



Friday 22nd May 2026

As another term vanishes into the ether we look back at all of the things we have achieved in this short period: Year 6 SATs, Girls silver in the County Cross-Country finals, competing in a Boccia tournament, setting up Amazon Wish lists, School Spring Clean, getting a school Facebook page to mention just a few. As we continue to flourish, we would like to thank Miss Cottrell for all of her help and support this term. Also Mrs Howell and her team from SSE for helping clear the paths in the pond area so each class can access these after Half Term. We also say a fond fair well to Mrs Wibberley who is moving on to support children in residential care. We wish her the very best.

Wish Lists

A big thank you to everyone who has already taken a look at our class Amazon Wish Lists. The classes have been so grateful for all of the wonderful items that they have received so far. These lists are completely optional, but they're a simple way to help top up classroom resources throughout the year. Teachers will continue to update them with items linked to current topics and day-to-day needs, so feel free to check in whenever it suits you. Your support is always appreciated by our staff and children. You can see the children are delighted to see their new resources.

[Woodcote Primary School, Generic items](#)

[Acorns Preschool](#)

[Oak Class \(Reception\)](#)

[Hornbeam Class \(Year 1\)](#)

[Beech Class \(Year 2\)](#)

[Ash Class \(Year 3\)](#)

[Rowan Class \(Year 4\)](#)

[Maple Class \(Year 5\)](#)

[Willow Class \(Year 6\)](#)

Meningitis signs and symptoms

With increased attention on recent meningococcal disease cases, we have attached details of the signs and symptoms to look out for.

Class Updates

Acorns	We have loved exploring The Very Hungry Caterpillar this week. The children retold the story as we sat in the front garden after planting out our seedlings. They were fantastic—recalling the days of the week and the fruits he ate. On Monday, they made stick caterpillars, and on Thursday, they made junk
---------------	---

models. They have listened to stories read by all the staff and enjoyed digital storybooks during quiet time.
 Next term, we will focus on summer: keeping safe, healthy eating, Father's Day, and farms—especially around our trip to Bucklebury Farm Park. There is so much to look forward to.
 Please keep sending in extra clothes and spare shoes for water play.
 Keep safe next week, rest up, and come back excited and ready for a busy term.



Oak
 A lovely sunny end to this half term. The children have enjoyed spending time outside this week and have been playing together really well. There has also been some amazing construction inside with our indoor wooden blocks. In Phonics, we have been learning the digraph 'er' and the children have used their phonics knowledge to write the story themselves. In Maths, we have been comparing numbers thinking about the concept of greater than and less than. We are sending home a copy of the High Frequency Words that the children are learning to read and write. We have highlighted the ones they can write already. Any practice reading and writing these words at home would be really helpful. We hope you have a lovely break!

Hornbeam
 This week Hornbeam have been planting, we have all planted our very own sunflower seeds, ready to take home for the half term. Then we have written instructions to tell people exactly how we did it (in case anyone wants to grow sunflowers at home)! In maths, we have been learning all about position and direction, using directional language such as left/right, forwards/backwards and above/below. We also concluded our toys topic in history, comparing an old toy and a new one, talking about similarities and differences. Finally, in PE we are all prepared for Wimbledon as we finished our net and wall topic and attempted to strike balls over an obstacle (with mixed success).

Beech
 Beech class loved sharing their writing with year 1 this week to teach them all about castles. We are so proud of all the children's progress in their writing so we have sent a copy home to share with families. Everyone worked so hard on their DT project this week to make their castles. In science, we continued to look after our plants and made some careful observations to see what makes a plant grow healthily. Some children have chosen to take plants home to look after. If you would like to bring them back after half term, we can then plant them in the wildlife area. In maths, we continued to find fractions of shape and number and practised telling the time to quarter past and quarter to the hour. We have sent home sometimes table practice to do over the half term break. Children can return this and receive a pom pom and team point!

Ash
 Ash Class have had a busy final week of term. In English, we have re-written The First Drawing Story in the first person and in Art, we created collaborative cave paintings using charcoal and chalks. In Maths, we have been learning to interpret and represent statistical data using pictograms, bar charts and data tables. We used this knowledge in our French lesson to survey each other on our favourite fruits to complete our topic on 'Les Fruits' and used the phrases 'j'aime' and 'je n'aime pas' to share our answers.
 We wish you all a sunny and relaxing half term. On that note, please could all the children have sunhats and water bottles in school after the holidays, if the sunny weather continues.

