



Woodlands' News

Hello from Woodlands!

Angus Council
March 2026

Mornings are getting lighter which is always a lovely time of year in school. Children feel brighter in the morning and the flowers are starting to appear, with some classes already having planted bulbs to enhance their learning and our school grounds. You will also see from our diary dates that sporting competitions and activities beyond our school are starting up again now the weather is improving and days are lighter, so our teams will be out and about. Last month one of our P7 pupils, Mack took part in the Tayside School swimming competition, and having won 2 golds, will now compete in the Scottish Schools competition—we are all so proud of him!

Earlier this term children engaged in learning and reciting their Scots poems—which some then performed at our Scots Assembly. Thanks go out to Mrs McGarry for supporting us by judging the finalists. Well done to all! As well as learning poems and Scottish Country dancing, children have been busy across school engaging in a range of learning activities. This has taken them at times beyond their own classrooms as they link across year groups to explore and share learning and expertise. CHS continue to link with our P4 pupils to motivate and encourage reading, and are so excited by our World Book Day Bedtime Story theme that P4 are having 2 days of celebrating books to enable the CHS pupils to take part on Friday!

Older children, from P5 upwards, continue to organise and run clubs from code club to playtime art club in addition to those being run by staff, with Active Schools having started rugby for P6/7 this week. Currently classes are preparing to participate in a sponsored walk which will total the distance from here to the International Space Station, to raise funds for a visit by the Planetarium to further enhance all their learning about Space.

In support of our local community, some classes are currently designing large wooden egg signs for the local Easter event, whilst other classes continue to link with local care homes to share learning.

Over the coming weeks, staff and children will start planning our curriculum morning to ensure those of you able to attend have an informative as well as enjoyable experience.

This term teachers have continued to link with and observe each other to develop and share skill sets not only across our school but also across the Carnoustie schools, focusing on writing approaches and feedback.

Our Parent Council also continue to be busy as they plan our Bingo evening and raffle, having recently raised funds for, organised and provided the P7s with their Leavers' Hoodies. The hoodies look fabulous, although as is the case every year, I can't quite believe we have reached this point again so soon!

I hope you enjoy this term's newsletter.

Suzanne Smith, Head Teacher

End of Term

Each year we usually hold our Spring Service in the Church in March. Due to continued renovations this year we are unable to access the church and, due to fire regulations, cannot have all the children and parents in our hall. Sadly we will therefore be unable to hold our service this year. We expect renovations to be completed in time for our end of year achievement celebration in term 4 though, and we hope to see you there.

Term 3 finishes on Friday 3rd April at our usual time, with term 4 starting on Monday 20th April.

Pupil Voice and Celebrations

Angus Toy Appeal

Thank you to all who supported donations to the Angus Toy Appeal. As a result of support across Angus, the Toy Appeal were able to provide 1267 Angus children across with gifts as well as provide some things for the daughter of a family whose home was tragically burnt down. On behalf on the Angus Toy Appeal—thank you for your continued support.



Celebration

Mack, one of our P7 pupils, represented Woodlands at the Tayside Schools Swimming competition last month. We are so proud to say he won 2 golds! As a result, Mack will now swim in the Scottish Schools Swimming competition in Aberdeen. Congratulations, Mack!



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Pupil Council

Pupil Council have written a child friendly school improvement plan and part of the school handbook. This term we have been sharing ideas for a fundraiser for our visit from Tayside Planetarium and we have decided to do a sponsored walk. We developed a book swap outside the office and this has been successful. We will continue to add more books and try to include seasonal books too. We are also going to be revisiting the learner qualities and how we can include these in our Vision Values and Aims.

Forest School club

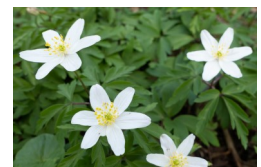
Primary 5 are running a Forest School club for the younger children on Wed lunchtimes. They have created a ladybird garden and an art gallery tree and are now keen to teach the younger children some hapazome where they will hammer leaves and petals onto fabric to transfer the dye. Primary 5 are practising their leadership skills and the younger children are excited and keen participants.



