



October 2025

WOODEND FARM SCHOOL Newsletter

[HTTPS://WOODENDFARM.SCHOOL](https://woodendfarm.school)



EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

October has been an excellent month for our school, truly showcasing our values in action as we focus on accountability, growth, and teamwork.

Our pupils have enjoyed a variety of community trips, including visits to the petting zoo, town hall, local park, Aldi, and the library. These experiences are part of our ongoing commitment to increasing pupil engagement within the wider community.

In addition, pupils have been actively participating in swimming lessons and Forest School, which provide fantastic opportunities for developing confidence, resilience, and a love of the outdoors.

It was wonderful to welcome so many of you into school to celebrate our Learning Facilitators and to see you engaging with your children in their classroom activities. Moments like these remind me how proud I am of the positive culture we are co-creating together.

This month, we also had the opportunity to celebrate and learn about the Battle of Hastings, bringing history to life for our pupils in meaningful ways.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to create an environment where every child can thrive.

Mrs Quantrill



A Message From Our Pastoral Lead

Thank you to everyone who attended our Learning Facilitators Celebration Afternoon. The children thoroughly enjoyed having you in school and sharing all the exciting things they've been working on. We have a wide range of activities planned for the remainder of the school year, and we always welcome your suggestions and ideas to support future planning.

In line with guidance from Ofsted and the new attendance regulations, we will now only be authorising medical appointments for half a day. Mrs Quantrill recently sent out a letter with further details—please refer to it when contacting us about appointments

Online Safety: A Growing Priority for Our School Community

As technology becomes an ever-present part of our children's lives, the importance of online safety has never been greater. From social media to gaming platforms, children are navigating digital spaces that can offer creativity and connection—but also pose risks if not used responsibly. We are increasingly aware of the growing concerns around online behaviour, exposure to inappropriate content, and the pressure children may feel to engage in unsafe or unkind interactions. As a school, we are committed to educating pupils about digital responsibility, cyberbullying, and how to protect their personal information online.

We encourage all parents and carers to:

- Talk regularly with your child about their online activity.
- Set clear boundaries around screen time and app usage.
- Use parental controls and privacy settings on devices.
- Remind children never to share personal details or speak to strangers online.

Together, we can help our children build safe, respectful, and confident digital habits

We're also excited to share that we would like to arrange a Christmas event where parents can join their children for an afternoon of festive craft activities. If anyone would be interested in volunteering to help lead this event—whether it's guiding a craft station, or sharing your own festive ideas—we'd love to hear from you!

Miss Kinsville

Term Dates

Autumn Half Term 2: 4 Nov 2025 to 19 Dec 2025

Spring Half Term 1: 6 Jan 2026 to 13 Feb 2026

Spring Half Term 2: 23 Feb 2026 to 27th Mar 2026

Summer Half Term 1: 14 Apr 2026 to 22 May 2026

Summer Half Term 2: 1 Jun 2026 to 20 Jul 2026

Events

5 November 2025 - Bonfire Night

11 November 2025 - Remembrance Day

13 November to 17 November 2025 - Anti Bullying Week

TBC - Christmas Jumper Day

TBC - Christmas Panto

Role Model of The Month



Melody has earned the 'Role Model of the Month' award thanks to her hard-working attitude, dedication in class, and being an active part of the team. She has shown teamwork, kindness, and incredible growth. Melody has made amazing progress in her learning and built wonderful friendships with her new classmates.

Well done, Melody—we are so proud of you!

Ash Class

This half term, Ash Class have been busy little mathematicians! We've been sequencing our morning routines—who knew brushing teeth and putting on socks could be so mathematically satisfying?

We ventured around our classroom and even to the Maldon Petting Zoo to create tally charts. Let's just say... keeping tally of meerkats whilst they climb on you is a whole new level of challenge (and giggles)!

In Computing, we explored online safety and the features of different devices. The children became confident digital explorers, and we ended up with some truly beautiful images taken on the iPads—future photographers in the making!

Our History journey took us to Hollytrees Museum, where we discovered some incredible toys from the past. Can you believe people used to play with spinning tops and tin robots?

Most importantly, we've watched our school values blossom in every corner of the classroom. From kindness and curiosity to resilience and respect. What a joy it is to witness their understanding grow and be demonstrated so naturally each day.

Here's to more learning, laughter, and meerkat mischief next term!



Willow class

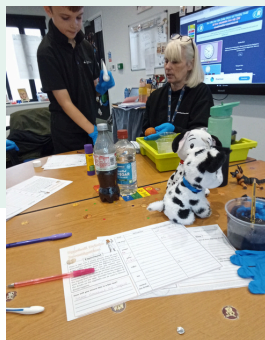
This month in Willow Class, the boys have been busy becoming historians, scientists, and chefs, diving into hands-on learning with enthusiasm and creativity.

