

Friday 12th September 2025
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WOODRIDGE NEWSLETTER

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EVENTS, MEETINGS AND TRIPS



On the next page of this Newsletter is a list of **all the key Woodridge events for the forthcoming year 2025-26**. This includes parents' evenings, Learning Reviews, Workshare Evenings, class assemblies, other special assemblies, the infant and junior productions, sports days and some of the class trips that are already in the diary. Other class visits and trips will be added as the year progresses. **Please have a read and put the key dates in your diaries.**

MEET YOUR CHILD'S NEW TEACHER

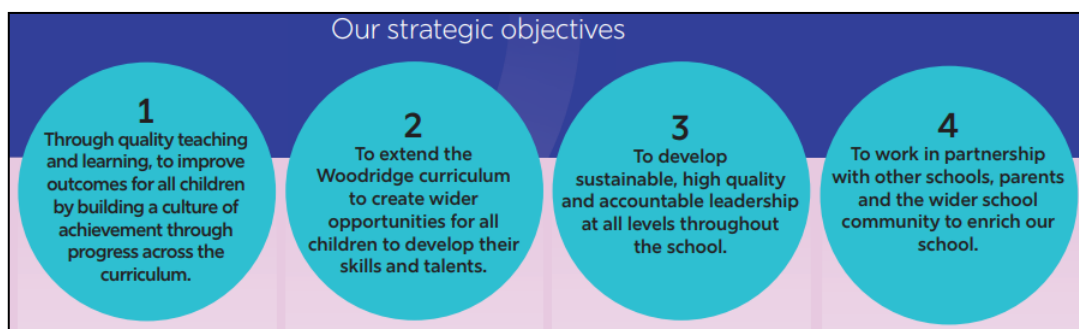
The Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 teachers will be holding short meetings for parents about routines, PE/games days, homework, app posts, any trips/topics and to answer any questions on Thursday 18th Sept 9.10-9.30am. Parents - please wait in the staff car park before this.



WOODRIDGE VISION 60

Just a reminder about the **Woodridge Vision 60** document that all parents received when they joined the school (and it can be found on the school website).

This document outlines the 4 strategic objectives which underpin all our school improvement work as we head towards our 60th birthday in 2027. These objectives will be highlighted in the Newsletter where an objective is a focus.



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON



WOODRIDGE KEY EVENTS/DATES 2025-26

Below is the list for your diaries/fridge of all the key events and dates for the whole of the 2025-26 year.

Further dates, including class trips will be added as the year progresses.

The term dates for **next year** (2026-2027) will be published in next week's Newsletter and all subsequent Newsletters

