

Woodlands Weekly



Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe

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www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk

12th September 2025

Newsletter No. 02

I'd like to start with some thank-yous - a special mention for one of our parents, Rita's dad, who came to Woodlands during the summer holidays as part of AXA's Hearts in Action volunteer programme to paint the car park lines and work on the school grounds. Thank you for your time. Thank you also to Donna, a grandparent of previous pupils, who worked on our fabulous fairy garden near the staff room – come and take a look (but no touching!)

I'd also like to thank staff for giving up their time to provide free clubs for pupils. Many schools do not do this but we feel it is important for children to have additional opportunities – especially those whose families may not have the resources to provide these outside of school. We have listened to feedback, and the time for sign-up to clubs will be moved to 7pm to allow working parents to sign up and the list will be sent out ahead of sign-up so that children and parents know what is available.

Remember that not all children will be able to access the clubs they want and there will be some disappointment, but such is life. Arbor manages the sign-ups and if a club is full, it no longer shows the club or prevents you from getting in. We have passed on your feedback to Arbor but please understand that if you do not get in, it will be because others have beaten you to it. Get used to this – this will be the way it is likely to work at secondary school for most events, including parent consultations!

It's been a super second week back for the children....

Year R has loved staying for school lunches this week. They enjoyed trying new foods - the chicken burgers and wedges and chocolate cornflake cakes were particularly yummy! Life in year R is very busy. The children have been learning the Read, Write, Inc phonic rhymes, sounding out words with Fred frog, practising their counting, spotting patterns, exploring the inside and outside learning environments and experiencing many more exciting activities. Their teachers are so proud of how well they have settled in. They are now full-time Woodlanders - both the children and the staff will sleep well this weekend!

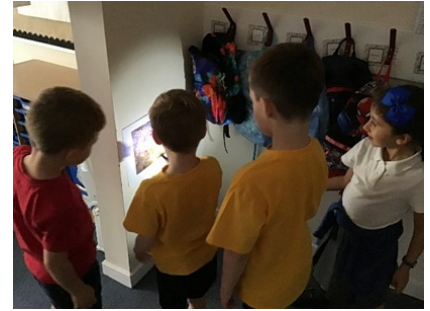
This week, **Year 1** has been learning more about their emotions. After reading *The Colour Monster* and exploring the *Zones of Regulation* we use at Woodlands, they discussed how every feeling is valid and how important it is to choose what to do with those feelings.



This term, **Year 2** are exploring an exciting history topic: Up in the Air! Together, the children will be investigating the big question: How did humans end up in the air? This week, they have been fascinated by some of the earliest ideas about flight, including the work of Leonardo da Vinci. They thought carefully about how these early influences fit onto a timeline, and enjoyed visiting the KS2 history timeline to see where these discoveries belong. The children also discussed how some events are within our own living memory, or those of their grandparents, while others happened long before we were all born.

This week, **Year 3** has embraced the learning that the new year has brought. This has included reading "The Wild Robot" and empathising with the main character, Roz. After reading the first chapter, the children took turns to be the robot and the rest of the class were the animals and were allowed to be mean to the robot. This allowed them understand how the robot was feeling with the vision of writing their own story later in the term.

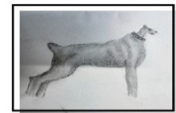
Into the caves was where art took the classes this week. The pupils explored around the classrooms and looked at different examples of cave art. They attempted to recreate these using the end of paint brushes and their fingers. The children will work towards their own cave art which will be displayed in the classroom.



What a fantastic day **Year 4** had last Friday celebrating all things Viking! The children had the opportunity to look at some excellent Viking artefacts. They also created their very own shield in the style of a Viking. Vikings loved jewellery, so the children designed their own brooches. They also had the opportunity to learn the Viking alphabet and successfully wrote their names and 'secret' messages for their classmates.



This week, **Year 5** started their art topic on Illustrations. They explored what an illustrator is and then investigated the work of various illustrators including those that have illustrated their favourite books (e.g. Lauren Child, Tim Burton, E.H.Shepard, Sarah Maycock Jon Klassen and Nicole Ostheimer). Finally, they used pencil to imitate the style of illustration reflecting on why they liked it. The children really enjoyed sharing their favourites and looking at the illustrations closely to copy them.



In science, **Year 6** has been learning about blood and its crucial role in the human body. To explore the components of blood – they made it! To a container of water, they added yellow food colouring to represent plasma, which transports the blood cells and platelets. Ask your children what they used as red blood cells, white blood cells and platelets and why those parts of the blood are so important to us all.

What busy bees!

Well done to those who took part in the Dragon Boat Race in the name of Woodlands on Sunday. What a great effort!

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Vickie Lonie

Open Mornings for Reception 2026

Our open events are on:

Friday 3rd October 2025, 9.30am - 11am

Monday 17th November 2025, 9.30am - 11am

If you wish to attend one of the open mornings, please complete the following form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/pwSr8SSzvH>

Term Dates

2025/2026

Term 1: 01/09/2025 - 17/10/2025

Term 2: 03/11/2025 - 19/12/2025

Term 3: 05/01/2026—13/02/2026

Term 4: 23/02/2026 - 02/04/20226

Term 5: 20/04/2026 - 22/05/2026

Term 6: 01/06/2026 - 21/07/2026

Diary Dates

2024/2025

15th Sep Year 2 Parent Information Meeting

16th Sep Year 5 Parent Information Meeting

26th Sep PTA Quiz and AGM

01st Oct Year 1, Bedgebury

06th Oct Years 1 and 2 Harvest Festival

14th Oct 5 Rowan to Bewl Water

15th Oct 5 Hornbeam to Bewl Water

16th Oct 5 Sycamore to Bewl Water

4th Nov Flu Spray

7th Nov Individual and Sibling Photos

15th Nov Fireworks

23rd Jan Year 5 Young Voices

New dates/times in blue

Come and see the amazing machinery used on local farms, you can have a seat on a vintage tractor and get that magical photo!

The farm will be able to help with last minute plant sales, offer advice on preparing your garden for winter and of course tractor rides will be running.

You will also have the opportunity to purchase handmade crafts and enjoy refreshments in Munchkins Café as well as to try out the trim trail.

Entry Adults £8 Children (2yrs-16yrs) £4, under 2's Free. Open Sunday 14th September 11am-2pm Princess Christians Farm, Riding Lane Hildenborough TN11 9LN.

Buy tickets online - <https://buytickets.at/kasbah>



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07837 996183**

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**WEDNESDAY 22ND OCTOBER 9AM - 3PM
&
THURSDAY 23RD OCTOBER**

AGES 4-13

**OCTOBER
SOCCER
SCHOOL**

**HUGH CHRISTIE SCHOOL
3G PITCH
TONBRIDGE
KENT
TN10 4PU**

£22 PER DAY - £40 TWO DAYS

The logo for LC Coaching, featuring the letters 'LC' inside a white octagon with the word 'COACHING' written below it.