

# Termly Newsletter (Term 3)

## Woodlands Primary School and Nursery



### Welcome Back!

We would like to warmly welcome all of our families back after the Winter break. We wish you a happy and successful New Year! Please glance through our termly newsletter sharing our news and updates.

### Attendance

To support our Million Dreams curriculum, we are always focusing on maximising every learning moment and like to work in partnership with parents in the best interest of your children. Therefore, we ask you to do your best to schedule holidays and routine medical and dental visits outside school hours. We also understand it's hard when children feel under the weather but we often find that when they are with their friends they perk up. Our Attendance Ambassadors will be providing wellness kits and extra breaktime care to help any children feeling a little off. If you are still unsure if your child is well enough to come in, please read the NHS guidance which can be found [here](#). If your final decision is that they are too ill to attend, please report absences to [absence@woodlandsprimaryyate.co.uk](mailto:absence@woodlandsprimaryyate.co.uk). Our team will also reach out with a caring phone call during absences to help support their return.

### SEND updates

The first point of contact is your class teacher.

The SEND team supporting class teachers, pupils and parents:



Mrs Dean  
SENCO



Mrs Watts  
SEND  
administration



Ms Formoso  
Assistant Head



Ms Turner  
Nursery  
Teacher



Ms Hanham  
Teacher of The  
Deaf

We understand that sometimes you may have questions or concerns regarding your child's progress or well-being. To ensure the most effective support, we would like to remind parents that the **first port of call is always the class teacher**.

Your child's teacher knows them best in the school context. They are responsible for the day-to-day Quality First Teaching (**this is our universal offer**) that supports all learners. By speaking with them first, you can share insights and collaborate on immediate classroom and home strategies.

We are constantly looking at ways to improve our universal classroom offer. Our goal is to make every learning space:

- **Welcoming:** A warm environment where children feel safe.
- **Predictable:** Using clear routines so children know what to expect.
- **Consistent:** Ensuring high expectations and familiar structures across the school.

When a classroom is predictable and consistent, it reduces anxiety and allows all pupils—especially those with SEND—to focus on their learning.

We have noticed a significant increase in parental requests regarding referrals **ADHD** and **ASD** (Autism Spectrum Disorder). We hear your concerns and are taking proactive steps to respond:

1. **Developing Pathways:** We will be refining pathways through a graduated response starting with our universal offer (what happens in the classroom) and strategies that can be tried at home to support before referrals are made.
2. **Staff Training:** This year, we are prioritising staff training on ADHD. Our goal is to equip every teacher with the tools to provide high-quality support directly in the classroom.

To ensure that our support is targeted and effective, we will be **reviewing the SEN Register** throughout this year. This process ensures the register is accurate and reflects the current needs of our pupils. If there are any proposed changes to your child's status on the register, your class teacher will discuss this with you directly.

## Changes to PE

We are extremely excited to announce some changes to our PE timetables. Every afternoon children in Years 1-4 will be taking part in a Sensory Circuit Club. The activities are carefully designed to support agility, balance and co-ordination and will help children to regulate during afternoon lessons.

## Million Dreams Curriculum

This term, children will embark on a new "Million Dreams" topic centered on Geography. These units include Land and Seas, Around the World, and Terrific Tremors. Children will explore the Earth—from local landmarks to tropical and polar regions—studying rivers, mountains, and the diverse landscapes, people, and environments that define our physical and man-made world. Writing will be closely linked to these topics, and Historical information included. Maths will continue to have a strong focus on fluency, effortlessly

recalling number facts (eg. bonds and timestables) procedural fluency and adaptability. Children will continue to use resources in Maths to support learning.

## Every Child a Mathematician

*Every Child a Mathematician* is one of our key school priorities. We are passionate about supporting all pupils in mathematics and closing gaps in learning by placing a strong focus on fluency. Secure fluency can be the key to unlocking success for many children, reducing cognitive load and allowing them to engage more confidently with mathematical concepts. We are excited to promote a love of learning in maths and encourage families to keep an eye out for upcoming maths-themed days and events, including **World Number Day on Friday 6th February**, where pupils will be having fun with maths through games, puzzles, and fundraising activities. Our aim is for every child to feel successful in maths, build confidence, and develop strong foundations that will support their future learning and help them achieve their goals.



