



NEWSLETTER

May 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

Welcome back

We hope you all enjoyed the Easter break; we are looking forward to the term ahead with lots going on. We have an exciting programme of events and activities planned for the coming weeks, including class assemblies and residential trips.

Gamelan Concerts

Well done to our Year 4 children who took part in the Gamelan performances, the children and staff worked incredibly hard. We hope you enjoyed watching them.

Admissions

Nursery and Reception places have now been allocated for September, we are looking forward to welcoming all our new parents and children. Dates for parent meetings and transition will be confirmed shortly.

Fund Raising

A massive thank you to all you wonderful parents that donated towards Red Nose Day, the Easter raffle and purchased books from our book fair, this enables us to provide resources for the children.

Poetry Competition

We entered the Thurrock Poetry Competition and won gold in quite a few categories, although we think we should have got first place in them all. Well done to all those who entered.

Shakespeare Festival

We are incredibly proud of our Year 5 pupils who performed three wonderful plays at the Thameside Theatre earlier this week. They demonstrated confidence, enthusiasm, and pride throughout their performances. We hope you enjoyed the show!

Consultation evening

Thank you for another successful parent consultation, we hope you found it informative.

Book Week

We had another amazing and eventful book week with dressing up, theatre shows and competitions. We hope the children enjoyed it.

Class photographs

Class photographs will be going ahead on Friday 8th May, please ensure that children are in full correct uniform.

Year 6 SATS

Our Year 6 children have been working extremely hard revising for their SATS which start on 11th May. We wish them the best of luck!

Pop up pool

Swimming lessons will begin again in June, starting with Year 4. Following on from last year, the year groups will have a lesson every day for 2 weeks. Payments will soon be viewable on ParentMail.

Parking

We would like to remind all families to park safely and respectfully during school drop-off and collection times. Parking on someone else's private driveway without permission is illegal and is not acceptable under any circumstances.

Please ensure you:

- Park legally and considerately at all times, never on someone's drive, without permission.
- Avoid blocking private driveways other vehicles and resident access points.
- Allow extra time to find suitable parking.

Ear Defenders

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

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 -Marine Pollution

Avoid single-use plastics and choose eco-friendly products to protect marine life. Participate in local beach or river clean-up activities with your family.

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 for the summer term are listed on the school website. 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

May

Tuesday 5 th	1S assembly – 9.00 am * Year 4 Thriftwood residential (Tuesday-Thursday)
Thursday 7 th	Polling Day (school open as usual)
Friday 8 th	Class photographs
Monday 11 th	Y6 SATS week
Tuesday 12 th	3C assembly – 9.00 am *
Wednesday 13 th	Reception trip to Call of the Wild
Friday 22 nd	Last day of half term

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

June

Monday 8 th	First day of term Y6 PGL Residential (Mon-Fri) Y4 swimming lessons (2 weeks)
Friday 12 th	EYFS sports day 9:15 – 11:00
Monday 15 th	5L trip to Colchester Zoo
Tuesday 16 th	5W trip to Colchester Zoo
Wednesday 17 th	5M trip to Colchester Zoo
Thursday 18 th	1S trip to Chalkwell Beach
Friday 19 th	Year 3 & 4 sports day 9:00 – 10:30 Year 5 & 6 sports day 11:00 – 12:15
Monday 22 nd	Windrush day Y5 swimming lessons (2 weeks) 1P trip to Chalkwell beach
Tuesday 23 rd	1K trip to Chalkwell beach
Wednesday 24 th	Summer Bounce
Friday 26 th	Year 1 & 2 sports day 9:15 – 11:00
Monday 29 th	Secondary schools transition week

Summer Holidays Saturday 18th July to Tuesday 1st September

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