



# March 2026 Newsletter

*Helping your child develop a love for life and learning*

## A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN – FEDERATION NEWS

Dear Parents & Carers,

I am sure, like me, you are enjoying the lighter mornings and evenings, along with the sun in the sky! It has been a busy term already with many sporting events, school trips, Parents Evening, World Book Day and auditions for Worplesdon's Got Talent.

### **NEED TO KNOW THIS WEEK**

#### **Dates Reminder (next week)**

- Tuesday 10.03.2026 – Childnet Online Safety Workshops
- Wednesday 11.03.2026 – Year 3-6 Strings Assembly
- Thursday 12.03.2026 – Sparrows Class Assembly
- Friday 13.03.2026 – Year 3 trip to Butser Farm

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### **GOOD TO KNOW**

#### **Our New Nursery is Coming!**

We are delighted to confirm that funding has been secured for our new nursery provision based at Wood Street Infant School. Building works are now planned and underway, with everything on track for our September 2026 opening. This is a wonderful development for our school community, and we look forward to welcoming our youngest learners. If you would like further details about our nursery provision or wish to reserve a space for your child, please contact the school office at [office@woodstreet.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@woodstreet.surrey.sch.uk).

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#### **Update on Our Journey to Join South Farnham Educational Trust**

We are pleased to update you on our progress towards joining South Farnham Educational Trust. Everything remains on track for our conversion date of **1<sup>st</sup> June 2026**. We are currently in the TUPE consultation phase with staff, ensuring that all colleagues have the opportunity to ask questions, understand how the transition will affect them, and feel fully supported throughout this process. We will continue to keep you informed as we move closer to this exciting milestone for our federation.



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#### **CHILDNET ONLINE SAFETY WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS/CARERS – TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH (3.30PM – 4.30PM)**

On Tuesday, children in Years 3–6 will be attending a Childnet online safety workshop during the school day. Charlie Benson, a Senior Education Officer at Childnet, will be leading these sessions.

To support you in helping your children use the internet positively and safely, we would also like to invite you to a Childnet information session for parents and carers: Supporting Young People Online. This session is open to all parents and carers from Reception to Year 6. Childnet work to promote the positive opportunities the internet offers, while also addressing the challenges and risks that young people may encounter. During this hour-long session, they will provide an overview of key online risks and offer practical tips and advice that can be used at home. (Please see the attached document for further information about Childnet).

If you would like to attend, please reply to the ParentMail message that was sent earlier this week. We would love to see as many of you there as possible. A crèche will be available to support attendance.

Value of the month – Positivity

## NICE TO KNOW

### Thank You: Parent Questionnaire Results 2026

Thank you to the 266 parents and carers who completed our annual questionnaire in February 2026. We are incredibly grateful for your kind words and constructive feedback, which help us continue to improve. We are delighted to report that our results show strong consistency and stability, with all questions maintaining satisfaction levels above 85%. The most significant positive change is in homework satisfaction (+2.7%), suggesting that the actions we have taken in this area have been well-received. We also saw improvements in behaviour management (+1.1%), teacher accessibility (+0.5%), and parental involvement (+0.4%).

Areas of particular strength include teacher accessibility (98.9%), our welcoming environment (98.1%), and the quality of our learning environment (97.4%).

We have noted a small decrease in the number of children who say they enjoy school (-1.7%), and we will be exploring this further with pupils to understand how we can continue to make Worplesdon an even more enjoyable place to learn.

Thank you again for your ongoing support and partnership.


