



Woodland Grange Primary

NEWSLETTER ~ August 2024

Tel: 0116 272 0401

www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk

 @Woodland_Grange

Welcome back!

It is the start of a new school year at Woodland Grange and we would like to welcome back pupils and families from their summer break. We hope you enjoyed the sunshine and got to spend some quality family time away from school.



The start of a new school year is always an exciting time; catching up with friends and getting to know new classmates is a positive experience. There are different routines and expectations in classrooms to get to grips with as well. However, it can also be a challenging time. Children may feel a little nervous about returning to school. For our new starters it can feel isolating and unfamiliar. They may be unsure of what to do or where to go. They may not see their best friends until break or lunch. Rest assured that our brilliant staff will be there to help everyone back into school. They will support the transition into a new year group and make sure everyone feels at home.

For parents, look out for details of our curriculum evenings. These meetings are very important and will provide you with a good understanding for your child's new year group as well as whole school messages.

Staffing for 2024-25

Headteacher:	Mrs Brown
Deputy Headteacher:	Mr Parker
Preschool:	Mrs Turner
Foundation Stage:	Mrs Johnson & Miss Rose/Mr Dandilo
Year 1:	Mrs Hibbard & Mrs Brennan
Year 2:	Mrs Chadwick/Mrs Sabir & Miss Porritt
Year 3:	Miss Holland & Mrs Santy/Mrs Bowe
Year 4:	Mr Healey/Mr Parker & Miss Smyton
Year 5:	Miss Smith & Miss Griffiths
Year 6:	Mrs Barrs & Miss Scott



We hope that lots of children were able to visit the library over the summer break and complete the reading challenge. We would love to celebrate your brilliant reading in school. Bring your certificate in, give it to your class teacher and we will share it with the school in our assemblies, brilliant!

The challenge runs until the 7th September, click [here](#) to find out more (there's still time to get involved).

All things FOWG

The Friends of Woodland Grange are our parents association. Each year they go above and beyond, organising events, volunteering their time and energy to raise money for the school, which benefits every child. We feature a FOWG update in every newsletter, details of upcoming events and reports on previous fundraisers. FOWG also need **your help**. Their AGM is happening on **19th September at 6.30pm in the staffroom**. If you can spare any time to come along and find out more about the Friends, or volunteer time to help at events, they would love to hear from you!



Parking at Woodland Grange

We know how busy it can be at drop off and pick up times outside school. We also know that the majority of families park with care and politeness. However, we receive emails from local residents and school parents about incidents of poor parking quite regularly. Please remember the following:

- Never stop on the yellow zig zags outside of school.
- Never park over or block residents driveways.
- Never park on the pavement. It blocks access for pedestrians, pushchairs or mobility scooters.
- Switch off your engine when waiting to collect your children

You can use the Grange Farm pub car park as a park and stride venue (just a 3 minute walk to/from school). It does not affect local residents and means you get some fresh air and exercise on your way to school.



We would like to say a **HUGE** thank you to the hardworking staff at **Santander**, who came in over the holidays to help tidy up our school. They cleared and tidied the wildlife area, painted fences around the school and generally helped to prepare our site for the start of the new school year. Thank you to everyone involved, your hard work has made a big difference to our school.



A Famous Fox

Have you spotted a new edition to our school grounds? We are very excited to be the new home for a fox, designed and painted by our very own Miss Griffiths!

She was chosen from over 100 other aspiring artists to create a fox based on the life of Alice Hawkins. It was displayed at Fosse Park as part of an exhibition alongside many other foxes, some of which are still there. Miss Griffiths wanted to find a new home for her fox and so she has come to live at Woodland Grange. We think the fox looks amazing and the detail, care and precision that has gone into the design is incredible.

Alice Hawkins is an important figure in Leicester's history. She campaigned for women's votes and fought to improve the pay and conditions for women who worked alongside her, in the boot and shoe factories of Victorian Leicester.



A splash of colour

Last year, you may recall that the children at Woodland Grange had the chance to complete a Colour Dash for charity. In May they completed laps around the field whilst being covered in coloured powder. It was a lot of fun and the children had a brilliant time. As a school we can now reveal that we raised an amazing **£3,127** for Leicestershire Children's Hospitals. The money will help to support children who have to spend time in LRI.



We have organised an assembly all about the dangers of carbon monoxide for the children at school.

Families will receive information prior to the assembly. The resources will be age appropriate and there will be follow up workshops for children in year 2 and 3.

Carbon monoxide is a dangerous gas which is produced when fuels including gas, oil, coal or wood don't burn properly. You can't see, hear, smell, taste or touch carbon monoxide so it's difficult to detect and exposure to it can be very harmful. It's important to know how to spot the signs carbon monoxide may be present and to know the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Woodland Grange would like to thank the CO Crew, Katie Haines Trust and Cadent for offering this opportunity to our school.



Frontiers

Families may remember that we sent out information about an exciting new project. A joint venture between 3 of our OAK Trust schools (Overdale Junior School, Manor High School and Woodland Grange) which will boost teaching and learning by integrating 1:1 digital devices across the school. We have now taken delivery of the devices in school. They are being set up ready for the pupils to use and they will soon be able to get to grips with them.

We will keep parents updated as we progress through the year, reporting on how they are being used in the classroom. We hope that this project will improve outcomes for children and help to prepare them for the future.

Lunchtimes can be a challenging part of the day for some children. Our brilliant lunchtime team are setting up some new activities to make sure all children have fun at lunch and they need your help. If you have any of the following at home, please bring them in to the school office:

- **Yo-yos**
- **Toy cars**
- **Chalks**
- **Bubble wands**
- **Word search or colouring books**
- **Loom bands**

Thank you on behalf of the lunchtime team.



Birthday Books

A reminder that you can donate a book to your child's class for their birthday. It is the best way to celebrate a special day and we know many families did just that last year. The books will be enjoyed by the class during the school year.

Please help us by not sending in other gifts for teachers to hand out. They will not be able to accept other gifts and we would not want to cause offense to any families.

Oadby Food Bank

We will continue to support Oadby food bank with our collection box near the office. They will be open on Friday 6th and 20th September.

Uniformerly

Uniformerly, is here to support you in the run up to the new school year. If you need uniform for your child, get in touch.

It is much cheaper than buying new, and can save items from landfill. Contact your year group FOWG WhatsApp rep or email:

fowg.uniformerly@gmail.com

Diary dates

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

2/9:	Start of clubs
16/9:	FS children in full time
19/9:	FOWG AGM
24/9:	Local governor meeting
18/10:	Half term