

Hethersett Woodside Primary and Nursery School

OCTOBER 2024



WELCOME

Welcome to our new style monthly school newsletter.

Following helpful feedback around school information and communication, we hope the new format and regular diary dates will help you plan ahead, as well as have a clearer idea of the many events, achievements and curriculum activities which children enjoy at Hethersett Woodside Primary and Nursery School.

The children have returned to school incredibly well this academic year; there is an excited buzz around the school and the learning behaviours of children has been **OUTSTANDING**.

I have been so impressed with how the children have settled into their newly arranged class groups, and they are getting to know the adults and routines very quickly. We hope you enjoyed our 'Meet The Teacher' events and finding out about the year group expectations for the year.

We look forward to working with you throughout 2024/25.
Mrs Louise Mainwaring - Headteacher



DIARY DATES

Date	Time	What	Who	Place
1 Oct	am	Author event at Norwich Cathedral - info to follow	Year 6	Norwich Cathedral
2 Oct	am	Author event - info to follow	Year 3&4	Classes
3 Oct		National poetry day		
3 Oct	9am	Writing workshop for parents	Elm class	Main hall
3 Oct	Lunch	School Census day - please have a school meal if possible!	All - menu to follow	
3 Oct	am	Rugby	Year 3	Playground
7 Oct	9am	Writing workshop for parents	Birch class	
8 Oct	9am	Writing workshop for parents	Ash Class	
10 Oct	am	Rugby	Year 2	Playground
15 Oct	2pm	Writing workshop for parents	Cedar class	Main hall
16 Oct	1.45pm	Prospective parents open afternoon	New 2025 Reception parents	
17 Oct	am	Rugby	Year 1	Playground
17 Oct	2pm	Writing workshop for parents	Hawthorn class	Main hall
18 Oct	9.30am	Prospective parents open afternoon	New 2025 Reception parents	
24 Oct	am	Rugby	Reception	Playground
24 Oct		Hethersett 100 bake sale	All	
24 Oct	pm	Harvest Service	Pupils only	Hall
24 Oct		School breaks up for Half Term		

November



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4 Nov		Return to school		
11 Nov		NCMP Screening - Measurement, vision and hearing	Reception and Year 6	
13 Nov	2pm	Writing workshop for parents	Beech Class	Main hall
14 Nov	2pm	Writing workshop for parents	Lime Class	Main hall
18 Nov - 22 Nov		Book Fair in School - info to follow	All	Library
20 Nov	2pm	Writing workshop for parents	Laurel	Main hall
21 Nov	2pm	Writing workshop for parents	Hazel	Main hall

December

9 Dec	6pm	Hethersett Community Carol Service - (Choir only - information to follow)	School choir	St Remigius Church
10 Dec	9.30am	Christmas Performance*	Reception	Main hall
10 Dec	2pm	Christmas Performance*	Reception	Main hall
12 Dec	9.30am	Christmas Performance*	Year 1	Main hall
12 Dec	2pm	Christmas Performance*	Year 1	Main hall
13 Dec	9.30am	Christmas Performance*	Year 2	Main hall
13 Dec	2pm	Christmas Performance*	Year 2	Main hall
18 Dec	2pm	Rock Steady Performance (Band only)		Main hall
20 Dec		End of term		

*Information on tickets to follow

January 2025

6 Jan		INSET day - No children in school		
7 Jan		All children return to school		



Staff Structure for 2024/25

Year Group	Class name	Class Teacher	Email address for class teacher
Nursery	Hedgehogs (2 - 3 year olds)	Mrs Beavis - Mon & Tues Mrs Harvey - Weds, Thurs & Fri	abeavis@hethersettwoodside.org.uk lharvey@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Nursery	Squirrels (3 - 4 year olds)	Mrs Ingham - Mon, Tues & Weds Miss Reed - Weds, Thurs & Fri	ningham@hethersettwoodside.org.uk ereed@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Reception	Rowan	Miss Gray	dgray@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Reception	Sycamore	Ms Smith	vsmith@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 1	Holly	Mr Kearse	ekearse@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 1	Chestnut	Mrs Luther	eluther@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 2	Hazel	Miss Smee	tsmee@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 2	Laurel	Mrs Easey - Weds Thurs, Fri Mrs Pugh- Mon, Tues, Weds	seasey@hethersettwoodside.org.uk epugh@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 3	Beech	Mrs Gaffney - Mon, Thurs, Fri Mrs de Bloeme, Tues, Weds, Thurs	egaffney@hethersettwoodside.org.uk ldebloeme@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 3	Lime	Miss Wiseman	swiseman@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 4	Cedar	Ms Zivtins	bzivtins@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 4	Hawthorn	Miss Galer	pgaler@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 5	Ash	Miss Wright	iwright@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 5	Birch	Mr Wood	mwood@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 6	Elm	Miss Duncan	hduncan@hethersettwoodside.org.uk
Year 6	Maple	Miss Reynolds	yreynolds@hethersettwoodside.org.uk



