



NEWSLETTER

It's hard to believe that we have completed another term and are now halfway through the academic year! As always, the children have worked really hard and they have amazed us with their knowledge, resilience and enthusiasm. A particular high point for everyone this term was the Rock Steady assembly and workshops which were thoroughly enjoyed by pupils and staff!

Best wishes,
Miss Lane and Mrs Gomersall

Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome Miss Nicholas as our new School Administrator. Miss Nicholas brings a wealth of experience of school events and activities and a strong commitment to supporting our school community, ensuring that our school runs smoothly and that families feel informed and supported. She will play a key role in day-to-day administration and will be a friendly point of contact for parents, staff, and pupils alike. We are very pleased to have Miss Nicholas join the team and look forward to working closely with her as she settles into her new role. The School Office will now be open 8.45am-2.30pm.

We also welcome Miss Zoe Doughty as our new Federation Administrator. We are very pleased to have Miss Doughty join the team and look forward to working closely with her as she settles into her new role. Miss Doughty will be based in Tutshill School one day per week and one day per week at Woolaston School.

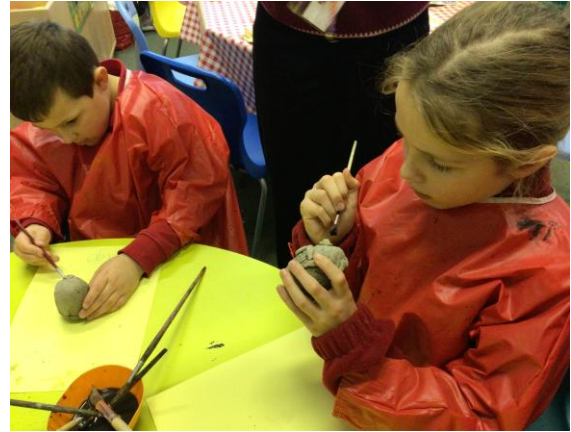




The Bloom Room News

Mythical Creatures

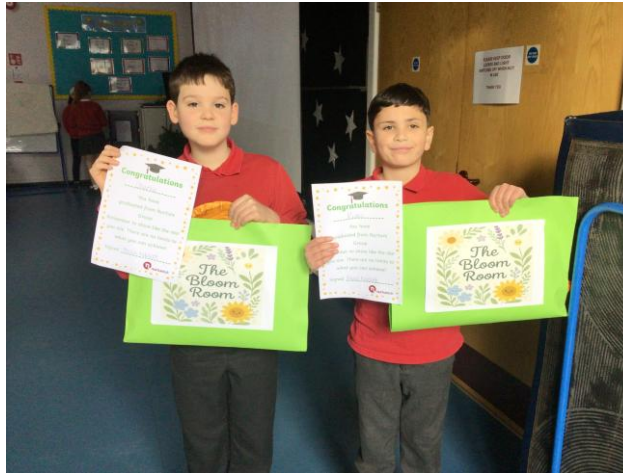
Bloom Room Class have started an exciting new topic exploring mythical creatures, linking imaginative learning with feelings and emotions. The children have shown fantastic enthusiasm and creativity, particularly when creating their beautiful clay mythical eggs. We are looking forward to showcasing their wonderful artwork and learning at an art exhibition later this year.





Celebrations

It has been wonderful to watch two of our much-loved members of Nurture group graduate from the provision this term. Huge congratulations to Charlie and Rishi for their hard work, you have come incredibly far, and we are all so proud of you for shining like the stars you are!



It was a delight to hold a celebration of cake and squash for those brave children who displayed so much courage in delivering their speeches so passionately to their peers in assembly.





Forest Music Centre

Good afternoon school colleagues,

Gloucestershire Music are really pleased to announce the addition of two new groups to our recently founded **Forest Music Centre**, starting 13th January 2026. We would really appreciate it if you could share the below and attached with your students so we can spread the word as far as possible. Thank you.

Forest Music Centre - new groups from January!

Gloucestershire Music are really pleased to announce the addition of two new groups to our recently founded **Forest Music Centre**, starting 13th January 2026:

String Starters

Beginner group violin lessons for adults and children to learn in a supportive and relaxed environment.

Strumthing Special

Our new ukulele group is for adults and young people to learn and improve their ukulele skills together. No experience necessary, you'll just need a ukulele.

(These groups are in addition to our main orchestra - open to string, wind, brass & percussion players of all ages, around grade 2+ standard.)

Where, when?

Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:30pm

- Orchestra - 6:30 - 8:30pm
- String Starters - 6:30 - 7:30pm
- 'Strumthing Special' ukulele group - 7:30 - 8:30pm
- Rehearsals are during term time only. Please check the full rehearsal schedule on the [GM calendar](#) (look for 'FMC') - [Music Calendar | Gloucestershire Music](#)
- Location: St Whites Primary School, Sneyd Wood Rd, Cinderford GL14 3GD

More info

- Membership works out at just £5.80 per session for orchestra & £2.90 for String Starters & Strumthing Special. You can try 2 rehearsals for free - just come along!
- To become a member, please enrol at gloucestershiremusic.paritor.com - click on 'Groups'
- More details can be found at [Forest Music Centre | Gloucestershire Music](#)
 - For more info, please email glosmusic@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Children awaiting a diagnosis with the Children's Autism and ADHD Assessment Service (CAAAS)



www.woolastonprimary.co.uk | 01594 529270

Woolaston Primary School, Netherend, Nr Lydney, Gloucestershire, GL15 6PH



Currently, there is a 2-3 year wait for a diagnosis within the Gloucestershire CAAAS. As parents, you have what is known as 'the Right to Choose' which means you can ask your GP to refer you to another health board who have capacity, to undertake the assessment. This means you have to be willing to travel anywhere within the UK but is a way to speed up the assessment process.

Information on what is involved and how to go about 'Right to Choose' can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/using-the-nhs/about-the-nhs/your-choices-in-the-nhs/>

If you want to find out more, please speak to your GP about this service.

Give It a Go Morning

Last week, a group of our Year Two children enjoyed an exciting and action-packed morning at The Dean Academy in Lydney. This brand-new event gave the children the opportunity to try a variety of activities, including cricket, golf putting, kurling, bowling, balloon volleyball and floor tennis.

The children had a fantastic time and represented our school brilliantly throughout the morning. They showed great enthusiasm and teamwork, while clearly demonstrating courage, perseverance and respect.

Thank you to everyone who was involved and to the parents/carers who supported this event and helped with transport. We are looking forward to taking part in many more sporting events this term.

Art Fun This Term





Young Voices

Well done to our Young Voices choir! You were amazing. It's a really long day. The coach journey, the rehearsal, tea time and then performing for 2 hours but you handled it really well and made us very proud. Let's do it all again next year yes?

Choir will re start in September 26. It is open to anyone in year 3-6. We rehearse one lunchtime a week. You don't have to take part in Young Voices to be a member of the choir, you can just come and sing.



World Book Day

We are excited to celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. To mark the occasion, children are warmly invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Alternatively, if they prefer not to dress up, they are welcome to bring a special item linked to their chosen character instead.

We would also be delighted to welcome any parents who would like to come in and read a story to their child's class. If you are interested, please speak directly with your child's class teacher to arrange a suitable time.

Finally, if you have any books that your child has outgrown, we would be very grateful for any donations to support our class book corners and school library





Attendance

The school is working hard to promote an ethos of good attendance through weekly class attendance awards in assembly and by sharing attendance data in our school newsletter. The children are already very keen to win the best class attendance award! Please can we take this opportunity to remind parents that school starts at 9.00am. Any pupil arriving after this time will be recorded as late on the register. If a child arrives after 9:30am, they will be recorded as having an unauthorised absence. If a child regularly arrives late, they will miss the same lesson or lessons, which will not only impact their attainment—as each lesson in our Reading, Maths, and English schemes builds on the previous one—but also affect their self-esteem and confidence.

More information regarding our attendance policy and procedures can be found on our school website under the Key Information tab in Policies.

	Sparrow Class YR/Y1	Starling Class Y1/Y2	Robin Class Y3/Y4	Woodpecker Class Y4/Y5	Heron Class Y6
Attendance	94.4%	94.7%	97.5%	96.8%	87.1%

Congratulations to Robin class achieving the highest attendance!

Back to School and Winter Illness

As we are now in January and children are more prone to catching colds etc., the link below sets out some of the simple actions that parents of school-age children can take to help protect their families and those around them against winter illnesses currently circulating.

<https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2023/01/05/back-to-school-5-things-to-do-to-help-manage-winter-illness/>





Class Assembly Dates – 2026

We are delighted to share the dates for our upcoming class assemblies. Each assembly will begin at **9:30am** and will take place in the school hall.

Robins Class have already completed their assembly this year with their wonderful violin performance, and Year 6 will present their end of year production in July.

