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WOODLANDS PRIMARY & EYC

**February
2026
Newsletter**



Teamwork

Effort

Kindness

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to our February newsletter. It has been another incredibly busy and positive time across the school, and I continue to be proud of the fantastic progress our pupils are making every day. Classrooms are full of energy, creativity and high-quality learning, with staff and pupils working together to build confidence, independence and a real love of learning.

We have enjoyed a wide range of opportunities this month, from outdoor learning and pupil leadership groups to wider achievement activities that help our children develop important life skills. Our focus on improving learning, teaching and assessment continues to have a positive impact, and it is wonderful to see pupils taking pride in their work and supporting one another. Behaviour, respect and our strong school ethos remain clear strengths, and visitors regularly comment on the welcoming atmosphere within our school community.

Thank you to our families and partners for your ongoing support, it really makes a difference. As we move into the next part of the term, we look forward to more exciting learning experiences and continuing to work together to help every child achieve their very best.

We look forward to working in partnership with you as always.

Warm regards,
Mr Wilson

Head Teacher



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Attendance

Good attendance plays a vital role in helping children feel settled, confident and successful at school. While we have seen some improvement, we still have a number of pupils whose attendance is below 90%. Missing school regularly can have a real impact on learning, wellbeing and friendships, making it harder for children to keep up with their work and feel fully connected to their class. We understand that there can be challenges at times and we are here to support families. By working together to improve attendance and maintain strong routines, we can help every child enjoy school, build positive relationships and achieve their full potential.



Playground Committee

The Playground Committee have been working incredibly hard to gather the views of all pupils, carrying out a survey to find out what would make break and lunchtimes more enjoyable for everyone. Thanks to a generous budget from the Parent Council, we will now be working together to source new equipment such as football and handball goals, reading dens, and other exciting resources to support active and creative play. At Woodlands, we are proud to promote strong pupil leadership, and it is fantastic to see the enthusiasm, responsibility, and teamwork shown by this group. Their efforts are already making a real difference, and it is clear that the work of the Playground Committee will have a very positive impact across the whole school community.

P7 Arran Residential

Arran Residential was an amazing experience from start to finish. The pupils were exceptionally well behaved and fully engaged in every activity throughout the trip. Staff at the Arran Outdoor Centre spoke very highly of them, commenting on their positive attitudes, teamwork, and willingness to challenge themselves. From canoeing and hillwalking to orienteering, the pupils took everything in their stride and showed real determination and resilience. They developed a wide range of essential life skills, from communication and problem-solving to independence and responsibility. Even bed making became a learning experience; proof that survival skills don't always involve mountains and maps! These are skills that will stay with them for a lifetime, both in and out of the classroom. Overall, the trip was a huge success and a credit to the pupils, who represented the school brilliantly and made the most of every opportunity.



Learning Conversations

The second of our two Learning Conversations will take place on **Wednesday 1st April** with you, your child, and their Class Teacher. We encourage all children to attend so they can share their thoughts and be fully involved in the discussion. Further information will follow soon.

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We will be trialling a new online booking system for this event and hope this will make it easier for families to select appointment times that suit their schedules. Attending these meetings gives us a valuable opportunity to celebrate strengths, discuss areas for development, and work together to support your child's progress and wellbeing.

Please remember, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning or wellbeing at any time, you are very welcome to arrange an appointment with their Class Teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Learning Café Session 2

Our next Learning Café will take place on **Thursday 19th February 2026**. Our first session was a great success, with a fantastic turnout from parents and carers, thank you to everyone who attended.

This session will focus on Literacy, giving you the opportunity to visit your child's class, speak with their teacher, look through jotters, and take part in a learning activity alongside your child.



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Who is invited?

Parents, carers, grandparents - everyone is welcome! However, due to space and capacity limits, we kindly ask that, where possible, only one adult attends each session.

