

Climate Change

Willow Class visited the Guildhall in Berwick to watch a show about climate change.

'Don't litter on the beach as it can kill animals' - Hayden

'You shouldn't take seaweed from the beach because the animals need it to live in' - Elora



Science

In Science, Willow Class have been learning about rocks and fossils, we even made a volcano!

'My favourite part was when we passed around the obsidian' - Oscar

'We all liked it when he put the pumice stone into the bucket of water and it floated' - Fleur



Robinwood

Back in September, Year 4 visited Robinwood in Alston, Cumbria on a three day residential. When they were there they took part in lots of different activities including; archery, giant swing, trapeze, zipwire, canoeing, nightline, climbing, crate challenge and piranha pool! At night time there was also a team challenge and hot chocolate before bed! A great time was had by all!



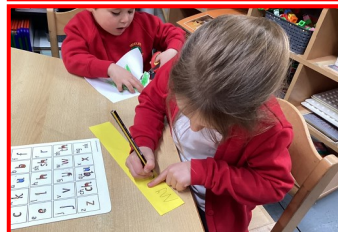
Recycling

Oak Class took part in Recycling Week. We talked about the importance of putting our rubbish in the bin and the benefits of recycling. We took part in a litter pick around the school grounds and also sorted materials that can be recycled.



Thanksgiving

In Oak Class this half term we have also learnt about Thanksgiving. On the day of Thanksgiving, 24th of November, Reggie's mum kindly came in to talk to the children about why and how thanksgiving is celebrated and she shared some lovely picture books with us. At Forest School we played a game of 'Turkey Waddle' using balloons and we also made 'fall' pictures using leaves and pastels. Nursery made pumpkin pie and we got to try it! Also the children wrote what they are thankful for and made turkeys using handprints and model making.



YOGA

This half term Oak Class have taken part in yoga with an instructor. All of the children have listened well, tried hard and enjoyed recreating the poses.



Dog Safety

In Oak Class we had a session this half term about dog safety. The children shared pictures and talked about their own dogs. We talked about what a dog needs and the importance of being kind and gentle to them. Then we learnt about how to approach and stroke dogs in a safe way. We talked about the importance of asking an adult if it is ok to touch an unfamiliar dog and also practised what to do if an out of control dog came running up when they were playing. Miss Symons brought in her dog Charlie for the children to meet and spend some time with.



Design Technology

In design technology this term, Year 1 have been tasting different fruits. The children used a variety of fruits to make pictures and they really enjoyed making a delicious fruit salad. They all had two bowls because it was so tasty!



Yoga

Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed doing Yoga with Rhiannon this term. The children learned lots of yoga poses and were fantastic at balancing.



Stay and Play

On Thursday 15th December Little Acorns and Oak Class hosted an Early Years Stay and Play. This was an opportunity for parents and carers to come and explore our setting with their child and take part in lots of Christmas activities. Thank you to all those who came along; it was lovely to see you.



Forest School clear up

A huge thank you to the parent volunteers and the log bank for all your hard work in getting the forest cleared. Forest school is finally open for our children to enjoy. We will be holding another forest clear up next term and look forward to working with external agencies to plant some trees.

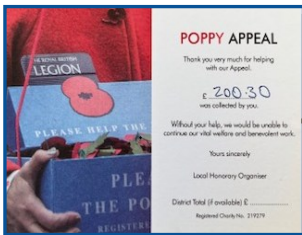


We think the children are pleased to be back at Forest School!



Remembrance

Year 3 & 4 joined GMS in a Remembrance Assembly on Friday 11th November at 11am to mark Armistice Day. We watched the service at the Cenotaph then Year 8 talked about the brave soldiers from Wooler who fought in the war and read us the poem Flanders Field. Fliss from the URC church joined us too and talked about why we remember the brave soldiers.



Oak Class talked about their own memories and then as a class we learnt about who we remember on Remembrance Day. The children created poppies in lots of different ways, weaving them on sticks in the forest and in the classroom using paint, buttons, paper and biscuits! As a class we also had a two minute silence to remember those who have died at war.



Harvest Festival

In preparation for our Harvest Festival this year, Oak, Cherry and Cedar Class visited the URC Church in Wooler. We walked up to Church, met Fliss (the church related community worker) and then she took us into the church. We had a tour of the building and Fliss told us about some of the features. Unfortunately the Harvest Festival did not happen in the church due to the weather but we look forward to visiting again soon.



