Friday 27th November 2026

Dates for Your Diary

Mon 30 Nov
Individual photos
Tue 1 Dec
Reception Owls Visit
Fri 4 Dec
Celebration of Learning and Art/DT Gallery 2.45pm
PTFA Winter Fair 3-5pm
Wed 9 Dec
Year 3 Stone Age Workshop
Fri 11 Dec
Christmas Dinner Day
Mon 14 Dec
EYFS Nativity 10am
Tue 15 Dec
KS1 Christmas Show 9.30am
Wed 16 Dec
KS2 Christmas Songs 9.30am and 2.15pm
Fri 18 Dec
Christmas parties / non uniform
LAST DAY OF TERM
Mon 4 Jan
INSET Day
Tues 5 Jan
FIRST DAY OF TERM
Fri 15 Jan
Reception Writing Ready Workshop 9-9.40am
Fri 22 Jan
Y1 Writing Ready Workshop 8.50-9.30

Welcome to our PGCE student Miss West in Bonobos class

You are all warmly invited to our celebration of learning on Friday 4th at 2.45pm. Please enter the school through the main front office. You will be able to look at your child's learning from this term & see the amazing progress they have made.
Then from 3-5pm you can head straight to the hall for our Winter Fair. Please bring friends & family along to enjoy the event. Our choir will be singing on the stage plus every child has made a decoration for you to buy.
Most stalls will be cash only. All money raised is going towards improving our school playtime equipment asked for by our school council.
We can't wait to see you there!



Our school council will be running a cake stall on Friday. Please can any donations go to the school office Friday morning. If you are making them yourself please include a list of ingredients for us to display. Thank you

Forest School

Each year group has a Forest School session per half term. Please look here each week to see when your child's year group will be having their session. They will need to wear suitable (non-uniform) forest school clothing.
Wednesday 2 Dec: Orangutans
Thursday 3 Dec: Polar Bears

ATTENDANCE AT WOODINGDEAN

Let's Make this year count!

Our overall attendance this year is 94%

Our weekly attendance is 91.7%

KS1 Weekly Top Attendance goes to 2F at 96.3%
KS2 Weekly Top Attendance goes to 5B at 97.9%

Which Classes will win the attendance reward at the end of this term?

HOT CHOC Winners this week for 100% or improved attendance
Elle 2F, Rue 2W, Imani 5B and Nate 6P



Is my Child too ill for school?

We have many parents seeking advice from us about whether their child is too ill to attend school. Ultimately, it is your decision as a parent, but in our experience, many children 'perk up' during the day. Please don't forget that we will call you if you child becomes too ill or deteriorates during the day.

The NHS have developed some guidance to help you decide if your child should attend school: Is my child too ill for school? - NHS
You can access the NHS Healthier Together which covers children before birth right the way to when they are teenagers
https://www.healthiertogether.nhs.uk/

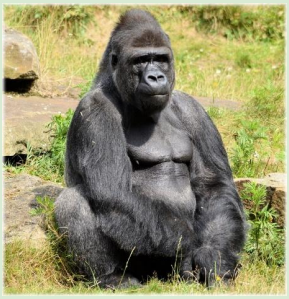
How Attendance Impacts Learning

Attendance of	Means days absent	Which means this many lessons missed
95%	9	50
90%	19	100
85%	29	150
80%	38	200



ATTENDANCE AT WOODINGDEAN

The classes with the reward for extra playtime for great attendance of over 96% are:









We were pleased to see Elle K and Rue W achieve our target of 100% attendance this week. Imani L and Nate S showed great improvement in their attendance. They are all invited to join Mrs Chumnansin for a hot chocolate.



