

Hethersett Woodside Primary and Nursery School

MARCH 2025



WELCOME

Welcome back to school after the half term break.

Last half term was very busy; with Year 6 enjoying a 3 day residential visit leading up to the holiday. They had a brilliant time; showing such enthusiasm, resilience and positivity - all the staff were incredibly proud of them. It was lovely to spend time with them in a different environment too.

Not long now until Year 4 are heading off for their residential visit in April.

We also must mention our FABULOUS girls football teams, who competed in the Sports Partnership football competition last week. Y3/4 came 4th place out of 16 - a great achievement. Y5/6 came 1st place out of 16! AMAZING talent girls. Very well done.

Both teams showed brilliant team work and dedication, representing our school so well. Y5/6 girls will now head into the county finals later this month.

May I remind parents and carers of the importance of arriving for school **promptly**. We have several children who enter through the main reception due to late arrival. A prompt start is crucial, as children are shown their visual timetable of the events of the day ahead, and missing this can cause confusion.

Reception - 9am latest entry into class

Year 1 and 2 - 8.55am latest entry into class

Year 3,4,5 and 6 - 8.50am latest entry into class

(Gates open at 8.35am - children in Year R to year 4 must be with an adult until the doors open)

The carpark in front of school is for staff, visitors and those who have a permit **only**.

Please do not park in the school car park to drop off or collect from breakfast or after school club unless you have been issued with a permit.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Louise Mainwaring
Head teacher



DIARY DATES

Date	Time	What	Who	Place
March				
4 Mar	2.15pm	Reading Café	Maple	Main Hall
5 Mar	1.30pm	Local Library Trip	Rowan	Hethersett Library
5 March	2.15pm	Reading Café	Elm	Main Hall
6 March	All day	World Book Day, Book Sale & Special Menu	All	
7 March	10am	County Finals - Girls Football	Selected Year 5/6	
10 Mar		Year 4 Castle Trip	Year 4	
11 March	2.30pm	Year 1 Parents Phonics Meeting		
11 March	4pm	Oaks Choir CASMA Rehearsal and Performance	Oak Choir	St. Peter Mancroft
12 March	1pm	Young Carers group Visit		Queen's Hill Primary
13 March	9am	Hethersett Academy Visit to watch 'Oliver' performance	Year 6	Hethersett Academy
17 March - 19 March		Screening - Hearing and Vision	Reception	
18 March	12.30pm	Multiskills Festival	Year 1	Easton College
18 March	3.30pm	Parents Evening (including SEND surgery)		
19 March	10.30am	SEND Bowling Final		
19 March	1.45pm	Local Library Trip	Sycamore	Hethersett Library
20 March	9am	Woodside Choirs at Norfolk County Music Festival	Woodside Choirs	The King's Centre
20 March	3.30pm	Parents Evening		
21 March		Red Nose Day - Non-Uniform Day (bright colours)		
24 March	3.30pm	Whitwell Hall Residential Information Evening	Year 4 Parents	Main Hall
25 March	10am	Year 1 & 2 Author Visit	Year 1 & 2	
26 March	9am	Planetarium at school	Year 2 and 5	Main Hall
26 March	2.15pm	Rocksteady Concert		Main Hall
31 March	2pm	Spring Concert		Main Hall
April				
1 April	10am	Orchard café trip	Orchard Class	
2 April	9am	Bressingham Trip	Reception classes	Bressingham Steam Museum
3 April	11am	Dance Show	Year 1	The Space, Norwich
4 April		Hethersett Hundred Chocolate Lucky Dip		
4 April		Last day of term		
23 April		Back to school		

23 April	1.30pm	Local library trip	Lime class	Hethersett Library
24 April		Inspirational Athlete Visit		
25 April	9am	Theatre Royal Trip - Pig Heart Boy - Info to follow	Year 6	Theatre Royal
28 - 30 April		Cedar Class Whitwell Hall Residential	Cedar Class	Whitwell Hall
30 April - 2 May		Hawthorn Class Whitwell Hall Residential	Hawthorn Class	Whitwell Hall
30 April	3.30pm	Netball Tournament	Selected Year 5/Year 6 Pupils	City Academy

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Class	Attendance w/c 03/02	Attendance w/c 10/02	Attendance w/c 24/02
Rowan	95%	98%	93%
Sycamore	93%	95%	94%
Chestnut	96%	96%	99%
Holly	99%	95%	94%
Hazel	94%	97%	94%
Laurel	99%	97%	95%
Beech	97%	86%	97%
Lime	98%	94%	93%
Cedar	98%	96%	99%
Hawthorn	99%	100%	96%
Ash	99%	98%	98%
Birch	97%	95%	98%
Elm	95%	96%	96%
Maple	98%	99%	97%

REMINDERS

-World Book Day is coming up on Thursday 6th March. Please feel free to drop any final donations for our Book Sale into the school office. We invite children to come into school in their comfy clothes or pyjamas. There will be a special World Book Day dinner from Norse on this day, details have been sent out separately.

