



Spring Term 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

While Spring term is the shortest, it is also usually the busiest, and this year has been no exception. We have joined the children's University, who will be working with Year 4 and 5 weekly after Easter. They are also organising a fantastic careers morning for us next term, for all of Key Stage 2 and are the reason for the development of the Year 4 Eco-Refill shop, Refill and Reuse.

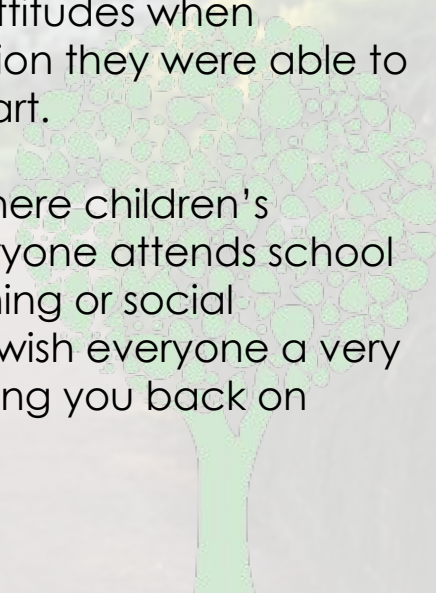
Through the Children's University, we had the fantastic opportunity to work with Apples and Snakes and our poet in residence Paul Lyalls, who inspired our Year 3 and 4 pupils to create amazing poems of their own and gave them the confidence to perform in front of the school and their families. Their book, Partners in Words, will be available in our school library and in local Ealing libraries.

Mr Jones is taking a brief leave of absence from Woodlands next half term to tour again with Tom Odell, but he will return again after the May half term in good time for the Year 6 end of year production.

In March, we were visited by headteachers from 2 other Ealing schools as part of a peer review. We looked at whether our pupils were able to retain information taught over the last year in History, Geography and PSHE. Our visitors were very complimentary about our pupils' attitudes when discussing their learning and the amount of information they were able to recall. We were very proud of everyone who took part.

This week we are sending out letters to all families where children's attendance is less than 90%. It is important that everyone attends school regularly to ensure that they do not miss out on learning or social opportunities. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy and relaxing holiday. We look forward to seeing you back on Wednesday 23rd April.

Ms Hasker
Headteacher



From The Chair Of Governors

We have had a busy term with governors visiting to look at ART and DT, SEND, and Safeguarding. All governors have undertaken safeguarding training in relation to keeping children safe in education September 2024. In curriculum committee we looked at the in-year data and heard what actions were being taken to ensure that children are supported to reach age related expectations and to support some children to attain greater depth in some of the core subjects.

The mock KS2 SATS were very encouraging, with many of our Year 6 pupils well on track to pass in June. We have had some turnover of pupils due to moves out of the area and many of the pupils who have joined us in-year are new to English and need additional help with phonics.

We have reviewed our whole school pay and appraisal policies as we had new guidance from the Department for Education (DFE). We have also reviewed and re-assessed our risk register to allow us to focus on the most meaningful aspects of risk for the school.

In resources committee we have monitored our budget for the year and identified further opportunities to increase income from lettings which will help offset the increased expenditure needed to keep children safe and ensure that our SEND provision meets the needs of all our learners who require additional support. We are hoping that we can find a cost-effective way to remove the climbing frame and the pirate ship and resurface the bases as these were highlighted as unsafe in a recent audit. We are keeping abreast of new legislation which impacts on schools and ratifying new policies to address this.

We want to thank you for helping us improve our attendance rate and reduce the number of pupils who are persistently absent or late. It is so important that children attend school, unless they are ill, to give them the best opportunity to learn and make good progress.

We also want to thank you for attending the events and assemblies. Your children love to show off what they have been doing. Follow Woodlands Academy on Instagram to see all the activities, sports opportunities and learning that we provide for our pupils. We have welcomed Ms Chatrath onto our Governing Body as a staff governor and we are in the process of filling our final vacancy for a co-opted governor.

Wishing you all a restful Easter break.

Shirley Kenworthy-Wright
Chair of Governors



Music News

Spring term has been very busy, with children learning plenty of new skills as well as building upon their previous musical knowledge. As we begin thinking about the many performances that will take place in the Summer Term, I hope that students will be feeling confident and excited to showcase all of the fantastic learning they have been involved in.

