

Woodhall Tweetly



Friday 19th September 2025



A fantastic time was had by all on our **first school trip** of the new academic year yesterday! **Hertfordshire Zoo** (which used to be called Paradise Wildlife Park) really is a great place for primary school-aged children. We started by exploring the **'World of Animals'** where we saw lions lazing on a rock, snow leopards balancing on branches, tigers hiding in the leaves, a HUGE anaconda half-submerged in the watery tropics, gibbons swinging on their climbing frames...and so much more! We patted the comical goats in their enclosure, watched an amazing display in the **'World of Birds'** with Head Keeper Chris and listened to a really interesting talk all about Marion the Sulcata Tortoise. In the afternoon, we all felt very brave and walked through the **'World of Dinosaurs'** (with clear warnings that any children left unattended would be fed to the dinosaurs...) before ending our day in the **adventure playground**. **WOW!** We really did make some more **wonderful Woodhall memories**. A huge, huge **THANK YOU** to all of our family volunteers who came along to help on the trip...**Jordan, Teresa, Rachel, Demi, Lyndsey, Nikki, Nicolle and Lynn**. *We really do appreciate your help.* And **thank you to all parents/carers** for your patience for waiting as we made sure that all of our children were able to get off of the coach and come back into the school grounds before going home safely with their adult.

We've got **so many amazing things** happening at Woodhall this term. Our friend Mr. Clarke is back moulding the new crop of Year Sixes into an outstanding **steel pans band**, we've got some amazing musicians visiting each week taking us on a journey aboard the **Jazz Train**, the brilliant **Super Star Sports** take each class for our PE sessions, Louisa brings us well-being for our bodies and minds each week with a **yoga session** for all children in Reception and upwards...**miss a day at Woodhall and you really do miss out!**

Happy weekend!

Michelle Lake

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FIRE DRILL/LOCKDOWN DRILL AT WOODHALL

As part of our safeguarding practice at Woodhall, we talk to the children regularly about our safety drills, and ensure that- like everything else - this is approached as a learning process. This week in assembly, we activated the **fire alarm** so that our new and youngest children could hear the sound that it makes. We talked about what we need to do when we hear the fire alarm: **leave all of our belongings** where they are (*because we are much more important than our belongings*) and **walk quickly and quietly** to the nearest **fire exit** before **lining up** on the playground where our teachers read out the class registers and tell us if it is safe to go back into the building. On Tuesday, we practised our fire drill. The adults knew that the fire alarm would be activated, but the children did not. **We were very proud of the way that they all followed our fire safety rules** and were lined up on the playground in two minutes and fifty-seven seconds. The next time we practise, nobody will have advance warning!

You have probably seen lots in the news about '**Martyn's Law**' and school lockdowns. Martyn's Law requires certain venues and events to implement security measures and preparedness plans to mitigate the risk of a terrorist attack. **Schools form a special category under Martyn's Law** and, although we are a small school, it is good practice that we review our own lockdown drill. We are currently in the process of doing this, and will let you know as soon as this is in place. As always, please rest assured that all information shared with the children will be entirely age-appropriate.

BIRTHDAY SWEETS

Last week, we let the children know that they can now come into school wearing their own clothes on their birthdays – which went down a storm! Just a reminder for parents/carers; you are welcome to send in sweets to celebrate your child's birthday (*although you do not have to do this*). However, these need to be **individually wrapped packets**; for example, the small packets of Haribo). Children are not allowed to eat birthday sweets in school but **must take them home**. Please remember that we have many children with **specific dietary requirements** – for *medical, religious* and *cultural* reasons. Thank you for your understanding.

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Our School Office opening hours are:

Mondays – Thursdays 8.30am – 3.40pm

Fridays: 8.30am – 2.00pm

Our School Office is very busy and it is not always possible to answer the phone immediately, especially during playtime (10.15-10.30am) and lunch time (12-1pm). However, please do **leave a voicemail** on the answerphone and **we will get back to you as soon as possible**.

Please note that on **Mondays** and **Fridays**, we only have one person in the office (Fouzia on Mondays and Nikki on Fridays) so things can get extra-hectic! Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST WEEK'S AWARD WINNERS!



WE ARE SO PROUD OF OUR AWARD WINNERS!



