



# Woodside Matters

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[www.woodside.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.woodside.gloucs.sch.uk)

[ourschoolsapp](#)

01.04.2022

## Celebrations!

We had our Celebration Assembly in the hall as whole school this week, rather than on Zoom! It was a lovely, happy occasion and it was a pleasure to see everyone celebrating achievements. Well done to our youngest children, who have never been in an assembly before. You have practiced well and took part brilliantly!

It has also been lovely to welcome parents and carers back in for Parent Evenings and thank you for all your positive feedback. The teachers really enjoyed sharing your children's work and achievements with you.

## Change of date

Please note a change in the date for the whole school trip to the beach. This will now be on Tues 5th July, not Weds 29th June, as there was a clash with Dene Magna's transition days for Y6 children.

## Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme

The Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme, funded by the Department for Education, will be returning this Spring break between 11-14th April; this is for children in reception to year 11 who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals.

## Holidays Activity Programme

GCC have also recently secured some additional funding so that they can once again extend their offer to all families as part of the HAP programme (Holidays activity programme- NOT funded by the DfE).

We encourage all HAP and HAF families to get in contact with their local offer to see what is available to them. To find out where to get more information about your local offer, you can click here.

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/holiday-activities-and-food-programme/follow-your-district-on-social-media/>

If you have any queries, please contact :  
[hafparentenquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:hafparentenquiries@gloucestershire.gov.uk)

**Reminder 27th May 2022** is an inset day as staff in Woodside and Steam Mills Schools will have their children protection update training.

## Term dates:

### Term 4

28th Feb to 8th April

### Term 5

25th April to 26th May

### Term 6

6th June to 20th July

## Inset days:

27th May 2022

21st July 2022

**2022-23** term dates and inset days are on the website

## Other dates:

- Weds 6th April sponsored Going for Gold day and Talent assembly
- Thurs 26th May Sports day and Jubilee Celebration
- Tues 5th July whole school trip to the beach
- 11th –13th July 2022 Y5/6 residential trip

This term's school value is self-belief



### **Supporting children with worries**

Staff have been alert for any worries amongst children over the current news. Here is a useful link:

<https://reliefweb.int/report/ukraine/ukraine-5-ways-talk-children-about-conflict>

### **Wrap around care**

Breakfast Club is accessible from 7:45 and after school club runs until 4pm. Please contact the office if you want to book any places.

**Thurs 26th May** Sports day (morning) and Jubilee Celebration (afternoon). Save the date! More details will follow.

**Tues 5th July** whole school trip to the beach! Details to follow.

### **Going for Gold!**

A sponsored **Going for Gold** day is being organised for Weds 6th April. The day will be supported by Prostars and will help to raise PTFA money to go towards the gazebo. More information will be on the sponsorship letter, which will come out shortly.

This is also an Easter themed day, which will of course involve chocolate! We are very grateful to Morrisons for donating items.

### **Promoting Diversity**

This term children will be learning about:

- physical and neuro diversity-through awareness of different groups supported by Red Nose Day funding
- gender equality-British Science week beginning on 14th March; we will be raising the profile of famous male and female scientists
- religious diversity-through the RE curriculum and learning about Ramadan in April

## **Request for a leave of absence during term time**

Parents should be aware that the law does not grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time. The Department for Education allows a Headteacher the discretion to consider authorising a leave of absence in term time only in “exceptional circumstances”.

You may consider that a holiday will be educational but your child will still miss out on the teaching and learning that their peers will receive whilst your child is away. Children returning from a leave of absence during term time are also unprepared for the lessons which build on the teaching they have missed and arrangements need to be made for individual children to catch up on missed work. Disruption to the continuity of teaching and learning is something we all have a responsibility to avoid.

If requesting a leave of absence you will need to complete the form on the reverse of this notice, setting out the reasons. If the holiday is not considered to be an exceptional circumstance it will not be agreed. If you nevertheless take your child out of school for the leave of absence this **will be recorded as unauthorised leave**.

**In the case of an unauthorised leave of absence the headteacher may request that the Local Authority issue a Fixed Penalty Notice without further warning to the parent.**

**Please note that such a penalty is issued to each parent for each child taken out of school.**

**A Penalty Notice is a fine of £60 if paid within the first 21 days which increases to £120 if paid between 21 and 28 days.**

**Thereafter, if the penalty remains unpaid this may lead to prosecution through the Magistrates’ Court.**

All leave of absence requests should be completed on the attached form by the parent with whom the child ordinarily resides. This should be returned to the school at least seven days before the start of the holiday. All requests must be made prior to the leave being taken. Leave cannot be authorised retrospectively.

I hope you will support our efforts to maintain good levels of attendance and attainment.

Yours sincerely

Head Teacher

## **Request for a leave of absence during term time**

Pupil Name ...../Tutor Group .....

Pupil's address .....

Date of first day of absence .....Date of return to school .....

Number of school days that your child will be absent from school .....

*If a pupil fails to return within ten school days following the anticipated date of return and no reason is provided, there may be grounds (under some circumstances) to delete your child's name from the Admissions Register and register them as a Child Missing Education.*

Please detail the exceptional circumstance for which you are requesting leave of absence (please continue on blank paper if required)

.....

.....

***I understand that if the absence request is not authorised and the holiday is taken the Headteacher may request that the Local Authority issue a Fixed Penalty Notice.***

***I understand that a Penalty is issued to each parent for each child taken out of school and that this is a fine of £60 if paid within the first 21 days which increases to £120 if paid between 21 and 28 days.***

***I understand that if I do not pay this it may result in legal action.***

Name(s) of Parent/Carer (s) making application:  
Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Forename.....Surname.....

Address: .....

Signed ..... Dated .....

Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms

Forename.....Surname.....

Address: .....

Signed ..... Dated .....

(Please ensure you are giving at least seven days' notice of the proposed absence, retrospective applications cannot be authorised)

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For school to complete and copy retained: AUTHORISED/UNAUTHORISED (circle)