



Newsletter

Spring Term 1

2026





As I write this, I look back to the New Year and feel this half-term has gone by in a flash. It has felt like it has rained everyday and we have had to make a 'wet play call' every day. The half term has been full of great learning opportunities. Special thanks to the Maths team for organising

Number Day, which was enjoyed across the school and college.



Curriculum Update:

I would also like to draw your attention to our update [Curriculum Website pages \(click me\)](#). We have re-branded the curriculum at Woodlands Meed to make it easier for all various stakeholders to better understand. Further updates are planned to refine the information that we have. We would love to receive any feedback from you by completing our [survey monkey](#)

Supported Internship Programme

Hopefully you saw the updates that we are now working in partnership with the **Growing West Sussex Alliance**. **Woodlands Meed** is proud to launch a **Supported Internship Programme** for young people aged **16-24** with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

Programme Launch: September 2026

Capacity: Up to 12 interns

Location: Mid-Sussex

This programme offers a structured pathway into permanent paid employment, helping interns gain real-world experience in their chosen sector while receiving tailored support. It is designed for young people who have an **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)** and are ready to transition from education into the workplace.

👉 **Find out more:** [Woodlands Meed - Supported Internships](#)

Thank you for your support in helping us reach potential interns and partners.

Parents Evening:

It was lovely to see so many of you and to have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress at this weeks parents evening. Your involvement and support are invaluable to us, and it was wonderful to share the many achievements and improvements our pupils have made.

I am sure that pupils, parents and carers would like to join in with me in thanking all the staff and governors at Woodlands Meed for their ongoing hard work and commitment to the students. Likewise, the staff, governors and pupils would like to thank all parents and carers for your support.

I wish everyone a very enjoyable half term and look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Monday 23rd February**.

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME 2026

WOODLANDS MEED
IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH WSCC


woodlands
meed



STARTING
SEPTEMBER 2026

Programme Highlights

Work Based Study Programme

**Supported by Expert Job
Coach**

**Approx 70% of time spent
in the Workplace**

**No Entry Qualification
Requirements**

Designed for

- 16 - 24 year olds
- who have an EHCP
- who want to learn employability skills
- who want to find a job
- who want to improve English & Maths

FIND OUT MORE



Badger Bulletin



Badgers have loved learning about 'Supertato' this term as part of our Superhero topic. We have been very enthusiastic and got creative using both art resources and technology.



Welcome to 2026
in Desert Class!!



Desert Class Newsletter



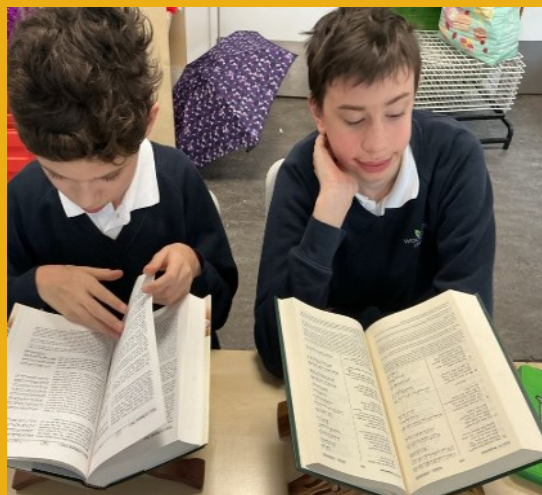
During our Citizenship lessons we have been researching enterprise ideas and we had a very successful visit to college to find out about their Enterprise projects.



We have been working as a team in our Communication lessons, playing lots of fun games but also learning how to respect and communicate with each other. Great fun had by all!!



We have been learning about Islam and the Muslim faith in RE. We looked at the Qu'ran and practised praying on the prayer mats.



We are making planters in DT and learning how to use a saw safely.



FOX CLASS



Happy National Numbers Day!
We went on a maths adventure around the school, visiting different classrooms and playing lots of exciting maths games along the way! Everyone put in effort and showed fantastic teamwork. Lots of smiling and mathematics all around!

We visited King's Church café and we all took our turn to pay for our own treat! Everyone was very polite and respectful!



We dressed up and enjoyed a World War 2 Day party! We ate cake and sandwiches that we made from scratch whilst listening to wartime music! We also got to showcase our fantastic lindy hop skills in assembly and made everyone join in!



Glacier Class

Spring term '26

Fun at Forest School!

Glacier Class have been having a great time at forest school.



We have explored the forest area, played some games and had a great discussion about fire safety.



