

# Hethersett Woodside Primary and Nursery School

FEBRUARY 2025



## WELCOME

Firstly, thank you to all parents / carers who have been joining us at the reading cafes this term - it is lovely to see so many of you in school.

We look forward to welcoming you to the next parent's evenings which are 18th and 20th March (online booking instructions will be with you soon).

Our newly launched reading challenge is generating lots of excitement around reading, and children are so enthusiastic to collect their certificates. Thank you for encouraging your child to read - it is of course a vital life skill, but we understand it can take some persuasion from parents to encourage regular reading!

As you know we are working on the development of our curriculum across the school; introducing the CUSP programme for Science, History and Geography, Jigsaw programme for RE and PSHE, and Access Art programme for Art. The staff and children have been so enthusiastic and committed to these initiatives, and we have also had external advisor commendation this term for the progress we have made:

Stuart Graver (Woodside Lead Advisor from NCC): *'Clear and correct focus areas have been identified and progress/improvements identified in practice.....There is clearly a commitment from staff to using CUSP materials appropriately which is reflected in the books seen; a consistency is evident.'*

Our school field continues to make very good progress. NORSE (the contractors who were commissioned to do the work) are happy with progress, and we are on track for the grand opening of the field in the summer!

### **Lunch and Wrap around care bookings:**

We are currently looking into setting up our system so parents / carers are able to book school lunches and Wrap around care sessions online. This will enable you to book in advance, and will help us to plan ahead as well.

**Medical / First aid:**

We are currently looking into purchasing a medical app which will alert you if first aid treatment has been given in school. We hope both these new systems will help improve communication with you. More information to come....

**Limited places available at our fabulous school!**

We have welcomed a large number of new children to Woodside over the last few months, so we are full in almost every class in school. We have a couple of spaces in our current Reception and Year 1 cohorts, so if you know of anybody wanting to join, please let them know.

Reception 2025 Starters – ONLY 3 PLACES REMAINING FOR SEPTEMBER START – Please let anyone know if they may want a space.

**Welcome!**

We have been delighted to welcome 2 new members of staff to our office team this half term. Mrs Allenden and Mrs Sharp have joined Miss Adcock in the main school office and are settling in very well indeed. We also welcome Miss Kitson, Mrs Farkas and Miss Chaplin to our MSA team of staff at lunchtime.

Thank you for your continued support of Woodside, and please remember your class teacher or phase lead is always available to support if you have questions or queries.

Mrs Ingham - Lower - N, R, Y1

Ms Zivtins - Middle - Y2,3,4

Miss Duncan - Upper - Y5,6

You can of course make an appointment to see me if you feel I can help - the office will be happy to book you an appointment if you call or email.

Best wishes,  
Louise Mainwaring



## REMINDERS

- Jewellery worn at school - could this please be limited to one pair of stud earrings and a watch, thank you.
- Polite reminder - please could all vehicle users take care when driving and parking around the school site at the beginning and end of the day. The school car park has a 5mph speed limit and only those parents with a permit issued by the school office should be using the school car park.
- Snacks - If children are bringing a snack into school for morning break, please could this be limited to healthy snacks **only**. Nursery and Key stage 1 children are provided with a free fruit snack every day.
- Morning drop off - Parents of children from Nursery to Year 4 must stay with their children until the doors open. Children should not be dropped off at the gate to wait on their own. Year 5 and 6 are allowed to come to school on their own.
- Lunch Orders - If your child is late into school please make sure they order their lunch with Miss Adcock. All lunch orders must be placed by 9.45am, after this time please send your child with a packed lunch. If you know in advance that your child will be late (e.g. for a medical appointment) please email your child's lunch preferences to the office. We appreciate prompt payment of lunch money.

