

Woodside Matters

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www.woodside.gloucs.sch.uk

ourschoolsapp

08.04.2022

This term's school value is **self-belief**

Virtual book fair information for parents

Thank you to all those who ordered books from our recent Virtual Book Fair. Your purchases have resulted in a fantastic 13 free books for the school. Not only have you supported the school but also a small, local business. We will let you know when we will be holding another Virtual Book Fair but in the meantime you can also buy books directly from www.booksforbugs.co.uk for delivery to your home address.

'Soft Start'

Staff have been trialing a soft start, where Y1-6 children go straight into class on arrival in the morning (from 8:40 am) to start spelling/number work rather than lining up on the yard. This will continue from now on as it is such a successful start to the school day. All children must be at school by 8:50am at the latest for registration; coming closer to 8:40am is encouraged.

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

Have a lovely break and we look forward to seeing children back

on Monday 25th April

Y2 and Y6 children will need swimming kit and Y1 and Y5 need to wear PE kits on Mondays from 25th April

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:

- 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

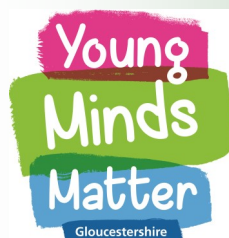
Reminder 27th May 2022

is an inset day as staff in Woodside and Steam Mills Schools will have their children protection update training together.

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.

Childcare
Choices



West Gloucestershire
Schools Partnership

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