

COMMUNITIES & EDUCATION DIRECTORATE
Executive Director: Andrew McLelland
Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE
Tel: 01294 310000 www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Woodlands Primary School
Woodlands Avenue
Irvine
KA12 0PU
Tel: 01294 279532

WOODLANDS PRIMARY & EYC

**March
2025
Newsletter**



Woodlands Primary and Early Years

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am delighted to introduce myself as the new Head Teacher of Woodlands Primary and EYC, and I want to thank all families for making me feel so welcome. It has been a pleasure getting to know the pupils, staff, and wider school community, and I already feel incredibly proud to be part of such a warm and vibrant school.

My priority is to ensure that every student has the best possible learning experience. I want to build on the school's strengths and work with staff and parents/carers to create a supportive and high-achieving environment for all. Communication and collaboration will be key, and I look forward to working closely with you to support our children.

I have high expectations for all, and I am committed to working with staff, parents, and pupils to make improvements that benefit everyone in our school community. By focusing on high standards and continuous development, we can provide the best opportunities for our pupils to further succeed.

March is an exciting time, with students fully engaged in their learning and looking ahead to upcoming events including World Book Day. I look forward to meeting more of you in the coming weeks, whether at school events or simply at the school gates.

Thank you for your support—I am excited to be part of this community and look forward to working together to make a real difference for our pupils and families.

In partnership

Mr Wilson

Head Teacher

Communication

Please let us know if there are any changes to your child's circumstances. E.g. change of address /emergency phone number or medical condition. Furthermore if you require new forms to update your information please don't hesitate to ask the office staff and they'll pop the forms in your child's bag.

New event dates have been added to keep you updated. We also post information on Twitter/X, and where possible, the Parent Council/PTA aim to keep you updated on the Parent/Carer Facebook page.

Emails/letters will continue for consent to attend clubs etc. and Xpressions messages or texts will be used for urgent information or quick updates.

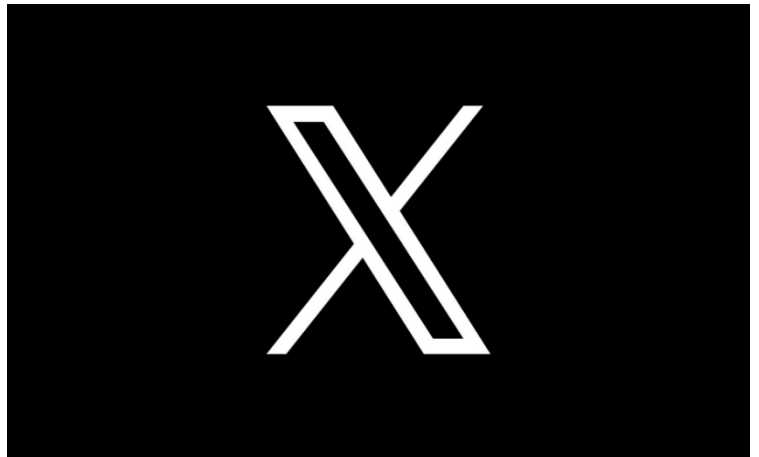
Twitter is the preferred social media platform for schools. We are delighted to have so many families following and commenting on the success of the school. If you wish to follow us then do so @WoodlandsIrvine

EV5 Forms

From now on all trips that require pupils to leave the school building on transport e.g. trips, outings to sporting events will require a completed EV5 form which will be given out by the school office. Children will not be allowed to attend the trips/outings if this is not signed and returned by an adult. This ensures we are following the correct health and safety protocols set up by North Ayrshire Council. I hope you understand that keeping our pupils safe is of our utmost priority and I thank you for your support in this matter.

Twitter/X

As part of promoting the wider life of the school, each class will be posting on Twitter/X on a regular basis. This will let parents/carers see what is happening in school, what their child is learning and find out about any news/ information and any events that are happening. Please see the attached link on how to set up a Twitter/X account and then follow @WoodlandsIrvine for all of our updates.



