# 1st March 2021 Volume 4 Issue 7

# NSEY CE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## MARCH NEWS



#### Time to return...

#### Dear Parents, Carers, Governors, Friends, Staff and Pupils

Like me, I am sure many of you held your breath during the latest announcement given by Boris Johnson. I was hopeful that the news given, would offer light, hope and a focus on what is to come, and I think it did.

Of course the biggest news for us was that we are able to welcome back the children who are currently learning from home, on Monday 8th March.

The science suggests that schools are safe for children and we could not be happier. There are a few reminders ahead of the return date which I would like to share with you here:

- The security of our bubbles does not end at the school gate. I urge you all to think about how you travel, to and from school. Please avoid walking with other families and please keep your children close and with you.
- Please do not arrive to school too early. We have limited waiting space, and do not want to create a crowd at the front of school. If you do arrive early, continue on

the path and take the opportunity for a little walk until it is time to return.

- Please use the white lines to create distance between you and other families when you are stood waiting to enter the site.
- Please walk with your own family, in a single file on the yellow line one-way system.
- Remember your face covering if you are able to use one.
- Remain on a star on the playground until all the children have been handed over and you are instructed to return to the yellow line to leave the school site.
- Only one parent/secondary child to drop off or collect, this limits the amount of people on our playground.

The above equally applies to families using the breakfast and after-school clubs. I am sure there will be many questions about returning so please do contact me with those and I will write again before the 8th to confirm our plans.

We know and understand the pressures placed upon families, not only within the last 9 weeks but since March last year, but we truly hope that March 8th is a day which will bring a new sense of purpose, a shared goal to make this return work, and do all in which we can to halt the spread of the virus and restore normality.

But we are not out of the woods yet and I know that I can count on your support to do all you can in this endeavour.

Last week really felt as though Spring had arrived, with much lighter mornings and brighter days, and I very much enjoyed receiving all your photos from your half term non-homework task, the signs of Spring you had spotted were wonderful, from new buds forming on trees, to nesting birds, an abundance of snowdrops and even a newt taking a warm stroll!

As ever, take care and be kind to vourselves.

Mrs. B Nicholls

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# ALL THOSE COLLECTING OR DROPPING OFF MUST WEAR A FACE COVERING AT ALL TIMES.

(UNLESS MEDICALLY EXEMPT)

Please walk in a single file on the yellow line. Parents please do not walk side by side.

YOUR UNDERSTANDING IS APPRECIATED.



A focus for our Easter contemplations

#### **Easter Garden**

#### The centre piece to our Easter Celebrations

Despite the difficulties and of course nothing able to meet in St Peter's Church, we shall continue our annual tradition of creating an Easter Garden celebrating renewed life and hope again. The garden will be a focus for our attention in assemblies for the final week of term. Children are therefore encouraged to bring a small arrangement of spring flowers to

school on Monday 22nd March 2021. Loose flowers should be in a plastic vase e.g. a cut down plastic bottle. Preferably though, a small potted plant such as a spring pansy or primula may be brought. All potted plants /bulbs are transferred to our grounds and bloom there for weeks and many return to bloom each year. The flowers will form smaller gardens in each bubble to form the centrepiece of our final assembly of the term on Friday 26th March 2021.

### Ready, Steady, Bake! Do you have a talented baker at home?

In my house, the Junior Bake Off is a much loved and watched competition. We have been asked to promote the next round of auditions for the next series.

This is what they have to say, 'We have recently opened applications for the 7<sup>th</sup> series of **Junior Bake Off**; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain.

With this in mind, we are contacting schools in hope that they can help us spread the word regarding this exciting opportunity.

We are looking for children aged between **9 -15 years old.** Filming would take place from July 2021, but our **applications close on** 

Sunday 28th March 2021.

Interested bakers can apply online at - <u>WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.C</u>

O.UK.

Who knows, it could be one of our KS2 children in the tent next!





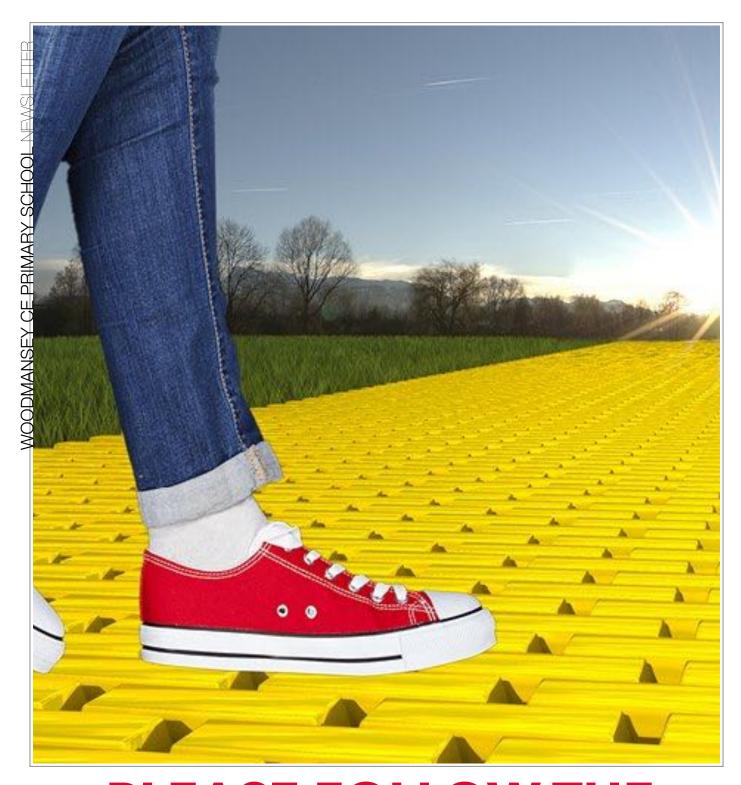
#### Welcome to the Woodmansey family!