# DIARY DATES

Date	Time	What	Who	Place
<b>February</b>				
4 Feb		Year 3 Time & Tide Museum Trip	Year 3	Time & Tide Museum
5 Feb	8.30am	A.I.M Higher Science Day	Selected children	Bluebell Primary
5 Feb	2.30pm	Reading Café	Hawthorn Class	Main Hall
5 Feb	5.30pm	KS2 SATS Parent Information Evening		Main Hall
6 Feb	2.30pm	Reading Café	Cedar Class	Main Hall
10 Feb		Year 4 Viking Day	Year 4	
11 Feb	3.15pm	Year 4 and Year 6 Sale of Homemade goods	Selected children	Main Hall
11 Feb	1.45 - 2.45pm	Orchard Class Stay and Play	Orchard Class	
11 Feb	2.15pm	Reading Café	Beech Class	
12-14 Feb		Year 6 Norfolk Lakes Residential	Year 6	
12 Feb	10am	Orchard Class Bus Trip	Orchard	
12 Feb	2.15pm	Reading Café	Lime Class	Main Hall
13 Feb	12.30pm	Dance Festival	Selected children	Sportspark
13 Feb	9am	Year 1 Africa Alive Trip	Year 1	Africa Alive
13 Feb	2.15pm	Reading Café	Laurel Class	Main Hall
14 Feb		School breaks up for half term		
24 Feb		Back to school		
24 Feb	9.30am	Girls Football Competition	Years 3 & 4	Sportspark
24 Feb	1.30pm	Girls Football Competition	Years 5 & 6	Sportspark
25 Feb	9am	Reading Café	Nursery	Nursery
25 Feb	2.30pm	Reading Café	Ash	Main Hall
26 Feb	2pm	Reading Café	Nursery	Nursery
26 Feb	2.30pm	Reading Café	Birch	Main Hall
27 Feb	9am	Reading Café	Nursery	Nursery
<b>March</b>				
3 March	9am	Bags 2 School Collection		In front of main office
4 Mar	2.15pm	Reading Café	Maple	Main Hall
5 March	1.30pm	Rowan Class Library Trip	Rowan Class	Hethersett Library
5 Mar	2.15pm	Reading Café	Elm	Main Hall
6 Mar		World Book Day - Information to follow	All	
10 Mar		Year 4 Castle Trip	Year 4	

11 March	4pm	Choir CASMA Rehearsal and performance	Oaks Choir	St Peter Mancroft, Norwich
17 Mar - 19 Mar		Screening - Hearing and Vision	Reception	
18 Mar	12.30pm	Multiskills Festival	Year 1	Easton College
18 Mar	2.30pm	SEND Surgery - info below		
18 March	3.30pm - 6.30pm	Parent's Evening		
19 March	1.45pm	Sycamore Class library trip	Sycamore	Hethersett Library
20 March	9am	Woodside Choirs at Norfolk County Music Festival	Woodside Choirs	The King's Centre, Norwich
20 March	3.30pm - 6.30pm	Parent's Evening		
24 March	3.30pm	Year 4 Whitwell Hall Information Session	Year 4 Parents	Main Hall
25 March	10am	Year's 1 & 2 Author Event	Year 1 and 2	Main Hall
26 March	2.15pm	Rock Steady Concert		Main Hall
3 Apr		Dance Show	Year 1	The Space, Norwich
4 April		End of term		
23 Apr		Back to school		

## SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

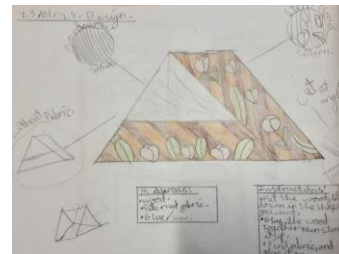
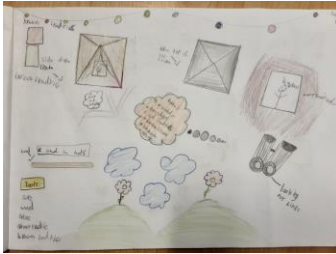
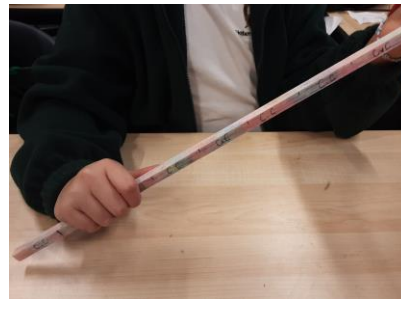
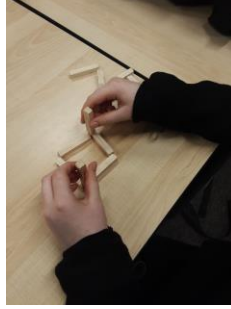
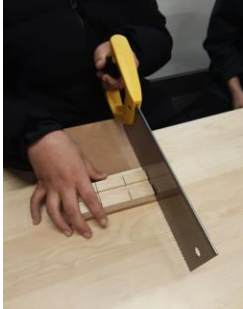
Class	Attendance W/C: 06/01	Attendance W/C: 13/01	Attendance W/C: 20/01	Attendance W/C: 27/01
Rowan	95%	99%	98%	93%
Sycamore	95%	94%	94%	95%
Chestnut	93%	95%	97%	100%
Holly	90%	99%	91%	96%
Hazel	91%	94%	94%	94%
Laurel	93%	97%	98%	94%
Beech	98%	93%	95%	96%
Lime	94%	94%	93%	99%
Cedar	93%	94%	99%	100%
Hawthorn	100%	91%	99%	97%
Ash	95%	97%	97%	99%
Birch	98%	98%	96%	99%
Elm	89%	95%	89%	94%
Maple	96%	99%	97%	100%

