

Woodford Green Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 23rd January



Dear Parents and Carers,

Every week, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, the children improve their writing skills. They write in a range of different contexts including narrative stories, information texts, newspaper articles, biographies and many more. The children build their understanding of how to write in different tenses and how to write in the first person (I, we) and third person (he, she, they). We often link their writing to what they are learning about in subjects like Shared Reading, Geography, History and Science.

Below are the writing composites for next week. If you would like to support the improvement of your child's writing, we would like your help in building your child's knowledge and vocabulary in the areas below. For example, Year 3 are writing about Roald Dahl; parents may like to read with their children about him.

Year 1 – Retelling the story of Traction man

Year 2 – Writing a diary entry about a personal experience

Year 3 – Roald Dahl Biography

Year 4 – Cressida Cowell biography

Year 5 – Newspaper report about a destructive storm

Year 6 – Newspaper report about book character (Skellig – the main character apart from Michael)

Our after-school clubs have got off to a good start with high attendance from everyone. Please do be aware that any non-attendance will be followed up by the office. We want to make sure that all children have access to a club so when children do not attend for 2 weeks in a row without a particular reason, we will offer the place to the waiting list.

Reception visiting a Synagogue and Mosque on Monday, Year 1 visiting the Tate Modern, the Inter-school Choir trip and the Waltham Forest Golf Tournament. All of these trips are designed to support our curriculum and team work and resilience. There will be more trips as the term progresses so do please keep a close eye on MCAS.

I would like to say a huge thank you to all families who are working hard to ensure that their children's attendance remains high. All the data shows that when children come to school regularly their attainment also improves. Please continue to use MCAS to track your child's attendance to ensure that they are at school over 95% of the time. We will send you a letter if your child's attendance goes below 95%, and if their attendance goes below 90%, they are classified as Persistently Absent and you will be asked to meet with the Head of School and Educational Welfare Officer to discuss how we can support you to improve their attendance.

I thank you for all your help and wish you a lovely weekend,

Richard Barker.

Diary Dates – Spring Term 1

January	
Friday 30 th	Literacy coffee morning. Starts at 9am.
Friday 30 th	Interschool Choir competition. More detail to follow.
Friday 30 th	Instrumental reports to parents.
February	
Wednesday 4 th	Years 1 and 3 Bring your parents to school morning. 9am until 10am.

Weekly Attendance

Class weekly and yearly attendance will be shown every week. The school expected attendance is **98%**. The class with the best attendance each term will receive a special lunch.

Please make sure that you ring the school office every day that your child is absent. You can leave a message on the absence line.

Our gates open at 8:40am and close at 8:55am. Please make sure that you are on time to minimise the impact of your child's learning. Late arrivals disrupt the timings of the mornings, and they will miss vital input of lessons.

The first weeks are vitally important in setting the right tone and expectation for learning. It is in that light that I ask that every effort is made to ensure that your child's attendance is as high as possible. Data released by the government shows how consistently high attendance correlates with high attainment. Attendance must be 98% or higher and we expect to work with all parents to achieve it.

Year Group attendance – Week beginning 12/01/2026

Year Group	Class Name	Weekly Attendance	Year to Date attendance	Year to Date Persistent Absence %
Reception	Sycamore	99.3%	96.6%	3.3%
Year 1	Redwood	97.8%	95.3%	8.7%
Year 2	Pine	98.3%	96.0%	6.2%
Year 3	Teak	94.7%	95.1%	13.3%
Year 4	Cherry	95.3%	96.7%	3.3%
Year 5	Chestnut	94.2%	94.5%	16.1%
Year 6	Ash	99.7%	97.0%	3.3%
Whole School		97.0%	95.9%	7.8%

<https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence>

Certificate winners

Stars of the Week			
Elm Noya River	Sycamore Dorothy Raima	Redwood Dream Melisa	Pine Amari Taran
Teak Jaxon Ada	Cherry Oliver Jack	Chestnut Sadik Laura	Ash Cora Roman
Caught Being Kind			
Elm Elisa	Sycamore Amelia	Redwood Ronnie	Pine Sedra
Teak Daisy	Cherry Emrys	Chestnut Jasvir	Ash August
Writer of the Week			
Elm Isla	Sycamore Harry	Redwood Tate	Pine Ayden
Teak Amber	Cherry Arman	Chestnut Kaiden	Ash Lena

HOLIDAY CLUB

Dear Parents/Carers,

We will be holding Holiday Clubs throughout the academic year and invite parents to sign up. Please use the table below and take note of the closing date for sign up.

