



Woodlands' Newsletter "3"

2nd October 2026



If you have any questions or concerns please contact your child's class teacher via the office.

If you have a whole school question or concern, please contact Mr Baker via the office.

Contact us : office@woodlands.staffs.sch.uk

Telephone : 01827 429020 [office open 8.00am–4.00pm]

Breakfast club bookings: bc@woodlands.staffs.sch.uk

School Website

www.woodlands.staffs.sch.uk

Whole School Attendance (This year so far): 96.92%

Winning Team attendance (This year so far): Offa 96.61%

Well done to our WOW Workers - see the PowerPoint on the website

Class	25.09.26	02.10.26	Class	25.09.26	02.10.26
<u>Ash</u>	The whole class		<u>Elm</u>	Ekam	Theo
<u>Oak</u>	Finlay	Delilah-Rae	<u>Redwood</u>	George	Parker
<u>Pine</u>	Shay C	Jack	<u>Chestnut</u>	Jenson	Florrie
<u>Birch</u>	Paisley	Teddy	<u>Aspen</u>	Matthew	Darcey

Don't forget
parents'
evening!

Monday 5th October OPEN EVENING

On Monday the school doors will be open from 3:25pm to 4:30pm to enable families to visit their child's class, look at the environment, books and have a chat with their teacher. If you need to discuss a specific issue please contact the office to make an appointment as Monday will be an 'open class'.

The teachers will also hand out copies of 'Year End Expectations'.

These are leaflets that tell parents what each child should know by the end of their year in school.

This is what the teacher uses to ensure they have taught everything the child needs. If a child cannot do these things, school will put in extra support to help the child. We ask all families to look at the leaflet and help their child/ren learn the Age Related Skills and Knowledge.

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to ask

HELP NEEDED

Can you or the company where you work help? Can you get access to cheaper resources or free materials? Does your work offer 'charity days' where they help in the community?

If you can answer yes to any of these- please contact Mr Baker



3:15 pm Snack+Drink

3:45 pm Activities

Mon - Bikes+Scooters

Tues - Mindful activities+colouring

Wed - Lego+Construction

Thurs - Arts+crafts

Fri - Games+puzzles

4:30 pm Outdoor Play
(weather permitting)

Staff - Miss Barton and Mrs Perks



07387014751

weekdays 3:15 pm onwards only



The school now runs wraparound care from 7:45am to 5:30pm.

- Early birds (Breakfast club) runs from 7:45am—8:35am costing £3.50 per child, £2 siblings.
- Owls (After school club) Short session 3:20pm- 4:30pm costs £5.

Extended session
3:20pm- 5:30pm costs £10.

The first few weeks have been a great success and the Wraparound leaders are warm, welcoming and caring.

The children who have attended have said;

"it's fun"

"it's calm"

"it's the funnest thing about school"

"I love the snacks"

We still have spaces so why not book a session to give it a trial?

The children build friendships and confidence as they play with children from across the school.

Our wraparound care is booked via the Arbor app.



Stir Caterers

Community Academies Trust have changed the school caterers- we now have a company called STIR. Over the next few weeks we will see some changes in School Dinners, already the quality of the food has improved with is being cooked fresh with lots more fresh food in the ingredients.

After October half term we will introduce the online booking service through the Arbor app for you to select what meal your child eats each day.

more information will follow on how to do this.

If you have any comments or concerns about dinners please contact: info@stirfood.co.uk

Elm

Sadly Mrs Shipley Smith is still unwell and unable to teach Elm class. We had hoped that she would return soon and so have covered with staff that the children know. We now know that Mrs Shipley-Smith will be off work for a longer period and so have employed a more long term member of staff to teach in Elm until Mrs Shipley-Smiths' return.

Bikes & Scooters

School gates open at 8:35am so please ensure children do not arrive too early before this time. We have received several reports of children riding bikes and scooters dangerously around the front of the school. Please speak with your children about safety, and please be extra careful during drop-off and pick-up times.

Key dates

Monday 5th October—Open evening 3:20pm—4:30pm

Tuesday 13th October—Reception 2027 starter open evening 4-5pm

Wednesday 14th October—Ingestre Hall Parent Meeting 3:30pm

Friday 16th October—Year 1 WOLF Day

Monday 19th October—NHS Flu Immunisations

Wednesday 21st October—Halloween Disco & Pumpkin decorating competition (Non-Uniform)

Thursday 22nd—Friday 23rd October—INSET DAY School CLOSED

Monday 26th October—Friday 30th October—Half Term School CLOSED

Saturday 31st October—High school application closes

Monday 2nd November—School re-opens

Break the Rules Day

Break the Rules Day has been a huge success with our children! They thoroughly enjoyed the chance to break the rules and truly excelled at showing off their creative sides.