#### Congratulations Miss Williamson!

On Wednesday 3rd February we received the wonderful news that Miss Williamson had given birth to a beautiful little girl, Florence-Sofia. Mum and baby are doing brilliantly and settling into their new adventure at home.

We cannot wait to meet her, although she will probably be crawling by the time we try and have a cuddle!

Once all the children are back in school, we hope to zoom Miss Williamson and Florence so the children in Miss Williamson's class can meet the newest member of their class.



# PLEASE FOLLOW THE YELLOW PATH ONE WAY SYSTEM

**Ensuring Social Distancing** 

#### **INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL 2021**

#### A miracle of good timing!

On Friday 5th March 2021 I will be announcing in assembly the location of this year's International Festival.

The miracle is that we shall start the reconvened fortnight festival on Monday 15th March 2021, so we will all be able to experience the festival in school.

The school is to be decorated on the Friday prior, ready for the festival to begin on the 15th. I shall be publishing a special "International Special Newsletter" on 5th March 2021. As previously announced, it is not going to be possible to hold the "International Afternoon" but we shall be having a special grand finale afternoon for the pupils on Friday 26th March 2021. All we need to know is "where are we going?" Any guesses…??



## COMIC RELIEF Superheroes Day! Friday 19th March 2021

We generally only engage in Charity Fundraising during the special fortnight in November. The exception is the annual Sport / Comic Relief day. This year it is Comic Relief.

On Friday 15th March 2021 therefore, pupils (and staff) may come to school with a comic relief nose which you will be able to purchase from school using the School Money app, and/or dressed as a superhero, either "real" or made up. From Wonder Woman and Superman to Air-Guitar-Groover or children may like to come as their 'real life

superhero', a police officer, a nurse or doctor perhaps - the list is endless. Children may like to choose or create a superhero and pop a donation into the bucket.

All you need is a makeshift cape, though as we learnt in the film "The Impossibles", capes can be a dangerous form of clothing for superheroes...

We shall post some photographs on our website to celebrate the pupils' ingenuity. Please do not go to expense for this. The important thing is the cause we are supporting. Home made is best!

There will be a Comic Relief Bucket which will tour the school for donations. There will be no specific sponsor form.





### Water, water everywhere!

Staff and Parents have noticed that at collection time, the playground is very wet and this is because parents and children are emptying the contents of their water bottles on to the playground.

I understand that parents might wish them to be emptied to avoid spills and leaks on the journey home, but please do not empty them on to our playground. They splash others and create puddles by the time our Year 5/6 bubble leaves. If you wish for them to be emptied please choose a thirsty plant to water instead once you have left the site.

Thank you.

#### Breakfast and After-School Club Book in now!

From Monday 8th March, the wrap around care offer will be open to all as it was before Christmas. If you require this service then please contact the school office to be booked in. Places are available Monday-Friday with prices for breakfast club as £2.50 per child per session and

£4.20 per child, per session for after-school club.



# PLEASE STAND ON A STAR TO COLLECT OR DROP OFF YOUR LITTLE STAR!

**Ensuring Social Distancing** 

SNOW POLICY:
IMPORTANT
The following is taken
from the school's
Safeguarding Policy
and should prepare
parents/carers for what ≥ to expect when it snows. Updated f Bubbles. snows. Updated for

The school will only close without prior notice as a last resort. The Head of School or her representative will remain on site until the last child is collected.

Policy in Practice

#### What the school does to assist in the event of icy weather conditions.

It is not practical to grit the entire site, but as part of the gritting policy, safe routes round the site and across the Playground have been identified and will be gritted before giving access to the site, thereby minimising the risks to children parents and visitors. The car park will also be gritted.

Children are not allowed to make slides on the playgrounds. Playgrounds are gritted if practical before 8:30am and when not, by morning break. At playtimes a decision as to whether children are to be allowed outside will be made by the senior teacher on duty in conjunction with the Head of School.

Children may not throw snowballs on the playgrounds. However if the field is covered by thick snow pupils may be allowed to play on the field in the snow, make snowman and throw snowballs. Those not wishing to throw snow (or indeed be hit by snowballs) should stay on the playgrounds. The school believes that playing in and throwing snow is part of a child's life experiences.

