



Westbourne
Woodside
Telford
TF7 5QW

Tel: 01952 388280

"To be the best we can be"

Head Teacher: Miss Julie Marriott
Chair of Governors: Mrs Jane Tranter

williamreynoldsprimary.org

Newsletter December 2021



Congratulations to Miss Burrows & Mr Walters on the birth of Alfie & Freddie

Dear Parents, Carers and Governors,

COVID-19

Following on from the Government announcement about the Omicron variant of COVID-19, we have made these changes: all staff to wear face masks in communal areas outside of their classroom area, no assemblies for the rest of the term, use of CO2 monitors to ensure good ventilation in the classrooms, enhanced cleaning and regular hand washing. Thank you once again for all your support to keep the numbers in our school as low as possible for COVID-19. We are really grateful to you for ensuring your children take LFT or PCR tests and letting us know if your child has any symptoms. We had a couple of cases in our Sparkler room over the last two weeks so they moved to 'stepped up measures' which means working in a bubble - all pupils have now had a PCR test and have either returned to school or are resting at home. We have had 3 staff & 7 children this month who have tested positive. Please continue to be vigilant. Face masks do not need to be worn outside at the moment but you are of course very welcome to wear one if you prefer.

New Reception school applications for September 2022

The Reception deadline for applying for a Reception place for your child 2022 is 15th January 2022. If you don't have a computer or email address, please see Mrs Waters in the office for help.



https://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20026/school_admissions/14/starting_school

Thank you

Thank you to all parents who joined us for the parent/teacher consultations.

I know there are still some meetings planned, if parents were unable to see teachers on the set days.

Here are the collated results from the completed questionnaires. 272 questionnaires were returned.

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1	My child is happy and likes school	212 78%	57 21%	3 1%	
2	My child feels safe at school	221 81%	51 19%		
3	My child feels that they can join all activities at school	212 78%	58 21%	2 1%	
4	Children behave well at school	188 69%	81 30%	3 1%	
5	I feel comfortable in approaching the school with questions or a problem or a worry	237 87%	35 13%		
6	The school sets clear targets for my child	231 85%	40 14%	1 1%	
7	My child is given support to achieve well at school	227 83%	44 16%	1 1%	
8	I am kept informed about how well my child has worked towards achieving their targets	217 80%	54 19%	1 1%	
9	Staff expect my child to work hard and do his or her best	230 85%	42 15%		
10	Staff encourage my child to become mature and independent	229 84%	43 16%		
11	My child is making good progress	226 83%	45 16%	1 1%	
12	My child has regular homework	228 84%	39 14%	5 2%	

Miss Shankland, who is in charge of our RSE curriculum, will be collating the information from the questions we asked about Relationships and Health Education. From this we will be able to inform you more about areas you are unsure about.

Relationships and Health Education (RHE)

We want all children to grow up healthy, happy, safe and able to manage the challenges and opportunities of modern Britain. Therefore, all primary age children will be taught Relationships and Health Education.

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
I think RHE education is an important part of the school curriculum	219 90%	6 2%	17 8%
RHE topics taught in school can make a real difference to young people's lives	217 90%	2 1%	21 9%
I feel happy to talk with my child about growing up and relationships	227 94%	5 2%	9 4%
I understand and agree with the content of the RHE curriculum	200 82%	11 5%	32 13%
I am aware of the topics that will be covered by RHE sessions at William Reynolds	192 79%	21 9%	29 12%

Christmas

Christmas videos

All year groups are working hard to produce a Christmas video to be put on our school website - hopefully in the last week of term! KS1 will be doing a nativity for us and all other year groups have been asked to produce a small Christmas performance - just like last year.



The Christmas Parties

All parties will be held during the afternoon of the week beginning 13th December. There will be an opportunity for the children to play some traditional party games and to eat some food at their party.

We ask that you provide a prepared plate of party food for your child. This needs to be labelled with their name. Remember **not too much** as the children will have eaten at lunchtime!

School will provide drinks and prizes for games.

Children will need to wear their uniform in the morning as usual and they can then bring a change of clothing for the afternoon. Please see in the dates for your diary section for all of the parties.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch will be on Wednesday 8th December. A menu is attached with the email.



Christmas Jumper Day

On **Friday 10th December**, it doesn't matter where you are - on Christmas Jumper Day all you need to do is get your silliest jumper out, or wear red or green and give £1 to Save the Children.



