



Woodlands Primary School and Nursery

Termly Newsletter (Term 5)

Welcome to Term 5

Welcome back to Term 5! It has been lovely to see the pupils in school after the Easter break and hearing about their adventures.

Parent Voice - Prize Draw!

We value your feedback and would love to hear your thoughts on how we can continue to provide the best education for your children. Your input will help us celebrate our successes and shape our School Improvement Plan for 2026-27 to ensure we are meeting your family's needs. Please complete our parent survey by Monday 4th May; you can access it via the [link](#) here or pick up a paper copy in the foyer. All responses are strictly confidential and will play a vital role in making our school the best it can be. Don't miss the opportunity to win—simply complete the online form to enter our prize draw. (Entering the draw will remove the confidentiality.)

St Georges Day

To celebrate St. George's Day this **Thursday April 23rd**, we are continuing our proud school tradition of inviting children to attend in their official club uniforms. This applies to any students who are members of organizations such as the **Scouts, Brownies, Beavers, Cubs, or Guides**. Please note that this is a specific celebration of these community groups and their values of **Collaboration and Mutual Respect**, rather than a general non-uniform day ; students who are not wearing a club uniform should attend in their uniform.

Welcome to the Woodlands Family: Reception 2026

Your Journey to Reception 2026: A Step-by-Step Transition Guide

This guide outlines the essential phases of the transition into Reception, moving from initial administrative meetings and school visits in June to the official start of set classes in late September.

SUMMER TERM: PREPARATION & VISITS



Step 1: Parent Presentation & Packs (Wed 10th June @ 1:30 PM)
Bring your child's A4 Birth Certificate and return completed admissions forms today.

Step 2: Pre-school Visits (Throughout Term 6)
Teachers will visit children in their current nurseries; no parent action is required.

Steps 3 & 4: Stay & Play Sessions (Wed 17th & 24th June @ 9:15 AM)
One-hour sessions for children to build confidence; access via the small red gate.

JULY & SEPTEMBER: STARTING SCHOOL



Step 5: Home Visits (Monday 6th July – Thursday 16th July)
Parents must book these personalised home appointments via phone or email.

Step 6: First Full Day (Thursday 3rd September @ 8:50 AM)
School starts full-time (8:50 AM – 3:00 PM); please queue at the red gate.

Steps 7 & 8: Set Class Induction (Friday 18th & Monday 21st September)
Final class arrangements are shared Friday; children officially start in those classes Monday.

We are absolutely delighted to welcome our newest little learners to the school! Just as every giant oak tree starts as a tiny acorn, we are committed to **planting the seeds for a lifetime of learning**. This year, our dedicated team is ready to nurture your child's natural curiosity, celebrate their unique personality, and provide the supportive environment they need to thrive. Our goal is to give every child the strong roots to grow and the confident wings to fly as they begin their exciting educational journey with us.

Million Dreams Curriculum

This summer term, our "Million Dreams" curriculum takes an exciting dive into the world of discovery with a heavy emphasis on Science and Biology. Across the school, our students are stepping into the shoes of scientists—from our youngest learners exploring life cycles and the natural world in EYFS to Year 6 tackling complex theories of evolution and inheritance. Whether it is Year 1 classifying animals in "Paws, Claws and Whiskers," Year 3 investigating how water travels through plants in "Plant to Plate," or Year 5 journeying through our solar system in "Hello,

"Is This Planet Earth?", each unit is designed to foster high-level inquiry and "Working Scientifically" skills.

Our Assemblies and Wider Culture Work

Our assembly and wider culture work continues to place children's rights and emotional well-being at the heart of our school community. We are focusing on Article 24 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, exploring health and safety through Earth Day, World Water Day, and Mental Health Awareness Week. Alongside these themes, our Jigsaw unit on "Relationships" encourages children to reflect on their personal connections. Our younger learners in EYFS and KS1 are identifying the special people in their lives who make them feel safe, while older students are tackling more complex topics, such as the positive influence of role models, managing the feelings that come with missing someone, and offering compassionate advice to those experiencing loss. Digital safety also remains a priority, with Year 5 specifically looking at how to stay safe and responsible online. Through this combination of rights-respecting assemblies and thoughtful classroom discussions, we are helping our pupils build the mutual respect and collaboration needed to navigate their world with confidence.

