

Thursday 23rd November 2025-Newsletter 2

Dear Parent/Carer,

A warm welcome back - I hope you all had a lovely break. We have lots to look forward to this half term!

Please remember to check our school website, Parent Hub app and Facebook page on a regular basis for news and information. Our school email address is Woodbank@bury.gov.uk

Start and Finish Times

School opens at 8.45 and gates will close at 9.00a.m. Anything after 9.00a.m. will be classed as late. **Please ensure your child is on time for school - we are having a big push on punctuality and attendance this year.**

Finish times are:

Reception & KS1 classes= 3.25pm

Nursery & KS2 classes = 3.30pm

Parking & Safe Crossing

I would like to stress again in relation to the consistent unsafe parking by a small minority of our parents/carers at drop-off and pick-up times to please consider the safety of our children and families, as well as local residents and drivers using Brandleholme Road.

I am working with local councillors, community police and highway agency to address the issues so hopefully we will begin to see improvements.

Staffing



Sadly, Mrs Gavin will be leaving us after the first week of this half term. Mrs Gavin has been a real asset to the school and her commitment to helping our children every day has been fantastic. She is moving to a new job in a primary school closer to her home. We are really sad to see Mrs Gavin leave but we wish her all the best in her new role.

However, we are delighted to announce Mrs Lewin and Miss Horner will be joining us this half term. Both have vast experience working with a range of children and we are thrilled to be able to welcome them to Woodbank. Both Mrs Lewin and Miss Horner will be working across Key Stage 1, Key Stage 2 and our Resource Provision.

Congratulations to Mr Sagar who was successfully appointed into the role of Acting Deputy Head also taking the lead on our curriculum and assessment as part of his new role. He will still be teaching in Sycamore class for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ days a week. Miss Miller will be joining the Sycamore team alongside Mr Sagar with Mrs Powell for $\frac{1}{2}$ PPA cover. Mrs Powell will also work alongside Mrs Garforth in RY1 replacing Miss Miller.

Attendance

Reminder message from our attendance lead: Miss Lilley

Regular and punctual school attendance is vital for your child's academic achievement, social development and future success. Each day of learning builds on the last and frequent absences can lead to significant gaps in understanding.

Being present at school helps children form friendships, gain confidence and feel a sense of belonging. Establishing strong attendance habits early also prepares them for the routines and responsibilities of adult life.

As per government guidance, we have been directed by our Trust that any holidays during term time cannot be authorised and we must follow Trust policy regarding reporting of unauthorised absences to the local authority, which may result in a penalty notice/fines being issued.

Other school news:

*Mrs Howcroft has been working incredibly hard in developing and updating our website. Work is still ongoing but please have a browse over the half-term holidays.

*Bookings for parents' evening will be open tonight after school. You will receive a link to be able to make your booking via email. (Please contact the school office if not received)

*Squirrels will have their own parents/carers' forest school session on the morning of **Wednesday 19th November** with slots with Mrs Brittain to discuss progress for our children in the resource provision. (More details to come from Mrs Brittain)

*Meetings with SENCOs to discuss concerns or progress for any child regarding SEND can be made directly by emailing: senco@woodbankprimary.co.uk

School Uniform



To come in line with other schools in the Trust we are now allowing plain black trainer shoes may be daily footwear. Please ensure they are fully black as we have high expectations for our children and remain proud of the smartness of their uniform.

We are also starting to phase out shirts and ties in Key Stage 2 from Sept 26. Polo shirts may be worn throughout the year. Ties are not necessary when wearing a polo shirt but must be worn if children are wearing a shirt.

Pre-loved and some new school uniform items can be requested via our pastoral team. Please email: acorns@woodbankprimary.co.uk

Trust News

An artist has been working with each of the trust schools to produce canvas' which reflect each school. Children have contributed to the creations and these will be displayed at Trust building

Woodbank finished 3rd of our 7 trust schools in the recent football tournament at Goshen narrowly missing out on 2nd by goal difference.

Other School Reminders



It is important that your child has all necessary equipment at the start of the week and each day so that they are 'school ready.'

They will need their coat, reading glasses, reading book bag (EYFS/KS1) or a small rucksack (KS2 only).

In KS2, pencil cases/personal stationery are now permitted though not required. School will always provide stationery for those that require any in lessons. Cases must be able to fit in trays or will have to remain in lockers.

Please make sure all uniform is LABELLED. (We already have new jumpers in lost property!!)

If your child has an inhaler, we must have one sent into school that can be kept in school.

School is a NUT FREE school due to children having severe allergies - no NUT products whatsoever.

Please do not send children in with fidget toys/other items unless this has been agreed with class teachers & SENCOs. We do have a range of sensory resources in school for when a need has been identified.

Diary Dates

03.11.25 - School Opens

03.11.25 -EYFS/KS1 Mini Mash - 3.30pm-5.00pm

03.11.25 - KS2 Monster Ball - 5.30pm- 7.00pm

14.11.25- Children In Need

18.11.25- **Parents' Evening**

19.11.25 - Squirrels parent forest school sessions

25.11.25 - Willow class assembly (2.45pm)

27.11.25 - PTA Movie Night (5.30pm - 8.30pm)

04 & 05.12.25 - Breakfast with Santa (8am)

04.12.25 - Y6 Xmas Carol Service at All Saints Church

08.12.25 - Whole school Panto

09.12.25 - Xmas Dinner/Xmas Jumpers

12.12.25- Elf Day/Act of Kindness day

16 & 17.12.25 - EYFS/KS1 Nativity - 2pm

18.12.25- Class Xmas Parties

19.12.25 - **END OF TERM (2.30pm close)**

05.01.26 - **SCHOOL OPENS (8.45am)**

