

Friday 16th October 2026
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WOODRIDGE NEWSLETTER

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Year 5 and 6 Bayeux Tapestry

Miss McCleneghen writes:

On Wednesday, Year 5 and 6 took part in a fascinating live lesson about the Bayeux Tapestry to fit in with their Anglo Saxon history unit. We got a glimpse of the tapestry in situ at the British Museum and learnt a bit about the history surrounding it from historians and one of the hosts, Claudia Winkelman. The children carried out activities related to it, including the design of their own mini-tapestry. They also came up with thoughtful and engaging questions for the experts. Well done Years 5 and 6!



PARENT GOVERNOR OPPORTUNITY

A reminder that there are two Parent Governor vacancies currently open for applications / nominations, with the closing date of Monday 2nd November at 5pm.

Woodridge's partnership with parents has been a key factor in the school's development. This is a great opportunity to work with governors and Laura Monro as Headteacher to build upon recent successes and everything that parents value about the school, to make a real difference for our children.

Parent governors are welcomed as valued members of the team, ensuring Governors are aware of the views of parents as well as sharing their personal experience and expertise in other important areas.



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Year 3/4 Dodgeball

On Monday, eight children from Years 3 and 4 took part in a Dodgeball tournament. The team won 5 games, lost 4 games and drew 1 game. The team played really well, with great honesty, teamwork and sportsmanship. Well done!

Mr Mapes

CROSS COUNTRY

On Thursday, Mr Mapes was very impressed with the efforts in the Key Stage 2 cross country races. "All ran their best and finished the race with all they had." With many individual top ten finishers, the boys' overall score was 8th out of 22 schools. The girls' overall score was 3rd out of 23 schools. This meant that Woodridge achieved 7th place out of all of the schools. Well done!



YEAR 3 NATURE RESERVE

Last week, Year 3 went to the Nature Reserve to test out their knowledge of reading and writing instructions. They followed the instructions in order to find the meeting zone and then created instructions for each other. The year 3 staff were very impressed with their use of conjunctions, time adverbials and imperative verbs. Well done, Year 3!



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



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DIGITAL WORKSHOP—PARENTING IN THE DIGITAL AGE

We are pleased to be hosting a workshop on 'Parenting in the Digital Age' on **Tuesday, 24th November at 9:10 am** in the school hall. The talk will explore the impact of technology on children's mental health and well-being, covering topics such as smartphones, social media, gaming and AI. It examines the effects of algorithms, screen use, and online content on adolescent mental health and identity, while offering practical strategies for promoting digital wellness within families.

The presentation provides guidance and resources to help parents support their children in navigating the digital world responsibly. It includes advice on encouraging healthy screen time habits and creating a balanced digital environment at home.

Parenting in the Digital Age

With Digital Parenting Specialist Yael Shahar

Join Digital Parenting Specialist Yael Shahar for an impactful session exploring how digital technology is reshaping childhood and what parents can do to respond with confidence and clarity.

A certified coach and family wellbeing expert, Yael is a strong advocate for the Smartphone Free Childhood campaign and has worked very closely with One Collective Founder, Nova Eden.

Nova spearheaded a groundbreaking policy that made Barnet the first UK borough to introduce a smartphone-free policy across all its schools, an initiative that inspired a national movement, influenced government policy, and helped reshape the digital landscape for children across the UK.

In this thought-provoking talk, Yael draws on her extensive experience working with thousands of families and educators to explore:

- + The impact of smartphones, social media, gaming, and excessive screen time on young minds
- + How algorithms influence adolescent identity and emotional development
- + Practical ways to support healthy digital habits at home and promote digital wellbeing

Whether your child is asking for their first phone or already glued to a screen, this session will equip you with tools to set boundaries, build resilience, and support wellbeing in an always-connected world.

Discover how we can guide our children towards a more balanced relationship with technology.



IMPORTANT LINKS:

School Term Dates: [Woodridge Primary School - Term Dates](#)

Woodridge Values Cycle: [Woodridge Primary School - Values Based Education](#)

STARS OF THE WEEK!

Achievement Awards

Friday 16th October 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	Reception haven't yet joined our weekly celebration assemblies.
Year 1 Willow	Nora for the Woodridge Value of responsibility. Noah for trying really hard to sound out and blend phonics sounds.
Year 2 Rowan	Lavin for your wonderful work in PSHE, writing about your feelings. Adrina for your fantastic re-telling of Grandad's Island- you worked so hard and wrote beautifully!
Year 3 Silver Birch	Rania for excellent contributions in class, especially during our history topic about the Stone Age! Kush for extra effort and hard work- keep it up!
Year 4 Ash	Raffi for having a positive attitude towards his learning and never giving up when faced with challenges. Phoenix for showing fantastic resilience and determination, persevering with tricky tasks and always trying your best.
Year 5 Lime	Lily for working hard to produce an engaging and well organised explanation text about rockets. Oscar for an excellent explanation text full of engaging and varied language with accurate punctuation.
Year 6 Maple	Sara and Sasha for always putting in 100% effort to all tasks and discussions.
Value of The Month	October—Unity 

SPORTING STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Year 2— Penny, Bar, Aira and Jude

Year 3— Kush

Year 4— Cai



OUTSIDE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to Ayaz for completing his very first 2K run last weekend at the RBC Great Ormond Street Hospital Marathon!

