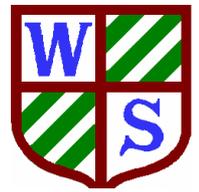


Woodside Primary School News

March 2017



Dear Parents/Carers,

As the end of term approaches there's some information to share.

Staffing

Miss Verling has secured a secondment to Heathryburn School as Principal Teacher. We congratulate Miss Verling and wish her well in her new role. We have advertised for a teacher and until this process is complete Primary 7, Room 14 will be taught by Mrs Strang and Mrs Page.

Photographer

We hope you are pleased with your child's photograph. Please return your order and money to the school office by Wednesday 29th March 2017.

P7 Activities Week

Primary 7 children are participating in a variety of activities in the first week of the new term. A number will be away to the Abernethy Centre at Nethy Bridge. Those remaining will take part in a variety of locally based activities - we hope this will be a great start to their final term at Woodside School.

Pupil Equity Funding

The Pupil Equity Funding is additional funding allocated directly to schools and targeted at closing the poverty related attainment gap. The Scottish Government has committed to this funding as part of the Scottish Attainment Challenge programme from 2017-18.

The funding will be focused on activities and interventions that will lead to improvements in literacy, numeracy and health and wellbeing. We will consult with staff, children and parents to ensure their involvement will inform planning for best use of this money. We will update you on our progress.

Parent/Carer Consultations

We look forward to seeing many parents/carers in school this week. We hope you find the meetings helpful. Please take some time to have a browse of the book fair - a large percentage of the profit gets turned into new books for school.

P.T.O.

Dates for your Diary:

Monday 27th March -
Parent/Carer Consultations

Wednesday 29th March -
Parent/Carer Consultations

Friday 31 March -
Term 3 ends

Monday 3rd April - Monday
17th April -
Holiday

Tuesday 18th April -
Term 4 begins

Tuesday 25th April -
FoWs meeting - 3.15pm

Monday 1st May - Holiday

Tuesday 2nd May -
In Service Day

Tuesday 23rd May -
FoWs meeting - 6pm

Wednesday 31st May -
Open Afternoon

Saturday 10th June -
FoWs Summer Fair 10am -
12pm

Tuesday 20th June -
FoWs meeting - 3.15pm

Friday 30th June -
Term 4 ends

Contact us:

Woodside Primary School Head Teacher - Mrs Cook
Clifton Road DHTs - Mrs Page
Aberdeen Mrs Thomson
AB24 4EA Mrs Blair

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Twitter: @woodside_school

SCHOOL INFORMATION LINE: 0870 054 1999 PIN: 011740

Focused Visit from Quality Improvement Officers

We were visited by a team of QIOs for the day on Thursday 23rd March 2017. Their focus was on the quality of learning, teaching and assessment. They visited all classes, including the nursery and met with groups of pupils and staff. We received very positive feedback and some suggestions for next steps, which we will reflect upon and include in next session's school improvement plan:

Learning and Engagement

Key Strengths:

- In almost all classes there was a very good ethos demonstrated by high quality positive respectful relationships between staff and pupils and between pupils and pupils. There is as result a good sense of order in classes. This has created a climate in which children want to learn.
- In a few classes pupils were leading learning and in a majority of classes there were opportunities to draw on their previous learning.
- Children reported that they enjoy learning.
- For those pupils who are part of "Pupil Voice Groups" there is the opportunity to take on leadership roles.

Areas for improvement / further consideration:

- Support pupils to develop a greater and accurate understanding of their progress in learning and what they need to do to improve.
- Provide further opportunities for pupils to contribute to the design of their learning experience.

Quality of Teaching

Key Strengths:

- There is a wide range of high quality experiences in Literacy leading to improvements in attainment
- LI and SC are evident in most classes in Literacy and English and Numeracy and Mathematics.
- In almost all classes teachers' explanation and instructions are clear ensuring pupils are purposefully engaged. In most cases lessons are well planned.
- Pupils with identified needs are well supported through well timed and appropriate interventions to support them to achieve and there is an effective deployment of staff to meet learning needs.

Areas for improvement / further consideration

- Develop consistent and meaningful use of 'assessment is for learning' strategies, including questioning, to support children with the language of learning.
- Building on existing good practice, continue to focus on high quality learning and teaching to ensure consistency across the school.

We wish you all a very happy holiday - remember school starts on **Tuesday 18th April 2017**

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Alison Cook
Head Teacher