

Woodlands Weekly



Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe

office@woodlands.kent.sch.uk

www.woodlands.kent.sch.uk

16th October 2026

Newsletter No. 7

Last Friday, we opened our doors to prospective parents, giving them an opportunity to meet the senior leadership team and be taken on a tour led by pairs of Year 6 pupils. It was a lovely chance for others to see our wonderful pupils and staff at work and we received this rather delightful email afterwards:

'We were taken around the school by two Year 6's and wanted to take the opportunity to acknowledge how impressed we were by these pupils. They were extremely knowledgeable of the school and passionate about their education and what Woodlands offers. They were so polite, detailed, eloquent and respectful in all of the conversations and questions we had for them.

They are an absolute credit to both the school and their parents, and we wanted to take the opportunity to feed this back to you both. I know that as parents ourselves it would be lovely to hear similar feedback.

It was a great showcase of your school, and the hard work that your leadership and whole school team clearly put into making it a lovely place for children to start their educational experience.'

Well done, Year 6!!

I hope you have a chance to read through the proposal to join the Coppice Primary Partnership. You can share your thoughts and ask questions on the electronic form provided or drop-in to one of our sessions in school:

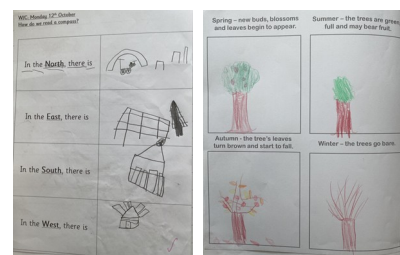
The first will be after school on Friday, 6 November 2026 between 3.15 and 4.15 pm and the second on Tuesday, 10 November 2026 between 7 and 8 pm.

Please be assured that I have personally spent a lot of time looking into the pros and cons of joining a MAT. It is not something to rush into. The governors and I have ruled out other Trusts and feel Coppice fits our school. We believe it will add strength without taking away our identity or my responsibility to lead the school as headteacher. The day-to-day experiences of our pupils would not look very different and we would only change things if they were not working - we would do this anyway. It would mean sharing skills, expertise and good practice across schools and learning from each other. Financially, we do not believe it would have a huge impact but it would again provide additional expertise and experience to the finance team.

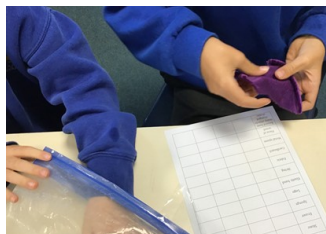
Back to the business of learning this week.....

Year R children have had more visitors this week. They were delighted to welcome dental nurses from Stradbroke Dental Centre in Tonbridge. The children listened carefully and learned all about how to brush their teeth and why it is important. Afterwards, they had great fun brushing the teeth of the toys in the classroom.

Year 1 has had a fantastic first term, packed full of exciting learning! From exploring trees and maps to writing full sentences and developing their understanding of numbers to 10; the children have been incredibly busy. This week, they have been learning about compass directions when they headed out onto the playground to draw what they could see to the north, east, south and west. In science, the children have enjoyed exploring the different seasons and discovering how trees change throughout the year.



This week, **Year 2** have been exploring materials as part of their Science topic. After learning the new vocabulary 'flexible' and 'rigid', they explored lots of different materials to see whether they could bend, stretch, twist or be squashed. They noticed that some materials such as elastic and fabric were more flexible compared to stones and plastic which were rigid.



In Science, **Year 3** became fossil detectives, finding out how fossils are formed and gathering interesting facts. The children then used what they had learned to create comic strips showing the fossilisation process, combining pictures and scientific vocabulary to explain each stage. They put a lot of effort into presenting their learning clearly and creatively.

Year 4 pupils have been exploring nonet poetry through the theme of the seasons. The children enjoyed learning about the structure of a nonet and carefully counting syllables to create their own poems. They used ambitious vocabulary and descriptive language to capture the colours, sights and feelings of summer and autumn. We were incredibly impressed with their creativity and the way they brought each season to life through their writing. Well done, Year 4, for producing such thoughtful and imaginative poems! Year 4 are also looking forward to telling you all about their learning in their assembly next term. Dates are on the newsletter so don't miss them!

