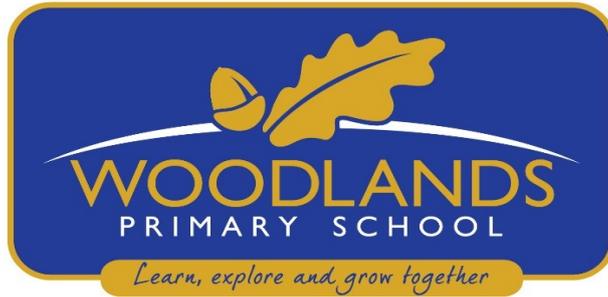


Woodlands Weekly



Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe

office@woodlands.kent.sch.uk

www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk

28th November 2025

Newsletter No. 11

This week began with assemblies by Mr Burns on our 'Big Ideas' of Diversity and Culture – key themes that run through our curriculum.

Well done to our Year 4 classes for their fabulous assemblies last week – clear voices (slow and loud as requested by me) and well-rehearsed. You did a great job, as did the audience of KS2 pupils whose behaviour and attention were impeccable!

As usual, learning this week has been exciting and varied....

Year R has been experimenting with clay. They have made hedgehogs as part of our 'Enchanted Woodlands' topic. They loved the texture of the clay. The movements really helped their fine motor skills.



Year 1 has been looking at different forms of communication. They have looked at how communication has changed over time from writing letters, to speaking on the telephone, to sending text messages.



Year 2 has been exploring coding in their computing lessons this term in their topic 'We are astronauts'. This week, they began to use Scratch Junior to input instructions on how to move their sprite (an on-screen character) using the motion blocks. They explored how to de-bug their programming and make changes so their rocket would land on the next planet.

Construction is complete in **Year 3!** The children have finished building their castles using 3D shapes and their knowledge of what a castle requires (drawbridge, battlements etc). They have been working well in their teams and have developed some new skills along the way. They have had to negotiate within their groups for who is taking the castle home first.



Journeys have been the order of the week within writing. The children have been working on their journey tales with The Polar Express as inspiration. They have used their innovation skills to devise a new mode of transport to get them to the North Pole and have integrated that into their tales. Watch this space for the exciting conclusion to those stories.

In Maths, the children have been working practically on complements within 100. They have been using bead strings to show the number bonds that make 100. This has been a great visual and practical way for the children to develop this skill.

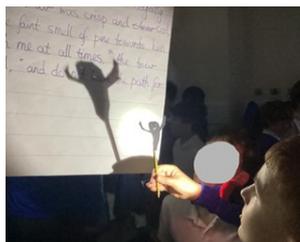


This week in geography, the children in **Year 4** have been learning about grid references on maps which can be quite tricky! However, with lots of practice and some handy tips from the very familiar game of Battleships, the children managed to be very successful. In the next few weeks, the children will be putting these skills to use in real life as they navigate their way around the local area.

This week, children in **Year 5** have enjoyed yet another swimming lesson at Tonbridge pool. Building confidence in the water, learning new strokes and developing techniques have all been on the agenda in recent weeks. Good progress toward their swimming awards has been made, and it has been smiles all around (except when swapping the warm water of the pool for the chilly air of the changing rooms)



Year 6 has continued to explore light in science this week. After learning that light travels in straight lines and how their brains process what they see, they experimented with shadow. They discovered that a shadow will be the same shape as the object that casts it, but the size of the shadow depends on the position of the light source.



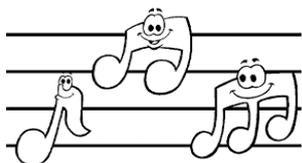
Following Year 6's fabulous session at the Methodist church for their 'Evacuee Day', one of the very kind volunteers called to say that it was such a lovely experience - she said all of the children were a credit to their families and the school, they behaved beautifully and the teachers were all absolutely brilliant. Well done Year 6 and thank you to our local community.

The PTA has been working away in preparation for our Christmas fair tomorrow – I hope to see you there!

Best wishes,

Vicki Lonie

Woodwind lessons



If you are interested in your child learning the flute, recorder, clarinet please contact Nicky to discuss lessons.

Nicky Catterwell: MA, BA (Hons)

Instrumental Teacher: Flute, Recorder, Clarinet Theory up to grade 5

Email: n.catterwell@hotmail.co.uk

Tel: 07713 164930

Website: www.nickycatterwell-flautist.co.uk

Diary Dates

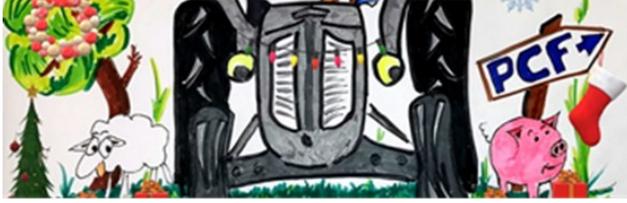
2024/2025

29th Nov	Christmas Fair
05th Dec	Secret presents 'Elfridges'
23rd Jan	Year 5 Young Voices
30th Jan	KS2 Spring Disco
06th Feb	KS1 Spring Disco
06th Mar	Break the rules day
05th Jun	KS1 Summer Disco
12th Jun	KS2 Summer Disco
04th Jul	Summer Fair

New dates/times in blue

Princess Christian's Farm

PCF's Christmas Event 2025- Santa visits available



Santa is coming to PCF!

We are offering a great opportunity to visit PCF at Christmas with the opportunity to book and see Santa! Santa visits will be booked on the day with our friendly elves at £10 a ticket. Don't forget to buy your grotto ticket on arrival to ensure Santa knows you are coming to visit :).