Year 6 Blists Hill Visit

Year 6 visited Blists Hill Open Air Museum to understand what life was like during the Industrial Revolution. The children were lucky (or unlucky) enough to take part in a Victoria School Lesson where they concentrated hard on their 3 R's or faced the wrath of the strict school teacher. There were many trade workshops to look around, and we tried our hand at candle dipping while understanding the importance of these

in an age without electrical lighting. We were also warned not to pick up, or use any green candles outside of the mine or we could be prosecuted as thieves and lose our jobs!



After walking around the many shops that sold the essentials, and of course the sweet shop, we noticed some smoke and steam near the canal. Fortunately, we saw an original steam engine built with the sponsorship money of William Reynolds. It was still in working order, and the driver showed us how it was stoked and how it could run at 10 miles an hour - much faster than a horse and cart. Because of this

small engine, other more powerful steam engines were manufactured and literally powered the Industrial Revolution. This was partly the reason that Ironbridge became known as the Birthplace of Industry.



A massive 'thank you' for your kind donations in difficult times. We still managed to raise £275.00 - well done!

Safer & Stronger Communities Project & Parliament Week

The Safer and Stronger Communities Project at our school on 7th October 2021 was well attended by parents, pupils and local residents. We understand that the project has been set up by our local council and the police, who are investing money in our area to help residents feel safer in their homes and the community by reducing anti-social behaviour.

As a School Council, they recognised the importance of making our local area a safer place to live, with a strong community working together to provide a positive future for all those who live here.

After the event had taken place at school, we met as a School Council and collaborated with our classes to come up with lots of ideas that would improve the area in which we live.



UK Parliament Week took place from 1st - 7th November 2021. During the week, we involved our whole school community in our work on Democracy. Voting slips were created using the ideas from classes. A ballot box was taken to every class across school by our Year 6 School Councillors so that all children could vote for the idea, which they felt would make the community safer and stronger.

Year ____		Base ____	
What needs to happen to make Woodside safer?	Mark with an X	What needs to happen to improve the local community?	Mark with an X
Pedestrian only area outside school		A community library	
Speed Camerads/lower speed limits		A fruit shop	
Volunteers on the streets		Free community breakfast club - school holidays	
More litter and recycle bins		Free community activities for children	
Safer crossings close to school		More picnic tables in the community	
Free self-defence classes for adults and children		More parks	
Road safety talks for schools		Care for the elderly	
Wear masks when walking around		Local police station in Woodside	
CCTV cameras at all local parks		Clubs for teenagers	
More police and CSOs on the streets		Safety checks on park equipment	
All children to wear safety helmets		Barriers on paths - to stop bikes/scooters going fast	
Cut trees and hedges		Plant more plants and trees	
Footpath on Westbourne		Community events - charity events/local events	
More street lighting		Electric car charging points	
Luminous paint on cycle paths		Solar panels on community buildings	

After the process had taken place, Year 5 and Year 6 School Councillors recorded the votes so that we could see which ideas were most popular.

On Friday 5th November, Lucy Allan, our Member of Parliament for Telford, visited our school to attend our School Council meeting. After speaking with Lucy, we decided to share the results of our voting process and ensure our voices were heard by key people involved in the project.

Although our school council understand that they are not at an age where they can legally vote in local or national elections, they strongly believe our ideas are important and want to contribute these. As young people today, our children will become the adults of the future and we feel it is important for them to have a say in the improvements being made locally.



The pupils results for making Woodside Safer:

Speed Cameras/Lower Speed Limits

This was the most popular choice. Even though Woodside has speed bumps around the perimeter of the estate, local roads do not always have pavements and cars often speed up and down. This is extremely dangerous, as children do not have safe places to walk especially on Westbourne, as they approach school. Our walk to school could be made even safer, if there were road signs alerting drivers to slow down. If lower speed restrictions were also put in place on all roads that lead off from the perimeter road, we would all feel much safer.

Free Self-Defence Classes for Adults and Children

After speaking to our classes, we found that many children did not feel safe in the local area. There were many reasons for this: poor street lighting, overgrown secluded areas, youths loitering around the area and not enough CCTV. Being taught how to defend themselves would help residents to worry less about going out in the local community - it would also provide an activity that would help residents form relationships in the local community.

More Litter and Recycle Bins

For such a large community, there are not enough litter bins and recycling areas. We care about our local area and do not like to see litter discarded on the ground. We also feel strongly about recycling as recycling saves energy, reduces gas emissions and helps to conserve our environment for future generations. We regularly see recyclable materials in normal litter bins and believe that if more recycling bins were provided, it would encourage local people to think about where and how they discard their rubbish.

