

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

September
2026
Newsletter



Teamwork

Effort

Kindness

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your family have enjoyed a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday. I hope everyone has had the chance to rest, make memories, and return refreshed for the new school year.

It has been wonderful to welcome our pupils back to Woodlands Primary School and Early Years Class. The children have returned with enthusiasm and have settled into their new classes exceptionally well. We are already seeing a positive, calm, and purposeful atmosphere throughout the school, and I'm incredibly proud of how well everyone has embraced the start of the session.

We have an exciting year ahead, with lots of opportunities for our children to learn, achieve, and thrive. Over the coming months, we'll continue to build on the many improvements across our school, and we look forward to sharing these developments with you.

A special welcome goes to our new Primary 1 pupils and the children who have joined our Early Years Class and from nurseries across different authorities. They have made a fantastic start, and it has been lovely seeing them become part of the Woodlands family so quickly.

Important Reminders:

Please return the following forms as soon as possible if you have not already done so:

- Data Check Form
- Photo Permission Form
- ICT Acceptable Use Agreement
- P1-P3 Collection Arrangements

I would also appreciate your support by ensuring that all clothing, shoes, water bottles, lunch boxes, and other belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name. This makes it much easier for lost items to be returned.

Please take a few minutes to read our September Newsletter, which contains important dates and information about the weeks ahead. As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or something positive you would like to share, please don't hesitate to get in touch. I can be contacted directly at gordonwilson@ea365.n-ayrshire.sch.uk

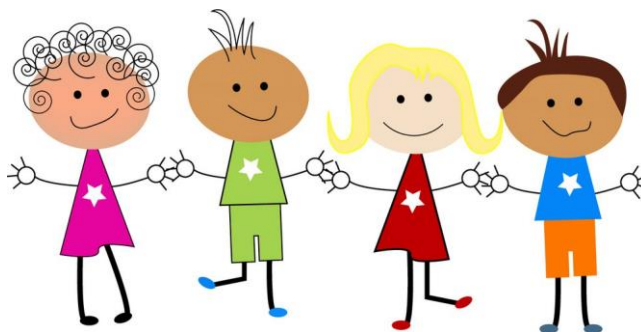
Thank you for your continued support. I'm looking forward to another successful year working together.

Kind regards,
Mr Gordon Wilson
Head Teacher

Raising Attainment for Every Child

This year, we are continuing our strong focus on raising attainment and ensuring every child is supported, challenged and encouraged to achieve their very best.

Our Attainment Zone will return following the fantastic success of last session. The progress made by the children was incredible, with many pupils making significant gains in literacy and numeracy through targeted support.



We will also continue to provide our Stepping Stones and Retreat rooms, which offer personalised support for children who benefit from additional nurture, regulation and tailored learning opportunities. These spaces had a hugely positive impact last year and remain an important part of our commitment to Getting It Right for Every Child.

Across the school, our Pupil Support Assistants will deliver a range of targeted interventions in literacy, numeracy and wellbeing. If your child is selected to take part in any of these programmes, a member of our team will contact you with further information.

We are excited to build on last year's success and help every learner flourish throughout the year.

PE Days

PE will be on the following day(s) for classes and each child will have access to 2 hours of quality PE each week.

Stepping Stones	Tuesday
P1S	Wednesday and Friday
P1C	Wednesday and Friday
P1/2Y	Monday and Thursday
P2T	Monday and Wednesday
P3G	Tuesday and Friday
P3S	Tuesday and Friday
P4G	Monday and Wednesday
P4P	Monday and Friday
P5B	Tuesday and Thursday
P5B/B	Tuesday and Thursday
P6O	Monday and Thursday
P6G	Monday and Wednesday
P7C	Wednesday and Friday
P7M	Tuesday and Thursday

Physical Education - PE Kits Reminder

Teamwork

Effort

Kindness

Please ensure your child comes to school with their full PE kit on their allocated PE days, including suitable trainers. Having the correct clothing and footwear allows all pupils to take part safely and fully in the wide range of active lessons planned throughout the year. We recommend that PE kits are kept in school during the week so they are always available when needed.

For health and safety reasons, pupils who wear earrings must either remove them before PE or, if they cannot be removed, arrive at school with them covered using micropore tape.

Thank you for your support in helping us keep PE safe, active and enjoyable for every child

Parent Council

We Need You! Join Our Parent Council & PTA

We're looking to grow our Parent Council and PTA this year, and we'd love to see some new faces.

The good news is that you don't need to volunteer for anything, simply come along, enjoy a tea or coffee, and share your ideas, opinions and suggestions. Our meetings are informal, friendly, last around one hour, and we only meet a few times across the school year.

Your voice really does make a difference. Whether it's suggesting ideas for school events, giving feedback, or helping shape improvements for our children, every parent and carer has something valuable to contribute.

AGM Invitation

Wednesday 9th September | 3:15pm
Woodlands Primary School

Tea, coffee and doughnuts will be provided!



Healthy Snacks

We are noticing that quite a lot of our pupils are coming to school with 2 or more unhealthy snacks per day including share size bags of Doritos, full bags of Haribo etc. As a health promoting school we really



Teamwork

Effort

Kindness

want to try and promote healthy eating to all pupils. Healthy snacks help manage kids' hunger and boost nutrition.