Class teachers are available to answer questions or concerns briefly before school or for longer periods after school. If you require a more in depth meeting, please arrange an appointment via the school office.

Teachers are able to answer parental email queries - may I politely remind parents / carers that teachers will not respond to emails outside of working hours. Thank you

Senior Team

Mrs Mainwaring - Head Teacher

Mr Carter - Deputy Head Teacher

Inclusion Manager
Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Ingham - Assistant Head teacher

Phase Lead - YN, R, 1
Class teacher YN

Mrs Easey - Assistant Head teacher

Curriculum & Standards Lead
Class teacher Y2

Ms Zivtins - Phase Lead

Phase Lead - Y2, 3, 4
Class teacher Y4

Miss Duncan - Phase Lead

Phase Lead - Y5, 6
Class teacher Y6

Mrs Jefferson

Special Educational Needs and
Disabilities Coordinator
(SENCO)

Core Subject Leads

English - Reading: Miss Gray

English - Writing: Ms Zivtins

Maths: Miss Reynolds

Science: Mrs Keep

(Other subjects are led by teachers across the school)



Farewell and Welcome

During the summer break, we said farewell to 2 Teaching Assistants who had been part of the Woodside team for a long time. **Mrs Hull** worked at our school for 23 years; as a Higher Level TA and medical lead. She has retired in order to spend more well-earned time with her family.

Mrs Fieldhouse has moved to work with young adults; having also been an important part of our team for a number of years.

We wish them both well and thank them for their commitment and hard work.

We welcome some new staff to our team this year.

Miss Galer, Miss Smee and **Miss Wright** join us as new teachers.

Mr Jermaine joined us as Site Manager last term, and he already feels very much part of the team.

Miss Reeder and **Miss Crooks** join our Teaching Assistant team, and **Miss Law** (who is already part of our cleaning team) is now a Nursery Assistant with us.

I wish to extend my thanks to the community for understanding and being so positive as our field is being made safe for all and re seeded over the next few months. As I mentioned in my previous letter, it is far from ideal that we lose the field for so long; especially as it has taken the school 3 years to receive a commitment from the Local Authority to fully fund this work.

We rarely use the school field during the Autumn and winter months, so hopefully the disruption to lunchtimes and PE lessons is minimal. We did of course investigate other options; and are hoping to use Hethersett Academy's additional field occasionally. We also requested for our field to be seeded in 2 sections to allow us to partially use it; but this was not an option sadly.

I am delighted how well the children are enjoying the newly staggered lunchtimes and new rota of lunch play equipment. Thank you to Mrs Easey who has launched this for us.

On behalf of our large staff team (pictured above!), I am looking forward to working with you all for my second year at Woodside, and I appreciate the feedback and suggestions we receive. In the office main reception, there is a new post box for any parent / carer feedback. Please do contact us or post in the box should you have any ideas.

Louise Mainwaring



CURRICULUM

 – Each month will feature curriculum updates from different year groups:

Year 4

Year 4 have had a very active start to this academic year! Cedar class have been enjoying their block of swimming lessons and Hawthorn will begin theirs after the half term break! It has been wonderful seeing the children in Cedar class growing in confidence and developing these essential life skills. We also had children from across both classes taking part in their Bikeability Level 1 during September. The children thoroughly enjoyed going out onto our school playground and they were lucky enough to have the sun shining during their sessions! We also had a rugby taster sessions with a coach from Wymondham Rugby Club and they certainly demonstrated excellent skills.

Year 4 have also thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Anglo-Saxons as part of their history lessons, and have been deepening their understanding through reading lessons also. Building on this, we have been studying 'Beowulf' as our first core text in English and we wrote some wonderful persuasive speeches in the role of King Hrothgar trying to convince some local warriors to come and defend us against the vicious monster!

