

Woodlands Weekly



Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe

office@woodlands.kent.sch.uk

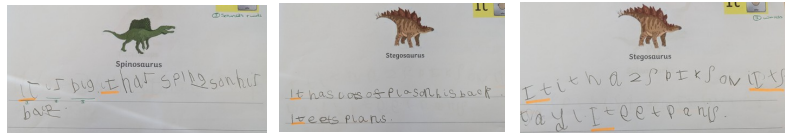
www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk

13th March 2026

Newsletter No. 23

This week at Woodlands...

This week's story in **Year R** has been looking at non-fiction texts about dinosaurs. They have loved discovering which dinosaurs are carnivores, which are herbivores, and they have compared the sizes and appearances of dinosaurs. They have used their super writing to record their observations.



On Monday, **Year 1** enjoyed a fantastic visit to Tonbridge Castle. The children took part in a tour of the castle, where they learnt all about its history and features. They also enjoyed a fun workshop where they dressed up and played traditional castle games. One of the highlights of the day was walking up to the top of the motte and exploring the castle grounds.

Year 2 had an exciting start to their week with a special visitor! 'The Paperbag Princess' came to visit and read the story to the classes. They were able to hot-seat the princess, ask questions about the story and had a great discussion about how it is similar to the 'The knight who wouldn't fight'. It sparked lots of excitement and was an inspiring start to exploring their next 'defeating the monster' story



This week, **Year 3** have proudly represented themselves and their class in their first class assemblies. The dedication to learning their lines and the roman numerals song (which was great to see previous years' joining in with!). Along with the bravery of speaking in front of an audience of parents and other year groups. We are very proud of them!

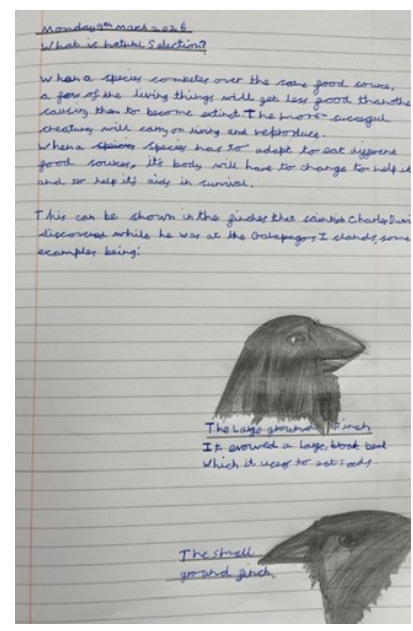
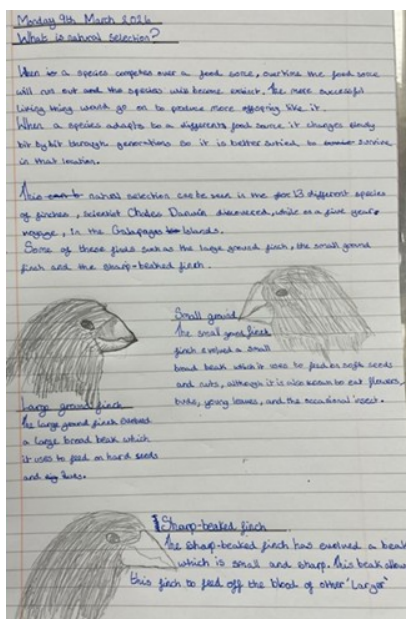
As part of our World Book Day celebrations, **Year 4** (and the rest of the school) were set the exciting challenge of learning and performing a poem. In 4 Hazel and 4 Walnut, the children chose Wes Magee's lively poem *The Boneyard Rap*, while 4 Chestnut selected *Please Don't Feed the Animals* by Robert Hull. The classes worked incredibly hard to learn their poems by heart and to explore how to deliver them with confidence, expression and flair. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and had a wonderful day filled with storytelling, imagination and a shared love of reading.