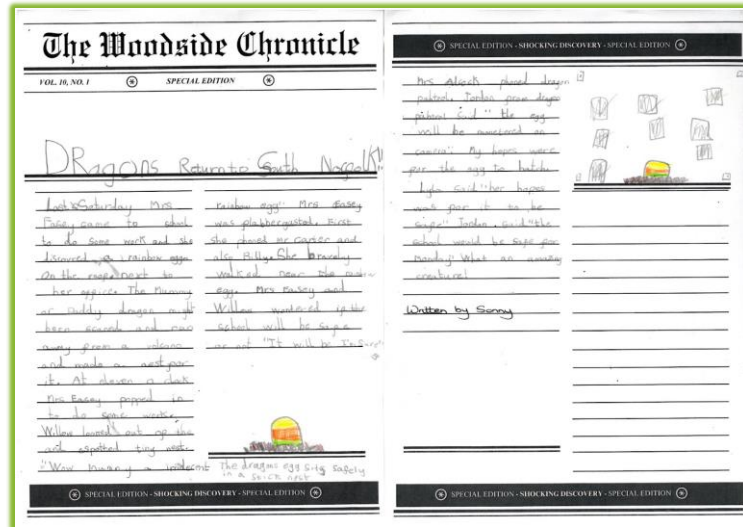
-Parent's evening booking forms have gone out, please use the link in the letter to book an appointment with your child's teacher if you haven't done so already.

-The Scholastic Book Fair will be in attendance from 17th - 21st March, please visit after school (including on Parents Evenings) to see and order some of the lovely books they have on offer!

CURRICULUM

Learning in Year 2!

The year 2 children have had a fantastic start to the new year! They have been very busy learning lots of new skills in art focusing on brush strokes and painting. Whilst doing so, they have looked into Vincent Van Gogh and how he uses abstract colours and blending to create abstract artwork. They became mini artists and learned how to mix primary colours to make secondary colours, whilst using homemade tools to mark make in their sketch-books. It has been wonderful to see the creative and colourful work they have all produced independently.



Back in January, Mrs. Easey and Billy found a dragon's nest on the roof with an egg. Year 2 have been keeping a close eye on it, writing about the exciting news in The Hethersett Chronicle. Once it hatched, they also used their persuasive writing skills to try and persuade Mrs. Mainwaring to let us keep the baby dragon at the school until Dragon Patrol were able to collect it during Half Term. Their letter writing worked, and we are pleased to say the baby dragon and its parents have now been rehomed at an undisclosed location.

Alongside this we have had both Hazel and Laurel reading workshops where the children had an opportunity to listen to 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. They all very much enjoyed making their own crayons based on the book and some very interesting names for their crayons came out of conversations with parents, carers and teachers such as 'Lulu Lavender' and 'Cherry Crimson'.

We also had the opportunity to learn lots about animals and their habitats. We were lucky enough to have a scientist come into each classroom to teach all about various animals and their habitats. It was fun to learn about animals we don't see often such as those lurking beneath the ocean like shrimp and crustaceans. We also peered through the window and looked at the animals we may find around Hethersett such as deer, hare and the Egyptian Geese that enjoy wandering around the school!

Learning in Year 4!

This term, Year 4 has been exploring a variety of exciting topics and activities. In art, we have been delving into the world of patterns. Our students have learned how to create stunning tessellations, discovering how repeating shapes can form intricate and beautiful designs. We also explored sensory patterns by using circles and puncturing holes in paper to express different emotions. This creative activity encouraged us to think deeply about how art can reflect our feelings.

In science, we were thrilled to have a super scientist visit us and teach us all about food chains. This hands-on session brought our learning to life, and the children quickly became whizzes at identifying different parts of food chains and how energy moves through them. Our scientist even brought along some real animal skulls to enhance our knowledge about really understanding the differences between omnivores, herbivores and carnivores!

In history, we have been learning about the Vikings and their way of life. We've explored the fascinating aspects of Viking society, from their homes to their fascinating myths. We have worked hard on creating fantastic, informative non-chronological reports in English about the Vikings, covering topics like their daily lives, culture, and beliefs. One of the highlights of our English lessons was writing a newspaper report on the famous Viking raid at Lindisfarne. The students did a fantastic job of capturing the dramatic events in their reports.

