



woodlands
meed



Newsletter
Autumn Term 2
2025



Wrapping Up the Term with Festive Joy



As we reach the end of term, the past few weeks have been full of sparkle and celebration. Our Christmas performances were once again a highlight, with pupils at Woodlands Meed showing off their incredible talent and creativity. From rehearsals to costumes, they gave it their all. A big thank you to Nola, Cindy, Jesse, Olivia and Mark for their dedication behind the scenes — it made the shows such a delight for everyone. All performances were wonderfully attended, and if you haven't shared your feedback yet, you can still do so by scanning the QR code



It's been a busy and rewarding term, and now the whole Woodlands Meed community is ready for a well-earned Christmas break.

We're especially grateful to the Friends of Woodlands Meed (FOWM) who organised our stall at the Burgess Hill Christmas Markets. Thank you to the families, staff, and supporters who helped make it such a success. The raffle raised over £3,500!



The festive atmosphere across school and college has been wonderful. Special thanks to our friends at Focus Group, Shoreham, for helping our Christmas trees and light wells shine so brightly. Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 11th December brought even more cheer, with staff and pupils showing off their most colourful and creative jumpers!

Looking back on the year, I couldn't be prouder of our pupils. Their resilience, determination, and adaptability have been inspiring. I know parents and carers will join me in thanking our staff and governors for their tireless commitment to our students.

And of course, we want to thank all parents and carers for your support throughout the year—whether at events, parents evenings, or simply cheering our pupils on at sports days.

From all of us at Woodlands Meed, we wish you a joyful Christmas and a wonderful start to 2026. We look forward to welcoming everyone back safely on Monday 5th January.



Badger Bulletin



Badgers have had a fun-filled half term! We had our first outing to Bluebell Railway where we met Santa! We have also enjoyed lots of Christmas crafts and finishing our 'Get Moving' topic.





Desert Class
Newsletter



A very Merry Christmas from us all in Desert

We had a wonderful visit to Hever castle and enjoyed lots of different Tudor activities.



We explored inside the castle

Desert Class at Hever Castle



Today we made Dutch apple cakes

Brilliant trip to the cinema to see How To train your dragon.



Busy time in Food Tech, learning different skills

FOX CLASS



We visited poppy memorials at St. Wilfrid's and St. John's churches and then went to the war memorial when the school wreath had been laid!

A pantomime came to school! Everyone sat beautifully for the story of Snow White. Some of us even made it on stage!



Everyone worked really hard on rehearsing for the Christmas performance. Everyone had to wear a costume (they even made parts of it!), learn lines and Makaton signs. Well done everyone!



GLACIER CLASS

Humanities week

We had a brilliant time learning all about the Tudors during humanities week. Our highlight was our trip to Heaver castle!



In PE...

This half term we have been practicing our football skills!



We also enjoyed playing JOLF!



In RE...

This term we learnt about different communities and the christian community. We enjoyed visiting St John's church and even got the chance to ring the bells!



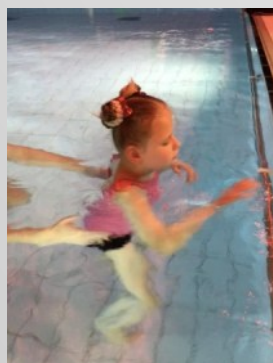
Merry
Christmas

Hedgehog Herald

In line with our topic of celebrations Hedgehog class have been Christmas shopping in Crawley. Everyone had a great day and enjoyed travelling by train and then choosing presents in the shops.



Everyone has worked hard on their individual targets this term and made amazing progress!



Lake Class

Have been....



Learning to use saws safely in DT.



Visiting Hever Castle as part of Humanities Week.



Programming Lego cars in computing.



Presenting their Lion's Roar project.



Testing for acids and alkalis in science.



Practising and rehearsing for our Christmas performance.

Mole Class

During the Autumn term PE sessions we have been working on our throwing and catching skills. Moles have demonstrated a love of catch games and started developing team game skills.



We also had our first trip out as a class and visited the Garden Centre to explore Christmas.



Mountain Class: A cut above the Everest.

This half term we have...



We have been learning about the Tudors in our Humanities week. We learnt about secret writing and messages, how to make Tudor roses, how to make gingerbread and how to do a paint pulled picture of a castle. We also learnt the words and signs for Six and made our own potions.



We also included a trip to Hever Castle in our Humanities week.