Year 6 SATs

A special shout out to our Year 6 pupils in Laurel and Oak classes who have been working incredibly hard to prepare for their upcoming SATs (Standardised Assessment Tests), and we couldn't be prouder of their dedication and effort! These assessments, which take place at the end of Key Stage 2, will run over four days from Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May. This week is an opportunity for the children to showcase all they have learned, and we appreciate your continued support in helping them feel calm and ready. We will also be running SATs week Breakfast for Year 6. Please see the schedule below for the specific test timings:

SATs Week Timetable

- Monday 11th May: Grammar, Punctuation, and Spelling (Paper 1 & Paper 2)
- Tuesday 12th May: Reading
- Wednesday 13th May: Maths Paper 1 (Arithmetic) and Paper 2 (Reasoning)
- Thursday 14th May: Maths Paper 3 (Reasoning)

We are cheering them all on and know they will do their very best!

VE Day

On Friday May 8th, we will be coming together to commemorate VE Day with a special day of celebration across the school. To mark this historic occasion, children are invited to either



embellish their school uniform with red, white, and blue or attend in 1940s-style clothing. Our school hall will be specially decorated for the event, and we are honored to have Mrs. Farron perform the Last Post on the playground as a moment of reflection for our community. We will be celebrating with a special lunch. More details to follow.

Behaviour Approach

At Woodlands Primary School, we are dedicated to developing your child's character by teaching positive habits that help them grow into respectful and thoughtful young adults. Our approach is built on three simple expectations—Be Ready, Be Respectful, and Be Safe—which are consistently modeled and reinforced to ensure every child feels secure and prepared to learn.



We love to celebrate our pupils' successes through Dojo points, certificates, and "Praise Parades," while also using the "Zones of Regulation" to help them understand and manage their emotions in a supportive environment. Through our "Graduated Approach," we ensure every student receives the right level of encouragement and care to help them thrive both in the classroom and the wider community.

[More information and our Behaviour Approach can be found on our website.](#)

Attendance Update

At Woodlands, we know excellent attendance is crucial for your child's wellbeing and academic attainment. Expected Attendance (96%) ensures your child has the opportunity to Learn, Thrive and Play.

Every Minute Counts!

Our doors open at 8:40am. This deliberate 10-minute window is a vital opportunity to settle and dive straight into banded reading, helping every child reinforce essential literacy skills and start the day strong.

To ensure no child falls behind, if your child arrives after 8:50 am, we will proactively schedule a dedicated session during a portion of their lunchtime.

This provides valuable protected time for them to make up the lost reading minutes, guaranteeing they don't miss out on these crucial literacy foundations. To support this our back gate and playground gate will now be locked at **8.45am**. Please ensure you have vacated the grounds by this time. To support monitoring and well-being, if your child is late and needs to enter via the main office, you will be asked to complete a late form.

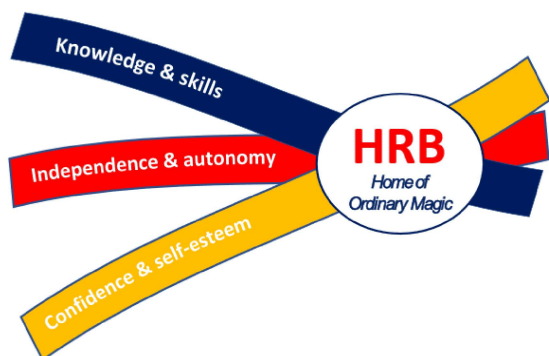
All absences must now be reported, before 9.00am, via our dedicated attendance email address:

absence@woodlandsprimaryyate.co.uk

Please do not ring the school or send Dojo messages for absence.