Eco Group

Eco council members have been keeping an eye on how much litter is we have in our playground by going out litter picking with our janitors after playtimes.

We are also busy planning a beach clean when the weather is a little warmer, more information will come out about this soon, as we would love your support to allow us to pick up as much litter as we can off of our beach.



Clubs

In addition to a range of sporting clubs such as golf, football and rugby, and Forest School Club, some P5 children have been running a coding club for P4 children where they are learning the basics of coding and how to make their own games. Lots of learning and lots of fun! In addition, some P7 pupils have been running an art club outside during break—they have maintained this for some time, showing dedication and commitment—we are very proud of them all!

News from the classes...

Nursery

This term we welcome five new children to nursery and helped them to settle into the nursery routines. We learned about money through role play with a shop and then we went on a walk to the High Street and visited a couple of shops to practice paying with coins. In literacy we have been learning about questions and about punctuation marks and spotting them in books we share. In Health and Wellbeing we have been learning about healthy foods and also allergies. We have learned about ice, and the different states of water, in the nursery garden and through experiments. We have learned about stages of life, using the correct vocabulary. Our word of the week has been a really good way to expand our vocabulary and we are sharing this with home too. The children are using a food bin now to recycle the leftover food and fruit skins etc in the nursery, scraping their plates after snack and lunch. Lots of our spring flowers are out in the garden and we are starting to learn about planting and growing.

Primary 1 - Primary 1 have been working hard on learning their sounds and using them to read and write. They were very excited to start their first reading books. In number we have been looking at addition, subtraction, grouping and sharing as well as time in maths. We have been looking after the birds in winter and planted some lovely spring flowers in our garden area to add to the recycling and reusing we do on class to take care of our planet. Our topic has been space, which the children loved learning and now we are looking at celebrations with Katie Morag and looking at our Scottish culture. We said goodbye to Miss Boyd who has worked with us since January.

Primary 2 -

Primary 2 have had a lovely term filled with exciting learning. The children really enjoyed our Space topic and especially loved creating 3D models of the solar system with our P6 buddies. They showed fantastic teamwork and were very proud of their creations. In numeracy, we have been practising counting, addition and subtraction, numbers before and after and doubles. In maths, our focus has been on data handling and time, where the children have been learning to read o'clock and half-past times and create simple charts. In health and wellbeing, we have been exploring the Eatwell Guide, learning about food groups and the importance of a healthy, balanced diet. We are very proud of all the hard work Primary 2 have shown this term.

Primary 3 -

Our class have had a fantastic term filled with creativity and hard work. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about space and are especially excited to begin designing and sculpting our own clay alien characters, which will star in the children's very own short movies. In numeracy, the class are now diving into multiplication and division. They are showing great enthusiasm for learning new times tables. In literacy, our focus on imaginative writing has really highlighted how creative the children are, with some truly wonderful ideas being developed in their stories. The class worked incredibly hard during Scottish country dancing, where everyone tried their absolute best and proudly showcased four dances to Mrs Ferguson, who was delighted with their dedication and teamwork. Alongside this, the children continue to build positive relationships with one another, enjoying board-game sessions that help strengthen cooperation and friendship.

Primary 4 -

We have had another really busy term! We are loving learning about castles and the people who used to live in them. We are looking into organising a trip to visit one. In our Literacy we are learning to write a variety of reports and using time connectives to help organise our writing. We have just finished a block of learning on time and are moving onto working with money. Multiplication and division strategies have also been a focus. Judaism is our Other World Religion and the children are enjoying finding about the beliefs of the Jewish people. As the weather improves we will be enjoying the outdoors by having gym sessions in the school grounds and park along with spending time in the grounds building animal habitats, bird watching and learning how to tie some knots.

News from the classes...

Primary 5 -

P5 have had a fantastic term! They've absolutely loved getting stuck into Scottish Country Dancing and have impressed everyone with their energy and teamwork. We were also so proud of the confidence and expression they showed while performing their Burns poems – what superstars! While telling the time is proving a bit of a challenge, the class are showing great resilience and not giving up. We've been enjoying watching some fun Walt Disney Animation Studios shorts and writing response texts about them, which has really sparked their creativity and enthusiasm. On top of all that, P5 are thoroughly enjoying researching space, discovering fascinating new facts, and sharing their learning with one another. Well done on another great term, P5 – keep up the good work!