We love an experiment in Willow Class! The boys have explored chemical reactions by making a volcano erupt, investigated how different liquids affect eggshells—a fun way to learn about tooth enamel—and discovered how adding salt to water increases its density, making objects float.

Our culinary adventures began with fruit salads, where the boys practised their chopping skills and learned about healthy eating. Next came soup-making, which turned into a freestyle cooking session! While the soup may not have been a hit in flavour, their chopping skills definitely improved. We wrapped up with cookie baking, where they worked on weighing ingredients, and reading scales.

We also enjoyed a lovely trip to the local library, where the children spoke with staff, received their very own library cards, and chose books to bring back to school. It was a wonderful way to encourage a love of reading and introduce them to the joy of borrowing books.

Another highlight was our trip to the local park, where the boys explored the gym equipment and compared their heart rates at rest and after exercise.



Beech class

Beech Class have been as busy as ever! In Literacy, we've been exploring story sequencing and enjoyed listening to *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, using pictures to retell the story in order.

In PSHE, we've been thinking about activities we like and dislike, sharing our thoughts and learning to respect each other's preferences. Dressing up was a huge hit! From princesses to Marvel and Star Wars characters, the children had a fantastic time choosing costumes and role-playing different characters with their friends.

In Cooking, we created delicious salad pitta breads. The children practised washing, chopping, and peeling vegetables with care and concentration—what a tasty way to learn!

In Maths, we've been exploring a range of concepts including tall and short, heavy and light, positional language, and tally marking. The children have shown great enthusiasm and curiosity throughout.

In Science, we've been discovering our five senses—exploring one each week through hands-on activities and discussions. The children have loved identifying how we use our senses in everyday life.

Beech Class, you continue to impress me with your hard work, creativity, and love of learning. Well done!



Oak class

What a busy month it has been for Oak class! We are continuing to develop our swimming skills in our weekly lessons and have had more trips into the community to develop our safety skills. We have been learning about telling the time and solving problems involving time. In Literacy, we have been learning how to identify speech in stories.



PE Achievements

This month the school has been working extremely hard in PE. The main focuses this month were sending and receiving, including volleyball and football. Personal best challenges including tennis challenges and running challenges. The school have also been working on their communication skills inside of sport. The classes have had discussions with Mr Etheridge around the importance of communication as well as using communication in the correct format. Sports clubs have been very popular as usual, it's so great to see so many children deciding to do sport at lunchtime.

New House Points!

🏆 Introducing House Points at Woodend Farm Primary School! 🏆

We're thrilled to launch an exciting new House Points system at Woodend Farm Primary School — designed to inspire and celebrate the values that matter most to us: Honour, Bravery, Strength, and Loyalty.

Every pupil will now be part of a House Team, each with its own identity and captain. To show their house pride, the captain will wear a colourful wristband to represent their team. Throughout the term, pupils can earn house points for a wide range of positive behaviours — including excellent attendance, great work, kindness, teamwork, and active participation in school life.

These points will be tracked using the Class Dojo platform, so parents can follow their child's progress and celebrate their achievements at home. You'll notice new skills being added to Dojo that reflect our school values, helping children understand and live by them every day.

At the end of each term, the house with the highest score will be crowned the House Champions and rewarded with a special prize — such as an extra community visit or a fun experience that celebrates their success.

This new system is all about building team spirit, encouraging positive behaviour, and helping every child feel proud of their contributions. We can't wait to see our pupils rise to the challenge and support one another as part of their house teams!

Let the house point race begin! 🎉

Thrive Sessions

This term, our Thrive sessions have been working brilliantly to support students in meeting their new Thrive targets. These sessions help children develop emotional resilience, social skills, and confidence. Miss Haynes is currently focusing on building strong friendship groups and facilitating Thrive activities that encourage teamwork and positive relationships. It's wonderful to see the progress our students are making!

School Council

Our School Council has been hard at work this term, exploring ways to improve the school sensory room and discussing how we can best support learning through our school values. The council members have shown fantastic creativity and leadership, coming up with some amazing ideas that will make a real difference to our school community. **Well done to all involved!**





Woodend Farm School Term and Holiday Dates - Academic Year 2025-2026

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							December 2025						
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May 2026							June 2026							July 2026							August 2026						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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 = Schooldays

 = School holidays

 = Bank holidays

 = Weekends

 = Non pupil day

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated,
or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term: Monday 1 September 2025 – Friday 19 December 2025 75 days

Half Term 27 October – 31 October

Spring Term: Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026 55 days

HalfTerm16February - 20February

Summer Term: Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026 65 days

HalfTerm25May–29May,andMayBankHoliday - 4 May

195 days