

Weekly Newsletter

6TH MARCH 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have enjoyed the spring-like feel in the air this week! We have certainly felt it here at Whipman Woods. It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying some coat-free time outside at lunchtimes and breaktimes.

As you may have guessed, the highlight of this week was World Book Day! We have also had two of our children, who have stood out for their positive contributions to all aspects of school life, working collaboratively with other schools across the trust to share their views about how the Flying High Children's Characteristics are taught, modelled and enacted at Whipman Woods.

As a new and evolving school, there is always so much to do at Whipman Woods, and I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the incredible work of our school staff in making our shared vision a reality. As you know, our children sit front and centre of that vision, and every idea and action is for them: to make sure that their experience of primary school is a happy and fulfilling one, to ensure that they achieve the very best outcomes in all aspects of school life, and to help them become empowered young people who are equipped to make a positive contribution to the world.

We know we are privileged to work with such wonderful children, and our children are equally fortunate to have a team of such dedicated staff behind them.

Finally, thank you for your support in making World Book Day a success – the children looked FABULOUS!

Kind regards,

Mrs Nicola Green
Head Teacher

COMMUNICATION

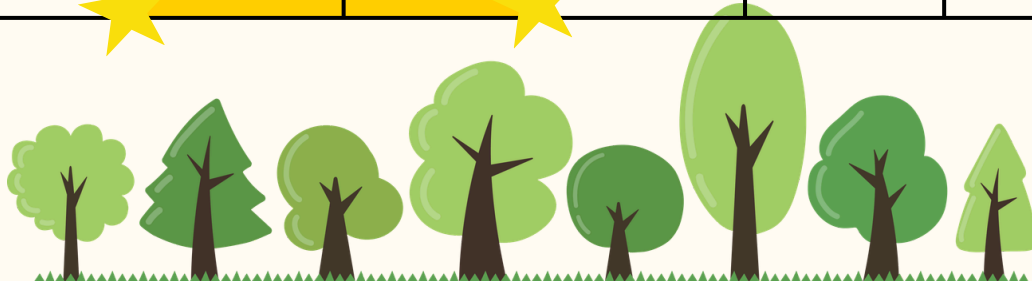
As a school, we pride ourselves on strong relationships with our parents and carers. If you ever have any concerns, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance, as they are best placed to help manage and resolve any issues that may arise.

If you feel that further support is needed, please feel free to contact Mrs Parkinson (Deputy Headteacher) or Nicola Green (Headteacher).

We understand that it can sometimes be tempting to share concerns on class chat groups; however, we are always best able to support and resolve any issues when we hear about them directly.

Well done to Cedar and Beech Classes! You are this week's attendance winners!

Willow	Cedar	Beech	Maple	Oak	Whole School
96.55%	100%	100%	99.2%	98.08%	98.62%



WORLD BOOK DAY

Our school hall was a wonderful sight during our World Book Day Assembly on Thursday! As the children paraded into the hall showing off their fantastic costumes, it was lovely to see the looks of delight and admiration on their friends' faces.

During the assembly, we learned that World Book Day has been celebrated for over 30 years, first beginning in 1995, and is now enjoyed in more than 100 countries around the world. The children also listened to the story of a young girl called Mabel, who discovered a love of books and the power of stories to transport her to new places, help her overcome challenges and introduce her to exciting new words and ideas.

The assembly also included a fun quiz and some AMAZING facts about reading! **Did you know that if a child reads for just 10 minutes a day, they will encounter around one million words in a year?**

To end a wonderful day, the children enjoyed a special story time with a different member of staff acting as a 'surprise storyteller', and they were treated to a slightly longer story session than usual.



'BOOK IN A BOX' COMPETITION

We are in awe of the vast array of 'Book in a Box' entries that we have received! They have really added to this week's World Book Day mood and have brightened up our school. We hope you have enjoyed supporting your child as they have made them.

We intend to keep some of our 'Books in a Box' in school to decorate our library and will share more photographs when we have them in situ.

Thank you for all the imagination, effort and care that has been put into each and every one of these. The children will have learnt so much whilst making them because there are so many skills involved. Each class took a trip down to the hall to visit our 'Book in a Box' Gallery during World Book Day!



SPOTLIGHT ON 'OAK' CLASS BY MISS FLEMING

This week in science, Oak class has been learning about how pollination occurs through a hands-on investigation using primroses. The children began by carefully examining the flowers and identifying their different parts, including the petals, stamens and stigma, discussing the role each part plays in plant reproduction.

