



Our Website: [www.woodlandspark.devon.sch.uk](http://www.woodlandspark.devon.sch.uk)

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Our Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Woodlands-Park-Primary-School-106865017558343>

Our Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/woodlandsparkprimary/>

**SUPERSTAR CERTIFICATES – Friday 24 September** – Autumn Rogers, Max Millington, Freddie Palmer, Emily Cox, Aimee Sheerin, Finley Dalton, James Randle, Grace Harris, Harry Rogers, Felicity Dudytsch, Emmie Newcombe, Lillie Tancock, Zach Dawe, Charloote Billson, Alfie Jones, Ava-Mai Skelley, Megan Billson, Cleveland Herbert, Declan Skelley, Ella Punchard, Isabella Farmer, Jasmine Rogers, Josh Tebb & Liam Bailey. **Friday 1 October** – Emma Parr, Lenny Quadling, Eliza Tregidgo, Heath Williams, Paddy Starr, Ashton Morrell, Amelie Nichols, Finley Brown, Elliot Jennings, Aoife Robinson, Amber Ford, Camilla Boon, Sebastian Smith, Kelsey Hubbard, Darcie Davidson, Beau Symons, Tomi Bartlett, Esme Taylor, Eryn Hoey, Emma Willis, Isabelle Fisher-Greene, Coby Toogood, Evelyn Arnold & Ethan Wilson.



### HEADTEACHER UPDATE – Your school needs you!

At school, Woodlands Park Friends Association (WPFA) and our governing body are essential components of our school community.

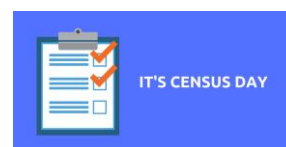
WPFA lead a range of fundraising events during the school that enable the school to fund projects that they couldn't otherwise afford. They also give the school the opportunity to strengthen the school community and celebrate together. Sarah Dando is the chair of WPFA and is supported by a hard-working and creative team. Some people support WPFA at a range of events across the year, some people support 1 or 2 events. If you would like to find out more and potentially join the committee and/or help at events, please email [admin@woodlandspark.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woodlandspark.devon.sch.uk) and mark your email FAO Sarah Dando.

Our governing body is led by our chair, Rebecca Wood. The team of governors meet half termly to support the school/be a 'critical friend' as we work together to make Woodlands Park the best it can be for our children. Our governors also have the opportunity to join strategic boards within Westcountry School Trust. Governors also support the school with their evaluation of our progress towards school improvement targets through governor visits to school. We are currently looking for 3 governors to join our team. If you would like to find out more/think you would be interested, please complete the attached notice of interest form and email it to us as [admin@woodlandspark.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woodlandspark.devon.sch.uk) and mark your email FAO Rebecca Wood by 5:00pm on Wednesday 6 October.

**Pupil Premium Funding** - We receive additional funding for children who are eligible for pupil premium funding. If you receive income support or if one parent is serving in HM Forces or has retired on a pension from the Ministry of Defence, you are eligible to apply for pupil premium funding. This funding will be used by the school to support your child's academic progress and personal development. Additionally, we subsidise school trips for pupil premium children by 50% as well as providing other support.

However, we need parents to apply for this funding. If you think you may be eligible, please contact us for support with the application process. Even if you are only receiving income support for a short period of time, applying for pupil premium funding secures pupil premium support for your child's future as schools receive funding for up to 6 years after a family are no longer eligible.

**Important Funding News - Thursday 7 October** is census day in school. The information we submit regarding our children affects our funding for the following school year. It's important for us that we maximise the number of **Foundation and Key Stage 1** children who have a universal free school lunch on this census day and the second census day in January. If your child sometimes has a school lunch, but doesn't opt for a school dinner on the two census days, we receive no funding for your child's lunch for the entire year but will continue to provide a lunch from the main school budget. However, if your child sometimes has a school lunch and opts for a school dinner on both census days, we receive 100% funding for the entire year! This also applies to the pupils who are entitled to free school meals in **Key Stage 2**. If you have any questions about this, please ask at the office. Thanks in anticipation of your support! In an attempt to maximise numbers, the menu options for Thursday will be:



**Main – Burger or Hot Dog and Chips**

**Veggie – Veggie Burger or Veggie Hot Dog and Chips**

**Jacket Potato**

## Reading for Pleasure

Our literacy lead, Mike Tuckwell, is leading a research project this year to develop reading for pleasure in our school community. This week, he has just completed our initial assessment of reading habits across the school. I was delighted to see that 100% of our children in Year 6 stated in their questionnaire that they think that their teachers love reading! In the Key Stage 2 questionnaire, one question asked 'Do you read with anyone at home?' Here are the percentage of children that said yes by year group:

Year 3 – 70%, Year 4 – 67%, Year 5 – 40%, Year 6 – 68%

Whilst children in KS2 have developing skills to be able to read independently at home, reading with your child remains so important in KS2. As a parent myself, finding time for children to read every day at home can be challenging which is why we recommend reading at home at least 5 times a week. On the day that your child doesn't get home from a club until late, reading might not be productive!