Question	Feb 2026 (266 responses)	March 2025 (331 responses)	Change
1. I would recommend the school	96.2%	95.8%	+0.4% ↑
2. My child enjoys school	94.7%	96.4%	-1.7% ↓
3. My child feels safe at school	96.6%	97.2%	-0.6% ↓
4. My child is making good progress	95.5%	95.8%	-0.3% ↓
5. My child receives appropriate homework	85.4%	82.7%	+2.7% ↑
6. The school provides a good learning environment	97.4%	97.3%	+0.1% ↑
7. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved	93.6%	92.5%	+1.1% ↑
8. The school is well led and well managed	96.6%	96.3%	+0.3% ↑
9. My child's teacher is accessible	98.9%	98.4%	+0.5% ↑
10. I am made to feel welcome when I visit	98.1%	98.2%	-0.1% ↓
11. I am involved as much as I want to be in my child's education	97.3%	96.9%	+0.4% ↑

### Improving attendance

At the Federated Schools of Wood Street Infant School and Worplesdon Primary School we want all of our children to get the very best education, and the building blocks for a great education begins with them coming to school each and every day. Currently, attendance is 94.2%. If your child misses school regularly, they miss out on learning the fundamental skills that will set them up for success in the later years of school. There is no safe number of days for missing school – each day a child misses puts them at a disadvantage and can affect their educational outcomes. Each missed day can lead to progressively lower achievement, a lack in confidence and poor self-esteem.

- 90% attendance = 1 day of absence a fortnight (on average)
- 80% attendance = 1 day of absence a week

With 80% attendance rate across 7 years primary education a pupil misses one whole school year plus an additional two terms or **1.3 years of school**.

<p><b>Regular school attendance helps a child to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn</li> <li>• Progress and develop</li> <li>• Establish routine and discipline</li> <li>• Build relationships</li> <li>• Be supervised and safe</li> <li>• Prepare for the future</li> </ul> <p>This leads to educated, happy, healthier, mentally stronger and safer children.</p> <p><b>Let this be your child.</b></p> 	<p><b>Irregular school attendance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May put your child at risk in the community</li> <li>• Seriously disrupts continuity of learning, making it harder for them to learn, impacts their self-esteem and impacts the entire class due to the need to help the child catch up</li> <li>• Disrupts personal and social development</li> <li>• Disrupts the building of relationships</li> <li>• Can lead to a child being excluded from social groups</li> <li>• Undermines educational progress</li> <li>• Leads to underachievement and low attainment</li> <li>• Reduces likelihood of further education opportunities and training</li> <li>• Creates a higher risk of unemployment in the longer term</li> <li>• Creates a greater risk of being drawn into criminal or anti-social activity in later years</li> </ul> <p><b>Don't let this be your child.</b></p>
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All children whose attendance is under 90% are considered by the Local Authority as 'persistent absentees' and there is an expectation that schools are parents/carers work together to ensure the child's attendance improves as quickly as possible if it falls below this figure. Openly communicating with us about all absences is a good way to prevent attendance issues being escalated. If you are having attendance issues with your child, please let your class teacher or a senior leader so that we can work together to get your child to school every day.

Furthermore, lateness has a detrimental impact on children's learning. It means that children miss the teacher's modelling at the start of the day thus putting them at a disadvantage before their day has started.



### **Bertie: Our Therapy Dog**

We're delighted to share the positive impact that Bertie, our therapy dog, continues to have on children's wellbeing across our federation. Bertie provides a calming presence for pupils who may be feeling anxious, worried or overwhelmed, helping them to regulate their emotions and feel more settled in school. Children benefit from spending time with Bertie through reading sessions, where his non-judgemental companionship builds confidence, and through wellbeing visits, where his gentle nature helps pupils to relax and open up about their feelings. Research shows that interaction with therapy dogs can reduce stress, improve mood and support emotional development – and we see this first-hand every day. Bertie has become a valued member of our school community, bringing joy and comfort to children across all year groups.

### **EARLY BIRDS & NIGHT OWLS**

This week at Night Owls we have been enjoying activities based around World Book Day. The children have thoroughly enjoyed baking Wallace and Gromit scones. They had the opportunity to make cheese scones or fruit scones. We have been told they were delicious!

We have also been making Harry Potter wands from chopsticks, wool and brown paint. Lots of spells were being cast! The children had great fun making their own mini notebooks and turning them into stories or comic books.

