

## Termly Newsletter (Term 1)

### Welcome Back!

It has been lovely to welcome all our families back, and to meet new families this week after the summer break. The children have settled really well into their new classrooms, learning new routines and the teachers have been getting to know their new classes.

We are pleased to share our priority areas for this academic year.



These have been written using lots of information from the last academic year including feedback from parental and pupil voice as well as school data. Within these priorities there will be projects led by senior staff to include:

- Our anti bullying approach (launch during anti bullying week in November)
- Review our communication processes to ensure the community is kept fully informed
- A strong focus on developing pupil's oracy
- Improving the outdoor environment including more activities during playtimes to build on the playpod resource
- Improving our extracurricular offer
- Revise our home learning approach

In each newsletter we will focus on one priority area throughout the year.

### Term 1 Focus: Every Child Has a Voice (Oracy)

In order to build children's confidence and help them do even better in school, we're really focusing on oracy, which is simply the art of speaking (or communicating non verbally e.g. through sign language, visuals etc) and listening well. We're creating lots of opportunities for children to talk and share their ideas. For example, they might take part in a classroom debate, work in small groups to solve a problem, or present an idea or project to the class. This isn't just about being good at public speaking; it's about helping them to think more clearly. When they have to explain their thoughts out loud, they understand the topic better themselves. We give them tools like sentence starters and specific rules for talking, which helps even the shyest children feel confident enough to join in. By practicing these skills, they not only become more self-assured but also improve their reading,

writing, and overall learning, setting them up for success now and in the future.

### What is Happening in the Classrooms?

This term, all year groups are embarking on exciting new curriculum themes. Your children are already showing great enthusiasm for topics like 'I am Warrior!', 'Dear Diary', and 'Tribal Tales'.

Each of these themes is driven by history, providing children with the opportunity to learn about the past and even pre-history. This approach not only makes learning engaging but also provides a deeper understanding of the world around them.

To support our school-wide focus on oracy (speaking and listening skills), staff are planning activities which support learning through discussion, including debates and collaborative conversations.

To help you talk with your child about their learning, we will be sharing knowledge organisers on ClassDojo. We encourage you to use these to guide your conversations at home.

### Harvest

Our Harvest Assemblies will be held on 21st October. We are proud to be collecting for North Bristol & South Glos Foodbank during that week. We will send information out about what you can donate nearer the time. KS1 Parents are invited to join us at 2.30pm and KS2 at 9.15am. Entry to this will be via the Breakfast Club doors. Please note there will be one space for each family.

### Statutory Data 2024/2025

Assessment	School Result	National Result
Early Years Foundation Stage	76%	69%
Phonics Screening Check Yr1	79%	80%
Phonics at end of Yr 2	93%	91%
Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) Scoring 100%	55%	38%
KS2 Reading	70%	75%
KS2 Writing	62%	72%
KS2 Maths	70%	74%
KS2 Reading, Writing & Maths combined	48%	62%

### Uniform Expectation

Woodlands Primary school requires pupils to wear school uniform. We believe that a school uniform provides a sense of belonging and identity whilst setting an appropriate tone for an education setting. Details of our uniform expectations can be found [here](#).

Please note that the only jewellery which is acceptable is a wrist watch and one pair of small plain gold or silver stud earrings. Any other form of jewellery is not allowed.

## Reception 2026 Open Event 🎉

We are really pleased to share our Reception Open Event on Saturday 27th September at 10.00am for pupils starting Reception. Nursery will also be open for viewing.



# WOODLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Reception Starters 2026

- OPEN DAY SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2025 10AM- 12PM
- BOOKINGS FOR SCHOOL TOURS THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER AT 9:30m AND 1:30PM
- HEADTEACHER TALK THURSDAY 20TH NOVEMBER AT 6PM

Call 01454 866535 to book your place  
More information can be found at [www.woodlandsprimaryate.co.uk](http://www.woodlandsprimaryate.co.uk)



### Safe Travel To and From School

We kindly ask for your cooperation in reinforcing the following safety guidelines with your children, with a special emphasis on the critical topic of "Stranger Danger."

