



# Woodchurch Church of England Primary School

## Newsletter 1

11 September 2026



Woodchurch CE Primary School



@WoodchurchCEP



office@woodchurch.kent.sch.uk



01233 860232

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was lovely to welcome the children back last week — a school is simply not the same without the children in it! All the children looked so happy and smart as they raced through the gates on those first couple of days. It has been wonderful to welcome our new EYFS children, as well as some new children joining classes across the school. We have also welcomed two new members of staff to the Woodchurch team. Natasha Mansell, our new EYFS Teaching Assistant, is new to working in a school but is thoroughly enjoying interacting with and supporting our youngest children. We have also welcomed Anna Reynolds, our new Intervention Teaching Assistant. This is a new role at Woodchurch and has given us extra capacity to support children across the whole school. Anna has settled into her role really well and has already built some fantastic relationships with our children.

### Communication Between Home and School

Communication between home and school is incredibly important to us, and we really value the positive relationships we have with our families. I would like to remind parents and carers that, if you have a query or concern about your child, your first point of contact should be your child's class teacher. They spend the majority of the school day with your children and are therefore most likely to know the answer to your question or be able to help. You can speak to your child's teacher at the end of the school day, send them a message via ClassDojo, or make an appointment through the school office if you would like to have a longer conversation. We really appreciate your support in ensuring that communication reaches the right person as quickly as possible.

### A Positive Start

The school year has begun incredibly positively, and this has been demonstrated by the way in which the children have settled so well into their new classes and the routines they are expected to follow. I spent time in Maths lessons this week and it was amazing to see how quickly routines are already becoming embedded, alongside such fantastic focus and positive learning habits.

This was also demonstrated by some of our oldest children yesterday, who completed the Kent Test. They showed such resilience, determination and maturity, and the team were incredibly proud of them all.

It has been a fantastic start to the new school year, and I am really looking forward to everything that the year ahead will bring. ❤️

Mrs Ridley

# Head Boy and Head Girl Election



Today, we held our Head Boy and Head Girl elections! All of the children who delivered speeches were absolutely fantastic, and the voting was incredibly close.



**Pollyanna**  
will be our  
**Head Girl**

Well  
done  
to you  
both!



**Freddie**  
will be our  
**Head Boy**

A huge well done to everyone who put themselves forward and had the confidence to stand and speak in front of the school. We are incredibly proud of you all.



At the start of next week, we will be selecting our other pupil leadership roles, as well as our Student Council. We can then get started with our exciting plans to give our children a real voice, involve them in their responsibilities and work together to make life at Woodchurch Primary even better!

**Together we make a difference**



# Dates for your Diary

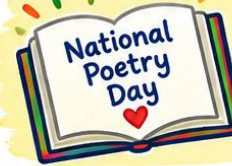


**Thursday 17 September**  
**Individual Photos**



**Friday 25 September**  
**Macmillan Coffee Morning**

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**



**Thursday 1 October**  
**National Poetry Day**



**Wednesday 7 October**  
**Parents Eve**  
(3.30pm to 5.30pm)



**Thursday 8 October**  
**Parents Eve**  
(5pm to 7.30pm)



**Friday 23 October**  
**Last Day of Term 1**



We look forward to  
seeing you there!

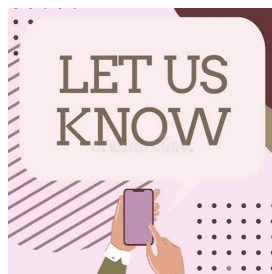
## If Your Child Is Absent

If your child is unable to attend school, please let us know by **9am on the first day of absence** by calling our absence line on **01233 860232** or emailing us through **ParentMail**.

Please remember to **contact us each day** that your child is absent due to illness.

If we have not heard from you, we will follow our safeguarding procedures to make sure your child is safe. We will initially try to contact you by **phone, email and ClassDojo**. If we are still unable to make contact, we may contact your emergency contacts or, where necessary, visit your home address.

Thank you for helping us to keep all our pupils safe and ensuring that we know where they are when they are not in school.



# ATTENDANCE

EVERY DAY COUNTS, EVERY MINUTE MATTERS



Here are the latest attendance figures for school (year to date):

| EYFS (R) | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 99.5%    | 94.6%  | 99.0%  | 96.4%  | 98.8%  | 95.4%  | 91.1%  |

Whole school attendance: **96.5%**  
(All Above)

The DfE has asked schools to share the following guidance with families. Please do ensure you have a read through as it might help you in the future:



<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



## WHAT WE ENCOURAGE...

We believe it is vitally important for children to attend school regularly and punctually. This will give them the best opportunity to progress and achieve their full potential. Good attendance and punctuality will also encourage children to become responsible and resilient individuals, which will serve them well in their future working lives.

