

Woodlands Weekly



Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe

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www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk

09th January 2026

Newsletter No. 15

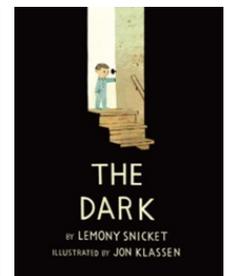
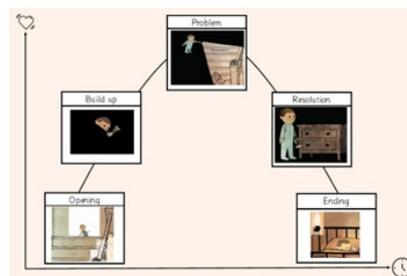
Welcome back! A chilly start to the term, but that didn't stop Year 4 enjoying Forest School this week..

Mrs Newble, our Forest School lead, is currently planning a lovely daffodil display for spring. If you have any old children's wellies you no longer need, please pass them to the school office for her display. They can be odd ones!



Year 1 has been busy learning all about the different parts of the human body. They have been naming and identifying body parts and talking about what they are used for. The children have enjoyed taking part in discussions, songs, and activities to help them remember what each body part does.

Year 2 started the term with an exciting introduction to their new book 'The Dark' by Lemony Snicket. Throughout the week, they have ordered the story into a story arc, developed exciting vocabulary and begun to write some descriptive sentences about the dark. The teachers have been so impressed by their creativity and imagination!



Year 3 children have been swimming into their learning this week – literally! They have begun their swimming lessons with great enthusiasm, any nerves that were there are pretty much washed away. They are looking forwards to next week!

The children have also begun their new topic of the Romans. Ahead of Roman Day today, they have started to learn about roman roads and how one was made. Using different types of biscuit, they formed the layers of a roman road. Do ask the children if they can remember what each layer represented.



Year 4 pupils made the most of the snowy weather by heading outside to collect natural objects such as twigs, leaves and acorns as the exciting start to their new art topic on printing. Upon returning to the classroom, they used the items they had chosen to create printed artwork, exploring different textures and patterns and producing unique pieces inspired by nature.



As the new year and a new term begins, new topics have begun in **Year 5**. The children have started their journey through ancient Greek history and mythology. In guided reading, they are exploring the myth of 'Theseus and the Minotaur' which they will be doing further work on in English next week. In history, they began the topic by looking at the physical features of Greece and considered how this would have affected how people lived. The general consensus was that living in a land full of mountains with hundreds of islands was definitely challenging, but made them great sailors and resourceful farmers. They were also amused to discover that the shop 'Argos' has the same name as an ancient Greek city-state.



Before Christmas, **Year 6** pupils read a book called 'Be More Hedgehog', which highlighted many of the environmental problems facing the world today and Mr Burns led an assembly on the same theme. Inspired by these issues, Ben in Year 6 wrote a rap in his own time, which he bravely and brilliantly performed to the whole year group. Everyone loved it and we wanted to share it with the wider community. There are some very important points that we should all listen to and can all act on. It's fantastic to see young people caring about their world.

Look around, hear the planet tryna speak. Ice caps melting while the profits hit their peak.

Smoke in the sky, plastic all in the sea, but the future ain't dead, nah, it's calling you and me.

We been burning too fast, taking more than we can give,

Acting like tomorrow ain't a place we gotta live.

But change ain't a myth, it's a plan.

Every bottle we recycle, every time we take a stand.

Solar on the rooftop, wind spinning clean green in our mindset,

Redefine what it means – less waste, more care, let the forests breathe.

Plant seeds of respect, watch the whole world heal.

Turn the power back to the people, not the greed – clean water, clean air, that's the basic need.

From the city to the village, hear the rhythm,

The sound when we fix the environment, we fix the crown.

So rise up, stay loud, let the truth be heard,

Every action, a verse, every voice, a word.

This ain't just a song, it's a mission, a vow,

If we love this planet - it starts right now.

What a super effort and strong message! Well done Ben.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lonie

Important Information

We have been notified that there will be road works carried out on Hunt Road next week just outside of school and the pavement will be inaccessible.

Please plan your journey or discuss with your child if they walk to school.

Superstar Corner

Congratulations to Ben Ings from 6 Ash who has achieved a Distinction in his Grade 6 drums! We are very proud of you and all the hard work you've put in. Well done!



Message from the Children's Commissioner

I am writing to inform you that I have recently published a new guide, ['What I wish my parents or carers knew...': A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives | Children's Commissioner for England](#)

Supporting children's safety is a shared responsibility between families, schools and wider society. For parents and carers, this responsibility has become increasingly complex as children's lives are now deeply intertwined with the digital world. Many parents face difficult decisions about how to balance protecting children from online harm with enabling access to spaces that are now central to learning, socialising and play.

The last time I published a guide like this, *The things I wish my parents had known: Young people's advice on talking to your child about online sexual harassment*, in December 2021, it was to help parents and carers navigate difficult conversations about sexual harassment online. This guide is different in scope, in recognition of the complex, rapidly evolving landscape in which children – and parents – are navigating. It focuses on the challenge of managing children's everyday online habits.

