



WOOLASTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Together we grow, achieve and celebrate'

Welcome Back to Woolaston Primary School!

September 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Welcome back!

We hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer filled with fun, family time and adventures. We are absolutely delighted to welcome everyone back for what promises to be another exciting year at Woolaston Primary School. A special welcome goes to all of our new children, families and staff. We are so pleased that you are joining our Woolaston family and look forward to getting to know you over the coming weeks.

As we begin the new academic year, we are excited about the opportunities ahead. From inspiring learning experiences and educational visits to sporting events, performances, special celebrations and leadership opportunities, there is so much for our children to look forward to.

Our Vision and Values

Everything we do at Woolaston is rooted in our school vision 'Together we grow, achieve and celebrate'

Alongside our vision, our core values help us to nurture confident, caring and successful learners. Our termly core values are:

- Respect
- Perseverance
- Friendship
- Courage
- Compassion
- Thankfulness

Throughout the year we will continue to celebrate children who demonstrate these values in the classroom, on the playground and within our wider community.

Exciting Learning Ahead!

There is already lots happening across the school! Our teachers have been busy planning engaging topics and exciting learning opportunities designed to inspire curiosity and build knowledge.

Don't forget that parents can find information about their child's learning on our school website. Curriculum overviews and class information are available to help you understand what your child will be learning throughout the year. The school website is also the best place to keep up to date with:

- Curriculum information
 - School news
 - Important letters
 - Key dates and events
- Celebration stories and achievements

Be sure to check it regularly so you don't miss a thing!



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Meet the Teacher:

Our Meet the Teacher sessions provide a wonderful opportunity for families to meet their child's teaching team, explore the classroom environment and discover the exciting learning experiences planned for the year ahead. During the session, teachers will share key information about curriculum content, classroom routines, behaviour expectations, rewards and recognition systems, as well as the range of support and interventions available to help every child thrive. At Woolaston, we are committed to high-quality, inclusive teaching, where adaptive approaches ensure that all children can access learning, achieve success and reach their full potential. Parents will hear how teachers, teaching assistants and support staff work together to provide the right level of challenge, encouragement and support, enabling every child to feel valued, confident and ready to learn. We look forward to welcoming families and working in partnership to make this a successful and enjoyable year for every pupil.

Dates

Reception – 14th September 9:05 – 9:35

Starlings – 15th September 9:05 – 9:35

Robins – 16th September 9:05 – 9:35

Woodpecker – 17th September 9:05 – 9:35

School Council Elections Coming Soon!

One of the highlights of the autumn term is the election of our new School Council representatives. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to develop leadership skills, represent the views of their classmates and help shape school life.

Children interested in becoming a School Council representative should start thinking about:

- Why they would make a great representative
 - How they can support their peers
- Ideas they would like to bring to the council

More information about nominations and voting will be shared soon.

Good luck to all our future leaders!



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Mobile Phones and Smart Watches

From September 2026, in line with the Department for Education's statutory guidance, Woolaston School is a mobile phone-free environment. This means that pupils must not use mobile phones or smartwatches anywhere on the school premises during the school day. The DfE guidance makes clear that schools should prohibit not only mobile phones but also other smart technology with similar functionality, including devices that can send or receive messages, record audio or video, access the internet or receive notifications. Smartwatches are therefore included within our policy because many models can communicate with others, capture images or recordings, and create the same distractions and safeguarding concerns as mobile phones. By removing these devices from the school day, we can minimise distractions, support positive behaviour, promote wellbeing, protect privacy and safeguarding, and ensure that pupils remain fully engaged in learning and social interaction.

We appreciate the pupils may use these devices to communicate with family members regarding pick up from school and meeting points after the school day. Pupils will hand these to the class teacher during morning registration, turned off, and they will be stored securely in the School Office. The pupils will have their mobile phone or smartwatch at the end of the school day. Exceptional arrangements may be considered where there is a documented medical or safeguarding need

Thank you for helping us keep children safe and focused on learning.

