

Woodford Green Primary School

Newsletter – Friday 19th September



Dear Parents and Carers,

One of the most important skills and experiences that parents and children can share is reading. A common misconception is that once a child is a free reader, they can be encouraged to read quietly or 'in their heads'. There is a huge amount of [research](#) that shows the wide-ranging benefits of encouraging reading to children and having them read out loud to you. Not only does it support the acquisition of new knowledge and vocabulary, but it also correlates with increased confidence, resilience, positive behaviour, increased memory and increased attention spans.

At Woodford Green, all children have the opportunity to read throughout the day especially through Shared Reading at the start of the day. Over the course of an academic year, children read an average of 9 books cover to cover with discussion of language and characterisation taking place every day. Children also have the opportunity to read in the main subjects like Geography, History and Science.

Our trips and sports competitions have begun this week with Badminton and our Trust sketching and watercolour competitions. The Trust will continue to prioritise PE and the Arts as part of our school development plan with many competitions and opportunities taking place throughout the year.

It was lovely to see so many parents at the Reception phonics coffee morning. As mentioned last week, there will be similar phonics coffee mornings next week and a Nursery coffee morning later in the term. Next week, Reception parents are invited to the first of our 'Bring your parents to school' days. This is a lovely opportunity to come and see what the children are learning about.

Please do come if you have the time - these sessions run from 9:00am -10:00am.

We will also soon begin preparing for our termly debate competitions, we will announce our participants in the coming weeks.

Have a lovely weekend,

Richard Barker.

Diary Dates – Summer Term

September	
Tuesday 30 th	Reception – Bring your parents to school morning. Starts at 9am.
October	
Wednesday 1 st	Individual and sibling photos.
Thursday 2 nd	Year 1 trip: Museum of the Home.
Friday 3 rd	Year 1 and 2 Phonics coffee morning. Starts at 9am.
Monday 6 th	Year 4 swimming starts. Children to swim every day.
Wednesday 8 th	New to Reception open morning. For children to be eligible for Reception in September 2026.
Thursday 9 th	Year 3 Stonehenge trip. Children to leave at 8am, and return by 6pm.

Haven House bike ride

Two of our pupils, Evelyn and Fintan, are cycling for Haven House.

They will be cycling 5k to raise money for this wonderful charity.

We wish them a safe ride. We look forward to seeing the pictures.

<https://www.havenhouse.org.uk/event/bikeride>
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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 on your child's learning. Late arrivals disrupt the timings of the mornings, and children 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 15/09/2025

Year Group	Class Name	Weekly Attendance	Year to Date attendance	Year to Date Persistent Absence %
Reception	Sycamore	99.3%	99.5%	0.0%
Year 1	Redwood	95.0%	92.8%	13.6%
Year 2	Pine	97.3%	96.6%	10.0%
Year 3	Teak	95.0%	96.7%	14.3%
Year 4	Cherry	94.5%	95.2%	6.9%
Year 5	Chestnut	94.2%	93.0%	6.5%
Year 6	Ash	94.8%	95.3%	9.7%
Whole School		95.7%	95.6%	8.5%

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

Certificate winners

Stars of the Week			
Elm Kaci-Jay Elora	Sycamore Kairos Harry	Redwood Tate Younus	Pine Rene Yousif
Teak Jaxon Lilly	Cherry Michael Lizzie	Chestnut Amaan	Ash Maxi Harrison
Caught Being Kind			
Elm Athena	Sycamore Arthur	Redwood Daphne	Pine Nancy
Teak Haseeb	Cherry Aariz K	Chestnut Evan	Ash Dylan
Writer of the Week			
Elm Teleio	Sycamore Penelope	Redwood Dream	Pine Meena
Teak Almasi	Cherry Nevaeh	Chestnut Noah	Ash Vanessa

Parent Dates – Autumn Term 2025

September

Monday 29th - Parent survey closes.

Tuesday 30th – Reception bring your parent to school morning, starts at 9am until 10am.

October

Wednesday 1st – Individual and sibling photos in school.