This guide was written with the direct involvement of children in England. It is a reflection of their views. My office visited schools to speak to teenagers, and spoke to my Youth Ambassadors and Youth Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Panel to get their expertise on what works and what doesn't work between parents or carers and children in the 21st Century.

When I speak to children about what they would do differently when it comes to being online, with the benefit of hindsight, I ask them: would they give a smartphone to their own teenager? Almost unanimously, they tell me no. They want to be protected from it as long as possible.

As educators and leaders, you play a vital role in supporting parents and carers to navigate these challenges. Responses to my recent school survey show just how concerned school leaders are about their children's safety online, despite most already taking steps to limit or ban devices from the classroom. Children are clear that they value firm, informed and protective boundaries when adults have concerns about the content they are accessing online.

As parents, carers, and educators, our job must begin and end with our children's care and safety. It's what they expect and what they want from you.

As one young person told me: "Don't be afraid to be firm... If you are worried [that] your child is seeing harmful content and you don't know what they're watching and it's affecting the behaviour, just take it that you know best – they don't."

I hope this guide will be a useful resource for your school community, and I encourage you to share it with staff and parents where appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

Instagram

To ensure our communication is as widespread as possible, we have set up a new Instagram account (woodlandsprimariesch) for those who use this platform. It will feed into our Facebook page for those who prefer that platform. We will be using the accounts more frequently for reminders, sharing what we are doing in school and signposting any useful groups/resources. Please do take a look. It will be in use from next week.

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

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

2026/2027

Term 1: 01/09/2026 - 16/10/2026

Term 2: 02/11/2026 - 18/12/2026

Term 3: 04/01/2027 - 12/02/2027

Term 4: 22/02/2027 - 25/03/2027

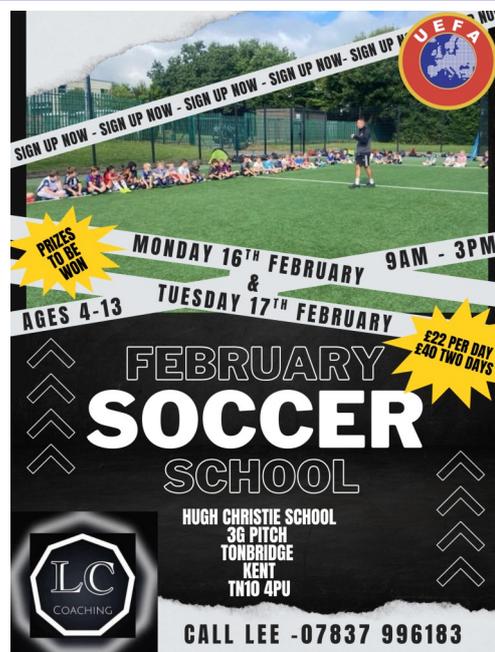
Term 5: 12/04/2027 - 28/05/2027

Term 6: 07/06/2027 - 21/07/2027

Diary Dates

2025/26

23rd Jan	Year 5 Young Voices
27th Jan	NO CLUBS
30th Jan	KS2 Spring Disco
06th Feb	KS1 Spring Disco
06th Mar	Break the rules day
09th Mar	Year 1, Tonbridge Castle
05th Jun	KS1 Summer Disco
22nd Jun - 26th Jun	Year 6 Residential
12th Jun	KS2 Summer Disco
04th Jul	Summer Fair



KS2 Assemblies

Assembly time 2.45pm

Parents arrive at 2.40pm

Year 3 - Romans, w/c 09/03/2026,

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

Year 6 - WWII, Thursday 11th December

French Club

Have fun with your friends and learn French at

Woodlands Primary School French Club!

Would you like your child to start learning French while it's still instinctive and lots of fun?

Pupils are invited to join a lovely, friendly group to learn French through games, songs and other fun activities. Sessions are held from 3:20-4pm on Tuesdays.

For more info and prices please contact CCK112@hotmail.com or 07884 255749

Please state your child's year group (everyone welcome) and that you are enquiring about French Club at Woodlands.

www.facebook.com/frenchclubtonbridge

www.instagram.com/frenchclubtonbridge

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TRY A CLASS
FOR FREE



Now showing, **CONFIDENCE!**

Drama, dance & singing classes
designed to help 4-12 year olds shine

**"My son has adored his first term at Perform.
He has blossomed and I've seen his confidence grow every week."**
Pippa Wotton



Play is a **POWERFUL THING**

Perform classes help boost children's **confidence**,
concentration, **coordination** and **communication** skills,
as well as being lots of fun.

Our expertly designed drama, dance and singing sessions for
4-7s and 7-12s are run by experienced teachers, hand-picked
for their warmth and approachability. They'll be with your child
every step of the way – inspiring and encouraging them to
develop vital life skills as they discover the joy of performing.

What does Perform offer?

- Performing arts-based games and exercises
- Focus on a different social skill each week
- Small classes and feedback on your child's progress
- Specially created scripts, videos and apps
- End of term presentation for family and friends

**"Perform helps develop all key areas of a child in a fun,
supportive and engaging way. It gives my daughter
a brilliant sense of fun, community, purpose and pride
in her achievements."**
Begum Bari



Ready to try for free?

Your child's first class is free, so why not
give it a go? Classes take place all over,
have a look online or call us:



perform.org.uk/try 020 7255 9120