WOODFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Issue 8 22nd October 2026

Weekly Newsletter

Dream big, fly high

Happy Half Term

It is hard to believe we are already at the end of our first half term! The children have settled into their new year groups incredibly well and it has been a delight to see all the excitement around the Autumn Term Bookshelves and learning experiences. We hope you all have a wonderful break over the half-term holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 3rd November.

Accessing the School Site

Following feedback from the Parent Council, we have been considering ways to make drop-off and collection times more efficient and will be trialling a change to the gates used to enter and leave the front of school to help improve the flow of foot traffic.

- The gate at the front of school, nearest to the staff car park, will now be **open**.
- The gate outside the Reception classroom will be **closed** to prevent congestion and bottlenecks.

To help us dismiss children safely and efficiently, please stand as close to your child's exit point as possible and remain within sight of staff. Children will be released once we have made eye contact with the person collecting so, being ready when your child is called will help ensure a smooth and timely handover.

Collection arrangements remain as follows:

- Pre-School, Reception and Year 1 will continue to be collected from their classroom doors.
- Year 2 and 3 children will continue to be collected from the doors at the bottom of the stairs.
- Year 4 children will be dismissed from the hall door.

Thank you for your support and patience as we work together to ensure a safe, smooth, and efficient start and end to the school day for all children.

Recommended Reading Lists

Choosing the right books can really help children develop a love of reading. In school, we use the Reader Teacher recommended reading lists when selecting books for our home reading library and curriculum bookshelves. Families can also access these lists through the drop-down section on each class page, offering plenty of inspiration for discovering new books and authors together.

Enrichment – Extra-Curricular Clubs

The timetable for the Extra-Curricular Clubs running during the Autumn Term is available on our school website, click **here** for more information.

There are currently places available in All on Stage, Kidslingo, 8BY8, Sewing, and Chess Club. Email club leaders directly, using the email provided, for more information or to register for a place.

Pre-School Curriculum Evening

Mrs Stevenson will be hosting a Curriculum Evening for Pre-School parents on **Wednesday 18th November at 4pm**. The session will provide an overview of our approach to the Pre-School curriculum, with a focus on early reading and phonics, along with practical advice and ideas to help you support your child's learning at home. We warmly encourage all Pre-School parents to join us and look forward to seeing you there.

Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service Visit for KS2

With Bonfire Night approaching, Year 3 and 4 had a valuable visit from Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service. The children learnt about firework and bonfire safety and how to make safe, responsible choices during the celebrations. We hope they will take these important messages home and share them with their families too!

Parent Council Feedback

Our Parent Council provides a valuable forum for discussing themes, ideas and feedback that reflect the experiences of families across the school. Thank you to everyone who sent their feedback to the Parent Council reps prior to the meeting last week, a summary of the meeting has been shared via MCAS. Where parents have concerns about their individual child, these should be directed to the class teacher in the first instance.

PTA AGM

The PTA is holding their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 25th November at 8pm via Microsoft Teams. Please see the attached flyer and contact Hayley, Nick or Gemma for the Teams link.

October – Black History Month

Throughout Black History Month, our children have been learning about the achievements, contributions and experiences of black individuals who have helped shape history, culture and society.

Through assemblies, class discussions and curriculum activities, pupils explored inspiring stories from the past and present, encouraging reflection on the values of equality, respect and inclusion.



Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

We are proud to support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal once again this year, with poppies available from the main entrance for children and families who would like to make a donation and show their support. Poppies, keyrings, snap bands and stickers are available for a small donation.

Important Dates

23rd Oct	School closes for half term
2nd Nov	Staff INSET day
3rd Nov	School opens for all pupils
9th Nov	School tour for 2027 intake
9th Nov	Pre-School applications for September 2027 open
10th Nov	SFP Review Meetings
18th Nov	Pre-School Curriculum Evening



For a full summary of 2026/27 dates over the year, our Annual Planner can be viewed here