Berwick Food Bank were very grateful to receive the donations the children brought to school.



Sewing

Year 2 have been sewing their Christmas decorations this half term ready to take home for their tree. John said, "I love doing running stitch!"





Halloween

Halloween Disco

The Halloween disco was a spooktacular success. The children had a wonderful time, dancing and joining in with party games to win prizes.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their Ghoustly Ghoul pizza and Spooky buns cooked by the Wooler Witches!



Pumpkin Competition

The pumpkins were fantastic this year, It was so difficult to choose the winners!

WINNERS

Little Acorns - Henry

Oak - Triston

Cherry - Jude

Cedar - Lucy

Willow - Fleur

Maple - Arthur



We would like to say a huge thank you to both parent helpers and staff who helped make this happen. We couldn't have done it without you! We raised £129.95!



Paige, Isobel, Lily-Jo, Ralphie and Ethan were our Spooktacular costume winners!

Children In Need

On Friday 18th November our 3 settings held a non school uniform day to raise money for Children In Need.

We raised
£264.81.

Thank you!



Christmas Bauble Competition

The PTA held a decorate your own bauble competition. The entries from the children were fantastic! Just look how great they all look on our tree.



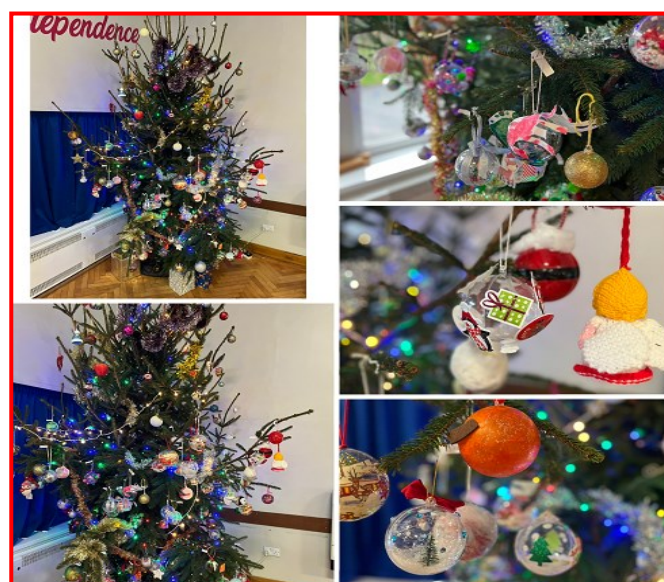
Christmas Cakes

Nursery have been making Christmas cakes to raise money for the PTA.



CONGRATULATIONS
to our
WINNERS!

Well done to Chester (Oak), Arlo (Cherry) Abi (Cedar), Arina (Willow) and Madeleine (Maple)



Thanksgiving

Nursery celebrated Thanksgiving by making pumpkin pie and turkey wreaths as Henry's family celebrate this at home.



Thank you to Mr and Mrs Davidson of Lilburn Estate for donating this Christmas tree to our school.

Christmas Party

Willow class and Maple class had a great time at their Christmas party. They had a special visitor who they were very excited to see.



PTA Christmas Raffle

Thank you again, to everybody who supported our Christmas raffle either by donations or by buying raffle tickets. The hampers look incredible. WFS and GMS raised £744 for the PTA!



The raffle winners are:

1st Prize - Aj, Xmas - Susan, Chocolate - Lauren, Pamper - Karl, Pamper - Ruby, Chocolate - Charlie, Christmas - Madeleine, Breakfast - Geoff, Sweet Treats - Elora, Sweet Treats - Gav and Breakfast - Jane

Christmas Dinner

Children (and staff!) thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas dinner. Thank you to our catering team.



Fliss Barker and her friends from the United Reformed Church in Wooler have been coming into our schools to lead assemblies this term. They have been sharing the Christmas story with the children at both schools. It has been lovely to be able to re-establish these community connections this year and for the children to benefit from these special assemblies again.



Nativity

The children were amazing in their Nativity. They all worked really hard to practise their lines and songs and the singing was fantastic. We are so proud of them all. Well done!