AUTUMN TERM	Thurs 13 th Nov – Y5 Neasden Temple
Mon 1 st Sept – INSET DAY ONE	Tues 18 th Nov – Parents' Evening 4.00-7.00pm
Thurs 11 th Sept – Y1/Y2 New Teacher Mtgs 9.10am	Thurs 20 th Nov – Y5 Class Assembly One
Tues 16 th – Y6 Tudor Day	Thurs 20 th Nov – Parents' Evening 4.30-7.30pm
Thurs 18 th Sept - KS2 New Teacher Mtgs 9.10am	Thurs 27 th Nov – Y4 Class Assembly One
Fri 26 th Sept – Macmillan Coffee Morning 9.00am	Weds 3 rd Dec – Y3 Class Assembly One
Fri 10 th Oct - World Mental Health Day	Mon 8 th Dec – Inf Production Dress 2pm
WC 27 th Oct – HALF TERM	Weds 10 th Dec – Inf Production Perf 2pm
Mon 3 rd Nov – INSET Day 2	Thurs 11 th Dec – Inf Production Perf 9.30am
Mon 11 th Nov – Anti-Bullying Week	Mon 15 th Dec – <i>Dick Whittington</i> Panto 1.30pm
Weds 12 th Nov – Y6 Class Assembly One	Fri 19 th Dec – Last Day of Term 1.30pm finish
SPRING TERM	Tues 4 th March – <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> Show pm
Mon 5 th Jan – INSET Day 3	Thurs 5 th Mar – World Book Day
Thurs 29 th Jan – Y2 Class Assembly One	WC 9 th March – SCIENCE WEEK
Thurs 5 th Feb – Y1 Class Assembly One	Thurs 12 th Mar – Y4 Class Assembly Two
Thurs 5 th Feb – Y5 Science Museum	Thurs 19 th Mar – Y5 Class Assembly Two
Thurs 12 th Feb – Y3 Class Assembly Two	Fri 20 th Mar – Y1 to Y6 Mid-Year reports home
WC 16 th Feb – HALF TERM	Weds 25 th Mar – Workshare Evening 5-7pm
Mon 23 rd Feb - CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL	Thurs 26 th Mar – Y6 Class Assembly Two
WC 2 nd March - ARTSWEEK	Fri 27 th Mar – Last Day of Term 1.30pm finish
SUMMER TERM	Fri 26 th June – End of Year Reports home
Tues 13 th April – INSET Day 4	Tues 30 th June - Y1-Y6 Learning Reviews 4.00-7.00
Mon 4 th May – BANK HOLIDAY	Thurs 2 nd July - Y1-Y6 Learning Reviews 5.00-7.30
Weds 6 th May - Y1 Parents Phonics Mtg 9.00am	Fri 3 rd July – Junior Sports Day 1.30pm
Mon 11 th May – Y6 SATs week	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 25 th May – HALF TERM	Fri 10 th July – Reserve Junior Sports Day pm
Mon 1 st June – CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL	Tues 14 th July - Reserve Infant Sports Afternoon
Mon 8 th June – Y6 to Conover Hall	Fri 17 th July - Y6 Leavers' Assembly 9.10am
Weds 17 th June – Y1 Class Assembly Two	Fri 17 th July - Last Day of Term 1.30pm finish
Thurs 25 th June – Y2 Class Assembly Two	

MUSIC SUCCESS

Congratulations to Emma Y5 for passing her ABRSM Piano Grade 4 Performance Examination. To reach Grade 4 by the start of Year 5 is a great achievement. Well done Emma.



HOME SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS 2025-26

Here is the overview of the Woodridge home/school communications for the forthcoming year:



WEEKLY APP POSTS

To let you know the learning focus in each class for the following week.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Weekly update on what has been happening in school, what is coming up and a celebration of in and out of school successes.

CO-HEADTEACHER SURGERY

First come, first served drop-in with Mr Dowland on Wednesdays 9.00-9.30am. (On occasion these slots may be cancelled at short notice. Please check in advance.)

GOVERNOR UPDATES

Termly Newsletter piece to keep you informed of School Improvement matters and other business around school governance.

PARENT TEACHER CONSULTATIONS – (18th and 20th November 2025 for Y1 to Y6)

These school meetings come in November so that teachers can feedback assessment outcomes to parents. Reception parents meet the teacher twice a year on a rolling programme during the school day. You can also make contact with your child's teacher via the school office if you would like to meet at other times.

MID-YEAR REPORTS Y1 to Y6 – (March 2026)

A full assessment report across the subjects

LEARNING REVIEW MEETINGS Y1-Y6 - (30th June and 2nd July 2026)

Children present to their parents a review of their own learning and targets for next year with parents also having a chance to speak to their child's teacher.

END OF YEAR ASSESSMENT SUMMARIES & RECEPTION PROFILES - (July 2026)

A short report with an assessment of your child's learning at the end of the year.

Remember, you can also email the school office to contact or make an appointment to see your child's class teacher at other times.

FLU VACCINATIONS

You will already have received information about the upcoming Flu Vaccinations for all children on Wednesday 1st October.

Below is a Frequently Asked Questions page about this and opposite are the details for two webinars you can join for more information. The links to the webinars are in the original email sent to you via Parentmail in the last couple of weeks. Please check your inbox for this.

FREE PARENT WEBINAR: THE FLU VACCINE IN CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Join us for a presentation discussing the flu vaccine in children and young people.

