

# Termly Newsletter (Term 4)

## Woodlands Primary School and Nursery



### Welcome Back!

Welcome back to Term 4! We are looking forward to a busy and productive term as we continue our Million Dreams curriculum learning and develop inclusive learning environments where children feel a sense of belonging. Please see updates and reminders below.

### Attendance

We were proud to celebrate our 100% attendance achievers with certificates last term and will be sending home more at the end of this term! If you are unsure if your child is well enough to attend, please consult the NHS guidance [here](#). Often, children who feel under the weather perk up once they are with their friends and, as a nurturing school, we will always call you if we feel your child needs to go home. If your child is ill, one of our team will reach out during the absence to support their return. To support your child's **Million Dreams** curriculum, please schedule holidays and routine appointments outside of school hours.

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

[absence@woodlandsprimaryate.co.uk](mailto:absence@woodlandsprimaryate.co.uk)

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



### Every Minute Counts!

Our doors open at 8:40am. There is then a deliberate 10-minute window which is a **vital** opportunity to settle whilst also providing a dedicated session of banded reading. Together with Reading for Pleasure in the afternoons, children receive the optimum number of minutes reading per day to make good progress. To ensure no child falls behind, if your child arrives **in the classroom** after 8:50am, we will proactively reschedule another dedicated session during a portion of their breaktime for them to read their banded book. 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 that underpin the whole curriculum.

### World Book Day

On Thursday 5th March Woodlands will celebrate World Book Day. Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character or wear appropriate pyjamas if they wish as an alternative to school uniform. Children will take part in reading based activities on that day alongside their normal timetable including a playground parade and story time with a cookie.

## Red Nose Day - Friday 20th March

We are looking forward to taking part in Red Nose Day 2026. This will be a non uniform day and children will be given the option to flip the script! Grownups dress as kids and kids dress as grownups.

## Pupil Parliament

We are excited to share an update regarding the Greenshaw Learning Trust Pupil Parliament, which consists of two elected 'Members of the Trust Parliament' (MTPs) from every primary school in our Trust. On Wednesday, 12th November 2025, our MTPs met to discuss three vital areas: **how to make our schools more sustainable, what it means to be part of the wider Trust, and how we can promote a stronger sense of belonging in our schools.** We know that belonging is essential for mental well-being, resilience, motivation and that it supports attendance. To support this mission, every class will soon participate in a 'Voice & Priorities' survey to share their views on initiatives such as buddy benches, worry boxes, and class charters. The results will be discussed at the next GLT Parliament meeting (Tuesday 3 March) to help decide our next steps in making the Trust an even better place for all students.

Here are our members of pupil parliament - Tyler and Ameya



## Anti Bullying Approach

At our school, we are committed to ensuring that **Every Child Belongs**. Following a collaborative review involving pupils, staff, and parents, we are clarifying our approach to unkind behavior and anti-bullying to ensure absolute consistency across every classroom and the playground. By aligning our practices with the **Anti-Bullying Alliance** and **UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools** values, we are building a transparent system where every child feels safe, heard, and included. We look forward to sharing more updates as the term progresses and continuing to work together to foster a kind, inclusive environment for all our pupils.

## Parents Evening

Just a reminder that these meetings will take place on Tuesday 24th March and Thursday 26th March after school. You will receive a separate email about this.

## UNICEF Silver Award

We are proud to share that our school is currently working towards achieving the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools (RRS) Silver Award. As part of this journey, we are focusing on three key areas: **teaching and learning about rights, through rights, and for the rights of others**. To embed these values into our school life, we will be introducing classroom and playground charters that outline how both our "rights holders" (our pupils) and "duty bearers" (the adults) will respect and protect these fundamental rights every day. We will focus on rights that are particularly relevant to our school community, and sharing during our assemblies, as well as involving our Pupil Parliament and our school council in leading rights-based initiatives. We look forward to sharing more updates as we work together as a whole school community to ensure every child feels safe, valued, and heard.

This week we are thinking about **Article 29 - Aims of Education**. Under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, education should help children become the best version of themselves. It's our job to help them develop their talents, respect diversity, live peacefully, and protect the environment. We're not just teaching students; we're raising world-changers!



## A Note from the Friends of Woodlands

**MOTHER'S DAY**  
12 MARCH 2026

**Friends of Woodlands Flower Shop**  
We will be open for you to treat your loved ones this Mothers Day.

Pick your own plant and pot  
£4

Find us from 3pm in the KS2 playground  
Limited amount available

**easyfundraising**  
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## Million Dreams Workshop - Thursday 12th March Year 1-3 9.15am

Our Million Dreams workshops this year will focus on using math manipulatives with your child. They will explain to you how they have used them to develop their knowledge of a mathematical concept.

## Decorated Eggs Competition

Get ready to crack open your creativity for our annual Decorated Easter Egg Competition! We invite all children, from Nursery through to Year 6, to showcase their most imaginative and "egg-cellent" designs.

### The Hard-Boiled Facts

- When: Tuesday 1st April
- Who: All pupils (Nursery - Year 6)
- What: Bring your decorated eggs into school to be part of our grand showcase.

Prizes will be awarded to the most creative entry in every class, so whether you're going for sparkles, superheroes, or scenery, we can't wait to see what you hatch!

## Dates for Your Diary-Spring

MARCH	APRIL
3-Mar-2026 GLT Pupil Parliament 5-Mar-2026 World Book Day 6-Mar-2026 Y2 SS Great Britain trip 12-Mar-2026 Million Dreams Workshop Y1-3 9.15am 13-Mar-2026 INSET Day 16-Mar-2026 Neurodiversity week 18 & 19-Mar-2026 Reception National Child Measurement Programme (NCMP) 21-Mar-2026 Red Nose Day Reception Birds of Prey visit 24-Mar-2026 Parents Evening 4-7 25-Mar-2026 Class and Y6 Photos 26-Mar-2026 Parents Evening 3.30-6.15 27-Mar-2026 Handball workshop TBC	1-Apr-2026 KS1 & KS2 decorated egg competition 2-Apr-2026 Last day of Term 4 3-Apr-2026 Good Friday Bank Holiday 6-Apr-2026 Easter Monday Bank Holiday 20-Apr-2026 First Day of Term 5 23-Apr-2026 St George's Day - wear Scouts/ Brownie type uniform (optional)

## Bromcom Lunches - Reminder

Please remember to order school lunches for your children on MCAS. Following some feedback regarding adjusting lunches, we have now adjusted the settings so that lunch orders can now be adapted on the same day before 9.00am.

If you have not yet set this up, please can you 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.

## Uniform Updates

Thank you for your feedback regarding the proposed uniform changes. We will update you on this shortly when we have reviewed the feedback from all stakeholders.

## Entry and Exit to School

Unless attending a supervised before or after-school activity, children should go straight to their designated entry points upon arrival and should leave the school grounds promptly when dismissed. They should not be staying or playing on the grounds unsupervised.

## Mobile Phones

If your child brings a mobile phone to school (due to walking home alone, for example), it must be placed in their bag or pocket **before entering the school gates**. Upon arrival, it must be handed directly to their class teacher or a designated member of staff for safe keeping throughout the day.

Phones will be returned at the end of the day, but children must place them immediately back into their bag or pocket until they have left the school grounds. **Safeguarding Rule:** Should a member of staff see a child with their phone out on school grounds (even if it is not actively being used), it will be confiscated and placed in the school office for parents to collect at the end of the day. This is a vital rule to safeguard our school community.

## Communication

**COMMUNICATING WITH SCHOOL**

Effective home-school communication is essential in ensuring we all work together to provide children with the best opportunities for success.

**Face to Face**

At the end of each day, teachers and support staff will be available during school handover. This can be a good time to discuss relevant information or to arrange for a follow up meeting with the appropriate adults. Face to face meetings can be helpful when discussing your child's education, sharing any concerns you may have and to help you get to know the adults working with your child.

**Class Dojo**

Class Dojo is a good platform for school to share information about school generally and successes about your child. It can also be useful for families to send quick updates to the class teachers. As this is a more informal platform, responses may not be immediate or guaranteed. This is not a platform for more formal conversations or urgent information.

**Phone calls**

Phone calls with the class teachers, support staff or other relevant staff can be arranged. This can give you the opportunity to talk about more personal details or support for your child and may be more convenient to you than attending school.

**School Office**

The school office can help to arrange phone calls and meetings with staff. This can be done by either emailing [admin@woodlandsprimarygate.co.uk](mailto:admin@woodlandsprimarygate.co.uk) or phoning 01454 866 535. The school office can also help with anything regarding your child's MCAS account, attendance and admin. Our school office will also keep parents and guardians informed and up to date through MCAS, emails and newsletters.

We value open and respectful communication and believe that working together in a positive and collaborative manner is essential for the success of our students. However, we want to kindly remind everyone that abusive or disrespectful communication will not be tolerated. We are committed to maintaining a supportive and respectful environment and encourage constructive dialogue to address any concerns, ensuring we can all work together for the benefit of the children.