



Friday 3rd July 2026

This week, you may have noticed a skip on the playground. This is to aid us in decluttering and preparing the school for the new academic year in September.

As always, the final weeks of term are incredibly busy. If you are able to spare an hour or so of your time, we would greatly appreciate any support you can offer. There are a variety of jobs around the school that need completing, from sorting and organising The Snug to ensuring everything is clean and sorted in the cooking chalet.

If you are able to help, please speak to your child's teacher. Any assistance, no matter how small, would be warmly welcomed and greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support.

Next week the temperatures are due to rise again so please ensure your child has suncream applied before school, a water bottle and a sunhat.

Tickets for the year 5/6 performance

If you have ordered tickets for the Year 5 & 6 performance these will come home with your child today. All children need to be in school by 5.45pm and the performances will start at 6.00pm.

The Summer Reading challenge

Please see the flyer below for more information.

Acorns	We had an amazing family day out last Friday. The children were very well behaved, and Bucklebury Park Farm was fantastic. It even has air conditioning, making it well worth a visit. The highlight of the day was hand-feeding the deer. The children learned about the different species, including Sika, Red, and Fallow deer. They also discovered how a male deer's antlers develop and how they can be used to estimate its age: • First year – a bony bump called a <i>pedicle</i> • Second year – a <i>spiker</i> • Third year – a <i>brocket</i> • Fourth year – a <i>staggard</i> • Fifth year and above – a <i>stag</i> or <i>hart</i> The children also learnt that a Royal Stag has 12 points on its antlers, an Imperial Stag has 14 points, and a Monarch Stag has 16 points. The children were able to hand-feed the deer and touch their antlers, which felt like velvet. It was an amazing experience, and they are still talking about it today!
Oak	Another busy, and thankfully cooler, week for the Oakies! They were all brilliant on their transition morning and all had something positive to say about it. Thursday saw them taking an imaginary aeroplane journey to a hot country using their very serious looking passports! All of the children were able to talk about ways in which life was the same and different, between a temperate and

	hot country. In Maths, we have been practising our number formation and looking at subtraction calculations through the story of Handa's Surprise. In Phonics, we have been practising reading the digraphs 'or' and 'ai', both in books and 4-sound words, such as storm and train. Have a super lovely weekend. The Oak Team.
Hornbeam	This week has been a lot of fun in Hornbeam class. As part of our DT topic the children have been designing their own healthy smoothies to create next week! We spoke about the need for the smoothie to have a base (either yoghurt or juice) and then a combination of 2 soft fruits to go in it so it can be blended together. The children greatly enjoyed the discussion and designing and are very much looking forward to making them next week. In RE we have been learning about 'sacred stories' our focus this week was the bible and the children have been learning about the Parable of the Sower. We have explored the deeper meaning behind the story and the children have decorated their own copies of the parable. In Maths, we have been learning about money, recognising different coins/notes, comparing them and counting up to different amounts. This can always be a tricky topic due to the different denomination of coins but the children are all giving it their best shot and enjoying playing 'shops'.
Beech	Beech class have been learning about position and direction this week in Maths. We used a soft toy to help us use positional language. We have also been revisiting money, calculating totals of pounds and pence and working out the difference between two amounts. In science, we enjoyed creating our houses for the Three Little Pigs. We will find out how strong and durable they are next week when the big bad wolf huffs and puffs and tries to blow our houses down. Everyone enjoyed meeting their new teacher and were excited to try out some French!
Ash	Despite the short week for the children and a transition morning, we have been busy in Ash Class. We finished our History topic by looking at Celtic (Iron Age) art and designed our own brooches. We then made these using card, string and tinfoil in our Art lesson later in the week. In R.E. with Mrs Hood- Cree, we have been learning about Buddhism and in Science we recreated rock formation by using crayon shavings to represent minerals. We compressed the shavings in layers to represent sedimentary rocks, then applied more pressure and some heat to create metamorphic rocks and finally heated the rocks (via a hair dryer rather than a volcano) to make igneous rock. We are looking forward to our trip to Ufton Court next Wednesday. There will be lots of shady spaces and woodland there to help us keep cool as the weather warms up again. Please remember to wear sunscreen, bring sunhats, water bottles and a packed lunch. Given the warm weather, lightweight, cool clothing and trainers will be best. If any child requires travel sickness medication, please could you administer it to your child before school. If travel sickness medication is required for the return journey (around 2.00pm) please can you complete a medical form and pass this to the class teacher. Please let us know if you have any questions and we look forward to sharing all about it next week.
Rowan	This week, we have been hard at work with our end of year assessments, and the children have performed well. They should be proud of their progress across the year. In science, we have set up an experiment to test the effects of different drinks on teeth. Don't worry, no one lost their teeth, we are using eggshell as the closest to teeth. We have left half an eggshell in a pot of milk, coca cola, orange juice, and water, and are carefully observing any changes of the next few days. So far, the egg in the cola has turned brown, and the milk has gone off! We have been discussing weather, and the positive and negative impact it can have on day to day life. A treat for us was to see 'Dolly' in the playground, and to ask questions about her history. Thank you to year 5 for sharing. Have a great weekend, stay cool and see you Monday.

