



# Woolenwick Junior School

Newsletter: May 2019

## Current House Point Totals:

<b>Cheetahs</b> 3309	<b>Lions</b> 3287	<b>Panthers</b> 3508	<b>Tigers</b> 3548
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We have had an extremely busy half-term and are expecting the remainder of the Summer term to be busier still! We are looking forward to our school sports day, as well as the Year 5/6 play performance. The children will be able to meet their new teacher on Moving-Up Day (11<sup>th</sup> July) just before we break up for the holidays. We hope you enjoy reading about events coming up and all the exciting things that have been happening during the last few weeks.

## SPORTS DAY – TUESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

The children are looking forward to sports day and will soon be practising for the heats. We would love as many parents/carers to come and support their child/ren. Sports Day starts at 9.30am, so you are more than welcome to drop-off your child as normal and wait on the field. Sports Day should be finished by mid-day.

On the day it is important your child is wearing the correct colour t-shirt (no vest tops please) to represent their house. The colours are as follows:

- Panthers Blue
- Lions Red
- Tigers Green
- Cheetahs Yellow



All children will also need a water bottle and a sun hat. Sunscreen should be applied before the children leave home in the morning. We are hoping the sun shines!

## YEAR 5/6 PLAY – 4-5<sup>TH</sup> JULY

This year the end of year production will be a play called 'Porridge'. The play is performed by Year 5 and 6. The play will be held on:

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July - evening performance (6pm)

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July - matinee (1.30pm) and evening performance (6pm).

Cost is £2.50 per ticket. Babes in arms free. The fee will cover the costs associated with putting on the play e.g., music and performance licences.

Auditions were held on Wednesday for all Year 6 and the children will find out their parts on Friday Please look out for a copy of the script coming home. We will start rehearsals after half term so scripts will need to be in school every day. Costumes need to be in school by Monday 17<sup>th</sup> June (a letter will follow with full details).

## MOVING-UP DAY – THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY

'Move Up Day' will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019. This will be a great opportunity for children to spend time with their new class teacher and to support their transition to the next stage in their education. During the 'Move Up Day' children will have opportunity to:

- ❖ Meet the staff who will be in their class in September (Class teacher and Support staff);
- ❖ Learn about the expectations the class teacher has for the forthcoming year;
- ❖ Have a taster session with short activities

Year 6 children will be visiting their new secondary school for the whole day.

## MEET THE TEACHER EVENING - THURSDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY

We will also be holding a "Meet the Teacher" evening on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2019 from 4-5pm for parents. This will be in classes and provide an overview of our curriculum and expectations. We hope that this will enable both parents and pupils to feel supported and confident in the transition to the new school year.

## YEAR 6 – ENTERPRISE TRIP

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May ten of our Year 6 children had the opportunity to visit Macmillian Williams Solicitors at London Bridge. These children will be randomly selected based on progress and entrepreneurial skill.

The trip was part of the 'Enabling Enterprise' Project that Year 6 have been taking part in this year. The project allows children to work on skills such as leadership, aiming high, communication and teamwork with a business context.

During the trip the children got to see how a solicitors' office works as well as visiting all the different departments. They were also presented with their very own case that they needed to work on in teams in order to convince a jury of solicitors whether 'Woodcutter Will' had chopped off the wolves tail or not! One group was the prosecution and the other the defence. They had to analyse all the evidence and produce a well-reasoned case to convince the jury.

All the children, including those on the trip, took a great deal from taking part in the enterprise days held at school. We have really seen a difference in the childrens communication skills and their aspirational goals.

The Enabling Enterprise Team have released a press release about the children's visit which you are welcome to view at: <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/press/Woolenwick-Junior-School-visit-McMillan-Williams-London-Bridge-2019-05-21>



## FOOTBALL PRESENTATION EVENING

On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May we were delighted to be able to send some of our boys football team to Bedwell School for the football presentation evening. Woolenwick Junior Boys Football Team finished second in the league. A fantastic result!