In extreme cases the Executive Headteacher may decide that there is no option but to close the school if there is presented a severe health and safety risk. This done, the Chair of Governors and the local radio stations will be informed. A severe Health and Safety Risk would be presented if insufficient staff could reach the school or indeed the health and safety of staff meant that they should leave early. Due to the location of the school it is expected that the school will be able to remain open. Closing a school at short notice including closing mid way through a day poses considerable difficulties for parents and will only be taken as a very last resort.

A complete heating failure in the winter and/or a loss of the water supply would however result in the school having to close.

Good communication is essential. Parents receive a copy of specific instructions during the autumn and winter months via the monthly newsletters and the website. Children have the processes explained to them in the classroom. It is expected that parents adhere to these instructions and pass all relevant information to friends and relatives who may also come to school to bring and fetch children. Parents/Carers are asked to be responsible and plan more time for their journey, suitable footwear for having to walk further, wrapping up to keep warm etc....Parents should not expect to be able to park close to the school at these times! Parents and visitors are expected to use the gritted yellow line continuing to adhere to current Government quidance.

#### Snow Policy and Procedures information for teaching and support staff

In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow the prime concern of the school must always be the safety of the pupils and staff.

It is expected that all staff will make every reasonable effort to undertake the journey to school.

It is appreciated that the journey may take longer than normal and therefore some staff may not be able to arrive before the normal start of school time.

> The school will only close without prior notice as a last resort. The Head of School or her representative will remain on site until the last child is collected.

In the event of severe weather, a decision to close the school for pupils will be made by 7am. The Head of School will contact Radio Humberside and Viking Radio to ask them to broadcast the information.

#### **PARENTS WILL BE** INFORMED BY TEXT IF THE SCHOOL IS TO CLOSE.

Updates will be posted on the Twitter Feed -@WoodmanseyPS

In the event of the normal timetable being suspended, a programme of activities will be organised for pupils who arrive at school. Teachers and Teaching Assistants will be delegated to supervise these activities within their EYFS/KS1 and KS2 bubbles.

Rather than a full closure it is more likely that the school will remain open on a reduced capacity. In such an event, parents/carers will be asked if it is possible to make alternative arrangements for pupils. Where this is not possible the school will remain open for those who need to come to school or for those who cannot go home in the case of an unexpected early closure. As the number pupils remaining decreases, they will be grouped where possible, maintaining the secure bubbles.





#### PLEASE PIN THIS PAGE TO YOUR HOUSEHOLD NOTICEBOARD.

It is with great disappointment that our diary of events is severely curtailed by the ongoing Covid19 Pandemic.

We look forward to the day when our normal programme can be resumed.

Please be aware however that the further ahead into the future dates are, there is a chance that events may have to move due to unforeseen circumstances.

March

Mo 1st St. David's Day

Th 4th World Book Day - No costume needed.

Fr 5th Rescheduled launch of International Festival 2021

Mo 8th Commonwealth Day

Fr 12th Comic Relief
Su 14th Mothers Day
We 17th St. Patrick's Day

Th 18th Full Governing Body Meeting 5.30pm
Mo 22nd 10am Create Easter Garden in Assembly

Mo 22nd 3:30pm Consultation Evening. Wed 24th 3:30pm Consultation Evening.

Fri 26th Rescheduled International Festival Day: pupils only.

Fr 26th SCHOOL CLOSES FOR EASTER

## Advance Warning Dates for your diary

Please be aware however that the further ahead into the future dates are, there is a chance that events may have to move due to unforeseen circumstances.

The following is dependent on restrictions in place at the time due to the ongoing Covid19 Pandemic.

**April** 

Mo 12th Training Day

Tu 13th School Reopens for Summer Term

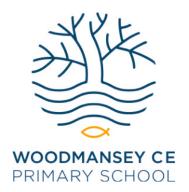
Mo 26th Class photographs

Fr 30th Pumpkin Seed distribution Day

May

Mo 3rd MAY Bank Holiday

Mo 10th - 14th Y6 Assessment Week Fr 28th School Closes for Half Term



# MEET THE GOVERNORS

As you may know, Woodmansey CE Primary has not only been through some leadership changes but the Governing Body has seen big changes over the last couple of years. It is important that as parents and carers you are aware of the people within the team that governs the school and what their role is. Governance has taken a different direction in recent years but essentially they are to:

- · ensure the school continues to raise standards
- ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- · overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Over this academic year we hope to provide you with a Governor biography for each governor so you can get to know their faces and understand their role within the governing body.



Mrs. Kerri Harold

Chair of Governors

My name is Kerri Harold and I am currently Chair of Governors here at Woodmansey Primary School.

I have been a governor for nearly 14 years and as an ex pupil of the school, I am proud to be part of the schools journey.

I am also one of the ward councillors for the Minster and Woodmansey Ward on the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and have lived in the village for most of my life.

My husband Roy and I moved back with our 3 daughters in 2002 and have enjoyed being part of village life.

I am also on Woodmansey Parish Council and 2 other local governing bodies.

As a governor I have always wanted the best for our children and hope that our shared vision of celebrating each child for who they are, will enable our pupils to reach their potential and as a result leave the school with the foundations they need and with happy memories of their time here.

Should any parent or carer require a conversation then please contact the school office and this can most certainly be arranged.