

Weekly Newsletter

12TH DECEMBER 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

This week has been a really special one. Taking time to enjoy the wonderful nativity performances from our youngest children has been an absolute privilege. School life is always very busy, but the best moments are those spent with the children.

For me, the magic of nativity performances isn't just in the perfect moments, but also in the imperfect – when lines are forgotten for a moment, nudges into place are needed or laughter breaks out - the moments that capture childhood so beautifully.

I am incredibly grateful to each of our children, who are the reason that everyone at Whipman Woods works so hard, to our staff for everything they do, and to you as parents and carers for the support you give us in so many ways.

As we head into our final week of term, I have encouraged staff – and I hope you are able to do the same – to take time to enjoy the children's laughter, their joy and the sense of wonder that they bring.

On Thursday, I was also lucky enough to join Oak Class on their Viking adventure to York. It was a fantastic day, full of learning and fun, and the children were brilliant from start to finish.

We are looking forward to another festive week ahead, with Oak's carol concert, the Christmas Fair, Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day, and a very special treat on Friday for all our children – a lovely way to end a wonderful Autumn Term.

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Nicola Green
Head Teacher

CHRISTMAS PARTY DAYS

Next week, each class will enjoy a Christmas party, with games, festive activities, party clothes and a small selection of food. We ask that children in Willow, Cedar, Beech, Maple and Oak classes bring an individual plate or box of snacks to eat (not to be shared). This could include items such as crisps, biscuits, crackers or fruit (please ensure nothing needs to be refrigerated and that all items are nut-free).

Children are welcome to wear party clothes on the day.

The party days are as follows:

- Elm – Thursday afternoon (NO PLATE NEEDED _ ARRANGEMENTS SHARED SEPARATELY)
- Maple, Willow and Oak – Thursday afternoon
- Beech and Cedar – Friday afternoon



OAK CLASS VISIT TO JORVIK VIKING CENTRE AND DIG – THURSDAY

On Thursday this week, Oak Class enjoyed a fantastic educational visit to York, packed full of awe, wonder and hands-on learning. The children impressed everyone with their enthusiasm and their ability to confidently share the Viking knowledge they have been gaining in school, making meaningful links to the experiences throughout the day. They were wonderful ambassadors for Whipman Woods in every way.

Our visit began at the JORVIK Viking Centre, before we hot-footed it across York to DIG, where the children tried their hand at being archaeologists. They explored historical sources in depth, carefully considering what information could be inferred, and then took part in a hilarious Viking sagas workshop. Some of our budding performers particularly enjoyed entertaining a very appreciative audience!

The lovely weather also allowed us to take in the sights of York, adding to an already memorable day. A huge thank you to Miss Fleming for planning such a fun, engaging and action-packed learning experience – to all the staff that supported it, and to our families for your continued support in making visits like this possible.



NATIVITY PERFORMANCES

This week, our EYFS and Key Stage 1 Nativity performances captured the heart of Christmas, giving us all a timely opportunity to pause and reflect on what this special time is really about – togetherness, joy, laughter and a shared sense of belonging.

The children were nothing short of amazing – they have undoubtedly made themselves, their families and our whole school community incredibly proud. Over the past couple of weeks, Whipman Woods has been transformed by the sight of chickens, donkeys, sheep, shepherds and kings walking the corridors, and by the beautiful sound of their singing. Christmas is one of the most precious times in school for both our children and staff.

We hope you enjoyed a moment to relax with a hot drink and mince pie kindly served by our wonderful staff and the Friends of Whipman Woods. **Thanks to your generosity, donations in place of tickets and the sale of refreshments, we raised an incredible £550.** This brings us a significant step closer to funding a new stage for our summer and future performances – a lasting legacy of your kindness and support.

A heartfelt thank you to the Friends of Whipman Woods for the invaluable gift of their time, and to everyone who helped make these performances such a memorable celebration of Christmas spirit.



