

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026**  
**Article of the month: 17**  
**School Value: Respect**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was great to hear and see how much fun our Year 3 and 4 children had at **Blackwell Adventure** this week. Thank you to all our staff who went and stayed over to support their activities.

A massive well done to our Year 6 children who have completed their **SATs** this week. They all worked incredibly hard and showed a really positive attitude towards the tests. Ms Lodge and Mr Trevor had prepared them extremely well. They have enjoyed a 'fun day' today to celebrate and unwind.

We would like to say a huge 'Thank You' to **Woodthorpe Friends** who have purchased lots of books to replenish our school library, benches for the playground so the children can sit, rest and socialise and a mini trim trail, which has proven to be extremely popular with all year groups.

Next week is the final week of this half term. So, we will be celebrating school's value of Respect in Character Assembly on Thursday and the winning House Team with the most ClassCharts points. It will also be **National Walk to School Week** so please do keep encouraging your child/ren to walk or wheel to school each day. 😊

Enjoy your weekend.

Ms McGrath

## Pupils of the Week

**Rec: Avaani** – Improving in confidence and working independently.

**Y1: Orlagh** – For consistently working hard across all subjects and being an excellent role model to her classmates.

**Y2: Freddie K** – For writing a fabulous guidebook in English using a variety of sentence types.

**Y3: Max** – For having a super attitude towards his work and keeping focussed.

**Y4: Charlotte** – Great progress in swimming and independence across the curriculum.

**Y5: Melody** – For always trying her best.

**Y6: Maya** – For being an excellent role model & always being ready to learn.

## House Points Weekly Leaderboard

**Brandwood – 416**  
**Highbury – 365**  
**Jasmin – 393**  
**Dawberry – 405**

## Attendance & Punctuality

w/c 04.05.26

Year Group	Present marks (%)	No of Lates
Reception	96.5	1
Year 1	88.9	4
Year 2	94.4	4
Year 3	<b>100.0</b>	2
Year 4	97.8	1
Year 5	94.3	5
Year 6	98.9	2
<b>Average % / Total Lates</b>	95.8	19

## Notices, Updates and Reminders

### Concerning Viral Trend

Some schools have been notified about a concerning viral online trend involving "NeeDoh" or squishy silicone toys. Children and young people are reportedly microwaving these toys after watching videos online claiming this makes them softer. In some cases, the toys have burst

when handled afterwards, spraying extremely hot contents and causing serious burns to children's hands and faces. Please be advised to avoid searching for videos of this trend online, as this can increase the visibility of the content through social media algorithms.

### Water Safety on Holiday

Please find the link below for families from the Child Death Team:

<https://www.rlss.org.uk/safety-on-holiday>

### Arbor App

If you are not receiving notifications, please check you Arbor App settings & ensure you have selected - *allow notifications* & for the app to be *running in the background*, to receive real-time notifications.

**Meal Information – Summer Menu Week 3 (attached).** Please also find attached *Summer Menu Week 1 & 2*.

Please could we ask that all meals are paid for promptly & in advance, where required, via Arbor App – Payment Section – Meal Account. Please continue to report any discrepancies to the school office. If your child requires a school meal (instead of providing packed lunch from home) as a one-off emergency, please let the school office know at the beginning of **the day or as soon as possible**. A reminder that you do not need to select your child's meal preference or order your child's meal, as this is generated automatically from your child's 'Meal Pattern'. Any changes of meal patterns, should be made at the end of a half term but if there are any issues mid-term, please let us know. Thank you – School Office Team

### School Fund Contributions

School fund contributions kindly welcomed. Thank you for contributions received so far.