Thanks to your fantastic participation and generous donations, we are thrilled to announce that we managed to raise £176 for our PTA. Every penny raised goes directly towards purchasing new resources to enrich our school and support our student learning.

Thank you for your continued support and for making this day both fun and impactful. We look forward to our next PTA event—The Halloween Disco & Pumpkin Decorating competition on Wednesday 21st October!

Attendance

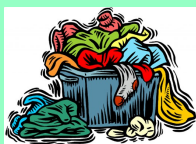
We have started the year with good attendance- this means that the children are IN school, learning, making friends and learning new routines in their new class and year group, an essential part of success in school.

We have been asked by the Government and Local Authority to remind families that we can only authorise absence from school for **very specific or exceptional circumstances**. School attendance is monitored very closely by our Governors, our Trust, our Local Authority and the Government.

All unauthorised absence is recorded and reported to the Local Authority. This may lead to a fixed penalty notice.

School Uniform

Please help your child by putting their name in their clothes and on their drinks bottle. We are trying to reduce the amount of lost property wasted. We already have a pile of unlabelled clothing in our lost property box after just 4 weeks.



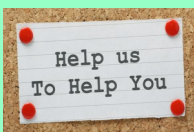
Notes from the Office

Arbor Pay—Please ensure you have credits in your account before taking items such as Dinners and Breakfast Club/ Wrap Around sessions. If you have any outstanding payments on your account please clear as soon as possible.

All communications are now through Arbor.

If your contact details or address have changed please update the Arbor app or inform us here in the office.

Reminders of expectations:



Children should be **reading at least 3 times per week**. This helps them attain the rewards they deserve.

Children's **attendance should be above 97%** - please avoid missing any days from school unless ill. Absence calls must be made by a parent or carer by calling the school office before **9.10am**.

There is a designated answer machine for absence messages. Miss Hodson will then follow up any attendance queries as needed.

For safety reasons; No hoodies or jewellery for PE. PE T-shirts should be plain white. Joggers should be plain black or Navy. PE kit is uniform not outdoor learning/forest clothing.

School gates open at 8:35am and close at 8:45am. Children arriving after 8:45am miss the start of learning and are marked as late!



PTA Spooktacular Pumpkin Decorating Competition

Our PTA is hosting a Pumpkin Decorating Competition during the school disco on **Wednesday 21st October**. Your child can bring in their decorated Pumpkin from home along with a £1 entry fee—this will be displayed in the school entrance.

- **Entry Fee:** £1 per Pumpkin paid to the school office
 - **Prizes:** A Selection of Spooky treats to win
- **Drop-Off:** Please bring your child's decorated pumpkin into school during the week commencing **19th October**. Make sure their **name is clearly labelled** on it so it can be displayed for everyone to admire.
- **Collection:** Children attending the disco will take their pumpkins home with them afterwards. If your child is not attending the disco, they will bring their pumpkin home at the end of the day.



JOIN US FOR SOME
SPOOKY FUN AT OUR

HALLOWEEN DISCO

WEDNESDAY
21ST OCTOBER

3:20PM-4:45PM

£3.50 PER TICKET/
£5 PER FAMILY

DRINKS AND CRISPS
INCLUDED/TUCK SHOP AVAILABLE

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM MR BAKER AT THE KS2 GATE FROM
MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER

SPOOKY COSTUMES ENCOURAGED!





Learn, Enjoy, Grow Together

The Woodlands Community Primary School



Small
Steps
Big
Futures



Our RESPECT
Values guide
the way...



Resilience



Empathy



Self Awareness



Positivity



Excellence



Communication



Teamwork

Stronger
Learners
Brighter
Tomorrows



Reception Admission 2027 OPEN DAYS

Come and explore the start of your child's
learning journey with us...



Tuesday 13th October 2026
4.00pm – 5.00pm



Tuesday 10th November 2026
1.30pm – 2.30pm



Tuesday 8th December 2026
4.00pm – 5.00pm

Meet our team
Explore our
learning environments
Discover our
Forest School
approach
Ask any questions

Scan here
to book your place



Small
Steps...

Bright
Beginnings...

A
Brighter
Future



We can't wait
to meet you!



The Woodlands Community Primary School
Canning Rd, Glascote, Tamworth, Staffs B77 3JX



01827 429020



www.woodlands.staffs.sch.uk

Learn Enjoy Grow Together

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games, (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.



FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undoubtedly, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upson is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 18 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VEGG, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://hipol.app/about/privacy.html>



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety



@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 12.03.2023