This term in music lessons, **Year 6** has been learning about the Blues. They have listened to a variety of pieces and learned about the history of the Blues. They have also been learning about pentatonic minor scales, playing them and using them to improvise over the Blues song, Wade in the Water. As well as music, the pupils have been carrying on working creatively on their ottava rima poems in English, about the 'Miracle' of Dunkirk. We will show you some of the results after half term.

On the subject of half term, the year group are bringing homework home that will hopefully get them out and about in the fresh air whilst learning more about their WW2 topic – it would be great if you could encourage and accompany them on this. There is a 'treasure hunt' with prompts to find local evidence of the WW2 'fortress town' that we live in, as well as suggestions for days out in London and Kent. There is also a 'pillbox safari', which is a Tonbridge walk spotting these existing 'relics' of the second world war.

It has been an incredibly busy first term, and we appreciate the support you have provided to settle your children in. We hope you are able to spend some time with your children in the next couple of weeks – don't forget to try out some of our 'Let Grow' activities to build resilience (and have fun!)

Best wishes,
Vicki Lonie

Science Ambassadors

Please join me in welcoming our new Key Stage 2 science ambassadors. I am very excited to be working with such an enthusiastic group of young people. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the children who took the time to apply for these roles. It really is encouraging to see the passion for science in our school.

The ambassadors are getting settled into their new roles, but will be in touch with news on science as we move through the year, so watch this space.

Mrs Joyce, Science Lead



Football Tournament

On Wednesday, seven boys from year 5 took part in a football tournament at Sackville School. They played five matches in the group stage, winning four and drawing against Hildenborough (who were all year six pupils). With their results, this meant that they had made it into the final and they were against Hildenborough again. This time, they came out on top with Archie A scoring the only goal. A fantastic effort by all the boys and another trophy to add the cabinet.

Attendance

We end Term 1 at Woodlands with a fantastic whole-school attendance figure of **96.8%**. Thank you to all our families for working with us to make sure children are in school every day.

We have also seen a great improvement in children being on time. Being punctual is such an important part of the school day. Arriving on time gives children the opportunity to settle in, greet their friends and start their learning positively from the very first lesson.

Mrs Stone and I will continue to be available on the gate each morning. If you are experiencing any barriers to getting your child to school on time, please do speak to us. We are always happy to work with families to find solutions and provide support where needed. Together, we can ensure that every child gets the best possible start to their day.

As we head into the colder months, there are bound to be more coughs and sniffles around. If your child is a little under the weather but well enough for school, please send them in. We'll keep a close eye on them and let you know if they need to go home. Often, children perk up once they're with their friends and into their daily routine.

We find out on Friday which year group has won the own clothes day for highest attendance percentage this term, the children are very excited to find out!

Mrs Adams

KS2 pencil cases

Please restock your child's pencil case over the half term.

Pencil, Rubber, Handwriting pen, Glue, Scissors, Ruler 0 –30cm, colouring pencils.



On Wednesday, Woodlands Football Team started their league campaign. This year, they have entered a league that has been created by the sports partnership with the team starting in Division Two.

On what was a wet and cold afternoon, the team played Skinners Kent Primary School in their first match of two. With a very young and inexperienced team, the nerves of representing the school was definitely on show as they struggled to take control of the game. Soon enough, the team took control of the match and started to create a hatful of chances, which they couldn't put away. Finally, a sublime finish from Oli R after some excellent defensive work by Harrison W saw Woodlands take a deserved lead into half time. The second half was pretty much the same as the first, but Woodlands struggled to capitalise on their dominance. However, the opposition's keeper made two fantastic saves. The game finished 1 – 0.

