

## Current House Point Totals:

**Cheetahs**

1st

**680**

**Lions**

**550**

**Panthers**

**632**

**Tigers**

**677**

It has been a very busy and productive half term, with many great achievements being secured. The school has had a number of visitors to the school, ranging from parents, teachers from other schools to professional learning experts from the local authority. All of them have commented on the vibrancy of learning taking place and how focussed the children are with their work; they have also commented on the children's good behaviour and good manners, which is delightful to hear. Visitors have enjoyed talking with the children, looking at the wonderful displays around the building and have thoroughly enjoyed spending their time at our wonderful school.

Maintained schools in Hertfordshire also have a Hertfordshire Improvement Partner and Mrs Anne Peck, has been newly allocated to the school, as of September. Her role is to support the school and check on standards. She has already been in observing lessons, scrutinising work carried out by the leadership team, looking through books and talking to children about their learning. Anne visited the school on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October and worked with the Governors, the leadership team and myself, focussing in on the quality of education, personal development, leadership and management and children's behaviour and attitudes. Anne's colleague, Mr Mike Catchpool, also came to support with the rigorous monitoring and both of them were very impressed with what they saw, validating our identified strengths and giving us advice on where we can improve further.

## HARVEST FESTIVAL – 2<sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER 2019

There was a wonderful assembly held to celebrate Harvest Festival earlier this month. It was led by one of our local ministers, Reverend Ruth Carroll.

Thank you to all those children and their families who gave food so generously. All items collected have been divided between local charities, The Food Shed and The Stevenage Haven. We have received emails and letters from these organisations thanking us for your donations.



## PGL 2019

Last month 43 of our children from Year 6 attended PGL Caythorpe Court. They had an absolutely amazing time trying out lots of different adventurous outdoor activities such as kayaking, Jacobs Ladder, High Ropes, The Giant Swing and much more. They learnt new skills around perseverance, team building and problem solving which will come in handy over the year ahead. At the end of the week everyone was happy at what they had achieved, as well as being exhausted. The children said they would defiantly recommend it to all future year groups.



During PGL week, the children who stayed in school got to experience lots of different activities. They had a chance to do some cooking with Mrs Hammocks at the beginning of the week; helped Miss Drummey out with a whole school project on British Values in the middle of the week and had a movie morning towards the end of the week. However, the highlight was a trip to Hollywood Bowl on the Thursday where the children got to do ten pin bowling for an hour and have lunch out!



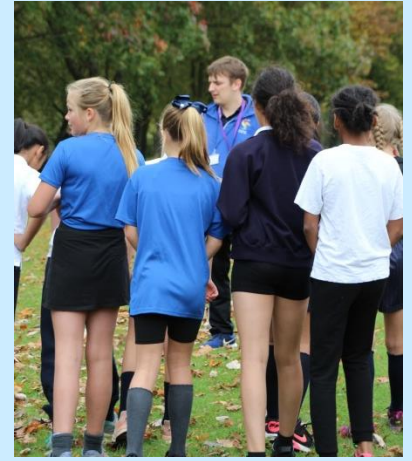
## SAFEGUARDING: VISIT FROM THE FIRE SERVICE



To help the children understand about the importance of how to stay safe at home with smoke alarms, escape routes and also how to stay safe around Bonfire Night we decided to bring this part of the curriculum alive to the children. We arranged for the fire brigade to visit the school and park their fire engine on the playground. All classes got to meet the fire fighters and visit the fire engine, with classes having a variety of demonstrations. Some children saw the 'jaws of life', some the RTA (Road Traffic Accident) tools, some classes the breathing apparatus and some children even got to sit inside the fire engine-what an experience!

## CROSS COUNTRY FESTIVAL

On Thursday 10th October, 24 children from Years 5 and 6 attended the Stevenage Sporting Futures 'Primary Cross Country Festival' at Fairlands Valley Lakes. When we got there the children took part in a warm up to ensure they were fully prepared for their run. Year 5 ran  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile around one lake and Year 6 ran a whole mile around both large lakes. All the children did their absolute best and represented the school in a fantastic way, showing good manners, responsibility, and resilience. Well done!



## PARENTS' CONSULTATION EVENINGS – 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

We are looking forward to welcoming you all to our Parents' Consultation Evenings being held next month, in our Hall, on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November.

Please arrive 10 minutes before your appointment time, so that you can take the opportunity to look through your son/daughters school books. These will be available to look at in the Dining Room for the duration of the evening.

As both evenings are now fully booked, we would like to remind you that appointments cannot be more than 10 minutes long because of the number of people that the teacher has to see.

Should you need to spend a longer time discussing something with your child's Class Teacher please arrange another meeting for this, otherwise it will delay all of the other parents, which gets frustrating if you have booked child care or need to take other children to evening clubs.

During the evening we usually ask parents to complete the parent survey, although this time around this will be carried out in the Summer term. During Parents' Evening parents will have the opportunity to tell us what you feel is 'working well' at the school, how you would like it to be improved and also how, as parents, you may be able to help us e.g. with parent volunteers for reading, skills you may have, companies that you may work for that may be able to donate items for offer free or any offer of discounted services that may be of benefit to the school. This is all so that we can provide the very best we can for all of our children here as I am aware there are so many kind parents with many skills and talents.