To better understand the process, the children carried out a practical activity where they manually pollinated the flowers themselves. Using paint brushes to represent insects, they carefully transferred pollen from the stamen of one flower to the stigma of another. This helped them recreate the process that usually happens when insects such as bees visit flowers to collect nectar.

By acting out the role of pollinators, the children were able to see first-hand how pollen is transferred between plants and why this process is so important for producing seeds and new plants. The class showed fantastic curiosity and teamwork throughout the investigation, asking thoughtful questions and sharing their scientific observations.



STAR OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to our Stars of the week. This week our celebration assembly value was **Responsibility**.

Our definition of pride is:

“Doing the right thing at all times, even when no one is watching; taking care of yourself and your belongings and helping others do the same”.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Willow: Zach

Cedar: Seraphina

Beech: Otis

Maple: Avery

Oak: Kyle

READER OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to our 'Readers of the Week' for their amazing attitude to reading, both during lessons and at home. Keep up the good work - thank you for flying our reading flag!

READERS OF THE WEEK

Willow: Thomas

Cedar: Harry

Beech: Ayan

Maple: Atalya

Oak: Karol



SCHOOL UNIFORM - A REMINDER

Please can we remind you of our expectations for school uniform and PE kit. Our uniform helps children feel a sense of belonging, which is one of our key curriculum principles, and ensures they look and feel ready to learn.

We also have a range of clean, pre-loved uniform available at the school office, so please come and see us before buying new items. If you have any uniform in good, clean condition that your child has outgrown, we would be very grateful for any donations.

Our school uniform is as follows:

- Woodland green jumper/cardigan (with or without the school logo)
- White polo shirt or white cotton shirt/blouse – embroidered or plain
- Grey trousers (joggers can be worn in Nursery)
- Grey skirt (in summer, a green and white summer dress may be worn)
- Black, sensible shoes/black trainers
- Grey or black tights
- Black school shoes/non-logo black trainers are school uniform

Our PE kit is as follows

- Plain black or white trainers or BLACK pumps
- Plain white/woodland green t-shirt (no logos)
- Shorts/leggings - black (no logos)
- Jogging bottoms or leggings – black (no logos)
- No jewellery (staff are not permitted to take out children's earrings)



FRIENDS OF WHIPMAN WOODS AGM - ANOTHER PLEA!








Established in mid-2025, Friends of Whipman Woods (FoWW) has already delivered some fantastic fundraising and community events. The group is now taking the next step to become formally established - and we'd love you to be part of it! If you're interested in shaping future activities, supporting the school, and helping build a thriving community group, please complete the [Expression of interest form](#).

Our annual general meeting (AGM) will be held in the near future, where we'll share more about our aims, plans, and how you can get involved - this meeting is open to all to attend.

We will be soon establishing roles to make our AGM and FoWW as successful as possible. More details regarding these will be discussed at the AGM. Therefore, if you believe any of the below roles are suitable for you, please come to the meeting and express your interest.

Please contact Charlotte Lax with any questions or for more information:

clax@whipmanwoodsfa.co.uk

 <h3>Chair/Co-Chair</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A good leader who brings the committee together- Should be confident, calm, friendly and approachable, but assertive and firm when needed- Supervises and delegates tasks to ensure they are completed- Manages the committee to ensure they work collaboratively and cohesively- Liaises with school leadership and governor teams- Ensures all members follow the constitution and policies- Good communication and organisational skills- Represents the whole committee on occasions open mornings, welcome events and more 	<h3>Treasurer/Co-Treasurer</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A good head for numbers- Good mathematical and logistical skills- Keeps accounts in a clear and concise manner- Follows any financial or expenses policies- Provides accurate, up-to-date reports- Manages the PTA bank account with other signatories- Completes the Charity Annual Return with the Chair 	<h3>Secretary/Co-Secretary</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Good organisational and communication skills- Manages the day-to-day communications of the association- Manages the association's correspondence- Produces minutes for each meeting- A good listener and record keeper 
<h3>Fundraising Lead</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Excellent attention to detail- Excellent communication skills- Lead on fundraising plans for the Friends Group- Work closely with the Treasurer and Events lead- Coordinate and plan fundraising for the year- Considers links within the community for things such as sponsorship and donations 	<h3>Events Lead</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Excellent organisation and communication skills- Leads on planning of events- Coordinates event requirements such as plans, timelines and volunteers- Supports the Friends group in having an organised events plan for the year 	<h3>Volunteer</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Does not wish to be a formal committee member- Would like to volunteer and support for the Friends of Whipman Woods group either through fundraising, events or other volunteering capacity- These roles will be part of the wider Friends of Whipman Woods group but not part of the formal committee 



