



# Woodland Grange Primary NEWSLETTER ~ December 2024

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 @Woodland\_Grange

## It's Chrrriiistmas!

Welcome to the festive, final newsletter of 2024. It's hard to believe that we are approaching the end of (another very busy) term at Woodland Grange. Thank you to all the family members that came in for decorations day at the beginning of the month. It was lovely to see so many grown ups supporting the children to make their (in some cases quite tricky!) Christmas decorations. The results were amazing and the school is looking very festive. A huge well done to all the children that have taken part in their festive productions. Preschool and KS1 invited families in to listen to some Christmas songs. Year 3 and 6 packed out St Peter's Church for their performance and we were treated to the Nativity, retold by the children in Foundation Stage. The hard work and preparation that goes into all of these productions cannot be underestimated and we would like to say a HUGE thank you to all the adults in school that made them possible.

All that remains for us to say is...

*We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*



### An amazing transformation

Take a look at our amazing new preschool playground. You may remember that we featured 'before' pictures in our November newsletter. In a few short weeks it has been transformed into a brand new space for the children to explore and enjoy. Complete with raised planters, a race track and new mud kitchen, every child in preschool is going to love it!



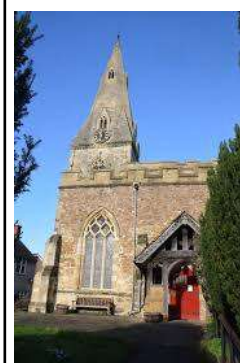
### FOWG termly review

It has been another busy term for our volunteer parent's association, the Friends of Woodland Grange. They have organised lots of events during the term, raising money that will benefit every child at Woodland Grange.

Recently, they organised a very successful Santa grotto for children to visit. As well as that, every child got to take home a decorated biscuit and some reindeer food to leave out on Christmas eve.

FOWG have also organised a raffle for the end of term. Tickets have been on sale during recent weeks, with year groups collecting some amazing prizes together.

As ever, thank you to everyone that has volunteered time and energy during the autumn term. Without your efforts, we would not be able to provide resources and equipment at school. Whether it's new library books, digital devices or playground equipment, every penny raised is vital to us, THANK YOU.



We would like to thank the staff at St Peter's Church in Oadby for welcoming pupils, staff and families for the recent Carol concert. Children from Year 3 and 6 performed songs, poems and a retelling of the Christmas story. There were many lovely comments made by parents and carers after the concert and it was clear they enjoyed the results of the hard work put in by staff and pupils.

*After a long term, it is always nice to receive messages of thanks from families, it can make a huge difference. We would like to share some that have arrived in the office inbox...*

To all the teachers who attended the Culmington trip. XX had the best time, and hasn't stopped talking about all the fun activities he did and experienced. Thank you for giving him a wonderful memory.

We wanted to pass on our sincere thanks to you and all the staff who helped XX have such a wonderful time on the residential. He had so much fun and made so many great memories and this wouldn't have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the team, both from Woodland Grange and from Culmington.

I wanted to provide some positive feedback for my daughter's teachers.

XX started at Woodland Grange after transferring from another school. We immediately felt welcomed and knew we'd made the right choice. Since then, XX's teachers have supported her so well and her reading and confidence have excelled.

It would be a delight if both teachers were still serving at WGP, if our son has the opportunity to enrol in a few years time.

I just wanted to relay my sincere thank you for arranging the decorations day at school today coupled with hot drinks and biscuits for all the parents. XX really enjoyed having us there and it was very apparent that everyone was having a wonderful time. The school clearly tries to foster a strong relationship with the parents and arranging events like this are so beneficial for all involved. Thank you once again!



#### **Making a list, checking it twice...**

We love hearing about the amazing things that our pupils do outside of school and couldn't let the December newsletter go out without mentioning a group of pupils who took it upon themselves to support the local community.

The children came together to support **The Bridge** in Leicester, a centre for homeless people.



Using their own money, they carefully planned their purchases, thinking about what would be most useful in cold weather and sticking to a budget. They bought as many items as they could from a list of needed supplies and even made Christmas cards for the staff to show their appreciation. The items will be delivered to the centre by an adult on their behalf.

#### **Autumn attendance at Woodland Grange**

<b>EYFS</b>	<b>94.89%</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>96.26%</b>
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>96.98%</b>
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>96.88%</b>
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>97.67%</b>
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>96.49%</b>
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>96.78%</b>
<b>Whole School</b>	<b>96.61%</b>



Well done to Year 4 for being our highest attending year group for the Autumn term!

National attendance data for primary schools is 95.1%, so 6 out of 7 of our year groups are higher than this – let's make it every year group at the end of next term!

**WG Governors:** We would like to confirm that Mrs Vina Pankhania has been elected as a parent governor to our Local Governing Body.

#### School Parking

It has been disappointing to receive emails from local residents who are unable to access their properties during drop off and pick up times at school. We know that many people would not park in this way, but to affect a vulnerable, elderly resident when they have a hospital appointment is unacceptable. Please continue to remember the following points:

- **Never park 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, push-chairs or mobility scooters**
- **Switch off your engine when waiting to collect your children**



#### Oadby Food Bank

Thank you for all your donations to the food bank this term. There is still time to drop off items to your year group's collection box tomorrow. We will deliver everything to the food bank during Friday. You can donate dried or tinned goods, bags of rice, pasta, breakfast cereals or jars of sauces). More information on items for the food bank can be found [here](#) on our school website.

**Oadby food bank is open on Fridays between 11.30 and 12.30. They will reopen after Christmas on January 3rd, 17th and 31st.**

Thank you to everyone that contributed to ASDA's 'Cashpot for schools' scheme. Your combined efforts have raised a brilliant £562.61, which we can use to support projects in school.



**The children will return on Tuesday 7th January 2025**





# School Attendance

Did you know....

For this school year there are **190 school days**, leaving **175 non-school days** for family holidays and routine appointments.



Children have the best chance of success if their school attendance is between **95 to 100%**

**90%** of attendance means your child misses **1 day every 2 weeks** and this will add up to nearly **4 weeks over the year**.

**At 90%** attendance throughout Primary and Secondary school your child will be missing **1 whole year of school**.

**Any school time lost will not be caught up.**

A reminder for all families that we want your child to attend school every day. Absences will have an impact.