



**Autumn Term 2024**

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had an incredibly busy term and I'm sure everyone is looking forward to the holidays and spending time with family and friends. The talents of all our pupils were showcased over the last couple of weeks, with the Early Years Performance, Key Stage 1 Production and Christmas Concert. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children, parents and staff involved in preparing for and celebrating these events as they were all great successes! Mr Jones in particular, worked incredibly hard to ensure that everything ran smoothly and that the children enjoyed their experiences, we are very lucky to have such a fantastic Music Teacher at Woodlands!

Yesterday's school Christmas lunch was a great success as was the Festive Fair. Our catering team did a fantastic job and Ms Chamberlain organised an amazing event after school, which the children are still very excited about! Watching the staff team and the wider school community come together at these events is one of the highlights of the year and showcases our fantastic community spirit.

This newsletter celebrates some of the fantastic achievements and activities at Woodlands this year and, as I read through it, I am always amazed at how much has happened in just a few months. Although Mr Grant is still away from school, the children have accessed a huge number of sporting events in Key Stage 2, thanks to the organisation of Ms Moxom and our continued participation in Featherstone Sports Partnership. This will continue next term. Clubs have continued to run thanks to the dedication and adaptability of our teachers and support staff. They will run a few more clubs next half term, after which we will be looking for an outside sports provider to offer a wider range of clubs. We appreciate your patience while we make these arrangements.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas break on behalf of everyone at Woodlands. We look forward to seeing you all back at school on **Tuesday 7th January 2025!**

Ms Hasker  
Headteacher

# From The Chair Of Governors

We have had two Curriculum meetings this term to review the pupil outcomes from last year looking at the attainment and progress across the school not just the SATs. We have used this analysis to inform the targets set for each class for the end of the summer term taking account of the start point for each pupil. We have also had updates on how the Art, Design Technology and Computing curricula have been developed to increase the consistency of teaching and learning in these subjects across the school.

We have had one Resources Committee meeting this term where we received the final outturn figures for the year ended 31 st August 2024 and approved all the financial and premises policies required. As with many schools across the country our budget is very tight, and we really appreciate the funds raised through the PTA and other sources of income such as grants from charitable trusts or businesses which enable us to offer a wider range of learning opportunities and resources than we could otherwise afford.

We will be reviewing our 3- year budget forecast in our next Resources meeting in the light of the changes in Government policy and other external factors such as the falling birth rate and the shortage of affordable housing in Ealing.

We have also had two Pay Committee meetings to conduct the annual review of staff pay and the impact of the cost-of-living awards for teachers and support staff and two Full Governing Board meetings, so it has been a very busy term. We have approved several policies including the new attendance policy which reflects the increases in fines for unauthorised term time absences. We have also reviewed our safeguarding policy together with our on-line safety policy in the light of the increasing use of gaming apps to groom children. Please help us to keep children safe by discussing keeping safe on- line with your children. We have welcomed Miss Chatrath as a second Staff Governor and will be looking to fill our only current vacancy for a Co-Opted Governor in the New Year.

We would like to thank all our parents and carers for supporting us in increasing our pupils' attendance at school and reducing the instances of lateness. Good attendance and punctuality will really help your children reach age related expectations because they are not trying to catch up on the learning they have missed as well as keep up in class.

Wishing you all a joyous festive season and a happy and healthy New Year.

Shirley Kenworthy-Wright  
Chair of Governors



# Music News

There has been lots of music making at Woodlands this term. As well as performances, children have been busy learning instruments and singing across the school. Our end of term music concert had over eighty children involved which is fantastic to see - even staff got involved! I am aware that many children are on waiting lists to learn instruments and as soon as space comes available, parents will be contacted. Thank you as always to parents and carers for encouraging your children to practise at home and supporting them at concerts.

**Woodlands Choir** worked hard to prepare for their annual Christmas concert at St Barnabas Church. They performed with many other schools in Ealing as well as singing 'Silver Bells' as a solo performance item.



Click below to listen to their wonderful performance

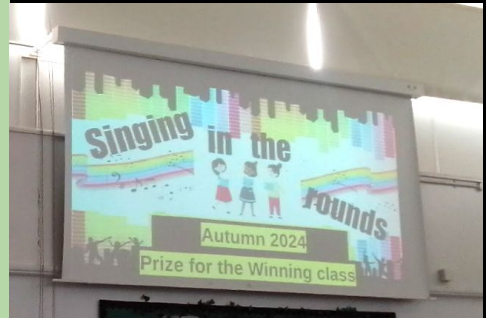


**Year 5** have now completed their first term learning the Jsax and have made an excellent start. Both Mr McKay and Mr Jones have been very impressed with Y5's attitude to learning. Children have shown determination and resilience in mastering this new skill. They also did brilliantly at their first concert performance!





**Singing in the Rounds** took place in November. It's one of my favorite events as it includes all children! Year 5 were the winners on this occasion with their brilliant rendition of "Gravity" set to a well known Beegees classic. Year 5 were rewarded with a special Christmas Golden Games in this final week.



**Woodlands Autumn Term Concert** took place in the last week of term. I'm always very proud of the children in this concert. Some of them have only been learning instruments or performing in public for a very short time, so it's brilliant to see them step out in confidence and play something. We enjoyed performances from all of Woodlands ensembles, plus a few solo items and even a special staff number!

**KS1** took us on a musical adventure to Bethlehem & brought the Nativity story to life with their production of "Simply - The Musical". Well done to all of the children involved and thank you to parents for supporting your children with the show!





**EYFS Songs around the Christmas Tree** has also become a firm favorite event in the Woodlands Calendar, with all children in Nursery and Reception singing a variety of songs. We had a few instruments make an appearance and plenty of Christmas Jumpers!



### **Get stuck in.....**

Here at Woodlands, we strive to give **all** of our students access to a high quality musical education and this includes many extra curricular opportunities.

A reminder that in addition to regular music lessons at school, children have the opportunity to join: Piano Lessons, Recorder Group, Woodlands Choir, Jsax Ensemble (Year 6 only). Please speak to Mr Jones to be added to a waiting list.

### **Notice to parents of children currently having lessons in Jsax, Recorder or Piano**

- Please remember that children should bring their instrument / books with them on the correct day.
- Children should be practicing for approximately 10 minutes each day on their instrument.
- Payment for lessons must be made in advance. Places will be offered to other students if payment is not received. Next payment will be due in January for Spring Term.



# Sports News



Autumn Term has been very busy with Sports Events run by the Featherstone Sports Partnership. We are very proud of all of the children who represented our school at these events. You showed a fantastic attitude to sports. We can't wait to send more children on a variety of tournaments/ competitions in Spring Term.

Bowling



Tennis



Archery



Netball



Girls Football



Gymnastic



Curling





# Daily Mile

At Woodlands, we believe that being active is crucial for our wellbeing. This term, all classes have been trying to move more on the playground with the relaunch of our Daily Mile. Each pupil tries to achieve their own personal best. Here are the children who were given a special mention in Celebration Assembly as being the most enthusiastic and most determined!

## Most enthusiastic

- 1- Jawad
- 2- Maiyar
- 3- Anastas
- 4- Lavel
- 5- Judah
- 6- Mohamad Ali



## Most determined

- 1- Chelsea
- 2- Daniel
- 3- Mohamed
- 4- Muzil
- 5- Tala
- 6- Ewar



## Most enthusiastic

- R- Toby
- 1- Ziad
- 2- Rayan
- 3- Matvii
- 4- Millie
- 5- Abilash
- 6- Mohammad

