



**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

Welcome back to school everyone, we hope that you all had an enjoyable half-term break. The weather is starting to get colder so please send your child into school with a coat and maybe hat/gloves. Please name all items brought into school.

### **Anti-Bullying Week - Monday 11<sup>th</sup> – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November**

Next week we will be following the theme of Respect as we join in with Anti-Bullying week. Respect is one of our 4 core values here at Woodcote. **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> is National Odd-Sock Day** to celebrate differences. If your child would like to go wild and wear odd socks to school, that would be wonderful.

### **School Attendance**

We are delighted to announce that, for the first time since the pandemic, Woodcote Primary Attendance is back to over 96% - just! This is the target measure for all schools. Bugs and viruses over the last few years have caused many absences and this negatively affects the percentage for the whole school. The Department for Education now receive weekly data on every child and so we are pleased that so many of you are now back to good attendance, giving your children the best opportunity to keep up with their learning. Thank you for supporting your child with this.

### **Reception class applications**

Applications are open to apply for a primary school place for September 2025.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications>

### **Busy Bee Clubs**

Thank you to those of you who have signed your children up to Busy Bee clubs. There are still spaces on some of the clubs which can be booked via ParentMail. We do have some new clubs on offer this time including Before School Netball club, Tag rugby and a movie/activity club.

### **Year 3 and 4 girls Football tournament @ Langtree**

The 2 teams of girls were superb and showed great resilience and determination. They supported each other on and off the pitch and showed what being a pupil at Woodcote Primary School is all about. We wanted to give all the children a medal as some of them had never played football but we narrowed it down to:

Group A- Beau and Lula

Group B- Mia and Sophia

Well done to you all!



### **Cross Country**

We had an amazing group of 28 runners from years 3 to 6 taking part in a cross country event in Goring on Thursday. The children all ran with great determination and enthusiasm. Many were smiling from ear to ear as they crossed the finish line. Lula received the Olympic value for being very brave and overcoming her fears and Ada received a medal for her determination. Well done to everyone that took part.

### **Children In Need**

Please send your child to school on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November wearing something yellow in exchange for a £1.00 donation to Children In Need. We will also be holding a cake sale so all nut free cake donations are very welcome, we can't run a cake sale without them. The children always enjoy this day so your support with this fundraiser is always appreciated.

### **Music lessons**

Don't forget that we hold lots of different music lessons in school including drumming, violin, guitar, piano and IRock sessions. If your child is interested in learning an instrument, please contact the office for more information.

### **From Last weeks newsletter**

#### **Maths Evening for parents reminder**

We would like to invite all parents to come to school on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> of November from 5.30-7.00 to see how maths is taught in school. The children will be show-casing the methods used, the order in which we teach the methods and how you can support these through everyday activities at home. Please save the date to come and join us for this fun and informative event.

#### **Breakfast Club and Childcare Vouchers**

We are now able to accept childcare vouchers for Breakfast Club. The booking system has moved to ParentMail and Chill Club has been added to list of Busy Bees Clubs. Please use this system to book. Breakfast Club bookings close 4 days before the date chosen. This is to enable us to order food and provide the ratio of adults to children. If you miss the 4 day deadline, please email the office to see if a space is available, before turning up. We hope this will make the booking system and the ability to make payments when booking, a much smoother process for parents. A letter was sent to all parents earlier this week with more detailed information.

### **Class Updates**

<b>Oak</b>	Welcome back after half term. We hope that you all had a good week off. The children have settled back into school life really well and we are so impressed with all the learning they have been doing. This week we have been thinking about
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	<p>bonfire night and learning about Remembrance Day. The children have been busy making some poppies to take with us when we walk. with the rest of the school to the village war memorial on Monday. In phonics we have been learning about digraphs (two letters that represent one sound) and have learnt ss, ff and ll. The children are very keen to invite their families to visit them in school again. This time we will have a stay and play on the morning of Friday 22nd November. When you bring the children into school you are very welcome to come into the classroom and join the children in their morning activities between 8.35 and 9.</p> <p>Please can you check that your children's clothes are clearly labelled. Quite a lot of the names have started to wear off making it tricky to reunite items with their rightful owners. We hope you have a lovely weekend.</p>
<b>Hornbeam</b>	<p>We've had a busy first week back here in Hornbeam class. Our main focus this week has been surrounding bonfire night and fireworks. In history, we have been learning about the origin of bonfire night and investigated who Guy Fawkes is and what he done to become famous. In Art we have been looking at using chalk to create firework images in the night sky - keep your eyes peeled for some of our art work displayed in the windows! In English we have begun to look at the poem called 'On Firework Night'. This is a list poem that lists all the different experiences you could have on firework night. We have been watching firework displays and observing, colours, noises, actions and many other things, in preparation to write our own poems next week.</p>
<b>Beech</b>	<p>Beech class have been using their senses to help them write poems about bonfire night. We included onomatopoeia words and adjectives and then wrote them in the shapes of fireworks. In maths this week, we have been adding and subtracting using real objects as well as practicing our 2x table. In science, we drew a picture of a healthy, balanced meal including all the important food groups. In addition, we reflected on the importance of remembrance day and created a poppy wreath including prayers or reflections on why this day is so important for so many people. We have also started our money topic in maths and have been looking at totals or coins and notes. This is a great thing to practice at home with any loose change. We have started our new topic in history all about transport and the history of flight. So much exciting learning is happening!</p>
<b>Ash</b>	<p>We've had a busy start back to term in Ash Class. Continuing with Addition and Subtraction in our maths lessons, looking at adding and subtracting 1s and 10s to and from 3-digit numbers. We started a new class book in our English lessons 'The Egyptian Cinderella' with a special delivery of a rose red slipper on a golden cushion. This started lots of discussion about what the book might be, especially once we found a hidden note to say the owner of the slipper would marry the Pharaoh. We had teams joining the Y3/4 girls football tournament and KS2 cross country running this week and in P.E., we started hockey lessons, looking at moving with the ball and making and receiving a push pass.</p>
<b>Rowan</b>	<p>It has been lovely to see all the children back in school this week. You should have received a letter via Parent Mail about our upcoming trip: we will be visiting Reading Museum on 29th November as part of our local history study. Some of the children have already been excitedly discussing artefacts that were found in Woodcote which they are hoping to see. We have also been discussing the significance of Remembrance Day, including why poppies are used as a symbol of this. In maths, we have been learning about area, finding the area of a shape by counting the squares inside it. We have also been practising our arithmetic, choosing the most efficient methods to work out answers. Please do keep up with the times tables practise at home.</p>
<b>Maple</b>	<p>We've had an amazing first week back in Maple Class! In English we started a new unit based around the book 'The Lost Thing' while in Maths we've begun to look at different methods we can use to solve multiplication questions. However, the highlight of our week was clearly our trip to the Earth Trust on Wednesday. After arrival we climbed the hill where we were taught how to 'look like an Anglo-Saxon.' We spotted all the local features that made our area a good place to settle</p>

	including farm land, nearby water sources and raised areas for defence. After lunch and a chance to run around, we then got to try two different Anglo-Saxon activities. First we were carding and drop spinning to create thread from wool then we got the chance to make our own bread and bake it over the outdoor firepit! We wrapped up the trip by building a wall out of woven willow branches! A great day out was had by all!
<b>Willow</b>	Welcome back, it was lovely to hear all about all of the adventures everyone had gone on during half term. This week we have focused on WW1 and getting our performance poetry ready for Monday, when we will be reciting In Flanders Fields at the War Memorial. We have also looked at other WW1 poems - Exposure by Wilfred Owen. We learnt about some of the people whose names appear on the memorial and why people choose to wear a red poppy to remember them. Our Independent write was then based on some of these people and life in WW1. Thank you to everyone who has supported our selling of poppies and Maz Elsome who made some extra hairbands for the pupils to sell too. In Maths, we have looked at multiplying a 4-digit number by a 2-digit number. We have realised the importance of learning our times tables off by heart as they are so important when it comes to multiplying and dividing. In History, we began our work on Greek Gods and Goddesses which will link with our English work next week. We are aiming to write scripts and film these. Some of the pupils have asked if they can bring props in, we have said that this is fine but won't be needed until after next week.

**The children in Maple class all had an enjoyable day at the Earth Trust**



**Important dates**

Saturday 9 November	FOWPS Community Coffee Shop and Second Hand Uniform Sale
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Odd Sock Day for Anti-Bullying week
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Morning for September 2025 intake 9:30 & 11:00am. Bookings need to be made via the office.
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children In Need Cake Sale
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	FOWPS committee meeting @ 3:30pm Maple classroom
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> November – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Maths Week in School

Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	Maths evening for parents 5:30 – 7:00pm
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Oak class – Stay & play 8:35am – 9:00am
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4 visit to Reading Museum – please see the ParentMail for more information
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	FOWPS Non uniform day (in exchange for a donation of sweets, chocolate or bottles).
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Nut free cake donations for the FOWPS Christmas Fair
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	FOWPS Christmas Fair 4:30 – 7:00pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Greek Museum – parents are invited to attend
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Closing date for reception 2025 intake

## **FOWPS**

### **Asda Cashpot for Schools' initiative**

There are just 22 days left to shop with Asda, so let's make everyday count!

So far you have helped to raise **£78.97** If you haven't already joined 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, every time 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!

FOWPS would like to hold a Christmas Raffle to support our fundraising for the term. We have raised up to £1,000 in previous raffles. However, we need some help to do it. Can you spare a couple of hours emailing or popping into potential local sponsors? Perhaps you're a dab hand with cellophane and ribbon and can you help present our prizes? If you can help at all, please contact Caroline Tye on 07879676421. Thank you for your support!

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Community Coffee Shop and Second Hand Uniform sale from 9.30am tomorrow. Card payments accepted.



# Community Coffeeshop




**Saturday**  
9:30am - 12:30pm

**9th November**



**The Old School House**

All proceeds going to Friends of Woodcote Primary School (FOWPS)



If you are free to lend a hand on the day  
or would like to bake a cake to donate,  
please contact [fowps-pta@googlegroups.com](mailto:fowps-pta@googlegroups.com)  
or let a member of FOWPS know.

**Thank you!**

