

Headteacher Blog – Week Beginning 9th March 2026

This week at Woodlands has been another wonderfully busy one, full of learning, celebration and the many behind-the-scenes conversations that ensure every child continues to thrive.

We began the week with important strategic work, including budget planning meetings and attendance panels, which are always focused on making sure every child has the very best chance to succeed in school. Alongside this, our Year 3 pupils enjoyed their regular violin sessions with the Love Music Trust, which was, bless, observed as part of their quality assurance processes! It is always a pleasure to hear the sound of music and singing drifting through school corridors as pupils grow in confidence and skill.

Throughout the week, we have been hosting a range of meetings and reviews to support pupils and families. Annual reviews, EHCP discussions and multi-agency meetings have taken place alongside attendance panels and safeguarding conversations. These meetings are not always visible in the same way as trips or events, but they form a vital part of the support network around our pupils.

Tuesday saw another lively morning with Breakfast Club judo for KS1, and across the week we have welcomed visiting professionals including physiotherapists and hearing support specialists working with pupils. Our leadership team also met with colleagues for several staff development and strategic planning sessions.

Wednesday included further attendance panel meetings, SEND network discussions and staff professional development meetings, with a whole-school focus on mathematics teaching and learning led by Miss Roberts. Ensuring staff have regular opportunities to collaborate and develop their practice is key to maintaining the high standards we expect for all pupils and that consistency it promotes is what facilitates parity in experience for all of our children.

On Thursday we welcomed parents into school for the Early Navigator Drop-In session, giving families the opportunity to talk with professionals and access support where needed. Meanwhile, pupils across school enjoyed their usual enrichment activities including Makaton Club, Mad Science club and AmaSing Choir which continue to be extremely popular.

Friday has brought another full day including Foxes parent meetings, swimming for Group C, and our Year 4 pupils visiting the library. We also hosted an ECT visit to Ganneys Meadow, giving early career teachers the opportunity to observe practice and collaborate with colleagues from another early years setting.

Sporting Successes

Cross Country Champions

We are incredibly proud to celebrate some fantastic sporting success this past week.

Last Saturday marked the final race in the 800m cross country series, and some of our Year 3 girls have been absolutely outstanding throughout the entire competition. Not only did they show determination and resilience, but they also demonstrated incredible commitment by attending every single race in the series.

Their hard work paid off in the best possible way - they finished in 1st place in the Year 3 Girls category! We are incredibly proud of them all.

International Football Stars

Congratulations to two of our Year 3 and Year 4 boys who recently represented their football club in Como, Italy. We are delighted to hear that they represented both their club and themselves superbly, demonstrating impressive football skills alongside exemplary behaviour. 🌍 🙌

British Science Week

This week has also been British Science Week, and Miss Woodland has been leading a brilliant daily focus exploring how science appears in everyday life and careers.

Each day, pupils have explored a different job that uses science, helping them realise that science is not just something that happens in laboratories - it is all around us.

Some of the fascinating ideas pupils explored included:

Science Fact #1 – Your body is a science lab!

Your heart beats about 100,000 times every single day, pumping blood around your body and keeping you alive.

Science Fact #2 – Rockets work because of Newton's Third Law

For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. When rocket fuel shoots downwards, the rocket moves upwards!

Science Fact #3 – Your brain uses electricity

Your brain sends electrical signals through your nervous system at speeds of up to 120 metres per second.

Science Fact #4 – Plants are solar-powered!

Plants use sunlight, water and carbon dioxide to create food through photosynthesis, which also produces the oxygen we breathe.

The aim of the sessions has been to help pupils realise that science is not just a subject in school - it shapes the world around us and the careers they might one day choose.

SEND Sports Camp

We were also delighted to see the continued success of our partnership with Vara Sports, who plan to run a SEND-only sports camp here at Woodlands. The camp will create a safe, inclusive environment where children can enjoy sport and activity alongside their peers. The SEND Sports Camp is planned for the Easter holidays, giving children with additional needs, aged 5–11, the opportunity to take part in sports activities (and access the Holiday Activities and Food programme where eligible). It is wonderful to see inclusive opportunities like this available within our community and we love partnership work where our children are the direct beneficiaries!

Talking about sports, Miss Shepherd is hoping to get some new Y3/4 and Y5/6 football kits, as the current ones are starting to look a little worse for wear and we're missing a few pieces... She says, if we want to be champions, we have to look like champions! (Not that she is competitive! 😊) We thought it might be a nice idea to see if any parents who run small businesses might be interested in sponsoring the kits!

Also, parents of a child in her class very kindly donated a selection of books to the school following our *When I Grow Up* theme for World Book Day. "To the future scientists, Technicians and

Mathematicians of Woodlands Primary School from Enrichment Technology Company Ltd.” THANK YOU! 😊

I know that Pete and David, our Site Maintenance Team would love it if anyone could donate a kitchen to them as they upgrade their little office/room. If you are planning to get a new kitchen, and want to donate your old one, we would be delighted to hear from you!

Life at Woodlands

As always, what makes weeks like this special are the everyday moments - children learning new skills, supporting one another, taking part in clubs and representing the school with pride.

From judo sessions and football clubs to choir rehearsals and table tennis, the school continues to buzz with activity both during and beyond the school day.

Please be reminded that the Parents evening booking system closes at midnight tonight so please ensure you have booked an appointment if you would like to meet with your child's class teacher.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Dr Carr
Headteacher
Woodlands Primary School