

Wootton-by-Woodstock CE Primary School



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9th February 2021

NEWSLETTER EXTRA

Dear Parent/Carer,

There are just a few things to let you know before we break for half term.

PTIs

PTIs will be held during the week beginning 1st March. Please look out for signing up details from Maria Withey these will be released after the half term break. Note, as well, that all PTIs will be by video or telephone communication. Some of you may have noticed that these were scheduled on the school calendar for the current week but it has not been possible to arrange these this week owing to other commitments in the staff calendar. Please accept our apologies if this miscommunication has inconvenienced you in any way.

SHARING ASSEMBLY

The sharing assembly was also scheduled for this week but has been cancelled. The next sharing assembly will be in term 4 subject to pupils being back in school at that time.

END OF TERM

Pupils in school will finish school at 2.30pm on Friday as usual, staggered pick-up times are below. Pupils are expected to wear uniform (and warm layers) as normal on that day.

Regular pick-up time	Pick-up time for Friday 12 th Feb
3.05pm	2.20pm
3.10pm	2.25pm
3.15pm	2.30pm

From the FOWS



Friends of Wootton School

We hope you are keeping well during these very difficult times and that you and your family and friends enjoyed opening their Christmas presents bought at the school Christmas shop.

Thank you for your support in the lead up to Christmas. We raised an amazing £147 from the Bag2School clothing collection in December. The orders of Christmas cards and gifts designed by the children raised £108. The Easyfundraising big PTA raffle raised £88. Thank you to those who bought a Christmas Tree from Bunkers Hill nursery; they have given us £42. Together with £33.25 from non-uniform day, £19 from the design a Christmas tree competition and £138.50 from the Christmas shop, FOWS have managed to raise a total of £575.75.

If you haven't already, please join the Friends of Wootton School WhatsApp group. Any of the FOWS committee (Rachel, Rebecca, Becca, Kirstie, Hayley) will be happy to add you. This is a way of keeping you up to date with FOWS activities to support the children and the school.

Or, if you prefer, follow us on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/439676466092050>

Don't forget to use the easyfundraising app for your online purchases. So far, we have raised a grand total of £296. At no extra cost to you, easyfundraising will make a donation to your worthy cause when you shop online. Sign up here if you haven't already: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/wpswootton/> and download the app. Large internet shopping providers like Amazon and eBay have signed up to it, so why not make a few pennies for the school on each of your purchases as well?

Thank you for your continued support. FOWS

REMOTE LEARNING SURVEY RESPONSES TO DATE

We would like to thank parents who have sent in responses to the recent survey. There are some excellent tips and advice shared for other parents to view. There is clearly no 'one size fits all' approach but that doesn't matter. There may be something in the responses that could help and you haven't thought of before; do take a look at the end of this letter.

If you haven't sent in a response yet there is still time to do this and your comments may help someone else. Please continue to send in your surveys. We will either contact you personally, to discuss individual issues and/or, share your good advice with others.

One question in the survey centred on what happens if your child does not meet school expectations. This would mean that they were not taking part in live lessons and meets or returning work. Opting out of school during lock down is not acceptable just as it would not be acceptable if the school were fully open. The school has a duty to report attendance and to monitor learning for all pupils. Quite rightly, some parents have pointed out that parents should contact the school, if there are any difficulties, to seek support in the first instance. The school, of course, would also contact you, the parent, to ascertain reasons for absence from learning. Any persistent absence would then be reported to the Attendance and Engagement team at the Local Authority. I am very happy to report that this course of action has not proven necessary to date! 😊 Thank you.

And finally, we would like to wish you all a pleasant break from home schooling next week. Do stay safe and warm!

Best wishes,



Valerie Lucas
Head Teacher

REMOTE LEARNING SURVEY - TIPS FROM PARENTS FOR PARENTS

Website resources found to be useful by others	Top tips and advice
<p>BBC Bitesize YouTube kids Oxford Owl Twinkl Google search The maths factor (Carol Vorderman) The schoolrun.com TES mathsmadeeasy.co.uk</p>	<p>Twinkl is amazing. If it's too hard we find similar work a level down to help them understand it.</p> <p>Each morning we write a list of the day's work by using the 'to do' tab on Google classroom – it makes it so much clearer. We then choose what order we are going to work in, allowing small breaks/gaps/rewards between each task. X enjoys ticking each task off as and when it's done.</p> <p>Home schooling is still school so we all still get up and get dressed for the day as if we are going out – it helps us prepare for the day.</p> <p>Be kind on them; they won't like how parents teach and we won't do as good a job as the teachers at school but tell them you are trying your best and they need to be kind to you too.</p> <p>Take small wins, enjoy them and celebrate them. Empower the child with making them think you don't know everything and they are teaching you a lot – it makes them feel good.</p> <p>Take regular breaks, white boards to jot down ideas. To accept that some days will be better than others. Celebrate the small successes!</p> <p>I have deliberately not put too much pressure on X or myself with home learning. I monitor what X is doing in a light touch way and help when asked.</p> <p>My one tip for an approach to home learning would be to 'relax'</p>
<p>Creating a home workspace</p>	
<p>Set up the kitchen table</p> <p>Set up a desk in another room with computer access and personal items to make it comfortable</p> <p>Rearrange bedrooms so that a desk can be set up for peace and quiet</p> <p>We created a box which included home learning books and she enjoyed making her own pencil case. This could be moved to different rooms when needed and has taught X to keep all her things together.</p> <p>X enjoys copying mum and dad and has set up the kitchen table like a professional desk.</p> <p>X has chosen to listen to some mindfulness music through headphones when doing schoolwork if X's sister is too noisy.</p> <p>Provide space, quiet, time and electronic resources</p>	