



Woodmancote School
Belong · Aspire · Achieve

Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Friday 26th June 2026

It was truly heart-warming last Friday evening to see our vision of *Belong, Aspire, Achieve* being lived out in such a natural and joyful way. Quite unexpectedly, I came across a large number of Woodmancote pupils and their families at Woodmancote Park. It was wonderful to see so many children enthusiastically taking part in the various cricket groups, while families watched on, enjoying time together in such a supportive and friendly atmosphere. Thank you to everyone who stopped to say hello—it was a real pleasure to experience our community coming together in such a positive and uplifting way.

I am thoroughly enjoying getting to know the school a little more each week. I have had the opportunity to accompany some year groups on trips, take on the challenge of crossing Years 4 and 5 over Cleeve Hill during their walk, and spend time in classrooms to further understand the high quality of learning taking place across the school. Visiting the children and staff at Little Chestnuts has been a real delight, and it has been equally lovely to welcome them into school—whether for time in the hall or when they join us for Praise Assembly. It is a genuine privilege to lead the school.

This week has also brought the challenge of extreme weather, and I would like to commend our whole school community for the way this has been approached. Our children have demonstrated what it means to be, *ready, respectful and safe*—adapting sensibly to the changing conditions, following guidance carefully, and showing consideration for one another. Staff have worked hard to ensure that routines remained as consistent

and safe as possible, allowing learning to continue while prioritising wellbeing.

Finally, it has been a delight to welcome Miss Montgomery and Miss Cape, our new teachers, into school this week. The children have already had the opportunity to meet them, and it has been lovely to see such a warm reception. There will be further opportunities before the end of term for the children—and for parents—to get to know them, and I know they will be a fantastic addition to the Woodmancote team.

Mrs Johnson

Year 2 Synagogue meeting

As part of our R.E. curriculum, the children in Year 2 had a fantastic introduction to our unit 'Where do some people talk to God?'. We were excited to be able to take part in a zoom meeting with Jenny from Cheltenham Synagogue. She showed us photographs of the Synagogue and explained why it is a special place to her.



Year 2 Hawaii Day

Aloha! Year 2 have enjoyed learning about Hawaii and comparing it to where we live through our 'Our Place and Yours' geography unit. To end the unit, we had a Hawaii day where the children dressed up, learnt some

hula dances, designed a Hawaiian shirt, tried some different fruits and played games.



Online Communication and WhatsApp

We have been made aware of some concerns regarding the use of WhatsApp and group messaging among children. There have been reports of some pupils using these platforms to communicate unkind or negative comments about others. While this activity takes place outside of school, it does not align with our values of being *ready respectful and safe*, nor with our vision of ensuring that everyone feels they belong.

We would like to remind families that WhatsApp has a minimum age requirement of 13, and we encourage parents to carefully consider this when allowing access. Teaching about online behaviour and respectful communication forms an important part of our PSHE curriculum, but your support at home is essential in reinforcing these messages.

If you have any concerns or would like further guidance, please do not hesitate to reach out to school—we are here to help.

Cleeve Hill Walk

On Thursday 18th June, Years 4 and 5 took part in our annual walk up Cleeve Hill.

For the fourth year running, more than 100 children successfully walked from school to the summit. This year, the group ventured even further than on previous visits, reaching both the Remembrance Tree and the pylons.

New for 2026, the children had the opportunity to meet the Cleeve Common Rangers and a local sheep farmer. They enjoyed learning about the important work carried out to keep the Common safe, protected and enjoyable for everyone, as

well as meeting and stroking some of the sheep that graze the hill.

We are very grateful to the Rangers and farmer for giving their time to support our visit. If you would like to find out more about Cleeve Common or plan your own visit, please see the website below:

<https://www.cleevecommon.org.uk/>

The trip would not have been possible without the support of our parent volunteers. For some, this was their third year helping with the walk, and we are incredibly appreciative of the time and enthusiasm they give to our school.

Finally, a huge well done to all of the children. Their behaviour throughout the day was exemplary. They crossed roads safely, showed a genuine eagerness to learn, and demonstrated great respect for the natural environment. They were excellent ambassadors for our school, and we are very proud of them.



Upcoming PTA Disco

We are looking forward to our upcoming PTA disco and hope the children are excited for a fun evening! Please ensure that you have booked your child's place in advance using the Microsoft Form link, as only children who have been registered will be able to attend.

Arrival and Registration

Children and parents must enter the school site via the **Britannia Way gate only**. On arrival, children will be registered by staff in the following classrooms before heading into the hall:

6:15-7:15pm

- Reception via Ash / Oak classrooms
- Year 1 - via Beech classroom
- Year 2 - Maple classroom

7:30-8:30pm

- Year 3 - Willow classroom
- Year 4 - Cedar classroom
- Year 5 - Lime classroom
- Year 6 - Holly classroom

At the end of the disco, children will be released from the **same classroom** to the adult named as their collector on the form. We kindly ask all families to support us by driving and parking **safely and respectfully**, being mindful not to block driveways or inconvenience our neighbours.

Thank you for your cooperation—we look forward to a fantastic evening for the children!

E-Scooter Legislation

Please see the attached information from Gloucestershire Constabulary regarding the updated E-scooter legislation.

Dates for the Diary

29-30 th June	Y6 - Cleeve Transition Days
1 st July	Y4 Science Festival - Cleeve School
6 th July	Y5 - Cleeve Taster Day
8 th July	Y4 Class assembly
10 th July	Sports Day KS2 - am KS1 - pm
15 th July	Reception Class assembly
17 th July	Y2 trip - Cotswold Wildlife Park
21 st July	Reception - Steam Train Trip
22 nd July	Last day of Term

Staff Emails

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