Topics covered:

- ✓ Why does my child need the vaccine
- 📍 Side-effects and safety
- 📍 Nasal vs injection (pork gelatine content)
- 📍 Flu data from previous years
- 🗣️ Q&A session



📅 **Wednesday 17th Sept**

🕒 8:00 - 9:00pm

📍 [Click here to join](#)

👤 363 003 291 454

🔒 jc3J83z5

📅 **Thursday 18th Sept**

🕒 6:00 - 7:00pm

📍 [Click here to join](#)

👤 310 543 675 2095

🔒 gT7P9ci3



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q WHY ARE CHILDREN BEING OFFERED THE FLU VACCINE?

Flu can make children feel very unwell and can sometimes lead to serious complications like pneumonia or ear infections. Some may even need hospital treatment. It's especially important for children with long-term conditions like asthma or diabetes, as flu can be more dangerous for them.

Q HOW DOES THE FLU VACCINE FOR CHILDREN WORK?

The nasal spray contains weakened flu viruses that help your child build protection without causing illness. Because flu strains change each year, the vaccine needs to be given annually. Most children only need one dose.

Q IS THE FLU VACCINE SAFE FOR CHILDREN?

Yes, it has a very good safety record and has been used for over 10 years in countries like the US without any major concerns. All vaccines available in United Kingdom must pass strict safety testing before being approved for use. The Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) only approve vaccines that have gone through rigorous safety testing measures. The regulators continually monitor them all the time.

Q SHOULD ANYONE NOT HAVE THE VACCINE?

Let us know if your child:

- Has a severe allergy to eggs, gelatine, or certain antibiotics
- Has recently had severe asthma symptoms or is wheezy on the day
- Has a seriously weakened immune system

Also, after vaccination, children should avoid close contact with people who have very weak immune systems for about two weeks—everyone else is fine to be around.

Q ARE THERE ANY SIDE EFFECTS?

Side effects from the nasal spray are usually mild and short-lived. These may include a runny or blocked nose, headache, reduced appetite, or a slight temperature. Paracetamol or ibuprofen can help if needed.

Q WE DO NOT EAT PORK PRODUCTS. CAN MY CHILD HAVE A DIFFERENT FLU VACCINE?

Yes. There is an injectable flu vaccine is available that contains no pork (porcine gelatine).

While the nasal spray is generally more effective and painless, we respect your preferences. Just complete the consent form for the injection—no need to fill out both.

CONSENT INFORMATION

The consent form needs to be signed by a person with parental responsibility which includes:

- Mother: automatic
- Father: if married to the mother either when baby is born or marries subsequently
- Unmarried father: if name appears on birth certificate (since 1/12/03) or legally acquired
- Others: if parental responsibility is legally acquired
- Parental Responsibility Agreement: signed, properly witnessed and sent for registration to Principle Registry or the Family Division (High Court)
- Residence Order: granted by the Court

Please note that young people under the age of 16 can give or refuse consent if considered competent to do so by nursing staff.

Q NATURAL IMMUNITY

While natural immunity from the flu can occur, it's not generally considered better than vaccine-induced immunity. Natural infection carries the risk of severe illness and complications, whereas the flu vaccine offers protection with significantly less risk. Natural immunity can be long-lasting against specific strains, but we know that the flu virus changes (mutates) overtime so natural immunity to one strain might not protect against a different strain that emerges later. Vaccines are a safer and more reliable way to protect against a wider range of flu viruses.

Flu vaccines are updated for each winter to give protection against the strains of flu that are most likely to be going around. For this reason, we strongly recommend that even if your child was vaccinated last year, they should be vaccinated again this year.

Q MY CHILD NEEDS A DIFFERENT VACCINE

If your child needs another vaccine you can speak to our team or attend one of our community clinics, all information can be found on our website:

www.schoolvaccination.uk/catch-up-clinics

Q I HAVE MORE QUESTIONS

We run Q&A webinars which address frequently asked questions and gives parents an opportunity to ask their questions. You can find information and how to join on our website.



