

Friday 24th April 2026
Volume 22: Issue No. 28



WOODRIDGE NEWSLETTER

SOUTHOVER, NORTH FINCHLEY, LONDON N12 7HE 0208 445 5478

office@woodridge.barnetmail.net

LEADERSHIP UPDATE

You will have received an email today informing you that at the end of the summer term, Colin Dowland will be stepping down from his role as Co-Headteacher, after 10 years in the role.



The Governing Body would like to express their sincere thanks for his dedicated service to the school. During his time in leadership, he has played a significant role in shaping the school's success, contributing to the excellent outcomes our pupils achieve and in building the strong reputation the school enjoys within the community and nationally. We are extremely grateful for his commitment and wish him every success in his future endeavours.

Looking ahead, the governors are delighted to inform you that Co-Headteacher Laura Monro will take on the role of Headteacher on a full-time basis from September. Governors are confident that this will provide continuity and stability, and that the school will continue to go from strength to strength under this leadership.

A recruitment process is underway to appoint a new Deputy Headteacher, and parents will be updated about this in the next few weeks.

WSA QUIZ SUPPER

Thanks to all the competitors, the quiz setters and the WSA for another really fun and engaging fish and chip Quiz Supper.



The event raised an excellent **£1200**, which is the start of a longer term fundraising effort to raise enough money to build a MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area) at the end of the field.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON



TALKING TO YOUR CHILDREN ABOUT THE NEWS

There are many challenges for everyone at the moment in terms of what is appearing in the news, internationally, nationally and more recently, locally.



We know it can be difficult for parents to know what to say if children ask about these events at home or school, so here are some possible answers to key questions:

For 6 year olds and under:

- **Why do bad things happen?** We explain that sometimes people do naughty or mean things - sometimes children at school break things or hit people and sometimes adults can behave badly too. At school or home, if someone is not doing what they should be doing we tell a grown up and they'll help us, and if we need extra help we can tell the police because that's what they're there for too.
- **What do I say if my child says they are scared?** Reassure them it's ok to be scared and thank them for telling you. You might remind them what they do when they are scared of other things like monsters, and tell them that you and others are here to look after them.

For 7-10 year olds:

- **Why do bad things happen?** We don't always know why people do bad things, but just like at school when people might be mean to someone because they are different, we know that sometimes people are mean or cruel to people who are different to them. Sometimes that's because of the colour of their skin, and other times its because of their religion. People might pick on another group of people because they are ignorant and don't know them or understand why they have different beliefs to them, or because they've heard stories or believe things called superstitions. Just like when someone is a bully at school, it's never acceptable to hurt someone or be mean to them because of who they are. We should celebrate all the things that make people different. This is why it's so important for us to be kind to everyone and to celebrate all the things that make us unique.
- **What do I say if my child says they are scared?** Reassure them it's ok to be scared and thank them for telling you. It's a normal reaction, but the adults and police whose job it is to look after us have the very best people and technology to make sure that worries don't come true.

JACKSONS LANE

GRAFFITI CLASSICS

The Comedy String Quartet

PRESENTS

FROLICS & LAUGHTER



**Saturday 9 May 2026,
7.30pm**

**Jacksons Lane
269a Archway Road, London N6 5AA**

**Tickets: £25
FAMILYFUN ticket
(with every 2 adults paying full price, 2 children get in FREE)**

020 8350 5226

www.jacksonslane.org.uk

WWW.GRAFFITICLASSICS.COM

**16 strings, 8 dancing feet and 4 voices in
1 electrifying and hilarious musical show!**

Graffiti Classics, is a comedy string quartet that never sits down, bursting the perceived elitist boundaries of traditional classical music with its hilarious all-singing, all-dancing musical comedy show.

Wickedly funny, the group energetically leaps and clowns its way through an eclectic musical landscape from Beethoven to Elvis, all virtuosically accompanied on their own string instruments, this ground-breaking group is on a mission: to make classical music irresistibly fun.

This isn't just a classical concert - it's a virtuosic mix of musical comedy, gypsy-folk, opera, bluegrass, stand-up comedy and dance! Expect lots of laughs, dancing and singing, all tied together with cheeky audience interaction.

