Woodmancote School
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Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Wednesday 21st October 2026

It has been a long and busy half term full of many things including of authors and art!

I was fortunate to accompany some of our children to the Literatire festival and was so impressed by their engagment in the events and how well they represented our school.

I hope that everyone has a good half term break and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 2nd November.

Mrs Johnson

Cheltenham Literature Festival

Over the past few weeks, children from Woodmancote School have enjoyed visits to the Cheltenham Literature Festival, where they met a range of talented authors and illustrators.







A group of Year 3 and 4 children were delighted to meet John Patrick Green, author and illustrator of *The InvestiGators*, and Nadia Shireen, author of *Grimwood*. They had a go at drawing cartoons and learnt how authors and illustrators come up with ideas for characters, often in the most unexpected ways.



Year 5 also had a fantastic time meeting Jenny McLachlan, author of *The Land of Roar*, one of our Year 4 class texts. She shared the inspiration behind her books, spoke about the importance of creativity, and even brought along her dragons to say hello! The children came away feeling inspired, full of new ideas, and even more excited about reading and writing.

Woodmancote School

Abi Elphinstone returns to Woodmancote

Year 4, 5 and 6 were thrilled to welcome bestselling author Abi Elphinstone to Woodmancote School to celebrate the release of her latest book, Goodnight Silver.

Abi's visit was particularly special, as Woodmancote was one of the very first schools she visited as a newly published author over 15 years ago. It was wonderful to welcome her back and hear how her writing journey has developed since then.

During the session, Abi shared fascinating insights into life as an author, explaining how she gathers inspiration for her stories through travel, adventure and a lifelong curiosity about the world around her. Pupils were captivated by the extraordinary animal facts woven into her talk, including the Madagascan moth that drinks the tears of sleeping birds!

Children also enjoyed the opportunity to ask Abi questions about her books, her writing process and what it is really like to be an author. The visit concluded with a book signing, where many pupils were able to have their copies personally signed.







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Year four Saxon and Viking day

On Friday 16th October, Year Four enjoyed a fantastic Saxon and Viking Day to complement their history learning. Throughout the day, the children took part in a range of exciting activities, including brooch making, bread making, historical re-enactments and code breaking.

We were also delighted to welcome visitors from the Cotswold Archaeology team, who brought along a selection of genuine artefacts for the children to explore. These included Roman coins, animal bones and many other fascinating historical objects. The children asked thoughtful questions and enjoyed the opportunity to handle the artefacts, bringing history to life in a truly memorable way.

The Year Four team would like to thank all parents and carers for their support and efforts in helping the children prepare for this wonderful day. It was a fantastic experience that will undoubtedly support and enrich their learning.



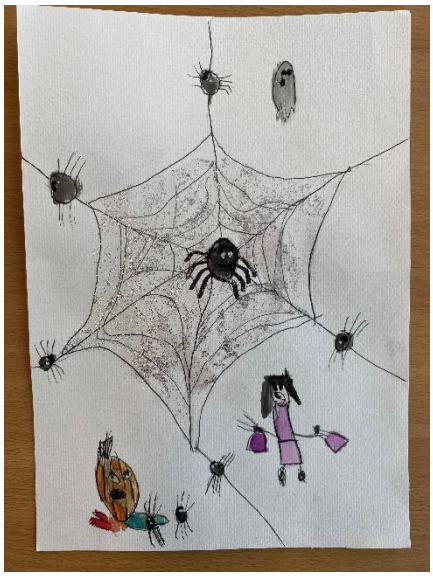


House competition

Thank you to all the children who took part in our Halloween themed, house art competition this term. The standard of the art was superb, and our year six house ambassadors had a tough task whittling the list down to a shortlist to be presented to the judges. Congratulations to our winners: Ellie, Jack, Amelia, Jessica, Benji, Lilly and Abigail , and congratulations also to Nottingham house, who were our overall winners. Watch this space for another house competition, coming soon!



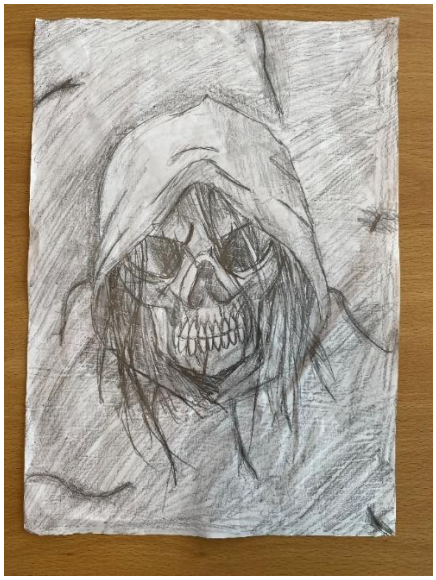





BEWARE
MONSTER




HAPPY Halloween!
by Ellie
Miaow!
Whoo



Woodmancote School

Reception 2027 Open Sessions

Our remaining prospective parents and children open sessions;

- 10th November 9am and 1.45pm
- 23rd November 9am

Places are limited so please call to book your places.

Governors

The Governors had their first Full Governing board meeting recently and we now have a new Chair of Governors, Mr Terry Davis

PTA

Please see details of the Disco at the bottom of the newsletter.

The safeguarding team in school is;

Designated Safegaurding lead	Mrs Sally Johnson Head teacher
Deputy Designated Safegaurding lead	Mrs Sarah Badham Deputy Head teacher
Deputy Designated Safegaurding lead	Mrs Karen Holder Family Support Worker
Safeguarding Governor	Mrs Clare Spiller

If you have safegaurding, please contact the school on 01242 674312.
Alternatively you can email safegaurding@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk

Dates for the Diary

October	
22nd	INSET Day No school for children
23rd	INSET Day No school for children
November	
3rd & 4th	NHS Flu Immunisations Reception - Year 6
13th	Non uniform day for Children In Need (further details to follow)
17th & 18th	School Photos – Individual and siblings
December	
4th	Y3 Viola concert for parents
9th	Christmas Dinner
18th	Last Day of Term

Woodmancote School

Staff Emails

Mrs Baxter	kbaxter@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
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Miss Cape	acape@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs McCormack	senco@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr Guest	tguest@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr Adkin	padkin@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Howard	nhoward@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr Evans	revans@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs White	jwhite@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mr Ridal	lridal@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Pearman	gpearman@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs Holding	lholding@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
Mrs McNamee	lmcnamee@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk
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Mrs Holder	kholder@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk


WOODMANCOTE PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA
SPARKLERS AND SPOOKERS! DISCO!
Join us for a fun-filled autumn disco with a spooky sparkle!
12th November 2026
Woodmancote School
Years 1, 2 and 3 - 6:15-7:15pm
Years 4, 5 and 6 - 7:30-8:30pm
£2 per child - pay on the door
Sweets and drinks included
Drop off at Reception Classrooms (Britannia Way Entrance)
Costumes optional!