Rowan	This week we learned all about Roman forts, designed our own aerial view plans for a fort, and learned about Hadrian's Wall. In music, we learned about a technique called "Mickey Mousing" and became composers. We played different instruments to create our own sound effects for a scene from a short film. To build up our fitness and stamina, we went on mile runs around the village green. We also practised taking dictation, which helped us work on listening carefully and remembering exactly what we heard so we could write it down. In maths, we worked hard on adding up different amounts of money and converting between pounds and pence. We continue to practice our times tables, but all children should use Times Tables Rockstars daily to keep the facts in mind over the half term. We also wrote our own creative stories inspired by the book we listened to as a class, History Hacker: Roman Rescue. Finally, we ended the week by talking about self-esteem, learning what it means and discussing ways we can improve how we feel about ourselves. Have a good break everyone!
Maple	We've had rain, sun and everything in between here in Woodcote this week, but Maple Class has ploughed on regardless! We've spent much of our week in English finalising our Time Slip stories. We have tales taking us to Blitz ravaged London, some travelling to Victorian classrooms complete with canes and terrifying teachers while others go all the way to prehistoric times to play with some dinosaurs! We'll be publishing these stories when we can so keep an eye out for those! In Maths, we've been continuing our work on decimals while also squeezing in some time to practice our mental maths skills using many sided dice. We've even been inventing our own games that helps us practice our skills! The other big event this week has been our auditions and casting for our school play next term, Pirates of the Curry Bean. We've now cast all the parts and your children have been informed so please take some time over the half term break helping your child learn their lines. We're hoping to hit the ground running when we come back so we can give you the best possible performance! Have a great half term break!
Willow	Happy Half Term! The children have worked so hard this term that they definitely have earned a rest (and hopefully some lovely weather). Thank you for the medical forms that have been sent in with the permissions for Residential. If you haven't done this already, please bring it on Monday 1 st June. Remember, we ask for 3 phone numbers to make sure that we can contact someone at all times. We look forward to seeing the children, with their suitcases, at normal time on Monday morning but we will ask you to pop suitcases and bags at the back of the hall and check with staff that all paperwork is completed before you leave. If children are staying at school for the week, they need to be in school uniform and head straight to class as normal. Have a wonderful week.

Important dates

Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	Summer Half Term
Monday 1 st – Friday 5 th June	Year 6 Residential to Liddington
Wednesday 10 th June	Braiswick School Photographers in school(Class photos)
Friday 12 th June	Summer Big bounce arrange by FOWPS – flyer attached.
Friday 19 th June	FOWPS Disco
Friday 19 th – Saturday 20 th June	Year 5 Sleepover – more details to follow
Tuesday 23 rd June	Sports Day – KS2 am & KS1 pm

Thursday 25 th June	Back up Sports Day
Wednesday 1 st July	INSET day – School closed
Friday 10 th July	Year 6 Leavers assembly – 9.00am – all parents invited
Tuesday 14 th July	Acorns Sports Day
Friday 17 th July	Last day of term, 1.00pm finish – dress in home clothes
Monday 20 th July	INSET day – School closed
Tuesday 21 st July	School summer holidays begin – school closed
Tuesday 1st September	INSET day
Wednesday 2 nd September	INSET day
Thursday 3 rd September	All children return to school for the Autumn term
Tuesday 20 th October	Open Morning for Reception 2027 intake
Thursday 5 th November	Open Morning for Reception 2027 intake

FOWPS

Check out our events page for tickets to the Big Bounce, School Disco and Raffle entry: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowps-events/>

Our events cannot take place without your help. Please sign up to volunteer here:

Big Bounce: volunteersignup.org/JDKT4

School Disco: volunteersignup.org/EHBLY

All help is gratefully received! Can't do a full slot? No problem, contact one of the team to let us know when you can help, or share an hour slot with a friend?

Equally, if anyone works for a company who would like to donate a hamper or voucher, we'd be very grateful.

Thank you!

Other News/Information

Take a look at what's going on this half term at the Oxfordshire Museum

https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/museums-and-history/oxfordshire-museum/whats-oxfordshire-museum/children-and-family-activities?-learning+and+access=&utm_term=0_cdbada3277-408514409

Art in the park

Howbery Park near Wallingford are inviting entries for the 2026 'Art in the Park' competition on the theme 'Gardens for a changing climate'. Artists are free to interpret the theme as they wish and prizes are on offer for the best 2D artwork in different age categories.

The winner in the ages 4-11 category will receive a £50 prize, plus £250 for their nominated school or youth group to spend on art supplies. Entrants must create their artwork on a postcard

measuring 148 x 105mm, which they can post or hand in at the business park. All entries will also be included in our exhibition taking place on the 7-9 October 2026.

Howbery Park is open to the public on working weekdays and we invite artists to visit our grounds for inspiration, in particular, the Flood Resilient Garden, which can be found next to the Manor House and showcases planting and landscaping to create an outside space that can respond and adapt to the challenges of heavy rain and surface water flooding.

Blank postcards are available from the Manor Café (the café is open weekdays from 8am-4pm).

The deadline for entries is 18 September 2026.

Full details, and terms and conditions are on the Howbery park website: <https://howberypark.com/art/>

Free Workshop



Free Workshop

What you can do **RIGHT NOW** to support your child diagnosed (or suspected) with autism and/or PDA

Thursday **28th May** 8pm - 9pm

Join us

No one needs to walk alone in their autism parenting journey

Send an email to team@youarenotalone.community to request the Zoom link to attend the **FREE** workshop