Places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and will depend on staff availability. The club will include a range of activities, for example cooking, sports, and arts and crafts.

The clubs will be led by school staff members. There will be at least one staff member from one of the Arbor schools and there will always be a designated safeguarding lead on call at all times. Usual safeguarding procedures will apply.

Please sign up on the link below.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1G0HQ2qyRhsmVBeFoVgb2fkx0EasFrgGuLyUo9LSa3-Y/edit?tab=t.0>

Nursery Bread Making



Wednesday 4th February
Bring your parents
to school morning
for Years 1 and 3
Starts at 9am and
finishes at 10am.

Winter clothing

As the weather gets colder, please remember to send your child to school each day with a **warm winter coat**. We go outside whenever possible for play and fresh air, even during the winter months, so having a coat helps keep everyone **warm, comfortable, and healthy**.

Please also label coats clearly with your child's name to help us return any misplaced items. Thank you for your support in keeping our students cosy this winter!

Debating topics

Year 6 WFG Vs SEL	Rules are necessary for society
Year 5 WFG Vs NW	Local jobs should only be for local people
Year 4 WFG Vs DL	Water should be free
Year 3 WFG Vs DL	Stealing can be justified

The following children will be debating the above topics.

Year 3: Finn, Ariana, Jaxon, Ada

Year 4: Raymond, Jack, Zaynah, Lizzie

Year 5: Laura, Lucas, Jasvir, Ayanle

Year 6: James, Rachel, Cora, Savanna

Woodford Green Spring term trip by Year groups

Year Group	Date	Details
Reception	26th January	Woodford Synagogue
Year 1	27th January	Tate Modern
Year 2	9th February	Florence Nightingale Museum
Year 3	27th February	British Museum
Year 4	6th March	Natural History Museum
Year 5	13th February	Kensington Palace
Year 6	5th February	Tower of London

If you would like to volunteer for any of the trips, please contact the class teachers. If you do not have a valid DBS, please collect a volunteer pack from the office.

Nursery – Exotic fruits



Year 6

Year 6 sketching their futuristic designs in the style of Leonardo da Vinci



Spring term diary dates

January

Thursday 29th January – Debating challenge – semi-finals in phase assembly.

Friday 30th January – Literacy coffee morning. Starts at 9am.

Friday 30th January – Years 1 and 2 Tri Golf Competition. Chosen children to attend. Children to return back to school by 3:25pm.

Friday 30th January – Interschool Choir competition. Chosen children to attend. Children to return to school by 3:25pm.

February

Wednesday 4th February – Bring your parents to school morning for years 1 and 3. Starts at 9am.

Thursday 5th February – Parent council meeting.

Friday 6th February – Nursery coffee morning. Starts at 9am.

Friday 6th February – Years 4 and 5 Dodgeball competition. Chosen children to attend.

Friday 6th February – KS1 Interschool champions league debate.

Monday 9th – Friday 13th February – Children’s Mental Health Week.

Tuesday 10th February – Internet Awareness Day.

Tuesday 10th February – Year 5 Micro musical. Starts at 9:15am.

Thursday 12th February – Year 3 Micro musical. Starts at 9:15am.

Friday 13th February – Autism/SEND coffee morning. Starts at 9am.

Monday 16th – Friday 20th February – Half term. Please fill out the holiday club if you would like your child to attend.

Monday 23rd February – Children return to school after the half term.

Thursday 26th February – Reception’s Chinese New Year and Lunar assembly. Reception parents welcome to attend. Starts at 9:15am.

Friday 27th February – Interschool Rugby competition. Chosen children to attend.

March

Tuesday 3rd March – Music concert for parents. Choir to sing and pupils who have music lessons to play.

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day. Children can dress as their favourite book characters.

Steps to resolving concerns

There will be times when you need concerns resolving. For clarity, we have steps to support you.

Step 1: First contact is your class teacher. If concerns are not resolved satisfactorily then move on to step 2.

Step 2: Your child's Phase leader is the next step, depending on the phase.

Mr Barker – EYFS - Nursery and Reception.

Miss French – KS1 – years 1, 2 and 3.

Miss McHugh – KS2 – years 4, 5 and 6.

Step 3: Contact:

Miss Logue – SENCo and Designated Safeguarding Lead.