WOODRIDGE KEY EVENTS/DATES 2025-26

Below is a list of all the key events and dates for the Summer Term. Further dates, including class trips will be added as the term progresses with **new events/changes in red**.

The term dates for **next year** (2026-2027) are in the later pages of this Newsletter.



SUMMER TERM	Weds 17 th June – Y1 Class Assembly Two
Monday 13 th April – INSET Day 4	Thurs 25 th June – Y2 Class Assembly Two
Mon 4 th May – BANK HOLIDAY	Fri 26 th June – End of Year Reports home
Weds 6 th May - Y1 Parents Phonics Mtg 9.00am	Tues 30 th June - Y1–Y6 Learning Reviews 4.00-7.00
Mon 11 th May – Y6 SATs week	Thurs 2 nd July - Y1–Y6 Learning Reviews 5.00-7.30
Tues 12th May - YR to Bekonscot	Fri 3 rd July – Junior Sports Day 1.30pm
Sat 18th April - WSA Quiz Supper Night	Mon 6 th July – Junior Production Dress 1.45pm
Thurs 21 st May – Reception Class Assembly	Tues 7 th July – Infant Sports Afternoon 1.30pm
Thurs 21 st May – Y6 School Journey Mtg 3.30pm	Weds 8 th July – Junior Production Perf 7pm
Thurs 21 st May – Y5 Southover Sleepover	Thurs 9 th July – Junior Production Perf 7pm
WC 25th May – HALF TERM	Fri 10 th July – Reserve Junior Sports Day pm
Weds 29 th May - Y5 Secondary Transfer Mtg 7pm	Tues 14 th July - Reserve Infant Sports Afternoon
Mon 1 st June – CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL	Fri 17 th July - Y6 Leavers' Assembly 9.10am
Mon 8 th June – Y6 to Conover Hall	Fri 17 th July - Last Day of Term 1.30pm finish

TENNIS SUCCESS

Congratulations to our Y5/Y6 tennis team who reached the semi finals of a tennis tournament this week at Barnet Lawn Tennis Club.

The team won bronze medals. Brilliant!

Thanks to Mr Mapes for undertaking comprehensive tennis trials and for organising the team.



GYMNASTICS AWARD

Well done to Alma Y1 for achieving Gymnastics Ability Award Level 7 with Anima Gymnastics Club.



BICS ADVICE SESSIONS

If you have any concerns about your child's ability to dress, use cutlery, other functional skills or speech and language, Barnet Children's Integrated Therapies are open to phone and video calls. See the flyer below.

whh-tr.barnetcit@nhs.net'."/>

NHS
Whittington Health
NHS Trust

Barnet Children's Integrated Therapies Telephone Advice Sessions

-  Book a telephone or video call
-  Speak to a Speech and Language Therapist, Occupational Therapist or Physiotherapist
-  Discuss your concerns
Get advice and strategies
Get ideas on next steps and new targets
-  For Parents, Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Nursery staff - anyone supporting a child
-  We work with interpreters if needed
-  To book please call 020 3316 8900 or email whh-tr.barnetcit@nhs.net

STARS OF THE WEEK!

Achievement Awards

Friday 24th April 2026

Each Friday we hold an Achievement Assembly where two children from each class are awarded a certificate for outstanding achievement in the week. These recognise hard work, great behaviour or exceptional progress, as well as our Woodridge Values.

Reception Oak	Ethan and Emily for showing great cutting skills to make vegetable and fruit people and for chatting happily about the importance of vegetables.
Year 1 Willow	Penny for writing a great set of instructions of how to make a jam sandwich. Eden for thoughtful contributions at carpet time-especially in our science work about plants.
Year 2 Rowan	Myla for working hard in maths and completing lots more tasks independently. Rania for your excellent descriptive writing in English, using punctuation correctly.
Year 3 Silver Birch	Phoenix for trying really hard in all subjects. Asad for working really hard in our fractions work in maths.
Year 4 Ash	Olivia for creating her own fantastic non-chronological report. Sia for creating a fantastic flip book animation, which demonstrated creativity, patience and excellent attention to detail.
Year 5 Lime	Aimee and Adiel for showing engagement and hard work to create a Maya fact poster.
Year 6 Maple	Milly for her excellent independence in her maths lesson. Shoma for his fantastic work in computing on binary codes.
Value of The Month	April - Perseverance

