

Woodlands Weekly



Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe

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www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk

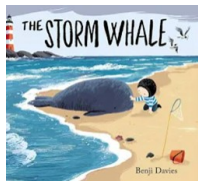
08th May 2026

Newsletter No. 29

I hope you enjoyed the long weekend. We're back to it as you can see.....

This week, **Year R** has been reading the book, 'Laura's Star' by Klaus Baumgart. In the story, Laura's star was broken. The children investigated different ways to fix a star, including using plasters, sticky tape, string and glue. Then they wrote about what they did and their writing is really coming along well.

This week, **Year 1** has been exploring a variety of fruits and vegetables as they prepare to make their own smoothies. The children have been practising important skills such as cutting and juicing, while also thinking carefully about which ingredients they would like to include. They have shown great curiosity and enthusiasm when trying new foods, and it has been lovely to see them planning their smoothie combinations. We look forward to seeing their creations soon. Well done, Year 1!



Year 2 children have enjoyed reading their new book 'The Storm Whale'. This week, they have begun to learn the story with actions, complete a story mountain and have compared the similarities and differences to 'The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch'. The children shared some great ideas about what they noticed about both stories and had some thoughtful discussions about the characters' emotions throughout.

Year 3 was fortunate to have the sunshine shining for their visit to Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve on Friday, making it a perfect day for outdoor learning.

The day was organised into three sessions, where the children explored rocks, plants and rivers - three of their wider curriculum topics this year. Each session offered hands-on experiences that brought classroom learning to life and deepened the children's understanding of the natural world.

The clear favourite of the day was the river investigation. Equipped with wellies and plenty of enthusiasm, the children entered the river to explore how healthy the ecosystem was. They carefully collected samples in nets and behaved like true scientists with their observations. A special mention for all the parent helpers who gave up their time to help.



In Art this term, **Year 4** pupils are exploring the work of William Morris and how his designs were inspired by nature and the idea of "bringing the outside in". This week, they looked at the paintings of Georgia O'Keeffe, using her work to help them focus on shape, colour and texture within their own sketches.



In science, **Year 5** have been learning about the different ways plants reproduce. Last week we looked at sexual reproduction, the different parts of the flower and their role in reproduction and the importance of pollinators such as bees. This week, we explored the different ways plants reproduce asexually. After writing a short information text about bulbs, tubers and runners (all ways plants reproduce asexually), we got to plant some examples in the garden. We are now waiting to see: our onions growing from bulbs; our potatoes sprouting from tubers and our spider plant plantlets rooting after being plucked from the runners of the parent plant.



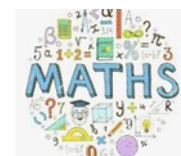
Year 6 have been putting their creative skills to the test this term as they bring together their final sewing project. They were tasked with designing a stuffed animal and we are beginning to see the end results from some of the children. There have been some frustrations, but the children have shown great resilience in perfecting their sewing skills. Teachers have been particularly impressed with the team work in the classroom as the children supported each other. This team spirit was again on display, but this time as a Year Group, when we practised for the sports day races.



Teachers want to thank all the children and parents for the hard work and effort they have put in the run up to the SATS. The mock went really well on Wednesday. All the children were relaxed and the results once again showed improvement. We know they are ready for next week and feel very proud of the way they are conducting themselves.

It has also been an incredibly busy start to the term in the world of maths, with two competitions taking place.

Firstly, Arjun (Y5), William (Y6), Gamy (Y6) and Olivia (Y6) competed in the Primary Maths Challenge held at Tonbridge Grammar School for Girls, where they finished an impressive 5th out of 13 local schools. They worked brilliantly as a team and made us all very proud. The children represented our school with determination and resilience, showing confidence in applying their problem-solving skills and mathematical thinking under pressure.



Following this, just last week, Trisha (Y6), Ben (Y6) and Imogen (Y6) showcased their talents at Tonbridge School in the Junior Maths Challenge for pupils in Year 8 and under. Once again, the children represented Woodlands fantastically.

Thank you to all the children for taking part and for showcasing their excellent maths skills.

Next week, the Year 6 pupils embark on their SATs. This is an important opportunity to show off all of their learning to date and I know they will do brilliantly. Early to bed and a good breakfast for best results please!

Hoping the sun shines on you this weekend.

Best wishes,

Vicki Lonie
Headteacher

Woodlands Memorabilia

We are delighted to have recently received a piece of Woodlands' history – a school blazer dating back to when the school first opened in the 1960s. Inspired by this, we are planning to create a display celebrating the rich heritage of our school and the generations of students who have been part of our community. We would love to hear from any current families or former pupils who may have memorabilia they would be willing to share, either as a donation or on loan for the duration of the display. Items might include old uniforms such as ties or badges, photographs, school books, or any other items of interest. We would also warmly welcome short written reflections from former pupils—just a paragraph or two—sharing memories of their time at Woodlands. If you feel you could contribute in any way, please do get in touch with Mr Burns mburns@woodlands.kent.sch.uk

We would be thrilled to include your piece of Woodlands history in this display.

Rapid Fire Cricket

On Tuesday, eight children from Year 1 and 2 took part in the rapid fire cricket tournament at Skinners Kent Primary School (SKPS).

For most of them, it was their first time representing the school in a sporting event and they were very excited by the opportunity.

In their first game, they batted first against Slade Rockets and scored an impressive 132 with some excellent shots from everyone. In their fielding, they restricted the opposition to just 89 and won their first match.

