

### Newsletter



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Woodlands Academy Primary School

**Summer Term 2024-25** 

#### Dear Parents/Carers,

We have reached the end of another fantastic year at Woodlands. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the success of this year, whether that is participating in our events, volunteering in the school or supporting with home learning. All contributions are appreciated and valued!

For the second year in a row we have seen an improvement in our attendance and it was lovely to see so many more children enjoying Gold Day this week. Thank you to Ms Moxom for organising it- hopefully we will have to do a 3rd Gold day session next year as we continue to make progress towards our target of 96.5% attendance.

You will have received your child's school report last week. It was lovely to read so many positive reports, particularly those which referenced the children's growing resilience and positive learning attitudes. There was so much to celebrate.

This year we are saying goodbye to Ms Katia, who is leaving us to return to Switzerland. While we are sad to lose her, we wish her all the best for the future- hopefully she'll come back and visit when she is next in London.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all the staff at Woodlands, to wish you a very happy, safe and restful holiday. We look forward to welcoming you back on **Wednesday 3rd September 2025!** 

Ms Hasker





# From The Chair Of Governors

We have had a busy term with governors visiting to look at Early Years, SEND, and Safeguarding. Governors have attended training provided by the Local Authority, The Key, DFE and National Governors Association, topics include the prevent duty, cyber security, SEND, Governors Briefings, social media for schools and other areas of interest.

In Curriculum committee, we were delighted to see the progress our Year 6 pupils have made this year and the results of the SAT's included some pupils at Greater Depth in Maths, Reading and GPS. Our Reading result was slightly behind our target with 4 of our pupils (14% of the Year Group) missing the pass mark by 1 point. Our pupils in Early years have made great progress from their starting points and at least 75% achieved the expected level in the 3 prime Learning Goals of Communication and Language, Physical Development and Personal and Social Development. We will be looking at the whole school in-year data for the year in detail in our meeting in September.

In Resources committee we were pleased to see the increase in income from lettings with community events, HAF holiday clubs run by Zebra Sports, and letting the caretaker's flat which will help offset the increased expenditure needed to make good the playground areas this summer. We have set the budget for the next academic year which is very tight. We have identified some savings which are being used to increase the number of books to send home in Nursery, Reception and Year 1 and provide teachers with consistently high-quality texts to support teaching Reading and Writing for Years 2-6.

Once again, thank you for helping us improve our attendance rate, we achieved 93% for the full year but we would wish to see this increase still further to our aspirational target of 96.5%. We are very pleased that the number of pupils who are persistently absent or late has reduced because 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, the children love you to see what they have been working on. I watched the Year 6 production last week which was fantastic and so well attended by parents and siblings. The children were outstanding in their singing and acting in a very creative production. Thank you to everyone who made it happen. Please come along to the Summer Festival on the new date of Friday 12th September at 3.30pm. Please follow Woodlands Academy on Instagram to see all the activities, sports opportunities and learning that we provide for our pupils.

We are sorry to say goodbye to Charlotte Colgan, who has been a co-opted governor for 5 years and has taken on the Chair of the Curriculum committee for the past 2 years. We are delighted to wish her all the best as she has been promoted to Deputy Head of her school in Brent, but we will miss her insight and commitment to continuous improvement in teaching and learning. We have co-opted Dawnn Dinsey, who has skills in data analysis, marketing and technology onto the Governing Body and we are seeking a person with an education background to co-opt in the Autumn Term.

Wishing you all an enjoyable summer break and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Wednesday 3rd September.

Shirley Kenworthy-Wright Chair of Governors

## MUSIC NEWS

It's been a fantastic term and indeed another great year of music making at Woodlands Academy. It's always brilliant to see children embracing the opportunities open to them and flourishing in learning instruments or being part of ensembles.

## Musician of the Year 2024 -2025 <u>Judah Jones</u>







I would like to firstly give recognition to Judah Jones in Year 5 for his talent and commitment in music over the past year. Judah has been a longstanding member of the school choir and has also been learning the piano and Jsax this year. Maintaining all of these commitments is challenge enough, but Judah has shown determination and dedication, making great progress in all of these areas. In addition to this, Judah always turns up with a smile and a willingness to improve; key ingredients to being a successful musician! Well done Judah, we look forward to seeing more from you next year!

Following on from this, I would like to extend my thanks to many other children at Woodlands Academy who have given their time and commitment to music this year. I hope you have enjoyed all of the opportunities you have had and I look forward to many of you continuing to get involved in music next year, and for those of you in Year 6, at your next schools!

### **Year 5 - Learning the Jsax**

Both myself and our specialist tutor Mr Mckay have been pleased with the progress that Year 5 have made this term. We enjoyed an impressive performance at the end of the term where Y5 showcased their new skills!

Some students have made particularly impressive progress on the instrument and as part of Woodlands commitment to nurture and develop musical talent, students will be offered the opportunity to continue learning in Year 6. Mr Jones will be in touch in September regarding this.