The Weekly Wow

Earth	Air	Fire	Water
16	18	19	22
187	192	164	198

House Points

Value Leaves

Respectfulness	Jeriah B, Poppy C-M, Awa M and Mason T-B
Kindness	Presley R
Resilience	Ryah M, Eli C, Emilia A, Valery G
Co-operation	Yaasira I, Micaela M
Creativity	Elaina S
Loyalty	Parker K

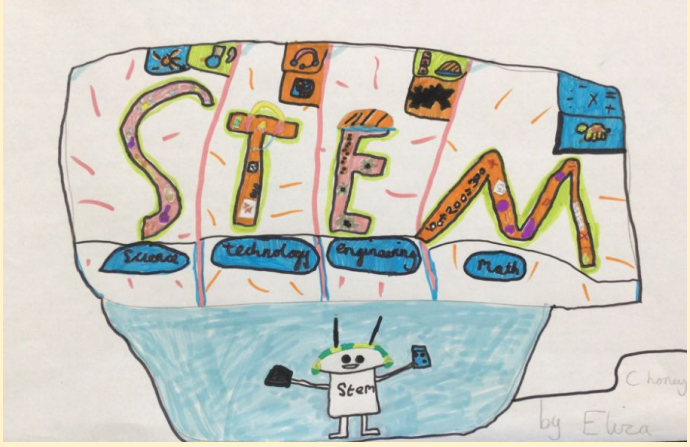




Yaasira in Elephants for joining in and participating in their learning.
Jeriah in Tigers for always using his manners.
Ryah in Giraffes for trying her best in all of her learning.
Eli in Zebras for trying really hard with his independence in his writing this week.
Micaela in Hummingbirds is an amazing learning partner. She works to support her peers and always listens cooperatively to others.
Poppy in Leopards for always being polite, kind and respectful to everyone. A true role model.
Presley in Honey Bees for always checking on his friends, asking if they want to play and making sure nobody is on their own on the playground.
Elaina in Gorillas for her outstanding weaving work this week! A very creative young lady!
Emilia in Polar Bears for fantastic resilience during our English quizzes this week.
Valery in Orangutans has wowed us with her effort to improve her Times Tables fluency. We are so proud of the progress she is making.
Awa in Sea Otters for consistent hard work and kindness to all.
Parker in White Tigers for helping another child who was struggling to get ready.
Mason in Lions for being respectful when sampling new foods for our DT lessons.

Don't forget you must allow photo permission for your child to appear on our newsletter.





STEM star of the week!

Here at Woodingdean Primary, there is so much exciting STEM learning happening in all year groups. The STEM subjects and their curriculums provide our pupils with much of the knowledge and skills that they need in the world around them, both now and for the future.

As a school we are determined to raise the profiles of all the STEM subjects and make sure our children understand there importance and relevance in their everyday worlds. Therefore, each week, every class teacher will nominate a STEM star. Someone who has show great learning in one of the STEM subjects, whether in class, around school or at home. The STEM stars names will be published here in our newsletter and their achievement celebrated in class.

As a school we look forward to giving our STEM stars the recognition they deserve!

Mr Pye

STEM Star of the Week!

Meral K in Gorillas for her marvellous DT this week.Her weaving technique was truly wonderful and very creative. Well Done!
Nellie-Rose W in Orangutans for turning her TTRS teat map green - a times tables superstar.
Amber E in Sea Otters for helping others with their maths.
Matilda D in Giraffes for being a helpful partner in maths.
Elijah in Zebras for trying hard when thinking of 1 more and 1 less in maths.
Subhana F in Hummingbirds has worked very hard to build her reasoning skills this week.
Emaad A in Honey Bees for his amazing weaving in DT this week. Emaad made a blanket for Percy the Penguin and showed such patience when doing so.