CHRISTMAS FAIR FUN – MONDAY 15th DECEMBER 3.00pm-4.30pm

Our annual Christmas Fair will take place on **Monday 15th December**, and we are really looking forward to welcoming you in from the cold for an afternoon of festive fun.

Just some of the treats in store for you and the children include:

- A wide range of stalls offering personalised gifts, clothing, homeware, books, crafts and more
- Children's stalls including lucky dips, mini tombola, sweets in a jar, 'guess the name of the bear', glitter tattoos, biscuit decorating and much more!
- Festive entertainment from the Welbeck Brass Band and Whipman Woods Choir
- A fantastic selection of raffle prizes, including a range of hampers (with a wonderful hamper kindly donated by Whipman Woods staff) and other quality gifts
- Tombola
- A children's craft stall, featuring baubles made with love and care for your Christmas tree – purchase your child's bauble for just £1
- Refreshments including hot and cold drinks, as well as a cake stall

All funds raised will be added to the total from our Nativity performances and the upcoming Carol Concert. We can't wait to share the grand total with you and celebrate just how much we have raised together through our Christmas events.

We look forward to seeing you there for a festive afternoon full of community fun!

DRESS DOWN DAY - TODAY

The children have all enjoyed, and probably benefitted from a 'dress down' day in school. It was lovely to see many of them looking very festive in assembly this morning and, on a cold, dark morning, they certainly made for a dazzling sight in this morning's celebration assembly. From Christmas dresses to dressing gowns, the children wore whatever made them feel happy today – a much deserved treat at the end of a busy week in school.

As a result of this, we are in awe of the amount of wonderful donations that have been made towards our Christmas Fair on Monday in return for the dress down day enjoyed by our children today.

Our staff room looks like Santa's grotto – and all because of you. We can't wait for you to share in the joy of our Christmas Fair on Monday – the doors open to our school community at 3pm.

thank
★ you ★

KEY STAGE 2 – CHRISTMAS CAROL CONCERT (MAPLE AND OAK CLASSES)

Our Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children have been working hard to perfect a wonderful carol concert for you to enjoy on **Tuesday 16th December at 2pm** – if you could arrive just prior to this to grab your seat and light refreshments, that would be wonderful.

As with our nativity performances, there will be no ticket cost but any donations that you are willing to give, as well as money raised from refreshments will be put towards our ongoing stage project. The children's singing is already sounding lovely and we know



Occupational Therapy Sensory Audit Survey for Parents 2025

As part of our involvement in the PINS project, we are conducting a **Sensory Audit** to help our Occupational Therapy team better understand the sensory needs and experiences of the children we support. We kindly ask parents to complete the **Occupational Therapy Sensory Audit Survey for Parents 2025** using the link below.

Your insights are invaluable and will play an important role in shaping the strategies, resources, and support we provide. Thank you for taking the time to share your perspective and contribute to this important work.



[Occupational Therapy Sensory Audit Survey for Parents 2025](#)

ATTENDANCE

Well done to Oak Class! You are this week's attendance winners!

Willow	Cedar	Beech	Maple	Oak	Whole School
95.87%	96.79%	97.33%	95.42%	98.8%	96.4%



NO AFTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL CLUB FRIDAY 19TH DEC

Just to let you know, there will be no Football After-School Club on Friday 19th December. Thank you for your understanding!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Monday 15th December - Christmas Fair 2.30pm-4.30pm
- Tuesday 16th December - KS2 Carol Concert 2pm-3pm
- Wednesday 17th December - Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day (menu sent out)
- Thursday 18th December - Elm, Willow, Maple and Oak Party Day (Party clothes to be worn)
- Friday 19th December - Cedar and Beech Party Day (Party clothes to be worn)
- Friday 19th December - Last day of Autumn Term in school
- Monday 5th January - First day of Spring Term





Whipman Woods' Christmas Fair!



Book stall



Games

Children's stalls



**Monday 15th December 2025
at 3:00pm!**



Brass Band



Raffle



**Face
painting**



Hot chocolate

and more!

Cash only!