Primary 6 - We have enjoyed learning all about space and linking this to different areas of our learning such as our writing. We have started reading 'A Kind of Spark' as our class novel which will allow us to think about neurodiversity. We are enjoying relating our maths to real life contexts and liked using our local bus timetables to calculate the lengths of journeys. We visited Braehill Lodge care home and recited our scots poems and learned Caledonia to sing to the residents. We have been able to get outside for P.E and has been great being back in the sunshine. We had a visit from CHS as part of transition and it got us thinking about moving forward into P7. We have worked with various classes—making planetariums with P2, writing a recount with P4 and writing a narrative with P7. A great term for P6!

Primary 7 - Primary 7 have had a very busy term. We enjoyed a visit to Carnoustie High School as part of transition and we are all looking very smart wearing our leavers' hoodies. We enjoyed Scottish Country Dancing and Cross Country in P.E. In Numeracy and Maths we have been looking at multiplication and division strategies and are starting learning on fractions, decimals and percentages. In writing we have written some very detailed explanation texts about an element of space that we wished to learn more about and are currently making Narrative stories about Space with Primary 6 using Book Creator. We can't believe that we are heading into our final term at Woodlands Primary School but have lots to look forward to before June.

Information...

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.

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_

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>

School Fund

Currently our school fund is at £5702.76. We have started linking with OPAL who are going to support us to develop playground play areas and intend using school funds for related equipment/resources. Staff have attended an input and currently we setting up our group and organising our audits, development and grounds meetings. We are hoping our OPAL link will be able to lead an information session for parents in the coming months. More information to follow.

Parent Council

Bingo Night: Get your dabbers ready! Our next Bingo Night will be held on **Friday, 13th March**. We look forward to seeing you there for a night of fun and prizes.

Annual General Meeting (AGM): Our AGM is scheduled for **Wednesday, 6th May**.

School Disco: We are already looking ahead to summer! Mark your calendars for the school disco on **Thursday, 4th June 2026**. More details on tickets and times will follow closer to the date.

A Huge Thank You The Parent Council would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our **Christmas Raffle**. Thanks to your generosity, we raised vital funds that were used to support local families during the festive period.

P7 Leavers' Hoodies we are also delighted to confirm that the Parent Council has funded the purchase of **P7 Hoodies**. We know how much the pupils value these as a memento of their time at the school, and we are proud to support them as they prepare for their next chapter.

Join us! The Parent Council is always looking for new members to bring fresh ideas and a helping hand. Whether you can commit to every meeting or just help out at an occasional event, your support is invaluable. Please get in touch if you would like to find out more.

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

March	5	World Book Day celebration —bedtime stories
	6	P4 and CHS celebrate books
	11	Netball (CHS)
	19	School sponsored walk
	20	Boys football (Monifieth)
	20	Maths Challenge—Team at Arbroath High School
	23	Curricular morning (P1-3 classes)
	26	Curricular morning (P4-7 classes)
	27	Girls football (Pitskelly)
April	2	Planetarium in school
	3	End of term (usual finish time)
	20	Start of term 4 (Tuesday)
	28	Primary Cross Country (Monikie)
May	4	May Day holiday (school closed)
	5	Parent Council AGM (6pm)
	6	Boys Football (Monifieth)
	15	Girls Football (Carnoustie)
	20-22	P7 residential
	25	Inset Day 5 (school closed to children)
	27	Sports Day (weather permitting P1-4 am and P5-7 pm)
June	5	Texas Scramble Golf
	9	P7 to CHS
	10	P7 to CHS
	11	P7 to CHS and move up morning for all other classes
	12	Reports to parents
	29	Proposed end of term celebration (pm)
	30	P7 Leavers event (pm)
July	2	End of term —3pm finish for all
August	17	Inset day 1 (school open to staff only)
	18	Term 1 starts for all pupils



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