



# Woodland Grange Primary

## NEWSLETTER ~ March 2024

Tel: 0116 272 0401

[www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk](http://www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk)

 @Woodland\_Grange

### Spring is in the air

Welcome to our March newsletter, going out a little earlier due to the Easter holidays. It has been lovely listening to the special mentions that teacher's deliver in our Friday celebration assemblies. We know how important getting a 'Head Teacher' or 'Aspirations' certificate is to our children. They feel incredibly proud and I'm sure cannot wait to tell you all about it when they get home. Recently the word 'confidence' has crept into lots of these messages. Now we have reached the end of the second term, seeing the changes in pupils attitudes is wonderful. Developing their knowledge and skills, asking questions and feeling happier to give things a go or even learn from their mistakes is brilliant. We know these improvements will continue after the holidays and right the way through to the end of the school year.



### COMIC RELIEF 2024

Thank you to everyone that has made a donation to this year's Comic Relief appeal. Every year, families are incredibly generous, giving what they can to support this important charity. The children looked amazing in their bright colours and patterns, it was a wonderful sight in our

special assembly.

You can still contribute by clicking on the link below to visit our Just Giving page and we will let you know of the grand total very soon.

[Woodland Grange is fundraising for Comic Relief \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/Woodland-Grange-Primary-School)

Thank you to everyone that donated items to improve our class reading corners for **World Book Day**. Staff have worked very hard to make these spaces as inviting, exciting and interesting as they can. Winners were announced following a very tight judging process. Congratulations to Miss Smith as our overall winner. However, every class deserves a big well done for prioritising reading for pleasure. We know the benefits it will bring to your children.



### POETRY BY HEART

Judges had an impossible task picking the winners for this year's competition. This is a pic of our Y5/6 winners. We will add a pic of the Y3/4 winners in our next newsletter.

### All things FOWG

The Friends of Woodland Grange will be meeting again on Thursday May 2nd at 1:30pm in the staffroom. Come along to find out more about our parent's fundraising group.

The next planned event will be a bingo night on Friday April 19th. More information will follow after the Easter holidays.

Don't forget that the BIG end of year fundraiser will be happening in the summer term.

FOWG Fun Day is on Sunday June 30th. We will need lots of volunteers to help out on the day so contact the Friends and sign up now!



### Poetry by heart

We would like to congratulate all our winners in this year's poetry by heart competition. Years 5 and 6 assembled in the hall to find our overall winners, following a classroom selection process. The standard was incredible and choosing the winners was an impossible task. We were joined by staff and students from Manor as well as OAK Trust. Everyone commented on how amazing the recitals were. Children had learnt their poems and performed them with confidence.

We have also chosen winners from year 3 and 4 and, collectively, every child's video of their performance will now go through to the regional competition.

### Bon voyage

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to a longstanding member of our staff team. After an incredible **24 years** supporting children, Mrs Merriman is retiring from Woodland Grange. We know how important our support staff are; they are vital in the fantastic provision that your children receive at our school. Mrs Merriman has cared for a huge number of pupils in many different year groups down through the years. She has also run our KS1 French club, ensuring that younger pupils have a great start on learning a new language in KS2 and helped out in Owl's Hoot.

Everyone at WGPS will miss Mrs Merriman; we wish her well on her new adventures.



We had incredible success at a recent **gymnastics** competition. Held at Aylestone leisure centre, we entered 4 teams (1 in each level of the competition). There was a fantastic spirit from all the children resulting in Woodland Grange winning the 'Spirit of the games award'. This is awarded to a school that demonstrates qualities such as determination and passion (see pic on the right).

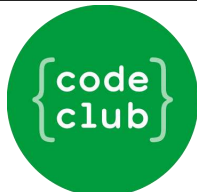
**Our teams also did incredibly well, winning 3 of the 4 levels of competition.** An amazing result indeed. Thanks to Miss Jackson and Miss Flanagan who helped to prepare our gymnasts and also to parents who transported and supported the children.

Well done to everyone that represented the school at the recent Schools **Cross Country** finals. There were 6 pupils from across KS2 that were selected to run in the Oadby and Wigston team. It was a very muddy and wet course at Prestwold Hall and the children ran brilliantly.



### Clubs at WGPS

We are proud of the range of clubs that we offer at Woodland Grange. In each newsletter, we will focus a different club and this month it is the turn of **Code Club**. This club has been running for many years at Woodland Grange. Children learn about coding and programming, initially using 'Scratch'. Later in the year, some of them will progress onto text based coding using a website called 'Trinket' and even BBC Micro Bits. It is wonderful to see them become more confident in their abilities. The children enjoy the club and have fun whilst learning new concepts that they can use later on in KS3 and 4. This year, we have also seen a larger number of girls attending the club which is also brilliant. Code club is open to year 5 pupils.



Children having fun using Scratch (a visual coding platform) to create animations, games and quizzes at Code Club.



### School Parking

We will always include reminders about parking in our monthly newsletters. We know how difficult it can be for local residents and want to do everything we can to support them. You may have seen staff issuing 'polite parking reminders' recently. We will continue to remind everyone about the correct way to park when you are dropping off or collecting your children:

- Never stop on the yellow zig zags outside of school
- Never park over or block residents driveways
- Never park on pavements. It will block access (for pedestrians, pushchairs or mobility scooters)
- Always switch off your engine when waiting to collect your children

**Don't forget: You can use the Grange Farm pub car park as a park and stride venue (a 3 minute walk to/from school). It is close to school, does not affect local residents and means you get some fresh air**



### Easter Fun

There are still a few places left for our Easter Holiday club. It will be running during both weeks, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between 8am and 5pm. There will be a range of activities including sport, gymnastics, cycling and crafts all run by school staff and led by Mr Evans. There are 3 separately priced slots:

**8am—1pm: £17.50**

**1pm—5pm: £14.00**

**8am—5pm: £31.50**

Places can be booked online using Parent Gateway, more information on clubs and holiday provision can be found [here](#).

### Food Bank

Oadby food bank will continue to support people during the Easter break. They will be open on **Friday 5th April** between **11.30 and 12.30**.

Unfortunately (due to increased demand) they will only be able to help people who live in Oadby.

Our collection will remain in school after the Easter break. They can accept any of the items listed [here](#). On behalf of Oadby food bank thank you for all your kind donations.

### Diary dates:

Key dates can be found on the school website calendar (search under 'News & Events')

**8/4:** End of term

**19/4:** FOWG bingo night

**25/4:** KS1 singing festival at DeMontfort Hall

**30/6:** FOWG Fun Day