



WOODGATE NEWS 24/04/26



Welcome to our Summer 1 Newsletter

Sir David Attenborough - 100th Birthday Celebrations



I am sure you will be aware that David Attenborough will be reaching his 100th birthday on May 8th.

We really want to celebrate the work and life of this amazing man who has done so much for conservation and educated us all about the natural world. I am sure we all have memories of watching his amazing documentaries and listening to his very unique voice tell us about the wonders of the natural world.

During the week beginning 4th May, we will be focussing on David's life and work. We will hold assemblies, write about him and take part in an exciting art project where every child will make a clay animal. Once they are complete and dried out, we will lay them out in an exhibition and invite you to come and see them.

On Friday 8th May, we invite all of the children and staff to dress up to celebrate David's birthday. They could dress up as an animal, an explorer, an archaeologist, a zookeeper, a vet, an astronaut – anything that celebrates our world and our planet.

On Friday 8th May we will also have a picnic lunch to add to the birthday celebrations. If your child is entitled to free school meals a picnic will be prepared for them. You do not need to order it. You are also welcome to send in a picnic or some treats from home to add to their school picnic. If your child usually brings in a packed lunch from home, then you do not need to do anything different.

We hope that you will embrace this lovely opportunity, talk to your child about David Attenborough and what we are going to do in school and help us to make sure the children have a lovely week.

This week will be a short week due to Bank Holiday Monday on 4th May and school being closed on Thursday 7th May due to being used as a polling station for local elections.

Thank you to those children that have already sent in a homework project linked to saving our planet and being an eco-warrior. We have some lovely posters and art work on display.

Key Dates:

Monday 4th May. Bank holiday -school closed

Thursday 7th May. Local elections -school closed to pupils.

Monday 11th May. Year 6 SATs week.

Friday 15th May. 9:00am Parent Inclusion Group Coffee Morning and Workshop. In The Gateway. Behaviour and SEMH focus.

Wednesday 20th May. 1:30pm Sponsored Walk event.

Friday 22nd May. Break up for half term

Monday 1st June. Back to school

Thursday 11th June 6pm. Meeting for parents of new Reception Children. Intake 2026.

Friday 19th June. Parent Inclusion Group Coffee Morning. Early help Focus.

Wednesday 24th June. 2pm New Reception Intake Induction Stay and Play session.

Thursday 25th June. 2:30pm Meeting for current Reception Parents – Transition to Year 1.

Wednesday 1st July. 2pm New Reception Intake 2nd Induction Stay and Play session.

Thursday 2nd July. KS2 Sports Afternoon

Monday 6th July. KS1 Sports Afternoon

Friday 10th July. Parent inclusion group Coffee morning.

Friday 17th July. End of the school Year.

Academic Year 2026-2027

Tuesday 1st and Wednesday 2nd September – Staff training days

Thursday 3rd September 2026. Year 1 - Year 6 children return to school.

Attendance Update

Woodgate is a happy school and we aim to make sure that every child feels a sense of belonging and pride to attend here. We are pleased that so many of our children come to school every day and arrive on time. Senior Leaders really value our interactions with children and parents on the gates each morning. So many smiles, cheery welcomes and 'have a nice day' comments. Thank you for this.

Lots of children are earning and saving points as part of our HERO scheme. They can earn a point each week they are in school and arrive on time. They then spend their points on toys from the 'Attendance Shop'. Some children have their eyes on large items such as footballs, cuddly toys or games, others like to spend on lots of smaller items.

Currently, whole school attendance is 94%. This is just below national and local authority average. This has dropped slightly due to absences to celebrate Eid and holidays taken in term time. More concerning is the fact that there are 1389 late marks in registers. 308 of these are children that have arrived after 9:30 in the morning meaning significant learning time has been lost. Did you know that if a child arrives after 9:30 it is classed as half a day's absence? Please make sure your child arrives on time every day. Thank -You.



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Attendance Queries

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Early Help and Family Support

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