

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 25th March 2022



Dear Parents

What a beautiful week weather wise we have had - perfect for our Year 6 residential trip. As I write, children are not back as yet, but I have heard from the adults that they all had a really lovely time. Osmington Bay in Dorset is a fantastic setting for some adventure activities and I am sure your children will fill you in with some exciting stories.

Yesterday all the remaining pupils attended the performance of Lion King at Dr Challoner's school. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend but I have heard from the staff that the play was absolutely amazing. A huge credit to all the Dr Challoner's boys, as well as the staff, who worked very hard to ensure the highest standard of performance. Our pupils enjoyed themselves tremendously. Once more my sincere apologies for the slight delay in returning your children to you at the end of the day.

I am looking forward to welcoming you all to the school next week during our parent/teacher consultations. Please arrive 10-15 minutes earlier as children's books will be available for you to look at. We are still trying not to encourage a huge congregation of people (COVID-19 unfortunately is still with us) so please arrive promptly. Our governors will be here to talk to you, so please take a moment to talk to them in order to get to know them and also share your thoughts about our school. Governors play such an important role in the life of the school. Unfortunately, the pandemic put a stop to many face to face interactions, so this is a really good opportunity to meet them and have an informal chat. Many thanks in advance.

Please take some time to read [Mrs Webber's Science Week newsletter](#). This will give an opportunity to find out about all the wonderful activities that children were able to participate in. Thank you once more to Mrs Webber and all our speakers.

All our plans, with regards to raising funds for the Ukrainian refugees, are still going ahead and I will finalise with the School Council on Monday the best way to raise much needed funds. Thank you for your support.

I cannot believe that it is only two weeks until Easter – the time certainly flies by. Wednesday, 23rd March, also marked two years since our country went into the first lockdown. I would like to have this opportunity to pause and reflect on the losses and sacrifices of the past two years. This disease touched all parts of our community in one way or another and COVID-19 threat diminished but has not completely disappeared. I can only hope that during the next few months or indeed years we, as a society, learn to co-exist and live alongside the virus. With this in mind, I sincerely hope that everyone, parents and children, continue to stay healthy.

26th March is Mother's Day. I would like to wish a very happy day not only to all Mums but also to all women, such as grandmothers, sisters, and aunts etc. who are so important in shaping your children's character and outlook on life. I hope that you will all have a well-deserved rest and a cup of tea (at least!)

Have a lovely weekend and do not forget that the clocks go forward this Sunday!

Dorota Milner

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Mon 7th Mar— Fri 8th Apr	Readathon
Mon 28th Mar	PTA meeting 8pm
Tues 29th Mar	Parent Consultation Evening (Day 1)
Thurs 31st Mar	Parent Consultation Evening (Day 2)
Tues 5th Apr 10am	Rocksteady Easter Concert

Upcoming term dates for your diary

Close Friday 8th April	1.30pm
Open Monday 25th April	Gates open: 8.35am
Close Friday 27th May	3.15pm

Calling future teachers

From Chepping View Primary Academy SCITT -

If you are a career changer, returning to work after a career break, a graduate working as a teaching assistant or coming to the end of your undergraduate degree, and have the desire, motivation and commitment to pursue a career in teaching, we would love to hear from you. Click [here](#)

More Woodside News

Safeguarding

Concerned about a Child?

The Buckinghamshire County Council is not responsible for investigating child protection concerns. If you are a member of the public and if **there is immediate risk of harm to a child, call the Police on 999.**

If you are concerned about a child in Buckinghamshire, it is important that you talk to someone about this. Don't ignore your concerns or delay taking action.

You can call Buckinghamshire Council's First Response Team on **01296 383962** (out of hours: 0800 999 7677). They will listen to your concerns and decide on the appropriate course of action.

You can contact the NSPCC on **0808 800 5000** (free service, lines open 24 hours a day).

Please do not hesitate also to speak to either **Mrs Milner or Mrs Nickless**, who are both Designated Safeguarding Leads for our school if you have any safeguarding concerns.

Children's safety is our collective responsibility.

Wellbeing

I hope that I do not come across as all 'doom and gloom' (especially when the weather is so beautiful and sun is shining) but according to fiscal studies our living standards are set for the largest drop since the 1950s. Several factors drive up inflation and erode our spending power. Additionally, rapidly rising energy prices push inflation towards 9% - its highest level in 40 years.

It is now more than ever that we need to look after each other and help when we can. On our part, we as a school, will continue to work hard to improve standards and to ensure that children at Woodside continue to thrive and be happy. If you are experiencing difficulties, please do not hesitate to come and talk to us, in confidence. I am available to parents every Friday morning. We may not have all the answers but may make suggestions and point you towards services that can help.

Art Competition



We have a new drawing competition from a local charity for critically ill children in Aylesbury.

The children draw a wish villa on paper—be creative, it's for critically ill children and their families to enjoy the space.

The winning entry will have their drawing transformed into a professional 3D model and ultimately be incorporated into the wish village!

Entries to Mrs McCarthy by Friday 8th April.

Please click [here](#) for the flier

Lunch Reminder

Please can you ensure that you do not include any nuts in your packed lunches. Some foods contain nuts which aren't immediately obvious like Nutella and chocolate crepes/pancakes, so please check the ingredients.

Mrs Webber's Science Newsletter- click [here](#)

Fundraising for UNICEF / Ukraine

As mentioned in last week's newsletter Mrs Hanstein is planning to take part in the 4-4-48 Challenge, where participants run four miles every four hours over the period of 48 hours. If you would like to join Mrs Hanstein in this worthwhile charity event find details at <https://qofund.me/696b2e38>.

Message from Chartwells - Lunch Survey

Looking ahead to the Autumn/Winter menu, Chartwells have introduced an 'Annual Food For Thought' survey to gain feedback from all pupils and parents on tastes and service levels and help develop and improve within your school.

<https://servicemonitortabs.co.uk/chartwells/primary>

PTA Messages

Easter Bunny Competition

Woodside PTA has **two big, fluffy Easter bunnies** waiting for names. Choose a name for a chance to win one of the bunnies. Mrs Milner will draw 2 names from a hat on 7th April.

There will be one winner from the lower school and one winner from the upper school. Send entries and a £1 donation via the link below: <https://pay.collectiv.com/name-the-bunny-11148>



When you make the payment use the message box to state the bunny name, your child's name and their class.

Click [here](#) for the flyer.

Easter Hamper Raffle

Woodside PTA are also pleased to announce the Easter Hamper Raffle — **two fabulous hampers** to be won. Please buy tickets through Classlist— click [here](#) for details

Governor Messages

Our Governing Body is still looking to recruit an additional parent governor. Governors play a vital role in the strategic direction of the school and their role is absolutely vital to the success of any school. Please get in touch with Mrs Jenny Faulkner, our Chair of the Governing Body, via governors@woodside.bucks.sch.uk.
Jenny Faulkner "LGB Chair"