## Staying Safe in Cold and Wet Conditions ☁️❄️

With an "Amber" warning of heavy rain and freezing temperatures forecast, we would like to remind parents of the steps we are taking to keep our community safe. Our site team is working hard to ensure all main pathways are gritted; however, please remain cautious of icy patches. We ask that all pupils bring a warm coat, gloves, and a hat for social times. We have a wet weather contingency plan for collecting pupils which will be communicated on a daily basis if needed.

## Christmas Performances Feedback and Future Plans

It was lovely to receive such positive feedback about all of the Christmas performances. In KS2, we implemented a one parent per performance rule. This was due to a risk assessment of our capacity. Many parents mentioned that during the performances some families had more than one parent or family member. Some performances coincided with Yate Academy Academic Review Day, this meant that despite a polite request not to bring older siblings, some older siblings did come to performances meaning that there was not enough space. Whilst it is lovely to see former pupils and welcome families, we need to be mindful of health and safety. Going forward, we will run an additional performance in KS2 and put in place a ticket system for all performances.

## Bristol Pitbulls Visit to KS2 Friday

We have an exciting visit from Bristol's Professional Ice Hockey Team, Bristol Pitbulls, on Friday morning. This will be a memorable and inspirational experience for the children. It will be a chance to meet local sporting heroes and would provide our students with powerful role models, reinforcing the importance of teamwork, dedication, and resilience.



## 🎉 Celebrating Success: UNICEF Bronze Award

We are delighted to announce that our school has officially achieved the **Bronze: Rights Committed** stage of the UNICEF UK Rights Respecting Schools Award! This achievement reflects our dedication to placing the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of our school's planning, policies, and culture. By reaching this first milestone, we have demonstrated a clear commitment to creating a safe and inspiring environment where all children's rights are learned, respected, and protected. We are incredibly proud of our pupils and staff for their hard work in launching this journey, and we look forward to working together toward the Silver Award as we continue to empower our children to be active, informed, and responsible global citizens.

## A Note from the Friends of Woodlands

A Huge Thank You from Friends of Woodlands!

A massive thank you to everyone who supported our Winter Extravaganza! It was wonderful to see the school community come together for such a festive event.

Thanks to your incredible generosity, we are thrilled to announce that we raised a fantastic £970!

Every penny raised by Friends of Woodlands goes directly back into the school to improve resources and enhance the experience for all our pupils. We truly couldn't do it without your continued support and time.

## Save the Date: Years 1-6 School Disco!

We are excited to announce that our next School Disco for Years 1-6 will be held on Wednesday, 11th February.

It's going to be a fun-filled event for the children to celebrate with their friends. We will be sharing more information regarding ticket sales and specific timings for different year groups very soon.

## Spring Dates for Your Diary

JANUARY	FEBRUARY
5-Jan-2026 INSET	11-Feb-2026 PTA Valentine Disco Y1-3 4-4.45 & Y4-6 5- 5.45
6-Jan-2026 First day of term 3 for pupils	13-Feb-2026 INSET
15-Jan-2026 Spring Census Day Teddy Bears Picnic (all years)	13-Feb-2026 Last day of term 3
15-Jan-2026 Primary School application deadline	

## Bromcom Lunches - Reminder

Ordering lunches on MCAS is now up and running, and we have had a lot of positive feedback on the ease of using this. It is essential that all families requesting school lunches are now using this system.

If you have not yet set this up, please can login to your child's MCAS and follow the instructions below:

### For making meal selections

- Log into the MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) portal or app.
- Navigate to the "My Child" or "Dinner" section.
- You will see the available dinner menu. Select the meal choices for the desired dates.
- Confirm your selections.

Please let us know if you have any questions and we will be happy to help.