



Woodend Farm school
Kindness comes in many forms

APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

It has been wonderful to return from the Easter break and be welcomed by the excitement and enthusiasm of all our pupils. The energy around the school has been a real joy to see.

We have recently enjoyed a fantastic Open Evening as we look ahead with excitement to the opening of our secondary school. It was a proud moment for our community and a great opportunity to share our vision for the next stage of Woodend Farm School's journey.

I am also delighted to announce the appointment of our new Head Boy, Jack, along with our Prefects, Jason, William and Harley. I am incredibly proud to have witnessed the journeys these boys have been on and the way they truly live out our school values each day. I am very much looking forward to seeing the next stage of their journey unfold.

Last week, we had a wonderful day welcoming parents into school for our Governors' Q&A sessions and Book Fair. The turnout from families was amazing and it was heart-warming to see how strongly our community continues to grow. I truly love the sense of belonging and partnership we are creating here at Woodend Farm School.

With the sun shining, it has been lovely to see so much learning taking place outdoors over the past few days. Long may this continue as we head into the summer term together.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTORAL LEAD

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a wonderful and restful Easter break.

It has been a joy to welcome the children back to school and see them making the most of the sunshine. They are thoroughly enjoying spending more time learning outdoors and it has been lovely to see their enthusiasm and engagement flourish.

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended and supported our recent Book Fair. We are incredibly proud of our school community and truly amazed by the ongoing support you show for our events. The children were so excited to share their school with you and they continue to demonstrate our values of Kindness, Belonging, Believing and Achieving. Moments like these really do make it all worthwhile.

As we move towards the May half-term, the children will continue to enjoy a rich and engaging curriculum. We are also beginning to plan for Sports Day, the date will be confirmed soon, so please watch this space!

A reminder that school uniform can be ordered directly from www.gemzthreadz.co.uk, where you can also find additional items such as bags and hats.

Finally, as mentioned in the letter dated 14th April 2026, we have updated our procedures for communicating with the school. Please ensure you are familiar with the new process. This information is available on ClassDojo for your reference.

Once again, thank you for your continued support, it is truly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Miss Kinsville

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Rockstar Launch Day:** 8th May 26
- **Mental Health Week:** 11th - 17th May 26
- **Sports Day:** TBC

TERM DATES

- **Bank Holiday:** Mon 4th May 26
- **May Half Term:** Mon 25th May 26 - Fri 29th May 26
- **Summer Holidays:** Tue 21st Jul 26 - 31st Aug 26
- **Non Pupil Days:** Tue 1st Sep 26
Wed 2nd Sep 26

ROLE MODEL OF THE MONTH



Harley has worked incredibly hard to show our school values and this has really shone through during recent trips. He has shown kindness, respect and a genuine willingness to help his friends. Harley has been coming into school with a big smile and is now confidently talking to many different members of staff a fantastic improvement. We are so proud of his progress and hope to see Harley continue being his kind, caring and amazing self. He has shown a much more positive attitude in class and is a kind and supportive friend to others. He joins in brilliantly with PE lessons and lunchtime clubs and shows excellent behaviour on school trips. He is a fantastic role model and always works hard to show our school values.

ASH CLASS

Ash Class has made a lovely start to our new topic "Homes" and the children have been busy exploring what makes a house a home. We began by talking about daily household routines and discussing who helps with different day-to-day jobs. While the children were a little less forthcoming about their own responsibilities (!), it sparked some great conversations about how everyone can play a part at home.

In Expressive Arts, the children have enjoyed experimenting with a range of materials to build their own foundations. Through trial and creativity, they discovered that sugar cubes and icing make the perfect building materials for a house — who knew?! This activity supported their understanding of structure, stability and teamwork.

During our Socially Speaking sessions, we explored personality traits, celebrating how we are all different. The children shared ideas about what makes them unique and learned that, despite our differences, together we make a brilliant team.