SPORTING STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to the following children for receiving certificates from Mr Mapes this week for being sporting stars:

Multisports - Levi Y2, Arin YR, Annabelle YR,
Mohamed Y1 and Elle YR

Gym - Harry Y4 and Jana Y3



Vision 60 OBJ 2

Woodridge Primary School



TERM DATES 2025-2026

Autumn Term 2025

Monday 1 September INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 2 September First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 27 October – Friday 31 October

Monday 3 November INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 4 November First day back for pupils
Friday 19 December Last day of term: 1.30pm finish

Please note the earlier finish times on the final day of each term.

Spring Term 2026

Monday 5 January INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 6 January First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 16 February – Friday 20 February

Monday 23 February First day back for pupils
Friday 27 March Last day of term: 1.30pm finish

Summer Term 2026

Monday 13 April INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 14 April First day back for pupils
Monday 4 May Bank Holiday: School closed for pupils

Half Term: Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May

Monday 1 June First day back for pupils
Friday 17 July Last day of term 1.30pm finish

Four INSET Days – School closed to children

Monday 1st September 2025
Monday 3rd November 2025
Monday 5th January 2026
Monday 13th April 2026

(Plus Monday 4 May 2026 - Bank Holiday)

Please do not book holidays during term time. Fixed penalties fines from August will now be £80 per child, per parent.



Woodridge Primary School



TERM DATES 2026-2027

Autumn Term 2026

Tuesday 1 September INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Wednesday 2 September First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October

Monday 2 November INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 3 November First day back for pupils
Friday 18 December Last day of term: 1.30pm finish

Please note the earlier finish times on the final day of each term.

Spring Term 2027

Tuesday 5 January INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Wednesday 6 January First day back for pupils

Half Term: Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February

Monday 22 February First day back for pupils
Thursday 25 March Last day of term: 1.30pm finish

Summer Term 2027

Monday 12 April INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 13 April First day back for pupils
Monday 3 May Bank Holiday: School closed for pupils

Half Term: Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June

Monday 7 June INSET Day: School closed for pupils
Tuesday 8 June First day back for pupils
Thursday 22 July Last day of term 1.30pm finish

Five INSET Days – School closed to children

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Monday 2nd November 2026
Tuesday 5th January 2027
Monday 12th April 2027
Monday 7th June 2027

(Plus Monday 3 May 2027 - Bank Holiday)

Please do not book holidays during term time. Fixed penalties fines from August will now be £80 per child, per parent.





Year B (2025-26)

September	Kindness
October	Freedom
November	Understanding
December	Co-operation
January	Responsibility
February	Tolerance
March	Thoughtfulness
April	Perseverance
May	Compassion
June	Courtesy
July	Humility

Woodridge Vision 60

Our strategic objectives

1

Through quality teaching and learning, to improve outcomes for all children by building a culture of achievement through progress across the curriculum.

2

To extend the Woodridge curriculum to create wider opportunities for all children to develop their skills and talents.

3

To develop sustainable, high quality and accountable leadership at all levels throughout the school.

4

To work in partnership with other schools, parents and the wider school community to enrich our school.

Top Primary Schools in London

1. Thomas Jones Primary School, Kensington and Chelsea – Regional 1 / National 1 Primary School of the Year in London
2. Hampden Gurney CofE Primary School, Westminster – Regional 2 / National 5
3. St Andrew's RC Primary School, Streatham, Lambeth – Regional 3 / National 6
4. Courtland School, Barnet – Regional 4 / National 7
5. Christ Church Bentinck CofE Primary School, Westminster – Regional 5 / National 8
6. Cleves Primary School, East Ham, Newham – Regional 6 / National 11
7. Merton Park Primary School, Merton – Regional 7 / National 13
8. Hampstead Parochial CofE Primary School, Camden – Regional 8 / National 14=
9. Woodridge Primary School, Barnet – Regional 9 / National 16
10. Fox Primary School, Kensington and Chelsea – Regional 10 / National 17

Ofsted



Read our report ↗

THE SUNDAY TIMES

**SCHOOLS GUIDE
2026**

Woodridge
Primary School