## Reward Store



## Most determined

- R- Stacey
- 1- Rosa
- 2- Nikol
- 3- Monroe
- 4- Milan
- 5- Dana
- 6- Anes



# Attendance News



## Golden Games

I am extremely proud of the effort children are making to attend school on time everyday. Our 100% weekly attendance incentive of a chance to attend Golden Games has been working wonders and the children love spending time with their friends playing some fun mini games. Well done to all of the children who have attended in the Autumn term. I can't wait to see more of you in Golden Games next term  
Ms Moxom





# Wellbeing

## Calm Club

This term our lunchtime Calm Club with Ms Moxom has been helping Year 2-6 pupils. Calm Club is a calm space off the playground to allow children to make/ spend time with friends whilst playing games or making crafts such as bracelet making and junk modelling. This term in particular, we have been playing Pictionary which has helped children bond together over drawing and guessing. Painting has also been a popular activity choice this term.



### How does Calm Club help our pupils? Their views:

I love coming to calm club and it makes me happy and excited to play games.  
Ibaadha, Year 2

I like painting!  
Nysha, Year 2

I like spending time playing with my friends,  
Lyla, Year 2

I love coming to calm club twice a week with so many different activities,  
Iqra, Year 6

I love to built towers with my friends,  
Tristan, Year 3



# Forest School



Here are some of the exciting things we have been doing at Forest School this Term.

Looking at the seeds



Our New Shed!



Making a spider web



No frogs yet!



Making leaf mulch for our veg patch

Hiding!

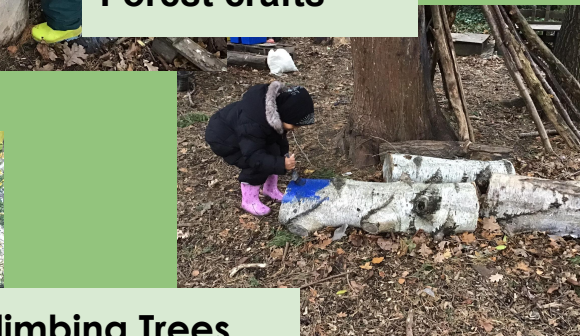


Forest crafts



Our first campfire of the year - with hot chocolate and popcorn!

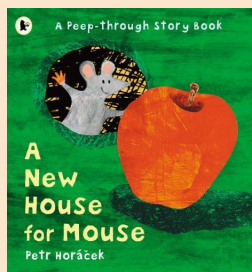
Climbing Trees



Singing with the guitar!







# Nursery



Our topic for Autumn 1 was 'Let's Explore and Build it Up'  
We talked about our homes, families and community.

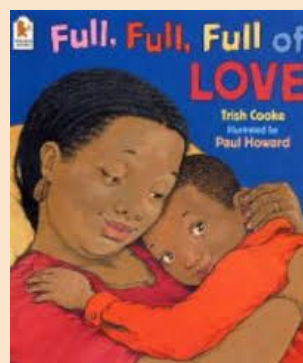


We made new friends  
and learned how to  
play together.

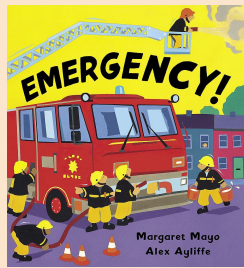


We have been learning about  
different communities and  
enjoyed cooking plantain and  
making African style necklaces to  
celebrate Black History Month

We learned about  
how people celebrate  
Diwali and made salt  
dough divas.







# Nursery *continued...*

Our topic for Autumn 2 was 'Marvellous Machines'. We learned about how different machines help us and talked about the machines we know. We also learned about puppets and enjoyed making our own and putting on puppet shows for our friends.



We read No-Bot the Robot and made our own robots using recycled materials

While making gingerbread men, we learned to measure, rub in, mix and roll.



