Westwood Farm Schools

Newsletter

Issue 1 Friday 4th September 2026

Nurture, Inspire, Achieve

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Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils

Welcome back! I hope you all had a lovely summer, a special welcome to all our new families who have joined us. We have had a lovely start to the new school year. We had welcome back assemblies yesterday and the children were all keen to tell me about their adventures during the holidays. I have been round the classes over the last two days, and the children are already looking very settled with their new teachers.

Ofsted

As you will be aware, the Junior School were visited by Ofsted on the 7th and 8th July. I am delighted to share the final report with you which is attached to this newsletter. This was our first inspection under the new Ofsted Framework, so it was a little bit like stepping into the unknown! The process was very rigorous and to obtain the expected standard is a high benchmark. I would never describe an Ofsted visit as welcome, but the inspectors we had were very fair and keen to hear our views as well as yours as parents and carers about the school.

Parental Code of Conduct

At Westwood Farm we are very fortunate that we have a lovely community where there is mutual respect between home and school. It is very rare any issue cannot be resolved in a manner not consistent with that respect. However, schools are being encouraged to set out what is acceptable behaviour. So that all stakeholders are aware of the expectations, we are attaching our Parent/Carer Code of Conduct Policy. This is for your reference, and we would request that you become familiar with the contents.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Meet the Teacher sessions next week; Years 1 & 2 on Tuesday 8th September at 3.30pm and Years 3-6 on Wednesday 9th September at 3.40pm.

Thank you for your support as always,

Mrs Ross and all the Westwood Farm Staff

School Contacts

Should you have any concerns regarding your child, the class teacher should be the person you contact first. We then have a Leadership Team who should be your next point of contact. Following that we have a Deputy Head and lastly, we have our Headteacher, if you need to speak with a member of staff, you must contact them via the school office. Please see the structure below:

Mrs. Norford – FS1 (Nursery) and FS2 Team Leader (Foundation)
Mrs. Wakeham – Key Stage 1 Team Leader (Years 1 and 2)
Miss Exworth – Lower Key Stage 2 Team Leader (Years 3 and 4)

Miss Harrison – Upper Key Stage 2 (Years 5 and 6)
Mrs. Dutton – Teacher in Charge of the Hearing Resource Base
Mrs. Howlett – Teacher in Charge of McKee Class
Mrs. Wall – Special Education Needs Co-ordinator
Mr. Gunn – Deputy Head
Mrs. Ross - Headteacher

Absence Reporting via parentmail
If your child is going to be absent from school due to illness, please log the absence via Parentmail before 8.45am on the first morning of absence and send an update notification every subsequent day until return to school.

Lunch orders via parentmail
We would kindly ask that you remember that if your child requires a school meal, that they are booked online 24 hours in advance.

Nuts
We have several pupils and staff members who have a life-threatening allergy to nuts, therefore can we please ask that ingredients are checked on snack and lunchbox items before being brought into school. Thank you

Earrings and jewellery
Please remember that Jewellery should not be worn into school, except a sensible watch (No smart watches) and/or a single plain stud earring in either or both ears if ears are pierced (pupils are responsible for these at all times). Earrings should not be worn on PE days or taped up.

New FS1 (Carle Class)/FS2 (Donaldson and Milne Class) Parents Coffee n chat invite
You are invited to join us for a welcome coffee/tea on Thursday 10th September 2025 from 2.45-3.15pm and/or Friday 11th September from 9.00-9.30am in the Infant Staffroom. This will give you an opportunity to meet Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Norford, Early Years Lead and the rest of your fellow FS2/FS1 parents.

PE days reminder
<u>FS2 and Years 1 & 2 to bring PE kit into school on a Monday and left in school all week.</u>
FS1 (nursery) – no official PE day – they do not need PE kit in school
FS2 – Milne & Donaldson Class - Every other Wednesday with Wild Learning – There is no PE this term. Named wellies and waterproof clothing to be left in school for the term, starting w/c 7th September.
Year 1 – Ahlberg and Tomlinson Class – Tuesday and Thursday. They will also be doing Wild Learning every Wednesday from w/c 7th September. Named wellies and waterproof clothing to be left in school for the term.
Year 2 – Murphy and Simon Class – Monday and Wednesday

<u>Years 3 to 6 – PE kit to be worn into school on PE day</u>
Year 3 – Rosen and Dahl Class – Tuesday and Friday
Year 4 – Naidoo and Lin Class – Wednesday and Friday
Year 5 – Morpurgo and Pullman Class – Tuesday and Thursday
Year 6 – Asare and Shakespeare Class – Monday and Thursday

West Berkshire Library Summer Reading Challenge

If your child took part in the West Berkshire Libraries Summer Reading Challenge over the summer holidays and would like to have their certificate awarded to them officially in our school assembly next Friday, can they please bring it to class before Friday.

Lunchtime Controllers
We would like to recruit some lunchtime controllers to work in the infant school. Should this be of interest to you, please contact the school office in the first instance.

Safeguarding Officers

Please be informed that we have a number of staff members who are trained safeguarding leads. Should you have any concerns, please contact any of the following, through the school office, and one of them will get back to you. Please do not state the nature of your concern, just ask for a safeguarding lead to contact you.

Mrs Ross –Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mr Gunn – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Norford – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Wakeham – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Wall – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Dutton – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Howlett – Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (McKee Class only)
Our Parental Safeguarding handbook contains further information and can be found on our website via this link https://www.westwoodfarmschools.w-berks.sch.uk/docs/Safeguarding/2025-2026/Safeguarding_Handbook_for_parents_Jan_2026.pdf

Calendar dates to Christmas so far (these are subject to change)

September

Tuesday 8th	KS1 (Year 1 & 2) Meet the Teacher @ 3.30pm
Wednesday 9th	Year 2 local walk
Wednesday 9th	KS2 (Year 3 to 6) Meet the Teacher @ 3.40pm
Wednesday 9th	Year 4 Ufton Court meeting for parents @ 4.30pm – Lin Class
Thurs 10th	FS1/FS2 parent coffee invite – Infant staff room @ 2.45pm
Fri 11th	FS1/FS2 parent coffee invite – Infant staff room @ 9am
Thurs 24th	Year 1 trip to Milestone Museum

October

Monday 5th	Fire Engine into FS1 and FS2
Friday 9th	Flu nasal immunisations for all pupils FS2 to Year 6
Thurs 15th	Year 5 trip to Winchester Science Museum
Wednesday 21st	School breaks up at normal time for Half Term
Thursday 22nd to Friday 30th	October Half Term

November

Monday 2nd	Back to school
Thursday 5th	Year 5 swimming lessons start today
Friday 6th	Turn Tilehurst Red – more details to follow
Wednesday 11th	Individual pupil photos
Friday 13th	Year 2 trip to Windsor Castle
Friday 13th	Children in Need Day – more details to follow
Thurs 25th	Shakespeare Company into KS2

December

Tuesday 8th	Xmas lunch for Years 5 & 6
Wednesday 9th	Xmas lunch for Nursery, FS2 and Years 1 & 2
Thursday 10th	Xmas lunch for Years 3 & 4
Friday 18th	School breaks up at 2pm