We attended our careers fair at College and chatted to new people

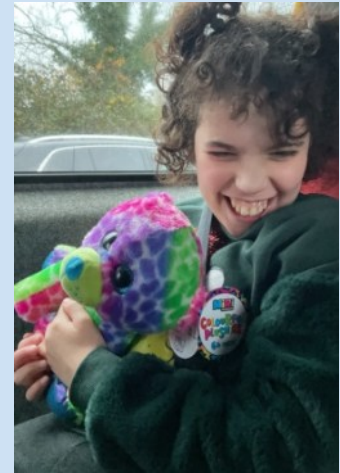


In food tech we have made Pea and bacon risotto, rice pudding and leek and potato soup

Ocean class



Another great half term in Ocean, well done everyone!
We have all been excited getting ready for Christmas.



We had a fantastic trip to see Santa at Hassocks garden centre. Thank you to The Budding Foundation for facilitating this experience.

Happy Christmas everyone!



JavaScript must be enabled.

In Otter News

The Otters have had a fantastic half term. We have enjoyed rehearsing for our Christmas Performance and creating festive art work. The highlight was our trip to the Garden Centre to see all the decorations and have a



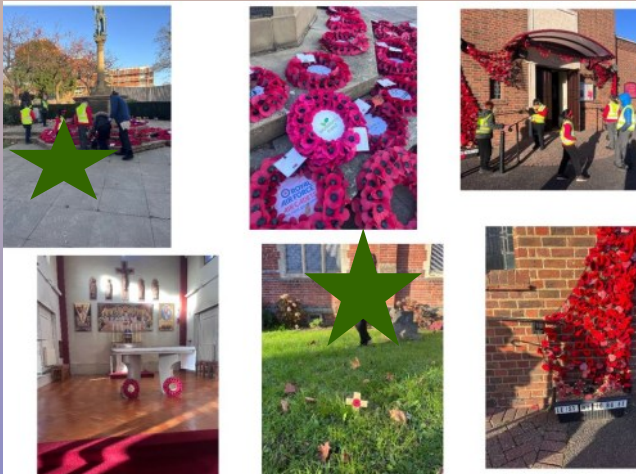
JavaScript must be enabled.



Owl Class News



We have had an exciting half-term together. We had some lovely trips out to the cinema, a visit to St Wilfred's Church and the War Memorial to see the Poppy Wreaths which were laid there. We have also enjoyed rehearsing and performing our Christmas Play!



Rabbit Class

Tales from the burrow



We have had a BRILLIANT half term! Rabbits have enjoyed learning about the Christmas story in RE and have enjoyed experiencing the different ways we celebrate Christmas! We went on a lovely Christmas walk around Ditchling Garden Centre and LOVED listening to the singing reindeers! We also had a trip to the cinema with IntoFilms where we watched the story of Tiddler and Tabby McTat!

River



We've had a busy month! Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2026!



This half term our Humanities topic has been the Tudors. Everyone was brilliant at Hever Castle and we had a fascinating day!



Everyone has been super busy for their Christmas show! They chose the Christmas duck song and prepared their own props!



We visited the Woodlands Meed chalet at Burgess hill Christmas market and even saw the big man himself! He checked his list twice and we all made it on the nice list!



Robin Christmas Roundup



THE ROBINS CLASS HAD A WONDERFUL TIME AT THE NYMANS FAIRYTALE CHRISTMAS TRAIL. EVERYONE ENJOYED THE FRESH AIR AND SUNSHINE THAT WE WERE BLESSED WITH.



ON THURSDAY, THE 11TH OF DECEMBER, WE HAD OUR CHRISTMAS SHOWCASE.

Squirrel Class



This half term in Squirrel class, we have been making beautiful winter art!