We made bird feeders out of pine cones which we filled with fat and seeds and we found good places to hang them



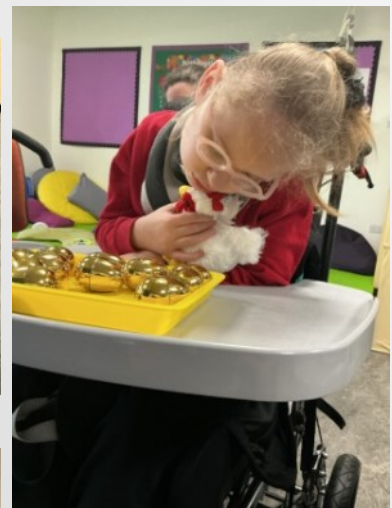
We ate some popcorn that was cooked on the fire. It was delicious!



We used some tools to cut up a branch that had fallen in the windy weather.

Hedgehog Herald

This term's topic is "Gardening and Growing." We have been exploring the story of Jack and the Beanstalk and basing our cooking and art lessons on that theme.



Lake Class

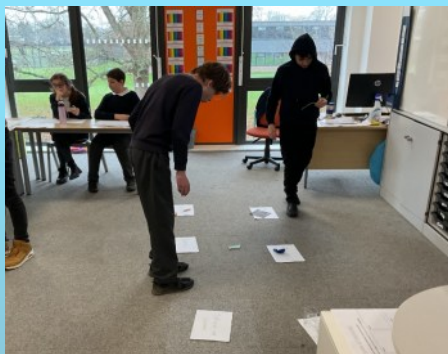
Have been....



Making songs using Garage Band and keyboards in Music.



Making Winter vegetable pies in Food Tech.



Looking at elements and compounds in Science



Building a bridge using different materials in Science



Drawing Hazel catkins in Forest School



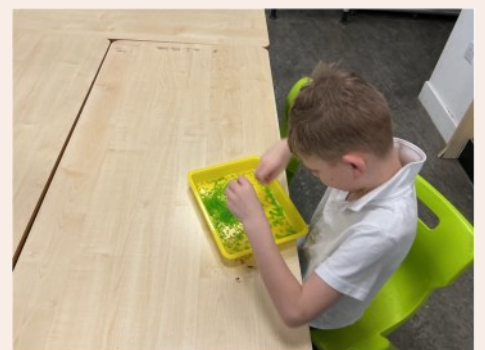
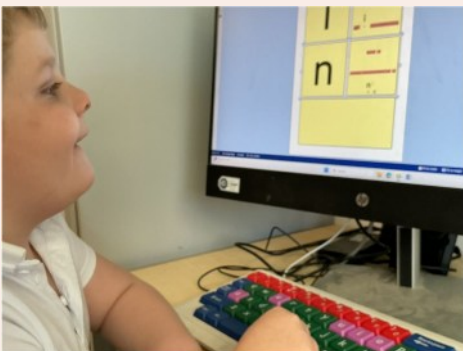
Taking part in Number Day activities

Mole Class

We have really enjoyed cooking this term, chopping vegetables and using them to dip or mixing them with cous cous!

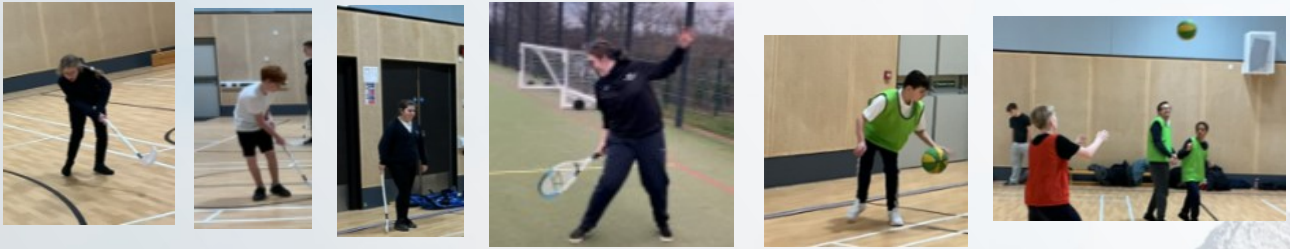


We are becoming brilliant mark-makers, using typing, painting and sensory materials!



Mountain Class: A cut above the Everest.

