

Woodhall Weekly



Friday 18th July 2025



The end of another academic year...can you believe it? As always, the time seems to have flown. As we say goodbye to our wonderful Year Six pupils and prepare to welcome new Early Years children and their families to Woodhall, it's great to stop and reflect on all the amazing achievements and events of the past year. Do you remember...?

SEPTEMBER

- Our visit to **Hobbledown Heath** for team-building fun in the sun

OCTOBER

- Key Stage Two's visit to the **Royal Opera House** to see 'Alice in Wonderland' – followed by our Mad Hatters Tea Party back in school!
- Our Baked bean-themed **Harvest Festival** collection (no other school had their very own Bean Mountain!)
- **Cycle Day**, where we were able to provide bicycles for most children who didn't own one
- Our **Diwali/Fireworks art & craft day**
- All of the spooky **Halloween raffle** fun!

NOVEMBER

- Weekly **Yoga** sessions began for the children from Year One up
- We welcomed our friends from **Electric Umbrella** for another brilliant workshop
- Year Six led our annual, very special '**Woodhall Remembers**' assembly
- Our **School Governors** visited to spend a day in school with the children
- We held our '**Be Bright, Be Seen**' workshop and gave all of the children reflective bands for their coats

DECEMBER

- Our very first **Elf Day!**
- Our choir visited the **Senior Lunch Club** to sing carols: the first visit of many...
- We all wore our **Christmas jumpers** on Christmas lunch day
- Key Stages One & Two went to see '**Aladdin**' at **Watford Palace Theatre** whilst Early Years enjoyed a visit from **Mr. Marvel** the Magician
- We held a 'Kids Only!' **Christmas Fair**
- Early Years performed their Christmas play '**Humph the Camel**' and Years One - Six entertained us all with their carols and re-telling of the **Nativity**.

JANUARY

- You all came to join our '**Come & Learn**' class workshops
- We celebrated the **Lunar New Year** with a day of arts activities

FEBRUARY

- Key Stage Two visited the **Museum of the Moon** ('Giant Moon Day!') at St. Albans Cathedral and took part in a **planetarium experience**
- Drumming resounded throughout the school when Keys Stages One & Two took part in a (very loud!) **drumming workshop**
- We had an unforgettable royal visit from His Highness **King Henry VIII**
- Some of our Year Four, Five and Six children participated in '**Bikeability**' training

MARCH

- We all celebrated the importance of bedtime books by wearing pyjamas and onesies on **World Book Day**
- We learned about the importance of **rail safety** and **carbon monoxide awareness** in our class workshops
- Year Five created amazing **dragon eggs** at Oxhey Library
- Our friend **Officer Marc Arnold** came all the way from Florida to surprise the children with a visit!

APRIL

- We created some brilliant **Easter Bonnets** for our Easter parade
- Our annual dress-up saw some famous Georges, dragons, knights and princesses to celebrate **St. George's Day**
- Year Five began their '**Mini Police**' sessions with PCSOs Chris, Ross and other visitors from Hertfordshire Constabulary

MAY

- We took part in a '**Travelling Tales**' art workshop centred around the River Colne
- '**Back to 1955...Time Tunnel Day**' launched our whole-school project on the history of Woodhall and South Oxhey for our 70th anniversary

JUNE

- Year Six had a brilliant time at **Gulliver's Land** on their residential trip
- We celebrated **National School Sports' Week** with rounders, Ultimate Frisbee, Ninja Warriors and a climbing tower on the school field!
- Year Four visited **St. Albans Cathedral** to sing with a host of other schools and Electric Umbrella
- We began our '**Tell Us a Story**' class assemblies
- Hertfordshire Police held a **knife crime/Child Criminal Exploitation** information session for parents
- Year Six went to Vicarage Road for their '**Crucial Crew**' day (as part of our secondary transition programme)

JULY

- We invited former staff, pupils and lots of other visitors into school to join us for our '**Happy Birthday Woodhall!**' celebration day...and we turned the whole hall into '**Woodhall Museum**'!
- Key Stage Two wowed us with their performance of '**Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies**'
- We chose our new class names and took part in other exiting activities as part of our **class swap morning**
- We began our goodbyes to Year 6 with the **leavers' dinner** and **outdoor disco** (with a Year Six parents' breakfast and assembly today).

And that's not to mention all of our **visitors from the local community** and beyond, our **talent shows, sports' events, parents' workshops** and more that are always just part of the calendar at Woodhall. **We are so very proud of our children**, who have worked tirelessly and with so much enthusiasm throughout the year and have achieved great things. Wherever we go and in whatever we do, we talk about the '**Woodhall Way**'; the core rules that we follow and which embody our **Woodhall Values**. The **overwhelmingly positive feedback** that we always get from staff who work at the many places that we take our children to, or any visitors that come to our school; they all say the same thing: **Woodhall children are the best!**

As we busily prepare for Woodhall's seventy-first year and all of the wonderful things that lie ahead, I would like to say a personal **thank you to all of the staff, governors and families** who work so hard to make Woodhall the happy, community-centred school that it is. **We may be small, but the Woodhall Family is MIGHTY!**

Have a lovely summer everyone and see you for the start of another epic learning adventure in September!

Michelle Lake
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WOODHALL AWARDS 2025

It is always so tricky to choose just one winner for each award, as there are so many children that deserve to win. After some difficult decisions, it's huge congratulations to this year's Woodhall Award winners:

EFFORT AWARD

'You have been chosen to receive this very special award because of the huge effort and care that you have taken in your learning this year. You have NEVER given up and have always tried your very best in every subject. You are a truly conscientious student and we are VERY proud of you'

Tiger Cubs: Hadasa

Panthers: Eunice

Jaguars: Ellie

Lions: Hope

PROGRESS AWARD

'You have worked extremely hard this year. When learning has been a bit tricky, you have NEVER given up but have risen to the challenge. As a result, you have made exceptional progress. We are VERY proud of you!'

Tiger Cubs: Oliver

Panthers: Minnie

Jaguars: Harry

Lions: Leigha

WELL-BEING AWARD

'You have been chosen to receive this very special award because you always look out for those around you. You are a great and caring friend to others, and you make sure that you look after everyone. You cheer people up and are an absolute pleasure to be around. We are VERY proud of you!'

Tiger Cubs: Bia

Panthers: Amber

Jaguars: Dolly

Lions: Leo

WOODHALL AMBASSADOR AWARD

'You have been a fantastic ambassador for Woodhall this year! Whether in class, taking part in a sports event or out on a trip, you have been a great representative of our school. You have always behaved with excellent manners and you have looked out for those around you. We are VERY proud of you!'

Tiger Cubs: Kiyon

Panthers: Phoebe

Jaguars: Dhyanam

Lions: Jazmin

Our additional, very special Year Six awards:

SPORTS' CUP: MARIA

Throughout your time at Woodhall, you have proven your skills and attributes as a sports person time and again. Since you were small, you have taken part in a wide range of school sports' clubs, with excellent attendance; and you have given 100% in everything that you do. As part of a team, you have supported and encouraged your team mates; you have kept them going when things were challenging, and you have celebrated with them in victory. You have always shown respect in the sporting arena and true resilience. You have such a gift for football and you are a formidable player. Opposition players have underestimated you on numerous occasions and were left, mouths agape, as you snatched the ball from them with ease time and time again! We are so very proud of your sporting efforts and abilities and we know that you will go on to achieve huge sporting success in the future. Like Woodhall, you are small but MIGHTY!

THE FLEMING CUP: FINLAY

This is the third year in which we are awarding the Fleming Cup. Named for Sue and Pete Fleming, for whom Woodhall was more than just a job, the award is given to the Year 6 child who has shown great helpfulness to adults around the school all of the time; helping with a multitude of tasks, noticing when monitoring jobs need to be picked up due to another's absence and volunteering to complete the task themselves. From your very earliest years at Woodhall, you have undertaken a huge variety of jobs in school including helping with displays, cleaning, sorting, tidying and so much more! You perform these tasks reliably, efficiently and effectively. All the staff have noticed and appreciated your efforts and we are all going to miss you very much.

And this year's winner of the WOODHALL CUP: EMMA

The winner of the Woodhall Cup has been chosen by staff and governors, and is not simply for a pupils' efforts in Year 6 but throughout their time at Woodhall. You have always shown a very positive attitude and approach to all aspects of school, from being in Early Years right through until now. You have a big smile and a kind word for everyone. You are the most amazing embodiment of our Woodhall Values. You have faced some very tricky challenges of your own during your time here, but you have never given up and you have grown so much stronger and more confident as a result of your complete and utter determination to succeed. We are in awe! You are hardworking and always willing to listen to and act upon advice. Around the school, you are always helpful and take time to ask if an adult or another child needs help. In particular, you have gone over and above to support our younger children at Woodhall; encouraging them and being a supportive and nurturing 'buddy'. You are always reliable and make good choices when dealing with challenging situations as well as helping to guide others who need support.

You are a very good friend to others. This year, we are extra-proud of you for your excellent performance skills - engaging the audience, making us laugh and showing great dedication in everything that you do. You are very special to all of us and we know that you will have such a huge amount to offer at your next school.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Please note: life in primary school can be very eventful and sometimes we will need to make changes to the dates listed. When this happens, we will try to give you as much notice as possible.

DATE/TIME	EVENT
Monday 21 st August - Thursday 4 th September/SUMMER HOLIDAYS	
ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026	
Friday 5 th September 2025	Back to school
Monday 27 th - Friday 31 st October/ HALF TERM WEEK	
Monday 1 st December 2025	Occasional Day
Friday 19 th December 2025	End of term
Monday 22 nd December - Friday 2 nd January/CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	
Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th February/HALF TERM WEEK	
Monday 30 th March - Friday 10 th April/EASTER HOLIDAYS	
Monday 25 th -Friday 29 th May/HALF TERM WEEK	
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	End of term

GOODBYE, YEAR 6!

It is always a time of mixed-emotions for everyone – children, parents, staff – when our Year Six class reach their final day at Woodhall. They are absolutely ready for the next stage of their academic journey, but we will miss them terribly. As I say to the class each year in September; Year Six flies past in the blink of an eye! It is incredible to think that this year's children missed a huge part of Key Stage One in school due to the Covid lockdowns. This year is extra-poignant as we bid farewell to the youngest child of so many families who have been with Woodhall for a very long time. But, as we always say, that invisible Woodhall elastic will ping you back to us in one way or another!



Hope, Finlay, Edi, Sofia, Aaron, Jasmine, Keno, Jazmin, Duarte, Emma, Thomas, Juan, Artem, Charlie, Ryan, Maria, Denis, Thiago; we wish each and every one of you the very best of everything and we hope that Woodhall will always hold a special place in your hearts.