MOTHERS DAY



We are delighted to invite two special ladies per family to join us on **Thursday 12 March at 2:30pm** in the school hall. This is a lovely opportunity for children to celebrate the important women in their lives with tea, cake and good company.

The event is free of charge, but any voluntary cash donations (a box will be provided on the day) towards the purchase of a new school stage would be greatly appreciated 😊

We look forward to welcoming you for an afternoon of treats and celebration. Please indicate whether you are able to attend and how many places you require (maximum of 2 per family) via the form sent on Arbor.



MAPLE CLASS TEACHER

We are delighted to inform you that we have appointed Mrs Olivia Brierley, an experienced Class Teacher who will begin her post at the beginning of the Summer Term, albeit a week later than our start date due to her school's Easter holiday not aligning with ours. We know Olivia will bring a wealth of experience, energy and enthusiasm to our wonderful staff team here at Whipman Woods. It is clear that she values and strives for the very best outcomes for all the children in her care and we can't wait to begin working with her. Welcome to 'Team Whipman' Mrs Brierley!



CHARLOTTE LAX - CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Hello everyone! I'm very proud to share that I have recently been elected as the new Chair of Governors at Whipman Woods. It's a real honour to take on this role.

Many of you may know me from my time as a parent governor, and I'm delighted to continue supporting our school in this new capacity. As governors, our role is to help make sure the school continues to be a place where every child feels valued, inspired, and able to shine in their own way. I'm excited to build on the fantastic work already happening and to work closely with staff, families, and the wider community.

PARENTS' EVENING

Please remember to sign up to a parents' evening slot for your child(ren) using Arbor. This parents' evening will be an opportunity to discuss your child's attainment at this point in the academic year, as well as to ask any questions that you may have.