Our school target is to be **above 96%**, so well done to all classes who are consistently above this!

# CURRICULUM

## Learning in Year 5!

Year 5 have recently been hard at work researching, designing and building miniature bird hides. This involved thinking very carefully about materials, including keeping them natural and camouflaged. Because we needed these to be strong, Year 5 also learnt all about structures, such as including triangles to stabilise. One child said "It was quite hard to cut the wood but it was all worth it in the end." Another stated, "It was really fun designing the bird hide, especially selecting fabric that looked natural and beautiful." Enjoy our work below!



## Learning in Nursery!

### We love learning in Willow Nursery!

We have enjoyed a fun packed January in Nursery. Firstly, we learnt about winter weather and how to care for birds and animals in cold weather. We enjoyed spotting birds in the garden, making our own binoculars and bird feeders and taking a winter walk around the school grounds.

A favourite story for this half term has been Stickman by Julia Donaldson and a favourite rhyme, two little dicky birds sitting on a wall.

It has been a half term of celebrations and the older children have thought about New Year in different cultures. We talked about our own new year's resolutions, New Year in a Persian culture and last week, Chinese New Year. The children became thoroughly immersed in making Chinese dragons, drums, lanterns, listening to music and tasting noodles.

This week, we are learning about shapes and are busy looking at shapes in our environment. We have introduced our new construction area in Squirrel room and are busy constructing with wooden blocks.





# INCLUSION

Our next half termly SEND Surgery will be on Tuesday 18th March (this is also parent's evening). If you would like to attend one of these appointments with Mrs Jefferson to discuss any SEND concern or query you may have, please fill out the link on this form: <https://forms.gle/QZWFLtpGJpGnrfBw8>

## Talking tips - play

Play is so important that it is considered a human right for children.

Play is good for us. Children learn best through play and this learning happens every day through the experiences and the fun they have.

- Every time you give your baby attention, chat and smile, or let them know you are there for them when they are upset, they are learning to trust you.
- Every time you talk, sing and read to your child you are helping them learn the words that they need to communicate their thoughts and feelings.
- Every time you help your child to learn a new skill or understand a new experience, you are helping them feel good about themselves and make sense of their world.

Playing with children throughout their baby days and childhood will build strong and lasting bonds. It helps build their self-esteem, confidence and gives better life chances.

Support services:



February 2025  
**Newsletter**

<p>Thursday 20th Feb 19:00 - 20:00 FREE</p>		<p><b>FREE SESSION</b> Supporting Healthy Screen Use <small>A range of steps that can help minimise the harms from screens</small></p>
<p>Monday 3rd Feb 10:00 - 11:30 £24</p>		<p><b>Supporting a Child with ADHD</b> <small>Challenging the stereotypes and giving practical interventions. Clear explanation of the condition in all its forms and extremely useful advice.</small></p>
<p>Tuesday 11th Feb 19:00 - 20:30 £24</p>		<p><b>Facing Defiance</b> <small>Specific strategy to help parents manage defiant and challenging behaviour, especially aimed at ADHD, ODD and PDA conditions, 5 to 12 years old.</small></p>
<p>Tuesday 18th Feb 19:00 - 20:30 £24</p>		<p><b>Cannabis &amp; Ketamine Awareness</b> <small>Get the facts and know the harms about these two drugs so you can hold an informed conversation with your teens.</small></p>
<p>Tuesday 25th Feb 19:00 - 20:30 £24</p>		<p><b>Understanding the Teenage Brain</b> <small>A 'must see' for all parents and teachers of teens and pre-teens. Explains why teens think, feel and behave very differently from adults and how we can support them.</small></p>