Their second game was against St Matthews Primary School and with a change of positions, Woodlands dominated from the first whistle and picked up an early goal from Rocco D. Woodlands quickly doubled their lead as the keeper of St Matthews placed the ball on the floor, thinking it was a goal kick and Oli R put the ball into the empty net. St Matthews responded with a goal of their won from the penalty box after a poorly timely challenge. Woodlands continued to create multiple chances at the end of the first half and throughout the second half, but somehow couldn't find the back of the net. After a few tense moments, Oli R scored another to settle the nerves of the team and Woodlands ran out as 3 – 1 winners.

A positive start to the season but plenty to work on.

The next round of fixtures will take place after half term.



	P	W	D	L	PTS
1. Woodlands	2	2	0	0	6
2. St Margaret's	2	1	1	0	5
3. Cage Green	2	1	1	0	5
4. Skinners Kent Primary School	2	1	0	1	4
5. Claremont	2	0	0	2	2
6. St Matthews	2	0	0	2	2



Woodlands	1 - 0	Skinners Kent Primary School
Claremont	2 - 3	St Margaret's
Cage Green	2 - 0	St Matthews
Woodlands	3 - 1	St Matthews
Claremont	0 - 3	Skinners Kent Primary School
Cage Green	1 - 1	St Margaret's

Piano Lessons

Would you like your child to learn piano? Mrs Jones has space for new pupils (KS2) on Fridays. For all information please contact Kent Music by using this link:

[Kent Music - Your musical journey starts here.](#)

All students need to have a piano or keyboard (preferably touch-sensitive) to practise on at home.



Guitar Lessons

Tom Williams has ONE space left.

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

Please contact Tom directly on
07736051082/tomwilliamsmusic@hotmail.com



Diary Dates

2026/27

12th Nov	Year 5 - Carrot Wood
14th Nov	Fireworks, gates open at 4.30
17th Nov	Walnut Assembly, 2.40pm
18th Nov	Hazel Assembly, 2.40pm
19th Nov	Chestnut Assembly, 2.40pm
28th Nov	Christmas Fair
22nd Jan	Quiz Night
29th Jan	KS2 Disco
5th Feb	KS1 Disco
5th Mar	Bingo
12th Mar	Break the rules day
14th May	KS2 Disco
21st May	KS1 Disco

New dates/times in blue

Term Dates

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

2027/2028

Term 1: 02/09/2027 - 14/10/2027
Term 2: 01/11/2027 - 17/12/2027
Term 3: 05/01/2028 - 11/02/2028
Term 4: 21/02/2028 - 31/03/2028
Term 5: 18/04/2028 - 26/05/2028
Term 6: 05/06/2028 - 21/07/2028

Inset Days (no school):

Friday 15th October 2027

Tuesday 4th January 2028



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

LC COACHING

TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER 9AM - 3PM

WEDNESDAY 28TH OCTOBER

THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER

AGES 4-13

3V3 INFLATABLE PITCH!

OCTOBER SOCCER SCHOOL

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

LC COACHING

UEFA

CALL LEE -07837 996183



KIDS EAT FREE

this half term

Saturday 24th October to Sunday 1st November

With any adult breakfast or lunch meal purchased

Notcutts

Notcutts is a registered charity. This offer is subject to the availability of food and drink. Notcutts reserves the right to amend this offer at any time without notice. Notcutts is not responsible for any loss or damage to property. Notcutts is not responsible for any loss or damage to property. Notcutts is not responsible for any loss or damage to property.

Admission to

Primary school in Kent 2027

KCC residents apply online at
kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Opens Friday 6 November 2026 and closes at
midnight on Friday 15 January 2027

For children born between
1 September 2022
and 31 August 2023,
Transferring to Primary school
in September 2027

What to do

Choose a school

It's important to find out more about the schools you are interested in before you decide to name them on the application form.

Read the guide to Primary admissions at www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions.

You can name up to three Primary schools, inside or outside of Kent, but you must name them all on the same application.

Apply for a school place

A simple, fast, convenient process which opens Friday 6 November 2026 and closes at midnight on Friday 15 January 2027. Other LA deadlines may differ.