Also announced were player of the season and most improved player awards for both the boys and girls teams:

Players of the Season - Harrison Wheeler and Poppy Young

Most Improved - Stanley Davis and Keira Kavanagh

Well done to both our football teams for their dedication and commitment to the school.



## GREEN TREE SCHOOLS AWARD

We are delighted to be working towards our 'Green Tree Schools Award'. The Woodland Trust, who work with schools across the UK, founded the award to encourage outdoor learning and help teachers inspire their pupils about woods, trees and wildlife. There are currently 7,000 schools registered for the 'Green Tree Schools Award' scheme. We are currently working on some activities that support pupils' learning and development in order to gain the award.

Schools gain points for the award by completing environmental activities and progressing through bronze, silver and gold levels to the prestigious platinum award. We look forward to sharing with you more news about how Woolenwick Juniors is progressing with our award.

## SCHOOL VALUES

The value for the months ahead are:

- ❖ June is **happiness**; and the linked school values for the month are: '**enthusiastic**' and '**healthy**'.
- ❖ July is **pride**; and the linked school values for the month are: '**positive**', '**hardworking**', '**aspirational**' and '**confident**'.

If you would like to share how your son/daughter has displayed these values at home or in their community, please let us know by email: [admin@woolenwickjm.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woolenwickjm.herts.sch.uk).

## ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Each week in our Friday 'Achievement Assembly' we announce which classes (one from lower phase and one from upper phase) have the highest percentage attendance for the week. Classes who win this award are entitled to 10 minutes extra playtime and they get to keep the new attendance cup for the week!

## ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

In order for all pupils to fulfil their full potential they need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves pupils vulnerable to falling behind and pupils with poor attendance and punctuality tend to achieve less well in school.

All pupils must arrive on time for school each day. We would like to remind parents that the government and the school expects parents/carers to perform their legal duty by ensuring their child(ren) attend regularly and that they are punctual. This will ensure a settled start both for the whole class and individual child.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS

We understand that from time-to-time parents/carers may need to request permission for their child/children to be absent from school during term-time. If you have no alternative but to take your child out of school, please complete a form the request form below and return it to the School Office no less than 3 weeks before the requested absence.

**The Headteacher is unable to authorise holidays taken during term-time except in exceptional circumstances, but all forms will be signed and returned home, and a note taken by the office as to when your child/children will be absent.**

Absence from school is such a significant contributor to under achievement. If your request is for more than one day we would strongly urge you to re-consider this request if at all possible.

We would also ask that all medical appointments are made as early or as late in the school day, and when possible after school has finished.

## REPORTING OF SICKNESS ABSENCE

Although we promote good attendance, the welfare of your child, other children and staff is an important consideration. If your child/children are unable to come to school due to ill health please keep them at home until they have recovered fully. **Please telephone to inform us on each day of illness and leave a message on the answerphone (option 1) or speak to a member of staff in the School Office.**

In particular, please inform us if you believe your child has an infectious disease such as rubella (German Measles), chicken pox, headlice or worms.

If your child has been sick, had an upset stomach, or diarrhoea, they must not come into school until 24 hours after the last episode.

## CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS – OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

Please continue to email us with details of your child's successes. We love to help them celebrate their outside achievements in the school newsletter and you are welcome to send in a photo of the event. We will endeavour to include this in our next newsletter. Remember - no success is too small!  
Email to Miss Armstrong: [admin@woolenwickjm.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woolenwickjm.herts.sch.uk)

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Tilly, Year 5, took her dog to Dogfest and took part in the flyball challenge. She also got the opportunity to meet the TV presenter, Claire Balding.



## WARM WEATHER

Please can you ensure that you always send your son/daughter with a named water bottle, sun hat and apply sun cream before they leave home. Thank you

## FINAL MESSAGE

It has been a very busy half-term indeed with many wonderful achievements gained by our children, both externally and internally. In the next newsletter you will find out more about our school talent competition and I will also be able to update you on who your child new class teacher will be.

Classes are all settle and working well with a more even distribution of characteristics across the year groups, so children will be remaining with their current class friends in September. I wish you well for a lovely half term break.

Kind Regards,  
*G Hawkins*  
Mr G Hawkins  
Headteacher