

The Whiteoak Academies Newsletter 9

Headteacher's Message



Welcome to Term 2! I hope you all had a lovely half-term break and the children are looking forward to coming back to school tomorrow.

Our value for this term is **Courage**. We will be thinking about what it means to be courageous in different ways, from having the confidence to try something new or stand up for what is right, to showing bravery and kindness when things feel difficult. This value also links closely to two important dates this term: **Remembrance Day** on **11th November**, when we take time to remember and reflect on the courage and sacrifice of others, and **Anti-Bullying Week,** beginning on 16th November, when we will be exploring the importance of standing up to bullying, showing kindness and having the courage to speak out.

And, of course, Christmas is on its way! We know this is always an exciting time in school, but also a particularly busy one for families, with lots of dates, events and things to remember. We are very conscious of this and want to make sure you have plenty of notice of what is coming up.

Please do keep an eye on our weekly newsletter, as this is where we aim to share all of our key dates, reminders and important messages to help you plan ahead. We will do our best to keep everything in one place so that you don't miss out on any of the lovely things happening across our schools.

Wishing everyone a happy and positive start to Term 2. I look forward to all that this term will bring!

Mrs Reyes

What you need to do this week:



1. Don't forget to **book your child's school dinners** for after half term.
2. Read the section below to find out **where you need to go for your Parents' Evening appointment** on either Tuesday or Thursday.
3. If your child is in **Moorend Eagles** (the blue house), they can wear **non school uniform this Friday**, 6th November.
4. Look out for **links to purchase tickets** for the WOWSA Winter Discos, the Elf Academy event and the Wreath Making Workshop.
5. **If your child is in choir**, look out for a message from the office early this week to purchase tickets for the Christmas Extravaganza event at the Winter Gardens on Wednesday 9th December.

Parents' Evening appointments - where do you need to go?



For all appointments, please enter the site through the Grove pedestrian gate which will be open for the evening.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

Please go straight to the Hannah More hall where your child's work will be ready for you to view prior to your appointment. (There will be tables for each year group.) Teachers will call you in from the hall so please do wait there.

Year 3 and Year 4

Please go through the new green gate by the Year 3 classrooms and continue round to the side of the Grove building. Go past the Year 4 classrooms to the end of this walkway and turn left through the black gate opposite the bike shelter. Please then turn left again and go down the steps in The Quad to enter either the Year 4 practical area (which is on your left) or the Year 3 practical area (which is down the further set of steps at the end).

Year 5 and Year 6

Please go through the new green gate by the Year 3 classrooms and continue round to the side of the Grove building. Go past the Year 4 classrooms to the end of this walkway and turn left at the very end to go along the very back of the building.

For Year 5 appointments, please enter the first doorway on the left and for Year 6, please enter the second doorway on the left. The children's work will be available to view in their trays in the practical areas.

Aspens Food Samples

If your appointment is Tuesday evening, please do pop into the IT suite (next to the Hannah More entrance) as Aspens will have some savoury menu samples for you to try!

Celebrating Attendance

We are really pleased to share that our whole-school attendance continues to sit consistently just above both the national and Lighthouse Schools Partnership averages at 97%. This is fantastic news and a reflection of the efforts of so many of our families to ensure that children are in school every day, making the most of every learning opportunity. Every day really does count, and being in school regularly makes such a difference to children's progress, friendships and confidence.

As we head into the cough and cold season, a little reminder that children should still come to school if they have a minor cough, cold or runny nose and are otherwise well enough to take part in the school day. Unless your child has a high temperature, vomiting or diarrhoea, or an illness such as chickenpox, they are generally fine to attend. We have plenty of tissues at school, so please don't worry about the sniffles!

Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain such positive attendance. Let's keep it up!

Children in Need - Friday 13th November

Just a reminder that we're supporting BBC Children in Need with our very own **Run Pudsey Challenge** this year! Children are invited to wear **sporty and/or spotty clothing** on Friday 13th November and take part in a fun run with their class (or an indoor fitness circuit if the weather is unkind!).

Please ensure children wear suitable footwear for running and bring a **voluntary donation** to support this fantastic cause. All money raised will go directly to BBC Children in Need.

We look forward to seeing everyone's spotty and sporty outfits!



Christmas Song Performances - Year 1, Year 2 & Woodlands



Children in Years 1 and 2 and Woodlands will be learning some Christmas songs to perform to families after school on the following dates:

Year 1 and Woodlands - Thursday 10th December, 4.00pm

Year 2 - Wednesday 16th December, 4.00pm

Children will stay in their classes under teacher supervision from 3.20pm until their performance time in the Grove hall. Please do send them with a healthy snack which they can enjoy whilst they're waiting.