Thursday 2nd – Year 1 Museum of the Home trip.

Friday 3rd – Year 1 and 2 Phonics coffee morning. Starts at 9am.

Monday 6th – Year 4 Swimming starts. Children to swim every day.

Wednesday 8th – New to Reception meeting. Starts at 9:30am. Nursery parents to attend if their child is eligible for Reception 2026.

Thursday 9th – Year 3 trip to Stonehenge. Children to be in by 8am. Children will return to school at 6pm.

Friday 10th – Year 2 St Paul's Cathedral trip.

Friday 10th – Interschool Athletics competition. Chosen children to attend.

Monday 13th – Year 4 swimming continues all week.

Thursday 16th – Parent Council. Starts at 9am.

Thursday 16th – Year 6 London Museum trip.

Wednesday 22nd – Year 4 Thames Barrier trip.

Thursday 23rd – Wear it Pink. Charity donation of a £1.

Thursday 23rd – Parents Evening. Starts at 3:30pm until 7pm. Invites will be sent out two weeks before.

Friday 24th – INSET Day.

Monday 27th – Half term.

November

Tuesday 4th – Musical instruments assembly for those parents whose children have lessons.

Thursday 6th – FoWGPS Halloween Disco.

Friday 7th – Interschool Music competition. Chosen children to attend.

Tuesday 11th – Year 6 Remembrance assembly. TBC

Tuesday 11th – Year 2 Epping Forest trip.

Wednesday 12th – Year 5 Shakespeare for Schools workshop in school.

Friday 14th – Learning Council to visit Davies Lane.

Friday 14th – Children in Need.

Tuesday 18th – Year 2 and 5 bring your parents to school morning. Starts at 9am until 10am.

Friday 21st – Online learning coffee morning. Starts at 9am until 10am.

Friday 28th – Nursery coffee morning. Starts at 9am until 10am.

December

Monday 1st – Christmas Panto.

Tuesday 2nd – Choir to sing at the Harts Care Home.

Thursday 4th – Parent Council. Starts at 9am.

Friday 5th – PREVENT coffee morning. Starts at 9am until 10am.

Friday 5th – Interschool Football competition. Chosen children to attend.

Friday 5th – FoWGPS Christmas Fayre. Starts at 3:30pm until 5pm.

Tuesday 9th – Year 2 Micro musical. Starts at 9:30am.

Tuesday 9th – Carols around the Christmas Tree. All parents welcome. Children with instrumental lessons to play and the choir to sing. Starts at 4pm.

Wednesday 10th – Year 4 Micro musical. Starts at 9:30am.

Thursday 11th – Christmas Jumper Day.

Monday 15th – Nursery Nativity. Performances at 9:30am and 2pm. Nursery parents welcome.

Tuesday 16th – Christmas Story. Reception children to perform and parents welcome. Starts at 9:30am.

Thursday 18th – Class parties.

Friday 19th – Last day of term. School closes at 2pm.



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. We will have cinema days, bouncy castles and much more!

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/1fA6HwvTdIJYh7wnK9mEhXHloRG-1_zx_sct6Dam-4o/edit?usp=sharing

Year 4 Swimming Kits and equipment



Please make sure your child has an empty plastic bag so that they may put their wet clothes in it.

Bring Your Parents to School morning 9am until 10am

Reception – Tuesday 30th September 2025

Year 1 – Wednesday 4th February 2026

Year 2 – Tuesday 18th November 2025

Year 3 – Wednesday 4th February 2026

Year 4 – Wednesday 24th June 2026

Year 5 – Tuesday 18th November 2025

Year 6 – Wednesday 24th June 2026

Come along and get involved with your child's lesson.

