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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

by Mr Rosser

I am delighted to share that following a very successful recruitment campaign, we are now fully staffed for teaching positions for September 2022 which is a fantastic position to be in !

In September we will have reached capacity for both staff and learners with every year group full. I feel honoured to have watched our school grow each year and I am extremely proud of what we have achieved together.

As you will be aware it is Mental Health Awareness week and I am thrilled that this week we have appointed a Mental Health Nurse and a School Counsellor to join our wellbeing team.

I look forward to sharing details about our new staff in the coming months.

As ever, thank you for your support and I wish all our families a restful half term break.



Mr Rosser and Alfie, Wellbeing Dog

UNIFORM

by Mrs O'Toole

We are excited to launch the new uniform shop "School Colours Direct" on 1st February

- Orders can be placed via the link on our website and items are usually despatched to your home or work address within 3 days.
- When using the site for the first time Parents/Carers will need to register a New Account.
- Orders over £50.00 qualify for free delivery. There will be a delivery charge of £4.50 for orders under £50.00.
- No stock items will be kept at school (apart from Ties and PE Socks).
- Any queries regarding orders can be emailed to the suppliers: enquiries@schoolcoloursdirect.co.uk please remember to quote the "school name" along with the name on the order and the order number.
- If you qualify for pupil premium discount please contact the office



MUFTI-DAY

by Mr Cowdell

On Friday 17th December the school held a mufti-day to raise money for the Children's Ward at Northampton General Hospital.

The school raised a fantastic £1,231.70.

The money raised went to buy presents and gifts to those children who were in hospital over the Christmas period. A tremendous effort from all!



SCHOOL LETTINGS

We have multiple room hire opportunities within the school including the main hall, sports hall, outdoor MUGA, dance and drama studio. All rooms are £30.00p/h.

For any enquiries please contact m.vakani@woottonparkschool.org.uk

BOOK OF THE MONTH

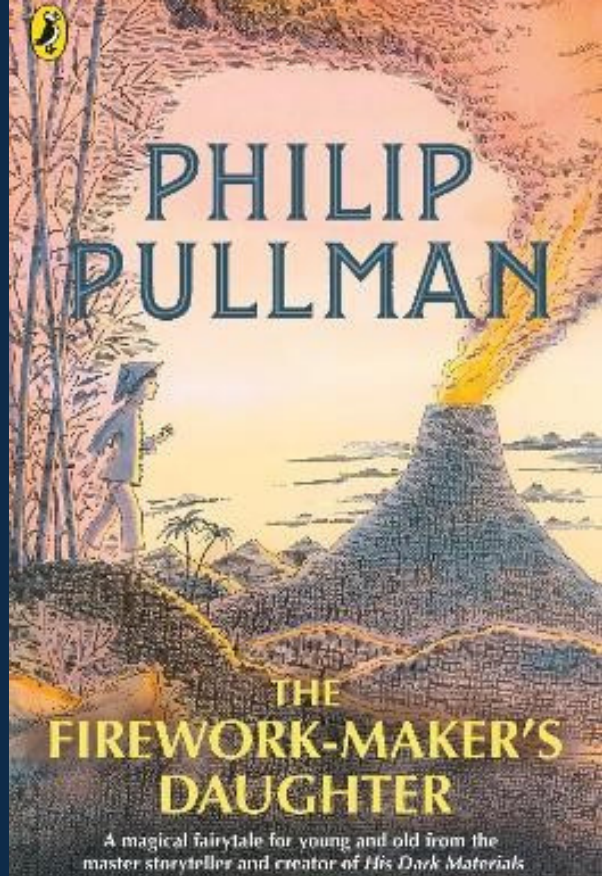
by Miss Brough

The Firework Maker's Daughter by Phillip Pullman

This month's book of the month is actually a new addition to our Knowledge Hub, though it is an all-time classic.

"Firework-Maker's Daughter" takes place in a surreal world that has Chinese, Indian and fairy tale influences. Lila is the firework maker's daughter who dreams of following in her father's footsteps while he thinks she needs to concentrate on finding a husband. Her father has held back the knowledge of the journey every firework maker must make before they become a true firework-maker. Lila is furious at that her father doesn't trust her enough to tell her. Against her father's wishes she journeys to fulfil her dream.

The story follows as Lila undertakes an epic journey filled with bravery in search of the Fire Fiend. A quick, adventurous read with a strong message about having total belief in yourself. This book is recommended for anyone aged 8 and up looking for a gripping read.