Every child, in line with the Government's expectations, is expected to maintain a high level of attendance (at least 95%). We hope that you appreciate how crucial good school attendance is to your child's progress, achievement and chances in life and we look forward to working with you to ensure that your child's attendance is the very best it can be.

## BENEFITS OF GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Children with good attendance:

- ✓ Feel happier and gain in confidence
- ✓ Achieve more academically and keep up with work more easily
- ✓ Develop well socially and find it easier to make and keep friends
- ✓ Establish good educational habits and routines at an early age
- ✓ Are able to make a positive contribution to school life in general
- ✓ Are much more settled into school life
- ✓ LEARN!



★ All of these are important life skills for your child ★





## ✨ EYFS Tours ✨

Is your child starting School in  
September 2027?

Come and discover Woodchurch CE  
Primary School.

A small, family-friendly school with a calm and caring feel,  
where every child is valued, encouraged and inspired to let  
their light shine.



Experience what makes Woodchurch such a special  
place to be.

☀ Book your personalised tour

☎ 01233 860232

✉ [office@woodchurch.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@woodchurch.kent.sch.uk)

We look forward to welcoming you and your child.

## ♥ FOWSA – Friends of Woodchurch School Association

FOWSA is a huge part of our school community, organising lots of fun events and activities for our children and families throughout the year. They also work incredibly hard to raise vital funds for our school, helping us provide extra-curricular opportunities, experiences and resources that we simply would not be able to fund from our school budget alone.

However, FOWSA needs your help! They are hoping to have at least one parent from each class involved as part of the FOWSA committee. I work closely with FOWSA whenever I can, as do members of our staff team, but we really need more parents and carers to get involved and share the load.

The current FOWSA volunteers are a lovely, friendly group who would be delighted to welcome some new faces, fresh ideas and extra energy. You don't need to have any previous experience — just a willingness to get involved and help make a difference to our school community.

Whether you can give a little time, share an idea, help at an event or simply be part of the team, your support would make a huge difference.

Could you be the FOWSA representative for your child's class? Please let me know if you are keen to get involved, and I will pass your details on to the FOWSA team.

Mrs Ridley ♥

# FOWSA Update



A very warm welcome back to a new school year!  
We hope you've all had a first good week back!

We would like to introduce ourselves as there will be some new families at the school who don't know who we are. We are the Friends of Woodchurch School Association (FOWSA) and are essentially the school's PTA.

We're a very small team of working mums and we put on events and activities for the children to enjoy after school, with a joint aim to help raise funds to support the school and our children's learning and play where we can.

If you see any events and activities come up from us which you like the sound of, please do get involved as every penny goes back towards enriching our children's experiences.

With the incredible help and support of you all, last year we were able to fund:

- ★ coaches for the whole school to enjoy the pantomime
- ★ a new sound system for staged productions and sports days
- ★ new books for every classroom
- ★ an animal workshop for Science Day
- ★ an author visit for World Book Week
- ★ and farewell candles for our Year 6 leavers.



This year our main fundraising goals are:



coaches to this year's pantomime



new playtime equipment

## Upcoming FOWSA events



Thursday 22 October,  
3.30–4.45pm –  
School Disco



Friday 23 October –  
End of Term Cake Sale



Thursday 17 December,  
3.30–4.30pm –  
Christmas Movie



We would love one representative from each class to join our committee, to help us gather a breadth of ideas for each year group and to support our events.

If you are interested, please contact us  
([fowsa@woodchurch.kent.sch.uk](mailto:fowsa@woodchurch.kent.sch.uk)) or Mrs Ridley.

Thanks so much and here's to another brilliant year ahead!



📚✨ Volunteer Readers Needed for September! ✨📚

We are looking for some wonderful volunteers to come into school and listen to children read in our KS2 classes from September. 🏫📖

Whether you can offer a regular slot each week or a little time when you are available, your support would make a real difference to our children's confidence, fluency and enjoyment of reading. ✨

No teaching experience is needed, just a love of books, a friendly smile and a little time to spare! 😊📖

Please contact the school office or speak to a member of staff if you would be interested in joining our reading team.

Thank you for helping us bring books to life!





# Woodchurch CE Primary School Community Notice Board

## Rotary Club of Tenterden Christmas Story Competition 2026

Pupils from year 1 to year 6 are asked to write an original story with a Christmas theme, or a Winter theme, unaided and in their own handwriting. The story should be neatly presented on A4 paper if possible, comprising of around 150 words and may be decorated. The pupil's name, year group, together with the name of the school, should be included on the reverse side of their story.