12.9.2025	<i>The Woodhall Wow: FAMILY</i>	<i>Learner of the Week</i>
PARROTS 	<i>SKYE for helping the new children in the class to settle in. HADASA for helping her Parrot family to tidy up at tidy up time.</i>	<i>RECEPTION for working fantastically hard during their first full week in school. ONA for listening really well in all our lessons.</i>
PUFFINS 	<i>KEVIN and NATASHA have been much loved members of the Woodhall Family and we will miss them but we know they will take the spirit of Woodhall with them as they go to their new school.</i>	<i>REBECCA has shown great maturity in her approach to learning. We expect great things from this bright young learner.</i>
KINGFISHERS 	<i>POPPY LP for being a fantastic role-model in our new Kingfishers Class. On time and in school every day, undertaking jobs without being asked, taking on extra responsibilities... we are very proud of her!</i>	<i>KAIDEN for his incredibly hard work throughout the week. He has given maximum effort in every task. What a great start to Year Six!</i>

HOUSE POINTS

OAK	ASH	BEECH	ELM
144	139	104	151

USEFUL CONTACTS

Headteacher: Michelle Lake

head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

SENCo: Mrs Raithatha

sraithatha@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

Early Years/Year One (PARROTS) Teachers: Miss Jones/Mrs Biedul

Nursery/Reception: njones@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

Year One: lbiedul@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

Years Two/Three/Four (PUFFINS) Teacher: Mrs Cooper Battersby

Ebattersby@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

Years Five/Six (KINGFISHERS) Teachers: Mrs Fitzgerald/Miss Lake

Julie.Fitzgerald@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

SCHOOL OFFICE

0208 428 3447

admin@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

For notification of absence, please email:

attendance@woodhall.herts.sch.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2025-2026

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
Wednesday 17th September	Nursery/Reception parents invited to join your child for our 'Wake & Shake' morning routine
Thursday 18th September	Year 1- Year 6 Trip to Hertfordshire Zoo
Thursday 2nd October	National Poetry Day/Hot Dog Day (school lunches)
Wednesday 8th October	Year 4 Tri-Golf Competition (at Woodhall)
Thursday 9th October	School photos
Monday 20th October	Harvest/Diwali arts & crafts day
Tuesday 21st October/Wednesday 22nd October	Parents' Consultation Evenings
Thursday 23rd October	Harvest Festival
Friday 24th October	Halloween Raffle/afternoon disco
Monday 27th – Friday 31st October HALF-TERM WEEK	
Tuesday 11th November	10.45am 'Woodhall Remembers' Assembly: Year 6 parents/carers invited
Tuesday 11th November	Flu vaccinations
Wednesday 12th November	Year 5 Fun Run (at Greenfields)
Wednesday 12th November	2pm 'Come and Learn' session for parents/carers of Reception children
Thursday 20th November	2pm 'Come and Learn' session for parents/carers of Puffins children (Year Two/Three/Four)
Tuesday 25th November	2pm 'Come and Learn' session for parents/carers of Year One children
Thursday 27th November	2pm 'Come and Learn' session for parents/carers of Kingfishers children (Years Five/Six)
Monday 1st December	Occasional Day: School Closed
Tuesday 9th December	EYFS/Year 1 Nativity (times TBC)
Thursday 11th December	Woodhall's Elf Day/Christmas Arts & Crafts. Parents/carers of children in Nursery/Reception/Year 1 invited to join your child.
Friday 12th December	Years One – Six Trip to Watford Colosseum: Electric Umbrella Christmas Show
Tuesday 16th December	6pm Year 2-Year 6 Carols by Candlelight
Friday 19th December	1pm End-of-term
Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	
Monday 5th January 2026	Children back to school
Tuesday 13th January	Year 6 Indoor Athletics Competition (at Merchant Taylors')
Monday 16th – Friday 20th February/HALF TERM WEEK	
Monday 23rd February	Children back to school
Tuesday 17th March	Year 5 Tag Rugby Competition (at Greenfields)
Friday 27th March	1pm End-of-term
Monday 30th March – Friday 10th April/EASTER HOLIDAYS	
Monday 13th April	INSET Day: Children NOT in school!
Tuesday 14th April	Children back to school
Monday 11th-Thursday 14th May	Year 6 SATs Week
Tuesday 19th May	Year 6 Cricket Festival (at Bushey Cricket Club)
Monday 25th -Friday 29th May/HALF TERM WEEK	
Monday 1st June - Friday 5th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check Week
Thursday 4th June - Friday 5th June	Year 6 Residential Trip to Gulliver's Land
Monday 8th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week
Wednesday 22nd July	1pm End-of-term
SUMMER HOLIDAYS	