Deaf Awareness Week



To promote Deaf Awareness Week (running from May 4th to May 10th 2026), we will focus on this year's theme: "Right to Understand - Together, we break barriers".

This theme highlights how communication barriers may lead to isolation and advocates for a more inclusive community.

Here are some of the ways we will be involved:

- Learn British Sign Language (BSL): Time in assemblies or "In-class" sessions to teach basic BSL signs like greetings and class names.
- Deaf-Friendly Communication Tips: Sharing simple tips with the whole school, such as facing the person you are talking to, not covering your mouth, and using clear gestures.
- Highlight Role Models: Use assembly time to share the stories of successful deaf leaders, athletes, or artists to celebrate the achievements of the deaf community.
- "Deaf-Friendly" Classrooms: Continue to review our environment to ensure it's inclusive for everyone.
- UNICEF Rights-Respecting Schools: Connect the week to Article 2 (Non-discrimination) and Article 23 (Support for children with disabilities).
- Jigsaw Relationships Unit: Since our current focus is on "Relationships," we will be thinking about how communication—including sign language and lipreading—helps us build "special relationships" and feel safe with others.

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Friends of Woodlands Updates

Our Friends of Woodlands have been busy planning our Summer Extravaganza. We have some fantastic raffle prizes and exciting stallholders booking in. Be sure to save the date. It's going to be a good one!

We are always on the lookout for new "Friends." Without our team of supporters these events are just not possible. Every penny we raise goes directly back into supporting Woodlands and our children.

Lost Property

Please ensure all uniform items, lunch boxes, drinks bottles etc are 'clearly' named. If staff cannot read the names, items will be placed in the lost property containers. These containers will be emptied every Monday afternoon and items either binned or recycled.

Term 5 Key Dates - Year at a Glance

APRIL	MAY
1-Apr-2026 K51 & K52 decorated egg competition	4-May-2026 Bank Holiday
2-Apr-2026 Last day of Term 4	Deaf Awareness week
3-Apr-2026 Good Friday Bank Holiday	5-May-2026 Y1 Noah's Ark trip (Provisional)
6-Apr-2026 Easter Monday Bank Holiday	Y4 & 5 Explorer Dome experience (in school)
20-Apr-2026 First Day of Term 5	8-May-2026 VE Day (Dress up option & themed lunch)
23-Apr-2026 St George's Day - wear Scouts/ Brownie type uniform (optional)	11-May-2026 Year 6 SATS week
29-Apr-2026 Ash & Willow Rescheduled Parent meetings	21-May-2026 Summer Census Day - beach party theme & Stay and Play after school
	22-May-2026 INSET Day
	22-May-2026 Last day of term 5

INSET & Term dates 2026-27

Please find below the term and INSET dates for the upcoming 2026/2027 academic year to help you plan ahead. Please take note of the provisional INSET days, including our Academic Review Day in November, when the school will be closed to pupils for staff training and development.

Term Dates 2026/2027

- Term 1: Tuesday 1st September 2026 - Friday 23rd October 2026

- Term 2: Monday 2nd November 2026 - Friday 18th December 2026
- Term 3: Monday 4th January 2027 - Friday 12th February 2027
- Term 4: Monday 22nd February 2027 - Thursday 25th March 2027
- Term 5: Monday 12th April 2027 - Friday 28th May 2027
- Term 6: Monday 7th June 2027 - Wednesday 21st July 2027

INSET Days (Provisional - School closed to pupils)

- Tuesday 1st September 2026
- Wednesday 2nd September 2026
- Friday 23rd October 2026
- Friday 20th November 2026 (Academic Review Day)
- Monday 4th January 2027
- Friday 12th March 2027
- Friday 28th May 2027
- Wednesday 21st July 2027