Autumn trips 2025

Year 1 – Museum of the Home (02/10/2025)

Year 2 – St Paul's Cathedral
(10/10/2025)

Year 2 – Epping Forest
(11/11/2025)

Year 3 – Stonehenge
(09/10/2025)

Year 4 – Swimming
(06/10/2025 – 17/10/2025)

Year 4 – Thames Barrier
(22/10/2025)

Year 5 – Shakespeare for Schools workshop,
takes place in school (13/10/2025)

Year 5 – Shakespeare for Schools show
(12/11/2025)

Year 5 – Cinema trip
(20/11/2025)

Year 6 – ABBA Voyage
(15/10/2025)

Year 6 – London Museum
(16/10/2025)

Year 6 – Cinema trip
(27/11/2025)

Year 6 – Imperial War Museum
(04/12/2025)

Meet our new Language Ambassadors

These are the successful candidates from Year 5 and Year 6. They are going to help set up the language challenges on Google Classroom, encouraging everyone to discover and learn new languages. They will create quizzes, read stories, play games in the class and in the playground to support our language learning, give out Language Awards to children who complete the Language Challenge:

Gioia - Ash Class

Cora- Ash Class

Blerina- Ash Class

Vanessa- Ash Class

Alex- Chestnut Class

Noah - Chestnut Class

Daria - Chestnut Class

Zoe - Chestnut Class



They have already started reading with Year 3 and Year 4 children on the playground, giving them Très bien cards. Congratulations, everyone!



Year 6 children are learning all about WWII this Autumn term; the changes that were introduced in preparation for war, and the bravery of those who served their country. Thanks to Dylan and Savanna who brought us in some precious artefacts from their great-grandfathers, including service medals, a ration book and some European postcards found in a hospital on the Western Front. These primary sources really engaged the children and we love the interest it inspires.

Also, Sara has been researching recipes that would have been a treat during times of rationing; she made some pancakes and brought us all a taste!



SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2026

Do you have a child who was born between
1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015
or who is currently in Year 6?

If so, they are due to start Secondary School
in September 2026.

To make an application please apply online
www.eadmissions.org.uk by
31 October 2025.

For more information visit the Waltham Forest
Secondary admission page
<https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/content/applying-secondary-school-place> where you can download a copy
of the Starting Secondary School 2026 brochure
which has full details of how to apply.



PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2026

Do you have a child who was born
between 1 September 2021 and 31
August 2022?

If so, your child is eligible to start
primary school in September
2026.

To make an application, please
apply online at
www.eadmissions.org.uk
by 15 January 2026.

For more information, visit the Waltham
Forest Primary Admission page:
<https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schools-education-and-learning/apply-primary-school> where you can download a
copy of the Starting Primary School 2026
brochure with full details on how to apply.

Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope your children are settling in well to the new school year. We are reaching out on behalf of the Friends of Woodford Green Primary School (FoWGPS) to invite you to play a bigger part in shaping our school community.

We are the equivalent to the PTA and a charity set up to support the school through fundraising events. Over the past 3 years we have managed to raise over £14,000 and have been able to donate funds for activities, a new stage and PE equipment. All our events are run by volunteers, whether it is organising, supporting, collating donations for the raffle, selling food and refreshments at our Fayres, DJing at our discos, hosting parent/teacher quiz nights or helping to decorate Santa's grotto. No previous experience required—just a willingness to contribute time, energy, and ideas.

We have vacancies on the Committee to help oversee our events and make decisions on how to spend funds raised. We are also looking for a new Chair to lead the group. If you are interested in helping out, or taking a more active role, please get in touch by emailing hello@fowgps.uk

Our ambition is to have a representative from each year group to help plan events and make decisions and we are currently only covering years 3, 5 and 6. We have a WhatsApp community where we post and share updates. Once you have joined the community you can join any of the planning groups or volunteer for events. Scan the QR code alongside to join. We hope that during your child's time with the school you will enjoy being part of our community, attend our events and hopefully support us and our fundraising efforts.

With appreciation,
The Friends of Woodford Green Primary School



SUNDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2025



TOUR DE WALTHAM FOREST

#TDWF2025



Book your ride now!



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.walthma.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.

Waltham Forest Free School Meals Team.

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.

Weather update

As the weather is a little bit unpredictable at the moment, please make sure that your child has a light jacket in school.

