



Woodlands' News



Hello from Woodlands!

Angus Council
June 2026

Here we are almost at the end of another school year. This session, teachers have continued to improve and apply professional learning in writing to new year groups and different writing types and we have engaged in training about the CIRCLE approach—looking at environmental adaptations as well as strategies to support individual children to meet needs.

Children have engaged in various opportunities and experiences in learning across the year both inside their classroom and around school grounds, with each class also having visitors in their classes such as the fire brigade in nursery, Bookbug and the Police and going out to visit other places including the Deer Centre and Falkland Palace, to further enhance and support their learning.

Lunch time clubs have been run across the school which have included various sports as well as gardening club, dance club, art club and coding club, some of which have been run by senior pupils supported by staff, and classes have paired across the school and with CHS to further share skills and enhance learning.

Pupil groups have continued to run with children being involved in feeding back about learning and school life to support our next steps, helping with the school handbook, organising fundraisers, visiting a recycling centre and helping in the community with litter picking.

This year one of our P7 pupils, Natasha was awarded Junior Citizen of the Year whilst another P7, Mack achieved silver and bronze medals swimming for Woodlands—we are so proud of you both. We have celebrated a range of individual achievements over the year during our achievement assemblies as well as celebrating our teams winning 3 Fair Play trophies! We are very proud of all the achievements across our school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our staff for their hard work, our Parent Council, you, our parent forum, the children and our partner agencies who have helped make this another successful year! Suzanne Smith, Head Teacher

End of Term Our end of term celebration takes place in the church starting at 1.45pm. We ask if volunteer helpers who will accompany the classes, could please attend the school office at 1.15pm. We will aim to leave by 1.25pm. Thank you for your continued support!

School finishes at 3pm on Thursday 2nd July for nursery to P7.

Our School Vision:

Believe and Achieve

Our School Aims:

We always try our best

We are kind

We are responsible

We are respectful

We are safe



Character	Value	Statement
Safe Squirrel 	Safety	I keep myself and others safe.
Healthy Hedgehog 	Healthy	I try to make healthy choices.
Achieving Acorn 	Achievement	I try my best in all areas of my learning.
Nurturing Newt 	Nurture	I show care and concern for others.
Active Ant 	Active	I participate in a range of activities.
Responsible Rabbit 	Responsibility	I take responsibility for my behaviour and actions.
Respectful Robin 	Respect	I show respect for everyone in the school community.
Including Insects 	Inclusion	I look for ways to include others.

Councils and Clubs

Parent Council

Parent Council would like to say a big thank you to everyone for supporting our activities and events across the 25-26 year. Due to your ongoing support we have been able to make a huge difference for our children and their families.

We are very proud of our work and would love to have more parents join us to continue delivering events and providing support to the children and their families. We are particularly keen to hear from parents of next years P1 and P3 who aren't currently represented on the group. If you have a small amount of time to spare (attend 4 meetings across the entire school year, and help at 3 main fundraising events), please get in touch.

Please email us at - parentcouncilwoodlands@gmail.com if you think you can help.

School Fund

Currently our school fund is at £6991.03

We are working in partnership with OPAL so are going to use this money to develop our play areas in our playground. We have an OPAL group which includes our PT, Laura Ferguson, SPSAs and 2 parents who have met and started to talk about possibilities for different play areas. We will also link with our Pupil Council to ensure the children's voice is heard and they are involved in identifying and creating and evaluating the spaces for all children. Parent Council are supporting us through grant applications and fundraising—thank you! We expect this project to take at least another 18 months.

Pupil Council

Pupil Council organised a very successful sponsored walk raising £2,186 for our visits towards the Tayside Planetarium and various school trips. Next session we are going to think about the well-being webs we use in school, link with the OPAL group and think of ways to promote our vision, values and aims to ensure we all understand these. Mrs Goldstraw is looking forward to working with the Pupil Council again next session and involving them in various decisions for Woodlands.

