

Dear parents and carers

What a difference it makes to have lighter mornings again. Hopefully, we'll be getting more sunshine soon too!

On the subject of mornings, do you find it hard to get your child into school? We're delighted to be welcoming Amelia Brunt to Woodside on **Tuesday 16 April**.

Amelia Brunt is a specialist teacher and clinical supervisor working with schools across the country to understand and recognise the emotional and developmental needs of the children in their care. She supports parents and carers, as well as educators, to work together to ensure good mental and physical health for children. In doing so children are supported to thrive, both in and out of school, enabling better life chances for them and for the networks of adults around them.

Amelia is a Social Psychology Graduate, has an MSc in Educational Psychology and Children's Mental Health and has worked in Education for nearly 30 years with a particular focus on children's mental health and wellbeing. Most importantly, she is a mum of three, two of which are now adults and so has been around the block a few times herself! Amelia provides highly accessible, down to earth and realistic workshops and training for schools and school communities and is delighted to be working with you soon.

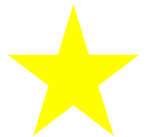
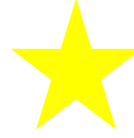
Amelia's workshop will take place in the **Wellbeing Centre from 1 – 3pm**. She will offer tips and tools to help with morning routines, support with anxiety & worries, and build your child's resilience. If you'd like to attend, please follow this link <https://forms.office.com/e/RWmxwTFuGz>

Wishing you all a very happy Easter!

Claire Bennett  
Headteacher



# Outstanding Woodsiders



**Well done everyone!**

# World Book Day



# World Book Day



To help celebrate Science Week, Year 2 children have worked with Shropshire Wildlife Trust to undertake some habitats work on our school grounds. We found out about lots of invertebrates that live in the grass, soil and hedgerows and hunted for them with magnifying glasses. We carefully put them into bug pots and found out what they were using identification charts. We had a wonderful morning and thankfully the rain held off!



# Shropshire Wildlife Trust



# Year 3 Reading Café



I enjoyed the reading cafe because I liked showing my Mum how we read in school. I also loved showing everyone how we use Bug Club.

Olivia



This term, we held a Reading Café for parents and carers of children in Year 3. The children enjoyed showing the adults how they read in school. The children also had the opportunity to read with their parent or carer. The children thoroughly enjoyed reading to their parents in school!

Thank you for your continued support.

In the reading cafe, we talked about how important reading was. Mrs Roberts Read showed our parents how to find books online and we read in our reading groups. I enjoyed the fact that I was able to spend special time with my Mum reading.

Elisa



# Reception Reading Café



This term, we held our first reading cafe in Reception. The children enjoyed showing their parents and carers how they learn how to read in Reception. We spent the session reading stories, acting out stories using puppets, playing reading games and eating biscuits! It was clear to see how much the children enjoyed sharing their love for reading with their parents in their classrooms.

Thank you for supporting us.



I loved beating my mum in the reading games.

Eli

I liked showing Mummy my book.

Olly



I enjoyed learning with Mummy and Daddy.

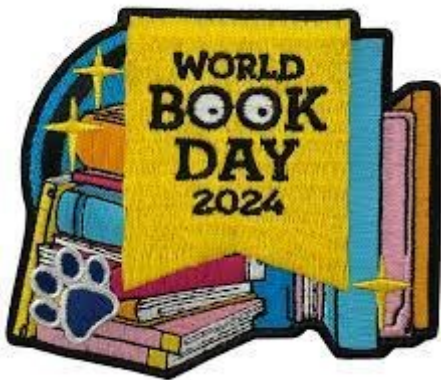
Logan

# W

WOODSIDE

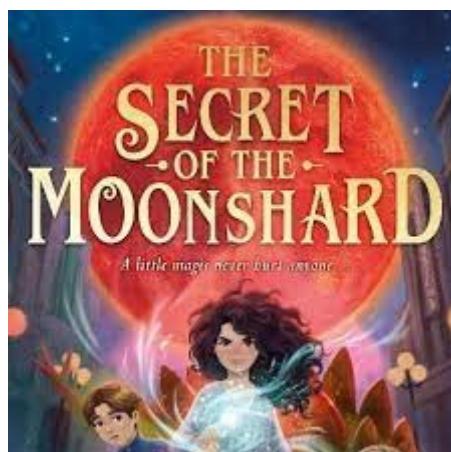
## Booka

Children in Year 1 and 2 visited Booka. They walked to the shop, had a story time and had an opportunity to spend their World Book Day voucher.



## Struan Murray

Struan Murray came into school to speak to children in Year 4, 5 and 6 about his new book, *The Secret of the Moonshard*.

