmas Tree Festival this year to raise money for various charities. We were asked to provide a Christmas Tree that was decorated with symbols that represent our school. All decorations had to be eco-friendly and sustainable. The children made fabric tinsel using old clothes and uniform from lost property, and using old match boxes the children decorated them with our school values. The tree looked wonderful and is now proudly sat in the methodist church. Please do, if you get the chance, to take a visit to the church to see the many different trees, which will be on display over the festive period.



Hand in Hand we
Love – Learn – Flourish

Our Christmas tree is very old, and was destined for the skip,
so we repaired and re-used it.

Children upcycled old school uniform that had been left in the lost property bin,
along with scraps of old blue fabric, to create the tinsel.
We made the book decorations from empty matchboxes.

Each one represents one of our school values:
Love, Respect, Honesty, Hope, Courage & Perseverance

We wish you a very Happy Christmas!

End of Term Arrangements

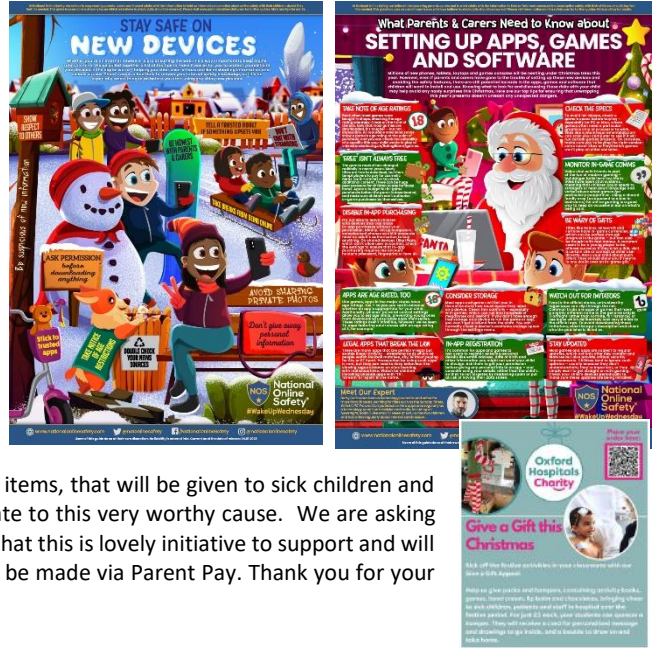
Term finishes on Wednesday 20 December, at 3.10pm. We look forward to the start of the Spring Term, Monday 8 January is a staff INSET Day, and we look forward to welcoming our children and families back to school on Tuesday 9 January 2024.

Christmas Online Safety Guidance

We take the Online Safety of our children and school community very seriously. Each week we publish Online Safety Guidance for parents which we hope you take the time to read and feel they are helpful. With the Christmas period coming up, we know for a number of children, on their Christmas Wishlist might be devices, smart watches, consoles and other forms of technology. We have included in this week's newsletter some guidance for parents that will hopefully help you to understand the importance of setting up the various parental controls on devices and talking to children about the boundaries and rules of using the different technologies. As part of our curriculum, we talk with children and educate them about the various ways we can keep our selves and each other safe online – but they also need you to help them too.

Oxfordshire Hospitals Fundraiser: Give a Gift Appeal REMINDER

Following on from pupils in Years 3-6 writing a personalised card to go inside a hamper containing books, games and chocolates amongst other items, that will be given to sick children and patients in hospital over the Christmas period, there is still time to donate to this very worthy cause. We are asking for a £2 donation per pupil to sponsor a hamper. I'm sure you will agree that this is lovely initiative to support and will bring joy and happiness to those in hospital at Christmas. Donations can be made via Parent Pay. Thank you for your support.



North Oxfordshire Food Bank REMINDER

We would like to ask that donations are brought into school on **Friday 15th December 2023**. Any donations however big or small are always much appreciated by the foodbank, especially at this time of year.



Thank you for your continued support throughout the term and we look forward to seeing you at some point over this week at one of the many children's performances.

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

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 School

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.

PTA Christmas Hampers

A massive thank you to everyone who was able to contribute an item for the class Christmas Hampers - they are looking magnificent!



Don't forget to hand your Staff Baby Photo entry sheet in at the school office by 9am on Friday 15 December. The family who guesses the most correct teachers and staff members from their baby photos will win the teachers and staff members' hamper!