Entries need to be in by  
**Wednesday 2 December**  
to the school office.

Prizes for the winner for each year will be awarded

|                   |                   |                   |                                                                       |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| £25<br>book token | £20<br>book token | £15<br>book token | £10<br>book token                                                     |
| Winner            | Runner-up         | Third             | In addition some<br>"Highly Commended"<br>£10 prizes will be awarded. |

**Good luck!**

## WINGS & WHEELS WEEKEND 2026

12TH & 13TH SEPTEMBER | 10AM TO 4PM |  
RAF MANSTON HISTORY MUSEUM CT12 5DF



**OPTIONAL PRE-BOOKING AVAILABLE**  
USUAL MUSEUM ADMISSION PRICES APPLY | RIDE ADMISSION SEPARATE

info@rafmanston.co.uk    www.rafmanston.co.uk

What Three Words - remarried.mornings.pave

Refreshments available

Subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances including, but not limited to, weather conditions, mechanical breakdowns and shortage of volunteers and/or exhibitors.

### Time to shine Junior's

A group for SEND children and young people aged 7-11 years to socialise and learn new skills in a safe, relaxed environment. This group is for children and young people who may find it difficult to access mainstream groups and would like some support to build their confidence.

The group numbers are lower to meet the needs of everyone attending and to create a calmer environment.

#### Waterside Family Hub

DAY: Monday  
Time: 4.00pm - 5.15pm  
Address: Turner Close, Willborough, Ashford, Kent TN24 0PQ

Contact Information: [ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk)  
Booking required - link in the description.

You do not need to have a diagnosis to attend this session

Visit your local Family Hub today  
[Kent.gov.uk/familyhub](https://kent.gov.uk/familyhub)  
KentFamilyHub

### Stepping Up 5-11 Years

Join us for a fun, confidence-building course for children aged 5-11. Over six sessions, they will explore emotions, build friendships, and learn practical skills through creative activities, games, and discussions in a safe, friendly environment.

#### The Willow Family Hub

DAY: Thursday  
Time: 3.45pm - 5.15pm  
Address: Halstow Way, Ashford, Kent TN23 4EY

Contact Information: [ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk](mailto:ashfordfamilyhubs@kent.gov.uk) / 03000 418800

Booking required - contact your Family Hub.

Visit your local Family Hub today  
[Kent.gov.uk/familyhub](https://kent.gov.uk/familyhub)  
KentFamilyHub



Let your light shine... Matthew 5:16

APRIL TO  
OCTOBER 2026

**NOURISH**



# SPRING INTO SUMMER MENU



## MONDAY

## TUESDAY

## WEDNESDAY

## THURSDAY

## FRIDAY

### WEEK ONE

13 April  
4 May  
1 June  
22 June  
13 July  
31 August  
21 September  
12 October

Beef Bolognese Pasta **1**  
Cheese & Pesto Swirl **1,7 V**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Baked Wedges  
Seasonal Vegetables

Ice Cream **7**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Fruit Pots **VG**

Macaroni Cheese **1,7 V**  
Chick Pea & Spinach Biryani **VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Carrots  
Mixed Peppers

Toffee Tart **1,7** & Custard **7**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Fruit Pots **VG**

Roast Gammon & Gravy  
Meatfree Meatballs & Gravy **6 VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Rustic Roast Potatoes  
Cabbage  
Swede

Fruit Jelly **VG**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Yoghurt **3,7**, Fruit Pots **VG**

Chicken Korma  
Herby Tomato Pasta **1 VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Rice  
Green Beans  
Carrots

Chocolate Orange Cake **1 VG**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Yoghurt **3,7**, Fruit Pots **VG**

Fish Fingers **1,8**  
Wrap Stack **1,7 V**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Chips  
Sweetcorn & Peas  
Coleslaw **9**

Lemon Drizzle Biscuit **1,6 VG**  
Yoghurt **3,7**  
Fruit Pots **VG**

### WEEK TWO

20 April  
11 May  
8 June  
29 June  
20 July  
7 September  
28 September  
19 October

Cheesy Cauliflower Pasta **1,7 V**  
Vegetable Burger in a Bun **1,5,6 VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Baked Wedges,  
Carrots,  
Peas

Honey Cake **1** & Custard **7**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Fruit Pots **VG**

Minced Beef Curry  
Pesto & Pea Pasta **1 VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Rice  
Seasonal Vegetables

Summer Trifle **1,7**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Fruit Pots **VG**