Waterfall News

Autumn term

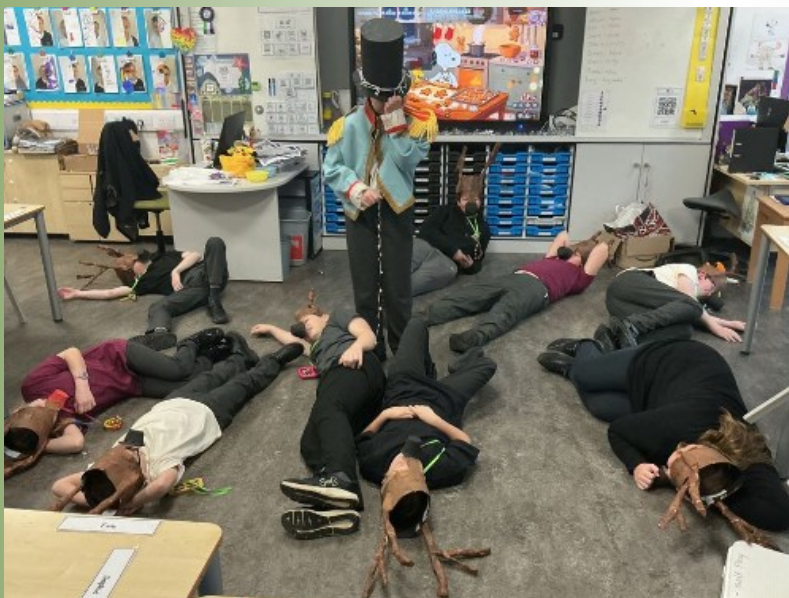
2



We enjoyed a visit to Hever Castle during humanities week, exploring the castle and playing in the maze. We made some excellent art work of the castle.



Our cinema trip to see 'How to train your dragon' was a great success and most of us enjoyed the film.



We have been practising for our Christmas play and working hard on our routine - it has been exhausting!

Wonderful Woodpeckers



Woodpeckers have had a great time going out into the community this half term. We have visited Tesco, opened up a class café where we have been practising making toast and squash. We have also been baking cakes and made an amazing bonfire display as part of our 'Let's Celebrate' topic!

Forest School fun

Ideas for outdoor winter activities to do in the holidays.

Go for a walk in the countryside or park and collect pine cones, twigs, acorns or grasses.. You can then use them to make decorations for Christmas.

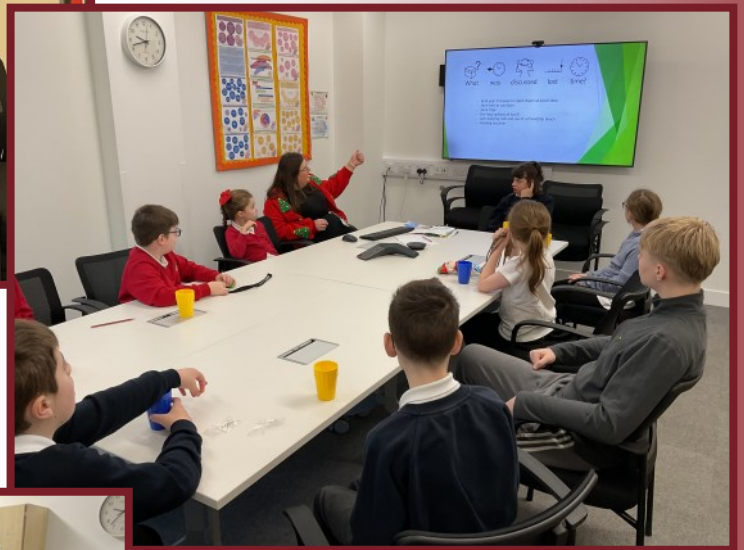


Just paint them white to make them look wintery and tie string around them to hung them



A winter walk is great for social skills , you can meet up with friends or family and take hot drinks .

School Council



The Woodlands Meed School Council had their second meeting of the year! We had representatives from primary and secondary classes. Everyone arrived with lots of brilliant suggestions once again and we made everyone official with school council badges!

Communication Champions



This communication group had a very interesting discussion about whether Christmas has lost its true meaning.



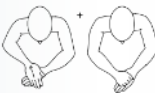
Communication can come in any shape or form. This is a super demonstration by George and Jacob of mutual respect communicated through friendship.

Brendan showing how he communicates with his ipad



Hand raised small outward circle movements on side of face

Side right hand over back of left hand towards body, then close right hand and place on back of left hand



Can you work out this signed message?



Science

Year 11s made their own paper boats to see if they float.



Year 10 made rain gauges to test the PH of rain water.

Year 10 have been working hard on their coursework finding out if temperature affects the time it takes for the vit c tablet to dissolve.



Year 11 are working hard on their coursework finding out if the height of the ramp affects how

Evolution by natural selection.

Predict - which beak design will be the best at picking up the marbles (food)?

I think the **spoon** will be the best at picking up the **most marbles**.

Tool/beak design to pick up marbles	How many marbles did you pick up in 15 seconds?	Which bird is the most likely to survive? (the bird who picked up the most food)
Tweezers	2	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spatula	6	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spoon	19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Year 10 carried out an experiment modelling Darwin's Finches and





5AJ Class Newsletter

Our students truly shone during the recent *Time for Transition* event. Their enthusiasm and curiosity were inspiring to see, making the morning both fun and meaningful. The students engaged actively, showing great interest in learning about the opportunities available to them. We couldn't be prouder of their positive spirit and maturity!