This week, **5 Hornbeam** travelled to Tonbridge School and participated in some fun Science experiments. The children made parachutes out of paper, strong and cups to protect an egg from cracking after dropping from a two-storey building! The other experiment was attempting (key word) to protect an egg from a high velocity crash. The children used a range of strategies, including wrapping the egg in paper and building a crumple zone to absorb energy.

The other two classes will be following in subsequent weeks, so keep your eyes peeled.

This week Year 6 have been continuing their learning on evolution and inheritance in science. They have focused on the work of Charles Darwin and his discoveries when studying finches on the Galapagos Islands. The children learned that the finches' beaks adapted over time to suit their available food sources and this resulted in natural selection. To bring this learning to life, the children competed for food with others using their own beaks (pegs, tongs, claw grips and tweezers)!

Take a look at what they have learned:



Red Nose Day - Friday 20th March

We will be taking part in comic relief on Friday 20th March.

Your child is welcome to come to school wearing something red, a comic relief t shirt or red nose for a donation of your choice. No football kits allowed.

Please donate via the following link:

[Woodlands Primary is fundraising for Comic Relief](#)



REMINDER

British Science Week – Poster Competition

Don't forget, all children are invited to design a poster for British Science Week addressing the following question:

What are children and young people's vision for a good/positive childhood?

The poster must be on A4 or A3 paper, using any materials of the children's choosing (No 3D models please).

All entries to be submitted to Mrs Joyce by Friday 27th March. Please add full name, age and class to the back of the poster.



School rock band need your help!

The school rock band has been practising hard all year but are in need of guitar amps. If anyone has a guitar amp or two at home gathering dust and you'd like to donate it to the school please do get in touch with our guitar teacher Tom. Tomwilliamsmusic@hotmail.com/07736051082



Tonbridge Methodist Church

Spring Fair

Please come along to support Tonbridge Methodist Church Spring Fair on Saturday 25th April at 10am-12 noon. There will be lots of stalls, selling cakes, jewellery, pre-loved items, books and much, much more.

We would be very grateful for donations of any children's books that we could collect from school for our annual fair.



Attendance

Well done to our Parents and Carers – attendance is improving!

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our Parents and Carers for the continued effort you are making to ensure pupils arrive at school on time and ready to learn. We have seen a real improvement in both attendance and punctuality and this is something the whole school community should be proud of.

Regular attendance and arriving on time make a significant difference to student's learning. Every lesson counts and when students are in school consistently, they are able to keep up with their learning, build confidence and achieve their full potential.

While the progress so far has been fantastic, we want to encourage everyone to keep the momentum going. There is still more we can achieve together and every extra day in school really does matter.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support – it really makes a difference.

FAMILY TALK ON SAFER SCREENS

Have you had trouble managing tantrums over tablets?

Would you like to feel more equipped in managing screens at home?

Are you unsure what screen time is good and what can be damaging for your child?

No Judgment just honest open conversations in a safe and confidential space

Discuss the difficulties of modern technology and the pressures we all feel in today's societies.

Come up with your own digital agreement for healthier choices in the future.

The Research

There will be up-to-date research and current guidance on screen time for children under 5 and primary school-aged children, with the opportunity for parents to ask questions and share their experiences.

The facilitator, Dr Hannah O'Brien, is a counselling psychologist and has 15 years of experience working in mental health services, including the NHS. Her background is in education. She is now a member of Health Professionals for Safer Screens, supporting parents with digital wellbeing in the family.

TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2026 | 7:00-9:00 PM | LONG MEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS FOR SAFER SCREENS

the british psychological society



SPRING SHOWCASE

Saturday, 28th March 2026

Tonbridge Baptist Church
Darenth Avenue, Tonbridge

Doors open 6pm

Music starts 6.30pm

Tickets: Adults £8 / Under 8's £4



Tickets to be booked online:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/17thband

A massive well done to our fantastic netball players, Imogen, Tamara, Jenny, Lexi, Felicity, Isabelle and Florence! Whether shooting, defending, or cheering each other on, you showed outstanding teamwork and commitment at the tournament we attended at Skinners Kent Academy Secondary school on Monday. We won one, drew one and lost two and came fourth in our group. What a brilliant achievement for new team who have never played together! Watch this space for information on a tournament being hosted by us in the next few months!