For health and safety reasons, prams and buggies are not permitted in classrooms but can be safely left in the gym hall

Time:

We are splitting the afternoon into 2 sessions in order to reduce the number of people in each class at any one time which should help the sessions run smoothly.

Therefore we are arranging session alphabetically by surname.

- 1st session 1.45-2:15pm - families with surnames starting with A through to M
- 2nd session 2:20 - 2:50pm - families with surnames starting with N through to Z

If you have more than one child at Woodlands, please select different sessions for each child to ensure you can enjoy quality time with them individually.

We look forward to welcoming you into school and sharing your child's learning journey with you!

Pick Up times:

Ensuring pupils are in school for their full allocated time really helps them make the most of their learning and keeps routines consistent for everyone. We completely understand that some families may need to arrange appointments towards the end of the day, and we always want to support where possible. Recently, however, we have noticed an increase in pupils being collected early. If you can, we would kindly ask that early collections are kept to a minimum, as leaving early can disrupt both your child's learning and the wider class. We really appreciate your ongoing support and understanding as we work together to give all pupils the best possible learning experience.

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Clubs:

This term we are excited to offer a wide range of after-school clubs including football, netball, LEGO, gymnastics and badminton, with a mindfulness club coming soon. Our Sports Committee has been working hard on an action plan, gathering evidence as we work towards achieving the SportScotland Award. Now that our P6 pupils have received their training, we are looking forward to seeing them support and lead games and activities for younger children in the playground. We encourage all pupils to get involved, stay active and enjoy moving every day to support their physical health and mental wellbeing. A big thank you to our senior pupils who have helped support the gymnastics after-school club – your enthusiasm and leadership are greatly appreciated!



Trio Visit Feedback

The recent TRIO visit was extremely positive and highlighted the significant progress our school has made. The team recognised a very strong and respectful culture, ethos, with a huge improvement in positive behaviour across the school community. We were very pleased to receive a strong "Good" grading for Quality Indicator 2.3 - Learning, Teaching and Assessment - reflecting the consistent hard work and dedication shown over the past 12 months. Staff and pupils have worked incredibly hard, and I am very proud of the progress we continue to make together.

The team praised our clear focus on assessment, targeted support, raising attainment, and effective tracking of pupil progress. They also commented on how confidently pupils spoke about their learning and their strong understanding of the wider life of the school. Visitors, including Head Teachers and Depute Head Teachers, were very impressed by the welcoming atmosphere and the professionalism of both staff and pupils. Overall, the visit recognised a school that is moving forward with confidence and a shared commitment to improvement. We look forward to the Authority Review at the beginning of March which will focus on 2.3 (Learning, Teaching and Assessment) and 3.1 (Wellbeing, Inclusion and Equality).

Diary Dates:

Please see diary dates from now till the end of March. 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

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February - April 2026	
Tuesday 3 rd February	Woodlands Trio visit with Elderbank and Castlepark Schools
Wednesday 4 th February	EYC Registration Opens
Friday 6 th , Monday 9 th & Tuesday 10 th February	School Holiday
Thursday 19 th February	Learning Café - Parents/Carers chance to visit their child(ren) in classes.
Thursday 19 th February	Parent/Carers Survey to be sent out
Friday 20 th February	World Thinking Day (Sunday 22 nd February) - Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs & Scouts. If your child attends either of these organisations including Sunbeams, Rainbows, Boys' Brigade etc they can all wear their uniforms on this special day.
Tue 3 rd and Wed 4 th March	North Ayrshire School Review
Thursday 5 th March	World Book Day 2026 (info to follow as the Reading for Engagement Committee plan this day)
Friday 20 th March	Class Newsletters to Parents/Carers
30 th March to 3 rd April	World of Work Week - Whole School
Wednesday 1 st April	Learning Conversations (Parents Evening)
Friday 3 rd April to Monday 20th April	School stops at 2.30pm for School Easter Holidays
Monday 20 th April	Pupils and Staff return to School