### **Diary for the Week**

#### ***National Walk to School Week***

***Summer Menu Week 3 -see attachments***

#### **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

8.30 – 8.45 am The Daily Mile – All welcome

3.15 – 4.15 pm KS2 Multi-Sports (Richard Steadman)

#### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>**

3.15 – 4 pm Rec – Y6 Choir

3.15 – 4.15 pm Rec/Y1/Y2 Football (Aston Villa Football Club)

3.15 – 4 pm Rec – Y6 Choir (Please see class blog sites for further information)

#### **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>**

8.30 – 8.45 am Wake -Up, Shake Up

3.15 – 4.15 pm Y1 – Y6 Street Dance

#### **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>**

8.30 – 8.45 am The Daily Mile – All welcome

9.00-9.25 am Character Assembly

3.15 – 4.15 pm KS2 T1 Rugby (Moseley Rugby Club)

#### **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> 3.15 pm Break Up for Half Term**

3.15 – 4.15 pm Rec/Y1/Y2 Multi-Sports (Premier Education)

#### **Remaining staff training day 2025-26:**

- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July



# Woodthorpe Junior and Infant School Health and Wellbeing Newsletter



Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2026

## Clubs and Activities



Position	Year Group	Distance Travelled
1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 2	10.57
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 5	5.89
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Reception	4.98
4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4	2.72
5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6	2.57
6 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1	2.42
7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3	0.00
		29.15 miles

The Daily Mile returned this week! We had 38 children attend on Thursday, travelling a combined distance of 29.15 miles. Well done again to Year 2 for being the most active class!

Don't forget that it takes place every Monday and Thursday morning at 08:30.

Please note Wake-up Shake-up will be on Wednesdays for all year groups.

### **Blackwell Adventure- Y3/4 Residential**

This week 34 children from Years 3 and 4 travelled over to the outskirts of Bromsgrove for their residential. The group did fantastically well and showed great bravery, determination and resilience when attempting a broad range of activities throughout the three days. They all represented the school brilliantly and should be proud of their achievements.



### **Year 5/6 Red Ridge Residential**

The dates for the forthcoming residential are Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2026. Our current Year 4 and 5 children will get more information sent out over the coming weeks.

### **Personal Bests**

Our Personal Best challenge for this half term is a skipping challenge. There are three levels for children to work through – Bronze, Silver and Gold – each with its own set of skipping challenges. Children can choose which level they would like to start at, allowing everyone to challenge themselves at a level that feels right for them. Lots of children have already had a go at the challenge and have absolutely loved skipping at lunchtimes with the BAs.

### **Women's T20 Blast – Birmingham**

**Bears v The Blaze.**

**Wednesday 27th May**

⌚ 2:30pm Start





# Woodthorpe Junior and Infant School Health and Wellbeing Newsletter



Would you be able to solve this maths problem.....

*A school sends teachers and students to an enrichment event.  
 $\frac{1}{3}$  of them are female students.  
 They send 16 teachers.  
 The ratio of teachers to male students is 2:3  
 How many people in total (teachers and students) did the school send?*

Ernest (Y5) was able to when completing a Maths Outreach Project – and received a prize in conjunction with the University of Warwick! Great effort Ernest! (The answer is 60 if anyone wants to know.)

## Dates for your diary

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May**- The Daily Mile

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> May**- Wake-up Shake-up

Y4 Pickleball Festival

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May**- The Daily Mile

### Meaningful May 2026

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS**

**Hoppler - Kinder - Together**

<p>21. Ask someone you know to be kind to you and any.</p>	<p>19. Remember your acts of kindness were really meaningful.</p>	<p>17. Focus on the things you are good at and make a difference for others.</p>	<p>15. Do something special and make your memory happy.</p>	<p>13. Today do something to make someone's day.</p>	<p>11. Find a way to give someone a special gift.</p>
<p>20. Write a letter to someone you love and send it to them.</p>	<p>18. Think of a way to help someone who is in need.</p>	<p>16. Give someone a compliment.</p>	<p>14. Look up someone you care about and tell them how much you love them.</p>	<p>12. Find a way to give someone a special gift.</p>	<p>10. Think of a way to help someone who is in need.</p>
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<p>11. Find a way to give someone a special gift.</p>	<p>9. Think of a way to help someone who is in need.</p>	<p>7. Think of a way to help someone who is in need.</p>	<p>5. Think of a way to help someone who is in need.</p>	<p>3. Think of a way to help someone who is in need.</p>	<p>1. Think of a way to help someone who is in need.</p>

### COMMITTEE MESSAGE

Thank you to all parents/carers who have supported our fundraising efforts so far this year.