In order to comply with the fire regulations of our hall, each family can send two people to their child's performance, with younger siblings welcome to sit on laps.

PE Kit Reminder

A quick reminder that on PE days, children should wear either their **school PE hoodie or their usual school jumper** over their PE kit. It is important that we continue to look smart and feel part of our school community, even on the days when we are not wearing our usual uniform. We are increasingly seeing a range of non-school jumpers being worn on PE days, so please ensure that children come to school in the correct school uniform.

We do have spare school jumpers available and, where children arrive wearing a non-school jumper, we will ask them to change into one of these for the day.

Thank you, as always, for your support in helping us maintain our school uniform expectations. If you are ever struggling to provide the right school uniform, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or a member of our office team as we would be more than happy to help.



WOWSA Events and Updates

Please see the posters below for information about WOWSA's upcoming winter events as well as details of the next meeting (to which you are all welcome) - Tuesday 3rd November, 7.30pm on Teams. There is also information about the Easy Fundraising scheme which helps to raise money for our school through your online shopping.

Links to buy tickets for the Winter Discos, the Wreath Making Workshop and the Elf Academy event will come out this week.

easyfundraising
feel good shopping

Shop online. Raise money.

The easy way to raise money for WOWSA when doing your shopping online

Every time you shop online with your favourite retailers, Easyfundraising turns your purchases into donations for WOWSA – at **no extra cost** to you!



Join today at:
https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=319340&invite=LVSF3L&referral-campaign=s2s&utm_source=easyfundraising-app&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=copy-link

It's easy!

1. **Join** using the link above.
2. **Shop** at your favourite online retailers.
3. **Raise** a free donation to WOWSA.
4. **Make a difference** for our school community!

Thank you for supporting WOWSA!

WOWSA
Our school. Our community. Our future.

WOWSA Winter Term Events

Get ready for a festive winter term packed with fun, creativity and Christmas cheer!

Winter Discos

Tuesday 24th November
Reception, Year 3 & Year 4

Thursday 26th November
Year 1 & Yar 2 Year 5 & Year 6

Wreath Making

Wednesday 2nd December

Come along and get creative making your own festive wreath!

Elf Academy

Saturday 5th December

A magical festive event for our little elves!

Hot Chocolate Friday

Friday 11th December

Warm up with a delicious festive hot chocolate!

Santa Letters

Wednesday 16th December

Santa letter delivery day!

Hot Chocolate Friday & Uniform Sale

Friday 18th December

Enjoy a festive hot chocolate and take a look at our uniform sale.

We can't wait to see you at our ★ WOWSA winter events! ★



Upcoming Events



Term 2 - 'Courage'

- 2nd November - Children return to school

- 3 November - Parents' Evening
- 5 November - Prospective parents' tour (children starting school Sept 2027), 1.45pm
- 5 November - Parents' Evening
- 6 November - Non uniform day for Moorend Eagles (the blue house)
- 13 November - Children in Need Day
- 16 November - Road Safety Week
- 16 November - Anti Bullying Week
- 16 November - Odd Socks Day!
- 20 November - INSET Day (school closed to children)
- 24 November - Reception, Year 3 and Year 4 Winter Discos
- 26 November - Year 1, Year 2, Year 5 and Year 6 Winter Discos
- 27 November - School photos (individual)
- 28 November - Whiteoak Choir to sing at Holy Trinity Christmas Fair, 10.30am
- 2 December - WOWSA Wreath Making Workshop (for adults)
- 5 December - WOWSA 'Elf Academy'
- 8 December - Reception Nativity performance, 9.30am
- 8 December - Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
- 9 December - Whiteoak Choir to take part in Christmas Extravaganza at the Winter Gardens, 5.00pm
- 10 December - Reception Nativity performance, 2.15pm
- 10 December - Year 1 and Woodlands Christmas song performance, 4.00pm
- 15 December - Year 3 to Redgrave Theatre
- 16 December - Year 2 Christmas song performance, 4.00pm
- 18 December - Hot Chocolate Friday and Uniform Sale after school
- 18 December - Last day of Term 2

Term 3 - 'Kindness'

- 4 January - Children return to school

Housepoint Celebrations







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WOLVES

Congratulations to Moorend Eagles who were the winning house for Term1! Moorend Eagles will have a non-uniform day this Friday - don't worry, we'll remind you!

Great work everyone!