Puppet show and making puppets



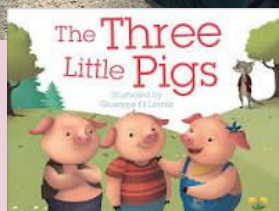
We enjoyed our first school trip to the church where we received a very warm welcome decorated the tree and made our own Christmas Angels





# Reception

Our topic for Autumn 1 was Let's Explore and Build It Up. We learned about our homes, families, and the communities we live in. We talked about what makes our homes special, the importance of family, and how communities come together to support each other.



We read the 'Three Little pigs' and learnt about different materials.



In Maths, the children have been exploring the concept of number using a five-frame.



The children have been learning about being brave, using their imagination, and enjoying rhyming words. They had fun acting out parts of the The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson.



We have been learning about Diwali, the Festival of Lights. The children have enjoyed discovering the traditions and stories behind this special celebration, and we made diya lamps using salt dough.





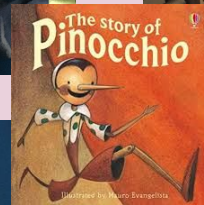


# Reception continued...

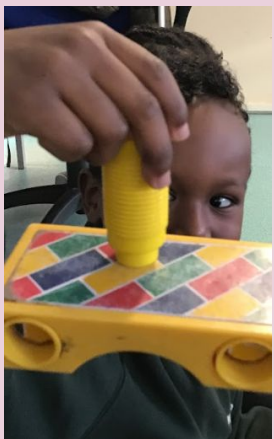


We read Pinocchio and learned all about puppets. The children had a great time getting creative, decorating their puppets with eyes, noses, and colorful clothes. They also practiced their storytelling skills by putting on puppet shows for each other.

The children have been working on their balancing skills as they navigated an exciting obstacle course! They practiced balancing on a bench, stepping over blocks and moving carefully through different challenges.



The children have been busy in the kitchen making delicious vegetable soup! They've enjoyed learning about different vegetables, healthy eating, teamwork, and following simple recipes.



The children have been exploring the fascinating world of magnets in the outdoor area!





The Tiger Who Came to Tea



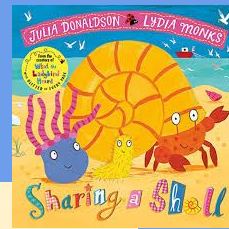
# Year 1



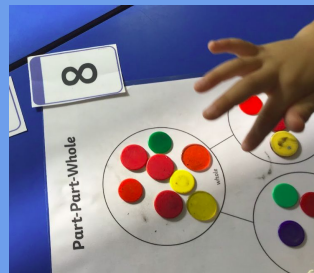
This term in English we read 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' We had lots of fun making puppets and reenacting the story.



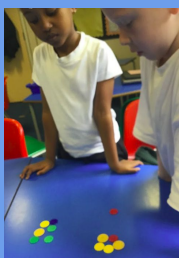
We created our own characters and wrote our own versions of the story. We really enjoyed our Tiger tea party.



Next we read 'Sharing a Shell'. We explored the story and thought about how the different characters might be feeling. We then looked at instructions. We made our own hermit crabs and then wrote instructions on how to make them.



In maths we used lots of cubes and counters to explore number. We learned how to use the part whole model and also did addition and subtraction within 10.





# Year 1 *continued...*

In geography we have been thinking about What it is like at Woodlands. We found out about human and physical features. We looked at aerial views and maps. We then created our own 3D maps of the school.



We explored different ways to draw lines in Art.

This term is science we have finding out about animals including humans. We identified different animals around school, and learned that we can sort animals into different groups based on characteristics and diets. We then looked at humans, naming body parts and exploring our senses. We did an experiment using our sense of smell.