You will first need to set up an online account. The applicant is you, the parent/carer; you will then need to add your child's details before starting an application. You will receive a confirmation email that your application has been correctly submitted.

You can log back in at any time to view the information submitted.

Receiving your offer

On offer day (Friday 16 April 2027) an email will be sent to you informing you of your offer.

You must accept or decline the school place you have been offered by Friday 30 April 2027. A link to a guide with information you will need to provide the school with will be in your offer email.

If it has not been possible to offer your child a place in your preferred school, you have the right to appeal. You can also add their name to the school's waiting list.

Moving house during the application window will likely complicate your application and we therefore advise you to pay special attention to key dates in the admissions process. KCC has no discretionary authority to vary the process for parents who cannot complete address moves in time to make use of them for admissions purposes. If you are moving, please email the team on one of the email addresses below for advice.

Key dates

Friday 6 November 2026	Online application process opens. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions to register and apply.
Friday 15 January 2027	Online application process closes for the main round. Any amendments after this date must be emailed to kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk
Friday 16 April 2027	Offers of school places sent to parents via email after 4pm.
Friday 30 April 2027	Parents should contact the school to accept/refuse the place that has been offered and can use the link in the offer email to ask for their child to be added to the waiting list of schools named on the original application.
Monday 17 May 2027	Appeals need to be lodged by this date to be heard before September – appeals information can be found at www.kent.gov.uk/schoolappeals . You can only appeal for schools that were named on the application form.

Need help?

Email primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk

Full information booklet can also be viewed online at kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions

Only one application per pupil will be accepted. If you apply online, do not complete any other form of application. Keep your login details safe and use your registered email address for all communication with the team.

The confirmation email may go to your junk/spam folder of your email – please check here before contacting our team for confirmation.

Please note applications can only be made via Kent County Council (KCC) if the child resides at a KCC address.

If your child does not reside at a KCC address, you must make an application via your Local Authority.



Admission to

Primary school in Kent 2027

For children born between
1 September 2022
and 31 August 2023,
Transferring to Primary
school in September
2027.

Common misconceptions



MYTH #1

Attending a nursery or pre-school will automatically guarantee your child a space at the associated school.



TRUTH

You **must still apply** using the online application portal at:

www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions 



Nurseries and primary schools are not linked for admissions purposes.



MYTH #2

A sibling attending the school will automatically guarantee your child a space at the same school.



TRUTH

You **must still apply** using the online application portal at:

www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions 



If eligible, your application may be considered under a school's 'sibling' oversubscription criteria.



MYTH #3

Attending an infant school will automatically guarantee a space for your child at the linked junior school.



TRUTH

You **must still apply** using the online application portal at:

www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions 



Children do not automatically transfer to a junior school. Admissions are ranked according to the school's admission criteria, including any linked school arrangements.



Join our spooktacular...

October Half-Term Halloween Fun

Mon 26 - Fri 30 October 2026



Free Halloween trail & Lucky Dip (Mon-Fri)
Spot our spooktacular jokes
Decorate an Autumnal Owl (Weds)



Aspens Bluebell Café and Animal Farm
Cornford Lane, Pembury, TN2 4QU



Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 10am-4pm
Weds: 11am-4pm

aspens.org.uk
charity no: 1171446

Make the most of your Visit

Enjoy pumpkin spiced lattes, hot and cold drinks, sandwiches, jacket potatoes, kids' lunch boxes and delicious handmade cakes from our Roebuck Day Opportunities.

Support Us

Entry is free, but donations help us empower autistic people and those with learning disabilities.

Ways to Give

Tap-to-donate machine in car park or QR codes and signage on-site

Donation boxes or pre-loved item drop-offs at our Donation Centre

Craft Activity

Decorate an Autumnal Owl
Wednesday 28 October
11am - 12pm
£2.50 per child
Booking required



Scan the QR code to book

Lucky Dip!

Monday 26 - Friday 30 October
No booking required
£1 per go

aspens.org.uk
charity no: 1171446