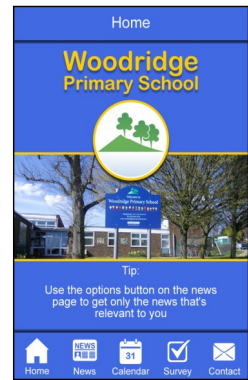
THE WOODRIDGE APP

For those of you who are new to Woodridge, we have a **smartphone app** for our school to help keep you better informed. The app is free to download for iPhones, Windows and Android Phones.

To access the app you will need to download it from either an android or apple app store. The QR codes to install this are below. Remember to allow "Push Notifications" when you install the app, so you get a notice each time we add something.

The app is separate from the email/text system at Woodridge. Each week, teachers will send a post explaining what the learning will be during the following week, so you can chat about it at home.

This starts this week.



SUPPORTING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES

At Woodridge we have a range of strategies for supporting children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). These are found below:

HOW WE SUPPORT LEARNERS WITH SEND

ENVIRONMENT

Create **movement breaks**.
Allow for appropriate **sensory experiences**.
Create calm safe spaces.

WAIT TIME

Allow children time to **respond to** and **process** tasks and instructions.

CHOICES

Allowing children to **make choices** encourages communication and is empowering. It often provides a way out.

REPETITION

Create as many opportunities for **repetition** of new skills and task.

INDEPENDENCE

Always think:
'What can they do by themselves?'

VISUALS

Back up with as many **visuals** as possible
Use **context and gesture** clues.

MODELLING

Children need to do the activity **immediately** after they have been shown for it to become a meaningful learning experience.

LANGUAGE

Use **language** appropriate to the child's **developmental level**.
Be clear and specific.

WELCOME TO HOLLAND

Accompanying our 'How we support children with SEND' document (see previous page) here's a beautiful mini-essay by Emily Perl Kingsley to keep in mind.

WELCOME TO HOLLAND

BY EMILY PERL KINGSLEY

When you're going to have a baby, it's like you're planning a vacation to Italy. You're all excited. You get a whole bunch of guidebooks, you learn a few phrases so you can get around, and then it comes time to pack your bags and head for the airport.

Only when you land, the stewardess says, "WELCOME TO HOLLAND."

You look at one another in disbelief and shock, saying, "HOLLAND? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? I SIGNED UP FOR ITALY."

But they explain that there's been a change of plan, that you've landed in Holland and there you must stay. "BUT I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HOLLAND!" you say. "I DON'T WANT TO STAY!"

But stay, you do.

You go out and buy some new guidebooks, you learn some new phrases, and you meet people you never knew existed.

The important thing is that you are not in a bad place filled with despair. You're simply in a different place than you had planned.

It's slower paced than Italy, less flashy than Italy, but after you've been there a little while and you have a chance to catch your breath, you begin to discover that Holland has windmills. Holland has tulips. Holland has Rembrandts.

But everyone else you know is busy coming and going from Italy. They're all bragging about what a great time they had there, and for the rest of your life, you'll say, "YES, THAT'S WHAT I HAD PLANNED."

The pain of that will never go away.

You have to accept that pain, because the loss of that dream, the loss of that plan, is a very, very significant loss.

But if you spend your life mourning the fact that you didn't get to go to Italy, you will never be free to enjoy the very special, the very lovely things about Holland.

ZONES OF REGULATION

At Woodridge, as part of our PSHE curriculum, we use 'Zones of Regulation', designed by Leah M. Kuypers to help develop self-regulation. At the beginning of each year, each class spends time talking about the Zones.



The 'Zones of Regulation' supports pupils to focus on how they are feeling and creates a simple shared language for everyone to use. Pupils are taught to recognise their own behaviours and feelings and to describe themselves as being in one of 4 Zones: blue, green, yellow and red. Ask your child about The Zones.

These Zones are then meaningfully linked to readiness for learning and pupils develop an awareness of their own behaviours and use their personal set of strategies to bring themselves back to an optimal state for learning.

Through practice and application, the 'Zones of Regulation' helps pupils build skills that can serve them as they move through the school and face challenging situations in the wider world. Pupils are taught that there is no bad Zone, it is just the way they feel at a particular moment and there are things they can do to help themselves move to a different Zone.