Safeguarding Remains Our Priority

The safety and wellbeing of every child remains at the heart of everything we do.

Before the children returned, all staff participated in safeguarding training and updates to ensure they remain fully informed about current guidance and procedures.

Training included:

- Keeping Children Safe in Education updates
 - Child Protection procedures
 - Online safety
- Attendance and safeguarding responsibilities
- Prevent and wider safeguarding responsibilities

This ensures that all staff continue to work together to provide a safe, caring, and supportive environment for every child.



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Open Days

Open Day for new Starters September 2027. Please call the school to secure your place as spaces are limited per session

Dates

22nd September 9:30

1st October 2:30

7th October 9:30

Please keep an eye on the school calendar and communications for further details

Keeping Your Contact Details Up to Date

Please remember to inform the school office if any of the following change:

- Home address
- Parent or carer contact numbers
 - Email addresses
 - Emergency contacts
- Medical information including allergies.

Having accurate information helps us contact families quickly and supports our safeguarding responsibilities.

Seesaw

We are currently working on getting SeeSaw ready for all pupils. As soon as everything is in place, we will send out login details and instructions so that you can easily access the platform. Due to changes in our class structure, we need to update classes and user accounts before access can be restored. Thank you for your patience while we complete these arrangements. We look forward to sharing your children's learning with you again soon.



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Newsletter Reporters

This year, we are introducing a new section in our newsletter written by children from Woodpeckers Class (Year 5/6). As our pupil reporters, they will be bringing you news and updates from across the school, celebrating the learning, events and successes taking place in all classes. Below is their introduction to the new school year.

Hello and welcome to the new school year. Some of the children in our school have been selected to write something in the newsletter. We are going to share some of the things that are happening in the school throughout the year. We are all looking forward to the new school year and hope to grow, achieve and celebrate together. Thank you for reading this; we hope you are looking forward to the year as much as we are!

A Huge Thank You to Our Volunteers!

Over the summer holidays, we were incredibly fortunate to have a wonderful team of volunteers who generously gave their time to help improve our school environment. They worked hard painting the railings and helping to maintain the school grounds, making a fantastic difference to the appearance of our school. Their efforts have really helped to brighten and uplift the site, creating a welcoming environment for our children, staff and visitors. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone involved. If you would be interested in supporting future projects like this, please do get in touch with the school office. We would love to hear from you!





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Thank you from Su Madurasinghe

Thank you all for your kind words and gifts. I have loved my time at Woolaston - all 13 years of it! One of the things I have found most rewarding is working with your children and you as families. Woolaston is a fantastic community of people; whether it be staff or families who are dedicated to getting the best outcomes for our children. Whilst I am ready for a new adventure, I will miss Woolaston and all the fun we have had. Have a super summer everyone!

Su Madurasinghe

Reception Starters

We are delighted to welcome our new Reception children to Woolaston Primary School! They have made a wonderful start to their school journey and have settled into school life incredibly well. Over their first week, the children have enjoyed exploring their new classroom and discovering the wider school environment with great enthusiasm and curiosity. It has been lovely to see new friendships already forming as they learn and play together. We are so proud of how confidently they have embraced new routines and experiences, and we look forward to seeing them continue to grow, learn and thrive throughout the year. Well done, Reception!

Eco Council – Green Flag Award

We are incredibly proud to announce that our Eco Council has successfully achieved the **Eco-Schools Green Flag Award** once again! This prestigious award recognises the hard work and commitment of our pupils in promoting sustainability and caring for our environment. Throughout the year, the Eco Council has led a range of initiatives to encourage environmental awareness, reduce waste, and help make our school a greener place for everyone. Achieving the Green Flag Award is a fantastic accomplishment and reflects the enthusiasm, dedication and teamwork shown by our pupils. A huge well done to all members of the Eco Council for their continued efforts in helping to create a more sustainable future for our school and wider community.



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School Clubs

We are delighted to let you know that our after-school clubs will be starting next week, during the week commencing **14th September**.