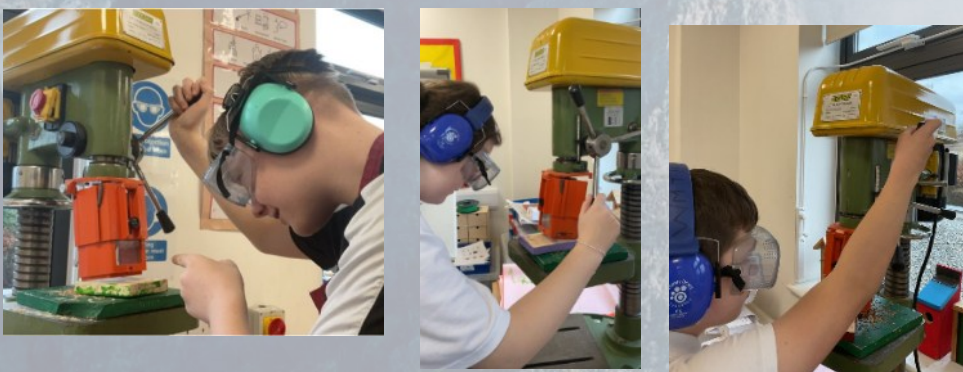
This half term we have...



In PE this term we have been learning new skills in football, tennis, badminton and Hockey, taught to us by the sports leaders from St Pauls



Our sports leaders are teaching JOLF to primary



During DT we have been designing and making bird houses

Well done Mountain another successful half-term.

Ocean class



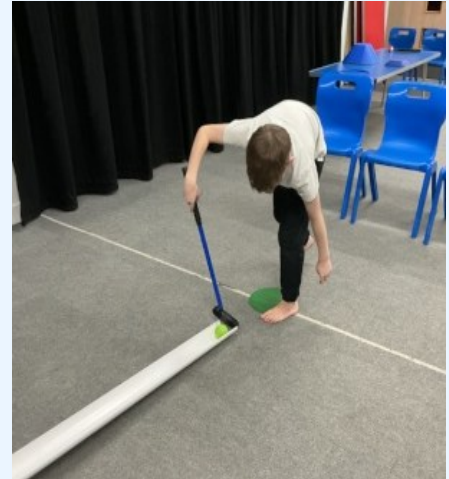
We have had a fun and busy half term! We have enjoyed JOLF, visits from Bentley plus lots of fun activities all about the USA.





In Otter News

The Otters have had a very busy half term. We have enjoyed our weekly walks, Jolf sessions and cooking American recipes as part of our American Road Trip topic.



Owl Class News



We have had a lovely half-term. We had some trips out to a café and we dressed up as part of our World War II topic. We have also started to introduce teeth brushing at school!



Rabbit Class

Tales from the burrow



We have had a lovely half term! This half term, we have had the pleasure of Neil coming into school to run Jolf sessions! Over the weeks, we have grown in our confidence and independence in striking the ball with the club! We have also been FANTASTIC at taking turns in this activity and persevering even when we find it tricky!

River



Happy New Year! Let's take a look at how we've begun 2026



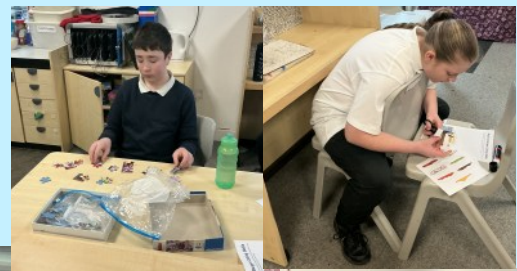
The apple trees have sadly withered down to two...hopefully one will still make it all the way!



We have been enjoying some sensory time in the mornings, we are loving magic sand!



We enjoyed the activities for Number Day



Well done to two River students who represented Woodlands Meed in the Table Cricket tournament! We got in the final and came 2nd place with just 1 point out!



We've been working on our fine motor skills

Robins Round-up

Robins class represented Woodlands Meed at a New Age Curling festival. The children explored the stones and enjoyed pushing them towards the target. They had the opportunity to meet lots of people and the sports leaders were especially popular and brilliant with our students. This is the first time they have represented the school and we are so proud of them.



Squirrel Class



We keep active and develop our gross motor skills in lots of different ways in Squirrel Class.



Waterfall News

Spring Term

1



We have started Forest school this term and are enjoying being outside, jumping in muddy puddles, making dens and have even toasted marshmallows around the fire!



In our RE lessons this term we have been researching and finding out about different religions. We have looked closely at the Muslim beliefs. We created our own prayer mats and even discovered how they were used. More recently we have looked at creating our own rules to live by.



Year 8s visited the college site to view the Enterprise lessons that happen there. We will be creating our own projects to make money in our Citizenship lessons and used this visit to help us with ideas.