Ms Zivtins and Miss Galer



Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic and incredibly creative start to this school year.

They have thrown themselves into their artistic studies this term by focusing on drawing things people may collect in everyday life. To aid this, each child collected various items from different locations. This ranged all the way from their own homes to the woodlands to the beach! We all had so much fun looking over what each other brought into the lesson - including lots of twigs, leaves, sand and even some apples! Sharing and drawing each other's items showed how well we could all work as a team. Both Hazel and Laurel class have outdone themselves with some beautiful artwork they have created.

In English we have been looking at 2 different stories - Here Come the Aliens and Zog. In Here Come the Aliens we designed some alien passports and wrote about trying to rescue our captured alien friends! In Zog we told a tale about adventuring over high oceans and deep forests during a day at dragon school. They have thoroughly enjoyed using such expressive vocabulary in their writing. We can't wait to see their creative skills grow throughout this coming school year!

Miss Smee, Mrs Easey and Mrs Pugh



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INCLUSION

As previously communicated, we are fortunate to have Mrs Alice Jefferson as our new Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator (SENDCo) who will be working under the leadership of Mr Sam Carter as our Inclusion Lead. Mrs Jefferson will now not be classed based and working Monday-Thursday as SENDCo.



We will be using this newsletter space to share both general and school specific information about SEND and Inclusion. This month we're signposting some websites and resources which you may find helpful.

Remember, if you are unsure about whether you are entitled to Pupil Premium (PP) funding please come and speak to the office for a form. As part of our provision, children on PP receive a yearly £50 bundle which can go towards art supplies, sports equipment, books or uniform.

Useful links

Norfolk SENDIASS (Advise and support service) - <https://www.norfolksendiass.org.uk/>

Autism Education Trust - <https://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/parents>

Autistic Young Experts (Youtube channel created by young people with autism)
<https://www.youtube.com/@autisticyoungexperts7988/videos?app=desktop>

ADHD Foundation - <https://www.adhdfoundation.org.uk/services-for-families/>

Speech and language at home ideas: <https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/speech-language/talk-play/>

Kooth - (Free, anonymous access to counselling for young people) <https://www.kooth.com/>

Young minds (Mental health support) - <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/find-help>

Parenting advice from Place2be - <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>



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GOVERNORS

Dear Parents, Carers and Grandparents,

I am writing to introduce myself as the school's new Chair of Governors. My name is Diane Perry-Yates, and I am delighted to take on this role at Hethersett Woodside Primary and Nursery School.



Just to give you a brief flavour of my background which is placed solidly in the education and training arena. Working at a senior executive level I was involved in developing training nationwide for central government and the wider business community across the UK. For the last 12 years I have been involved in school governance as Chair of Governors at several schools and Federations as well as becoming a National Leader of Governance. I have always had a passion for learning and as a result felt that I was able to give something back to the community.

My experience which includes working with and managing large budgets, setting strategy and ensuring good communication is often put to good use, particularly in ensuring the key responsibilities of a governor are uppermost at all times.

It also puts me in a good position to know what strong governance looks like. However, I would emphasise that governance is a team effort, united by a commitment to the school, its vision and values. I am delighted to say even in the short time I have been Chair of Governors, our board of governors have already shown that they are wholly committed to the school and its pupils, and I look forward to working with them in the new academic year towards our goals.

As part of the governing board, I am eager to support our Head teacher, Mrs Mainwaring and the entire school community as we work together to ensure the best possible outcomes for all children at our school.

As a governing board, our role is pivotal in:

- setting a clear vision, ethos, and strategic direction for the school.
- holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, as well as the performance management of staff, and
- overseeing the financial performance of the school and ensuring effective use of resources.

Our shared goal is to work in partnership with you and the wider school community to ensure that every child can succeed and flourish. To achieve this, we need to know your thoughts and views and we will do this through parent surveys, forums and events. As Chair I aim to keep you informed about the issues Governors are discussing to ensure we remain accountable.

I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming months. Whether you are new to Hethersett Woodside, like me, or returning in Autumn term, I hope this will be the beginning of a long and positive association for you and your children.

Thank you for your continued support for our school.

Yours sincerely,

Diane Perry-Yates, MSc, BSc (Hons).



