

# Woodhall Tweetly



Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025



Welcome back, everyone! I hope that you all had a lovely half-term week. Wasn't it brilliant to see one of our fabulous Woodhall families making the local press with their completely amazing Halloween decorations?! **Well done, Dolly, Minnie, Nikki, Dave, family and neighbours!** If you haven't seen this spooky spectacle for yourselves, have a look at

<https://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/leisure/25586948.south-oxhey-home-puts-spectacular-halloween-display/>

Back to school for the second half-term and we are straight **back to business at Woodhall!** Our mornings are very structured across the school, with children from Year One to Year 6 starting each day with **Maths** before moving on to **Phonics/Reading** and then **English (text-based writing)** lessons. Our afternoons are filled with foundation fun! **Foundation subjects** in a primary curriculum include *Art and Design, Computing, Design and Technology (DT), Geography, History, Music, Physical Education (PE), Modern Foreign Language (MFL), Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education (PSHE) and Religious Education (RE)*. These subjects provide a **balanced education** and foster the development of **creativity, cultural appreciation, and physical skills**; exposing the children to a wide range of knowledge, skills and experiences that help them to discover **personal interests and talents**, build their **confidence**, and to develop skills like **problem-solving** and **critical thinking** that complement their core subject learning.

Here's just a glimpse at what our classes are learning over the next few weeks...

**Parrots (Nursery/Reception/Year One):** One of the Areas of Learning in the Early Years curriculum is **Expressive Arts and Design**; and our Little Nursery and Reception Parrots will be very busy developing their **fine motor skills** (*those tiny but vital co-ordinated muscle movements essential for carrying out tasks such as holding a pencil, tying shoelaces and so on*) by using a **range of media** such as painting, collage and cutting to create poppies. Our Year One Parrots will be **creating their own templates** to design their poppies and will use a range of 'loose parts' – buttons, wool, lolly sticks, cake cases to bring their designs to life. This, of course, is linked to the children's early learning about **Remembrance Day**.

**Puffins (Years Two, Three and Four):** In **Design & Technology**, our Puffins will be **designing and making** their own **bird feeders** linked to their work on **Habitats** in Science. The children will **investigate** what types of birds are found in our local area, **research** what they like to eat and **explore** ecological ways to support our Wild-Woodhall family using biodegradable and recyclable materials. When the children's creations are finished, they will hang them up and see what feathery friends our bird feeders invite onto our playground.

**Kingfishers (Years Five and Six):** After a whistle-stop visit to the history of the **Gunpowder Plot** (*involving Henry VIII and the break from the Catholic Church, the line of succession leading to the coronation of King James I, the anger of the conspirators, the plot itself and its legacy!*); the Kingfishers are going even further back in time this term by learning all about a very exciting period of British history...the **Anglo-Saxons** and **Vikings**. The children will be finding out why the **Romans** left Britain (and...what did the Romans ever do for us?!) and about the next wave of invaders to land and settle on British shores, who came to be known as the **Anglo- Saxons**. They will **research** life in Anglo-Saxon times using both **primary** and **secondary sources** of information, and learn to **question the validity of sources**. Finally, the Kingfishers will find out what happened when the Vikings arrived, and events unfolded that led to one of the most influential events in British history...**1066 and the Battle of Hastings**. Exciting!

Happy weekend everyone, and we hope to see you at our 'Woodhall Remembers' assembly on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November at 10.45am.

Michelle Lake

[head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@woodhall.herts.sch.uk)

### Come and learn

Over the next half-term, we will be holding a series of '**Come and Learn**' sessions. Come and join your child as the teachers talk through different areas of the school curriculum and year group expectations. Sessions will take place on the following dates:

| CLASS                                  | DATE                                | TIME        | SUBJECT                   |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Parrots:</u> <b>Reception</b>       | Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November | 2-3pm       | Phonics and early reading |
| <u>Puffins:</u> <b>Year 2</b>          | Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November | 1-2pm       | Reading (phonics)         |
| <u>Puffins:</u> <b>Years 3 &amp; 4</b> | Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November | 2.30-3.30pm | Reading (comprehension)   |
| <u>Parrots:</u> <b>Year 1</b>          | Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> November  | 9-10am      | Phonics and early reading |
| <u>Kingfishers:</u> <b>Year 5</b>      | Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November  | 1-2pm       | Grammar/writing           |
| <u>Kingfishers:</u> <b>Year 6</b>      | Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November  | 2.30-3.30pm | Year 6 SATs               |

If your session finishes at 2.30pm, you are welcome to take your child home afterwards. We hope that our 'Come and Learn' sessions will be informative, give you a better understanding of the curriculum and help you to support your child at home. *And we hope to see as many of you as possible!*