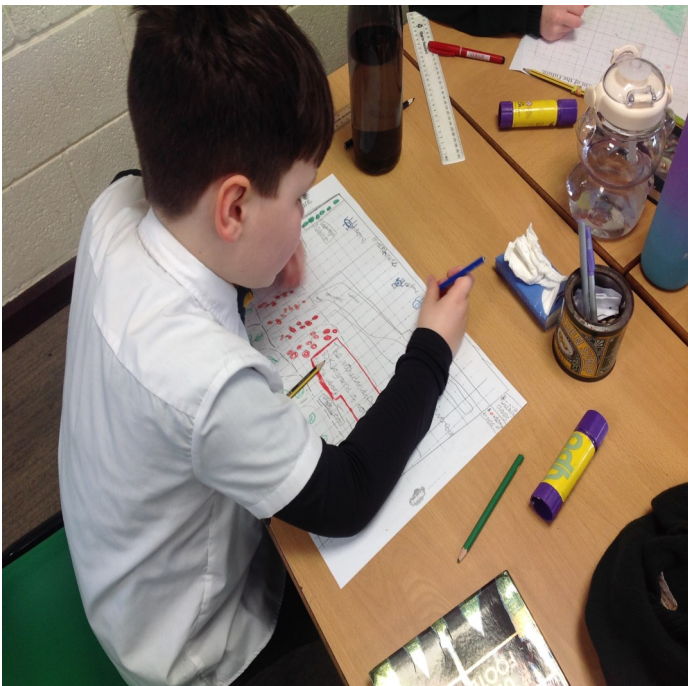




# British Science Week

We celebrated British Science Week 2024 at Woodside School. This year, the theme was 'time' as it is key to so many discoveries in science, technology, engineering and maths.

Across the school, the children watched a live lesson from 'Developing Experts' to help them with their learning.



We had to design a farm of the future. We had to think about innovative inventions and farming practices to help us decide what our farm would look like.

Griff

We looked at how the weather changed across a week. We've been learning about weather in our geography lessons as well so this helped me understand even more!

Phoebe



## School Council

This spring term, Woodside School Council have produced a Cultural Capital poster of 20 things we believe all children should experience throughout their time in primary school. All children will be given a poster with a checklist to tick once they have completed that activity. The plan is that from Reception to Year 6, all activities will be ticked off.

We have raised money for Comic Relief by selling red noses and holding a RED non-uniform day. A grand total of £1144.84 has been raised!

We have organised an Easter competition where the children are invited to design a new egg or carrot for the Easter Bunny. With each bite, there is a different taste sensation; we have received some fantastic entries.

We are now taking part in a road safety campaign. We will be going outside to see how people drive past – and park by – our school in a county effort to make the roads by Woodside a safer place. We will then meet with members of Shropshire Council to discuss our role as a School Streets school and how we can put our ideas into practice.

We have plenty more ideas for next term too!

Elliot Parry, Year 6 school councillor

## Red Nose Day 24

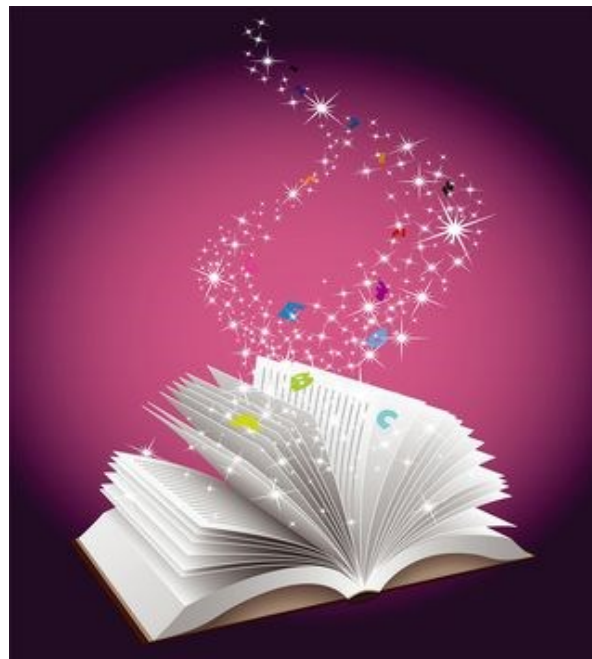


Did you know....?

Children develop a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures.

Evidence shows that children who read for enjoyment every day perform better in tests.

Sharing a book allows you to share adventures and experiences in the safe world of the book. A world of imagination and creativity is opened up.



Children learn to develop empathy, improve critical thinking and improve their communication skills.

If you read every night and share a text, your child will be exposed to **1.8 million words** a year!!!

Sharing a book can be a bonding experience and a special time .