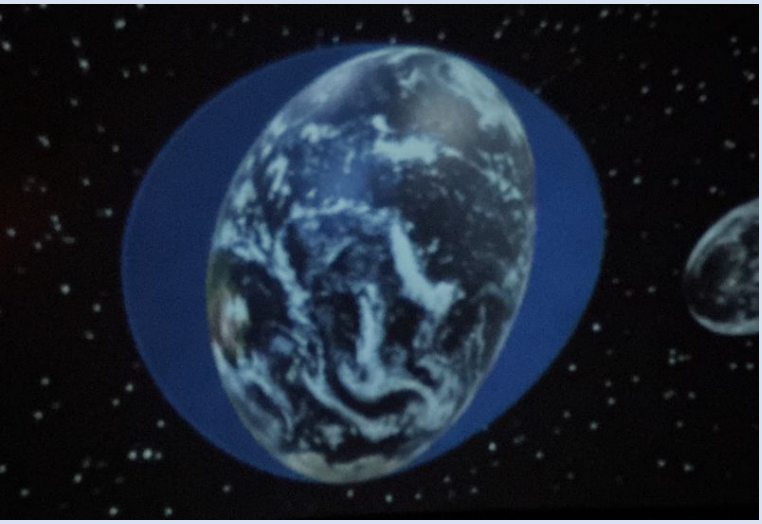
Year 5 had a galactically brilliant time in the Wonderdome exploring space. It was like our own private cinema in the cosmos. We learned about orbits and satellites. We also learned some amazing facts. For example, did you know that if the moon did not exist our planet would spin much faster and a day would only last six hours? That blew our minds!

It was a fantastic experience. We even got a special treat - a ride on a rollercoaster through the galaxies.

It was not easy to take photos inside the dome so here is the website address if you would like to know more:

wonderdome.co.uk

What a memorable experience for all of our year 5 children. We hope they came home and told you all about it!





The Green Team- Planting for the future!





Our school recently received some free saplings that we ordered from the Woodland Trust. They are a wonderful mixture of young trees, including Dogwood, Dog rose, Hazel, Crab apple and Hawthorn, which will hopefully, in a few years' time, form a beautiful hedgerow within our Forest School area.

Not only will this hedgerow provide a valuable habitat for many living organisms, but it will also help to capture and store carbon, something so important for the future of our planet.





On Monday, the Green Team set to work planting these saplings along one side of our Forest School area, next to Old Parish Lane. It was a beautiful day for planting, with an impressive 120 saplings planted in two staggered, parallel rows in the space of just a couple of hours!

The Green Team and Mr Pye were delighted with their hard work and can't wait to see these young trees grow and develop into a thriving hedgerow, providing a valuable habitat for wildlife and enhancing the biodiversity of our local environment.

Well done, Green Team, for making such a positive contribution to a greener and more sustainable Woodingdean!



The story trail

Amaze, your local charity supporting families with disabled children, has partnered with Wild in Art to bring you **The Story Trail**—a free, fun and family-friendly adventure.

Our BookBenches have now left the streets but you have one final chance to see our sculptures at our Farewell Weekend. Taking place between 27 – 29 November, The Story Trail Farewell Weekend will feature all 74 of our Story Trail sculptures, plus one more special sculpture.

The story concludes on Monday 30 November at The Story Trail Auction – where our large sculptures go under the hammer to raise money for Amaze.

Thank you for supporting The Story Trail.



Photo by Emma Bailey

Farewell Weekend

27 – 29 November, The Wing at The Brighton Centre. Kindly sponsored by Donatello.

The Book Nook is visiting

Woodingdean Primary School

on the 7th and the 9th December 2026

Come and browse the beautiful books on offer straight after school in the hall.

It is a great chance to pick up a few **Christmas Gifts!**



WOODINGDEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Christmas Shows

Come and join us for our festive performances

MONDAY 14th December

EYFS Nativity

10am

TUESDAY 15th December

KS1 Christmas Show

9.30am

WEDNESDAY 16th December

KS2 Christmas Songs

9.30am & 2.15pm

Tickets limited to 2 per child at the KS2 shows

Refreshments served at all shows by the PTFA



Please help our school council by bringing in new or nearly new teddies for a tombola & cakes for the cake sale on Friday 4th December

Santa's Special Gifts – Wrapping Paper Appeal!

Woodingdean Primary PTFA is busy helping Santa prepare some special Christmas surprises for the children! We're looking for donations of **new, unused Christmas wrapping paper** to help make Santa's gifts extra magical this year.If you have any spare rolls of Christmas wrapping paper that you'd be happy to donate, we'd be incredibly grateful! **Donations can be dropped off at the school reception.**Every donation, big or small, will help us spread a little extra Christmas magic! Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support.**Woodingdean Primary PTFA**



Woodingdean Primary Winter clothes appeal.