## SCHOOL AND BRITISH VALUES

The value for the month of **November** is **Democracy**; and the linked school values for the month are: 'engaged' and 'adaptable'.

The value for **December** will be **'thoughtfulness'**.

We will update you with each newsletter of the values for the month ahead. In the meantime, 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).

## POPPY APPEAL

We are delighted to announce that we will once again be fundraising for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal by selling poppies and related gifts from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November. If you do send your child in with a few coins for this appeal, please can you ensure that money is in a named, sealed envelope. Thank you for your support.

## AUTUMN/WINTER – BEING PREPARED

There are still many children who are arriving to school without a coat (or a jumper/fleece). The children are sent out to play each day, even if it is light drizzle, so please ensure your son/daughter always brings a warm (preferably waterproof) coat with them to school each day. You may also wish for them to bring a hat/scarf/gloves, but please do make sure that all items are named.

PLEASE NOTE: If children's items are not named and items from the same children are constantly lost the school reserves the right to name the item e.g. write the child's name on their jumper label so that items can easily be re-united. If you prefer us not to do this, please name the items yourself as we do not want the children to misplace any property and it never be found.

## CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS – OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

We love to help the children celebrate their outside achievements in the school newsletter. Please send a photograph and a description of the event and 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)



Congratulations to Siyona, Year 4, who performed a cultural Indian dance at Trestle arts (St Albans) earlier this month.

Mayors of Stevenage and St Albans attended this event.

**Well done Siyona.**



**Congratulations to Grace and Georgia in Year 6.**

They competed in the Royston festival of Dance where their Junior song and dance group 'Miracle' won the silver medal and then their modern group 'Tribal' won the Gold medal. They were then asked back to compete for the 'overall star award' for the whole festival, along with 11 other amazing acts.

The girls and their group danced extremely well and won 2<sup>nd</sup> place which was an amazing achievement especially as it is an honour to be asked to compete for this. They are now working hard on their dances for the next festival in January/February 2020.



**Well done Timi.**

He met the author, Steve Cole, and got to listen to him reading some of his brilliantly published books. He also sang and played the guitar, whilst cracking jokes!

Timi was one of the Summer Reading challenge winners of Stevenage Library Service that many children from Woolenwick entered in the summer.



Congratulations to Sophie and Abigail, Year 3, for receiving their Level 6 gymnastics awards.

**We are super proud of you Sophie and Abigail.**

## SCHOOL DINNERS - PAYMENT REMINDER

We would like to remind all parents/carers that **payment for school meals must be made in advance.** Please add sufficient funds to your child's school gateway account before they return from the school break. If there is no money on your child's account you will be contacted by the School Office and asked to either provide a packed lunch or to collect your child and take them home for lunch, returning them for the afternoon session.

As you will be aware our preferred method of payment is via the SchoolGateway. However, should you need to pay by cash please put this in a sealed envelope with your son/daughter's name/class clearly marked.

School cannot provide free meals unless you are entitled (and have applied) for Free School Meals via Herts County Council. You can find out more information at:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

## FINAL MESSAGE

Thank you for your ongoing support and working in partnership with ourselves. If you have any questions, issues you wish to raise, or any good news to share, please get in contact with one of my team and they will be more than happy to help you out. Have a lovely half term with the family.

With very best wishes,

*G Hawkins*

Mr G Hawkins  
Headteacher

## KEY DATES FOR AUTUMN TERM

### November

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|--|--|
| · Wednesday 13th November 2019             | <b>Year 5/6 Trip to Cineworld 'Wonder Park'</b>      |
| · Wednesday 13th November 2019             | <b>Early Parents' Evening</b> 4.00-6.30pm            |
| · Thursday 14th November 2019              | <b>Year 3/4 Trip to Cineworld 'A Dog's Way Home'</b> |
| · Thursday 14th November 2019              | <b>Late Parents' Evening</b> 5.30-8.00pm             |
| · Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2019   | <b>Year 6 Learning Experience*</b> 9.00-10.00am      |
| · Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2019 | <b>Year 5 Learning Experience*</b> 9.00-10.00am      |
| · Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2019   | <b>Year 4 Learning Experience*</b> 9.00-10.00am      |
| · Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2019 | <b>Year 3 Learning Experience*</b> 9.00-10.00am      |

### December

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| · Wednesday 4th December 2019              | <b>Pantomime 'Beauty and The Beast'</b> (Gordon Craig Theatre)   |
| · Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2019   | <b>Christmas Disco: Y3 +Y4: 3.45-5.00 Y5 + Y6 5.15-6.30</b><br>( <i>'Save the Date': More details to come out nearer the time.</i> ) |
| · Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2019     | <b>Christmas Fayre</b>   |
| · Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2019 | <b>Christmas Dinner Day</b>  |
| · Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2019  | <b>Year 3 and 4 Christmas Play (matinee + late show)</b>   |
| · Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 2019    | <b>Year 3 and 4 Christmas Play (matinee)</b>   |
| · Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2019    | <b>Last day of term. School finishes at 1.30pm</b>   |

\*Parents/Carers are very welcome to come to 'Learning Experiences'.