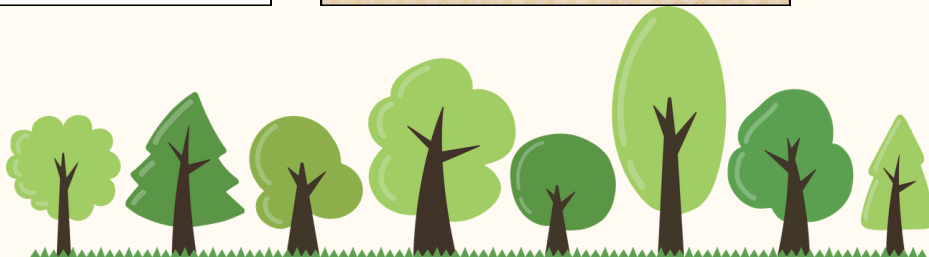
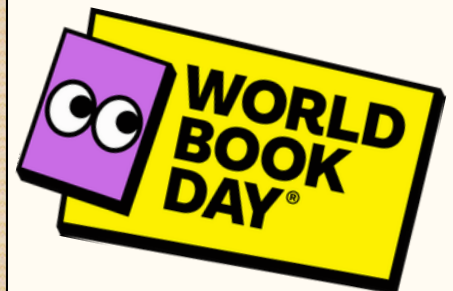
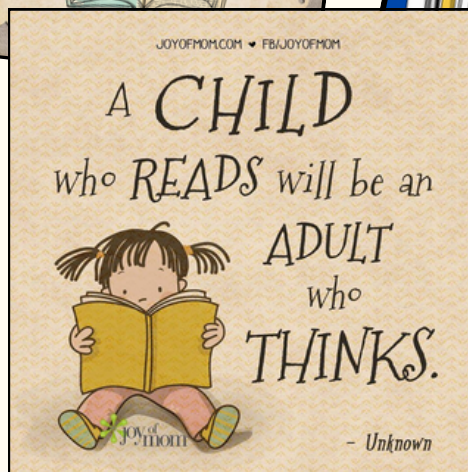
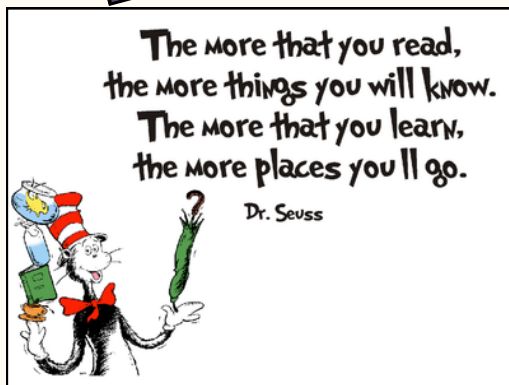
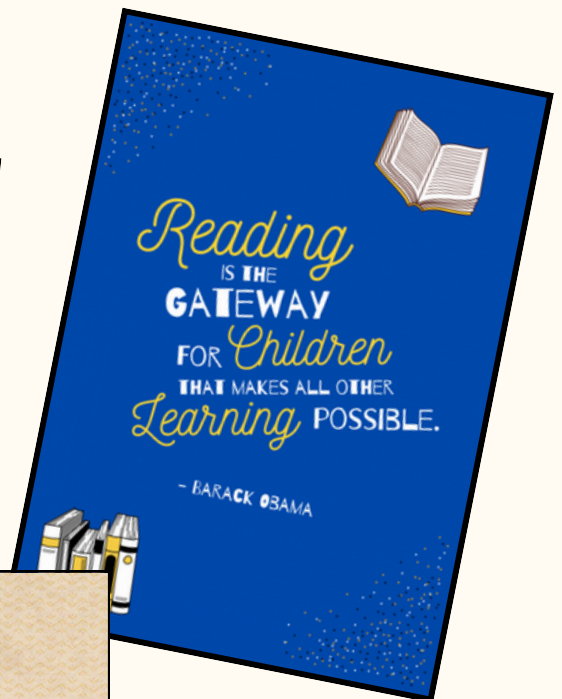
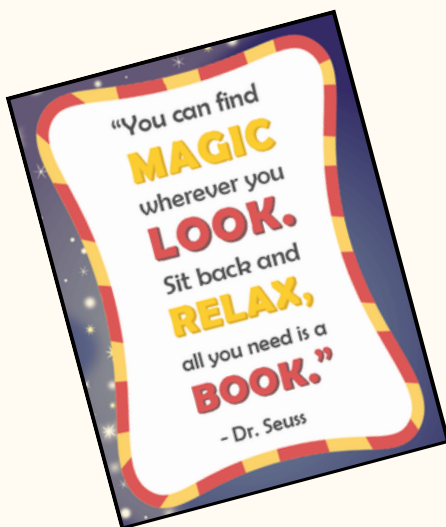
ASSESSMENT WEEK

Next week (w.c. 9th March), Years 1-4 will undertake their termly assessments. These summative tests will support your child's class teacher in identifying the progress that has been made since the Autumn Term as well as highlight any gaps in their knowledge. Your child will take these tests within their normal learning environment and are nothing to worry about. Plenty of sleep, completion of their normal homework and lots of positivity will support them throughout.

Years 5&6 will complete their assessments the following week: w.c. 16th March.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Tuesday 10th March** - Cedar and Beech School Trip (letter sent on Arbor)
- Tuesday 10th March** - Science Week Assembly (Maple Class only)
- Tuesday 10th March** - Science Week Material Fusion Workshop (Oak Class only)
- Thursday 12th March** - 2.30pm Mothers Day Event
- Thursday 12th March** - AGM Friends of Whipman Woods - open to all 15:00-15:45
- Tuesday 17th March** - 8.45-9.30 Year 1 'Live Phonics Lesson' - Parent Invitation!
- Tuesday 17th March** - Parents' Evening
- Wednesday 18th March** - Parents' Evening
- Wednesday 25th March** - National Dentist Survey (Year 1 and Reception only)
- Friday 27th March** - Last Day In School (Easter Holiday)
- Monday 13th April** - First Day of Summer Term
- Monday 13th April** - New school dinner menu starts





V O L [] N T E E []

What's missing?

U R

We'd love you to be part of Friends of Whipman Woods! If you're interested in shaping future activities, supporting the school, and helping build a thriving community group, please complete the [Expression of interest form](#).

Please contact Charlotte Lax with any questions or for more information CLax@whipmanwoodsfa.co.uk



[Parentkind](#)