

Woodlands Weekly



Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe

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16th January 2026

Newsletter No. 16

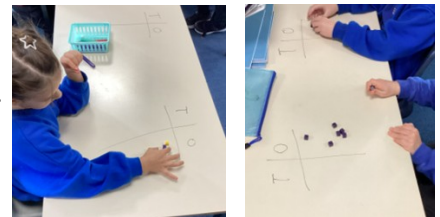
This week started with a focus on our core value of resilience in assemblies. We looked at how we need to persevere when things are tricky and the importance of trying and not giving up. We have also started to look at scenarios that are/are not 'bullying'. Many children use the term when it is actually a case of an unkind act. In schools, we only use the word bullying when it is sustained and there is some form of imbalance in power – this could be a number of children involved, age, needs, confidence levels. When two children have persistent issues with each other but it is two-sided, this is a relationship issue, not bullying. If a child does one or two things against another child – these are incidents (and are not ok) but not persistent enough to be deemed bullying. The KS1 children made a good start with identifying the difference. We will continue to drip feed this to help our pupils to understand this better. It is important they understand the difference to help their perception of what is happening to them or what they are doing to others.



Also this week...

Year R are currently enjoying their topic called 'Journey around the World'. This week they have travelled to the Polar regions, both the Arctic and Antarctica. They have loved exploring the book, *Lost and Found*, by Oliver Jeffers and have learned about why polar bears and penguins can't really be friends. The budding actors relished retelling the story and taking on the roles of Mr White and the Percival Browns. The children were very excited to explore ice in the tuff tray and were delighted that as the ice thawed there were arctic creatures to be found, that had been hiding inside.

Year 1 has been exploring tens and ones in maths this week. They have been learning how numbers are made by grouping objects into tens and counting the ones left over. The children used practical resources such as cubes, counters and dienes to build numbers and understand their value. For example, this has helped them see that 14 is made of one ten and four ones.



This week, **Year 2** has been starting to learn about money in maths. So far, they have identified the coins and begun to count in pounds and pence. Can your child help you to count the coins needed to make an amount at home?

Year 3 thoroughly enjoyed their Roman Day last Friday - trying food they would've eaten (who knew they loved honey so much!) and creating and using roman shields, marching in formation and creating a shield wall. To end, the children were invaded by the year 6's! They suddenly heard 'attack!' by Centurion Corbett, marching feet above us and then a sea of children invaded each classroom. They were chanting: 'We have come for more land!', 'We have come to spread our way of life!', 'We have come for revenge!', 'We have come to stop *you* from invading *us*!', 'We have come to gain power!'. This made their day.

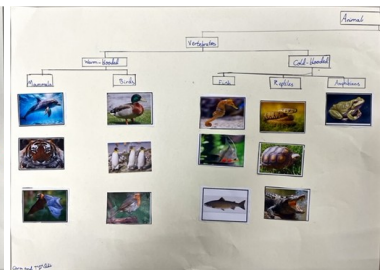
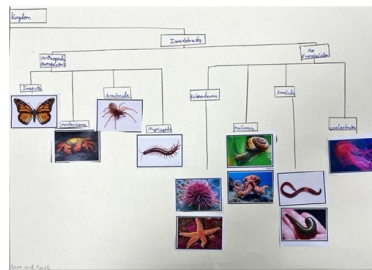


This week, **Year 4** children enjoyed an exciting Hindu workshop all about Diwali, the Festival of Lights. They learnt that Diwali is a special celebration for many Hindu families and symbolises good winning over evil and light winning over darkness. During the workshop, the children discovered why diyas are lit and acted out the story of Sita and Rama. They also learned about different Hindu gods and goddesses and the important roles they play in Hindu beliefs.



In art, **Year 5** children have begun their unit on ceramics where the children will be making clay pots using ancient Greek designs to inspire the decorations. This week, they started by look at the patterns on ancient Greek pots and making observational drawings to help them with their own designs in the coming weeks. We think you will agree that they have looked carefully and accurately depicted this style of design well.

In science, **Year 6** has been learning how to classify living things based on a system first introduced by Carl Linnaeus in 1737. They focused on the animal kingdom and created classification charts to sort a variety of animals based on their individual characteristics. This task required logic, a systematic approach and neat presentation! The classrooms were filled with lots of interesting discussions and we think the children did a great job!



As usual, a busy start to the term!

Have a good weekend.

Best wishes,

Vicki Lonie

Music Festival – Are you in a Band?