The best snacks are low in sugar, fat, and salt. Fresh fruit, low-fat dairy, and protein foods are always good choices. An occasional treat is fine, but please try to give pupils a healthy snack option most of the time. For some fun ideas you can make with your child please click on the link below:

Healthier snacks - Food facts - Healthier Families - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

School Improvement

This year our school has 3 main priorities:

- Priority 1: Improving learning outcomes for all through a consistent phonics and reading programme - North Ayrshire Reads.
- Priority 2: Enrich the quality of learning experiences and raise attainment through improved and consistent pedagogy.
- Priority 3: Improve attendance and strengthen positive relationships across the school community through the continued development and consistent application of the New Authority relationships approach.

Please find a copy of our School Improvement Plan and our Standards and Quality report on our school website to see a more in depth view of how we will achieve these priorities and our evaluation of achievements from last session. [Woodlands Primary and Early Years](#)

Disabled Parking Reminder

The ongoing issue with parking at Woodlands continues to be a concern. Please follow the guidance issued last year and only park in the designated disabled bays if you have a valid Blue Badge. We have people who genuinely require these spaces, and it is essential that they have the opportunity to park safely and access the building.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Breakfast Club

Start the Day Right - Join Our Breakfast Club!

Teamwork

Effort

Kindness

Just a reminder that we have an **amazing Breakfast Club** here at Woodlands and we're pleased to say it will be running again this session. A healthy breakfast is so important for children. It helps them start the day with energy, focus, and a positive mindset - all of which support better learning and wellbeing.

Our Breakfast Club is **completely free** and open to all pupils. If you haven't already, we'd love you to sign your child up and give them the best start to their day. Please pop into the school office for sign up forms and more information.

Learning Café Sessions

Following the really positive feedback we received last year, our Learning Café Sessions will be running again this year!

Our first session will take place on: **Friday 18th September**.



shutterstock.com · 1959827884

Who is invited?

Parents, carers, grandparents - everyone is welcome!

Due to space and capacity limits, we kindly ask that, where possible, only one adult attends each session. Don't worry - there will be plenty of opportunities to attend throughout the year!

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

More detailed information, including session times and future dates, will be shared in a letter next week.

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

Apply for Footwear, Clothing and Free School Meals

North Ayrshire Council provides support/money for families of pupils attending school. They provide free school meals and £136 per child worth of footwear and clothing support for parents who receive certain benefits. Please click on the link to see if you are eligible. It is a great way to save yourself some money. Link: [Free school meals, clothing grants](#)

School Uniform/ Free Uniform Station

Teamwork

Effort

Kindness

We are incredibly grateful to all of our parents and carers for the fantastic support you've shown in ensuring **all** children wear their Woodlands Primary school uniform. Seeing our pupils looking so smart creates a real sense of belonging, pride and equality across our school community.

At Woodlands, I firmly believe **that it should never cost anything to come to our school**. That's why we're continuing to grow our free school uniform rewear scheme.

The Parent Council is delighted to accept any clean, good-quality school uniform that your child has outgrown. Donated items will be washed, sorted and made available completely free of charge for other Woodlands families.

If you have any rewearable uniform at home, simply hand it into the school office—we'll take care of the rest.

Need Uniform?

Thanks to the incredible efforts of our Parent Council over the summer, we have a fantastic stock of washed, bagged and labelled uniform ready for families. Please come along and help yourself to anything you need, there is no cost and no questions asked.

The only thing we ask is that all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name so we can return items if they are misplaced.

Thank you for helping us make Woodlands a school where every child feels included, valued and proud to belong.

Parents Portal

We are delighted to let parents and carers know that, from the start of this new school year, our authority will be using [Parentsportal.scot](https://parentsportal.scot), a new digital service designed to improve communication between schools and families. [Parentsportal.scot](https://parentsportal.scot) will help replace the traditional "school bag run" by providing direct access to a growing range of online services in one convenient place. Through the portal, parents and carers will be able to grant permissions for school trips, view their child's attendance, complete annual data checks, and manage photo and IT permissions.

Once your child(ren) have been linked to our school, you will begin to receive communications from us through [Parentsportal.scot](https://parentsportal.scot). Over time, the portal will become your one-stop shop for everything relating to your child and the school. We have had a wonderful response with most of our parents/cares now signed up, thank you so much, if you experience any difficulties signing in to [Parentsportal.scot](https://parentsportal.scot) or accessing your account, please contact the school office, where our staff will be happy to assist you.

A Gentle Reminder About Early Pick-Ups

We understand that there are times when children need to be collected early, particularly for appointments, and of course this is not a concern when it is necessary.

However, we are noticing an increasing number of children being collected regularly quite early in the afternoon. Where possible, we would really appreciate families keeping early pick-ups to a minimum.

The afternoon is an important part of the children's day, with valuable learning opportunities, activities and, importantly, time to play and build friendships with their friends. When children are regularly collected early, they can miss out on these experiences.

We completely understand that appointments and other unavoidable commitments happen, and we are not asking families to worry about these occasions. We simply ask that, where it is possible, children remain with us for the full afternoon so they can make the most of their time at school.

Diary Dates:

Please see diary dates from September through to the October Holidays. 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

September/October 2026	
Wednesday 2 nd September	P3 - Musical Orchestra Trip
Friday 4 th September	Class Newsletters sent to Parents/Carers
Thursday 17 th September	P6 Trip to Science Centre (Space)
Friday 18 th September	Learning Café 1 - Meet the Teacher
Monday 21 st September	Staff In-service day - No pupils in school on this day
Thursday 24 th September	North Ayrshire Reads Parent Session
Monday 12 th October	Start of October Holiday Break

Teamwork

Effort

Kindness