- **Walk with a Buddy:** Encourage your child to walk with a sibling, friend, or a group. There is safety in numbers.
- **Be Aware of Strangers:** Remind your child of the "Stranger Danger" rules. They should never accept rides or gifts from strangers and should immediately report any suspicious behavior to a trusted adult.
- **Use the Pavement:** Teach your child to always walk on the pavement. If there is no pavement, they should walk facing traffic on the side of the road.
- **Look Both Ways:** Remind your child to look left, right, and then left again before crossing any street. They should always use designated crossings.
- **Put Away Distractions:** Advise your child to put away their phone, headphones, and any other distracting devices while walking. Staying alert is crucial for their safety.

### Entry and Exit

Just a reminder about safe entry and exit, if your child rides a scooter or bike, they must push these from the school gates and park them in the designated bike and scooter racks. For the safety of all our families, we cannot permit the riding of bikes and scooters on the playgrounds at these times.

### Staffing News

We are really excited to announce the news that Miss Leach got married over the summer and is now Mrs Davidson!

## Yearly Planner

We have put together the yearly planner which we will share with you next week. This is based on feedback of parents being informed of school events in plenty of time, as we understand how disappointing and frustrating for parents it can be if things are communicated late. We hope that this will be helpful to our families.

## MCAS Updates

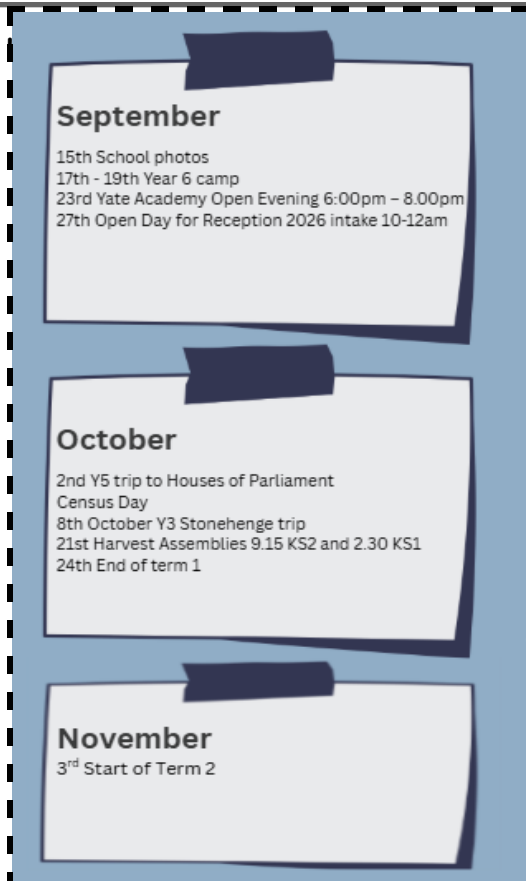
The My Child At School (MCAS) app allows parents to view their child's information from school, including academic reports and school announcements. It also contains essential information such as emergency contacts and addresses.

This app is also used to set your parental permissions for your child in regards to photographs, videos, trips and more. These permissions have recently changed and **we are asking all parents to check that their permissions and contact information is up to date** and accurate. **From the end of next week you will be unable to log in and change these** and instead, parents will need to contact the school office in writing, should there need to be any alterations.

We are looking to enhance our use of MCAS over the term and will be looking to add additional features where you can access more information about your child, such as their behaviour points. We will update you of these changes as they go live.

## Attendance

We are thrilled to share that our attendance is 96.9%. A special shout out to Year 1 and 2 for the highest attendance this week. Thank you for your support in ensuring children arrive on time to school every day.



Month	Events
September	15th School photos 17th - 19th Year 6 camp 23rd Yate Academy Open Evening 6:00pm - 8:00pm 27th Open Day for Reception 2026 intake 10-12am
October	2nd Y5 trip to Houses of Parliament Census Day 8th October Y3 Stonehenge trip 21st Harvest Assemblies 9.15 KS2 and 2.30 KS1 24th End of term 1
November	3 <sup>rd</sup> Start of Term 2

Yearly Attendance	Yearly Days Missed	Yearly Learning Hours Missed	Learning Hours Missed Over 5 Years
100%	0	0	0
97%	6	30	150
95%	10	50	250
90%	20	100	500
80%	40	200	1000

Approximate school hours a year = 1,235