### **Year 4 - Learning the Recorder**

Both myself and Mr Russell have been teaching Year 4 to play the recorder. This is a great introduction to playing a musical instrument and gives a solid foundation to learning the Saxophone next year.

Children can actually start learning the recorder even as young as Year 1. We have a club at school which children can join - but even using youtube and buying a recorder can be a great start to learning the basics!

### **Extra Curricular Music**

Many children have been involved in extracurricular music this term. From the choir, to piano lessons, to the recorder ensemble and beyond, I have been pleased to see that children are embracing these opportunities. I often remind myself that mastering these skills is a particular challenge in the modern world. With so many distractions around, sitting down to practise an instrument requires self discipline and structure, so well done to the children and also to parents for helping to encourage children in this!

### **Photos**

Take a look at some of the many musical highlights that took place during the summer term!





A fantastic end to the Year with our Summer Music Concert. Well done to all of the children involved!







#### Coming up next term!

Choir -Year 3 - 6 (Auditions)
Jsax - Whole Class Y5
Recorder Club - Year 1 - 6 (Paid Club)
Piano Lessons (Paid)
Y6 Jsax (Small Group)
Many other opportunities



# \* Sports News \*



#### Featherstone School Sports Partnership – Gold Award Success!

This year, the **Featherstone School Sports Partnership** provided us with a fantastic range of sports competitions, both this term and throughout the year. We were proud to attend a number of these events—enough to earn the prestigious **Gold Award**, which we received at a special awards ceremony on **10th July**.

**Well done to all the children** who took part in the tournaments and helped us achieve this incredible milestone. It's a fantastic achievement for our **one-form entry school**, and I am extremely proud of everyone involved! We have had more children than ever before attending sports competitions, which I have been tracking closely throughout this year.

A special congratulations to **Seef**, **Lexi**, **Amber**, **Judah and Skylah** who were awarded **individual trophies** at the ceremony for their outstanding effort and positive attitude to sport- a well deserved recognition of their hard work! The children who attended the ceremony were selected for their outstanding contribution to sport this year- so a huge congratulations to **Abilash**, **Anaiyah**, **Keira**, **Mohammed J and Lorenzo**.

I was honoured to win the **Impact Award** for leading our sports provision this year. However, I would like to say that it is a credit to the amazing children we have at Woodlands and the fantastic teachers who have adapted to changes and taught PE lessons again this year. Thank you to several members of our staff who made it possible for the children to represent our school. This dedication has meant that our pupils can continue to thrive in sport. **Ms Helen** received a **special contribution award** for committing to train our Girls Football team this year to ensure equal opportunities and accompany them in the Girls League. Thank you to **Ms Chamberlain**, **Ms Helen and our parents** who joined us for this special celebration.

And a big **thank you to our parent volunteers** who gave their time to support and accompany us at events—your help made a real difference and is greatly appreciated.

Ms Moxom

Featherstone Sports Partnership Awards evening- Well done Woodlands!





Our Girls
Football player
of the yearSkylah!



#### Below are some photos from events this Summer term:











Year 3/4 Mini Tennis Team



@Gunnersbury Sports Hub

1st May

#### KS2 Cricket Festival



@Wolf Fields Primary School

13th June

#### 5/6 Athletics Invitational



@Perivale Athletics Track



#### Our Gold Award!



#### Yr 5/6 Summer Performance Athletics





@Perivale Athletics Track

7th July

Sports News continued...















A heartfelt thank you to all the parents and families who came along to support our Sports Day. Your encouragement, enthusiasm, cheering and participation made the day even more special for the children!

#### Thank you to Our Young Leaders...





## Sports News continued...

The winning house was Respect. Well done to everyone who took part.

SELF BELIEF
272 POINTS



The results...

RESILIENCE

267 POINTS

DETERMINATION
258 POINTS



### 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!







# Attendance News

Summer Term has been extremely busy and it has encouraging to see that children have been trying hard to attend school every day on time, so they can make the most of every learning opportunity.

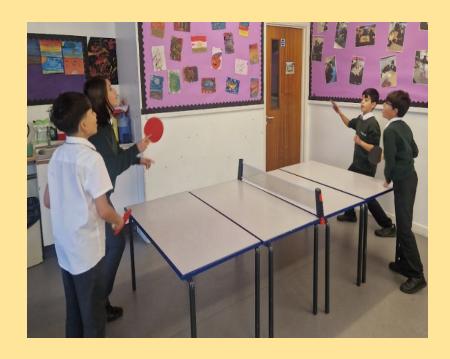






Our Golden Games once a week- celebrating and rewarding 100% attendance





# Attendance News

continued...

### **GOLD DAY 2025**

This year's Gold Day was bigger and even better than last year! We recognised and rewarded excellent attendance (those children in Year 1-6 who achieved 96.5% for the year) by putting on a Golden Games on a larger scale in the hall. With games, music, snacks and fun, it was a great success!

Well done to these children who received the Golden Ticket invite and joined us for a special afternoon. Your positive attendance and punctuality is very important. Please

keep it up next year.























