

# Woodburn News



October 2023

## Primary 7 Vice and House Captains

We are very proud of all pupils who put themselves forward to be a House Captain. They demonstrated their Woodburn Learning Skills, working hard on their manifestos and speeches. After a whole school vote, we would like to say congratulations to the winning candidates:

House	Captain	Vice Captain
<b>Buccleuch</b>	 Ava McPhee	 Ellie Wright
<b>Glenesk</b>	 Arran Campbell	 Katie O'Malley
<b>Lothian</b>	 Kaitlyn Clark	 Amelie McBeth
<b>Melville</b>	 Josh Johnston	 Ava Costello

These children will act as role models to all children within Woodburn Primary School, working hard to positively encourage every member of their house team to follow the school expectations and promote our school values. The children will have the chance to take on different responsibilities.

## **Staffing Update**

Mrs Lynne Kelly, who currently has responsibility for a Primary 4 class will be leaving Woodburn at the October break to take on the post of Depute Head Teacher at Danderhall Primary School. She would like all children and families to know that, although she is looking forward to starting in her new post, she will miss our Woodburn community very much, and would like to thank you all for your support throughout her many years at Wood burn Primary School.

Mrs Kelly's post is currently advertised. Unfortunately, the person we thought would cover the vacancy until the successful candidate is in place is now unable to commit. We will notify this class as soon as we have arrangements confirmed.

Mrs Kelly has been at Woodburn for 16 years, most recently as a Principal Teacher and last year as Acting Depute Head Teacher. During her time at Woodburn, Mrs Kelly has been fully committed to our children, staff, families and the wider community. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her and wish her all the best for the future.

We also have upcoming staffing changes in Primary 2 and Primary 3.

Mrs Martha Davis, currently in Primary 2 is expecting a baby. She will be going on maternity leave at the start of December. Mrs Haig, who knows many of the children well, will be taking over joint responsibility for the class when she returns from the 20th November which allows for a smooth transition for the children. Mrs Haig will take the class until February 2024 when the post will be advertised.

Mrs Linzi Hamilton, currently in Primary 3 is also expecting a baby. She will be going on maternity leave in 2024. At the moment, the plan is for Miss Kimberley Anderson, who knows many of the children well, to take over joint responsibility for the class when she returns to Woodburn in January 2024.

Arranging staffing can be challenging, particularly in such a big school. We will ensure that children in these classes are well prepared for upcoming changes this school year.

## **Rights Respecting Schools**

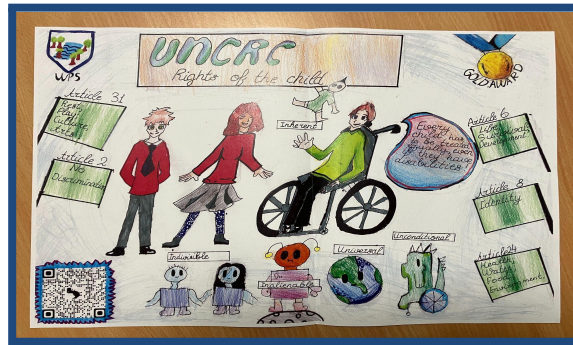


Our steering group have been busy preparing for our visit from Gerrie McMurtrie, in November, when we hope to be awarded our Reaccreditation of being a Gold Rights Respecting School. The Steering group have conducted 'walkthroughs' to look at Class Charters and identify our Successes and Next Steps to ensure Children's Rights continue to be embedded in all aspects of school life and learning. The group will feedback their evidence to the whole school during assemblies.



All children and Staff have completed our yearly RRSA questionnaires and we have responded to what the data evidenced, by checking in with individuals. We asked our Q.I Elves to gather further evidence to support how we can improve our experiences for all children in the playground, whilst our extension is being built.

We are currently in consultation with a printing company to make our 'Woodburn Rights Respecting' poster design into a large banner to be displayed around our school.



### Ready to Learn and Play

The procedures we have in place at Woodburn Primary School to support children's 'Readiness to Learn and Play', are underpinned by our school Vision, Values and Aims. While we recognise that the vast majority of children are 'Ready to Learn and Play', like all schools, we experience low level inappropriate behaviour and on occasion more challenging behaviours from children experiencing particular difficulties. Procedures and guidance support children's 'Readiness to Learn and Play' ensuring:

- Adults have positive, nurturing and supportive relationships with children.
- Expectations for how adults and children behave towards one another and children behave towards one another, are understood.
- Barriers to learning and play are addressed and children with ASN are supported.
- Nurturing approaches support all children well and those requiring specific interventions are identified and receive the required support.
- Children know how to seek support from key adults in school. Children can identify their Trusted Adult.
- When there are specific difficulties school staff work together with parents/carers and other professionals.

Please see attached our Ready to Learn and Play Policy for your information.

We hope you all enjoy a lovely October holiday. We look forward to seeing the children again on Tuesday 24th October 2023.