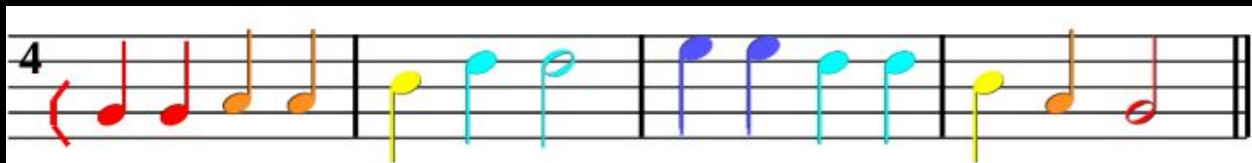
EYFS have been taking lots of imaginative trips in music lessons. From magical gardens to outer space, children have learned numerous rhymes and songs to build their confidence in speech, rhythm and singing. Akon Drum, The Beanstalk, SPLASH and Dingle Dangle Scarecrow were just a few of the many songs and rhymes we have learned. Why not ask for a rendition of your child's favorite?

KS1 have been working on their musical Kung Fu over the past term. This is to support keeping a steady pulse and learning to distinguish between rhythm and pulse. Of course, there's been plenty of singing too! Each year, these skills progress to stretch and challenge students and expose them to a richer variety of music from all around the world. Some favorite songs have been Cobbler Cobbler, Dinah, Hot Cross Buns and a Japanese Song called Kaeru No Uta Ga. Ask your child to see some music Kung Fu in action!

Year 3 & 4 have spent this term focussing on reading notated rhythms and pitch. This is a challenging unit, with children essentially learning to read a whole new language! This is introduced in Year 3 and then developed in Year 4, with children ultimately singing music from sight! The first area of work is to review music Kung Fu to build confidence in reading rhythms. Could you clap this rhythm? Why not challenge your child to see if they could clap it to you!



Following on from this, children learn to read pitch from a staff. Do Re Mi So and La are the five pitches focussed on. Children learn the hand signs and the singing technique, equipping them with the skills to sing notated music. This could look something like the example below! It's challenging work and I'm very proud of how children in Y3 and Y4 have risen to the challenge. We've also enjoyed singing fun songs along the way. BBQ Blues and Lil' Liza Jane are two that proved popular!



Year 5 have continued working with Mr Mckay and Mr Jones, learning new notes and pieces on their Jsax. The practical work that Year 5 do follows on directly from the skills built in music lessons from EYFS and it's fantastic to see students flourishing as they take on the challenge of learning an instrument. Children are now working on a program of songs to showcase in the end of year concert which will take place in the Summer Term.

Year 6 are working hard on their production songs. At this point, I can't reveal too much about the show, but I can tell you that it's called "Porridge". Keep your eyes and ears open for news on the performance dates!!

Get stuck in.....

Here at Woodlands, we strive to give **all** of our students access to a high quality musical education and this includes many extra curricular opportunities.

A reminder that in addition to regular music lessons at school, children have the opportunity to join: Piano Lessons, Recorder Group, Woodlands Choir, Jsax Ensemble (Year 6 only). Please speak to Mr Jones to be added to a waiting list.

Notice to parents of children currently having lessons in Jsax, Recorder or Piano

- Please remember that children should bring their instrument / books with them on the correct day.
- Children should be practicing for approximately 10 minutes each day on their instrument.
- Payment for lessons must be made in advance. Places will be offered to other students if payment is not received. Next payment will be due in April for Summer Term.



Sports News



Spring Term has been very busy with Sports Events run by the Featherstone Sports Partnership. We are extremely proud of all of the children who represented our school at these events and put in their best effort. In all of the events, comments have been made around how sensible and respectful you were to each other and other teams, so well done!

A special thank you to Ms Wojewoda who has attended most of the events with the children and to Ms Helen for supporting the Year 5/6 Girls football team in club practice and in the second and third round this term. Thank you to Ms O'Dea and Ms Hamid who have supported with some events too. Thank you to our teachers who have been teaching PE sessions this year and have done a fantastic job!

We have more exciting events planned in the Summer term and we are on track to achieve a GOLD AWARD this year too based on our sports engagement of external competitions/events.

Our pupils have enjoyed the extra-curricular clubs run by JD Football Academy this half term including multisports for Year 1/2 and 3/4 and Mixed football for Year 5/6. Thank you to the coaches who have made the clubs fun and engaging. We can't wait for the Summer Term clubs.

The KS2 play leaders have been fantastic supporting and leading games with the KS1 children at lunchtimes. Well done to you all:

Thank you to our equipment monitors for your help in tidying up and organising the playground equipment.