Lisa's little Swimmers

Swimming lessons birth - competent swimmers
Private Lessons 1:1 available

If anyone is interested in joining Lisa's Little Swimmers in February here at the school pool please contact Lisa via email:

lisaslittleswimmers@yahoo.com

Enjoy A Warm Space @ the Cheviot Centre

Monday- Friday 9-5

Warm up, make a cuppa, charge your device, or use the kitchen to make a warm snack.
Stay as long as you wish!



Newspapers, magazines & board games available

For more info
Call 01668 282406
Email
cheviotcentre@wooler.org.uk

Pets welcome!

JOIN US FOR OUR SWIMMING SESSIONS!

- SWIM TOTS**
2-6 year olds
Thursdays from 2pm
Swim coaching tips and advice
45 min session
Tots £2
Adults £3
- PARENT & BABY SESSIONS**
Wednesdays & Fridays from 11am
45 min session
FREE for babies under 2 years
Adults £3
- AQUA FIT**
Wednesdays and Saturdays from 9:15am
30 min session
£8 including scenic & hot drink
£5

Full swim shop on site
Party booking also available on request (26 max capacity)
Call 01668 281447 to book

A charge of £10 applies for all sessions. Bookings are required due to pool capacity which applies to pool activities in both sessions. *Swimming lessons are subject to a pool booking fee of £10 per session. *Swimming lessons are subject to a pool booking fee of £10 per session.

Border Ice Rink Festive Skating Dates



Tues 27th, Wed 28th & Thurs 29th Dec
2.00 - 4.30pm

Monday 2nd & Tues 3rd Jan
2.00 - 4.30pm

Book online at www.bordericerink.co.uk/shop

HSC Public Health
Agency

Do I need to keep my child off school?

Chicken Pox

At least 5 days from onset of rash and until all spots have crusted over

Conjunctivitis

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Diarrhea & /or Vomiting

48 hours from last episode

Respiratory Illness

(e.g. colds & flu)
Can return when no longer have a high temperature and well enough

Glandular Fever

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Hand, foot & mouth

No need to stay off if well enough, but school or nursery should be informed

Impetigo

Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 hours after commencing antibiotics

Head Lice

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Measles

4 days from onset of rash

Mumps

5 days from onset of swelling

German Measles (Rubella)

5 days from onset of rash

Scarlet Fever

24 hours after commencing antibiotics

Scabies

Until after first treatment

Slapped Cheek

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Threadworms

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Tonsillitis

Can return when no longer have a temperature and well enough, school or nursery should be informed

Whooping Cough

48 hours after commencing antibiotics

Use this guide to find out when they should stay off, and when they can go back if they are well enough to do so.

Use this guide to find out when they should stay off, and when they can go back if they are well enough to do so.



Make your own Bird Feeder

Wed 28th December

Cheviot Centre, Wooler, 12-3pm

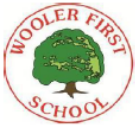
Booking required! Please email Anthea at Anthea@amwoodart.co.uk or text 07876 773006

- Drop in Bird-Feeder workshop for Children
- Families welcome
- Free to attend
- All materials provided
- Take home your bird feeder
- Learn about local bird species

Safeguarding note

Some of our staff recently undertook their first aid refresher training last week and there was an item of note that I feel should be shared with everyone. The course leaders shared that there has been a significant rise in injuries linked to device chargers, particularly in children. This happens when device charging leads (from mobile phones, tablets etc.) are left plugged in and switched on. Children (and pets) have suffered significant burns from the ends of these leads, particularly if they are put in their mouths.





Academic Calendar 2022 – 2023



School Holiday
 Bank Holiday
 Pupil Day
 Training Day

September 2022						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24		
Sun	4	11	18	25		

October 2022						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thu		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

November 2022						
Mon		7	14	21	28	
Tue	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thu	3	10	17	24		
Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	6	13	20	27		

December 2022						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24	31	
Sun	4	11	18	25		

January 2023						
Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tue		3	10	17	24	31
Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thu		5	12	19	26	
Fri		6	13	20	27	
Sat		7	14	21	28	
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	

February 2023						
Mon			6	13	20	27
Tue			7	14	21	28
Wed		1	8	15	22	
Thu		2	9	16	23	
Fri		3	10	17	24	
Sat		4	11	18	25	
Sun		5	12	19	26	