PARENT REMINDERS

by Front Office

Parking & Drop Off

Our learners' safety is of paramount importance please be reminded to use the pavilion car park. This is the correct and safest place so please ensure that this is used at all times. There is ample capacity for all parents to drop off and collect quickly and safely. Please be mindful of all our emergency services neighbours, learners should not be let out of cars down by the ambulance station traffic lights. We have also been informed of a handful of learners who are walking home and crossing the queen Eleanor roundabout and not using the underpasses/dedicated walkway. Please be kind and courteous, we are all role models to our learners, please also remind your children of road safety and to keep to the safest route.

Expired Medication

Reminder emails will have been sent for learners who's medication held in school has now expired. Please get in touch to advise us if your child no longer requires medication to be kept at school or if you wish to bring in date medication to us.

Planned Absences

If your child requires time off school please ensure a leave of absence form is completed and returned into reception for approval. Where possible we do request that appointments are taken outside of school times. Please ensure that a Request for Absence form is completed before taking your child out of school. These can be collected from the school office or downloaded from our website.

Ice Packs

Please can any Ice Packs that have made their way home from school please be returned at your earliest convenience.

Reval Machine

Due to ongoing COVID restraints with the management and processing of cash collections from school please be advised that we are working towards a "cashless" school and as so the current revale machine located in the catering hall will no longer be in use at the end of this term (11.02.2022) All lunch/dinner monies for secondary learners can be uploaded via your ParentPay account. For those parents who have not yet activated their ParentPay account please contact the office for your login codes.



PRIMARY PLAY LEADERS

by Miss Bennett

On Friday 7th January a group of 20 year 5 learners completed a day of leadership training with Dan from Pacesetters. Their training involved a combination of theory based learning and practical games and activities.

Since the training, the Play Leaders have set up a rota to lead activities for younger learners on the playground at lunchtimes.

It is great to see the Play Leaders demonstrating such brilliant leadership skills – they are becoming brilliant role models within the school.

CROSS COUNTRY

by Miss Bennett

We would like to say a big well done to all of our learners who competed in the County Cross Country Championships last weekend.

We are really proud of all of their achievements. Special mentions go to Orla (year 8) and Thomas (year 5) who did particularly well.

Orla came 2nd and Thomas came 8th in their respective races, with both of them progressing to the Nationals. Good luck!



WHEN I GROW UP

by Mrs Green

On Wednesday 19th January our EYFS learners came into school dressed as what they would like to be when they grow up.

Our classrooms were filled with budding artists, doctors, fire fighters, vets and footballers! We even had a future teacher of MFL, inspired by our very own Mr Kilcoyne!

Learners showed off their costumes whilst stomping down the 'careers catwalk' and completed lots of themed activities. A special thanks to parents and staff who sent in videos and objects linked to their careers.

We enjoyed learning about the role of a Software Engineer, Dental Nurse, Doggy Day Carer, Photographer, Charity Support Worker and Pizza Chef! Our little learners were certainly inspired to dream BIG!

DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

by Mrs Jeffery & Mr Williams

We have been busy setting up our brand new Instagram page for the D&T department. This is an opportunity for us to showcase all the wonderful work going on within the department including Systems & Control, Food & Nutrition and Graphics.

Please do give us a follow by clicking the link: https://www.instagram.com/dt_wps/ or search dt_wps. We also have a long-standing Twitter page which can be found at: <https://twitter.com/DTWPS3>.

We will be regularly updating our pages with pictures of learners' work and department projects as well as enrichment activities.



DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY
WOOTTON PARK



NORTHAMPTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB – OFFICIAL PARTNER SCHOOL

We are very excited to announce that Wootton Park is now recognised as a Northampton Town FC official partner school. We will be working closely with the club and they will be providing us with a whole heap of benefits, such as free tickets to matches, a stadium tour, a player visit and free NTFC memberships for under 11's (to name just a few!). We have also arranged for them to run a 'Take Over' day in June where they will run sport and healthy living sessions to our learners – more information to follow nearer the time.

Planet Super League

Northampton Town FC are currently promoting the Planet Super leagues Schools VS Climate Action Competition. It is a national school competition, to take climate action. Planet Super League works in partnership with more than 50 professional football clubs to help promote climate action (you don't have to be a football fan to get involved). Schools vs. Climate Change is an online competition where children, teachers, families and stakeholders of the school compete against other schools in a fun, online competition to see who can score the most 'green goals'.