We will adhere to spend as much time outside as possible at playtimes and want to make sure that the children do not get wet or cold.

Save the Planet MONDAY



CHOOSE FROM

Classic Tomato and Basil Pasta
Homemade Samosa Swirls
✓ with Skin on Baked Wedges
Biryani

UNLIMITED

Sweetcorn Coblets
Seasonal Fresh Broccoli

DESSERTS

Cheese and Crackers with
Fresh Apple Slice

Allergen Friendly TUESDAY FDA

CHOOSE FROM

Vegetable Curry with Mixed Rice
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans
Cottage Pie Served with Gravy

UNLIMITED

Fresh Carrots
Garden Peas

DESSERTS

Tropical Melon Slices

DRINKS

Soya Milk or Milk

Allergen Friendly WEDNESDAY FDA

CHOOSE FROM

Jollof Rice
Spring Vegetable Pasta Bake
Chicken Shawarma with Mixed Rice

UNLIMITED

Spring Greens
Mixed Vegetables

DESSERTS

Fresh Fruit Salad

DRINKS

Soya Milk or Milk

Forest Eco Ranger THURSDAY



CHOOSE FROM

Pulled BBQ Jackfruit Baguette
Cheese and Sweetcorn Quiche with Herby Diced Potatoes
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans Coleslaw or Cheese

UNLIMITED

Sweetcorn
Green Beans

DESSERTS

Yogurt Bar with Fruit Compote



Fun Fact FRIDAY

Buzz
Lightyear's
original
name was
Lunar Larry

CHOOSE FROM

Crushed Chickpea and Sweetcorn Wrap
MSC Golden Crumb Fish Fingers served with a Lemon Slice with Oven Chipped Potatoes
Herby Chicken with Oven Chipped Potatoes

UNLIMITED

Baked Beans
Minted Garden Peas

DESSERTS

Chocolate Cracknel and Custard

Bats are the
only flying
mammals

WEEK 1

WEEK 2

CHOOSE FROM

Power Burger in a Bun with Spicy Jacket Wedges
Sizzling Stir Fry with Egg Noodles
Creamy Mac n Cheese

UNLIMITED

Fresh Carrots
Sweetcorn

DESSERTS

Yogurt Bar with Fruit Compote

CHOOSE FROM

Gluten Free Margherita Pizza served with Herby Diced Potatoes
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans and Cheese
Meatball Pasta Bake

UNLIMITED

Green Beans
Fresh Broccoli

DESSERTS

Water Melon Slice

DRINKS

Soya Milk or Milk

CHOOSE FROM

Spicy Tomato and Pepper Pasta
Baked Countryside Cutlet with Rosemary Roast Potatoes
Roasted Lemon and Garlic Chicken with Rosemary Roast Potatoes

UNLIMITED

Mixed Vegetables
Spring Greens

DESSERTS

Fresh Fruit Salad

DRINKS

Soya Milk or Milk

CHOOSE FROM

Sticky Tofu with Mixed Rice
Cheese Salad Baguette
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans or Cheese

UNLIMITED

Sweetcorn
Fresh Carrots

DESSERTS

Yogurt Bar with Fruit Compote

CHOOSE FROM

Roasted Vegetable and Sweet Potato Burrito
MSC Bubble Crumb Salmon Fillet or MSC Golden Crumb Fish Fingers with Oven Chipped Potatoes
Homemade Chicken and Sweetcorn Pie with Oven Chipped Potatoes

UNLIMITED

Baked Beans
Minted Garden Peas

DESSERTS

Waffle Finger Fruit Slice and Vanilla Ice Cream

CHOOSE FROM

Vegetable Supreme Pizza with Italian Diced Potatoes
Sunshine Pizza with Italian Diced Potatoes
Minted Crispy Fishless Finger Wrap

UNLIMITED

Mixed Vegetables
Green Beans

DESSERTS

Yogurt Bar with Fruit Compote

CHOOSE FROM

Tangy Tomato and Basil Pasta
Jacket Potato with Baked Beans
Chicken Curry with Mixed Rice