Congratulations to Precious and Marcie! They have successfully completed the Speaking element of their English GCSE. We are incredibly proud of their hard work and dedication, and they're very relieved that this milestone is done!

College Link Courses; Jadon is attending the Brinsbury College Link Course every week and doing brilliantly. Well done to Josh G for earning Star of the Week at Crawley! He built a wonderful wall and impressed everyone with his skill and effort.



Digital Skills Spotlight: Mastering E-Mailing

In Digital Skills lessons, 5AJ has been sharpening their e-mailing abilities. The students are learning how to communicate clearly and professionally through digital messages—a vital skill in today's world. Carol has been delighted to receive weekly e-mails from the class, where students share which Practice Skills they have been applying. This ongoing exercise is helping them build confidence and competence in digital communication.

Keep up the fantastic work, 5AJ! Your eagerness to learn and grow lights up our classroom like the brightest star.



Merry Christmas everyone, love
5AJ!



Class 5CG news



We have been enjoying lots of trips out this half term. Here are some of us enjoying a look around the garden centre and a drink in the café.

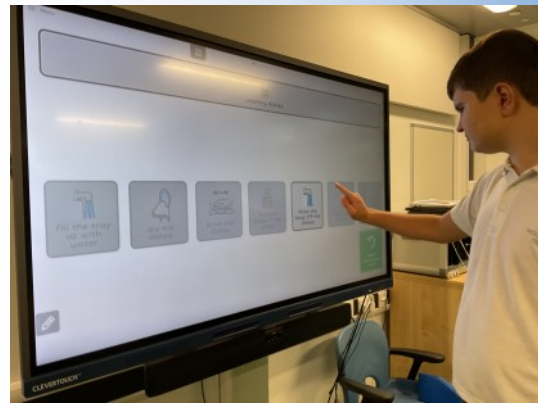




5CH



The pupils in 5CH class have been engaging with Life Skills. They have been using the bedroom area to practice making beds, hanging clothes into a wardrobe, cleaning tables, loading a dishwasher and practicing effectively washing and drying dishes. We also travelled to Worthing Hospital to take part in a gardening project.





5EM



5EM have been working on developing communication skills using eye gaze, Grid 3 and switches linked to the clipboards app.



Out in the community 5EM have been visiting local café's. We have been making, choosing and paying for our snacks.





Orange pathway





This term a group of college students enjoyed a trip to Glyndebourne, organised by the Golden Lions Children’s Trust, to see a brand new opera—The Railway Children. This was extremely well received by the students, who very much enjoyed the story and the music, with the sets and lighting also much talked about.



There was much fun and laughter when school and college students were entertained by M&M Productions who performed the pantomime Snow White .



Our Christmas celebrations continued with the school broadcasting and college radio groups producing three Christmas podcasts which were played across both sites, before our Performing Arts groups staged their panto “The Case of the Missing Tiaras” to great acclaim! Ably supported by the college music group and choir, the students delivered a modern take on a traditional pantomime and the audience loved it. What a start to the festivities!



College Performing Arts



Digital Technology



Pupils have been working very hard on their animation this term. Pupils have created some amazing work using different platforms and showing their creative skills.



Pupils should be proud of what they have created. Next term we are moving onto VR and AR.



Autumn PE



A continuation of our autumn term PE with sports such as football, badminton, swimming and non-contact boxing. Everyone has made great progress in all sports over the duration of the term!



Key Stage 5

Enterprise

Unleashing Our Creativity!



This half term, Crafties held a pop up shop at college and at Edwards Vacuum's Community Day to sell their products. Both events made over £170!

The Burgess Hill Christmas Markets are on now! Head down to buy a range of items made by each of the Woodlands Meed Enterprises!



Key Stage 5
Enterprise
Unleashing Our Creativity!



Foodtech



Students have been working on their independence, learning more complex skills like peeling eggs and whipping.

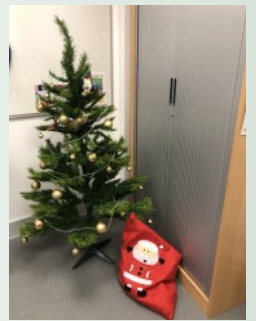


Enterprise Students have been making goodies to sell in the Christmas market.





College Well-being team



This term we celebrated anti-bullying week, this years theme was "THE POWER OF GOOD".

Taking on a persona of secret agents and we set the pupils a mission! They had to complete the wordsearch and find the unused letter to crack the secret code.