The children have thought about different strategies that they can use to help get themselves in the Green Zone; where they are in the best place to learn.

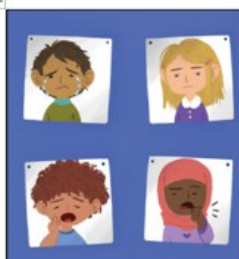



The Zones

Blue Zone: Your body is running slow, such as when you are tired, sick, sad or bored.

Green Zone: You are ready to GO. You may feel happy, calm and focused.

Yellow Zone: You need to proceed with caution and SLOW DOWN. You are frustrated, silly, excited, worried, anxious or surprised. You are starting to lose control.

Red Zone. You need to STOP. You are out of control, angry, scared or over-excited.

			
Blue Zone	Green Zone	Yellow Zone	Red Zone
Sad Tired Bored Sick	Happy Focused Calm Ready	Worried Nervous Silly Not ready	Angry Frustrated Terrified Out of control

TWO MEALTIME SUPERVISORS REQUIRED

We are looking for TWO mealtime supervisors (5 lunchtimes a week) to join our lovely staff team this term.



Please see the advert below, which also includes a website link for the key documents.

VACANCY FOR TWO MEALTIME SUPERVISORS

Post Title: MEALTIME SUPERVISOR Level 1
(Required from September 2025)

Salary: £3315 per annum 39 weeks a year

Part-time – 6.25 hours a week. (12 noon to 1.15pm - Mon to Fri)



Woodridge Primary is an over-subscribed, successful and friendly one form entry school in Finchley graded as 'Outstanding' in four out of five areas by Ofsted in March 2025.

The school is committed to achieving the highest standards and a real sense of community.

The school is looking for a mealtime supervisor to join our lunchtime team.

If you would enjoy taking on a variety of roles and are confident working with children, supervising them in the dining room and helping them to play together in the playground, we would like to hear from you.

Applicants should ideally:

- Have experience of working with primary age children
- Have good communication skills
- Be calm, firm and patient
- Be able to work as a part of a team and take instruction
- Be willing to undergo any appropriate training



Woodridge can offer:

- Working with children who are well behaved, friendly and keen to do well
- A welcoming, well-resourced school environment
- An organised and well led staff team

For an informal discussion please call Colin Dowland or Laura Monroe (Co-Headteachers). Visits to the school are warmly encouraged. Please contact the school office to arrange one. An application form and Job Description can be found on our website here:

<https://woodridgeprimaryschool.secure-primariesite.net/july-2025-mealtime-supervisor-vacancy/>

Please email application to office@woodridge.barnetmail.net. Applications will be set processed on a rolling basis on receipt.

Woodridge Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

STARS OF THE WEEK!

Achievement Awards

Friday 12th September 2025

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	This week we have welcomed the first batches of the new Reception Class. Great to see you.
Year 1 Willow	Ben for fantastic maths work. Finding 'one more' from a number on a dice. Alma for having a positive attitude to learning and always trying their best.
Year 2 Rowan	Leo for being a kind friend and such a helpful, thoughtful member of the class. Ophelia for showing real perseverance with your English work and producing fabulous results.
Year 3 Silver Birch	Max R and Arthur for showing great enthusiasm in our Science work on skeletons.
Year 4 Ash	Xylia for always displaying the right learning behaviour to others. Zac for his focus and engagement in Maths especially when on the carpet.
Year 5 Lime	Nancy for showing good manners, kindness and a helpful attitude throughout the week. Ella for persevering with a smile when maths questions get tricky.
Year 6 Maple	Alice for her excellent persuasive writing, using a range of sentence structures to create impact. Zack for his fantastic persuasive writing, using emotive vocabulary to resonate with the opposition.
Value of The Month	September - Kindness

SPORTING STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Multisports - Saku Y2, Emily Y2, Eva Y2 and Akira Y2

Gym - Thomas Y5 and Jana Y3



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.



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

