



NEWSLETTER

March 2026

Welcome to the Woodside Academy newsletter! Here you will find up-to-date information on events in the school, as well as dates for your diary.



Current Information

Steel Pans Concert

Well done to our Year 3 children and steel pans club for taking part in the concert, we hope the parents enjoyed the performance.

Admissions

Nursery applications have now closed, parents will be contacted via email in the coming weeks to confirm if spaces have been allocated. Secondary school offers have now been sent out; we hope the children were happy with their chosen schools. Reception applicants will be able to view their offers on 16th April via the Thurrock Council website.

Young Voices

Well done to all the children that attended the Young Voices event, they were a credit to the school, but very tired the next day as were the teachers.

M&M Productions

We hope the children enjoyed the M&M production of The Railway Children. It was a great start to book week.

Book Fair Wednesday 4th – Tuesday 10th March

Our book fair will open on Wednesday 4th March and will run every day after school until Tuesday 10th March. All purchases made will help fill our school with new books.

Consultation evening – Wednesday 11th March

School cloud is now open to book an online appointment with your child's class teacher. Appointments will be available until the day before (10th March) at midday.

Walking Bus

Over the past year, the Walking Bus has grown significantly to almost 60 pupils per day, which is wonderful to see. We are delighted that so many families value and use this service, so we can continue to keep three staff we are asking for a voluntary contribution of £1:00 per day.

Wooden Spoon Competition

Well done to all the talented artists who have taken part in the wooden spoon competition. There are some amazing creations!

Red Nose Day – Friday 20th March

We are taking part in Red Nose Day on Friday 20th March. This will be a non-uniform day; we encourage children to wear sportswear as they will be taking part in a run outside of school. This is in exchange for a £1 donation which will go to charity.

Year 4 Gamelan

Year 4 have been learning Gamelan during school and will be performing for parents. 4BG- 23rd March, 4R 24th March and 4P 26th March, all performances are at 2pm.

Year 5 Shakespeare Festival

Year 5 will now be performing at the Thameside Theatre on Monday 27th April. You will have received an email regarding this on ParentMail.

Easter Disco- Thursday 26th March

Tickets are now available to purchase via ParentMail until the day before (25th March at midday), please ensure you have purchased a ticket before the deadline. KS1 4.30pm – 5.45pm, KS2 6.00pm- 7.15pm.

Ear Defenders

Please provide your child with ear defenders for the school disco as the school doesn't have enough for all the children who have been asking of late.

Big Walk & Wheel- Friday 27th March

On Friday 27th March, we will be taking part in the Big Walk & Wheel event for one day. Children that travel to school in a sustainable way — walking, cycling, or scooting — will receive a certificate to recognise their efforts on the day. To make the day even more exciting, we invite children to come to school dressed as a superhero or in fancy dress (book day costumes can be reused).

Trips and Activities

We ask for contributions towards trips and activities that take place in the school day. We are not allowed to profit from these trips and activities, all contributions are used solely to cover expenses. If we do not receive these contributions for trips, they may have to be cancelled.

Eco - Reducing Waste

Use reusable containers and water bottles to cut down on single-use plastics. Start composting food scraps at home to reduce landfill waste.

School Attendance

Please remember that regular and punctual attenders make better progress, both socially and academically. Term time holidays will not be authorised and penalty notices will be issued. Please see our Attendance policy on our website for more information:

https://www.woodsideacademy.org/_site/data/files/users/information/5A5346A9DDF4EACA67AF60ECF1230BE5.pdf

You must call the school office with any child's absences on 01375 372513, the office will be open from 8am.

Appointments & early collections

We kindly ask that any medical appointments are taken outside of school time, but if this cannot be avoided, please let the office know with plenty of notice and providing medical evidence. If you wish to pick your child up from school at an earlier time, please give plenty of time as we are a very busy office and cannot guarantee we can get the children ready in 5 minutes.

Clubs

Clubs have now resumed for the spring term. All clubs will finish at 4:15pm. Clubs may be cancelled at short notice – please check ParentMail. Parents are responsible for knowing which club their child is attending, ensuring they go, and arranging collection. Registers are only for emergencies; not to chase up non-attendance.

Safeguarding

Please don't take your friends' children home without checking with their parents first. To make things easier and less worrying for everyone, ask them to come to the office so we can call the parents and help arrange collection.

Volunteer Minibus Drivers

We are looking for parent volunteers to help drive our school minibus for trips and activities. If you are interested, please contact the school office for more information.

Hiring School Facilities

Our school hall and classrooms are available for hire outside school hours. For rates and booking information, please contact the school office.

Dates for your Diary

March

Wednesday 4 th	Book fair KS1 & KS2 Parent Book Look
Thursday 5 th	Y6 visit to RAF Hendon
Friday 6 th	World Book Day dressing up
Tuesday 10 th	Year 1 library visit
Wednesday 11 th	Parent Consultation Evening (online)
Thursday 12 th	Thurrock poetry heats Mathletics competition
Friday 13 th	Year 2 visit to Colchester Zoo
Tuesday 17 th	1K Assembly – 9.00 am *
Thursday 19 th	Year 6 SATS & PGL meeting 2.30pm
Friday 20 th	Red Nose Day (Non uniform day) Year 4 visit to Howletts Zoo
Monday 23 rd	4BG Gamelan performance 2pm
Tuesday 24 th	3O Assembly Year 2 library visit
Wednesday 25 th	4R Gamelan performance 2pm EYFS Easter hat parade
Thursday 26 th	4P Gamelan performance 2pm Easter Disco
Friday 27 th	Big Walk & Wheel Day (Superhero dress up)

Easter Holidays Saturday 28th March to Sunday 12th April

April

Tuesday 21 st	2W Assembly
Monday 27 th April	Year 5 Shakespeare festival at Thameside Theatre

May Half Term Saturday 23rd May to Sunday 7th June (2 weeks)

Summer Holidays Saturday 18th July to Tuesday 1st September

Autumn Half Term Saturday 17th October to Sunday 1st November (2 weeks)