Roast Chicken & Gravy  
Samosa Puff **1 VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Rustic Roast Potatoes  
Broccoli  
Carrots

Cornflake Cookie **1,7,16**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Yoghurt **3,7**, Fruit Pots **VG**

Chicken Fajita **1**  
Tomato Spaghetti **1 VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Rice  
Tomato Salsa  
Green Beans

Carrot & Orange Cake **1 VG**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Yoghurt **3,7**, Fruit Pots **VG**

Salmon Fish Cake **1,8**  
Margherita Pizza **1,3,7 V**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Chips,  
Peas,  
Grated Carrot

Oaty Biscuit **1,15 VG**  
Yoghurt **3,7**  
Fruit Pots **VG**

### WEEK THREE

27 April  
18 May  
15 June  
6 July  
14 September  
5 October

Mild Chilli Beef  
Tomato & Herb Penne Pasta **1 VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Rice  
Peas  
Mixed Peppers

Jam Roly Poly **1,6 VG** & Custard **7**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Fruit Pots **VG**

Chicken Pie **1**  
Vegetable Stir Fried Noodles **1 VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Crushed Potatoes  
Seasonal Vegetables

Ice Cream **7**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Fruit Pots **VG**

**BRUNCH**  
Pork Sausage & Bacon **1,3,6**  
Or Vegetable Sausage **1 VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Brunch Hash Potatoes  
Baked Beans  
Mushrooms & Tomatoes

Fruit Jelly **VG**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Yoghurt **3,7**, Fruit Pots **VG**

Margherita Pizza **1,3,7 V**  
Loaded Cajun Bean Wedges **VG**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Rainbow Rice  
Sweetcorn  
Coleslaw **9**

Sultana Cake **1 VG**  
Mr Nourish Biscuit **1 VG**  
Yoghurt **3,7**, Fruit Pots **VG**

Fish Fingers **1,8**  
Cheese & Bean Parcel **1,7 V**  
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings **7,8,9**

Chips,  
Peas, Baked Beans  
Cucumber Sticks

Caramel Cookie **1,7 V**  
Yoghurt **3,7**  
Fruit Pots **VG**

Primary 3

1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybean 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg  
10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat Gluten 16 Barley Gluten **VG** Vegan **V** Vegetarian

Selection of Salads **9**, Homemade Bread **1,3**. Some of our schools may use pre prepped potatoes or vegetables on occasions. These may contain sulphites and celeriac. Please discuss with your manager.

**AVAILABLE  
DAILY**



ROCK  
STEADY

# ROCK AND POP BAND LESSONS



## IGNITE THEIR INNER SPARK

-  Children learn to play an instrument in their very own band.
-  Fun and inclusive in-school band lessons. No music theory involved.
-  Follow their musical journey in your Backstage account.
-  Exam-free, Ofqual-regulated Trinity music qualification.
-  Instruments provided and no experience necessary.

**BOOK TO START  
LESSONS IN SEPTEMBER!**



0330 113 0330 (Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)

rocksteadymusicschool.com

## LEARN TO PLAY MUSIC IN A BAND THAT'S FOR EVERYONE.

Choose from: Drums, guitar, bass, keyboard or vocals.

### Inclusive and hassle-free!

Takes place in school, instruments provided and no experience necessary!

### Have fun and learn by playing

Children work their way through a curriculum of up to 300 musical skills.

### Taught by professional musicians

Rocksteady band leaders are highly trained musicians who make learning music fun.

### Much more than music

Improves wellbeing, confidence, social skills and academic achievement.

### Progress at their own pace

Your child can achieve an exam-free, Ofqual-regulated Trinity music qualification!

### End every term on a high note

Watch your child shine as they perform in their end of term concerts.

For details on availability and cost, visit [rocksteadymusicschool.com](https://rocksteadymusicschool.com) and find your school on the sign up page. **Money back guarantee** for the first month. **No payment in August.** Cancel at any time.

**98%**

of parents say their child loves or enjoys their Rocksteady lessons  
*Insights from 3,737 parents*

*"Rocksteady has given Campbell a true love of music. It has improved his life dramatically."*

Georgia

**92%**

of Rocksteady pupils report greater confidence and self-belief  
*Insights from 1,738 children*



**BOOK YOUR CHILD'S  
PLACE ONLINE!**



0330 113 0330  
(Mon-Thurs 8am-8pm, Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)  
[info@rocksteadymusicschool.com](mailto:info@rocksteadymusicschool.com)

TRINITY  
COLLEGE LONDON

Validated Course and  
Assessment Provider 619350



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