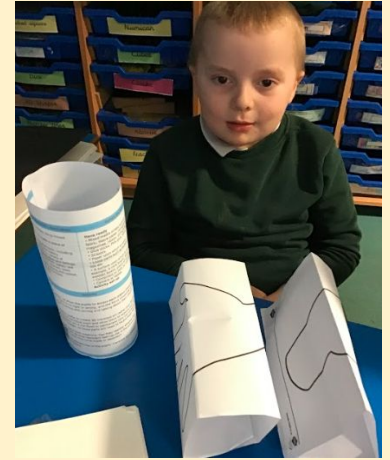
# Year 2



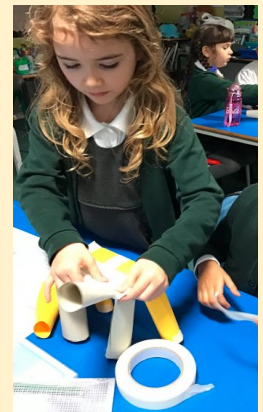
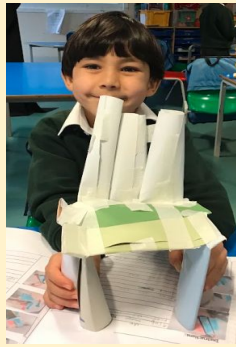
This term, Woodpeckers have been busy writing stories. We have also written some instructions to help us with our DT!



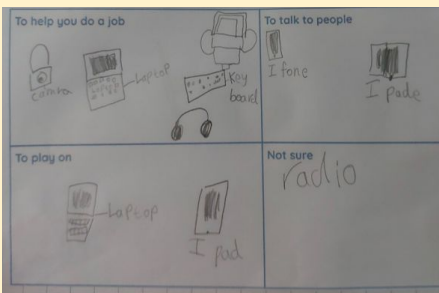
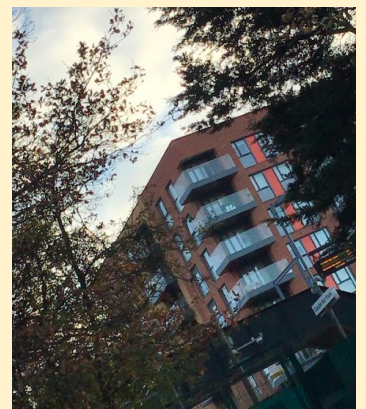
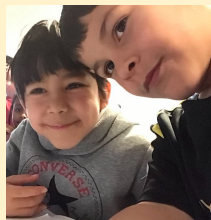
What's that about Baby bear's chair? Well, we explored different types of chairs, materials and their shapes.



We tested different 3D shapes and their strength. The strongest tested shape was chosen to help us build our chairs!



We took photos using close ups of buildings, action shots of people and something in the distance. Have a look at our digital photography skills!



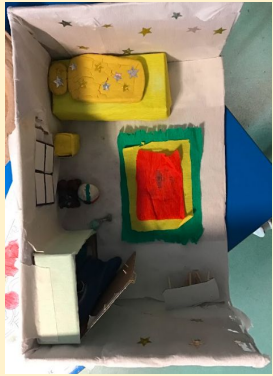
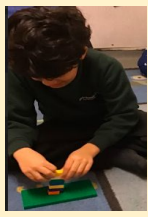
We know how useful Information Technology (IT) can be.



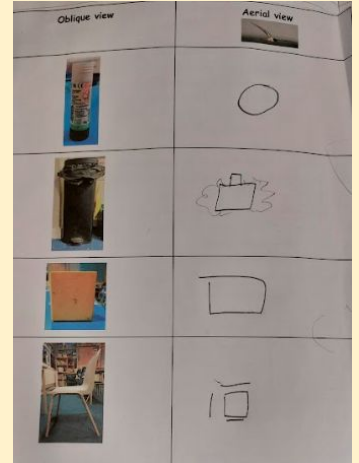
It's important to ask for people's permission before you take a photo. That's exactly what we did!



# Year 2 continued...



In Geography we have learnt about **oblique** and **aerial** views.



The Great Fire of London trip at **Guildhall Art Gallery**.



We saw a figure of Samuel Pepys. We also drew our own monument designs for the Great Fire of London; dressed in role and looked at some maps.



We saw Lord Mayor's State coach