C L U B



The children have enjoyed coming into Calm Club this term, choosing from a range of activities including card games, drawing, colouring, reading, bracelet making, board games and construction.

We have lots of new things for them to play with in the play are, including a word game which has been helping the children's quick thinking and magnetic blocks. They have both been a popular choice with the children this term. Both of these additions to Calm Club were from the **Felix Project** collection which we have access. Thank you to Felix Project for helping us make Calm Club even better this term.

We hope you have enjoyed the food that has been available in the playground on a few occasions this term- this is also thanks to The Felix Project, who deliver food to school. If you want to find out more about The Felix Project please speak to Ms Hasker, Ms Moxom, Ms Chamberlain or Ms Wojewoda.

## Forest School



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



And we bashed leaves and flowers to make prints.



We found a parakeet egg shell on the ground. It was much smaller than our chicks' eggs.



We spend a lot of time looking at different minibeasts that share forest school with us and then used what we learned to make clay minibeasts.



We learned how to put up a shelter when it rained



Harvesting our potatoes and talking about how we will cook them.
We picked blackberries and added them to our crumble





We released our butterflies onto the flowers in Forest School

# Nursery

We were so excited when the eggs arrived in our class! We watched as they started to hatch.

Then we carefully held the chicks in







We learned about how to look after animals and enjoyed playing vets.



We hunted minibeasts in the classroom and in the garden. We learned where they like to live. We made minibeast models.



Building walls and rivers outside! Learning teamwork.



We enjoyed cooking spaghetti with tomatoes and mushrooms and strawberry jam tarts



Shape matching



# Nursery continued...



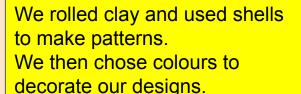
We have been learning about the seaside.

We practised counting and sharing in our Beach Shop.



We explored pattern using paints and different textured rollers.

We also made our own repeating patterns in maths.





We talked about ocean pollution and then went on a litter pick in our playground, We sorted the litter into 2 boxes - plastic and paper.



Our first Sports
Day was so much
fun!



The children have been exploring what minibeasts like snails and worms need to survive. They've been closely observing and comparing different minibeasts, learning about their features and body parts through exciting hands-on activities!





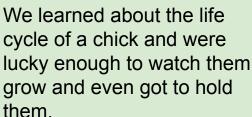
The children loved building animal homes and habitats using construction materials full of creativity and imagination



In Maths, we've been exploring numbers using 10-framesnumbers are made and finding

looking at how

patterns

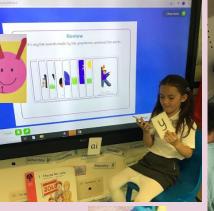








We have continued to do so well in our Phonics and try our best to become confident readers. We can spot harder to read and spell words in many books!



We've been busy exploring the sand—digging, building, and discovering through hands-on, sensory play!







Reception continued...

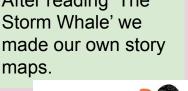
In Summer 2, our topic was On the Beach. We learned about different sea creatures, the importance of looking after our oceans, and how littering affects the beach environment.

After reading The Fish Who Could Wish, we made our own wishful fish using bags, string, and lots of creativity then wrote down our very own wishes!





After reading 'The Storm Whale' we made our own story maps.





854



beautiful butterflies! 🐛 🦋







In PSHE, we explored how to stay healthy by creating life-size cutouts of ourselves and adding pictures of nutritious food choices!





## Year 1















We had lots of fun at the Science museum! We made patterns in the pattern pod and explored The Garden.







In Science we have been finding out all about plants. We planted sunflower seeds and watched them grow. We made collages of flowers and learnt the names of lots of flowers and trees that grow in school. We tried leaf rubbings, we thought it was really cool.

## Year 1 continued...







We sorted facts and presented them to the class

In English we wrote our own poems and had a go at performing them. This half term we read Meerkat mail. We wrote the story in our own words then did lots of research on Meerkats to make factfiles







This term in geography we have been learning all about seasons and weather. Here we made windsocks. We also made and presented our own weather reports.

## Year 2



### Trips!

We have had a fantastic year in the final school term as Woodpeckers. Look at our exciting trip to Westminster, in central London. Our first every school River Cruise!





















We enjoyed our trip to the Local Ealing gurdwara, where we learnt Sikh stories and saw real life artefacts.







We enjoyed the langar (special vegetarian food).









### Vett 2 continued...

### DT- making pouches







We practised joining two pieces of material together.





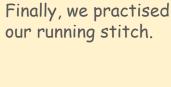
Pins and glue were used as joining techniques.



We learnt to thread a needle. It was quite tricky! We used a our resilience to keep going.



The next challenge was to tie a knot in the thread.



We then used this skill to help us with our pouches!







### Drama and role play!

It's been fun role playing Ibn Battuta's life journey.





Here we were
'Ibn' who watched
two thousand
women pray.



Here we are 'Ibn' observing the Postal Service in India pass messages across from place to place.