However, reading with your child in KS2 is really important (as well as time to read independently). Sometimes this might be taking it in turns to read a few pages of their reading book from school. It might be having a different book that you read together at home. It might be reading your own book while your child reads theirs with a couple of questions from you to check in with them. If you are struggling to develop reading habits at home with your child, please speak to your child's class teacher next week during your parents' evening appointment.



**NEXT STEPS, YEAR 6 SECONDARY TRANSFER 2021** – Although the children have only just started in Year 6, the online application facility for transfer to secondary school is now available. You must submit an application by Sunday 31 October 2021 at [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline) or contact the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 where an adviser will be happy to assist you. National Allocation Day will be Monday 1 March 2022.

**GARDENING UPDATE** - Work is continuing this term to renovate the Woodlands Park school garden so that the children can get growing their own veg in the Spring! Morrison's have started a new incentive to encourage more home growing. Here is a bit of information about how you can help us in school, if you shop at Morrisons, to win some equipment for the school to grow our own produce!

For every £10 you spend (in store or online) at Morrisons, you'll get a Grow Token to help your school get everything they need to get growing. Download the MyMorrisons app today to start collecting Grow Tokens and choose the school you'd like to donate them to. Your chosen school will be able to exchange their Grow Tokens for FREEgardening equipment to get kids growing. <https://my.morrisons.com/blog/community/good-to-grow/>



**COVID** – Please can we remind all parents & carers that if your child shows any symptoms of Covid-19, which include a high temperature, a cough or a loss of taste, that they are taken to get a PCR test and do not return to school until they receive the results. The results of a PCR test are usually obtained within 24 hours.

**ABSENCE LINE** – Please can you make sure you are calling the school's absence line by 8:50am if your child is not going to be attending school, leaving the full reason for their absence. We ask that you leave a message **every day** when your child will not be in school, unless they have a positive PCR Covid-19 test that you have already made us aware of.

**PARENTPAY** – Please can we remind all Parents/Carers to ensure you keep your ParentPay accounts in credit and out of debt so that your child's school meal can be ordered without any problems. Please can all Foundation parents activate their account using the details sent home. If you have any problems please contact the school office.

**OTHER INFORMATION** – Please can you ensure your child comes to school with a coat **every day** due to the changing weather we will be experiencing over the next few months. Please also make sure you check the school's website to see all copies of our letters and newsletters, as well as term dates and the school calendar. You can also find the school meals menu on our website too, just follow this link: <https://www.woodlandspark.devon.sch.uk/>

**HARVEST FESTIVAL** – This year we are pleased to be able to hold our traditional Harvest Festival with a whole school assembly. On **Friday 15 October**, we will be celebrating and creating food hampers with items for Ivybridge Food Bank. Please hand any items you have to your child's class teacher on this day. Out of date products will not be accepted, so please check before sending them in. The Food Bank have been generously supplied with pasta, beans, tinned meat & fish, tinned pulses/beans, tea and pasta sauce, so due to limited storage, they are unable to keep any more stored. They have therefore asked if we could please refrain from sending those items to them but would gratefully receive anything from the following list.



Harvest items this year include: **packets of dried mash potato/instant mash, fruit juice, sponge pudding, custard, tinned spaghetti, chocolate/sweet treats, crisps, tinned fruit/veg/potatoes and rice pudding.**

## DIARY DATES

### October 2021

Monday 4 October

Parent Consultations  
No clubs during this week  
Year 6 Bikeability week

Thursday 7 October

School Census Day – Menu Change

Monday 11 October

WPFA Coffee Morning in hall for Foundation & Year 1 parents

Thursday 21 October

Tempest Photographs – Individual & Siblings

Friday 22 October

Non Pupil Day - Autumn Half Term begins

### November 2021

Monday 1 November

First day of the second half of the Autumn Term  
Clubs restart

Monday 29 November

Flu Vaccinations – Whole School

### December 2021

Thursday 16 December

Last day of the Autumn Term

Friday 17 December

Occasional Day (Christmas half term begins)