Our final activity was based on our tuff tray. This was themed around the story The Tiger that came to Tea. We place out toy food and a picnic set so the children could act out the story to each other.

We have definitely been enjoying the glorious sunshine this week getting the children outside as soon as possible. It's lovely to be able to be outside without coats and for longer.

Next week our activities will be based around Science Week and Mother's Day.

Our Stars of the Week this week are:

- Early Birds: Joey for always coming in nicely and listening to adults
- Night Owls: Willow for being an amazing helper with our notebook making



### **FRIENDS OF WORPLESDON SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATES**

#### **Worpleicious Bars raise over £800**

On World Book Day yesterday the Worpleicious chocolate bars were distributed to both children and staff. Thank you so much for supporting the event and congratulations to our golden ticket winners!!! This year we raised a whopping **£806**, up £427 on last year which is absolutely amazing. We hope everyone had a tasty and fun time doing so. We are also very grateful to the local businesses who donated prizes: The Cottage Chocolatier, Rose's Tea Room, Rokers Farmhouse Cafe, Places Leisure Camberley, Pizza Express, Paper Moon Bookshop, Nuffield Health QEP, Ninja Warrior, Hobbycraft, Hobbledown, High Score Arcades, Fishers Farm, Fairlands Co-op, Everyone Active Woking, David Lloyd Woking, Cheesman Bros, Bocketts Farm and AirHop.

**The FoWS need a new leadership team** – Yes, we are still trying to recruit a brand-new team – could you be part of it? It might sound daunting, but with a great team around you and support from the staff it's a real privilege and a lot of fun. No experience necessary, just a desire to make precious memories for the children and raise much needed funds for the school – see advert.



### Upcoming events

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Infant Entertainment after school – **Dancing, Singing, Games and much more, hosted by Broad Entertainments!** Look out for full details next week including how to book tickets.

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April – Break the Rules Day

### Easyfundraising

A reminder that this is such an easy way to raise money for the school. It's simple to sign up and is essentially free money for us with absolutely zero organising required – what's not to love!? If you're not already signed up to a fundraising cashback site then do please consider joining [here](#) and they will donate a percentage of sales to our school. With over 7,000 brands signed up, from retailers to holiday companies, you can help us raise funds so easily and at no extra cost!

### Need new Name Tags?

The fabulous company who create all of our wonderful Christmas cards and merchandise also produce name tags. Having purchased some ourselves we can confirm they are great quality and value, have been through the washing machine and dishwasher on numerous occasions and are still good as new! Please follow this link to order <https://tigertags.co.uk/school/3166> which ensures the FoWS automatically receive £1 for each set up labels purchased.

### Pre-loved uniform

All Pre-Loved Uniform is available to purchase online! Head to [PTA Events](#) select what you want and pay - it's quick and easy! 📺🛒

You will receive an email order confirmation and a further email when your order is ready to collect.

All orders will be ready to collect within 7 days of your order. Collection is from the school office.

All Pre-Loved uniform can be exchanged or refunded 7 days from date of collection.

### Socials:

Please do follow us to keep up to date with all our news:  
[https://www.instagram.com/friends\\_of\\_worplesdon\\_school/](https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_worplesdon_school/)  
<https://facebook.com/worplesdonprimarypta>

### YEAR 6 – WORLD WAR 2 WORKSHOP

In Year 6, we had a World War 2 workshop where we took part in loads of fun learning and did some fun activities along with it. One of the classes were code breaking, there were two different types: morse code and enigma. The morse code is writing letters but as dots and dashes: A = .- and E = . Enigma was when you had two circles with the alphabet which would match up with each other and then you write those letters. In another class they discovered many foods that they had back then, such as spam. You could also make your own tags and identity cards which was really fun. In the last class, someone called Mrs Dove taught us all about the ration books for food and clothing, she taught us where the bombs landed in Chertsey and what they were called.

Finally, the last thing she taught us was all the items which were used in war including sirens and covers for your light so the German air force (Luftwaffe) could not see you. All together this was the best but personally my favourite part was learning where the bombs dropped, which I found quite fascinating.