Your generosity is appreciated and allows us to improve the school experience of our children.

How do we help Woodthorpe School?

The school complete a request form, then our committee vote on whether to fund the item. A vital boost with tight school budgets!

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### Summer Term:

Summer Fayre – 2<sup>nd</sup> July

WF funded Y6 Leavers Trip to Airhop – 13<sup>th</sup> July

#### Autumn Term:

Halloween mask competition – TBC

Halloween Disco – TBC (subject to volunteers)

Christmas Fayre - TBC

### FUNDRAISING NEWS

#### MONEY RAISED THIS YEAR:

Christmas Fayre: £992.85

Easter Bonnet Competition: £32.25

Drama Club Production: £195

#### ITEMS FUNDED THIS YEAR:

- Hundreds of fabulous new library books
- Resources for the drama club
- Maths resources for Ms Lodge
- New benches for the ball court
- An amazing new 5m long trim trail
- Playground sports and games bundle
- Dictionaries for Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6 classes

**PLEASE TURN OVER FOR PHOTOS!**

### WHO'S WHO?

#### THE COMMITTEE:

Chair	Ruth T Y3 Parent
Treasurer	David F Y1 Parent
Secretary	Karen G Y4 Parent
Other committee	Ellie Rec Parent
	Amy C Y1+4 Parent
	Naomi Y2 Parent
	Lucy K Y4 Parent
	Jamie S Rec+Y4 Parent

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR CLASSES NOT REPRESENTED URGENTLY NEEDED!!!**

### CONTACT INFO

Email: [friendsofwoodthorpeschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofwoodthorpeschool@gmail.com)

Facebook: Woodthorpe Friends

WhatsApp: contact 07743643658 to be added to our group, or see class groups

**New committee members and volunteers are always needed.**

**Please get in touch if you could give some time to help bring our ideas to life.**

**We need do-ers, go-getters and the super organised to get our ideas off the ground!**

**Thanks to your support, here's what we could fund this year!**

**Library books and class dictionaries:**



**5m long Trim Trail for the playground (COMING SOON):**



**Bundle of playground games and benches (COMING SOON):**



**Drama Club resources:**



# Summer Menu Week 1

13th April, 4th May, 25th May, 15th June, 6th July, 7th Sept, 28th Sept, 19th Oct 2026

WEEK ONE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Main - Option 1</b>	Fajita Chicken	Beef Lasagne	Roast Beef in Gravy	Chicken Curry	Fish Goujons
<b>Vegetables</b>	Vegetable Medley	Carrots	Mixed Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables	Peas
<b>Sides</b>	White Rice	Baked Potato Wedges	Golden Roast Potatoes	Wholegrain Rice	Oven Chips
<b>Main - Option 2</b>	Macaroni Cheese	Chickpea Curry	Cheese & Onion Pie	Lentil Bolognaise	Vegetable Lasagne
<b>Vegetables</b>	Sweetcorn	Cauliflower	Mixed Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables	Peas
<b>Sides</b>	Diced Potatoes	Wholegrain Rice	Golden Roast Potatoes	Penne Pasta	Oven Chips
<b>Jacket Potatoes</b>	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato
<b>Dessert</b>	Apple Crumble	Chocolate Sponge	Lemon & Orange Sponge	Chocolate Chip Sponge	Somerset Apple Cake



# Summer Menu Week 2

30th March, 20th April, 11th May, 1st June, 22nd June, 13th July, 14th Sept, 5th Oct, 26th Oct 2026

