

Dear parents and carers

Well, we didn't expect to be having snow days in March! Whilst we never want to close the school, it was great to hear our children talking with enthusiasm about playing in the snow – such an important part of childhood! So from snow days, we now turn our attention to the busy summer term. We will keep you updated as there will be lots happening, including those summer events like sports days which we enjoy sharing with you all. Have a great Easter.

Kind regards

Claire Bennett
Headteacher



Outstanding Woodsiders



I was shocked when I received my outstanding award. I love school because we do lovely things.

Emily



My Mum and Dad were really proud of me. I work really hard. I loved the treats!

Freya

I was really proud of myself when I got an outstanding award. I didn't expect it! My parents were really proud of me.

Theya

I loved eating the popcorn. I am good and I love coming to school.

Yixin

To celebrate World Book Day, the children had a week of reading events. The children were also invited to dress up as their favourite book character. We were so impressed with the children's costumes. They looked fantastic!



World Book Day 2023



I dressed up as Mirabel. I love reading and my favourite book is The Twits by Roald Dahl.
Harper



Author Visits

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 had a visit from the author of 'Planes, Planes, Planes' and 'Farmer Llama', Donna David.

Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 were extremely lucky to have a visit from Frank Cottrell-Boyce. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to Frank reading extracts from his new book, 'Noah's Gold'.



I really liked listening to her talking about her books. I loved the Planes, Planes, Planes book. It was so colourful.

Georgia

I really enjoyed listening to Frank speak. He was so funny and his books look and sound lovely. I really want to read them.

Lily

I really enjoyed listening to Frank talk about his book. He has a wonderful humour and made us all laugh with his stories. We were all inspired and many of us want to be an author.

Harry



Visits to Booka

Children from Reception to Year 5 also visited Booka Bookshop in Oswestry. The children had a story time at the shop and were able to spend their World Book Day voucher. Rosie from Booka commented, "The children were so very well behaved and engaged when looking at and sharing the books. It is always a pleasure to have Woodside Children visit the shop."

Thank you to everyone that helped us with the trip.



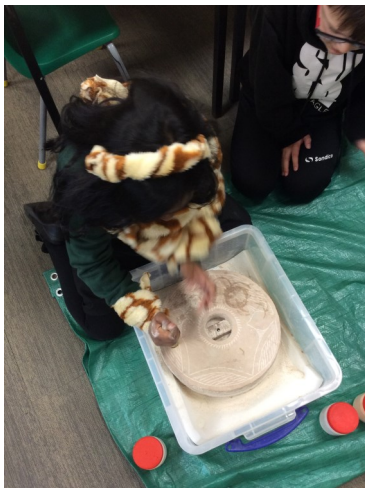
I liked going to Booka. It is tricky to pick my favourite part because I loved all of it.

Kristian



Active History Day—Year 4

Widget Workshops came into school to work with Year 4 on an active history day based upon the Stone Age. The children were given the opportunity to try carding, spinning and weaving; they also had a go at making fences, grinding flour and churning butter. The highlight of the day for many of them was using the V.R. headsets to explore Stonehenge and come face-to-face with a woolly mammoth!



We made bracelets using wool; we did some weaving and – amazingly – made a Stone Age fire. It was super fun.

The interactive history day was great. We learnt a lot about living in the Stone Age. It was super-duper mega fun.

The children at Woodside Primary were fully engaged in all the hands on activities today. They asked thoughtful questions during the day and were incredibly well-mannered. We had a lovely day! We believe in experiential learning, not just handling artefacts but using them. It's not only fun but a way to inhabit the daily life of someone from another time. It engages more of their senses, and usually raises as many questions as it answers! The children definitely did well using all the artefacts today.

Kat and Sue from Widget Workshops



Year 6 Local History Walk



I particularly enjoyed visiting the train station. I learnt lots of new things. I also talked to the class and shared my knowledge about trains and explained the role of the signal box.

Frank



Year 6 children have been learning about local history. We went for a walk to see local historical sites and learnt that Oswestry has a rich historical heritage. It was fascinating to think about all the different events that have happened right here in Oswestry and all the people that have walked our streets over the centuries.