Miss McHugh – Assistant Head

If the concern remains unresolved, move on to step 4.

Step 4: Contact the Head of School: Mr Barker.

If the concern remains unresolved, move on to step 5.

Step 5: Contact the Executive Head – Dr Maureen Okoye MBE

Please note, our complaints policy is on the website in the parental communication section.

Nursery:

aisha.hassan@woodfordgreen.waltham.sch.uk

Reception:

kubra.ahmad@woodfordgreen.waltham.sch.uk

Year 1:

Julie.french@woodfordgreen.waltham.sch.uk

Year 2:

ayse.direk@woodfordgreen.waltham.sch.uk

Year 3:

Lydia.orange@woodfordgreen.waltham.sch.uk

Year 4:

Melissa.logue@woodfordgreen.waltham.sch.uk

Year 5:

paulina.osei@woodfordgreen.waltham.sch.uk

Year 6:

maeve.mchugh@woodfordgreen.waltham.sch.uk

Free School Meals and the EdenRed holiday voucher scheme.

We are now accepting applications for the September 2025 intake.

Please send applications to the following address once filled in:

The Benefits Service
Free School Meals
London Borough of Waltham Forest
PO Box 856
E17 9PN

We would encourage to send applications in as soon as possible. Alternatively, parent/carers can apply online on the Waltham Forest website:

<https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schools-education-and-learning/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/apply-free-school-meals>

We would strongly advise to encourage parent/carers to apply online as applications will come through as soon as submitted and can be processed quicker.

This is different from the Free School Meals allocation given to all primary school aged children by the Mayor of London. Universal Free School Meals will not give you access to the holiday voucher scheme. Please apply online to receive these vouchers for all the half terms next year.

**Woodford Green Primary School Local Governing Board
Trust Board Appointment Vacancies**

Dear Parents/ Carers and friends of Woodford Green Primary School,

Arbor Academy Trust Board is looking to supplement the Local Governing Board of Woodford Green Primary School with individuals able to offer skills and expertise to assist the further development of our highly successful school.

The Trust Board wishes to ensure the majority of the membership of the Local Governing Board is parents of children in the school however these appointments are not restricted exclusively to parents as we look to reflect wider aspects of our local community.

The work of the Local Governing Board is very important to the school. The board is responsible for holding the school to account and therefore it is essential that all members of the board are committed to their role, attend training as necessary to continually develop their knowledge and develop a good understanding of the strengths and weakness of the school in order to work with the senior leadership team to ensure continuous improvement.

All Trust Board appointments are subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check (DBS) check. You will be required to disclose any criminal convictions you may have. These will not necessarily bar you from holding office as it will depend on the nature of the conviction. The school's safeguarding officer will provide you with the form to complete and any further information you may require.

If you are interested in this role please go on to the:-

Arbor Academy website – Governance and Policy and research the relevant information.

<https://arboracademytrust.co.uk/about-us/governance/>

Then, on reflection, consider the skills, knowledge, understanding and/or expertise you can offer. If you wish to nominate yourself please write a letter of application addressing these points and email it to Marcia Douet, Chair of Arbor Academy Trust c/o Jason Cook at jason.cook@arboracademytrust.co.uk

The appointments will be made following interviews. Candidates will be informed of the interview arrangements on receipt of the letter of application.

Yours sincerely,

Marcia Douet
Chair of Arbor Academy Trust

School Term dates 2026 -2027

Autumn Term: (73 days)

- Wednesday 2nd September 2026 to Friday 18th December 2026
- Wednesday 2nd September 2026 INSET day
- Thursday 3rd September 2026 INSET day
- Friday 23rd October 2026 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 26th October 2026 to Friday 30th October 2026
- Christmas Holiday Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term: (54 days)

- Monday 4th January 2027 to Thursday 25th March 2027.
- Monday 4th January 2027 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 15th February 2027 to Friday 19th February 2027.
- Easter holiday Friday 26th March 2027 to Friday 9th April 2027.