Can you work it out?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	p	r	u	n	i	t	k
2	h	e	p	o	w	e	r
3	y	p	s	n	k	g	o
4	s	e	t	l	d	r	w
5	i	a	a	i	p	a	m
6	c	t	n	n	o	t	a
7	a	e	d	e	t	s	e
8	l	d	e	n	s	s	t
9	v	e	r	b	a	l	e

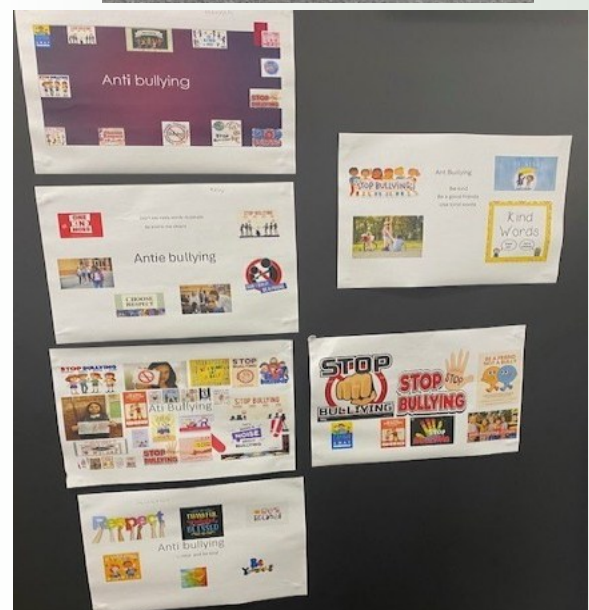
Can you find the secret words?

- power
- teamwork
- online
- target
- stop
- physical
- verbal
- upstander
- repeated



The pupils rose to the challenge ...
Thinking before they speak or act
and asking themselves 'Is this kind?'

Have you worked it out?
The secret code is KINDNESS



MERRY CHRISTMAS
from the well-being team

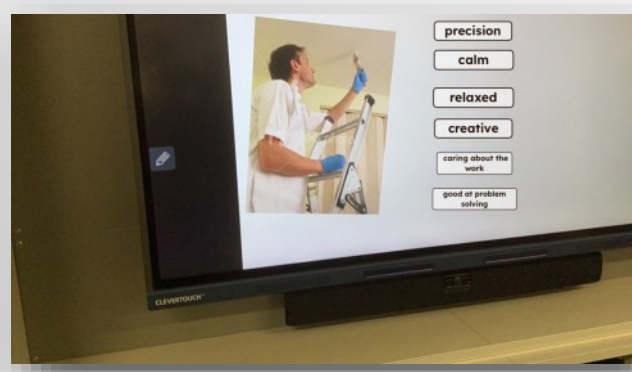
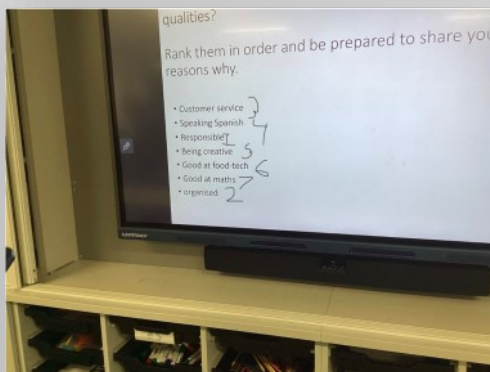


KS4 English

This term we have started the topic "World of Work". We've been doing a lot of work on presentations, interviews and things related with jobs.



We have been looking at examples of CV's, writing our own cover letters adding what practice skills we may need for different jobs. Some examples of these jobs are working as a playground supervisor, working in a K9 rescue shelter, a painter/decorator and a waiter/waitress.



We have looked at different types of apprenticeships, what they involve and how they work. We found out that not only do you get experience but you can also get paid.



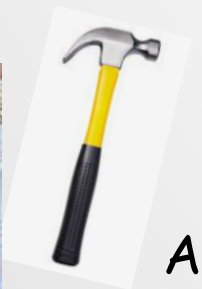
Jim Green Challenge Design and Technology Enterprise



The Enrichment Design and Technology Group have spent the Autumn Term making planters and working on personal projects. They have practiced working independently, using skills and techniques learnt in past DT sessions.



Our Enterprise group worked together, producing wooden Christmas Trees made from recycled materials. These were then sold at the Christmas Market in Burgess Hill.



A

The new Jim Green Challenge group have been working on this years scarecrow, as well as planting spring bulbs. Great collaborative work and some fantastic ideas for this years challenge.



KS5





KS4