Their second match saw them bat second and after keeping SKPS to a total of 83, they comfortably secured their second victory by 28 runs.

In their penultimate match, the team came up against Hildenborough and once again were asked to field first. This was by far our best performance in the field with great teamwork to only allow 92 runs scored against some very good batters. Our batting innings started off slow but Matilda T (18 runs) and Zac J (19 runs) got us over the line, meaning our last game would be a winner takes all to see who would win the competition.

The opposition for this match was Slade Invincibles and after watching them play their previous match, it was going to be a very tough game. Slade chose to bat first and scored an impressive 105 run. A daunting total but one that the team felt they could chase down. Unfortunately, our batting at the start was slow and we started to fall behind the required rate. With two batters left, we still need 32 runs to win. Zac J managed to score 15 with some excellent shots. Jack C was the last batter and with his first hit, he managed to hit it further than anyone that day. Jack ran as fast as he could between the cones. Once he had finished running, everyone was unsure who had won but soon the children were screaming in delight as they found out that they had scored 109 and had won by the barest of margins.

As a reward for winning the Tonbridge region, they now get to go to represent Tonbridge at the county finals in Ashford in the beginning of July. Well done to everyone.



Year 3/4 Football

On Thursday, seven boys from year 3 and 4 represented the Y3/4 football team at the Avenue to Angels competition held at St Gregorys' School. After having won this tournament last year, Woodlands looked to qualify for the finals day at the end of this term to have the chance to retain the trophy.

In their first match, Woodlands faced Sussex Road and the team were slow out of the blocks and even though they managed to a few shots at goal, none of them troubled their keeper. Towards the end Oliver R had a shot blocked and Harrison W hit the post, but alas, the game ended 0 – 0. A positive start to the tournament and something for the team to build on in their next match. Plaxtol were their second opponents and it seemed that the fluidity of their style of football started to show and Jack J scored the opener to break the deadlock. Felix S timed a challenge well and from the half-way line looked certain to score, but selflessly, he passed to Oliver R to give the boys a bit of breathing room. Plaxtol responded with a superb free kick, leaving the final minute to be quite nervy, but Woodlands held on.

In the third match, Woodlands were dominant against Slade Red and goals were aplenty with Oliver x2, Edward H x2, Felix and Harrison all getting on the scoresheet and securing a comfortable 6 – 0 victory. In the penultimate game, it was very similar to their previous game as they ran away 5 – 0 winners against Capel with goals from Edward, Oliver x3 and an own goal. With one game left, the boys knew that a draw or a victory would secure their place in the finals day in a couple of weeks' time. It didn't take long for them to open the scoring with a very scrappy goal that seemed to trickle over the line from Oliver. Felix, who had at least eight assists across the tournament, linked up with Oliver again with what seemed to be a trademark goal for Woodlands with a pass across the goal, where Oliver had the simple job of tapping it into the net. Edward secured the three points and winning the Tonbridge section of the tournament. A huge congratulations to the boys for an impressive display of football. A massive thank you to Alex Rich for coaching the boys.

Year 5/6 Football

On Thursday, Woodlands played their sixth game of the season, facing off against Mereworth. An unknown entity having only played one game so far and won, we were unsure on how challenging the game would be. After a slow start, Woodlands began piling on the pressure, creating some clear cut chances before taking lead through Ethan G just before half time. The first goal of the season scored with a tooth.

After half time, Woodlands decided to put their foot on the accelerator and capitalise on the chances they were creating. A swift second half hat trick from Edward B, consisting of three neat, bottom corner finishes put Woodlands firmly in the driving seat. To seal the result, Reggie M snuck in at the near post on a corner to guide the ball into the Mereworth net for a fifth time. From there, the team closed out the result with a solid defensive performance.

Six games played, six wins. The Invincibles march on towards the league title.

Player of the match: Edward B

Goals: Ethan G, Edward B X3, Reggie M

Guitar Lessons

Tom Williams has spaces for September.

Acoustic/electric, rock/pop, total beginners very welcome.

Please contact Tom directly on [07736051082/](tel:07736051082)
tomwilliamsmusic@hotmail.com



UP NOW - SIGN UP NOW - SIGN UP NOW

TUESDAY 26TH MAY 9AM - 3PM

WEDNESDAY 27TH MAY

THURSDAY 28TH MAY

AGES 4-13

MAY SOCCER SCHOOL

UEFA

HUGH CHRISTIE SCHOOL
3G PITCH
TONBRIDGE
KENT
TN10 4PU

£22 PER DAY
£40 TWO DAYS
£56 THREE DAYS

PRIZES TO BE WON

LC COACHING

CALL LEE -07837 996183

WEDS
27th May
10am-1pm
1.30-4pm

KIDS
POND
DIPPING

PRICE:
DONATION

AT NOTCUTTS GARDEN CENTRE, TONBRIDGE ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, TN2 4QN

A great opportunity to learn about nature & have fun!

Notcutts

Raising funds for Folly Wildlife Rescue - your local wildlife hospital

FOLLY WILDLIFE RESCUE

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

01st Jun Year 6 Safety in Action Trip

05th Jun KS1 Summer Disco

09th Jun Year 5 - British Museum

12th Jun KS2 Summer Disco

16th Jun NO CLUBS

18th Jun Summer Music Concert, 3.15

22nd Jun - 26th Jun Year 6 Residential

27th Jun Summer Fair

29th Jun Sports Day

w/c 13th Jul NO CLUBS

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