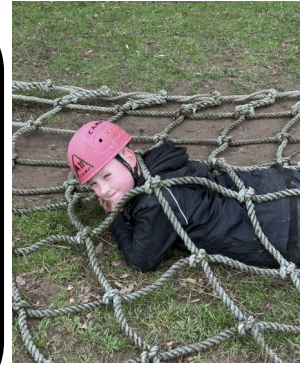


W WOODSIDE



I loved the experience of going away with my friends. The best part was after I completed the activities, I felt so proud of myself. I loved the zip line. It was so much fun!

Seffy



The pupils in Year 5 had an amazing visit to Manor Adventure, Craven Arms, spending two nights away and enjoying an exciting range of outdoor pursuits. Climbing, abseiling, bouldering and zooming down a high zip wire were just some of the activities the children enjoyed. It was lovely to see every child getting stuck in, challenging themselves to overcome initial nerves and take pride in all they managed to achieve. They weren't even put off by heavy rain on the first night! A spectacular walk through Carding Mill valley was also part of the adventure that neither pupils or staff will forget.



Manor
Adventure



Manor
Adventure



I was so excited to go away to Manor Adventure. I was nervous beforehand but when I got there, I was so excited. The zip line was really good because it was so high, long and we had to do it in the dark! I loved being away with my friends too.

Billy



W
WOODSIDE

Chester
Zoo

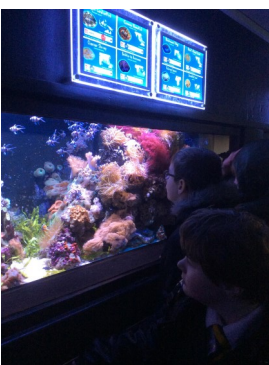


I really enjoyed visiting the zoo. The best part was the reptile house because I love reptiles!

Rhys



Year 5 children had a great day out at Chester Zoo! Before the trip, the children planned which route they should take in order to spot their favourite animals. They also created some fact files on animals that they would like to see. The children enjoyed spotting lots of animals on the day, including the more elusive creatures, and were brilliantly behaved.



I enjoyed going to Chester Zoo because I got to see lots of animals. My favourite animal was a Sengi.

Laci



Stepping Out—Year 3

Children in Year 3 have had the opportunity to take part in Stepping Out. This is a programme which teaches children to develop basic pedestrian skills. The children thoroughly enjoyed their sessions and all received a certificate.

Ray Hughes, Shropshire’s Active Travel and Road Safety Officer, commented, “Thank you very much for the school’s continued participation in Stepping Out as I always enjoy returning to Woodside Primary. As per usual, the session was very well organised by the school and as usual, the children were fantastic; super engaged and a joy to train. They followed my instructions very well and approached the walk with enthusiasm and energy. They were keen to answer all my questions and engage in roadside discussion. The children all thoroughly deserved their certificates!



It was fun being out and learning how to cross the road safely. My Mum was really pleased with how I crossed the road when I went out walking with her and our dog later that night.

Lacey



Outcomes of parent/carer survey March 2023

We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who responded to the March survey. We had a total of 179 responses.

