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WOODLANDS PRIMARY & EYC

November
2025
Newsletter



Teamwork

Effort

Kindness

Dear Parent/Carer,

It's been another busy and exciting month here at Woodlands Primary!

Our P7 pupils have been hard at work on their Enterprise project, showing fantastic creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills. We're so proud of their enthusiasm and the brilliant ideas they're developing and they can't wait to welcome the whole school community on the 3rd of December for the Woodlands Christmas Market.

We also enjoyed an amazing Halloween Disco, a huge thank you to our wonderful PTA for organising such a fantastic event for everyone. The children were brilliant, their costumes were spooktacular, and it was lovely to see so many happy faces having fun together.

As we move through November, we're already starting to feel the excitement of the festive season. The lead-up to Christmas is always a magical time in a primary school, filled with joy, creativity, and special moments. We can't wait to share all the upcoming celebrations and learning experiences with you.

Don't forget, you can keep up to date with what's happening across the school by following us on Twitter/X – we regularly share updates, achievements, and snapshots of learning in action.

We'll also be reaching out to parents soon with a short survey about creating a closed Facebook group. This would give us another safe and positive way to share our pupils' learning and achievements with families and our school community. Your feedback will be really important in helping us decide the best way forward.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Woodlands is such a special place to learn and grow because of our amazing pupils, dedicated staff, and wonderful families.

Here's to another great month and as always, should you have any concerns, questions, or successes you would like to share, please feel free to contact me directly at:

gordonwilson@ea365.n-ayrshire.sch.uk

In Partnership,

Mr Wilson

Head Teacher

Attendance

Attendance so far this session:

- P1 – 91.3%
- P2- 92.4%
- P3- 92.0%
- P4- 90.8%
- P5- 91.8%
- P6- 91.2%
- P7- 87.5%



Did you know that 90% attendance is not as good as it sounds? If a child has 90% attendance by the end of S3, they will have effectively missed a whole year of school.

Every day a child misses school can take roughly a week to catch up. If gaps in learning aren't fully addressed, this can start to affect both attainment and self-esteem.

We know that maintaining good attendance can be challenging at times, and we really appreciate your ongoing support in helping your child attend school regularly and make the most of their learning opportunities.

Nativity

Join us on Wednesday, 10th December, for the P1-P2 Nativity performance at 9:45am or 1:45pm! Our youngest pupils will have been working hard to bring the story of the Nativity to life with charming costumes, heartfelt songs, and lots of holiday spirit. It's a wonderful way to celebrate the season together and support our little stars. We look forward to seeing you there and more detailed information will be send out later this month.



Writing at Woodlands!



As part of our school improvement plan, all classes are focusing on developing and strengthening writing skills across the curriculum. Children are exploring how different text types are structured and learning about the language features that make each one effective. They are also building confidence in how to plan, write, and edit a range of texts, taking pride in their progress and creativity.

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To further support this important work, we are providing additional staffing during pupils' writing slots. This allows for more targeted support, smaller group work, and personalised feedback, helping every child to develop their writing skills at their own pace.

At home, you can help by reading a variety of texts together and chatting about what your child is writing in class — even a short conversation can make a big difference.

Together, we can help our children become confident, creative writers who take pride in their work.



Afterschool and Breakfast Clubs:



We are delighted to say that our breakfast, lunchtime and afterschool school clubs are now up and running, and it's wonderful to see the children enjoying and benefitting from them! From football, netball, and multisports to chess, board games, art, dance, and choir, pupils are developing new skills, growing in confidence, and building great friendships. We're also delighted to have Active Schools offering fun games and activities during Breakfast Club, giving children an energetic start to their day.

In addition, our P6 pupils have taken on exciting leadership roles, helping to develop and lead playground games for younger children to enjoy. It's fantastic to see so many pupils engaged, active, and thriving through these opportunities across our school community.

Welcoming Our Student Teachers and Work Experience Pupils!