## CONGRATULATIONS TO LAST WEEK'S AWARD WINNERS!



# WE ARE SO PROUD OF OUR AWARD WINNERS!



| 23.10.2025  | <i>The Woodhall Wow:<br/>FAMILY</i>   | <i>Learner of the Week</i>  |
|---|---|---|
| <b>PARROTS</b><br>     | AGNES for helping the newest member of the Parrot family to settle in.  | SIENNA for always trying her best and completing her work with a smile.   |
| <b>PUFFINS</b><br>     | HARRY, for taking great care of all of your Puffin classmates: making them feel included and ensuring everyone has fun!         | LOUIS for his great enthusiasm and wonderful ideas in <u>READING</u> , <u>WRITING</u> and <u>MATHS</u> .<br><u>Well done!</u> |
| <b>KINGFISHERS</b><br> | JEROME, who is always first to offer to help out; he completes his school and class jobs with dedication and care. Great stuff! | KATIE for becoming a very independent learner; taking steps to ensure maximum focus and productivity. <u>Well done Katie!</u> |

## USEFUL CONTACTS

**Headteacher:** Michelle Lake

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**SENCo:** Mrs Raithatha

[sraithatha@woodhall.herts.sch.uk](mailto:sraithatha@woodhall.herts.sch.uk)

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

Nursery/Reception: [njones@woodhall.herts.sch.uk](mailto:njones@woodhall.herts.sch.uk)

Year One: [lbiedul@woodhall.herts.sch.uk](mailto:lbiedul@woodhall.herts.sch.uk)

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

[Ebattersby@woodhall.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Ebattersby@woodhall.herts.sch.uk)

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

[Julie.Fitzgerald@woodhall.herts.sch.uk](mailto:Julie.Fitzgerald@woodhall.herts.sch.uk)

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### SCHOOL OFFICE

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**For notification of absence, please email:**

[attendance@woodhall.herts.sch.uk](mailto: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  |
|---|--|
| <b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October HALF-TERM WEEK</b>             |  |
| <b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | Group of children visiting the Senior Lunch Club at Watford Rural Parish Council   |
| <b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | Whole school visit to 'SAINTS Alive!' exhibition at All Saints' Church   |
| <b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | Gagan Mohindra MP visit to Woodhall  |
| <b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November</b>   | 10.45am 'Woodhall Remembers' Assembly: Year 6 parents/carers invited   |
| <b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November</b>   | Flu vaccinations   |
| <b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November</b>   | Year 5 Fun Run (at Greenfields)  |
| <b>Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November</b>   | 2pm 'Come and Learn' session for parents/carers of Reception children  |
| <b>Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | 'Ambulance Day' at Woodhall  |
| <b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | 1pm/2.30pm 'Come and Learn' session for parents/carers of Puffins children (Year Two/Three/Four)                               |
| <b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>   | Carol-singing at the Senior Lunch Club's Christmas Lunch   |
| <b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November</b>   | 9am 'Come and Learn' session for parents/carers of Year One children   |
| <b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>  | 1pm/2.30pm 'Come and Learn' session for parents/carers of Kingfishers children (Years Five/Six)                                |
| <b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b>   | Occasional Day: School Closed  |
| <b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December</b>  | EYFS/Year 1 Nativity (times TBC)   |
| <b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December</b>  | Woodhall's Elf Day/Christmas Arts & Crafts. Parents/carers of children in Nursery/Reception/Year 1 invited to join your child. |
| <b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December</b>  | Years One – Six Trip to Watford Colosseum: Electric Umbrella Christmas Show  |
| <b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December</b>   | 6pm Year 2-Year 6 Carols by Candlelight  |
| <b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>  | 1pm End-of-term  |
| <b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS</b> |  |
| <b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026</b>   | Children back to school  |
| <b>Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b>  | Year 6 Indoor Athletics Competition (at Merchant Taylors')   |
| <b>Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February/HALF TERM WEEK</b>            |  |
| <b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>  | Children back to school  |
| <b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b>  | Year 5 Tag Rugby Competition (at Greenfields)  |
| <b>Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>   | 1pm End-of-term  |
| <b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April/EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>        |  |
| <b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April</b>   | INSET Day: Children NOT in school!   |
| <b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April</b>  | Children back to school  |
| <b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup>-Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>                                | Year 6 SATs Week   |
| <b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b>  | Year 6 Cricket Festival (at Bushey Cricket Club)   |
| <b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> -Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May/HALF TERM WEEK</b>                  |  |
| <b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>                            | Year 4 Multiplication Check Week   |
| <b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> June - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>                          | Year 6 Residential Trip to Gulliver's Land   |
| <b>Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June</b>   | Year 1 Phonics Screening Check Week  |
| <b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>   | 1pm End-of-term  |
| <b>SUMMER HOLIDAYS</b>  |  |