Summer Term: (68 days)

- Monday 12th April 2027 to Thursday 22nd July 2027
- Monday 12th April 2027 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 31st May 2027 to Friday 4th June 2027
- Summer holiday Friday 23rd July 2027

Public holidays

- Friday 25th December 2026 (Christmas Day)
- Monday 28th December 2026 (Boxing Day)
- Friday 1st January 2027 (New Year's Day)
- Friday 26th March 2027 (Good Friday)
- Monday 29th March 2027 (Easter Monday)
- Monday 3rd May 2027
- Monday 31st May 2027
- Monday 30th August 2027

School Term dates 2025 – 2026

Spring Term: (55 days)

- Monday 5th January 2026 to Friday 27th March 2026.
- Monday 5th January 2026 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 16th to Friday 20th February 2026.
- Easter holiday Monday 30th March 2026 to Friday 10th April 2026.

Summer Term: (65 days)

- Monday 13th April 2026 to Monday 20th July 2026
- Monday 13th April 2026 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 25th 2026 to Friday 29th May 2026
- Summer holiday Tuesday 21st July 2026

Autumn/Winter Menu 2025/26 Week 1	Eco Forest Ranger Monday	Allergen Friendly Tuesday (FDA)	Allergen Friendly Wednesday (FDA)	Tasty Thursday	Fun Fact Friday
CHOICE 1	Margherita Pizza {gf} {ve} with Jacket Wedges {ve}	Jollof Rice {ve}	Baked Countryside Cutlet with Rosemary Roast Potatoes and Gravy {ve}	Classic Tomato & Basil Pasta {ve}	Crushed Chickpea & Sweetcorn Wrap {ve}
CHOICE 2	Vegetable Supreme Pizza {v} with Jacket Wedges {ve}	Chilli Con Carne Mixed Rice	Roast Chicken with Rosemary Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Beef Lasagne	MSC Golden Crumb Fish Fingers{df} or Bubble Crumb Salmon Fillet{df}{gf} with Oven Chipped Potatoes {ve}
CHOICE 3	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans {ve} or Cheese {v}	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans {ve} or Coleslaw {ve}	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans {ve} or Coleslaw {ve}	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans {ve} Cheese {v} or Tuna	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans {ve} Cheese {v} or Tuna
Vegetables	Minted Garden Peas {ve} Sweetcorn {ve}	Roasted Organic Carrots {ve} Green Beans {ve}	Mixed Vegetables {ve} Fresh Seasonal Green Cabbage {ve}	Fresh Seasonal Broccoli {ve} Sweetcorn Coblets {ve}	Baked Beans {ve} Minted Garden Peas {ve}
Salads	Salad Selection {ve}	Salad Selection {ve}	Salad Selection {ve}	Salad Selection {ve}	Salad Selection {ve}
Desserts	Yogurt Bar{v} with Fruit Compote {ve}	Creamy Rice Pudding {ve} with a Fruit Compote {ve}	St Clements Jelly {ve}	Yogurt Bar{v} with Fruit Compote {ve}	Oaty Apple Crumble {ve} & Custard {ve}{v}
DAILY	Cheese and Crackers {v} with a Fresh Apple Slice {ve}	Fresh Fruit Salad {ve}	Fresh Fruit Salad {ve}	Cheese and Crackers {v} with a Fresh Apple Slice {ve}	Organic Fruit Yogurt {v} with Seasonal Fresh Fruit {ve}
DAILY	Seasonal Fresh Fruit{ve}	Seasonal Fresh Fruit {ve}	Seasonal Fresh Fruit {ve}	Seasonal Fresh Fruit {ve}	Seasonal Fresh Fruit {ve}
Bread	Homemade Garlic Bread {v}	Homemade Bread {ve}	Homemade Bread {ve}	Homemade Bread {v}	Homemade Tomato Bread {v}