Do you have any children's winter coats, warm jumpers, Christmas jumpers or larger-sized school sweatshirts and fleeces that no longer fit or are no longer needed?

We understand that times can be tough for many families, and we would love to give any members of our school community who need them the opportunity to find a warm winter coat, jumper or fleece to help them through these chilly autumn and winter months.

Donating and reusing unwanted clothing is a wonderful way to support our school's sustainability theme of Consumption and Waste, helping to reduce waste while supporting families within our Woodingdean Primary School community.

By giving our unwanted clothes a new home, we can make a real difference to both our environment and each other!

Any donations can be given directly to Mrs Durant via the school office.





Christmas Food Collection

Dear Parents/Carers,

We will once again commence food collections to provide hampers for those most in need within our school community.

If you can help in any way, we will leave a drop point in the school reception area.

We are looking for long dates, non-perishable foods that will last over the Christmas period, for example, tins of fruit and vegetables, dried pasta, rice, chocolate, and sweet treats.

Many thanks for your continued support as always,

Emma Durant

Safeguarding Lead & Inclusion Mentor

WOODINGDEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Is your dance or gymnastics club looking for a new home?

Hire our school hall every Saturday.

Exclusive use	The whole hall is yours, all day.
Every Saturday	A regular weekly slot for your club.
Pricing on request	Get in touch and we'll talk through the options.

Get in touch to enquire about pricing

01273 680811
admin_woodingdean@ekotrust.org.uk



Register for parkrun using the link https://www.parkrun.org.uk/register/ It is a 2km run, jog or walk!



Tickets can be booked on Eventbrite:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/brighton-rnli-santas-grotto-2026-tickets-2004379804953?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Longhill School are hosting a Stargazing event again this year on Friday the 8th January 2027 and would like to offer Woodingdean students the opportunity to join. As spaces are limited they would like to focus the offer to year 5 students, but siblings are also more than welcome to attend.

The event has been fantastic the last few years, with space talks, craft activities and the opportunity to view space via telescopes with local astronomers.

If you would like to attend, email stargazing@longhill.org.uk and include the following details:

- child's name
- primary school
- how many tickets they would like

Their PTFA will be hosting a refreshment stall with snacks and hot chocolates for sale.



Brighton Half Marathon

YOUTH RACE 2027

Supported by Lancing College

Join us at the 2027 BRIGHTON HALF MARATHON YOUTH RACES!



SATURDAY 27TH FEBRUARY
FIRST RACE 12:30PM

- Open to 7-17 year olds of all abilities
- Officially measured 1-mile course
- Receive a medal, Race T-shirt and Goody Bag
- Prize Presentations

ENTER HERE!

Run a mile along Hove Promenade and be a part of the **BRIGHTON HALF MARATHON WEEKEND!**

Find all the event details at:

https://brightonhalfmarathon.com/take-part/youth-race/

V.I.M Holiday Club

Christmas 2026









Join Us Monday 21st December at:

Woodingdean Primary School
Warren Road, Woodingdean, BN2 6BB

For a Day of Festive Fun!

Den Building • Toy Making • Christmas Village Building • Elf Training Games • Winter Lanterns • Sleigh Building • Cosy Chill Out Corners • Party Hat Making • Christmas Discos • Snowman Skittles • Christmas Crispy Treat Making • Mini Winter Worlds • Outdoor Fun • Treasure Hunts • And More!

Sibling Discounts

Childcare Vouchers & TFC Accepted

For more information or to book visit vimcamps.com
or email info@vimcamps.com

VIM CLUBS



Silent Disco!

After School Club
Monday, December 14th

Choose from 3 playlists! 🎧

Alternative activities will also be offered!





Simply book after school club with the 6pm finish if you would like your child to take part.

Numbers are limited!

£1 per child will be donated to the PTFA

vimcamps.com

info@vimcamps.com