Upcoming Assemblies:

- **18th March 2026** – *Woodpeckers Class Assembly* (Year 4/5)
 - **13th May 2026** – *Starling Class Assembly* (Year 1/2)
 - **10th June 2026** – *Sparrow Class Assembly* (Year R/1)

We look forward to welcoming families into school to celebrate the children's learning and achievements.

Reminders

Packed Lunches

Please can you ensure that packed lunches don't contain any nuts or nut-based products such as Nutella as we have children in school with a nut allergy.

School meal booking

Please ensure your child's meal is booked in advance of the day, preferably a week ahead.

Community Leaflets

Please click on community on our website to see the latest news and events.

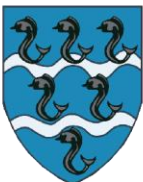
<https://woolastonprimary.ovw10.juniperwebsites.co.uk/community-leaflets>

Lost property

Lost property is located by the school office

Contact Information

Please ensure you advise the School Office of any changes to your contact details. It is vital that we have your up-to-date information for all correspondence purposes and in case of emergency. Please email any changes to office@woolaston.gloucs.sch.uk





Year 6 Residential Payments

We would like to remind parents and carers to please continue making regular payments towards the Year 6 residential trip and to ensure that payments remain up to date. The cost of the trip is paid to the provider in staged instalments throughout the year, and keeping to the payment schedule allows us to meet these commitments on time and secure accommodation, transport, and activities for the children. This residential visit is a valuable and memorable part of the Year 6 experience, supporting pupils' independence, confidence, and teamwork as they prepare for the transition to secondary school. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support in helping us deliver this important opportunity for all pupils

Eco Week

We are delighted to announce that we will be celebrating **Eco Week** in school during the week commencing 23rd March. Throughout the week, children will be exploring ways to care for our planet and learning how small actions can make a big difference.

We would love parents, carers and the wider school community to be involved in supporting this special week. If you work in an environmental or sustainability-related field—such as conservation, recycling, renewable energy, ecology, environmental education, or any other “eco” area—we would be delighted to hear from you. Your expertise and enthusiasm will help bring our learning to life, whether through a short talk, a hands-on activity, or simply sharing insights about your work. If you might be interested in getting involved, please let us Mrs Thomas or the School Office know.





PTFA Disco – What a Fantastic Event!

What an incredible evening we had at the PTFA Disco this week! The hall was filled with music, laughter and lots of brilliant dance moves. It was wonderful to see so many children enjoying themselves—smiling, singing, and dancing the night away. Events like this truly highlight what a special school community we have.

A huge thank you goes to all the volunteers and members of staff who stayed to help us run this fantastic event. Your support, time, and enthusiasm make all the difference. We simply couldn't run events like this without you—thank you for your continued support.

PTFA Communication – Stay Connected

A reminder that most PTFA communication is shared through class reps in the class group chats. This helps us ensure information reaches families quickly and consistently.

If you are not currently in your class group chat and would like to be added, please contact us directly via our PTFA email: woolastonschoolptfa@gmail.com

We will put you in touch with your class rep so you can receive all PTFA updates moving forward.

Thank you once again to everyone who attended, volunteered, or supported the disco in any way. We are incredibly grateful, and we look forward to seeing you at our next event!





School Diary – Dates for the Academic Year 2025-2026

February 2026	Friday 13 th	End of Term
	Monday 16 th – Friday 20 th	Half Term
	Monday 23 rd	Start of Spring Term 4
March 2026	Thursday 5 th	World Book Day
	Monday 9 th – Thursday 12 th	Year 5 Bikeability
	Friday 27 th	Non-Uniform Day
	Monday 30 th – Friday 10 th April	Easter Holiday
April 2026	Monday 13 th	Start of Summer Term 5
	Tuesday 21 st	NCMP Screening – Reception and Year 6 only
May 2026	Monday 4 th	May Day Bank Holiday
	Monday 11 th	Year 6 SATS – English Grammar
	Tuesday 12 th	Year 6 SATS – English Reading
	Wednesday 13 th	Year 6 SATS – Maths Paper 1&2
	Thursday 14 th	Year 6 SATS – Maths Paper 3
	Friday 22 nd	Non-Uniform Day
	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th	Half Term
June 2026	Monday 1 st	Inset Day – No pupils on site
	Tuesday 2 nd	Start of Summer Term 6
	Tuesday 2 nd – 12 th	Multiplication Tables Check
	Monday 8 th – Friday 12 th	Phonics Screening Check
July 2026	Wednesday 1 st – Friday 3 rd	Year 6 Residential
	Friday 17 th	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2.30pm
		End of Term