Autumn/Winter Menu 2025/26 Week 2	Eco Forest Ranger Monday	Allergen Friendly Tuesday (FDA)	Allergen Friendly Wednesday (FDA)	Tasty Thursday	Fun Fact Friday
CHOICE 1	Crispy Nuggets with Spicy Diced Potatoes (ve)	Tangy Tomato & Pepper Pasta (ve)(gf)	Power Sausage with Roasted Potatoes and Gravy (ve)	Roasted Vegetable Biryani (ve) (gf) (df)	Roasted Vegetable and Sweet Potato Burrito (ve) with Oven Chipped Potatoes
CHOICE 2	Homemade Cheddar Cheese & Sweetcorn Quiche (v) with Spicy Diced Potatoes (ve)	Spicy Meatballs in a Creamy Tomato Sauce with Italian Rice	Spicy Chicken with Roasted Potatoes	Burger (df)(gf) in a Floured Bun (v) with Oven Baked Jacket Wedges (ve)	MSC Golden Crumb Fish Fingers(df) or Bubble Crumb Salmon Fillet (df)(gf) with Oven Chipped Potatoes (ve)
CHOICE 3	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve) or Cheese (v)	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve) or Coleslaw(ve)	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve) or Coleslaw(ve)	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve) Cheese (v) or Tuna	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve) Cheese (v) or Tuna
Vegetables	Fresh Seasonal Broccoli(ve) Sweetcorn (ve)	Fresh Seasonal Organic Carrots (ve) Green Beans (ve)	Rainbow Roasted Veggies (ve)	Fresh Seasonal Broccoli(ve) Mixed Vegetables (ve)	Baked Beans (ve) Sweetcorn (ve)
Salads	Salad Selection (ve)	Salad Selection (ve)	Salad Selection (ve)	Salad Selection (ve)	Salad Selection (ve)
Desserts	Yogurt Bar(v) with Fruit Compote (ve)	Fruit Smoothie (ve)	Fruit Jelly Pot (ve)	Yogurt Bar(v) with Fruit Compote (ve)	Chocolate Cracknel (v) & Custard(ve)(v)
DAILY	Cheese and Crackers(v) with Fresh Apple Slice (ve)	Fresh Fruit Salad (ve)	Fresh Fruit Salad (ve)	Cheese and Crackers(v) with Fresh Apple Slice (ve)	Organic Fruit Yogurt (v) with Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)
DAILY	Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)	Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)	Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)	Seasonal Fresh Fruit(ve)	Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)
Bread	Homemade Wholemeal Bread (v)	Homemade Bread (ve)	Homemade Bread (ve)	Homemade Bread (v)	Homemade Garlic and Rosemary Focaccia (v)

Autumn/Winter Menu 2025/26 Week 3	Eco Forest Ranger Monday	Allergen Friendly Tuesday (FDA)	Allergen Friendly Wednesday (FDA)	Tasty Thursday	Fun Fact Friday
CHOICE 1	Fishless Fish Finger Wrap and Waffle Fries (ve)	Spiced Chick Pea & Sweet Potato Pilaf (ve)	Pasta Neapolitan (ve)(gf)	Warm BBQ Pulled Jackfruit Baguette (ve)	Power Burger (ve) in a Bun (v) with Oven Chipped Potatoes (ve)
CHOICE 2	Creamy Mac n Cheese (v)	Chicken Curry with Mixed Rice	Beef Bolognese with Pasta Spiral (gf)	Sizzling Chicken Stir Fry with Garlic and Ginger served with Noodles (v)	MSC Golden Crumb Fish Fingers(df) or Bubble Crumb Salmon Fillet(df) (gf) with Oven Chipped Potatoes (ve)
CHOICE 3	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve) or Cheese (v)	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve) or Coleslaw (ve)	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve) or Coleslaw (ve)	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans(ve) Cheese (v) or Tuna	Oven Baked Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (ve) Cheese (v) or Tuna
Vegetables	Garden Peas (ve) Sweetcorn (ve)	Green Beans (ve) Fresh Seasonal Carrots(ve)	Fresh Seasonal Broccoli (ve) Mixed Vegetables (ve)	Sweetcorn (ve) Roasted Organic Carrots (ve)	Baked Beans(ve) Garden Peas (ve)
Salads	Salad Selection (ve)	Salad Selection (ve)	Salad Selection (ve)	Salad Selection (ve)	Salad Selection (ve)
Desserts	Yogurt Bar(v) with Fruit Compote (ve)	Raspberry & Coconut Pot (ve)	Fruit Smoothie (ve)	Pineapple Upside Down Cake (v) and Custard (ve (v))	Waffle Finger (v) with Slice of Fresh Fruit (ve) and Ice Cream (ve) (v)
DAILY	Cheese and Crackers (v) with Fresh Apple Slice (ve)	Fresh Fruit Salad (ve)	Fresh Fruit Salad (ve)	Organic Fruit Yogurt (v) with Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)	Organic Fruit Yogurt (v) with Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)
DAILY	Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)	Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)	Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)	Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)	Seasonal Fresh Fruit (ve)
Bread	Homemade Carrot & Coriander Bread (v)	Homemade Bread (ve)	Homemade Bread (ve)	Rosemary & Cherry Tomato Focaccia (v)	Homemade Bread (v)