Our Sports Day this year will be on Friday 4th July and details will be shared in Summer term.

I can't wait for Woodlands to attend the end of year Sports Awards at the end of the year and hopefully pick up our GOLD AWARD! I will be selecting children to take to this award ceremony next term based on their effort and performance with sports this year.

Ms Moxom



Sports News



Here is the timeline of events we have attended in Spring Term:



Summer Term upcoming events:

Summer 1:

- Year 3/4 Girls Football Cluster
- Year 3/4 Mini tennis
- Year 5/6 Girls Cricket

Summer 2:

- Annual mini golf festival
- SEN Summer athletics
- SEN cricket festival
- Summer Athletics
- FSSP End of year Sports Awards

Daily Mile

At Woodlands, we believe that being active is crucial for our wellbeing. This term, all classes have been trying to move more on the playground with the relaunch of our Daily Mile. Each pupil tries to achieve their own personal best. Here are the children who were given a special mention in Celebration Assembly as being the most enthusiastic and most determined!

Most enthusiastic

R- Chanelle

1- Oliver

2- Satsuki

3- Safa

4- Musa

5- Ali

6- Abdullahi

Reward Store



Most determined

R- Liam

1- Charlotte

2- Amin

3- Elyas

4- Millie

5- Bibi

6- James



Most enthusiastic

R- Jamal

1- Taani

2- Daniel

3- Ariana

4- Musa

5- Gabriel

6- Abdullahi

Reward Store



Most determined

R- Dania

1- Ares

2- Aelaan

3- Amin

4- Monroe

5- Abilash

6- James



Attendance News



Golden Games continues to be a great incentive and reward for positive attendance. 8 children in total come to Golden Games each week from Year 1/2, 3/4 and 5/6 to celebrate their 100% attendance from the previous week. Keep up the great work everybody. By coming to school everyday, you are developing fantastic life long habits; establishing routines and being organised and reliable are very important skills in life.



Remember that at the end of the year we will have our special GOLD DAY which children with 96.5% attendance or above will be invited to. GOLD DAY is a larger scale version of Golden Games and we will have an afternoon of fun! If you want to have a chance of attending, you must try hard to attend school everyday on time.

Calm Club is a calm space off the playground at lunchtime which some children love!

Wellbeing



'I love playing with my friends!'- Lavel and Rajdeep



Calm Club

'Calm club is the best!'- Safa R, Year 3



'I love painting and drawing!' Martel, Year 3



Children can choose from the different stations:

Create (crafts)

Draw

Solve

Read

Play (board games)

Forest School



Here are some of the exciting things we have been doing at Forest School this Term.



Making a ladder



Balancing on the rope bridge



Helping our friends on the seesaw



Learning to use a bow saw



Climbing trees



Building a campfire and toasting marshmallows



Making bird feeders to help the birds through the winter.



Looking after our garden



Easter Egg Hunt

Nursery

During our topic 'Long Ago' we enjoyed looking at pictures of life in the past and comparing them to the way we live now.



We learned how clothes were washed by hand.



We talked about how we have changed since we were babies. We looked after our babies in Nursery.



Year 6 came to read us stories in Nursery!

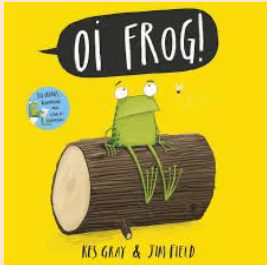


Exploring pattern in maths



We enjoyed learning about Chinese New Year and made stir-fry vegetables with noodles. We also made Chinese dragons and used them to make up a dance.





Nursery continued...

In Spring 2, our topic was 'Ready Steady Grow.' We have also been learning about the season of Spring.



We planted peas, beans, carrots and potatoes and learned how to look after the plants as they grow.

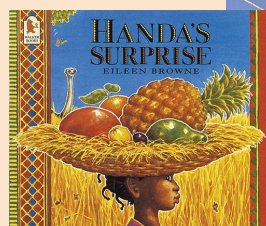
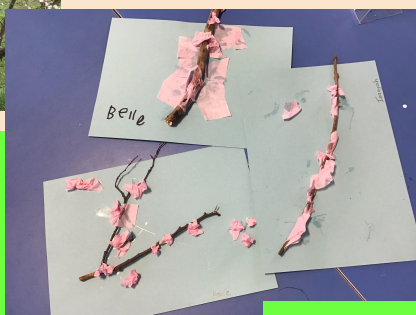
Owls Supermarket
We talked about where our food comes from and made our own class shop.