Link: [How to Create X account 2023 - Formerly knows as Twitter \(Full Guide\) - Create New Account \(youtube.com\)](#)

HT/SLT Awards

The House Captains worked with Mr Wilson on a new Head Teacher award system which will be presented to pupils at assembly in the coming weeks. Children will be given HT awards from their class teacher and be sent to the Leadership Team to show off their amazing work, being recognised for displaying a great attitude or how they have shown the values of the school. Mr Wilson will track how many times children have been sent to the SLT over their time at Woodlands and will be presented with special awards once they hit certain milestones. E.g. a Bronze Award for coming 4 times, Silver for 8 times etc. This is a great way to help pupils develop their confidence and begin to talk about their learning across the school.



Breakfast Club

Join Breakfast Club!

We have lots of spaces available at our '**Magic Breakfast Club**'. This is a great way for pupils to start the day with a **healthy breakfast** while socialising with friends. It's a relaxed and welcoming environment that helps children feel ready and focused for the school day ahead.

Everyone is welcome

For more information or to sign up, please contact the school office.



magic
breakfast
fuel for learning

Break and Lunch Times

Updated Break and Lunchtime Arrangements

We are making a change to our break and lunchtime schedule, returning to a **whole-school timetable**. This means all pupils will have their breaks and lunches at the same time. Break 10:30-10:50 and Lunch 12:20-13:05



This change will allow staff to spend less time on playground supervision—previously up to **2 hours and 10 minutes per day**—and instead, have more time in classrooms to **support pupil learning**. We believe this will have a positive impact on both staff and pupils, ensuring a better balance between supervision and high-quality teaching.

Thank you for your support as we make this transition!

Woodlands Primary and Early Years

Healthy Snacks



We encourage all parents/carers to support healthy snack choices for children. Opting for fruits or other nutritious options helps promote well-being and reduces litter. We also offer free healthy snacks to all pupils every break time. Recently, we've noticed an increase in crisp packets and rubbish in the playground. Please remind children to dispose of waste properly or use reusable containers. Together, we can create a healthier environment for everyone! Thanks for your support in this matter.

Reporting to Parents/Carers

Learning Conversations (Parent's/Carer's Nights)

April 2024

Our **Learning Conversations** will take place on **Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd April**. This is a great opportunity to discuss your child's progress and learning. Time slots will be organised next week for families and sent out soon after that.



To help make the most of these meetings, a **feedback prompt** will be sent home in school bags over the next few weeks. This will allow you to share any questions with teachers in advance or provide any feedback, ensuring the time is used effectively. I want to encourage pupils to take part in these conversations as they are at the heart of the discussion. Please bring your child along to listen and share their views during these meetings.

We look forward to sharing your child's learning journey with you!

Remember, if you are worried about your child's wellbeing or learning at any time please make an appointment to talk to their Class Teacher or myself.

Annual Parent/Carers Survey:

Have Your Say!

We kindly ask all parents and carers to complete the **parent/carers survey** that was sent out earlier this week. Your feedback is important to us and helps shape future improvements at Woodlands. We truly value your thoughts and perspectives, so please take a few moments to share your views.



For your convenience, here is the link again:

<https://forms.office.com/e/Bmvz4kYpYp>

SCHOOL LUNCHES AND iPAYIMPACT

Woodlands Primary tries to promote a good uptake of school meals. The lunches are healthy and tasty and save families hundreds of pounds over the years as they are free for all children in P1-P5, and as well as to the families in receipt of certain universal credits or in further education.

However, we are finding that less and less families are pre-ordering their child's lunch across the school. In some classes registration and lunch, which are both completed online, took almost 25 minutes. That is 25 minutes where the teacher is not teaching or supporting pupils with learning. 1 child may take a few minutes to look at the lunch options and choose what they will eat, 25 children takes considerably longer!

We are pleading with families to take 5 minutes on a Sunday or an evening and order your child's lunch with them present. This would also make sure pupils get the lunch they really want each day.

Thank you to the families who do already pre-order!