

Happy New Year to all parents and carers,

We have had a calm and purposeful start to the new term, despite rising numbers of positive Covid cases. Several children across school have tested positive, some without symptoms. We hope all affected make a speedy recovery. Thank you to all parents who have been vigilant and used lateral flow tests to check their child's status before sending them into school.

As we move out of the pandemic, and away from strict Covid restrictions, I would like to reassure parents and carers that we will still practise good hygiene behaviours and routines with our children. This includes safe spaces, regular hand washing and increased cleaning.

Masks are no longer mandatory, however as numbers in our immediate vicinity are higher than national averages, staff will continue to wear masks in communal areas. We fully respect parents' individual choice whether they choose to wear a mask or not whilst on the school site.

Thank you once again for all the generous gifts and lovely cards and messages that were received at Christmas. These gifts and kind words are very much appreciated by all staff, especially after such a challenging term (or two).

Kindest regards  
Mrs Hawes.

### BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to all children celebrating their special day!  
We hope you had a lovely day with family and friends.

- Class 1:** Eden and Ivy  
**Class 2:** Noah, Mabel and Morgan  
**Class 3:** George, Stanley and Ryan  
**Class 4:** Cerys, Leah and Harrison



### DONATIONS

A huge thank you for all the wonderful donations recently received. The children are very much enjoying exploring 'new to them' board games and toys. It is wonderful to see developments in their creative imagination and language development as a result.



### SCHOOL UNIFORM



Our children are very often complimented on how smart they look in their school uniform.

Please can I remind all parents and carers that children are expected to come to school in the correct, branded school uniform items, this includes suitable footwear & school PE Kit. For full details of the school's uniform policy, please follow this [link](https://www.motif8.co.uk/schools/primary-schools-s-t/wolviston-primary-school.html). Parents should also be aware that where hair is long enough, all children are expected to tie it back with a plain hair band which is in keeping with the school colours.

<https://www.motif8.co.uk/schools/primary-schools-s-t/wolviston-primary-school.html>

We will hold another pre-loved uniform sale next half term where items of gently used items will be available, for a small donation to school funds.

Important  
Dates

**PDDAY/School Closed:** 18<sup>th</sup> February  
**Spring Half term:** 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> February  
**PDDAY/School Closed:** 28<sup>th</sup> February  
**Return to School:** 1<sup>st</sup> March  
**Spring Term Ends:** 8<sup>th</sup> April

### CHRISTINGLE

This month our Y5/6 children have been learning of a symbolic object used in many Christian denominations. The Christingle reminds Christians of different elements of their faith. Children in Class 4 constructed their own Christingle and particularly enjoyed lighting the candles, pausing for a moment in silence, to create an awe and wonder moment.



### THANK YOU FROM MYANMAR

100% of our fortnightly Tuckshop takings is sent to our partner school in Myanmar.

The staff and pupils of the school are very grateful for our regular donation.

Huge thanks to our sponsor,

**M. Williamson and Workflow Services** and the children who run and attend the Tuck Shop for making this possible.



The donations make a huge difference to the children living in difficult circumstances. Tuck shops runs every other Friday. Children can bring 50p into school for a drink and snack.

## BUDDY BENCH

School Council have been talking about well-being and mental health. They came up with the idea of a Buddy Bench where children can sit if they need someone to talk to. Children were asked to submit their imaginative designs which would fill the bench with joy and happiness. Many creative designs were received, so many in fact that School Council couldn't decide on just one overall winner, so two designs were chosen.



Well done to Ivy (YR) and Olivia (Y6) who will see their creative designs painted onto the benches by our lovely gardeners.

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Children in Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4 and Y5 will bring their new targets home with them soon. (They'll be in their book bag) Please speak to your child about each target and if there is anything you want to discuss with their class teacher please contact them via Seesaw.



## PUPIL QUESTIONNAIRE

School Council have devised a pupil voice questionnaire that will be sent home with your child. Please return by Friday 11th February. Thank you.

## BEAT THE STREET

We are excited to launch a new initiative called **Beat the Street**, which promotes increased levels of activity and aims to improve our mental and physical well-being. Using game cards, children, and adults tap card readers placed on lamp posts and street furniture around the Stockton on Tees area to gain points for their journeys. Data from the card is then displayed on the Beat the Street website where leader boards containing school, workplace and community team information can be viewed. The Beat the Street game takes place over a 6-week period across the entire Borough. We are holding a special assembly to introduce this initiative.



## CHINESE NEW YEAR



Communities across China and the rest of the world traditionally celebrate the start of the Chinese New Year with a 15-day celebration. Through a range of exciting projects and activities, children across school will learn about China in more detail including; traditions, celebrations and customs.



On **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February** (last day of this half term) we are holding a '**Break the Rules**' day. For a small donation, children may for one day only, bring juice in their water bottle, choose where to sit in their classroom, bring an unhealthy snack instead of fruit and wear brightly coloured accessories. More information will follow.

## ROBLOX WARNING

There have been recent reports about harmful sexualised content on the gaming platform, Roblox. The latest reports outline worrying accounts of younger children being sent 'friend requests' from strangers, virtual online dating (OD'ing) and exposure to sexualised content, with in-game characters imitating sexual acts.



I am aware that Roblox is a popular game played by many of our children across school. Roblox has a PEGI rating of 7+ in the UK. The Roblox App has a rating of 'Everyone 10+' on Google Play Store and 12+ on the Apple App Store. The platform's Terms of Use say that users under the age of 18 require parental consent.