We also loved sharing memories from our recent trip to Walton. The children talked excitedly about exploring materials used in buildings and learning about the properties of materials and how they are suited to different features of a house. Of course, there was also plenty of fun, building sandcastles, jumping over waves and enjoying a well-earned ice cream treat by the seaside!

What a fantastic start to our learning! We're looking forward to where our Homes topic takes us next!



WILLOW CLASS

Another fantastic month in Willow Class. I am sure they have all grown over the Easter holidays! A highlight at the end of last half term was our trip to the Harvester for lunch. All of the children not only showed all of the school values, but also encouraged one another to try new things.

This half term, our focus in literacy is persuasive writing. The children will be learning how to present their ideas clearly, use strong arguments and include persuasive language to influence the reader. To support this, they have decorated model cottages and mind-mapped ideas about what they think would persuade the staff at Woodend Farm School to book a holiday with them.

Our new topic this half term is Home Sweet Home. We will be exploring houses through time, learning about the properties of different materials used in house building and investigating how technology has changed and developed over time alongside some exciting planned trips.

The children have already shown great enthusiasm and creativity (with support from their adults) and we are really looking forward to seeing their confidence continue to grow as they apply these skills across their learning.



OAK CLASS

Oak Class have returned to school full of positivity and enthusiasm. The boys have been enjoying our new topic, Home Sweet Home, where they have been exploring different types of homes from around the world, the materials they are built from and the reasons why these materials are used in different environments.

In English, the boys have been writing imaginative stories based around homes. They have shown great creativity and have worked hard to include a clear beginning, middle and end to their stories. It has been lovely to see their ideas come to life on the page.

In maths, the boys have demonstrated a strong understanding of money through practical activities such as buying and selling toys and opening their own shops. In PE, they have been learning fencing and have shown excellent skill, practising correct movement and fencing techniques with great focus and determination.

Our recent trip to Felixstowe Beach was a great success. The boys explored homes by the sea, including beach huts, enjoyed a picnic on the beach and finished the day with a well-deserved ice cream. Smiles all round!

Well done Oak Class, a fantastic start to the summer term!



BEECH CLASS

Beech Class has had a wonderfully fun-filled month, bursting with hands-on learning and creativity. The boys kicked off their Forest School sessions with huge enthusiasm building dens together, exploring the outdoors and proudly preparing their own garlic bread and gooey s'mores over the fire.

In PE, their collaboration has been just as impressive, with teamwork that really shone through in every activity. Their WOW Day was a highlight too, as adults joined them in school and the boys worked brilliantly to build imaginative houses entirely out of sweets.

Cooking lessons have been another source of excitement, with the boys mixing, measuring and experimenting to create their own tasty treats, as well as practising careful cutting skills with a variety of fruits. It's been a month full of curiosity, teamwork and joyful learning.



MAPLE CLASS

We have had a busy and exciting few weeks in Maple Class, with our learning centred around the story of The Three Little Pigs. The children have been highly engaged across all areas of the curriculum and it has been wonderful to see them making connections between subjects through this familiar theme.

In Expressive Arts, the children enjoyed exploring different materials as they designed and built their own houses inspired by the story. They experimented with construction techniques and expressed their ideas creatively, showing great enthusiasm and teamwork.

In Science, we explored cause and effect by testing what happens when the houses are blown on or knocked down, just like in the story. The children were fascinated to see which houses were stronger and why and they enjoyed predicting and observing the outcomes of their experiments.

For Humanities, we looked at homes from the past and the present. The children compared different types of houses and talked about how homes can look very different depending on when and where people live.

In Learning for Life, our focus was on safe people around us and identifying the people who help to keep us safe at home, at school and in the community. This linked well with our discussions about feeling safe and secure in different types of homes.

In Mathematics, we have been learning about UK coins, practising recognising them and counting amounts. The children have enjoyed handling real coins and using them in practical, hands-on activities.

In Literacy, we have been learning the story of The Three Little Pigs, focusing on listening carefully, recalling key events and retelling the story using words, actions and pictures. Many children are becoming more confident in sharing what they remember from the story.

During Speech & Language, we learned a new song called "Who Am I?", which supported communication skills, listening and self-awareness.