CCTV Cameras at all Local Parks

As we spoke with our classes, it was sad to find out that lots of children did not feel safe going to play in any of the local parks. They feel frightened about the risks they face, as there are often teenagers hanging around because there are not many places for them to visit in the local community and the areas where parks are located, are often secluded and poorly lit. Having CCTV installed in these areas, would help children to feel safer and reassure parents too. CCTV would help to tackle anti-social behaviour in the Woodside area. It could also be installed more widely across the area to help people feel safe on pathways around the estate.

More Police and CSO's on the streets

Improving policing in the local area, would help us all feel safer. If more CCTV was installed and monitored, anti-social behaviour could be quickly acted upon by the local police team.

Our Results for Improving the Local Community:

More Parks

This was the most popular choice, even though Woodside already has a number of parks that children and young people can visit. Many children believed that the parks in Woodside were unsafe due to their location, lack of CCTV and poor lighting. Children felt that more needed to be done to improve the safety of local parks or build parks in areas which have improved visibility so anti-social behaviour would be less likely to take place there.

What needs to happen to make Woodside safer?	Total number of Votes
Pedestrian only area outside school	20
Speed Camera's/lower speed limits	46
Volunteers on the streets	13
More litter and recycle bins	37
Safer crossings close to school	20
Free self-defence classes for adults and children	38
Road safety talks for schools	11
Wear masks when walking around	10
CCTV cameras at all local parks	30
More police and CSO's on the streets	29
All children to wear safety helmets	3
Cut trees and hedges	6
Footpath on Westbourne	6
More street lighting	13
Luminous paint on cycle paths	20

What needs to happen to improve the local community?	Total number of Votes
A community library	29
A fruit shop	23
Free community breakfast club - school holidays	25
Free community activities for children	15
More picnic tables in the community	15
More parks	36
Care for the elderly	27
Local police station in Woodside	28
Clubs for teenagers	14
Safety checks on park equipment	7
Barriers on paths - to stop bikes/scooters going fast	17
Plant more plants and trees	20
Community events - charity events/local events	13
Electric car charging points	7
Solar panels on community buildings	11

A Community Library

At our school, reading is at the heart of the curriculum. We have developed our love of reading for pleasure and know the importance of having access to lots of different texts. We have a local library in Madeley but this can be difficult to access, as it is not in short walking distance for all families. Being able to visit a library would give all children and adults a place to visit and share a variety of books in their community. If a building was not available for this, it may be possible for library vans to visit the local community on a regular basis so that children could visit and borrow books using a library card.

Local Police Station

A local police station would be a welcome addition to the area, as there would be an increased police presence, which would help to tackle anti-social behaviour and crime in the locality.

Care for the Elderly

We believe that there should be more opportunities for elderly residents to become involved in the local community in a safe and supported way. Community projects could be organised to ensure all young people respect, support and appreciate the elderly.

Free Community Breakfast Club in the School Holidays

Our children thought that having a breakfast club in holiday time would help lots of families out. This could be delivered through food vans that went from street to street at specific times. It would also allow residents to mix and chat, whilst having a meal together.

The School Councillors have written to local councillors, The Police Commissioner, MPs and even the Queen to explain their views - we are really hoping they will be listened to and their actions implemented.

Attendance

In KS1, Base 6 have won the Best Attendance for KS1 for eight weeks during the autumn term so far - a real achievement! Well done Base 6.

During the first half term, **Base 6 had the highest attendance in the school across the half term!**

In KS2, Base 7 have won the Best Attendance for four weeks during the autumn term so far. In KS2, there are a number of classes that are close to Base 7, with Base 9, Base 11 and Base 14 all winning the Best Attendance for KS2 twice so far this term. Base 11 have won Best Attendance for the last two weeks in a row!



Dates for your diary - we will be entering these dates onto the diary on our website. A copy of all newsletters can be found on the school website. Further details about start times for some of the events will be sent out to you nearer to the date.

Date	Year group	Event
Monday 29 th November to Friday 10 th December	3 & 5	Swimming course - 10 consecutive days
Tuesday 30 th November	All	Families, siblings & individual photographs
Wednesday 8 th December	All	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 10 th December	All	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 13 th December	R & N	Christmas Party
Tuesday 14 th December	1 & 5	Christmas Party
Wednesday 15 th December	3 & 4	Christmas Party
Thursday 16 th December	2 & 6	Christmas Party

End of term Friday 17th December 2021
PD day Tuesday 4th January 2022
Return to school Wednesday 5th January 2022



We want to wish all our families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