		% agree/ strongly agree	School comments
1	My child is happy at this school	93%	We're really happy that so many of you agree that your children feel safe & happy. This is our absolute priority.
2	My child feels safe at this school	96%	
3	The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	87%	We have recently reviewed our Behaviour Policy https://woodsideschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Behaviour-Policy-Oct_2022.pdf We emailed you in the autumn term to explain our new whole school behaviour model which is working really well. This model allows us to clearly address any unacceptable behaviour, but also to reward those children that behave the 'Woodside Way' every day. There will inevitably be some behaviour that we have to deal with in school. Most of this is dealt with at a lower level, but we do have detentions, Behaviour Plans, internal exclusions and external exclusions for the most serious behaviour. We also work with other professionals at times to support us with children showing complex behaviours.
4	If my child has been bullied, the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively	87%	Like some poor behaviour, inevitably there are times in school where children do not treat each other as they should. We do not tolerate bullying in any form and will step in swiftly to address any bullying. Sometimes the strategies we use to tackle bullying in school are confidential or done 'behind the scenes.' These strategies aren't as obvious as a detention or exclusion but are often more effective. This may involve some work with the perpetrator to understand why they are behaving in that way, teach them the consequences of bullying, and educate them in how to behave differently towards others.
5	The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year	78%	We'd like to know how we could do better here as we already do the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers are available on playgrounds every morning and afternoon. They will also call you at the earliest opportunity if you want to speak to them • Termly parent consultations • Year group letters • Termly newsletters • Year group information on our website which includes termly/annual curriculum maps and knowledge organisers https://woodsideschool.co.uk/year2/ • Annual reports
6	When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly	83%	Claire Bennett, Karen Williams and Louise Jones are available on the school playgrounds every morning and afternoon. You can also call or email to make an appointment at any time. Teachers are available on the playgrounds every morning and afternoon, and will call you back at the earliest opportunity if you need to speak to them. We always seek to resolve issues swiftly and effectively.
7	My child has SEND and the school gives them the support they need to succeed	74%	We are fortunate to have an experienced, dedicated whole school SENCo who is happy to talk to any parents/carers at any time. Staff, including our SENCo work tirelessly to support SEND children, even when it is difficult to get support from other professional agencies. We are proud of our inclusive culture in which children from all backgrounds and abilities are happy and thrive. We will do all we can to support SEND children in our mainstream setting.



WOODSIDE

Outcomes of parent/carer survey March 2023

		% agree/ strongly agree	School comments
8	The school has high expectations for my child	82%	All teaching & learning starts and ends with our mission statement in mind: <i>At Woodside we strive to ensure that our children are happy, confident and aspirational, always trying their best. Woodside children are encouraged to be respectful, resilient and to take responsibility for their own actions, making positive contributions that are recognised and celebrated by the wider community.</i>
9	My child does well at this school	91%	
10	The school lets me know how my child is doing	80%	Please see comments on question 5
11	There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school	88%	Please see year group and curriculum areas of our website https://woodsideschool.co.uk/
12	My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school	89%	We offer a wide range of clubs for children. Most of these clubs are free and teachers run them voluntarily as a gesture of goodwill and commitment to the children. In the autumn term, we asked the children which clubs they would like to have and responded to this.
13	The school supports my child's wider personal development	75%	We are interested in your thoughts about this. In school the following are just some examples of how we support children's wider personal development: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promotion of school & British values through the curriculum and assemblies• A strong, progressive PSHE curriculum• Our children understand how democracy works through assemblies and lessons planned to prepare them for life in modern Britain. We promote democracy by having a very active elected School Council• Through our curriculum and assemblies, we develop an understanding in the children that academic success will only be achieved if they place equal importance on developing positive personal qualities. Our 'Inspire Me' assemblies or visitors give children role models who talk through how they have overcome challenges in their lives and how this has helped them to develop personally and professionally• Hosting authors, illustrators and a variety of other visitors from a range of backgrounds• Various trips and visits• Year 5 residential• Our school offers and values programmes which support children's well-being, mental health and their personal and social development. An example of this is our year 6 children working with SmashLife to support their resilience, personal attitudes, confidence, etc., before moving on to secondary school• Wide range of extra-curricular opportunities
14	I would recommend this school to another parent	88%	We would love to improve this. We are committed to working with all our families to make Woodside the best it can be.



Outcomes of parent/carer survey March 2023

If you have some ideas on how we could improve further, please pop them on the sheet below and ask your child to hand to their class teacher by **Friday 21 April 2023**.

Parent/carer survey – thoughts and ideas

Child's name (optional) _____ **Year group(s)** _____

Please share any thoughts or ideas here:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this.

Children in Year 6 are able to purchase Leavers' hoodies. Here are this year's children modelling their hoodies. We think they look fantastic.



I really like my hoodie. It is so fluffy and warm inside. I love that it has everyone's names on the back.

Ava



Important dates

Friday 31 March - Children break up for half term

Monday 17 April —Children start back

Monday 01 May—Bank Holiday

Monday 08 May—Bank Holiday

Friday 26 May—Children break up for half term.