[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

Understanding Anger	10 FEB 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	11 FEB 10am
Facing Defiance	14 FEB 7pm
Raising Self-Esteem	27 JAN 7pm 25 FEB 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	28 JAN 7pm 24 FEB 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	3 FEB 10am 3 MAR 7pm
Improving Family Communication	3 FEB 7pm 4 MAR 10am
AUTISM: Improving Communication	4 FEB 10am 4 MAR 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	4 FEB 7pm 3 MAR 10am
Anxiety-Based School Avoidance	10 FEB 10am 10 MAR 7pm
What is ACT?	17 FEB 10am 17 MAR 7pm
Introduction to OCD	17 FEB 7pm 18 MAR 10am
Anxiety Explained	18 FEB 10am 18 MAR 7pm
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	18 FEB 7pm 17 MAR 10am
Decreasing Depression	24 FEB 7pm 25 MAR 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	25 FEB 7pm 24 MAR 10am

# E-SAFETY

Last month, we introduced e-safety notices on the newsletter. We hope you found the tips useful on how to use parent controls on phones. This week, let's have a look at some ideas about how to manage screen time:

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit [nationalonlinecollege.com](https://nationalonlinecollege.com) for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

## Top Tips for... MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

**BUY MILK**

**GET OUT AND ABOUT**

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

**TRY A TIMED TRIAL**

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

**GO DIGITAL DETOX**

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

**LEAD BY EXAMPLE**

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

**AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES**

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

**HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY**

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

**BE MINDFUL OF TIME**

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

**'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT**

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

**SWITCH ON DND**

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

**TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK**

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

**SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS**

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

**WIND DOWN PROPERLY**

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

**Meet Our Expert**

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local nurseries – empowering school-leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.

**DEVICE BOX**

**The National College**

**NOS National Online Safety**

**#WakeUpWednesday**

@natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety @national\_online\_safety

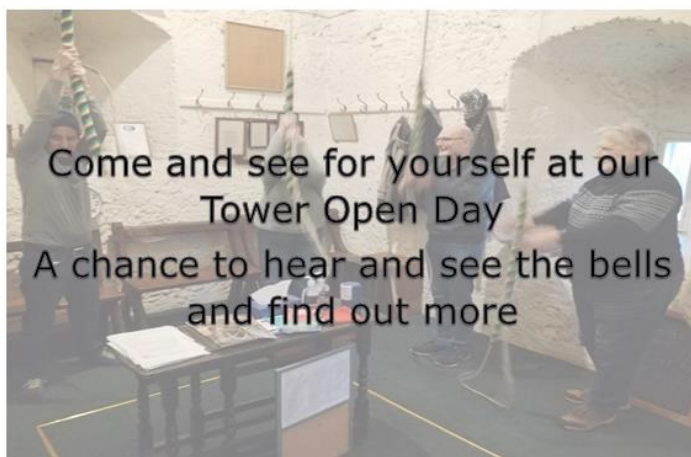
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# COMMUNITY NOTICES

Looking for a new hobby for the New Year?  
Ever thought about Bellringing?

- ✓ For **all ages** (8–90)
- ✓ Perfect for **individuals, couples or families**
- ✓ **Aerobic exercise**—burn calories and tone muscles
- ✓ **No need** to be **strong**
- ✓ Promotes good **hand/eye coordination**
- ✓ **Exercise for the brain**—counting & patterns (no maths)
- ✓ A **lifelong learning experience**
- ✓ There's **always something new** to learn if you wish
- ✓ Inexpensive (in fact it's normally **free!**)
- ✓ Make **friends** and be part of a **team**
- ✓ Takes place whatever the weather, **all year round**
- ✓ **Give as much time** to the hobby **as you want**
- ✓ **Visit a tower** anywhere and be immediately **welcomed**



## St Remigius Church Hethersett

### TOWER OPEN DAY








*Come and give  
Bellringing a try ...*

**Where? St Remigius Church Hethersett**

**When? Sunday 16th February 2–4pm**

More info? Email [annelarner16@gmail.com](mailto:annelarner16@gmail.com)

or scan the QR code