This term, we are delighted to welcome several student teachers from university who have joined us to complete their teaching placements. They are working closely with our staff, leading lessons, and bringing fresh ideas and enthusiasm into our classrooms. It's been wonderful to see them grow in confidence as they gain hands-on experience in teaching and learning.

We are also pleased to have secondary school pupils completing their work experience placements with us. They have been supporting in various classes, learning what it's like to work in a school environment. Our pupils and staff have enjoyed showing them the ropes and helping them explore future career possibilities.

We're proud to be a school that supports the next generation of teachers and professionals — and we thank everyone for making our visitors feel so welcome!

Supporting Numeracy in the Attainment Zone

This term, pupils have been receiving extra support with their numeracy skills in the Attainment Zone. Our Targeted Support Teacher and Pupil Support Assistants have been working closely

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with learners to build confidence, strengthen key number skills, and develop a positive attitude towards maths.

Through small group sessions, pupils have been practising strategies to help them understand and apply numeracy. The team has also been providing tailored resources and encouragement to help every pupil make steady progress at their own pace.

We are delighted with the hard work and commitment shown by all our pupils, and we thank our dedicated staff for creating such a supportive and engaging learning environment.

Christmas Time at Woodlands

The festive season is one of the most special times of the year at Woodlands Primary, and we're thrilled to have lots of exciting events planned for our pupils and families. Each class will be celebrating with their own Christmas party, filled with games, music, and festive treats. We're also looking forward to our whole-school trip to the cinema, which is always a highlight and a lovely way to celebrate together before the holidays.



During the month of December all pupils will be allowed to wear something Christmas related every Friday if they wish.

Our Primary 1 and 2 pupils are busy rehearsing for this year's Nativity performance, which promises to be heart-warming and full of festive spirit which will be held on Wednesday 10th December. Our P3-P7 pupils are about to start preparing a brilliant Christmas Concert to showcase their singing and performance skills which will be held on Wednesday 17th December.

More specific information on times will be sent out later this month to allow families to prepare.

Parents Evening/ Learning Conversations November 2025/2026

This session there will be two written reports and two Learning Conversations with you, your child and the Class Teacher. This is an increase on previous years. We wish all children to attend the meetings to have their say.

The first of the written reports is an interim report. This will give you an indication of how your child has settled in their new class, how they are learning and their effort in class. **You will receive this report on Friday 7th November.**

Learning Conversations will be on Wednesday 26th November appointments will be allocated and given out to families next week.



Remember, if you have a question about your child's wellbeing or learning at any time please make an appointment to talk to their Class Teacher, or the Senior Leadership Team.

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Diary Dates:

Please see diary dates from November to end of December. 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
Woodlands Primary School and EYC

DIARY DATES

November/December 2025	
Wednesday 5 th Nov	Brain Donnelly Parent Workshop
Friday 7 th Nov	Interim Reports Sent to Parents
Friday 7 th Nov	Dress down day for staff and pupils (Bring Chocolate)
Monday 10 th Nov	P1 Registration Opens today (2 weeks)
Monday 17 th Nov	Woodlands Commonwealth Baton Day – letter to follow
Tuesday 18 th Nov	Childsmile in today
Wednesday 19 th Nov	Childsmile in today
Thursday 20 th Nov	Dress down day for staff and pupils (Bring a Bottle)
Friday 21 st and Mon 24 th Nov	November Weekend (children and staff holiday)
Tuesday 25 th Nov	Staff In-service Day (children on holiday)
Wed 26 th Nov	Parents Evening/Learning Conversations Evening
Wednesday 3 rd Dec	Woodlands Christmas Market 3:15pm.
Monday 8 th Dec	Christmas Parties (over 2 weeks) – more info to follow
Wednesday 10 th Dec	P1-P2 Nativity Performance
Thursday 11 th Dec	Christmas Lunch
Tuesday 16 th Dec	Whole School Cinema Day (Ayr Cinema)
Wednesday 17 th Dec	P3-P7 Christmas Concert
Friday 19 th Dec	Last day of school for the Christmas Break
Monday 5 th Jan	Pupils and Staff return to school