



# NEWSLETTER

## MAY 2025

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 to the Summer Term***

#### ***Leadership at Woodside***

As most of you are aware Ms Ryder has been in the role of Acting Principal since the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024. Previously she was carrying out the role part time for two years as the previous Principal, Mr Caines, was on phased-retirement. After a full review by the governing board, a decision was made to make this role now permanent. Ms Ryder will now be the new permanent Principal at Woodside Academy,

Alongside this, Mrs Joiner and Mr Radford have also been carrying out higher grade duties of Acting Vice Principals whilst still carrying out their teaching roles. At the same review, it was also ratified that they too would have these roles made permanent. They will continue to share the role of Vice Principal so that they can carry on performing their relative teaching roles.

#### ***Congratulations***

Miss Stevens will now be known as Mrs Boulden as she is now married. We send our warmest congratulations to her and wish her happiness in her married life.

#### ***Year 4 Gamelan***

Well done to all our Year 4 students on their Gamelan performances, the children and staff worked incredibly hard. We hope you enjoyed watching them.

#### ***Red Nose Day***

Thank you kindly for all your donations, you helped raise £700 which will go towards school resources.

#### ***Pop up Pool***

Swimming lessons have now started in school with Year 5 coming to the end of their sessions. Year 4 will start on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May. The feedback we have received so far has been very positive. We have booked it for Y1-Y6 this year. The lessons need to be paid for via ParentMail if we are to continue them for all years next year.

#### ***Y6 SATS***

Our Y6 children have been working hard revising for their SATs starting on 12th May. If you have a child in Y6, please make sure that they get plenty of rest in the leadup to and during SATs week.

#### ***VE Day Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May***

To mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day on 8th May 2025, Woodside Academy will be hosting a range of exciting events throughout the day and children will enjoy a special outdoor feast for lunch. In the afternoon, we'll have a VE Day party in each class, and we invite children to bring in cakes and crisps to share with their friends. If your child has serious allergies, please ensure they have their own selection of treats. We would also love for everyone to wear red, white or blue clothing to commemorate this special occasion.

#### ***Nursery & Reception 25***

You will now know if your child was accepted in to our Nursery and Reception classes for September. We look forward to welcoming you and your child to the school. Dates for parent meetings are being confirmed and you will receive an email shortly.

## Current Information

### ***Class Photographs***

Class photos will be going ahead on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Please ensure that children are in full, correct uniform. Thank you.

### ***Change of residential visits***

We have made the decision to change the school journey experiences for KS2. Y4 will now attend two days at Grangewaters, with no overnight stay. Y5 are now going on a two-night Bushcraft experience and Y6 will go on a 5-day residential (PGL).

### ***Walking Bus***

Please use our walking bus, leaving the Chadwell Pavilion at 8.15am, these children are then taken directly into school and then the walking bus will pick up next at the Bon Bon at 8.30am.

### ***Fund Raising***

We are excited to be working in collaboration with Griffin Estate Agents, who you may have seen supporting several of our fundraising events. They have generously offered to donate 10% of any house sale or purchase made through them to our school.

So, if you or a family member or friend are thinking of moving, please consider selling through Griffins and naming our school. Not only will you receive their expert service, but you'll also be helping to support our school at the same time. Thank you for your support.

### ***Appointments***

Any medical appointments should be booked for out of school hours, but if this is not possible appointment evidence is required at the office.

### ***ParentMail bookings***

If you use our afterschool club, please be aware late bookings (after the cut off time on ParentMail) will now incur a £5 late booking charge. We will also charge the full amount of the booking for any children booked in but then collected at 3.15pm without informing the school prior to 2:30 pm.

### ***Parking***

Please, park with care for the children in our school and not on the yellow lines and with consideration for our neighbours, leaving their driveways clear.

### ***Sports Day***

We haven't finalised dates for sports days yet as we are hopefully looking into making the event more inclusive, with less sitting about for everyone. We will inform you as soon as we have dates confirmed.

### ***Friends of Woodside Fundraising***

Thank you for your support with fundraising. We will be purchasing umbrellas for the playground to provide shade for the children.

### ***Lost property***

Please remember to keep a look out on our FB for anything your child may have misplaced.

### ***Hi Viz***

We have now re-stocked. To purchase one, you will need to pay on ParentMail. Staff going on visits reported that the children wearing them were easier to spot in the crowds.

### ***New website***

Please visit our new look website!

## Dates for your Diary

### May 2025

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	4K Wat Tyler Residential
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	4K Wat Tyler Residential Y2 Visit to the Southbank Centre
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	RM Assembly (9am) Y4 Swimming (Tues-Fri)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	VE Day
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Class photographs
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 SATS (Mon- Thurs) Y4 Swimming (Mon-Fri)
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	4K Assembly (9am)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Special lunch menu
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Swimming (Mon-Fri)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	6R Assembly (9am)

**Half Term Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

### June 2025

Monday 9 <sup>th</sup>	First day back Y3 Swimming (Mon-Fri) Y6 Kingswood Residential (Mon-Fri)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Reception 25 parents meeting
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Reception 25 parents meeting Y5 Grangewaters day trip
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Reception 25 parents meeting Y5 Grangewaters day trip
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	RE Assembly (9am)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Disco
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Y2 Swimming (Mon-Fri)
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	6L Assembly (9am)
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Summer Bounce
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery 25 parents meeting Infant Music Festival at Civic Hall Y2 Swimming (Mon-Fri) Y6 Transition week to Secondary schools (varies depending on school)

### July 2025

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup>	3O Assembly (9am)
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Woodside Transition Day
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Y1 Swimming (Mon-Fri)
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	6W Assembly (9am)
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Exhibition Evening
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	5J Colchester Zoo visit
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	5M Colchester Zoo visit
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	5G Colchester Zoo visit
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	6W end of year performance (2pm) 6L end of year performance (9.30am) 6R end of year performance (2pm)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Beach Day
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	2E Assembly Leavers Presentation & BBQ (pm)
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Last day of term

**Summer Holidays Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July to Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025**

**October Half Term Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October to Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

**Christmas Holidays Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December to Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**February Half Term Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February to Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2026**

**Easter Holidays Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March to Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2026**