



Newsletter 5

Friday, 25th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,



Thank-you Mrs Johnson

At the end of this term, we will be saying a very fond farewell to Mrs Johnson, who is retiring after nearly 30 years of amazing dedication to Woodlands Primary School. During this remarkable time, Mrs Johnson has seen two generations of children pass through the school, with some former pupils now bringing their own children to Woodlands. She has made a huge difference across the school, initially working with children with additional needs in Gold Class, before moving into Reception and then spending many years working with children in Upper Key Stage 2. Throughout all of these roles, Mrs Johnson has shown tremendous care, commitment and dedication to our children.

Mr Johnson's contribution has extended far beyond the classroom. Incredibly, she has supported children on more than 40 school residentials, initially at Kingswood on the Isle of Wight and, more recently, at Osmington Bay, helping generations of Woodlands children create memories that will last a lifetime. She has also led girls' football and was a key member of staff in establishing our Breakfast Club, which continues to provide such important support for our children and families. We are also delighted that retirement will not mean saying goodbye completely, as Mrs Johnson has very kindly offered to continue helping with school trips and, perhaps most importantly, the staff annual cooked breakfast! Nearly 30 years of service to one school is an extraordinary achievement, and we are incredibly grateful for everything Mrs Johnson has given to Woodlands. Thank you for the enormous difference you have made to so many children, families and colleagues – you will always be an important part of the Woodlands family.



⚽ Girls' Football – Fantastic Teamwork! ⚽

A huge well done to our Girls' Football Team, who represented Woodlands brilliantly this week at the Salisbury Schools' Football Tournament at Pembroke Park. The girls showed fantastic teamwork, determination and resilience throughout the tournament, supporting and encouraging one another in every match. It was wonderful to see them working so well together as a team and demonstrating such a positive attitude both on and off the pitch. Mr Mawdsley and Mr James were incredibly proud of the way they represented Woodlands. ⚽ 🙌





Harvest Festival collection for the Trussell Trust Foodbank

Our **Harvest Festival Assembly for parents** will take place on **Tuesday 13th October at 9.10am** (please enter via the hall doors). This year we will again be supporting the Trussell Trust. The Trussell Trust Foodbank provides short term emergency food to local people in crisis.

In Salisbury, food banks in the Trussell community distributed

5,745 food parcels

to people facing hardship between April 2024 and March 2025.
2,139 of these were for children.

This vital support makes a real difference to the lives of people in Salisbury during times of personal crisis / hardship.

In 2025-26 the Salisbury foodbank has experienced demand to their service beyond anything they have seen in previous years. **This represents a 315% increase in demand when compared with 2017-18.**

- 39% of the people the Trussell Trust support in Salisbury are children.
- Each food parcel contains 9 meals per recipient.
- The food is free of charge to the recipient.

Please can you assist this work by bringing tinned or dried food for our Harvest Festival.

Urgently needed items are breakfast cereals, pasta sauces, tinned veg, rice, pasta, sugar, UHT milk and fruit juice. All food needs to be in date and undamaged. Please can children start bringing in food from Monday 28th September onwards – please deliver to your child's class;

ATTENDANCE CHALLENGE

SEPTEMBER 2026

We are continuously looking for ways to improve attendance at Woodlands, which is currently below our school target of **96%**.

Following the success of our Attendance Duck Races, we are launching a special **100% September 2026 Attendance Challenge!**

If your child achieves **100% attendance** throughout September, their name will be entered into our September prize draw for the chance to win **£10 worth of vouchers**.

To meet the 100% challenge, children must:

- ✓ Attend school **every day** in September
- ✓ Arrive at school on time **every day**

! If even one day is missed, for any reason, unfortunately your child will not meet the 100% challenge target.

2 LUCKY WINNERS

2 x £10 VOUCHERS

Come to school every day in September 2026.

> You have to be in it to win it! <

Headteachers' Awards

Today, we celebrated: **Oliver and Primrose** (Y1); **Olsi and Emilia** (Y2); **Olivia and Lily** (Y3); **Paisley and Isaac** (Y4); **Corey and Bonnie** (Y5); **Darcie-Mae, Harley Y and Ella Hughes** (Y6).

This week the awards are for **respect** and producing **excellent work**. Huge congratulations to these children.

Team Points Cup					
Date: 25.09.26					
	Green	Yellow	Red	Blue	
Y1	2	1	3	4	
Y2	1	4	3	2	
Y3	3	1	4	2	
Y4	4	1	3	2	
Y5	1	4	3	2	
Y6	2	4	1	3	
	13	15	17	15	



Year 3 have been enjoying their **Science topic on Light**. The children have been investigating how we need light in order to see and exploring different sources of light. They have also been learning about **reflection, shadows and how light can be blocked by different materials**, developing their scientific skills through a range of practical investigations.