Maple	We've had another busy week here in Maple Class. While much of our time has been spent on rehearsals for next week's performances of <i>Pirates of the Curry Bean</i>, we've also had time to do a few other exciting activities! Tuesday saw us joining in with transition day and getting to spend some time with our new teachers. The class really enjoyed their morning with Mr Neal, taking part in quizzes, doing some artwork and learning what Year 6 is going to be like! Later in the week we were then visited by a local resident who owns an army vehicle built in 1942, the same model that would have taken part in much of the D-Day landings. He came dressed in WW2 era army uniform and showed us all the amazing things on his truck including radios, armour plating and even the convertible top! Your children had a thousand questions and were extremely respectful throughout. There will be a number of photos on the schools Facebook page so please feel free to check them out!
Willow	This week saw the Year six taking big steps forwards towards their future as they visited Langtree School. A successful and positive experience. Descriptions of the day included; 'Fun, informative, giggling, exciting, helped with nerves, bigger, funny, new lessons...oh, and the food was delicious!' Back at Woodcote, we had a calm, gentle and productive day - continuing with preparation for Lumago! Rehearsals are going well for next weeks' performances of <i>The Pirates of the Curry Bean</i>. Nearly all costumes and Props are ready but please make sure these are in by Monday at the latest if you haven't sent it in yet! Thank you to everyone for helping to sort costumes and props, we appreciate your time and effort. The children have decided they would like an end of year BBQ on the 16th July (put your orders in for sunshine now please) There will be a sign-up sheet on the classroom door for parents to list items they could bring but we're aware you may also want to use your WhatsApp chat for this. All we ask, is can one parent just let us know who is bringing what. Many thanks in advance

The children in Acorn class had a wonderful time at Bucklebury Farm Park and they enjoyed making deer faces when they were back in class..





We were delighted when a visitor came into school with his WWII vehicle. Year 5 have been learning all about WWII so this fitted extremely well with their topic.

Important dates

Monday 6 th July	IRock concert - 14:30
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 – 18:00
Thursday 9 th July	Year 5/6 performance – 18:00
Friday 10 th July	Year 6 Leavers assembly – 9.30am – all yr6 parents invited
Tuesday 14 th July	Whole School trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park Year R to 6
Tuesday 14 th July	Acorns Sports Day
Thursday 16 th July	Beech class trip – Swan Upping
Thursday 16 th July	Year 1 & 4 Cake or Lolly Sale - tbc
Thursday 16 th July	Year 6 Leavers BBQ – 5pm onwards
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



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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broadening horizons every day

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FOWPS

Thank you so much for all of your fundraising efforts this year, we have all done a fantastic job by helping to raise funds for 18 class laptops to be used by the whole school! Our final event of the term is the Raffle on 10th July, there are loads of fantastic prizes to be won.

Can you help us reach our target so we can buy a bank of class laptops? Donate

here: <https://donate.stripe.com/4gw17i5tm2Df6ti145>

or buy raffle tickets here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowps-events/index.cfm>

18 Class Laptops
for Woodcote Primary School

Target
£9,000

Raised so far
14 Laptops
£7,000
(since sept '25)

Scan to donate

Registered Charity no: 1038615

Other News/Information

The Library
Oxfordshire

READ to the BEAT

...with a FREE children's reading challenge
at your local Oxfordshire library!

4 July to 5 September 2026

The Summer Reading Challenge 2026: **Read to the Beat** celebrates the joy of reading with a theme inspired by music. Children can discover how books spark creativity and imagination.

Finish the challenge and get
your own medal and certificate!

Look out for fantastic new
books and activities at your
library!

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries
www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

THE READING AGENCY
UNIVERSAL
UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL