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WOODLANDS PRIMARY & EYC

April - May
2025
Newsletter



PIC COLLAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into this busy term, we're excited about all the fun and memorable experiences ahead! With the weather improving, please ensure your child comes to school with clothing suited to both sunny and changeable conditions.

There are lots of exciting events coming up, including *Woodlands Got Talent*, where pupils will be taking the lead to showcase their amazing skills. Each year group will also be heading out on their annual fun trip, creating more lasting memories. We're looking forward to our Sports Day too — always a highlight of the school year!

We are pleased to share that staff are returning from absence, and the school is feeling more vibrant and positive than ever. Opening up the grass areas for break and lunch has made a huge difference, giving pupils more space to play, explore, and enjoy their time together.

At Woodlands, we really value working closely with our parents and carers. If you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, please don't hesitate to get in touch — we're always happy to hear from you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Mr Wilson
Head Teacher

Chocolate Eggs

A big thank you to our Parent Council for the chocolate eggs they generously gave to all pupils before the Easter break. The work they do to raise funds for the school is fantastic and helps provide those special extras that make a big difference for our pupils.

If you're interested in joining the Parent Council, please contact the school office and we'll be happy to put you in touch with them.



Class Newsletters



Class Newsletters will be sent out later this week to all parents and carers, providing an update on what each class will be covering this term.

You'll also notice that all classes now receive two hours of PE each week, an increase from the single weekly lesson previously offered. This change ensures we meet government guidelines and gives pupils more opportunities to enjoy physical activity and build their fitness.

Scooters and Bikes

Please ensure that pupils take their scooters and bikes home at the end of the school day. If these items are not collected, we will store them inside the school overnight to keep them safe and protect them from any potential damage.

It's wonderful to see so many pupils using active travel methods to get to school. We hope that as the warmer summer months approach, even more pupils will choose to cycle, scoot, or walk to school.



Woodlands' Got Talent



We're excited to announce that *Woodlands Got Talent* will take place this June — a talent show open to all pupils from both the school and nursery. Pupils will initially take part in class heats, with winners from each class moving on to the grand final.

The whole school will come together to enjoy the final event, where the overall winner will be chosen by a panel of judges.

This is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the wide range of talents within our school community — from singing and gymnastics to football skills, magic tricks, and more! Please encourage your child to get involved and support them to practise at home.

The judging panel will include staff members and special guest judges, making the final even more exciting for the pupils.

This idea for this event came from a group of Primary 6 pupils, and we're proud to see them taking on a leadership role in helping to bring it to life.

Mobile Phones in School

Mobile phones are not required in school, and we encourage pupils to leave them at home. However, if you feel it is necessary for your child to bring a phone — for example, for safety when travelling to or from school — it must remain switched off and kept in their school bag throughout the school day.

This policy is in place to minimise distractions during learning time, protect pupil privacy, and support a focused and respectful learning environment. It also helps reduce the risk of loss or damage.

We appreciate your support in reinforcing this message with your child



Promoting Positive Relationships

Since arriving at Woodlands, I have been working closely with all stakeholders to improve behaviour and promote positive relationships within our school community. It has been wonderful to witness the improvements already in such a short period of time, and I'm excited about the progress we are making together.



In addition to this, we have been working with Brian Donnelly, a behaviour specialist, who has been a fantastic support to both pupils and staff. Brian has shared his extensive knowledge and expertise with us, and his work has been incredibly positive. He has enjoyed working with us on Tuesday afternoons, helping to build stronger connections and offer valuable guidance to pupils, staff, and families.

Looking ahead, we are pleased to announce that next session, Brian will be in school for a full day on Tuesdays. He will continue to provide support and work closely with pupils, staff, and families, further enhancing our school's positive atmosphere and nurturing environment.

We are excited about these ongoing improvements and the positive impact they are having on our school community.

Staffing

It's fantastic to see so many staff members returning to work over the past few weeks, bringing even more positive energy to our school:

- Mrs. Dainert has returned and is now supporting pupils in P3.
- Mrs. Hewitson is working in P2 alongside Mrs. Brewer until she goes on maternity leave, after which she will take over the class full-time.
- Mr. Stevenson will be returning in two weeks.
- Marion Kerr, our new Senior Early Years Practitioner (EYP), has started and has already made positive changes in our Early Years Class.
- Miss Izzard has joined us as an EYP in the Early Years Class.
- Mrs. Strachan has started as a Pupil Support Assistant, supporting upper primary classes.
- Mrs Stephen has returned and will be working across the school in her role as Principal Teacher.
- Mrs. Lennox has also returned and will primarily be working in P6B/L.

These are wonderful developments and fantastic news for the school as we continue to strengthen our team and provide even better support for our pupils.



EYC Section

We're excited to welcome new staff to the EYC team! Shannon Izzard and Marion Kerr, our new Senior, have settled in wonderfully and are already creating fantastic experiences for the children.

The children have been busy preparing for their graduation, showcasing some amazing singing and dancing skills! Transition activities are also well underway and will continue over the coming weeks. A letter with more detailed information will be sent out this week.

In our current IDL, the children are learning about life cycles and have taken a particular interest in sea monkeys, which has sparked lots of curiosity and discussion.

As the weather gets warmer, please remember to apply sun lotion to your child before nursery and ensure they are dressed appropriately for the heat.

We've also been working on developing our environment and refining our processes and procedures to ensure we're delivering the best possible service. These changes are already having a positive impact, which is great to see.



Please see below a copy of the EYC to P1 Transition Programme:

Tuesday 13th May	3.15p.m. to 4.15p.m.	Visit to Primary 1 and Information Presentation
<p>Your child, accompanied by a parent or carer, is invited to explore the infant classrooms and open area, and participate in a variety of play-based activities. Once the children are comfortable, parents and carers will be invited to attend an Information Presentation with Mr Wilson, which will outline the procedures for starting school and provide an opportunity to ask any questions. A Transition Pack will also be distributed at this time.</p>		
Monday 19 th May	10a.m OR 1.30p.m.	Sports Day
<p>Sports Day will take place at The Circuit (K A Leisure), Irvine. The morning session for EYC and Primaries 1 - 3 will begin at 10a.m. and our afternoon session for EYC and Primaries 4 - 7 will begin at 1.30p.m. If your child attends another Early Years Class, we would love for you both to come along and join us at one of the sessions.</p>		
Wednesday 28 th May	11.30a.m. to 12.15p.m.	School Lunch Taster
<p>Your child, accompanied by an adult, will have the opportunity to visit our dining hall. Our new Primary 1 pupils can enjoy a complimentary school meal as part of the experience. Please note that meals will not be available for accompanying adults. Some of our current Primary 6 pupils—soon to be Primary 7—will also be on hand to support the children in their role as lunch hall 'buddies'.</p>		
Thursday 5 th June	9.15a.m. to 10.00a.m.	Teddy Bears' Picnic
<p>Your child and their favourite teddy are invited to join in our 'Teddy Bears' Picnic' themed activities, which will take place in the gym hall or outdoors, weather permitting. A small snack will be provided during the session. Please ensure the school is informed of any dietary requirements or allergies in advance.</p>		
Thursday 12 th June	9.15a.m. to 10.15a.m.	Bump Up Morning
<p>Your child will work with their new teacher and other children in their class for a range of 'getting to know me' activities. As part of the session, the children will also spend time in the playground with their senior buddies.</p>		

Diary Dates:

Please find dates attached from now until the end of term, we will update you with any changes or new dates in the next newsletter, in the meantime please get in touch if there is anything you wish to discuss.

Thank you for your continued support.

In partnership,

*Mr Wilson
Head Teacher*

May/June 2025	
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday (children not in school)
Tuesday 6 th May	P7 Trip – Blair Drummond
Wednesday 7 th May	Music Play Away Day at Dalry Primary
Thursday 8 th May	Irvine Royal Challenge Day P7
Thursday 8 th May	P4 trip to the science centre
Tuesday 13 th May	EYC-P1 Transition Day 1
Tuesday 13 th May	EYC-P1 Transition day 1
Monday 19 th May	School Sports Day
Thursday 15 th May	P7 Athletics Event at St Matthews (8 pupils)
Thursday 15 th May	P3 Trip to Amazonia
Monday 19 th May	Sports Day held at the Circuit
Tuesday 20 th May	Transition Day St Matthews Acad
Wednesday 21 st May	Transition Day St Matthews Acad
Thursday 22 nd May	Irvine Royal Challenge Day P7
Friday 23 rd May	In-service day for staff (children not in school)
Monday 26 th May	Bank Holiday (Children not in school)
Tuesday 27 th May	Irvine Royal Challenge Day P7
Tuesday 27 th May	P6 Trip to 'The Garage'
Wednesday 28 th May	EYC-P1 Transition day Lunch 11:30am
Wednesday 28 th May	Irvine Royal Bump Up Day P7
Thursday 29 th May	Irvine Royal Bump Up Day P7
Thursday 29 th May	P1 Trip to Kelburn
Thursday 29 th May	Summer Fete – Whole school community 3-6pm
Tuesday 3 rd June	P5S Trip to Dundonald Castle
Tuesday 3 rd June	P7 Stay and Play 2pm

Thursday 5 th June	P2 Trip Science Centre
Thursday 5 th June	EYC-P1 Transition Teddy Bears Picnic
Friday 6 th June	Music Showcase 1:30pm
Tuesday 10 th June	P5p Trip to Dundonald Castle
Wednesday 11 th June	P7 Bump up to Greenwood & Marr
Thursday 12 th June	P7 Bump up to Greenwood
Thursday 12 th June	EYC-P1 Transition Event
Thursday 12 th June	Woodlands Primary Bump Up Afternoon
Friday 13 th June	Pupil Reports to Parents
Monday 16 th June	P7 Colour Splash Leavers Event
Thursday 19 th June	P7 Leavers Assembly and Prize Giving
Thursday 19 th June	P7 Leavers Disco at Pictures Night Club 6pm
Monday 23 rd June	P1-P6 Prize Giving
Wednesday 25 th June	P7 v Staff Dodgeball 3:15pm
Thursday 26 th June	House Winners and Russell Rewards End of Year Treat
Friday 27 th June	School Closes at 1pm for the Summer break