UNLIMITED

Fresh Carrots
Sweetcorn

DESSERTS

Iced Fruit Smoothie

DRINKS

Soya Milk or Milk

CHOOSE FROM

Chickpea Tikka Masala with Mixed Rice
Country Garden Goujons with Crushed New Potatoes
Beef Bolognese with Pasta Spirals

UNLIMITED

Fresh Broccoli
Mixed Vegetables

DESSERTS

Fresh Fruit Platter

DRINKS

Soya Milk or Milk

CHOOSE FROM

Crispy Nuggets with Jacket Wedges
Spinach and Ricotta Tortellini in a Creamy Tomato Sauce
Jacket Potato with Coleslaw or Baked Beans

UNLIMITED

Minted Garden Peas
Fresh Carrots

DESSERTS

Cheese and Crackers with Fresh Apple Slice

CHOOSE FROM

Forest Fajita
MSC Golden Crumb Fish Fingers served with a Lemon Slice with Oven Chipped Potatoes
60/40 Beef Burger in a Floured Bun with Oven Chipped Potatoes

UNLIMITED

Baked Beans
Sweetcorn Coblets

DESSERTS

Banana Sponge and Custard

A mile is
5,280 feet
long



WEEK 3

School uniform Policy

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you of our school uniform policy. The school does not require branded items for school uniform or PE. Generic items which are widely available across a number of suppliers are deemed appropriate school uniform.

School Uniform:

- Green polo shirt
- Charcoal grey pinafore/ Charcoal grey skirt/ Charcoal grey trousers/ Charcoal grey shorts (*not black leggings or flared leggings*)
- Summer: blue and white dress
- Grey tights/ White socks
- Black school shoes
- Navy blue school jumper/ Navy blue school cardigan

P.E. kit:

- White t-shirt, black/navy P.E. shorts or black/navy tracksuit bottoms with trainers
- For indoor PE, specifically gymnastics and dance units, children are expected to wear plimsolls or grip socks

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. We ask the children to either remove these objects during PE and games, or cover them with a plaster, to prevent them from causing injury.

Footwear

The Trust wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in any of our schools. We do not allow children to wear trainers (except on PE days) or boots (including Uggs) to school. This is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear shoes as stated in the uniform list.

Please follow this link to our uniform policy:

[https://irp.cdn-website.com/7cd963d4/files/uploaded/School Uniform Policy 2024 - Woodford Green.pdf](https://irp.cdn-website.com/7cd963d4/files/uploaded/School_Uniform_Policy_2024_-_Woodford_Green.pdf)

School Term dates 2025 – 2026

Autumn Term: (75 days)

- Monday 1st September 2025 to Friday 19th December 2025
- Monday 1st September 2025 INSET day
- Tuesday 2nd September 2025 INSET day
- Friday 24th October 2025 INSET day
- Half term holiday Monday 27th to Friday 31st October 2025
- Christmas Holiday Monday 22nd December 2025 to Friday 2nd January 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

Public holidays

- Thursday 25th December 2025 (Christmas Day)
- Friday 26th December 2025 (Boxing Day)
- Thursday 1st January 2026 (New Year's Day)
- Friday 3rd April 2026 (Good Friday)
- Monday 6th April 2026 (Easter Monday)
- Monday 4th May 2026
- Monday 25th May 2026
- Monday 31st August 2026



**STARTS THURSDAY 25TH
SEPTEMBER 2025!**

**St Andrews Church
Chingford Lane
Woodford Green**

Baby Group

**THURSDAYS 10-
11.30 AM**

DROP IN FOR A CUP OF
TEA, SNACKS AND CHAT
TO OTHER PARENTS! FOR
BABIES 0-12 MONTHS. NO
OLDER CHILDREN PLEASE.

EMAIL:
ROSIE@ASWW.ORG.UK TO
REGISTER.

£3 PER FAMILY
OPEN TO ALL!