Please keep an eye on your emails for our club's information and booking details, which will be sent out shortly. Spaces may be limited for some clubs.

We look forward to another exciting term of clubs and activities for the children!

PE Days

- Reception: Monday
- Year 1/2: Friday
- Year 3/4: Tuesday
- Year 5/6: Friday

Please ensure that your child brings their PE kit into school on their allocated PE day so they can change into it at school.

Here's to a Fantastic Year Ahead!

We are incredibly proud of our school community and cannot wait to see all that our children achieve this year. Whether it is making new friends, learning something for the very first time, representing the school in sport, performing on stage, joining the School Council or simply growing in confidence each day, there are so many exciting opportunities waiting for our children.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, through our vision of 'Together we grow, achieve and celebrate', we look forward to another year of learning, laughter, achievement and success.



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Welcome back from the PTFA

Welcome back from the PTFA. Hope the first week of school has gone well for everyone and the new starters have settled in. Please find below our calendar of events for the year. As ever we are always looking to welcome new volunteers, whether that's just turning up and helping with an event or as a full committee member. However, much time you can spare we are always grateful. If you are interested in helping in any way feel free to get in touch with us at woolastonschoolptfa@gmail.com or join us at our next meeting **Wednesday 23rd September, 8pm at The Netherend Inn.**

Also don't forget that this year we will be giving the school a financial contribution to revamp some of the playground line markings. If this is something anyone would like to personally donate to then we will gratefully receive any donations towards this please use the QR code below. If you use playground on the reference, it will all go straight towards the playground revamp.

And for those of you that shop in Lydney Tesco, the school is currently one of the projects included in the blue token scheme, so be sure to pop your blue tokens in!

PTFA 2026-2027

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 23/08: PTFA meeting. Netherend Inn at 8 pm (all welcome)	October 15/10: School disco 22/10: Non-school uniform (bring a donation for the Christmas raffle hampers)	November 13/11: Cake sale (all donations welcomed!)
December 04/12: Christmas fair 09/12: Christmas wreath making evening TBC: Christmas raffle	January All month: Smarties challenge 13/01: PTFA meeting. Netherend Inn at 8 pm (all welcome)	February 11/02: School disco
March 25/03: Easter egg hunt	April	May 27/05: School disco
June TBC: Sports day refreshments TBC: Summer fair 09/06: PTFA AGM	July TBC: Ice lolly sales	August Holidays!

Keep up to date

More meetings, events and details will be provided throughout the year via the school newsletter and below:



www.pta-events.co.uk/woolaston or
www.facebook.com/groups/woolastonptfa/





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September 2025	Tuesday 1 st	Inset Day – No pupils on site
	Wednesday 2 nd	Welcome Back – Autumn Term 1
	Monday 14 th – 17 th	Meet the Teacher
	Tuesday 22 nd	Open Day – Reception 2027
	Thursday 24 th	Beder Photography - Individual / Sibling photo Individual and sibling's photos – Letter to follow
October 2025	Thursday 1 st	Open Day – Reception 2027
	Thursday 7 th	Open Day – Reception 2027
	Friday 23 rd	Inset Day – No pupils on site
	Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th	Half Term
November 2025	Monday 2 nd	Start of Autumn Term 2
December 2025	Monday 21 st – Friday 1 st January	Christmas Half Term
January 2026	Monday 4 th	Inset Day – No pupils onsite
	Tuesday 5 th	Start of Spring Term 3
February 2026	Monday 15 th – Friday 19 th	Half Term
	Monday 22 nd	Start of Spring Term 4
March 2026	Thursday 25 th – Friday 9 th April	Easter Half Term
April 2026	Monday 12 th	Inset Day – No pupils onsite
May 2026	Monday 3 rd	Early Bank Holiday
	Monday 31 st	Bank Holiday
	Tuesday 1 st – Friday 4 th	Half Term
June 2026	Monday 7 th	Inset Day – No pupils on site
	Tuesday 8 th	Start of Summer Term 6
July 2026	Wednesday 21 st	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2.30pm
		End of Term



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