The raffle prize draw will take place on Friday 15 December. As always, we deeply appreciate your ongoing support.

The PTA will be selling raffle tickets during the week of 11 December in the school playground and at the Christmas events in school. Tickets cost £1 each.



Collective Worship Weekly Theme

Week Beginning: 11/12/23		Collective Worship	
Key Idea: Is all rubbish rubbish?			
Biblical Link:	Isaiah 9:6 "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (NIV)		
Christian Value:	Service	<div>Invitation prayer</div> <div>Dear God, At this time of year, we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus and the good news he brought us, Thank you for always being there and for showing us how to live, Amen</div>	
Understanding Christianity Theme:	 Incarnation		
Worship Song:	Come and praise the lord our king		

Our World



What is rubbish?

Let's look at this week's story

British Litter-pickers have become world champions in the Litter-picking World Cup (also known as the SpoGomi World Cup) after sifting through nearly 60 kilograms of rubbish in the Japanese capital to win the first-ever contest of its kind. The British team, made up of Sarah Parry and brothers Alexander and Jonathan Winship, beat teams from 20 other nations from around the world. SpoGomi is named after a combination of 'sport' and 'gomi', the Japanese word for rubbish. Each team is equipped with protective gloves, metal tongs and waste bags, and allocated an area of five square kilometres (nearly two square miles) in the busy Shibuya district of Tokyo, to collect as much litter as possible.


[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 clean water, healthy food and a clean and safe environment to live in. Disposing of rubbish in the correct way can help to do this.



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HEALTH
WATER
FOOD
ENVIRONMENT



British Values



Individual Liberty

We can choose what we do with our rubbish. Some of our choices and actions can have a more positive impact on the environment and our health than others.



join us

Bicester Military Wives Choir is looking for a
Musical Director

- ♪ Are you committed to using the power of music to bring women in the military community together to sing, share and support each other?
- ♪ Are you a skilled teacher and inspiring leader who enjoys meeting new people and building good working relationships?
- ♪ Can you facilitate and inspire a choir as they develop as an ensemble, whilst upholding the reputation of an established brand?

Time commitment: Weekly rehearsals every week, 1930hrs Silbaravi Centre, Ambrosden, Bicester, OX25 2RB. Leading regular events across the local area

To apply, send your CV and cover letter (two sides of A4) to Bicester@militarywiveschoirs.org by Friday 26th January 2024



/Militarywiveschoirbicester



militarywiveschoirs.org



@BicesterMWC

Part of the Military Wives Choirs, registered charity in England and Wales (1148302) & Scotland (SC045217).



Festive Outdoor Fun!

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre
OX2 9NJ 01865 863510

Visit Hill End with family & friends this Christmas!

- 🎄 Festive crafts with natural materials
- 🎄 Christmas joke trail
- 🎄 Campfire & marshmallows
- 🎄 Woodcraft - make a decoration!
- 🎄 PLUS... the freedom to play & explore our site

Wednesday 20 December 1.30 pm - 5.00 pm

Thursday 21 December 10.00 am - 2.00pm

sorry no dogs



Online ticket bookings:

hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events

£9.50 pp child / adult (U2s free)

includes a jacket potato or soup & hot drink



CHRISTMAS
baking workshop
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DECEMBER

10AM - 12PM
£27 per person

22 Banbury Road, OX201LQ
Woodstock

www.thelittlepuddings.com

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 issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

STAY SAFE ON NEW DEVICES

Whether you're an internet newbie or a pro at surfing the web, it's always important to keep online safety in mind. We've pulled together a list of top tips to make it easier for you to protect yourself and your devices in the digital world - helping you steer clear of hazards like misleading information and vicious viruses. There's never a bad time to refresh your internet safety knowledge, but it's an especially smart thing to do before you start using any shiny new devices!



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

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What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nestling under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

Back when most games were bought in shops, checking the age rating was easy: it was on the front of the box. Now that most games are downloaded, it's tougher – but not impossible. All reputable download stores show a game's age rating at the point of purchase, and you can check the suitability of a specific title your child wants to play at videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games.

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'FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

The games market has changed radically in recent years. Many titles are free to download, but then tempt players to pay for cosmetic items (as in Fortnite) or to unlock additional content. There can be huge peer pressure for children to pay for these items. Agree a budget for in-game purchases before the game is downloaded, and make sure children can't authorise in-game purchases by themselves.

DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

It's not wise to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases without your permission. Ideally, set up computers, consoles and phones so child accounts need an adult's authorisation to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads, which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.

CHECK THE SPECS

To avoid let-downs, check a game's specs before buying – especially for PC or Mac, where games often need a particular graphics chip or processor to work. Sites like systemrequirementslab.com can scan your computer to see if it will run certain games properly. On consoles, make sure you're buying the right version: some newer Xbox or PlayStation games won't play on older consoles.

MONITOR IN-GAME COMMS

Voice chat with friends is part of the fun of modern gaming – but danger lurks here too. Many titles have open chat systems, meaning that children could speak to strangers or hear adult language and verbal abuse when games get particularly competitive. Using a shared family area (as opposed to alone in bedrooms) for online gaming is a good way to keep an occasional ear on what's being said.

BE WARY OF GIFTS

Titles like Roblox, Minecraft and Fortnite have in-game currencies, which can be earned through progress in the game – but can also be bought with real money. A common scam is for a young player to be offered currency if they click a link, visit a certain site or contact another user directly. Warn your child about such offers; they should show you if they're in any doubt over an in-game gift.

APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app's appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 3, for example.

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CONSIDER STORAGE

Most apps and games will tell you in the online store how much space they need on a device. Check this carefully – especially with games, which can run into hundreds of megabytes and beyond. If you don't have enough free storage on a device to run the game or app, you won't get a refund from the store. You can normally check a device's available storage space through the settings menu.

WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

Even in the official stores, untrustworthy rogue apps can slip through the net. Common tricks are apps or games that have a slightly different name to the genuine article (Fortnight rather than Fortnite, for instance) or use logos which deliberately look very similar to the official app. To avoid downloading these imitations, read the app's description and check who the publisher is listed as.

LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW

There are many apps that are perfectly legal but enable illegal activity – streaming apps which let people watch football matches, say, without paying for Sky or BT Sport. Prosecution for using such apps is rare, but they can lead to risky behaviour like viewing rogue streams on sites teeming with malicious links. Watch for children installing unusual apps with 'TV', 'stream' or 'sport' in the name.

IN-APP REGISTRATION

It's common for apps and games to ask users to register: entering personal details like email address, date of birth and other information you might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to an app – and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not targeted by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.

STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which not only offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates – usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and has written regularly about internet safety issues.



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BEING TOGETHER

mieli

Föreningen för
Mental Hälso i Finland

MIELENTERVEYSSEURA.FI

Bears Club

Are you fun and enjoy spending time with children? If so, this may be for you. Bears Club are now actively seeking two assistants for five afternoons a week from 3.00 to 5.00 pm. You would be mainly working with children under the age of 5 years old. If you are interested, please send your CV and covering letter to woodstockbearsclub@gmail.com

Interviews will be arranged at a mutually convenient time.

Job Description: After School Club Assistant

Title:	Bears Club After School Assistant
Accountability:	The successful candidate will be responsible to the Manager at Bears Club and the School Business Manager
Location:	Assembly Hall, Woodstock Primary School, Shipton Road, Woodstock
Hours:	Monday to Friday 3.00 pm to 5.00 pm term time.
Pay:	Very competitive rates per hour.

Job Description:-

To assist in the day-to-day organisation of the After School provisions at Bears Club providing a high standard of care and play opportunities for the children between the ages of 3 to 5 years old in a safe and secure environment.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- To maintain a safe and stimulating play environment and to assist with the developing opportunities which encourage children's social, physical, intellectual, creative, and emotional development through play
- Be responsible to the Club Manager and to the School Business Manager
- To assist with the planning, preparing and delivery of activities, which meet children's individual developmental needs
- To work face to face with the children registered with the Club
- To supervise teatime refreshments for the children
- To follow guidelines and procedures for Safeguarding in accordance with Bears Club policies and procedures
- To carry out any other duties which will be seen to enhance the work of Bears Club

Qualifications/Experience requirements:

The successful candidates will ideally hold the following qualifications or experience but if not, we can help to organise this training:

- A current DBS Certificate
- Up to date Safeguarding training
- Prevent Duty awareness training
- 12 Hour Paediatric First Aid qualification (ideal but not essential)
- Have experience of working with young children

Please contact Fiona O'Connor at woodstockbearsclub@gmail.com for further information.