The farm will be open for general admission to allow visitors to see the animals and buy seasonal produce and gifts from PCF and local businesses.

Refreshments will be available on the day.

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

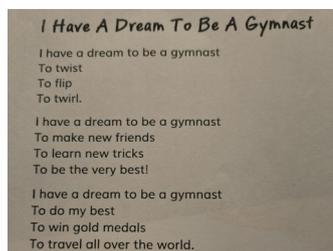
PLEASE BE AWARE NOT ALL PARKING WILL BE AVAILABLE ON SITE - MINIBUS SHUTTLE SERVICES WILL BE AVAILABLE WHEN ONSITE PARKING IS FULL.

Superstar Corner

When looking at different maps in geography, Niall in 4 Hazel posed the question "what happens when countries border each other but they drive on opposite sides of the road?" It was an excellent question that he found the answer too at home. The photos clearly show what great engineering has to be in place!



Harley from 5 Sycamore has been published with young writers for the fourth time. This entry was for 'I Have A Dream—A Burst Of Brilliance'. Well done Harley!



Christingle



On Monday 1st December, Reverend Kirsty will be explaining about Christingle in each Key Stage.

She will be showing KS1 how to make a Christingle and what it means.

In KS2 (year 3 upwards), all the children will have an opportunity to make their own Christingle. If your child would like to participate, they will need to bring an orange, 1 small candle, 4 cocktail sticks and some dried fruit e.g. raisins. Please bring this in on 1st December.

Christmas Dates

8th Dec	Year 3 Christmas Carols to the community (Methodist church) Timing TBC	
9th Dec	EYFS performance, 2.15pm	
10th Dec	EYFS performance, 9.30am	
12th Dec	Year 3 Christmas Carols to parents (Methodist Church) 9.30am	
15th Dec	Year 1 performance, 2.15pm	
16th Dec	Year 1 performance, 9.30am	
18th Dec	Year 2 performance, 2.15pm	
19th Dec	Year 2 performance, 9.30am	

KS2 Assemblies

Assembly time 2.45pm

Parents arrive at 2.40pm

Year 3 - Romans, w/c 02/03/2026, dates tbc

Year 5 - Greeks, w/c 09/02/2025, dates tbc

Year 6 - WWII, Thursday 11th December

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 - 02/04/2026

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

Chimera Climbing

On Tuesday, Miss Husband took 12 members of Key Stage 2 to the Chimera climbing centre for an afternoon fitness and fun. The children did Woodlands proud, both with the excellent behaviour at the event, as well as with their bravery, determination and resilience to try every wall and push themselves out of their comfort zones. Well done all who took part.



Bowling

Last Friday, 18 children from years 3 to 6, had an exciting trip out for a morning bowling session at Bowlplex, Tunbridge Wells! It was a great way for the children to practise their bowling and team work skills. They did brilliantly, with a few strikes and many spares! The children enjoyed the competitive nature and a lot of energy was put into trying to get the top score! However, they were also so encouraging of each other. It was fantastic to see how they supported their team mates with high fives and top tips for getting more points. Well done Woodlands!

Girls Football

On Thursday 20th November, our Year 5 and 6 girls' football team took part in an exciting tournament at the Tonbridge Angels FC Stadium, competing against schools from Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells. The standard of play was incredibly high and our team rose to the challenge with determination and enthusiasm. Throughout the day, the girls showed fantastic resilience and a willingness to learn. Each match brought noticeable improvements in their teamwork, positioning and confidence on the ball. Their positive attitude never wavered and they supported each other brilliantly both on and off the pitch. We are immensely proud of their excellent behaviour and sportsmanship, which truly reflected our school values. Well done to all the players for representing the school so admirably! Thank you so much to Alex Rich who volunteered his time to coach the team so brilliantly.

Basketball

On Wednesday, ten children from Year 5 and 6 took part in a basketball tournament at Skinners Secondary School. The team were drawn into a group with three other schools and began their first match against Slade and won 10 – 2. The next game was against Claremont, who in previous events, have always provided a tough test and this match was no different. In a low scoring match, a superb last second shot by Ella-Rose secured a 6 – 4 victory. In their final group game, Woodlands were against St James with both teams undefeated and looking to secure first place in the group to move to the top group in the next stage of the event. Woodlands started off slow and were quickly 3 – 0 down, however some superb shooting and defending, Woodlands took the lead with a fantastic shot by Arben V with a minute to go. A couple of nervous moments nearly meant that St. James' won the game but thankfully, Woodlands prevailed as winners of their group.

In the next stage of the competition, Woodlands were now up against the top team from three other groups. The other team from Claremont were the first opponents and Woodlands won another close game 4 – 2. Unfortunately, in their final two games, they played against two well-drilled teams in Speldhurst and St Matthews and lost both matches. Even though they were disappointed to lose their last two matches, the children should be incredibly proud of finishing 3rd out of sixteen teams in what is always one of the most competitive tournaments in the academic year.





LEGO CHRISTMAS WORKSHOPS



22nd December - Bidborough Village Hall

23rd December - Kings Hill Community Centre

9.30am - 12pm

*includes NEW LEGO® set or mini figure to take home



www.bricks4kidz.uk/kent

Bring a drink & snack (NUT-FREE)



Book online via website 5-12 yrs / Drop & Go



UEFA LICENSED COACHING



INDOOR VENUE

MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER

9AM - 3PM

AGES 4-13
TUESDAY 23RD DECEMBER

£22 PER DAY
£40 TWO DAYS

CHRISTMAS SUPER



CUP



**HUGH CHRISTIE SCHOOL
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