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

ATTENDANCE Matters

Regular attendance at school is very important. If children are absent for days, they miss important learning, and it is very difficult to catch up as we move at a pace in lessons.

Please ensure your child is punctual and attends school regularly.

If they have a minor cough or cold and you are unsure whether to send them, please send a message to the class teacher or via the office, and staff will monitor and contact you if they feel they need to be at home.

Absence phone calls: As part of our safeguarding duty, we are required to track children's attendance and know why they are absent. Please call us each day to explain the reason for absence. If you forget to call, you will receive a text message reminding you - please ensure you then ring and explain the absence. We are required to know details of the illness.

School will carry out home visits if we do not hear from you regarding a child's absence.

Attendance is monitored, and if a child's attendance drops below 90% (classed as Persistent Absence), you may be asked to attend a meeting to discuss a way to support an improvement.

Thank you for your support with ensuring school attendance is valued.

Class	Attendance w/c 1/9	Attendance w/c 9/9	Attendance w/c 16/9	Attendance w/c 23/9
Rowan	85.29%	100%	97.39%	97.83%
Sycamore	98.41%	95.78%	96.4%	91.6%
Chestnut	96.69%	100%	95%	96.07%
Holly	100%	98.46%	95.77%	99.23%
Hazel	90.32%	98.75%	96.77%	94.27%
Laurel	97.54%	96.55%	97.93%	99.31%
Beech	96.27%	98.71%	99.35%	96.13%
Lime	97.37%	99.67%	96.67%	99%
Cedar	94.81%	100%	100%	97.67%
Hawthorn	100%	99.67%	99%	99%
Ash	95.7%	98.93%	98.57%	92.14%
Birch	98.7%	97%	93.33%	98.33%
Elm	93.08%	99.03%	100%	94.84%
Maple	100%	99.03%	98.39%	99.35%



FRIENDS OF HETHERSETT WOODSIDE



Hi Woodside parents and carers! My name is Sarah Lawrence, and I'm the Chairperson of the Friends of Woodside (FOWS), a registered charity which raises money to pay for additional equipment or activities for the children during their time at the school, items or ideas that the school budget can't stretch to. We also organise and host events during the school year (like the Woodside Summer/Christmas Fayres, school discos and non-uniform days) organise the sale of preloved school uniform, and make decisions about what the money raised from events gets spent on.

In recent years, money raised by the FOWS has been spent on painted murals around the school to brighten up the stairwells, books for the school reading marathon project, display boards for the class art exhibition projects, Y6 leavers celebrations, part funding of the Nursery/Reception/Y1 outdoor area revamps.. and much more! The FOWS are a vital part of every Woodside pupil's school experience, and it's a pleasure to be able to help make memories for them all.

We are currently a very small team, a handful of us wanting to make a difference. We also have a dedicated volunteer Whatsapp group with parents who often can't commit to meetings, but would like to help with smaller jobs as, and when, they can. We are ALWAYS looking for new members of the FOWS - you can commit to as much, or as little, as you like. Currently, we have a vacancy for the position of Secretary, but we'd always welcome anyone who would like to help out. The fundraising and social events we've held previously can't happen without the volunteer power to organise and run them; this is the position we're in with discos. We're especially on the look out for anyone who can help with the KS2 discos - if we don't have people to volunteer for them, they just can't run.

One thing that *everyone* can help with at the moment, is the ASDA Cashpot for Schools scheme. For everyone who downloads the Asda Rewards App, opts in to the Cashpot for Schools scheme and selects Hethersett Woodside, the FOWS earn £1. Even if you never shop at Asda! If you do shop there, we then earn 0.5% commission from the total value of your shopping bill too. This scheme only runs until 30th November 2024, so we need to be fairly quick about making as much from this opportunity as we can.

Encourage your friends/parents/aunties/uncles/neighbours to do the same, and our school could be quids in with very little effort! You can even see the total amount raised via the app, which I have to admit is a bit addictive to watch go up....

That's it from me for now, please keep an eye out for details about our upcoming AGM, our next non-uniform day and the date of our Christmas Fayre. You can keep up-to-date on our Facebook page - 'Friends of Hethersett Woodside Primary & Nursery School' - or email us with any questions on fows@hethersettwoodside.org.uk.