WEEK TWO	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Main - Option 1</b>	Chicken & Pasta with Tomatoes and Herbs	Chicken Goujons	Roast Chicken in Gravy	Sweet & Sour Chicken	Tuna Pasta Bake
<b>Vegetables</b>	Sweetcorn	Baked Beans	Vegetable Medley	Cauliflower	Peas
<b>Sides</b>	Baked Potato Wedges	Diced Potatoes	Golden Roast Potatoes	White Rice	Oven Chips
<b>Main - Option 2</b>	Lentil & Vegetable Flaky Topped Pie	Vegetarian Tikka Masala	Penne Pasta in Tomato and Basil Sauce	Bean Chilli	Vegetarian Cottage Pie
<b>Vegetables</b>	Sweetcorn	Broccoli	Vegetable Medley	Green Beans	Peas
<b>Sides</b>	Baked Potato Wedges	Wholegrain Rice	Penne Pasta	White Rice	Oven Chips
<b>Jacket Potatoes</b>	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato
<b>Dessert</b>	Summer Fruit Sponge	Bakewell Tart	Pineapple Sponge	Apple Crumble	Hot Chocolate Brownie



# Summer Menu Week 3

6th April, 27th April, 18th May, 8th June, 29th June, 20th July, 31st Aug, 21st Sept, 12th Oct 2026

WEEK THREE	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Main - Option 1</b>	Cheesy Garlic Chicken	Smoked Paprika & Tomato Chicken	Sliced Roast Chicken in Gravy	Beef Bolognaise	Breaded Cod
<b>Vegetables</b>	Carrots	Mixed Vegetables	Mixed Vegetables	Sweetcorn	Peas
<b>Sides</b>	Diced Potatoes	Baked Potato Wedges	Golden Roast Potatoes	Penne Pasta	Oven Chips
<b>Main - Option 2</b>	Cauliflower, Spinach & Lentil Curry	Tomato & Chickpea Gratin	Cauliflower & Broccoli Pasta	Vegetable Quiche	Potato, Cheese & Leek Bake
<b>Sides</b>	Green Beans	Cauliflower	Mixed Vegetables	Carrots	Baked Beans
<b>Carbohydrate</b>	Wholegrain Rice	Baked Potato Wedges	Penne Pasta	Baked Potato Wedges	Oven Chips
<b>Jacket Potatoes</b>	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato	Filled Jacket Potato
<b>Dessert</b>	Lemon Flavour Sponge	Apricot Crumble	Jam Sponge	Somerset Apple Cake	Chocolate Sponge





**CHILDCARE  
FROM JUST  
£3.20 PER  
HOUR**



# MAY

# HOLIDAY CLUBS



**ST ALBANS CATHOLIC PRIMARY,  
KINGS HEATH, B14 5AL  
TUESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> - FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

**£22.50 9AM-4PM (5-11 YEAR OLDS)  
£14.00 9AM-1PM (4 YEAR OLDS)  
CURRENTLY AWAITING OFSTED REGISTRATION**

**PRICE CHANGES COME INTO EFFECT:  
£23.50 FROM MON 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL  
£24.50 FROM MON 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

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# ST ALBAN'S MAY TIMETABLE



EACH DAY ALSO INCLUDES A RANGE OF FUN GAMES AND TIME FOR ACTIVE PLAY!

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
ICEBREAKER GAME		Dragon's Treasure Raid James	Medusa's Stone Curse Ollie	Dragon's Vs Kingdom's AJ	Escape The Volcano Junaid
ACTIVITY 1	BANK	Dodgeball James	Glow in the Dark Dodgeball Robbie	Gymnastics Dan	Dodgeball Junaid
ACTIVITY 2	HOLIDAY	Fencing Dan	Kurling Ollie	Rounders AJ	Netball AJ
ACTIVITY 3		Tennis James	NERF Robbie	Arts & Crafts Ollie	Tchoukball Dan
ACTIVITY 4		Kids Vs Coaches	Archery Ollie	Kids Vs Coaches	CELEBRATION



**BOOK NOW!**





FOUNDATION

# WHITSUN WEEK 2026 SOCCER SCHOOLS



Aston

Bromsgrove

Harborne

Bodmoor  
Heath

Dates: Tues 26th - Fri 29th May

Time: 9:30 - 15:30

Ages: 5 - 14

[CLICK  
HERE TO  
BOOK](#)

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ONLINE GROOMING

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online grooming is when someone builds a relationship with a child or young person online to gain their trust for the purpose of sexual abuse, exploitation, radicalisation, or criminal activity – such as county lines or financial scams. According to the NSPCC, police in the UK recorded over 7,000 offences involving sexual communication with a child in a single year – an increase of 89% since 2017/18.