As part of our Viking learning, we practised and performed a Viking song called *Dragon Ships*. To bring the song to life, we used percussion instruments to enhance the rhythm and added overlapping, two-part melodies. It was a wonderful way to connect with Viking culture and create some amazing music as a year group!

As a grand finale to our Viking topic, we took part in an immersive Viking Day. We had an absolute blast learning a Viking game, discovering replicas of Viking weapons, and gathering lots of exciting information. It was a hands-on experience that brought Viking history to life, and Year 4 loved every minute of it!



EDP SPORTS TOKENS - THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everybody in our school community who donated tokens for the EDP 'Sports Equipment for Schools' campaign. We collected over 1000 tokens! As a result, we received an athletics kit containing discuses, shotputs, basketballs and javelins. Here are some of our sports leaders testing out the kit, ready for use in PE lessons!



FUNDRAISERS

Thank you to all who contributed to the Poppy Appeal before Christmas, we raised **£193.85!**

Before half-term some of our pupils planned and set up a sale of homemade goods to raise money for 3 charities, the RSPCA (**£43.40**), The British Heart Foundation (**£70.10**) and SUDEP Action (**£150**). They did an amazing job, working hard to create lots of wonderful items including bracelets, bookmarks and mystery bags. Thank you to the pupils and their parents who helped make the sale such a success, and to our school community for supporting the children in their charitable endeavors!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Woodside supports Comic Relief



Dear Woodside Families,

This year, we are pleased to announce that we will be supporting **Red Nose Day!** This will take place on Friday 21st March and the ideas have been generated from our School Council Members on behalf of their classes. We invite you to support this day in two ways:

- 1) Please bring in any loose change and coins you are able to donate to help us build a coin trail on the playground. School Council will be leading this for the classes on the playground throughout the morning. After the trail has been measured and completed, we will donate all of the coins in the trail to the Comic Relief charity.
- 2) Wear bright colours - as many as you can! This does not need to include your school uniform but it can if you would like it to. The more colourful you can be - the better! We are not asking for a donation for this as any coins for donation will be built into the coin trail total instead.

We thank you in advance for your support of this event and look forward to seeing all the bright colours and measuring our coin trail of donations!

COMIC
RELIEF

COMIC
RELIEF

HETHERSETT HUNDRED

Chocolate Lucky Dip!



Our next event is in the planning stages and we will be hosting our annual Chocolate Lucky Dip on Friday 4th April 2025. Children will have the opportunity to buy tickets to enter into the lucky dip to win Chocolatey prizes! For this to happen, we are asking for donations of chocolatey treats which can be won as prizes. From Easter Eggs, to sharing bars and bags - all chocolatey treats are welcome. In line with our school policy to safeguard the children, any donations must not contain nuts. As well as asking local businesses, we are asking our families to kindly donate them for the event. All donations should be brought to the school office. More information on buying tickets will be released in due course but we hoped that by sharing this information now we would have more time to collect delicious donations. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support as always.

WOODSIDE VOLUNTEERS!

Litter-picking!

The children are always keen to help out around the school! This month three pupils from Hawthorn Class volunteered to help Mr. Jarman with litter picking duties. They did a fabulous job walking around the school grounds and collecting up a whole bin bag of rubbish. Well done for taking responsibility and keeping a clean and tidy school environment!



Norse Taste-Tester Volunteers!

This January, 10 of our children volunteered to test out the new Spring/Summer menu. They tried a variety of new dishes including gammon, chicken nuggets, curry, fish and shredded chicken, then gave the Norse catering team their expert feedback! All of the children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and received a Norse lunch bag as a thank you for their valued opinions.



INCLUSION

Big Norfolk Holiday Fun

The Big Norfolk Holiday Fun will have availability open from 10th March for slots during the Easter holidays. Free spaces are available for children who receive benefits-related free school meals. Please note, this is not the same as universal free school meals. However, those not eligible for a free space will be able to secure a paid space on most activities. Simply check the description for how to book on and pay for an activity.

Remember, you may be eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals even if you do not claim for them. [Check and apply here.](#)

<https://www.activenorfolk.org/public/bignorfolkholidayfun/>

“

"It meant my SEN son could still have some form of routine and activity during the holidays."

“

"It has provided an exciting, safe and inclusive place for my daughter while I work."

“

"(My children) really enjoyed their activities and seemed to really like the people running them."



