



Friday 6th September 2024

Welcome back to the start of the Autumn Term and the new school year. What a shame that the weather has turned on us so early in the term! We are delighted to see that this has not dampened the energy, smiles and laughs from the children enjoying their new classes. We welcome all our new pupils joining us across the school and look forward to getting to know them over the coming weeks. We also welcome Mrs Heath in Oak class.

We would like to express our thanks to Butler and Proctor Building Contractors who kindly came in over the holidays and helped to remove a lot of old, large pieces of outdoor equipment that needed to be disposed of. This was an exceptionally kind offering of community support. The playground looks all the better for it.

Please could you ensure that your child has their name in their uniform and any other items bought into school. We are on day 3 and already have clothes in lost property due to them being unnamed!

Meet the Teacher Meetings – 3.30pm.

A reminder that these meetings are on Monday 9th – next week - for children in years 2-6. Oak parents met with Oak teachers in July so there is no need to come in for another meeting, however, the staff will be available if you need to see them at this time.

Since advertising this date in July, Mr Neal has been informed of a meeting he needs to attend for school and therefore will not be available for the Meet the Teacher meeting. We are proposing that year 1 parents “Meet the Teacher” on Tuesday 10th at 3.30pm instead. All these meetings will take place in classrooms. It’s a good chance to see the environment your child is working in and ask questions about the curriculum or more practical things that will help you to organise your week.

Young Voices

Year 5 and 6 parents - please remember to sign up for your child on the ParentMail form by Monday if they are interested in coming to Young Voices. There is a very tight turn-around for parent tickets and t-shirts etc because the event is so popular. We therefore need the information regarding which children are coming as quickly as possible. Please don’t leave it too late!

Breakfast Club

This is now up and running. We are open from 7.15 for Breakfast and from 8.00 for Early Drop-off. If you need to make use of this service, please email the office at least the school day before. We do not, as yet, have facility for same day ad-hoc arrivals. As we work through the next couple of weeks we will let you know the longer term process for booking and payments.

Lino!

Does anyone have a spare large piece of Lino / Vinyl Flooring that would be able to be fitted into Oak class to extend their creative area? This is something the staff are keen to do but the cost of buying and fitting this is not something we can afford from our current budget. If this is a possibility, please speak with Mrs Proctor for more information.

Busy Bee clubs

Club information will be going out shortly. Please look out for this on ParentMail as spaces are limited.

Snacks

As you are aware children in KS1 are provided with a healthy snack, usually a piece of fruit each day. All other children need to bring in their own healthy snack to school. We do have children that have **nut allergies** so please do not send your child in with anything that has nuts in. Thank you.

Langtree School – Open Morning and Evenings for Year 5 and 6 parents

Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Class Updates

Oak	A huge well done to all of the new Oak children for being so brilliant in their first few days at big school! They have all been so enthusiastic and approached everything with a smile. They have used really good listening skills and enjoyed lots of stories. This week we have focussed on exploring the classroom and outside area, finding out what there is to do and helping to tidy up! Colour mixing in the tuff tray with coloured water and pipettes has been a favourite activity, along with playdough, the home corner and making pictures with glitter. The children all coped brilliantly with staying for lunch too. On Friday the children will have a library time where they will choose a story book to bring home in their book bag to share with you. The book then needs to be returned to the class library the following Friday. Please can all the children have their PE kits in school next week as well as wellingtons and waterproofs. We hope you all have a lovely weekend and get lots of rest ready for our first full week next week.
Hornbeam	We have had a great start to life in Hornbeam. The children have greatly enjoyed exploring our outdoor area which we were able to update over the summer holidays. Inside we have begun to settle into new routines wells. In English we have been focusing on things that we didn't do in the summer holidays. Some great examples have come from the children, such as riding on a unicorn, flying on a butterfly and even having a bath with a tiger! In phonics we have familiarised ourselves with the monsters from Monster Phonics land and what sound and actions each one does. Finally, in maths we have been looking at number and recalling counting skills up to 20. All in all a very successful (albeit tiring) week for all!
Beech	We have had a great week in year 2. It was lovely to see the children again and everyone was happy to see their friends. The teachers have been impressed by the children's positive attitude and focus already. In English, we have been playing games to help us learn about different nouns. In maths, we have used real resources to count and make different numbers as well as playing some problem solving games. We have started our new Geography topic, Journeys in the UK. The children have all been given a Monster phonics book, their reading record book and another book of their choice from the book corner. Please can the Monster phonics book and reading record book be kept in book bags as we read them most days in school. Keep your eyes peeled for an information letter coming out soon.
Ash	It has been lovely to see everyone settling into Ash Class and getting to know your children better this week. We have made a great start, working on some holiday poems in our English lessons and starting to look at place value (hundreds, tens and ones) in our maths lessons. We have also had our first French lesson, looking at France and other countries where the French language is spoken, and have started to create self-portraits in our art lesson. From next week, our PE lessons will be on Mondays and Thursdays but please can your children have their PE kits in school all week. And just a reminder that in Key Stage 2, the children are no longer provided with a fruit snack, so children need to bring in a healthy snack from home if they'd like something to eat at breaktime. Looking forward to starting our topic on Rivers next week and sharing more learning with you in the next newsletter.

