



Friday 26th June 2026

What an exceptionally hot week it has been! We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who offered their support throughout the week. Whether it was lending a fan, providing an ice lolly, or simply helping us keep cool, every gesture was greatly appreciated.

We are incredibly proud of how well the children have coped with the challenging temperatures. Their resilience, positivity and adaptability have been remarkable. Across the school, we found a variety of creative ways to stay cool, from relocating classes to cooler spaces and dipping our feet in trays of water, to using cold towels on the backs of our necks, cooling our ears with water, and even enjoying a refreshing hosepipe spray from the Acorns team—which proved to be a particular favourite!

Despite the heat, the children embraced every opportunity with smiles on their faces and excellent spirits throughout. It has been wonderful to see such enthusiasm and perseverance. That said, we are all very much looking forward to some cooler weather next week!

We are often asked how the money raised through our fundraising events, organised by FOWPs, is used. One of the many wonderful ways it benefits our children is by helping to fund our whole-school trip at the end of the year. This year we're heading to the Cotswold Wildlife Park. Thanks to the generous support of FOWPs, this experience is heavily subsidised, ensuring that every child across the school can benefit at a reduced cost.

Every fundraising event, whether it is a school disco, lollipop sale, Summer Bounce, Christmas Fair or one of the many other activities organised throughout the year, contributes directly to enriching the opportunities and experiences we can offer our children beyond the classroom. The impact of this support cannot be overstated. If you are able to help FOWPs in any way—whether by volunteering just an hour of your time, supporting an event, or making a donation—you will be making a meaningful difference to the experiences and opportunities available to all of our children.

INSET Day

Please can we remind you that Wednesday 1st July is an INSET day so school will be closed to all children.

Braiswick Class photograph orders

A reminder that all orders must be placed on line or be in school by Monday 29th June, there is no flexibility with this date.

Free School Meals

Thank you to those of you who have returned the Free School Meal application form but a number of families have not returned the form which was sent out via ParentMail on Wednesday 10th June. If we do not receive the completed form by Tuesday 30th June latest your child will NO longer be entitled to Free School Meals from September. Every family has to reapply to check for eligibility. Children in Reception, year 1 and year 2 will continue to be entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) and the completion of a form is not required.

Governor Update

We have a vacancy for a School Governor. Please contact Nicola Baker, our Chair of Governors if you have any questions or are interested. Please see the flyer at the bottom of the newsletter.

Globefit Summer holiday camp being held here –

Please sign your child up

📍 Venue: Woodcote Primary School, Reading, Oxfordshire

📅 Dates: Monday 27th July 2026 for 4 weeks

🕒 Times: Monday–Thursday, 9:00am–3:00pm

This year's theme is “**Around the World in 4 Weeks – A Place in the World for Everyone**” and children will enjoy a fun-filled programme of sports, games, dance, arts and crafts, team challenges, wellbeing activities and themed adventures inspired by different countries and cultures.



We have both **free HAF-funded places** available for eligible families and **paid places** available for all families.

Included with every booking:

- ✓ Breakfast, lunch and snack included
- ✓ Sports, games and physical activities
- ✓ Creative arts and crafts
- ✓ Team challenges and themed activities
- ✓ Nut-free environment
- ✓ Childcare vouchers accepted
- ✓ Tax-Free Childcare accepted
- ✓ Sibling and block booking discounts available

Families can book via the links on the attached flyer or visit www.globefit.co.uk for further information.

Class Updates

<p>Acorns</p>	<p>Thank you to the Dads and Grandads who were able to join us for our Father's Day lunch. Ginger beer, pork pies, watermelon, and flapjacks were enjoyed by all. All the children made wonderful cards and a No. 1 Dad/Grandad badge for their special person. We were delighted with Elizabeth's show-and-tell visitor(a chicken called Stardust), who came for a peck around the Acorns garden last Monday. Lucas also brought in his little chicks for the day last Friday.</p> <p>The Acorns have managed to keep cool by visiting the school's front garden, watering our strawberries and sunflowers, and looking after the mangetout growing in pots around the Acorns' garden. We have enjoyed eating them and spending as much time outdoors as possible. This has resulted in lots of soggy clothes and tired children!</p> <p>In Maths, we played a number puzzle game and focused on weighing and measuring using scales. We explored the concepts of more, less, one more, fewer, and the same. We have enjoyed listening to Louise read lots of nursery rhymes and stories.</p> <div data-bbox="571 1713 901 2143"></div> <div data-bbox="912 1713 1243 2143"></div>
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Oak	Oakies have been wonderful this week, really showing their resilience in coming into school each day- listening, learning and looking after one another in this incredible heat. They showed a brilliant attitude on sports day, giving every activity their best shot and loved being able to have their families there for lunch time. Thank you to those of you who brought in cool treats for us all to share, they were all greatly appreciated. Wishing you a lovely weekend.
Hornbeam	Despite the sweltering heat this week it has been wonderful to see Hornbeam children coming into school with their usual enthusiasm and vigour. The children have continued their learning about the UK, name of countries and capital cities and this week we have been looking at each nations national flag and how they contribute to the union flag. In English, there have been many laughs as we have started reading our final class text of the year, <i>Sir Scallywag and the Golden Underpants</i> . A book with lots of fantastic rhymes and fascinating illustrations. The children have enjoyed predicting and discussing what might happen next. In Maths, we have wrapped up our numbers to 100 topic comparing numbers and creating one more/one less than a number. Thank you to all those who attended sports day this year, the children have told me what a great day it was and how it was lovely to share a picnic with family and friends afterwards.
Beech	We have had a busy and exciting week in class. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Sports Day, showing great enthusiasm, determination and teamwork throughout the event. In English, we have been planning and beginning to write our own versions of <i>The Three Little Pigs</i> . The children have come up with some wonderfully creative ideas, including <i>The Three Little Hamsters</i> , <i>The Three Little Worms</i> , <i>The Three Little Foals</i> and many other imaginative adaptations. Despite the hot weather, the children have coped very well. We have stayed well hydrated and continued to try our best in all our learning. Have a lovely weekend everyone.
Ash	This week, as in the rest of the school, we have been trying our best to stay cool. We've made good use of our book trays as cooling foot baths and had plenty of ice pops. Thank you for all the thoughtful donations of fruit and ice treats - very much appreciated. Sports Day went well for Ash Class, with our three KS2 field events and some great examples of good sportsmanship. We have also created our Bronze Age clay beaker pots, despite the heat. They are looking great and currently air drying, which we imagine won't take long! We look forward to a return to more comfortable temperatures next week and hope you have a good weekend.
Rowan	This week was all about dealing with the absolute scorcher of a heatwave. We looked into the science behind extreme weather and climate change, and covered some handy tips for staying safe in the sun. To mix in a bit of biology, the group compared how we sweat versus how dogs pant to cool down, and checked out how humidity messes with how hot it actually feels. Everyone brainstormed their own ways to beat the heat and took part in a challenge to pick the five most important survival items for a desert scenario. To keep everyone comfortable, we tucked into fresh watermelon and honeydew melon, kicked our shoes off, used chilled flannels, participated in a hydration challenge, and enjoyed a load of ice lollies. By Friday, we shifted to some calm, indoor activities to get out of the sun. The morning was spent colouring in summer scenes, doing word searches, drawing, reading quietly, and playing table top games. Putting their D&T skills to the test, the children engineered paper planes and structures, sculpted characters out of plasticine, and watched a bit of <i>Horrible Histories</i> . A few of them even used the weather as inspiration for a creative design project, drawing up plans for the ultimate heatwave-proof school playground—which, honestly, looked a lot like a water park.