E-SAFETY

E-safety

If you've been following the last few newsletters, you'll be aware that we've been giving tips on how to keep children safe when using devices that connect to the internet. Please see below for information on how to avoid online bullying. We've also had some interest from parents about avoiding smartphones altogether. For this, we'd draw your attention to the "smartphone free childhood" website here: <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk>. As you may see on the site, it's possible to connect with local parents about it. The Norfolk links can be found here: <https://linktr.ee/SFCnorfolk>

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 www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING

Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe, in the digital world. It has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health – so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.

- ### 1. GET CONNECTED

Playing online games together with your child or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is not only fun but also an excellent way of establishing some common ground to discuss things you've both seen or done online – as well as keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.
- ### 2. KEEP TALKING

Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can also be an excellent refresher to help prevent cyber-bullying situations. Topics you might want to revisit include why it's important to only connect online with people we know and trust, and why passwords should always remain secret (even from our best friends).
- ### 3. STAY VIGILANT

Observe your child while they're using technology and just after they've used it, as they act normally, or out of character? Possible signs of a problem may include seeming quiet or withdrawn, jumpy or anxious, angry or repeatedly checking their phone. When you feel it's the right time, you may want to check in with them to see if everything is OK.
- ### 4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member they could turn to in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.
- ### 5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN

When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're likely to be difficult, emotional and upsetting for both you and your child. Actively listen to your child while they're bringing you up to speed, and try not to show any judgement or criticism – even if they're speaking with the situation in exactly the way you would have hoped.
- ### 6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent "fighting their battles for them". In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to choose the path they take, you're putting them in control but are also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.
- ### 7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE

Cyber-bullying often takes place through a particular app, social media platform or online game. If this is happening to your child, encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.
- ### 8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

Protecting themselves online is the priority, of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness other people falling victim to cyber-bullying. Even if they don't feel confident enough to call someone out on their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidentially report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.
- ### 9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

Victims of online bullying frequently experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, a loss of self-esteem and potentially even thoughts of self-harm or suicide. If you think that an incident of cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental wellbeing, then seek psychological support for them. There are some useful contact details in the central panel below.
- ### 10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger – or if there are any signs whatsoever of explicit images being shared as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

Childline: talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at www.childline.org.uk/get-support/

National Bullying Helpline: counsellors are available on 0845 225 5787 or by visiting www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html

The NSPCC: the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/ and can be reached on 0800 900 5000

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.





National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 09.11.2022

PE CHALLENGES!

Each month we'll be bringing you some PE challenges to try at home! This month try the Alphabet Walk or the 5-minute challenge, have fun spotting items on your walks or attempting a circuit!

Alphabet Walk



Play: Outside

How to play:

- Head out for a walk.
- On the way, try to spot something beginning with the letter 'A', the Z the letter 'B' and so on until you get to 'Z'.
- Make this easier if there are some letters that are difficult to find by finding something that contains the letter instead of 'starts with the letter...'



© Copyright Get Set 4 Education Ltd.

www.getset4education.co.uk

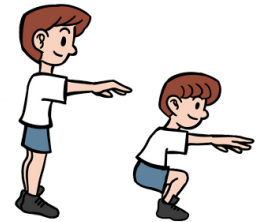
5 Minute Challenge



What you need: A little space and a stopwatch or clock.

How to play:

- You have 5 minutes - how many times can you complete this circuit?
- 10 x Star Jumps
- 10 x Burpees
- 10 x Press ups
- 10 x Squats



How many times did you complete the circuit?

© Copyright Get Set 4 Education Ltd.

www.getset4education.co.uk

A MUSICAL DONATION!

In December, the Woodside Oaks Choir entertained the residents at Woodcote Care Home in Hethersett. As a big thank you and token of their appreciation, the residents have made a collection and donated £94 towards buying a musical instrument for the school. The money will help purchase a digital piano keyboard for use in class music lessons, choir sessions, singing assemblies and performances.

On Monday 10th February, Stephen Baxter arrived at school with a resident, Nicholas Houldey, to hand over the cheque to some delighted choir members.

Three hula hoops were also donated by Gillian Hayhoe, a Woodcote resident, which can be enjoyed by pupils in The Burrow.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Hethersett Village Hall
Back Lane, Hethersett, Norwich,
NR9 3JJ

Makers Fayre

1st March 6th Sept
5th Apr 4th Oct
17th May 1st Nov
29th Nov

9am - 12.30pm

Email allseasonsmakers@gmail.com Want to be a stallholder? Email or call 07757665387