The PTA are exploring ideas for a summer event. They are looking into holding a music festival but can only do so if they have enough bands who are willing to give up their time to showcase their talents (for free!)

If you or someone you know is in a band, and would love to perform to a keen audience in the sunshine (fingers crossed), please get in touch with the PTA at

woodlandsprimarypta@gmail.com.



Book Borrowing

I am currently setting up a book-borrowing area in the reception area of Acorn building for parents. The focus will be on well-being, mental health and parenting. So far, we have some copies of 'The Anxious generation' by Jonathan Haidt (an absolute must-read for parents in my opinion) and editions of 'Breathe' – a magazine on adult mental health and well-being. Please feel free to sign out on the clipboard located on the shelves and return once you have finished. I will keep you posted as we add to the collection.

This will start from next week.





Play 'n Grow
Childcare Ltd.

HOLIDAY CLUB
Angel Centre, Tonbridge

Suitable for those 4-11 years (must be in primary school)

Wednesday 18th and Friday 20th February

Open: 8:30 - 3:30

Soft play, bouncy castle and Trampoline on Wednesday

Arts and craft

Sports

Trip to Clip 'n Climb
Friday Afternoon

<https://playngrowholidayclub.ipalbookings.com/>

Term Dates

2025/2026

Term 1: 01/09/2025 - 17/10/2025

Term 2: 03/11/2025 - 19/12/2025

Term 3: 05/01/2026—13/02/2026

Term 4: 23/02/2026 - 02/04/2026

Term 5: 20/04/2026 - 22/05/2026

Term 6: 01/06/2026 - 21/07/2026

2026/2027

Term 1: 01/09/2026 - 16/10/2026

Term 2: 02/11/2026 - 18/12/2026

Term 3: 04/01/2027 - 12/02/2027

Term 4: 22/02/2027 - 25/03/2027

Term 5: 12/04/2027 - 28/05/2027

Term 6: 07/06/2027 - 21/07/2027

Unwanted Gifts

Support the School PTA 🤝

We are still collecting unwanted gifts for our PTA raffles.

Did you receive a gift for Christmas or your birthday that you were thankful for... but didn't really like?!

Or something you already have? 📺

Instead of hiding it in a cupboard or throwing it away, please think of the School PTA!

These gifts are collected throughout the year and used as raffle prizes at our fairs and bingo nights.

♻️ They help keep event costs down and stop items going to landfill.

Unwanted Christmas Clothing

PTA Donation Appeal

The PTA are still on the hunt for unwanted Christmas clothing!

👕 Christmas Jumpers

👔 Ties

👔 Suits

👶 Baby outfits

👕 T-shirts & more!

📺 Please donate any unwanted festive clothing to be re-sold at our Christmas Fair.

📍 Drop-off point: Box in Acorn Reception

Thank you for helping support our school and PTA 😊

Model Railway Exhibition

Saturday 21st February

Model Railway Exhibition

Angel Centre, Tonbridge, TN9 1SF

Open: 10.00 to 17.00

Adults: £8.00; Children under 16 free (when accompanied by adult)

Refreshments.

60 stands including over 20 layouts plus two hands-on for children.



Diary Dates

2025/26

23rd Jan	Year 5 Young Voices
27th Jan	NO CLUBS
30th Jan	KS2 Spring Disco
06th Feb	KS1 Spring Disco
06th Mar	Break the rules day
09th Mar	Year 1, Tonbridge Castle
05th Jun	KS1 Summer Disco
22nd Jun - 26th Jun	Year 6 Residential
12th Jun	KS2 Summer Disco
04th Jul	Summer Fair

[New dates/times in blue](#)

KS2 Assemblies

Assembly time 2.45pm

Parents arrive at 2.40pm

Year 3 - Romans, w/c 09/03/2026,

Year 5 - Greeks, w/c 09/02/2025,

French Club

Have fun with your friends and learn French at

Woodlands Primary School French Club!

Would you like your child to start learning French while it's still instinctive and lots of fun?

Pupils are invited to join a lovely, friendly group to learn French through games, songs and other fun activities. Sessions are held from 3:20-4pm on Tuesdays.

For more info and prices please contact CCK112@hotmail.com or 07884 255749

Please state your child's year group (everyone welcome) and that you are enquiring about French Club at Woodlands.

www.facebook.com/frenchclubtonbridge

www.instagram.com/frenchclubtonbridge