Forest School fun

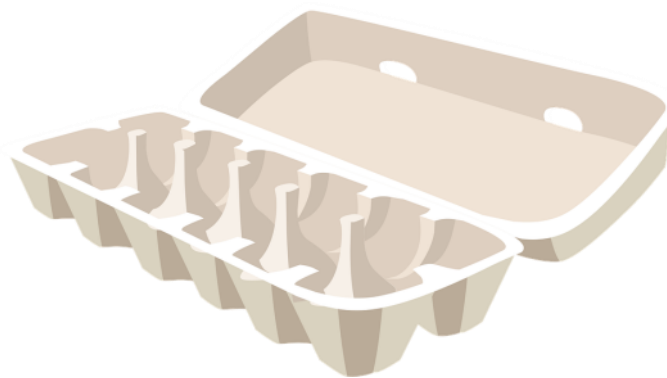
Ideas for outdoor activities to do during half term.

Try a **scavenger hunt** that uses the sense of **touch**.

Take an empty egg box with you on a walk.

Find objects that can be held or wrapped around a persons fingers

Such as a small stone, seed, or leaf that can be picked up..



Try to find objects that are;

Spikey

Soft

Cold

Smooth

Silky

Hard

Have fun in the puddles with your wellies on



School Council




woodlands
meed

The Woodlands Meed School Council had their third meeting of the year! Everyone arrived with lots of brilliant suggestions surrounding our goal of getting new playground equipment that is accessible for everyone. We also discussed qualities we would like our friendship reps to have!

Wellbeing Team

In Forest wellbeing , we have been using our senses to
"TAKE NOTICE" .,

one of the 5 ways to wellbeing .

The children enjoyed spotting the first signs of spring ,

Bug hunting and of course the fun of Muddy puddles !



Well-Being-College

As a Well-being team, we support the building of independence for our pupils. This term we have supported them to plan travel, navigate friendships and signposted and supported them to access external services.



allsorts youth project
YMCA wellbeing services

Social media is a topic that is often discussed in Well-being, as well as in the wider media. It is a challenging topic for all of us to navigate. Please reach out to us if you would like to talk through any social media related situations. We have resources we can share with you.



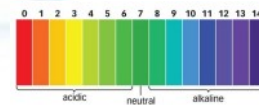
SCIENCE



One Science group were learning about bones and were able to label a skeleton.

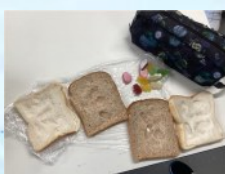


Year 10s had to find out the PH of different types of water.



The sweets were the dead animals/ plants and the bread was the layer of rocks. We squished these to form fossils. To model how fossils form using sweets and bread .

Year 11s worked in groups to design a new experiment.



Art and Textiles

In the Art options group we have been drawing inspiration from monsters. Below is some pictures of a partner task; one pupil is describing a monster whilst the other draws what they hear.



In Textiles Enrichment students have enjoyed silk painting and learning about where our different types of fabric come from.



Digital Technology



This term we have been looking at VR and we are starting to think about creating our own VR tours for other people as part of their class trips. Next term we will be going to Kings Church to get ready for Prom as well as going to a campsite as part of Duke of Edinburgh Award.



We have also been looking at creating some AR videos using apps on the iPads. Some have been making their own worlds whilst others have been driving cars or flying helicopters.



Foodtech



This term in orange pathway, we have been working on using a frying pan safely. We have made lots of things including egg fried rice and noodles.



Enterprise Students hosted a business brunch for 25 external visitors. Amazing Work!

5AJ Newsletter

5AJ have had a really positive start to 2026;

In Citizenship; For the Young Green Briton Challenge the students have investigated the melting of the icecaps and the impact that is having on polar bears. They also practiced their teamwork skills and brainstormed ideas for green projects they could run including making a blanket from old fabric and creating a recipe book for leftover food.

At the college link course...

Keira and Joshua D have been really enjoying doing motor mechanics at Crawley.





5CH



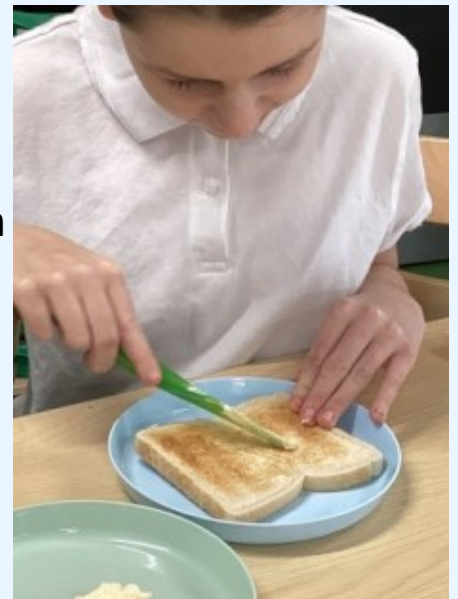
This half term the pupils in 5CH class have been developing their pan skills while in food tech. They have been making a range of tasty foods using pans ensuring they maintain their own safety when using hot cooking equipment.