## STRANGERS USING FAKE IDENTITIES

Groomers often pose as children or teenagers online to build trust. They may create convincing fake profiles, share photos stolen from real people, or mimic the interests of the child. By pretending to be someone their age, they make conversations feel safe and relatable. Over time, they may ask for personal details, photos, or suggest meeting in person, exposing children to significant emotional and physical harm.

## EXPLOITATION THROUGH GIFTS AND FLATTERY

To gain trust quickly, groomers often send gifts, gaming credits, or money. Alongside material offerings, they use excessive compliments, affection, and attention to create emotional dependency. These tactics make children feel valued and special, lowering their defences. Once trust is secured, groomers may escalate their requests, often asking for photos or private conversations, making the child feel pressured or indebted to continue.

## GROUP CHATS AS HIDDEN PATHWAYS

Unmonitored group chats on platforms like WhatsApp or Discord provide a cover for groomers. They can watch how children interact, identify those who seem vulnerable, and then move conversations into private messaging. This transition makes detection difficult for trusted adults. The seemingly harmless group setting often masks the presence of predators, giving children a false sense of security.

## THE RISE OF SEXTORTION

Sextortion involves pressuring children into sharing explicit content, then blackmailing them for more. Offenders may claim to have hacked a child's device, threaten to share images with friends or family, or demand money. Many victims remain silent out of fear and shame. This growing crime is particularly dangerous because children often feel trapped, believing there's no safe way to escape the situation.

## GAMING PLATFORMS AS GROOMING GATEWAYS

Games like Roblox, Fortnite, or Call of Duty, which include live chat features, are frequent targets for groomers. Conversations often begin casually during gameplay and can become manipulative over time. Groomers may offer in-game gifts, credits, or exclusive add-ons to build rapport. Children using headsets or private chat features are especially at risk, as conversations are harder for adults to monitor.

## CRIMINAL & RADICALISATION RISKS

Grooming is not always sexual. Some offenders manipulate children into criminal activities such as drug running or online fraud. Others attempt to radicalise young people with extreme ideologies. Groomers often use fear, money, shame, or promises of belonging to control their victims. These forms of exploitation can be just as harmful as sexual grooming, and often leave lasting psychological and social consequences.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### KEEP CONVERSATIONS REGULAR

Rather than having one "big talk" about online safety, weave conversations into everyday life. Ask questions about children's online friendships and interests. Share real-life examples to make discussions relatable and encourage honesty instead of secrecy. When children feel comfortable discussing their digital lives, they are far more likely to share concerns or admit when something feels wrong, reducing the chance of risky interactions going unnoticed.

### CREATE A "TELL ME" CULTURE

Children often keep silent because they fear being punished or losing access to their devices. Reassure them that coming forward with concerns won't get them into trouble. Emphasise that you are there to help, not judge. Creating a safe, open environment encourages children to speak up if something feels wrong, and helps to ensure they don't suffer in silence when facing potential grooming risks.

### UNDERSTAND THE PLATFORMS CHILDREN USE

Take time to learn about the apps, games, and social platforms children are on. Familiarise yourself with privacy settings, parental controls, and group chat features. Use resources like The National College guides or conduct quick searches to stay updated. By understanding how these platforms operate, you'll be better equipped to set boundaries, guide safe use, and notice any unusual or concerning online behaviour early.

### STAY ALERT TO WARNING SIGNS

Be attentive to both behavioural and digital red flags. Sudden secrecy, mood swings, or new online contacts may signal a problem. Watch for unexplained gifts, new social media profiles, or changes in sleep patterns. Increased anxiety or reluctance to attend school can also be indicators. Regularly checking in and showing interest in those whom they communicate with online help prevent small issues from escalating into serious risks.

### Meet Our Expert

Staffordshire Police is dedicated to keeping people safe and tackling crime across both the physical and digital world. The force continues to strengthen its digital investigation and safeguarding capabilities to protect children and vulnerable people online, working in partnership with local, regional and national organisations, schools, and the wider community.



See full reference list on our website

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