The Woodlands Family

Newsletter

> Exploring, learning, and growing together—one day, one lesson, and one success at a time!

Woodlands Secondary | Autumn 1 | Issue #05

This Half Term at Woodlands

As we come to the end of our first half-term of the 2026/2027 academic year at Woodlands Secondary School, it has been such a pleasure to see our school community come back together after the summer break. There has been a real sense of excitement, warmth and belonging around school as we have welcomed back so many familiar faces, alongside our new Year 7 students who have begun their Woodlands journey with us.

Our pupils have already enjoyed a wonderful range of learning experiences, activities and adventures, and it has been lovely to see their enthusiasm and achievements shared on our Facebook page and in communications between Teachers and Parents.

We have also been delighted to welcome parents and families into school for a number of events, giving us those special opportunities to come together and share in the experiences and successes of our young people.

This half-term has also brought an exciting new chapter for our Interim Headteacher, who has taken on her new role with great enthusiasm. Having been a valued member of the Woodlands community for many years, she knows our pupils, families and staff so well, and is thoroughly enjoying the opportunity to lead our wonderful school.

There is already a lovely feeling of togetherness as we begin this new school year, and we are excited to see what the coming months will bring. We look forward to continuing to learn, grow and celebrate together, and to making many more happy memories along the way.

www.woodlands.luton.sch.uk
www.facebook.com/woodlandsluton

Spotlight on School Life!

This half term has been another busy and exciting one at Woodlands, with lots of opportunities for our students, staff and families to come together.

We welcomed the immunisation team into school, and we were incredibly proud of how brave many of our children were when having their vaccinations. A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who came in to support their children!

Some of our talented students from the Woodlands School Choir performed on stage at Luton Proms in the Park! We are in awe of their confidence and talent!

We welcomed parents into school for a SEND clubs and activities coffee morning, with a fantastic turnout from families and providers. Lots of useful information was shared, and we hope everyone came away with something helpful.





Our wonderful Music Teacher, Maria, hosted our annual Music Festival, bringing staff and students together to celebrate creativity, music and performance. Everyone had a brilliant time!

We have also enjoyed welcoming Year 6 parents into school to experience Woodlands and find out more about life with us from Year 7 onwards. It has been lovely meeting so many new families and sharing what makes our school so special.

We were delighted to welcome our families for the Macmillan Coffee Morning, coming together to enjoy refreshments and raise money for such a worthy cause. Thank you to everyone who supported us!

Our annual Parents' Evening and Transitions Fair gave parents and carers the opportunity to hear about their children's progress and experiences in school, while also exploring options for their next steps in education.

Finally, our PMLD department hosted a lovely parent coffee morning, giving families the chance to spend time in school, connect with staff and enjoy being part of their children's school experience. It was wonderful to welcome everyone!

Local Days Out

Luton Culture Trust:

- The Big Draw Festival 2026; 26th October - Wardown Museum. 27th October - Stockwood Discovery Centre. 29th October - Hat Factory Arts Centre A free drop in, suitable for all ages. A tactile, sensory, interactive opportunity for creative fun!
- Halloween Creative make and Take! 28th, 30th & 31st October 11.30am, 1pm and 2.30pm - Wardown Museum. Make Halloween crafts, bat bookmarks, spooky masks and mummify a beast!
- Family Film Club: Monster Family! 30th October at 10.30am at the Hat Factory. Enjoy a film, crafts, and cafe treats. £4 or 4 for £12

Learning through the Arts:

- Creative Family Workshops: Commemorating The British West Indies Regiment. 28th & 29th October from 11am - 1.30pm at Luton Central Library. Creating poppies, badges & medals, T-Shirts and stamps. Book for FREE via Eventbrite

Luton Libraries;

- Ballet Workshop - run by Black British Ballet. 26th October 2pm to 3pm at Luton Central Library. Age 7+ Learn some Ballet moves, and have fun while getting your body moving! Book for FREE online at Luton Libraries.



Explore More, Spend Less: Half-Term Activities...

Local Days Out, continued....

Frasers Plus Luton:

- Free Halloween Crafts - 26th & 27th October. Get creative decorating pumpkins, creating autumn leaf crafts, making Halloween masks & designing spooky bookmarks.
- FREE Bat Crafts & fun facts! - 29th October. Create a bath themed masterpiece and learn some amazing bat facts!
- FREE Giant Trick - or - Treat Takeover! 30th October. Face-painting, glitter-bar, and glitter tattoos,! Come in fancy dress to collect a free trick-or-treat bag to fill up at different stations!

Luton BID:

- FREE Pumpkin Patch! 28th October, 10am to 4pm in Hat Gardens, Bute Street. Wheel your mini-barrow to find the perfect pumpkin to take home, and enjoy arts & crafts, face painting & photo opportunities!
- FREE Spooky Storytelling on the Steps - 30th October 1pm to 2.30pm at Hat Gardens, Bute Street. Halloween themed tales, ghoulish games, and treats for those wearing their best costumes!

Cineworld Luton:

- £2 family Films - throughout half term! Check out which movies are on the offer via cineworld online, £2 per ticket, book online or at the venue.

SEND Connect:

Please check out www.sendconnect.co.uk for SEND friendly events!



Holidays are coming!

As we come to the end of this newsletter, we would like to say a huge thank you for your continued kindness, generosity and support. With our Christmas Fair just around the corner, we are hoping to make this year's raffle extra special by reaching out to local businesses who may be willing to donate a prize.

Our raffle is always a real highlight of the fair, and with your help, we can make it even bigger and better, raising valuable funds for our wonderful school and children! If you know of any local businesses that might be happy to support us, we would be so grateful if you could spread the word. Our Family Team would love to hear from anyone who can help make this happen.

Thank you, as always, for being such a fantastic and supportive school community. Every little bit of help really does make a difference!

CHRISTMAS TOY SALE DATES 2026

moneysavingcentral.co.uk/toy-sale-dates

B&M 3 FOR £20 TOY SALE
Predicted - Friday 4th December 2026

MORRISONS HALF PRICE TOY SALE
Predicted - Monday 5th October 2026

TESCO 50% OFF TOYS
Predicted - Monday 14th September 2026

ASDA BIG TOY ROLLBACK
Predicted - Monday 7th September 2026

SAINSBURY'S HALF PRICE TOY SALE
Predicted - Wednesday 21st October 2026

ALDI SPECIALBUY TOY EVENTS
Predicted Wooden Toys - Thursday 8th October 2026
Predicted Toy Event - Sunday 25th October 2026

SMYTHS TOYS SALES
Predicted Voucher Code Event - Tuesday, 17th November 2026
Predicted Half Price Toy Sale - Wednesday 21st October 2026

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Dates for your diary:

Friday 23rd October 2026
Last day of term for students

Monday 2nd November 2026
Students and staff return to school

Monday 16th November 2026
Year 9 & 10 Meningitis B ACWY & DTP Vaccinations

Friday 27th November 2026
Staff training day - students not in school

Tuesday 8th December 2026
Hepatitis B Vaccinations for all ages

Friday 11th December 2026
Christmas Fair!

Friday 18th December 2026
Last day of term.

*Please note, parents are required to attend vaccination appointments - without parents present we will not be able to proceed with the vaccination.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child, please don't hesitate to contact their class teacher via email. For advice or support with family matters, our Family Team is here to help—just call 01582 572 880 and select option 2.

schooloffice@woodlands.luton.sch.uk

01582 572 880

Have a brilliant Half-Term!