5CG Class



We have all been enjoying our Food Tech lessons this half term. Making toast and American pancakes.

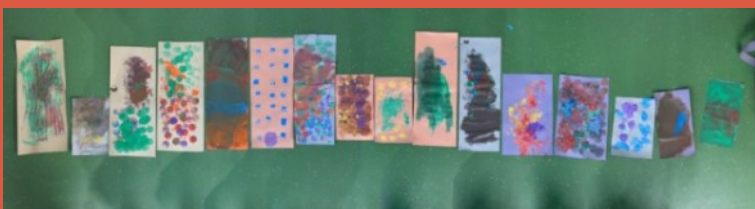


5EM



American Road trip

As part of our American road trip topic we have been exploring the foods, habitat and culture of the USA





Jim Green Challenge Design and Technology Enterprise



The Enrichment Design and Technology Group are making planters. They are working independently, practicing skills and techniques learnt in past DT sessions.



Recycled materials are being used.



Our Enterprise Group are working together making large outdoor planters from recycled materials. These will be for sale at our next Blossoms and Brews Event.

Students have also been working on personal projects.

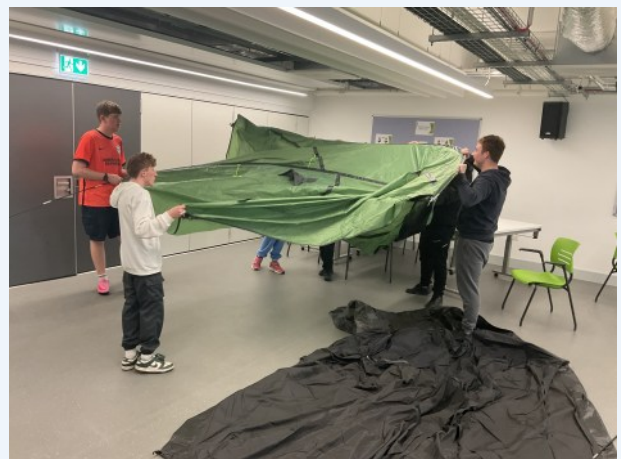


The Jim Green Challenge group have continued working on this years scarecrow, as well as working on our animal sculpture. Great collaborative work and some fantastic ideas for this years challenge. Again we will be mostly using recycled materials.

Duke of Edinburgh

This year has been very exciting for our college community.

With the introduction of DofE and being able to offer this to our students for options we have been exploring lots of fun activities in preparation for our expedition in the summer! Well done everyone for getting involved!

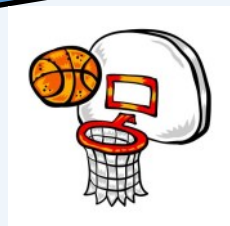


SPORT

This term has been bursting with sport! We've practised loads of sport already, including basketball, hockey, boccia, football and cricket. We have been lucky enough to welcome a

Sussex Cricket Coach for a 6 week session to practice our batting and catching skills!

What a great start to the new term. Well done everyone!



KS5 ENTERPRISE

HORTICULTURE



RETAIL



UPCYCLING



PURCHASES

Please email
darkwell@woodlandsmeed.co.uk



CATERING

Following our hugely successful Christmas market sales event, all of the Enterprise groups have been busy designing and creating products for our next big sales event: Blossoms and Brews 2026. More details to follow!

KS4 English

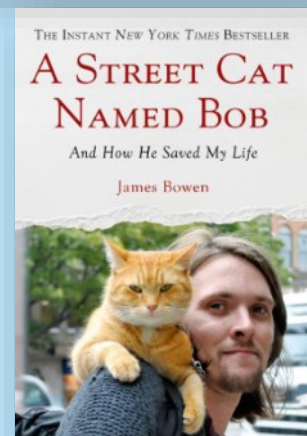
This term we have been working on sentence writing and descriptive writing skills. Understanding the different techniques of sentences such as, questions, statements and commands. We have also practiced how to add detail to our writing using metaphors, similes, personification and various other methods.



We have also been practicing our writing skills in other ways such as writing an invitation, adding various words into lists and spellings.



In reading and communication we have been having independent, supported and group reading. We are also working on the book "A street cat named Bob", which everyone is enjoying.



Hello



Communication Champions



Some members of the Makaton Choir were asked to perform one of our songs when we visited Team Domenica. They are performing Camera, by Ed Sheeran.

A fantastic demonstration of how we use symbols for effective communication at both school and college.