March 2023						
Mon			6	13	20	27
Tue			7	14	21	28
Wed		1	8	15	22	29
Thu		2	9	16	23	30
Fri		3	10	17	24	31
Sat		4	11	18	25	
Sun		5	12	19	26	

April 2023						
Mon		3	10	17	24	
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thu		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

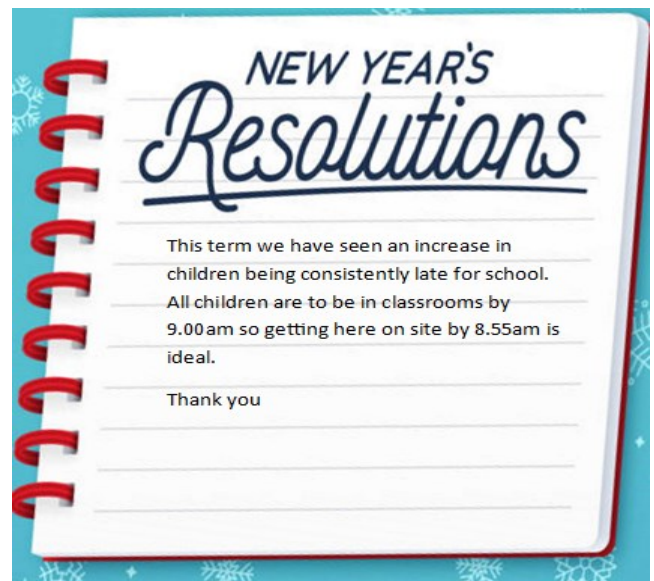
May 2023						
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	
Tue	2	9	16	23	30	
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	
Thu	4	11	18	25		
Fri	5	12	19	26		
Sat	6	13	20	27		
Sun	7	14	21	28		

June 2023						
Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		7	14	21	28	
Thu	1	8	15	22	29	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	
Sat	3	10	17	24		
Sun	4	11	18	25		

July 2023						
Mon		3	10	17	24	31
Tue		4	11	18	25	
Wed		5	12	19	26	
Thu		6	13	20	27	
Fri		7	14	21	28	
Sat	1	8	15	22	29	
Sun	2	9	16	23	30	

August 2023						
Mon		7	14	21	28	
Tue	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thu	3	10	17	24	31	
Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	6	13	20	27		

The Wooler Digital Inclusion Project have kindly donated equipment and £2,500 to our schools following the successful completion of their project. The kit (laptops/tablets/etc.) and a cheque for £2,500 were presented to us in assembly on Monday. We would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to everyone involved in the project for this generous donation to our schools. Our IT technician is already busy setting up the devices on our systems here in school for the children to use at the start of next term and we will be looking at how best to use the money to support the aims of the project in 2023.



Thank you all for your continued support. This term has certainly been a busy one! We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

See you all in 2023.

Wooler First School

The 12 Online Safety Tips of Christmas

FOR CHILDREN WITH NEW DEVICES

Christmas is almost upon us once again, and soon some lucky children will be excitedly tearing the wrapping off a new mobile phone, tablet or games console. For some of them, it will be the first time they've owned a device that connects them to the online world. Even for older children, a new device means new corners of the digital landscape to explore – and, unfortunately, new risks to be aware of.

We've put together our top tips so that you can guide your young ones in enjoying their new digital gifts safely and responsibly throughout the year to come.

Merry Christmas!

1. ALWAYS SET A PASSWORD

If your child's new device has a password protection feature, use it! It'll help to keep their private information safe and will deny others access to their device without permission. Your children's passwords should be something memorable to them – but something which other people can't guess (it's also a good idea for parents to write it down in case it gets forgotten!).

2. SET UP 'PARENTAL CONTROLS'

This really is an essential when your child gets a new device, so they're protected from the outset. Most phones, tablets and consoles allow you to customise their settings to determine which games your child can play, how they can communicate (and who with), what content they can access and so on. It will give you peace of mind that they can't inadvertently do something they shouldn't.

3. PAY ATTENTION TO AGE RATINGS

One of the first things children want to do with any new device is play games and explore apps. Before they download anything or install a new console game, check its age rating. Many popular games and apps have content that's not suitable for younger ages. The safest long-term solution is to adjust the device's settings so they can only download and use games and apps appropriate for their age.