Guitar Lessons

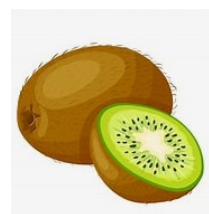
Tom Williams has a space to start guitar lessons after the Easter break!

Acoustic/electric, rock/pop, total beginners very welcome. Please contact Tom directly on [07736051082/](tel:07736051082)
tomwilliamsmusic@hotmail.com



Breaktime snacks request

We currently have a child in KS2 who has an severe allergy to kiwi. As such, we are asking years 3 to 6 not to bring kiwi in as a snack. Thank you for your cooperation.



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

20th Mar

Comic Relief

27th Apr

SATS + Devon parent meeting, 6pm

05th May

NO CLUBS

01st Jun

Safety in Action Trip

05th Jun

KS1 Summer Disco

12th Jun

KS2 Summer Disco

16th Jun

NO CLUBS

22nd Jun - 26th Jun

Year 6 Residential

27th Jun

Summer Fair

15th Jul

Year 6 performance, 1.30pm

16th Jul

Year 6 performance, 7pm

20th Jul

Year 6 Leavers Assemblies

Ash, 9.15am

Aspen, 10.45am

Hawthorn, 2.30pm

20th Jul

Year 6 Leavers party, 4pm

New dates/times in blue



Easter Holiday Spring Fun!

Tuesday 7 April - Friday 17 April

at The Bluebell Cafe

Free Activity Trail

Word puzzle - Spot the letters to find the word!

Running on every weekday throughout the holidays.

This is free and no booking is required. Please pick up an activity sheet from the cafe and return it to the same place to receive a special treat!



The Bluebell Cafe, Aspens, Cornford Lane, Pembury, TN2 4QU

PRINCESS CHRISTIAN'S FARM EVENT SCHEDULE 2026

16TH-20TH FEBRUARY HALF TERM TOURS	4TH & 5TH APRIL LAMBING OPEN DAYS	7TH-17TH APRIL SPRING TOURS	20TH JUNE TRACTOR OPEN DAY	3RD-20TH AUGUST SUMMER TOURS

26TH-30TH OCTOBER WINTER TOURS	30TH OCTOBER FRIGHT NIGHT 7.00PM-9.00PM	27TH NOVEMBER WREATH MAKING 6.30PM-8.30PM	28TH NOVEMBER WREATH MAKING 10AM-12PM	12TH DECEMBER CHRISTMAS OPEN DAY - SANTA'S GROTTO



Riding Lane, Hildenborough, TN11 9LM
Tel: 01732 838 438
Email: pcfarm@kasbah.org.uk
www.princesschristiansfarm.org.uk



aspens.org.uk
charity no: 1171446

Craft Activities

Competition time

Vote for your Favourite Aspens' Animal to Win an Animal Adoption pack. Fill in the form and select your favourite animal, winner will be drawn on Friday 17th April.

Win an Easter hamper. Fill in the form to enter. £1 a ticket. Winner will be drawn on Friday 17th April.

Make a Bunny
Wednesday 8th April,
10am-11am & 11am-12pm

Make a spring flower
Wednesday 15th April,
10am-11am & 11am-12pm

Both activities cost £3 per person. Pre-booking is required. Please text 07916 158577.

Support our mission here

Having a spring clear out?

Bring your donations of pre-loved items to our donations centre. Good quality clothes, shoes, accessories, homeware, books and toys are all gratefully received.



The Bluebell Café will be closed over Easter bank holiday weekend from the 3 April to the 6 April.