Forest School club

Primary 5 continued with their forest school club this term, painting outdoors, building habitats for small creatures and leading scavenger hunts. Primary 5 were engaged and built relationships with the younger pupils while the younger pupils learned new skills and had fun at lunchtime, making new friends.



Eco Council Eco Council have had a very busy term! We went on a trip to MVV site at Baldovie to learn what happens to the waste that we put into our purple bins. It was exciting to see the big grab used to pick up the rubbish and very interesting to find out that our rubbish is made into electricity.

We worked alongside Carnoustie Community Council to promote a beach clean this month, it was lovely to see so many people out helping to collect rubbish, especially when the weather was wet and windy.

Clubs

We have run rugby, football and netball Clubs this term and the P6 and P7 children have been out representing the school in netball, football, Golf and Cross Country,

We also enjoyed being part of the first Carnoustie Schools Football tournament which enabled everyone who had been attending football to come along for a fun morning. In addition, we have had Shinty taster sessions—the children loved trying a different sport.

News from the classes...

Nursery- This term we have lots of learning about lifecycles in nursery, including our caterpillars turning into butterflies, the tadpoles in the pond, our beans growing in the windows, and measuring to see how the children have grown. We have also been learning about the pattern and sounds of language; syllables and rhyme and alliteration. We have learned lots of new vocabulary from our topics too. In numeracy we have been revisiting our learning about counting on and back using collections of materials, data collection and concepts like estimation and conservation. In health and wellbeing we have been leaning about food, where it comes from, what we need to grow and keep healthy, and we have been handling, tasting and talking about different foods, sometimes using The Very Hungry Caterpillar story. There have been lots of transition visits to Primary One for the children moving up in August and we have had visits from the children joining us in nursery too. Following on from looking at the developmental milestones we are working on fastenings, cutting and hopping on one foot!

Primary 1— Primary 1 have had a busy and exciting term. As part of our topic on Farming we visited Newton Farm where we got to feed the goats, cows and alpacas. We saw lots of baby animals including chicks, ducklings, calves and lambs. The children really enjoyed the trailer ride into the fields to see the Highland cattle. Gordon, a local framer, also made a visit to our classroom where he told us all about potato farming and let us have a seat in his tractor and toot the horn! He left us with some potato plants which we have cared for and are now planted in the school garden. We are looking forward to harvesting them in Autumn along with the carrots and peas we planted. We have had great fun working on outdoor learning with our Primary 4 buddies learning skills such as knot tying, gardening, bug hunting, bridge building and creating an obstacle course. We are ready and looking forward to Primary 2.

Primary 2 - Primary 2 have been busy learning, exploring and having lots of fun together. As part of our Farming topic, we enjoyed a wonderful trip to Newton Farm. We had the chance to meet and feed some of the farm animals and take a trailer ride through the fields to see the magnificent Highland cattle up close. One of the highlights of the day was climbing inside a tractor. We all learned so much about life on a farm! In Literacy, we have been revising all of our sounds and building our confidence as readers and writers, ready for Primary 3. We have also enjoyed procedural writing, creating our own recipes and instructions. In Maths, we have been using a variety of resources to explore place value, multiplication and division through practical activities. We have loved taking our learning outdoors and have enjoyed playing team games together, developing our communication and teamwork skills. We wish you all a lovely summer holiday when it comes!

Primary 3 -

Primary 3 have had a fantastic term of learning. The class enjoyed a trip to the Scottish Deer Centre, where they learned about native species. Our topic this term has been the human body, and the children loved activities such as making model lungs and carrying out an experiment to explore the digestive system. They have also particularly enjoyed their technology lessons with Primary 6, learning how to use a Chromebook safely and exploring its features. In literacy, we have been writing response texts based on short films, with the children making fantastic progress. In numeracy, we have explored a wide range of concepts including measure, symmetry, angles, and map reading. The class are now looking forward to their big move into the upper area for Primary 4.