<p>Maple</p>	<p>Well, it's certainly been an unusual week here at Woodcote Primary! Though much of our week has been spent on assessments and play practice, we've also squeezed in a few more activities around all the heat! We've continued our work on our poems, this week discussing all the different themes we could follow and even explore some of the emotive language we may want to squeeze in. We've also had the chance to use polyhedral (many sided) dice in maths to practice some of our mental maths skills. Many of them can be played with a regular six-sided dice so have your children teach you some fun games! The other big event this week however was sports day. We got the chance to practice many of our skills with objects like javelins and shotputs as well as show off our jumping abilities. Though the heat had us delay our running events, we wrapped up the session with a picnic with many of you on the field. I know many of your children loved having you join us and hopefully we can do it again when the weather is less scorching! One final note, the costumes for the school play have been up on the website for a week now and I know some of your children have yet to catch you to discuss them. Please take a look this weekend and let us know next week if there are any items you may struggle with as we do have a number of items hanging around school! Thank you!</p>
<p>Willow</p>	<p>This week in Year 6, we have made great progress with our production of <i>Pirates of the Curry Bean</i>. We are now rehearsing "off-script", nearly everyone knows their lines, and we know most of the lyrics to the songs too. Sports Day was a huge success, and everyone joined in with positivity and encouragement. There was some impressive javelin throwing - they really did go far! Willow class have been polite, kind, and respectful, even though we have experienced incredible heat. I have been so proud of their positive attitude to learning and working in these conditions. Please be aware that the costume list is on the school website and is also being sent as a parentmail. If you need any help sourcing costumes, please come and ask.</p>
<p>News from Lunchtimes</p>	<p>It was unexpected to see summer arrive early, enabling us to relax under the elm trees and just take it a bit easy. The children enjoyed sports day and were excited to display their award stickers. We welcomed their parents who joined the Lunchtime Team for a picnic, and it was lovely to meet them and be able to exchange stories. Thank you to Acorns for using the shower attachment with hose to cool us all down which proved hilarious for the little ones!</p>

Despite the weather all the children enjoyed this year's sports day. A big thank you to the parents who came and watched and/or took part in the family picnic.



Important dates

Monday 29 th June	Order deadline for Braiswick photographs
Wednesday 1 st July	INSET day – School closed
Monday 6 th July	IRock concert
Tuesday 7 th July	Year 5/6 dress rehearsal
Wednesday 8 th July	Year 3 trip to Ufton Court – for more information please refer to the ParentMail sent out this week
Wednesday 8 th July	Year 5/6 performance – evening, exact time tbc
Thursday 9 th July	Year 5/6 performance – evening, exact time tbc
Friday 10 th July	Year 6 Leavers assembly – 9.30am – all parents invited
Tuesday 14 th July	Whole School trip Year R to 6
Tuesday 14 th July	Acorns Sports Day
Thursday 16 th July	Year 1 & 4 Cake or Lolly Sale - tbc
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



Woodcote Primary School



SUPPORT, INSPIRE, CHANGE
MAKE A DIFFERENCE
BECOME A SCHOOL GOVERNOR

No matter your background, age or job role, you can become a School Governor and make a difference to the lives of young people in our community.

And it is not just parents who can apply!

Being a Governor helps you develop your own skills, all while having the opportunity to make a meaningful impact and be part of our warm and welcoming school community.






Please get in touch

We'd love to hear from you and answer any questions, please contact
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chairofgovernors@woodcote.oxon.sch.uk



broadening horizons every day

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FOWPS

Between the Big Bounce and last weeks disco FOWPS raised enough money to buy two more laptops for the school. Since September we have raised £7000 of our £9000 target to help buy a bank of 18 laptops for the school - can you help us to reach our target by either donating directly <https://donate.stripe.com/4gw17i5tm2Df6ti145> or buy raffle tickets here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowps-events/index.cfm>

Other News/Information

None this week