Breakfast Club

We have had a very successful first three weeks of Breakfast Club. All sessions run from 7.15am to 8.40am. All the children who have attended have enjoyed a healthy breakfast and a variety of exciting activities. Spaces are still available for next week so please book as soon as possible to secure a place for your child(ren). Many thanks to Mrs Giles and Mrs Upshall for making the children have great fun!



Online Safety – Simple Tech Rules and Navigating Safe AI.

As technology continues to evolve at a rapid pace, AI is becoming an increasingly common part of young people's online experiences, from social media and gaming to homework and everyday searches. This month's online safety section looks at what parents need to know about AI, while also providing a timely reminder to carry out some simple online safety checks, such as reviewing privacy settings, parental controls and age ratings, to help keep children safe online.

Please click on the link below – many thanks to Knowsley City Learning Centre for providing this content.

https://player.vimeo.com/video/1217983810?badge=0&autoplay=0&player_id=0&app_id=58479

After-School Club

We have also had a very successful first three weeks of after-school club. Sessions run from 3.00pm to 5.15pm (Mon-Thurs). Many thanks to Mrs Stokes and Mrs Swindlehurst for organising a range of exciting activities.

The Tuesday cooking sessions have been very successful so please book up as soon as possible to reserve a space for your child. Next week the children will be making chicken or veggie wraps.





This week, the children in Hazel Class enjoyed tasting our Fruit of the Week – plums! The children were excited to try the juicy fruit. It was lovely to see everyone being adventurous and willing to try something new (for some of them), while also learning about the importance of enjoying a healthy and varied diet. We are also very grateful to Tesco for continuing to generously provide fruit for the whole school, giving all of our children the opportunity to enjoy a range of fresh fruit. Thank you for your continued support!



Non-School Uniform Day – Thank-you - £113.12

A huge thank-you to all parents for your generous support of our non-uniform day. The £113 raised will go towards the purchase of new ipads for the children.

Dates for the Diary

Parents' Evening 1 (FS2-Y6 All Classes)	Monday 5 th October	
Parents' Evening 2 (FS2-Y6 All Classes)	Wednesday 7 th October	
Harvest Festival 	Tuesday 13 th October	9.10am <i>All parents/carers are welcome – please enter via the hall doors</i>
Y3 Visit to Stonehenge	Wednesday 14 th October	All day visit

Y6 Residential at Osmington Bay (PGL)	Wednesday 14 th October – Friday 16 th October	
Final day of Term 1	Friday 16 th October	3.00pm (<i>usual finish time</i>)
Autumn Half-Term	Monday 19 th October – Friday 30 th October	School Closed to all pupils
First day of Term 2	Monday 2 nd November	8.50am (<i>usual start time</i>) <i>Gates open 8.40am</i>
Children In Need Day – wear something dotty – donate online	Friday 13 th November	All day
School Photo Day	Thursday 19 th November	
Y5 Visit to the Tank Museum	Friday 20 th November	All day visit
Non-School Uniform Day – please bring a bottle for the Christmas Market Tombola	Friday 27 th November	All day
Christmas Book at Bedtime – all pupils	Wednesday 2 nd December	4.30pm-5.00pm
Y5 & Y6 Choir to St Thomas' Church for the Christmas Tree Festival	Friday 4 th December	am
Acorn Class (Reception) Nativity for parents	Tuesday 8 th December	2.00pm
Key Stage 1 Nativity – Ash Class (Y1) Parents	Wednesday 9 th December	2.00pm
Christmas Jumper Day – all pupils	Thursday 10 th December	All day
Key Stage 1 Nativity – Cedar Class (Y2) Parents	Thursday 10 th December	2.00pm
Christmas Discos Acorn Class, Year 1, Year 2 & Year 3 Year 4, Year 5 & Year 6	Thursday 10 th December	5.00pm-6.00pm (Acorn, Y1, Y2 & Y3) 6.00pm-7.00pm (Y4, Y5 & Y6)
Woodlands Christmas Market	Monday 14 th December	2.00pm in the school hall
Christmas Parties – <i>children can wear a Christmas jumper on this day</i>	Thursday 17 th December	Pm – No school lunches food to be provided
Final day of Term 2	Friday 18 th December	1.00pm finish time
First Day of Term 3	Monday 4 th January	8.50am (<i>usual start time</i>) <i>Gates open 8.40am</i>

Kind regards,

M Kitley

Matthew Kitley
Headteacher