News from the classes...

Primary 4 -

What a busy last term! Our trip to Falkland Palace was a highlight with the children learning lots more about Medieval Times—it was a lovely end to our topic on Castles. Since then our main focus has been our Enterprise project with lots of bird feeders being made and other garden decorations too. So far we have a profit of £90. On Monday afternoons we have linked up with the Primary 1s for outdoor learning and loose parts play where we have planted seeds, created obstacle courses, tied knots and made bridges. Both classes have loved the sessions and learned lots of cooperative skills. Our number work has focused on fractions and we can now find fractions of amounts. In literacy, we have been writing recounts, expanding sentences and self editing our written tasks. We are all looking forward to our summer holidays and moving into Primary 5.

Primary 5— Primary 5 have had a busy and enjoyable term, continuing to develop their recount writing skills in Literacy while also engaging with their class novel, Charlotte's Web. The children have enjoyed exploring the characters, themes and events of the story through a variety of reading and writing activities. In Numeracy, they have been working hard to strengthen their understanding of multiplication and division and have also been learning about money, applying their skills to a range of practical and problem-solving activities. As part of their topic work, we have been exploring the world of work, with a particular focus on animal-related careers inspired by the children's own interests. In PE, the class have been developing their ball skills through a variety of fun and active games and have also shown great determination and resilience while taking part in cross-country activities. The children thoroughly enjoyed their Move Up Morning and had a fantastic opportunity to meet their new teacher. They are looking forward to getting to know her better and are excited for the year ahead. Mrs Kimmet would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support throughout the year and wishes everyone a wonderful, relaxing and well-deserved summer break.

Primary 6

This term primary 6 had a visit to the Scottish Deer Centre where we were learning about native species. It was a busy day and we all really enjoyed it. Upon our return, we investigated recount writing linked to the Deer Centre. We have continued to read 'A Kind of Spark' and link this to learning about neurodiversity. We have worked with Primary 3 on various aspects of ICT—allowing us to upskill but also giving us the opportunity to share our expertise with a younger class. We are currently developing our problem solving skills and will investigate and extend these further next year.

We are looking forward to our final year at Woodlands as we become Primary 7!

Primary 7 - In Primary 7 this term we have enjoyed our visit to Carnoustie High School. We went round all of our classes and met our new teachers and classmates. In school we have been working hard on our Leaver's Event and we look forward to sharing this with our parents and carers in a couple of weeks. We enjoyed our World of Work topic where we learned about different STEM careers such as Forensic Scientists and Palaeontologists and all had a great time last month at the Scottish Adventure Centre in Crieff.

Special mention to Mack who represented Woodlands at the Scottish Schools Competition in Aberdeen winning silver and bronze medals—a great achievement!

We are looking forward to our last couple of weeks at Woodlands Primary School and are excited for our next chapter at High School.

Feedback and Information...

Parent and Pupil Feedback

Thank you for taking the time over the session to share your feedback with us, whether it is from surveys or comments on curricular afternoons or parents' evening questions, it is valued and helps inform what we are doing well and where we are going.

Of the parents and family members able to attend our curricular afternoon, all provided feedback that shared how informative and enjoyable they found it, with a few identifying the increased time as a result of last year's feedback was welcomed.

All teachers are implementing the new homework policy, reviewed with parents and children based on last year's parental feedback. In addition, also as a result of parental feedback, how parents can support their child's learning at home is also being shared by all teachers via Seesaw or Learning Logs.

All parents who were able to respond to the survey sent out in March, shared their child is making good progress, school provides regular, helpful feedback about progress in learning and their child feels safe in school, almost all said their child is treated fairly and with respect at school, with the majority strongly agreeing, and almost all identified they are satisfied with the school overall, with most strongly agreeing. All parents who were able to respond to our survey identified they feel very involved in the evaluation and planning of Individualised Education Plans/child's plans and all find the termly meetings very useful.