OTHER NEWS

School Times

A reminder of the times for school gates opening. Please ensure all children arrive promptly each morning: Please ensure school is called everyday if your child is due to be absent. As part of our safeguarding duty, we are required to know the reason for absence. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

	Doors open	Doors close
Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	8.40am	8.50am
Years 1 and 2	8.45am	8.55am
Reception	8.50am	9.00am

Please can all children walk bikes/ scooters once entering the school site. Helmets should be worn and can be stored in school. We strongly recommend securing your bike/scooter as we cannot be responsible for any loss/damage.

Thank you to parents/carers for their effort with their child's school uniform and green hair accessories.

A polite reminder when dropping and collecting your child to/from school, parents/carers are able to park in The Village Hall car park on Back Lane. This eases the congestion outside the main gates. Please park carefully and DO NOT obstruct the yellow zigzags. We are able to accommodate disabled badge holders and those with accessibility difficulties in our school car park. Please contact the school office if this applies to you to access a pass.

Please join our facebook page for latest news and up to date information.



Harvest Festival

On Thursday 24th October we are going to be holding a Harvest Festival in school for Reception to Year 6. Unfortunately we will be unable to invite parents and carers for this event.

We are collecting produce to donate to Hethersett Hearts, a local charity who supports our community by enabling local people to help local people. They would be delighted to accept donations of **tins of food (soup, tuna, chilli, tinned tomatoes), pasta sauces and pasta, long life milk, tea and coffee, sugar, breakfast cereals etc.** If you would like to donate, please bring your donations in from **Monday 21st October until Thursday 24th October (by 9am)**. Please do not bring anything in before this date as we will not be able to accommodate the items in school before then.



Thank you for your support with this. Listen out for your children practising the harvest songs!

Hethersett Hundred Bake Sale

We are pleased to announce that we will be holding our first Hethersett Hundred Event for the new school year! For those of you who are new to Woodside, the Hethersett Hundred is our school's way of raising money for charities. Parents, children and staff have nominated one hundred charities which are important and significant to them and these form the Hethersett Hundred. Our aim is to raise £100 for each of our charities to support them with the work they do. Following an event, charities are chosen at random and we will keep fundraising until all of our charities have been selected.

Our Bake Sale will take place on Thursday 24th October 2024. The children will have the opportunity to come and choose a cake to buy throughout the course of the morning; each cake costs 50p. The children will visit the bake sale with their class adults and then keep their cake safe until hometime in a paper bag. As usual, we will be selling any delicious treats which are left at the end of the day on the school playground. In addition to visiting the Bake Sale, children are invited to wear non-school uniform in return for a £1 donation towards the Hethersett Hundred project.

For the past two years, we have been so thankful for the support that you have shown the Bake Sale and we are once again asking for your support of this project through the kind donations of cakes for the sale. The children are always excited to see full tables of exciting and delicious cakes! As always, we ask that no donations contain nuts to keep our children with allergies safe. At the end of the sale, we always endeavour to return your tins and tupperware container from your home bakes but please ensure that these are named to help us be sure to do this.

Thank you in advance for your support of this project.



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Norwich Book Festival

From 24th to 27th October, Norwich will be hosting its very first Book Festival!







You are invited to celebrate the power of stories in a range of events held across the city.

There are a range of events that are suitable for children, including live poetry, as shown here.

Please follow this link for further information:

<https://norwichbookfestival.co.uk/>

There are also many excellent events for grown-ups too, so do take a look!

	SAT 26 Oct	Sam Copeland: Alex Vs Axel A fantasy adventure for kids! CHILDREN'S EVENT UNDER £10
	SAT 26 Oct	Pam Smy & Lucy Strange: Dreadfully Haunting Mysteries A spellbinding children's event. CHILDREN'S EVENT
	SAT 26 Oct	Matt Robertson: Do You Love Exploring Storytelling, craft activities, and lots of fun! CHILDREN'S EVENT LOCAL AUTHOR UNDER £10
	SUN 27 Oct	Luna Loves Library Day With author Joseph Coelho and illustrator Fiona Lumbers. CHILDREN'S EVENT UNDER £10
	SUN 27 Oct	TOASTies Kids' Poetry Show: NBF Edition Giggles galore in this live poetry experience for families! CHILDREN'S EVENT UNDER £10
	SUN 27 Oct	Joseph Coelho: The Boy Lost in the Maze A captivating poetry event for young adult readers. CHILDREN'S EVENT

