



September 2026 Newsletter

Helping your child develop a love for life and learning

A MESSAGE FROM MRS O'BRIEN & MRS BASSETT-CROSS – FEDERATION NEWS

Dear Parents & Carers,

We hope you've all had a wonderful summer break. It's lovely to have everyone back, and we're looking forward to catching up with you all over the coming weeks. A special welcome to our new families and staff joining us this year!

Nursery at Wood Street is Open

We are delighted to share that our nursery is now open, and it has been a wonderful first week! Our brand-new nursery setting has welcomed eight of our new 2-4 year olds children with smiles, curiosity and excitement. We've explored, played, made new friends and begun creating special memories together. We are proud to create a nursery where children, families, and the community can grow together. We look forward to welcoming more families and children over the year.

Staff INSET Days

Our staff made excellent use of the two INSET days at the start of term, focusing on three key areas:

- **Safeguarding:** Keeping our children safe remains our number one priority. Staff revisited key safeguarding policies and procedures.
- **Teaching & Learning:** We were fortunate to have Tom Sherrington work with us on effective teaching strategies. He reminded us about moving knowledge into long-term memory by focusing on: environment, prior knowledge, and reducing memory overload. Staff are now concentrating on ensuring every child is thinking, making meaning, and practising effectively through techniques like think-pair-share, show-me boards, and cold calling.
- **South Farnham Educational Trust:** Staff heard from Claire Harnden (CEO) about the trust's values of Aspiration, Belonging and Collaboration, and how the trust supports schools whilst celebrating our individuality. We also explored the role of Artificial Intelligence in education and our new professional development platform, 'StepLab'.

South Farnham Educational Trust

We joined SFET on 1st July 2026 and are already delighted with the opportunities this brings. Our staff are benefiting from working alongside colleagues across the trust, sharing best practice and accessing high-quality training. We're drawing on specialist expertise in areas such as safeguarding, inclusion and curriculum design, whilst maintaining what makes Worplesdon and Wood Street unique. The trust's values of Aspiration, Belonging and Collaboration underpin everything we do, giving us collective strength whilst celebrating our individual identity.

As part of joining SFET, we've been through a significant IT migration. This has led to some ongoing issues, including some staff emails not working. If you haven't received a reply to an email within the normal timeframe, please let the office team know.

Uniform Reminder

Wearing the correct uniform helps children feel a sense of belonging, promotes equality, and encourages pride in themselves and our school community. Please ensure your child follows our school uniform policy, which can be found on our website: [Worplesdon Primary School - Uniform](#)

Value of the month – The Rule of Law

Key reminders:

- Hairbands should be plain (no bows or flowers)
- No make-up, nail varnish, fake nails or tattoos
- Shoulder-length hair must be tied back
- Plain grey socks with school uniform; white socks with PE kit only

Any child without correct uniform will be provided with items from our pre-loved stock.

PE Days

PE begins next week. Children in Years 1-6 should come to school in PE uniform on the following days:

	Autumn 1
Year 1	Monday and Tuesday
Year 2	Tuesday and Friday
Year 3	Tuesday and Wednesday
Year 4	Monday and Thursday
Year 5	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 6	Wednesday and Thursday
Penguins	Wednesday

Falcons - The Haven team will contact their families separately about arrangements.

Making Every Day Count

During their visit, Ofsted recognised that while attendance is improving, too many pupils remain persistently absent or arrive late, missing out on crucial learning.

Missing just 10 days across the year means your child loses over 50 hours of teaching, making it harder to keep up with classmates and impacting their progress and confidence. Please help us give your child the best possible start by making school attendance a top priority. Thank you for your support.

Working in Partnership

A strong partnership between home and school is key to your child's success. We're committed to building positive, open relationships with all our families. **We have an open door policy** - if you have any questions, concerns, or simply want to share your thoughts, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

We would like to start by welcoming you to your child's **Welcome Meeting (3.30-4.15pm)**.

Reception	Wednesday 30 th September
Year 1	Tuesday 15 th September
Year 2	Tuesday 22 nd September
Year 3	Wednesday 23 rd September
Year 4	Thursday 24 th September
Year 5	Wednesday 16 th September
Year 6	Thursday 17 th September

Looking Ahead

We have an exciting year planned, full of opportunities for our pupils to learn, grow and thrive. We look forward to working together as a community to make this year the best yet for the Federated Schools of Wood Street Infant School and Worplesdon Primary School.

Best wishes,



Kareen O'Brien
Executive Head Teacher



Laura Bassett-Cross
Deputy Head Teacher

NEED TO KNOW



REMINDER - DROP-OFF & PICK-UP ARRANGEMENTS

For those families who are new to the school and may not yet be familiar with our drop-off and pick-up arrangements, we would like to kindly remind you of the correct entry points for children.

- **Infant children should wait and then enter the school through the double green gates at the front of the school. Please do not wait at the single pedestrian gate by the office.**
- **Junior children should wait and enter the school through the double green gates further down the school driveway.**

We appreciate your support in following these arrangements, as they help us to ensure that children arrive safely and that the school entrance remains organised.

Thank you very much for your cooperation and continued support.

GOOD TO KNOW

FRIENDS OF WORPLESDON SCHOOL NEWS & UPDATES

Welcome back from FoWS! We hope you have had a great summer holiday.

To keep all your children's new school uniform safe, don't forget to order your name tags from Tiger Tags using the code 3166 and FoWS will receive £1 from each order.

www.tigertags.co.uk/school/3166



Upcoming events / initiatives:

18th September: Our first Happy Bag collection for the year!

Please bring your unwanted good quality clothing, shoes, accessories and toiletries to school at drop off by 9am on 18th September. Your child will bring home a charity bag next week, but you can use any other carrier or bin bag for your donations. The items are weighed by the Happy Bag company and the more kilos we collect, the more money the school receives.

22nd September: FoWS AGM and Planning Meeting 7.45pm at school in the staff room

We would love for you to join us for our Annual General Meeting and our first planning session of 2026/27. Please see the attached agenda. Come along and share your thoughts about how FoWS can support the school this year. We will hear about the wonderful plans from the Christmas Fair team but also discuss the future of FoWS as we need to recruit new committee members in order for FoWS to continue beyond Christmas. Full details, reports and last year's minutes will be circulated nearer the time.

Socials:

New WhatsApp Community

We have launched the new Worplesdon Primary WhatsApp Community which provides an umbrella group above the individual class chat groups. This means that FoWS announcements can be broadcast to all the members of the class groups in one go so that you do not miss out on reminders about FoWS events, while also reducing the workload for class reps. Your class WhatsApp groups remain as they were: closed chats to the members of your class.

Please follow us to keep up-to-date with all our news:

https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_worplesdon_school/

<https://facebook.com/worplesdonprimarypta>

Many thanks,

Your Friends of Worplesdon Primary School

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