Ethan (Year 6)

## EVENTS CALENDAR 2026\*

<b>JANUARY</b>	16th - Amnesty Day (good quality toys / games / stationary / books to use as prizes at our fairs + fancy dress costumes) 30th - Pre Loved Uniform Half Price Sale
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	5th - Break the Rules Day 6th - Happy Bags w/c 23rd - World Book Day Fancy Dress Sale
<b>MARCH</b>	5th - <i>Worpleicious</i> Bars to celebrate World Book Day
<b>APRIL</b>	17th - Infant Entertainment after school 24th - Break The Rules Day
<b>MAY</b>	8th - <i>Zactiv</i> health & wellbeing workshop delivered by Steel from BBC's Gladiators 15th - Junior Discos after school
<b>JUNE</b>	5th - Summer Fair Donations (Mufti) 12th - Happy Bags 19th - Summer Fair Donations (Mufti)
<b>JULY</b>	3rd - Summer Fair - our traditional fair will be back complete with Soak the Teacher! 10th & 17th - Frozen Fridays

\*Dates & events may be subject to change

## Friends of Worplesdon School NEEDS A BRAND NEW LEADERSHIP TEAM

Could you be part of it?

**No previous experience necessary**

**SUITS PEOPLE WHO ARE:**

- Passionate about improving the experiences of children at Worplesdon Primary School.
- Organised.
- A team player.

**ROLES REQUIRED:**

- Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary
  - All roles can be shared, e.g Chair and Co-Chair.

**General roles and responsibilities:**

- Organising fundraising events.
- Planning fun activities for the children.
- Liaising with the school leadership team to agree spending priorities.

**TRAINING AND GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY OUTGOING TEAM**

**GET IN TOUCH**

worplesdonprimarypta@gmail.com



**LITERACY AMBASSADORS  
YEAR 6 - WORLD WAR 2 DAY**

This week, Year 6 took part in a World War 2 (WW2) day, and the Literacy Ambassadors were lucky enough to report on it. So, let's dive in on the history and the fun that Year 6 had on this amazing day!

This year's WW2 day was split into 3 rooms: one with artefacts and label making; another with a volunteer from the local Chertsey Museum, who taught us about all the special equipment children and adults needed to help survive the war; and the third room with code breaking.

Our favourite room was the code breaking room because we used two different types of codes that the British communicators used to send messages safely during the war. The first code we used was Morse Code where they used dashes and dots to communicate. The second way they communicated was by swapping letters to mean other letters to confuse the enemy! Our class had the privilege of watching some of Anne Frank's diary, which was about her life in the war as a Jew and having to survive behind a bookcase in the attic of her dad's office. Watching it helped us learn about living during the war and made me feel lucky that we are not going through it now.

Olivia from Year 6, Wrens class went to the Imperial War Museum in London and wanted to share some of her research in the newsletter. Germany invaded Poland on the first of September 1939. The allies, Britain and France, declared war on Germany two days later. Poland was overwhelmed in a month. Soviet troops invaded them from the east. As they had previously agreed, Germany and the Soviet Union divided Poland between them. People wondered when the allies and Germany would clash.

**By Fred and Lola  
Special credits to Olivia**

**Isla N**

Hello, my name is Isla and I will be telling you about my WW2 lessons! It was filled with excitement, but sadness too. We saw rationing books which showed examples of how much people were allowed to eat. Mrs Dove (from Chertsey Museum) showed us real artefacts from the Second World War such as: a soldier's helmet, a nightie made from a silk parachute, different types of alarms and lots of maps where bombs had landed in Surrey.

Finally, your feedback is important to us. We actively encourage you to share any concerns, comments or questions with our staff team. Early conversations help us work together to find solutions and ensure every child thrives at Worplesdon Primary School.

Best wishes,

*Kareen O'Brien*

Kareen O'Brien  
Executive Head Teacher