Pancake Day!
We read 'Mr Wolf's Pancakes' and then helped make our own pancakes.



We went around the school looking for signs of Spring. We made Spring inspired art.



We tried lots of different fruits and used our new words to describe the way they look, feel, smell and taste.



The passion fruit is a bit tangy!!

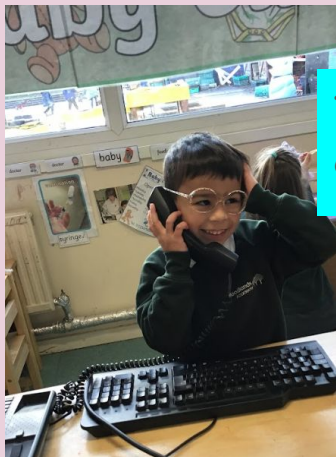


Reception

Our Topic for Spring 1 was 'Long Ago'. We have explored how the children have grown and changed since they were babies..



The children enjoyed role playing in the baby clinic.

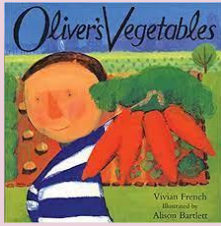


The children have been practicing riding a bike without training wheels to improve their balance.



We have read and learned about different traditional stories and rhymes.

Reception continued...



In this topic, we've explored growing root vegetables. The children learned what plants need to grow—sunlight, water, soil, and care—and how these help them survive.



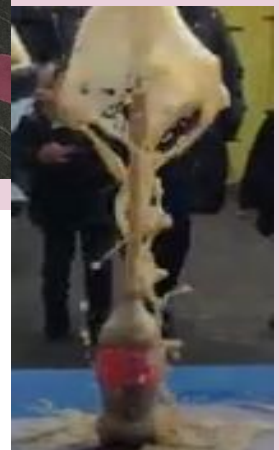
In Maths, the children have explored repeating patterns developing their understanding of sequences.



In celebration of Easter we had an easter egg hunt.



We had lots of fun being scientist on science day. Have a look at some of the experiments we did.



Year 1

During Spring term we have looked at the books Dooger and The Troll. We made lost posters for the return of our favourite toy and wrote our own stories imagining what it would be like to lose our favourite toy. We wrote postcards from our journey looking for goats and wrote a letter home detailing our journeys. We celebrated our learning by dressing up for pirate day



We had lots of fun celebrating our learning on Pirate day. All the costumes looked fabulous! We had a maths treasure hunt, then we made wanted posters. We had a go at drawing a pirate ship and we did some Pirate themed yoga!



In maths we have been busy exploring numbers to 50, adding and subtracting to 50. We have also been measuring length, heights, weights and capacity.



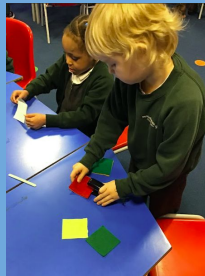
Our science topic this term was Everyday materials. We learned the difference between an object and it's material and thought about the properties of material and why they are chosen to make a particular object. We did some investigations into absorption. First we tested which materials are absorbent, then we tested materials to find out which is the most absorbent.

Year 1 *continued...*

We made puppets in DT. We investigated the best method for attaching two different materials together. We then designed and made our puppets.



In PE we have been doing gymnastics, thinking about the different ways we can move our body. We have also been practicing ball skills, learning to pass and dribble.



We had great fun in our Shakespeare workshop acting out scenes from a Midsummers Night Dream



As part of history we learned about the history of toys and how toys have changed over the last 100 years. We went to Gunnersbury Museum and learned about the toys children in the past played with. We even got to play some and play some games popular 100 years ago.



We have been conducting some research into favourite spaces in the school as part of Geography. We surveyed the school and made pictograms with the data collected.



Year 2



DT



We learnt about the importance of having a balanced and nutritious diet in our DT lessons. We learnt about the different food groups and how to prepare fresh ingredients by cutting, chopping and grating.

We enjoyed a food tasting session, planned and created our own delicious wraps!



Year 2 continued...



PSHE

In PSHE lessons we did a hand hygiene experiment with glitter to see how long we should wash our hands for.



We also have been learning about the importance of money and how charities help people around the world.



Safer Internet Day

For Safer Internet Day in February, we worked in groups to role play scenarios to spot scams online. If something looks too good to be true, it is likely to be a scam so don't fall for it!

Be a SCAM SPOTTER like us!