WOODRIDGE KEY EVENTS/DATES 2026-27

Below is the list for your diaries/fridge of all the key events and dates for the whole of the 2026-27 year.
New dates, including class trips ,have been added in RED.

AUTUMN TERM	Thurs 19 th Nov – Y5 Class Assembly (1)
Mon 19 th Oct –Maths Week	Thurs 19 th Nov – Parents' Evening 4.30-7.30pm
Fri 23rd Oct – Individual Photos	Tues 24th Nov – Digital Workshop 9.10am
WC 26 th Oct – HALF TERM	Tues 24th Nov – Year 6 to Islamic Centre
Mon 2 nd Nov – INSET Day 2	Thurs 26 th Nov – Y3 Class Assembly (1)
Tues 3rd Nov – Flu Vaccinations Day 2	Thurs 3 rd Dec – Y6 Class Assembly (1)
Thurs 5 th Nov – Y2 & Y5 Singalong	Thurs 3rd Dec – Year 3 to Hindu Temple
Thurs 12 th Nov – Y4 Class Assembly (1)	Mon 7 th Dec – Inf Production Dress 2pm
Thurs 12th Nov – Year 5 to British Library	Weds 9 th Dec – Inf Production Perf 2pm
Mon 16 th Nov – Anti-Bullying Week	Thurs 10 th Dec – Inf Production Perf 9.30am
Mon 16th Nov – Year 4 to Gudwara	Mon 14 th Dec – Aladdin Panto 1.30pm
Tues 17 th Nov – Parents' Evening 4.00-6.30pm	Fri 18 th Dec – Last Day of Term (1.30pm finish)
SPRING TERM	
Tues 5 th Jan – INSET Day 3	Weds 10 th Mar – Spark 2 Workshops
Thurs 28 th Jan – Y2 Class Assembly (1)	Weds 10th March – Year 5 to Royal Festival Hall
Thurs 4 th Feb – Y1 Class Assembly (1)	Thurs 11 th Mar – Y5 Class Assembly (2)
Thurs 11 th Feb – Y6 Class Assembly (2)	Thurs 18 th Mar – Y4 Class Assembly (2)
WC 15 th Feb – HALF TERM	Fri 19 th Mar – Y1 to Y6 reports to parents
Mon 22 nd Feb - CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL	Tues 23 rd Mar – Workshare Evening 5-7pm
Fri 5 th Mar – Woodridge World Book Day	Thurs 25 th Mar – Y3 Class Assembly (2)
WC 8 th March – SCIENCE WEEK	Thurs 25 th Mar – Last Day of Term (1.30pm finish)
SUMMER TERM	
Mon 12 th Apr – INSET Day 4	Thurs 24 th June – Y1 Class Assembly (2)
Thurs 22 nd Apr – Year 5 Secondary Transfer Mtg	Tues 29 th June – Infant Sports Afternoon 1.30pm
Mon 3 rd May – BANK HOLIDAY	Fri 2 nd July – Introduce the New Teacher 11.45am
Tues 4 th May - Y1 Phonics Mtg 9.10am	Fri 2 nd July – Junior Sports Day 1.15pm
Mon 10 th May – Y6 SATs week	Fri 2 nd July – End of Year Reports sent home
Mon 17th May – Year 6 to Houses of Parliament	WC 5 th July – ARTS WEEK
Tues 18 th May – Y6 School Journey Mtg 3.30pm	Mon 5 th July – Treasure Island Performance
Thurs 20 th May – Reception Class Assembly	Tues 6 th July - Reserve Infant Sports Afternoon
Thurs 27-28 th May – Y5 Southover Sleepover	Tues 6 th July - Y1–Y6 Learning Reviews 4.00-6.30pm
WC 31st May – HALF TERM	Thurs 8 th July-Y1–Y6 Learning Reviews 5.00-7.30pm
Mon 7 th June – INSET Day 5	Tues 13 th July – Junior Production Perf 7pm
WC Mon 7 th June – Y4 Tables Check (2 weeks)	Thurs 15 th July – Junior Production Perf 7pm
Mon 14 th June – Y6 to Condover Hall	Fri 16 th July – Meet the New Teacher' 11-12
Mon 14 th June – Year 1 Phonics Check (1 week)	Fri 16 th July – Reserve Junior Sports Day pm
Weds 17 th June – Y2 Class Assembly (2)	Weds 21 st July – Infant Singalong 9.10am
Tues 22 nd June–Recep Celebration Event 9-10am	Thurs 22 nd July - Y6 Leavers' Assembly 9.10am
Weds 23 rd June – Recep Celebration Event 2-3pm	Thurs 22 nd July - Last Day of Term (1.30pm finish)
Thurs 24 th June – Sept '27 Reception Mtg 6.30pm	