Green goals are scored by completing a variety of activities, which can be completed as an individual, as a class or at home to inspire changes that, collectively, can have a big impact on the planet as well as scoring goals for our school to become the School vs. Climate Change champions. There are activities across several categories, some educational, some fun, some impactful and others simple and effective everyday behaviour changes. Parent/Carers can sign learners up for this competition for free at planetsuperleague.com.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Uta Rautenberg, Head of Sixth Form, for her PHD!

Dr Rautenberg's thesis, entitled 'Homophobia in Nazi Camps', was completed at the History Department, University of Warwick. The thesis broadly examines the intersection of the history of the Holocaust, the history of Nazi Germany and the history of sexuality.

Dr Rautenberg sought to deepen our understanding of everyday life in the camps and the prisoner society, using sexuality and homophobia as a lens. She successfully defended her thesis with no corrections in her 'viva voce'/oral examination on the 16 December 2021.

Congratulations Dr Rautenberg!



ENCHANTED LEARNING AT WOOTTON PARK

by Mr Williams

The Project: Wootton Woodlands

D&T learners were introduced to a Creative Big Project, which empowered them to design, manufacture and program micro controllers to create a fun and enriching learning environment for Early Years, as part of the school's Immersive Primary Curriculum. The enchanted Woodland aims to encourage young learner's reading interest and skills through imagination by providing endless opportunities for exploration and interaction.

The projects provided our D&T learners plenty of opportunity for shared learning, group problem solving, and innovative thinking through Learner Leadership and connecting to one another through a shared creative experience.

"As a group of learners, we wanted to create an enchanted woodland, with named characters and back stories."

These would allow further development of children's book based around the wise old oak tree called Arbor.

External sponsorship was secured which allowed for a substantial investment in Arduino and robotic equipment, modelling boards, faux shrubbery and a Promethean Interactive Screen. Design concepts for the learning environment were submitted to SLT for approval.

Learners were divided into different teams:

- Designers, sculptors for fabricating the tree, wishing well and stoned walls.
- CAD/CAM engineers for modelling and 3D printing the parts. This included Mechanisms for the mouth and eye movements were explored by the learners.
- Electronic engineers, they programmed using Arduino Uno boards, so that when learners came into the woodland, a PIR sensor would trigger the servos within the animals and within the tree, a servo would control a linkage so that the eyes moved left to right.
- The mouth was connected by wire to a pulley so that it would move when talking.
- The story of a Arbor is written and read by our very own Mr Cooper.
- These sound files are played by a Bluetooth speaker, with the sound files stored on a SD card.

The project also provides career opportunities by establishing links with a local Carpentry and joinery firm, and building career aspirations in set design, story telling, robotics, electrical engineering, software engineering, marketing, product design.

The Enchanted Woodlands will continue to be developed, with the publication of a pilot book Wootton Woodlands- the story of an Acorn. This will also be animated, and produced in school as a podcast.



PERFORMING ARTS ACADEMY

by Mrs Quin

Wootton Park Schools very own Performing Arts Academy have finished off another term by performing extracts from Les Miserables, Hamilton and shown off their skills in drama, dance and music with solo pieces. Feel free to watch their video on the Expressive Arts Twitter page!

Well done to Mia and Max for being the very first members to receive their Performing Arts Ambassador (Bronze) Awards.



BIKEABILITY: CYCLE PROFICIENCY COURSE

by Miss Bennett

We have Outspoken Training, a local cycle training provider, coming to Wootton Park to run the Bikeability Level 1 Cycle Training course on Tuesday 12th April.

The Level 1 course for schools is specifically designed for children in Year 3 and 4 who want to start to make off-road trips by bike. The Level 1 course is for learners who can already ride a bike without stabilisers, and is designed to equip cyclists with the knowledge, skill, and experience to make a journey safely and confidently by bike.

If your child is in year 3/4, you can book their place using the link below. Places will be offered on a first come, first served basis

(booking deadline is Wednesday 16th February):

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HPQIAJ8lMUG9Dsn018M74BPYs2PcVilIhhzcP0ONQMlUMEFVQkRXRFJJ0Ew2SFk4WUVRUEJCWEVUVC4u)

[id=HPQIAJ8lMUG9Dsn018M74BPYs2PcVilIhhzcP0ONQMlUMEFVQkRXRFJJ0Ew2SFk4WUVRUEJCWEVUVC4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=HPQIAJ8lMUG9Dsn018M74BPYs2PcVilIhhzcP0ONQMlUMEFVQkRXRFJJ0Ew2SFk4WUVRUEJCWEVUVC4u)

If you have any questions, please contact Miss Bennett on a.bennett@woottonparkschool.org.uk