# Why should I read with my child?

## What to do if my child doesn't enjoy reading?

- Make sure your child isn't tired, hungry or desperate to do something else! Sit with them for a short time every day and read a book with them that interests them.
- Visit the local library and let them select books that interests them. Sometimes children are more interested in non-fiction books than fiction.
- Give plenty of praise and show an interest in what they are reading. Children develop at their own rates when it comes to reading.

## Top 10 tips to help children enjoy reading

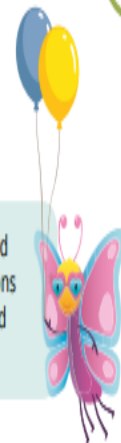
To help make reading enjoyable and fun, we asked experts and authors what they recommend to help get children reading.

### 1. Make books part of your family life

– Always have books around so that you and your children are ready to read whenever there's a chance.



2. **Join your local library** – Get your child a library card ready for when they reopen. You'll find tons and tons of fantastic books, allow them to pick their own and encourage their own interests.



3. **Match their interests** – Help them find the right book – it doesn't matter if it's fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction.



4. **All reading is good** – Don't discount non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines and leaflets. You could even start by watching a read aloud video! Reading is reading and it is all good.



5. **Get comfortable!** Snuggle up somewhere warm and cosy with your child, either in bed, on a beanbag or on the sofa, or make sure they have somewhere comfy when reading alone.

6. **Ask questions** – To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read such as, 'What do you think will happen next?' or 'Where did we get to last night?'. Can you remember what's already happened?



7. **Read whenever you get the chance** – Bring along a book or magazine for any time your child has to wait, such as at a doctor's surgery.

8. **Read again and again** – Encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps to build up fluency and confidence.



9. **Bedtime stories** – Regularly read with your child or children at bedtime. It's a great way to end the day and to spend valuable time with your child.

10. **Rhyme and repetition** – Books and poems which include rhyme and repetition are great for encouraging your child or children to join in and remember the words.



If you would like any further help or support with phonics and/or reading, please don't hesitate to contact us.

# Supporting your child with Maths



Below are a few ideas of how to engage your child in maths at home and how to support them on their mathematical journey:

## Early Years/KS1

- Allow children to take part in baking activities, including measuring with a discussion of weights, measurements and how the scales work.
- Measure your child's and their sibling's height on a chart. They can see how they are growing and have experiences of working with centimetres and metres.
- Use the clocks around your house and discuss the time with your child e.g. when the minute hand gets to 12 and the hour hand is at 5 it is 5 o'clock, this is dinner time etc. They can also be given time limit games to understand how long a given time is.
- Play board games, battleships, card games, dominoes etc. so children are counting and seeing numbers regularly.
- Encourage your child to use apps suggested by school such as Number Gym and Hit the Button.
- Allow your child to see money and give them the opportunity to 'buy things' either in a make-believe shop in your home or in a real-life situation.
- Going up the stairs – counting in 1s, 2s 3s etc. according to their year groups expectations.
- Playing with Lego/Duplo to create structures and talking about the 2d/3d shapes used.
- Creating art work, talking about the different shapes, colour and patterns. Could they make a symmetrical pattern?
- Shopping – children to work out how much something will cost, how much change they will get etc. They could also discuss the items bought, which is the heaviest, lightest etc.

## KS2:

- Be positive about maths. Try not to say things like "I can't do maths" or "I hated maths at school" – your child may start to think like that themselves
- Use apps and other online resources to develop fluency in maths. For example, the rapid recall of times tables and related division facts and the rapid recall of number bonds to 100
- Use Discovery Education (Espresso) and NumberGym to deepen understanding of place value and how numbers change when they are multiplied and divided by 10, 100 and 1,000
- Enjoy practical activities, such as cooking, shopping and building models to experience measures, time and money first-hand; this will help their understanding

Play a variety of card and board games, such as Monopoly, Battleships, Uno, Dominoes, Game of Life

At Woodside, we follow the White Rose Maths scheme and supplement with lots of other exciting resources. We understand that the way maths is now taught is different to when many of our parents were in school, so White Rose have teamed up with Michael Underwood to produce a series to help parents understand a little more about the way we teach maths. You can access it here <https://whiteroseeducation.com/parent-pupil-resources/maths/maths-with-michael#watch>

## Other Suggested Websites

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks1/maths/>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/maths/>

<http://www.topmarks.co.uk/>

If you would like any further help or support with maths, please don't hesitate to contact us.



## **Important dates**

Friday 22 March—Children break up for Easter

Monday 08 April—Children start back

Tuesday 21 May—Year 3/4 performance of Alice in Wonderland for parents./carers of children in 3DP and 4CS

Wednesday 22 May— Year 3/4 performance of Alice in Wonderland for parents./carers of children in 3MR and 4EB

Thursday 23 may— Year 3/4 performance of Alice in Wonderland for parents./carers of children in 3CR and 4EW

Friday 24 May—Children break up for half term