4. KEEP NUMBERS AND DEVICES PRIVATE

Make sure your child understands that they should never share their phone number with someone they don't know or accept a friend request from them. They should also appreciate that it's a good idea to mainly keep their device out of sight, never lend it to a stranger, and never put it down somewhere that other people could steal it or take it to use without asking.

5. HAVE 'THE MONEY CONVERSATION'

Before your children start using their new device in earnest, talk to them about in-app purchases and other ways that money might be spent through their device. Once they understand, you might want to agree on a spending limit and reassure them that they can come to you if they're uncertain, or if they have made a purchase by accident.

6. DISCOURAGE DEVICE DEPENDENCY

Of course, children who've just got a new device will naturally want to spend as much time on it as possible. But whether they're zapping bad guys, watching videos or connecting with friends, it's easy for them to get attached very quickly. Gently remind them that having family time, going outdoors and getting some exercise are still fun, too. And the device will be there when they get back.

7. EXPLAIN SECURE WIFI NETWORKS

Your home WiFi is protected by a password that only your family knows, whereas public networks (like those found in coffee shops, for example) can be accessed by anyone. It's important that your child grasps this difference because, if they're using a portable device on an unsecured network, then a hacker could access their personal information without them even knowing.

8. LIMIT SCREEN TIME

Using a device for too long, especially just before bed, can interfere with a child's sleep quality and reduce their concentration and overall enthusiasm. It might be helpful to agree on certain times of day when they don't use their device. Most devices' settings let you specify a screen-time limit, helping your child to stay fresh and focused in order to perform well at school.

9. ONLY PAIR WITH KNOWN BLUETOOTH DEVICES

Your child may want to connect to another device via Bluetooth, so they can listen to music wirelessly or share pictures and videos with nearby friends. But if they use Bluetooth to link with a device that they don't know, they're at risk of a stranger being able to see their personal information or having someone transmit a virus onto their device.

10. TURN LOCATION SETTINGS OFF

It's safest to disable the device's location services (if it's a portable device) so your child doesn't inadvertently make other people aware of where they are. You can usually do this via the device's privacy control settings. Turning location settings off not only means your child's whereabouts can't be tracked by others, it also significantly extends battery life.

11. STAY AWARE OF THE SURROUNDINGS

It's quite common to see adults not looking where they're going while engrossed in their phone. Children are even more easily distracted. In some cases, children have been hit by cars or cyclists because they were staring at their device and lost track of where they were. Remind your child that screens and walking don't mix. If they need to use their device, they should stop in a safe place first.

12. BE THERE IF THEY NEED TO TALK

Even when you've made a device as secure as you can, there's still a possibility of your child seeing something that bothers them, or someone they don't know attempting to contact them. If this happens, listen to their concerns, empathise and reassure them. Once they've explained what happened, you can decide if you should take further action like blocking or reporting another user.



National
Online
Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday



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Safeguarding

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We are committed to safeguarding and have a culture of 'it could happen here' in all aspects of safeguarding and child protection. **Any of our staff can listen and act appropriately on your concerns.** We have specially trained safeguarding leads in our schools - these are our safeguarding team.

Our safeguarding team



Mike Deane-Hall
*Headteacher and
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead (DSL)*



Victoria Symons
*Deputy
Headteacher and
Deputy DSL*



Geoff Tong
*Deputy
Headteacher and
Deputy DSL*



Vicki Grey
*Nursery Leader
and Deputy DSL*



Jennie Dunn
*SENDCo and
Deputy DSL*



Rachel Bullen
*SENDCo and
Deputy DSL*



Sarah Milburn
*Designated
Teacher for LAC
and Deputy DSL*

If you are worried about a child you can:

- Contact our safeguarding team via the usual school contact channels including our main phone number 01668 281 470
- Talk to the local safeguarding team 01670 622 720 or One Call, the Local Authority's single point of access on 01670 536400
- If you believe a child is in immediate danger you should call 999 and report your concern immediately to the police.

More information and our policy on safeguarding and child protection can be found on our website.

The following organisations websites can also provide information and their helplines can listen if you have concerns:

- NSPCC 0800 800 500
- CEOP
- Childline 0800 1111