In our survey this session, whilst the majority of parents agreed or strongly agreed the school take account of their views when making changes, 35% of parents neither agreed nor disagreed. We will therefore review how we gather parental views and how we share the impact of views as we go forward.

Children are responding well to the structured step by step approach in writing, with most of the children in P5-7 (90%) and most in P1-4 (84%) sharing they have a positive feeling about writing. All children during observations identified they are enjoying the new approach and almost all could identify what they are learning and progress they have made. In addition, children are noting during learning visits that they enjoy the Learning Partners approaches teachers have been exploring this session. Almost all children in our focus groups from each class identified they learn in lots of different ways (91%), their teacher teaches them lots of different things (97%) and that their teacher knows what they are good at (96%). The rest said 'somewhat'. All children in these focus groups also said they are encouraged to use mistakes to help them learn, are encouraged by their teachers to be responsible for their own behaviour and learning and to always try their best, and all said their teacher encourages them to treat others with respect and kindness. Whilst 98% of children in our focus group said they get to make choices about their learning, almost half said somewhat—we will therefore aim to improve this next session.

Finally, when asked about children's rights, the majority of children in all classes were able to talk about their rights and the majority of parents identified school has helped them better understand children's rights. This will therefore be another area we will focus on improving next session.

Useful Links

Parent Portal - <https://parentsportal.scot/pportal/>

Parent Pay (School Lunches) - <https://www.parentpay.com/>

Connecting Parents Angus <https://sites.google.com/an.glow.scot/connectingparentsangus/home>

School Reports—<https://woodlands.pupiltracking.com/>

Clothing Grants—
https://www.angus.gov.uk/schools_and_young_people/free_school_meals_and_school_clothing_grants

Change of Address Form—
https://www.angus.gov.uk/schools_and_young_people/schoolsadvise_a_change_of_address_schools_and_early_learning_and_childcare

School website: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/woodlandsprimaryschool/>

NHS Tayside CAMHS portal

The CAMHS Neurodevelopmental Parent Portal is a dedicated space for expert guidance, practical tools, and a wealth of resources—accessible anytime, anywhere. The Portal offers information and support around common neurodevelopmental concerns with strategies designed to help you navigate challenges and celebrate progress. <https://www.nhstaysidecamhs.co.uk>

Allergies and lunch orders: Due to some children in school having allergies which can lead to anaphylaxis, we ask that you please avoid snacks and foods containing peanuts and sesame seeds where at all possible. We also ask you remind your child(ren) we don't share snacks.

Please also ensure that your child's name is displayed on the outside of their packed lunch container and that dinners are chosen by 8am each day.

Dates for the diary...

Dates for the Diary



June	29	End of year celebration in church—all welcome
July	2	End of term 4 (3pm finish for whole school)
August	17	Inset day 1 (school open to staff only)
	18	Term 1 starts for all pupils
September	3	Parent Council Meeting 6pm—8pm
	24	Parents Evening (Thursday)
	29	Parents Evening (Tuesday)
Oct	2	End of term 1 (usual finish time)
Oct	19	Start of term 2
	28	Parent Council pupil discos
Nov	18	Parent Council Meeting 6pm—8pm
Dec	2	Inset Day—School Closed
	3	Inset Day—School Closed
	4	Holiday—School Closed
	23	End of Term 2
Jan	7	Start of Term 3
	14	Parent Council Meeting 6pm—8pm
Feb	11	Inset Day—School Closed
	12	Mid Term Holiday—School Closed
	15	Mid Term Holiday—School Closed
Mar	13	Parent Council Bingo Night
	29	End of Term 3
Apr	12	Start of Term 4
May	3	May Day holiday
	6	Parent Council meeting 6-8pm
	31	Inset Day—School closed
June	6	Parent Council pupil discos
July	1	End of term 4

Don't forget to visit our website at: <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/an/woodlandsprimaryschool/school-blog/>