



## A belated welcome back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I appreciate this is a little late but welcome back and for our new parents, welcome to North Wootton Academy.

Normally, my first newsletter of the year speaks about the smooth return to school during the first few weeks; however, the fact that I was unable to issue a September newsletter, highlights that this has been a bumpier return than normal for the school. As predicted, we have had to cover an increasing level of need with a reduced staff, which has, in all honesty, taken a few weeks to get the balance correct. Moreover, it has meant things needing to be done quicker and choices made between competing priorities which in turn has led to some poor communication upon our part.

Whilst somewhat at your expense, this has allowed us to focus all our resources on ensuring your child's education has not been affected during this time of flux. Hopefully, you were all able to see how hard your children have been working so far this year, during our first parent's evening.

I know this has led to a number of questions from families and I really appreciate those who have approached me either on the playground or through the office to gain some clarity. I am always happy to discuss any matter, WONDER is one of our values for a reason, and teachers can always be available after school once the children have been released.

## Mr Smalls Leaving

We are really sad to say that today is Mr Small's last day. We are also sad to say that he is leaving education all together but wish him the best of luck in his new career. He has been a really important part of our school for a number of years and it has been a pleasure watching him develop a new role of Sport and Wellbeing Teaching Assistant within the school. His role was fundamental to the school achieving a Gold Sport's Mark for the last two years and we are really happy to say that this role will continue moving forward.

## Parent Awareness Sessions

Thank you to those parents who were able to make our first session about attendance and term time holiday; we will be repeating this after Christmas. We are aware that families have found it increasingly difficult to attend these sessions but wish to learn more about our curriculum and therefore, we aim to start sending short online presentations to you each month so that families can access these at their convenience.



## Parent Teacher Association

The PTA jumped straight back in to organising events this September, we welcomed 5 lovely new members and went ahead and organised our first BINGO event which was held on the 10th October and it went down a storm. We had some great prizes donated from local business, and we had a wonderful turn out raising a whopping £1000. It was such a success we'll be organising another one for early 2025 so watch this space.

We also signed up to Asda's cash pot for schools and have currently raised £434.88 with 37 days left to go which is amazing so if you've not signed up please do so, it's totally free to do and helps our school. We're now busy organising the Christmas events for the children and will be asking for donations for tombola's, the teddy stall and cakes so keep an eye on our PTA page on Facebook for updates. Thank you for continuing to support us. We are going to be working on a project this year which will benefit all the children and we'll bring you more details once it's underway.

## Diary Dates

NOVEMBER			
4th	Monday		Children return to school
5th	Tuesday		Pine class - Additional PE
6th	Wednesday		Willow class last swimming lesson
8th	Friday	13:30 - 14:30	Eco-Committee - Litter pick at Wootton Park
11th - 15th	Monday - Friday		National Anti Bullying Week
11th	Monday	10:00 - 12:00	Y3- 6 Cross Country Finals
11th	Monday		Odd Socks Day
12th	Tuesday	9:15 - 12:00	Cedar class - Additional PE
12th	Tuesday	9:00 - 14:35	KS2 CPR Training
13th	Wednesday		Maple class starts swimming lessons (8 weeks)
13th	Wednesday	9:30 - 12:00	Y5/6 Selected children - KES Netball Event
15th	Friday		Children in Need Day: Open-Mindedness Day
18th - 24th	Monday - Friday		UK Parliament Week
18th - 22nd	Monday - Friday		National Road Safety Week (Local Area Visit)
19th	Tuesday	9:15 - 12:00	Elder class - Additional PE
21st	Thursday	10:00 - 14:00	Y5/6 National League Football Tournament - Lynnsport - Selected children
25th	Monday	10:00 - 11:45	Tag Rugby Festival - Selected children
26th	Tuesday	9:15 - 12:00	Acorns Class - Additional PE
28th	Thursday	10:00 - 14:00	Y5/6 Girls National League Football Tournament - Lynnsport - Selected children
DECEMBER			
3rd	Tuesday	9:15 - 12:00	Conkers class - Additional PE
3rd	Tuesday		KS2 Homework Project morning
6th	Friday	9:00 - 12:00	Flu Catch up session
6th	Friday	15:30 - 17:00	PTA Christmas Fair
9th	Monday		Houses of Parliament Visit - Y5/6
11th	Wednesday	9:30 - 12:00	Y5/6 Selected children - KES Santa Dash Event
16th	Monday	10:00	Y1/2 Cinderella Panto at Corn Exchange
17th	Tuesday		Year 6 Carol Service - All Saint's Church - TBC
17th	Tuesday		Reception Christmas Performance - TBC
18th	Wednesday		Reception Christmas Performance - TBC
18th	Wednesday		Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
19th	Thursday	9:00 - 10:30	Reception - Walk to All Saints Church
19th	Thursday		Y3/4 Christmas Party AM - Y5/6 Christmas Party PM
19th	Thursday	18:00 - 20:15	PTA Christmas Disco - KS1 18:00-19:00 KS2 19:15-20:15
20th	Friday		Y1/2 Christmas Party AM - EYFS Christmas Party PM
20th	Friday		Last day of term