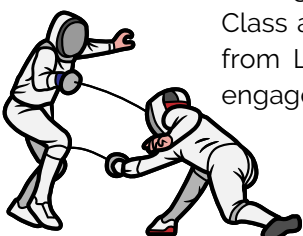
As part of our physical development, the children have also been taking part in swimming sessions. These have focused on building confidence in the water, listening to instructions and developing key water skills in a safe and supportive environment.

Finally, we enjoyed a special camping experience on the school field, helping the children understand that home can be many different things and can look different for everyone. This was a fantastic opportunity for imaginative play, collaboration and building confidence in a familiar outdoor environment.

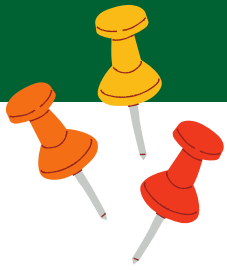


PE

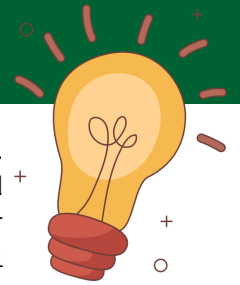
Since we have returned from half term, PE has been excellent! The sun has been shining and the students are more focused than ever. This half term has seen Ash Class and Oak Class have their very first fencing sessions with some top Coaches from Little Musketeers. Sports club has resumed and is still experiencing high engagement, especially because of the return of Rugby Wednesdays!



SCHOOL COUNCIL



We were delighted to hold our first School Council meeting of the new term. Our newly elected council members were warmly welcomed into their roles and began by sharing ideas about how they can gather feedback from their classmates. They will be asking their peers what they enjoy most about school and what new opportunities they would like us to offer in the future.



We were especially pleased to be joined by our new Head Boy, Jack, who helped lead the meeting and supported the council in getting off to a confident start.

Our House Captains have also embraced their responsibilities and are working hard to earn house points toward this half-term's reward.

THRIVE

We are happy to share that our Thrive sessions have restarted this half term. Students have returned with enthusiasm and have been engaging positively with our Thrive team. It has been a wonderful, calm and encouraging start to Summer Term 1.



HOMEWORK

Here are some home learning ideas to enhance your child's learning in school. If you do choose to complete any activities, please upload them to Class Dojo!

Home Sweet Home - Maple

Home Water Play

Add cups, spoons, a small jug and a few 'home' items (plastic keys, toy people, toy furniture). Scoop and pour with cups and spoons.

Bubble Washing Station

Make a washing-up bowl with bubbly water. Wash toy plates/cups or plastic animals. Squeeze sponges and watch the bubbles pop!

Sound Hunt at Home

Find safe noisy things (foil, empty bottle with rice, wooden spoon). Shake/tap them while you listen to a cosy home story.

Texture Tray: Cosy Home

Fill a tray with soft blanket, smooth spoon, bumpy sponge, crinkly paper. Let your child explore freely and choose what they like.

Smell & Stir 'Kitchen Potions'

In bowls of water, add safe smells (lemon slice, mint, cinnamon stick). Stir and watch it swirl. Talk about 'kitchen smells'.

Blanket Den Time

Build a tiny den with blankets/cushions. Bring a book inside and enjoy a calm 'home corner'.

Here are some home learning ideas to enhance your child's learning in school. If you do choose to complete any activities, please upload them to ClassDojo!!



Home Sweet Home - Beech

Story Bag Surprise: Home Items

Fill a bag with items (spoon, sock, keyring, sponge). Let your child pull one out and feel it.

Say: 'This spoon helps us eat at home!'

Home Treasure Hunt

Hide objects and give clues like 'Find something soft for the bed!' or 'Find something shiny from the kitchen!'

Build a Cosy Corner

Use cushions/blankets to make a snug reading space. Choose a favourite book and read inside.

Mini Tea Party

Set up a 'home café' with cups/plates. Practise pouring drinks (water/juice) and offering snacks.