Rowan	Rowan have settled in well to their new surroundings and are looking forward to the new and challenging learning they are expecting. We are looking forward to helping them all rise to the challenges. Please make sure PE kits are in school all week and that you have the access codes for Times Table Rock Stars at home. Mrs Peacock will be available at the meet the teacher session on Monday to answer any other questions.
Maple	We've had a great first week back here in Maple Class! We went straight into our learning on Wednesday morning with English and Maths. In English we were attempting to rearrange pictures from a story (helpful made for us by AI) into the correct order. Though we didn't get it perfectly right, we have certainly put together our own Norse myths. Maths has seen us diving into roman numerals then a touch of problem solving. We're now very talented at counting out the correct number of logs to build a hut in the woods! Our afternoons saw us begin to explore the Anglo-Saxons in Topic, code our own mazes in Computing and begin Ukulele masters in Music! We're really excited to get cracking with the rest of the year and we're looking forward to seeing everyone back here on Monday!
Willow	Welcome to Year 6! It has been fabulous to see all the children and listen to their tales of summer adventures. They have settled in really well and have already assigned themselves jobs and met the new starters in Oak. Although we haven't 'buddied-up' with Oakies yet we have been spending time getting to know them. We have also been learning how to be playleaders so we can lead games at lunchtime - it was great fun pretending to be 5 years old again and we learnt lots about demonstrating skills rather than trying to explain everything. Next week we'll begin our main topic on Ancient Greece. In English, we are looking at autobiographies and biographies - focusing particularly on Nelson Mandela. We look forward to meeting you all on Monday for 'Meet the teacher'

Important dates

Monday 9 th September	"Meet the Teacher" 3.30pm for years 2- 6
Tuesday 10 th September	"Meet the Teacher" 3:30pm for Year 1
Friday 14 th September	FOWPS are running the BBQ @ Woodcote Village Fete. Please do support this event
Monday 23 rd September	Phonics Information session – more details to follow
Friday 18 th October	FOWPS Disco with DJ Ethan (tickets on sale soon)
Monday 21 st October	Parents evening – more details to follow
Wednesday 23 rd October	Open Morning for September 2025 intake 9:30 & 11:00am. Bookings need to be made via the office.
Thursday 24 th October	Parents evening – more details to follow
Saturday 9 November	FOWPS Community Coffee Shop and Second Hand Uniform Sale
Tuesday 12 th November	Open Morning for September 2025 intake 9:30 & 11:00am. Bookings need to be made via the office.

FOWPS

Woodcote Village Fete

FOWPS have the fantastic opportunity to run the BBQ at the Woodcote Village Fete on Saturday 14 September, so please do pop along and buy your lunch, whilst raising funds for school. Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers who have agreed to help make this possible! If you need a reminder of the rota it can be viewed here - <http://www.volunteersignup.org/7ATEP>

Asda Cashpot for Schools' initiative

Please help us raise money! All you have to do is, download the Asda Rewards app, opt in to Cashpot for Schools and choose Woodcote Primary School RG8 0QY. For each customer that registers Woodcote Primary School, FOWPS will receive £1. Plus everytime you shop online or instore using your Asda Rewards app before 30 November, FOWPS will receive further donations. Please encourage your friends and family to sign up too. Thank you!