Cleaning Helper Game

Match cloths/sponges to tasks: wipe table, 'wash' toy dishes, tidy toys into boxes. Celebrate being a home helper!

Make a Door Sign

Decorate a simple sign: 'Welcome', 'My Bedroom', or 'Quiet Corner'. Use stickers, colours and shapes.

Here are some home learning ideas to enhance your child's learning in school. If you do choose to complete any activities, please upload them to ClassDojo!!

Home Sweet Home - Ash

Room Designer Challenge

Choose a room (bedroom, kitchen, living room). Draw it and add furniture. Can you label 3 items (e.g., bed, sofa, table)?

Kitchen Recipe with Measurements

Make a simple snack (sandwich, fruit salad, wrap). Write a recipe using measurements (e.g., 2 slices of bread, 1 spoon of spread, 5 grapes).

Build a Mini House

Use a cereal box or recycled materials to build a small house. Add windows, doors and a roof. Can you add a garden or fence?

Home Helpers Menu

Create a 'Home Helpers' chart for the week (e.g., set the table, feed a pet, tidy toys). Tick off jobs and celebrate your helping!

Soundtrack of a Home Day

Make sound effects for home moments (doorbell, kettle, footsteps, rain on windows). Use drums, pots/spoons or clapping. Can you make a morning and bedtime soundtrack?

Home Science: Melting & Freezing

Freeze water in a cup (add food colouring if you like). Watch it melt in different places (warm room vs. shaded spot). What changes fastest? (Adult supervision.)

Here are some home learning ideas to enhance your child's learning in school. If you do choose to complete any activities, please upload them to ClassDojo!!

Home Sweet Home - Willow

Build the Setting: My Home

Use cushions, boxes and blankets to build a 'home scene' (living room/bedroom). Add a pretend TV, bed or table.

Character Costume Challenge

Dress up as a 'home helper' (chef, cleaner, builder, gardener). Add props like a spoon, cloth, tape measure (toy).

Home Map Adventure

Draw a map of your home (rooms, stairs, garden). Add a key and simple directions (left/right, upstairs/downstairs).

Design a Dream Bedroom

Plan your dream room: colours, bed, storage, reading corner. What would make it calm and cosy?

Home Puppet Show

Make simple puppets (socks/paper/spoons) and act out a 'day at home' scene (waking up, cooking, bedtime story).

Design a Home Poster

Create a colourful poster: 'Home Sweet Home' with your house, family/pets (if you like), and favourite room.

Here are some home learning ideas to enhance your child's learning in school. If you do choose to complete any activities, please upload them to ClassDojo!!

Home Sweet Home - Oak

Home Helper Points Challenge

Make a points chart for tasks (tidy toys = 2, set table = 3). Add up your total and try to beat it tomorrow!

My Home Budget Shop

Set up a pretend shop with price tags. 'Buy' snack items with coins. Count totals and find the correct change.

House Blueprint Design

Draw a floor plan with labelled rooms. Add measurements (steps, rulers, or paper squares). Which room is biggest?

Home Map + Compass Directions

Make a map including a key and compass directions (N/E/S/W). Mark hazards (stairs, slippery floor) and safe routes.

Build a Strong Roof STEM Test

Use paper/card to build a roof for a toy house. Test it with small weights (coins). How can you make it stronger?

Home Security Puzzle

Create a 'safe entry' plan: where to put keys, how to check doors, who to tell if worried. Write a 5-step checklist.

Here are some home learning ideas to enhance your child's learning in school. If you do choose to complete any activities, please upload them to ClassDojo!!



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

September 2025							October 2025							November 2025							December 2025						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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29	30																										

January 2026							February 2026							March 2026							April 2026						
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May 2026							June 2026							July 2026							August 2026							
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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
	<i>Half Term 27 October – 31 October</i>	
Spring Term:	Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026	55 days
	<i>Half Term 16 February - 20 February</i>	
Summer Term:	Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026	65 days
	<i>Half Term 25 May – 29 May, and May Bank Holiday - 4 May</i>	
		195 days