



JULY NEWSLETTER

Headteacher Message

Thank you to the whole school community for a brilliant year of learning and fun. Collectively, you have ensured that our Core Values of Happiness, Respect and Creativity have shone this year for all. We are very proud of the progress and achievements made by every child. Let's celebrate every single one of them for their brilliance, happiness and respectful behaviour.

We bid a fond farewell to our wonderful Year 2 cohort today and wish them well on the next step of their Learning Journey. They have brought us lots of happiness and wonderful memories. The Leaving Assembly was very special.

A huge thank you to all of our staff for another incredible year. Your dedication, kindness and commitment make a difference to our children every single day. Whether supporting learning, caring for children and families, or working behind the scenes to keep everything running smoothly, your efforts never go unnoticed. I am incredibly proud of all that we have achieved together and grateful to work alongside such a talented and caring team.

On behalf of everyone at Wootey, I would like to personally thank all Wootey parents and carers for your support, encouragement and partnership throughout the year. Working together has helped us provide the very best experiences for our children. We value the strong relationships we share with our families.

We are incredibly grateful for your many messages of support, kind cards and thoughtful end-of-year gifts and wish you all a happy, restful and enjoyable summer.



Mrs McKee



Transition Update

And in the blink of an eye, it is the end of another school year. School staff will be busy in the summer holidays, making sure our school looks its very best for the new school year. This often means a few changes.

For children who would benefit from seeing these changes, or are anxious about the return to school, their classroom will be open to visit during our INSET day on Wednesday, 3rd September, from 2.30pm to 3pm .

A reminder for September:

- Mrs Christer - Year R [Robins]
- Mrs Barton and Mrs Millard - Year R / 1 [Wrens]
- Mrs Jenkin - Year 1 / 2 [Penguins]
- Miss Collins and Mrs Stoodley - Year 2 [Puffins]



Exciting changes

We are delighted to announce that from September, we will have an Art room and a Music room at Wooteys. The dedicated rooms will be vibrant environments where children can experiment, perform, create and express themselves, enriching their learning across the curriculum.

In addition, new sport and fitness equipment will be installed on the playground, giving children even more opportunities to stay active, develop their physical skills and enjoy healthy playtimes. We look forward to seeing the wonderful achievements that will flourish in these inspiring new spaces.



Pupil Council Update

It is the end of the current Pupil Council's term in office, and what a great job they have done! Thank you for helping me to look after our school.

New Pupil Councillors will be voted in by their peers and they will begin their new roles in September.



Let's celebrate...

Reading Stars: Each week we celebrate children who have shown resilience, confidence, perseverance and enthusiasm for reading. Ms Todd-Eeles gives half termly 'Reading Star' medals to celebrate these children and adds their names to a display in our Library. This half term we have celebrated: Georgia, Abdoul, Alice, Skylar, Stanley, Charlotte, Jasper W, Amelia, Florence, Jasper H, Luke, Vienna, Phoebe and Testimony.

Celebration Assembly: Every Friday, we celebrate children for the focus Core Value, Golden Rule or Silver Learning Code. They each receive a Headteacher Award sticker. This half term we have celebrated: Abdoul, Alice, Jack B, Dolcie-May, Stanley, Beauden, Arlia, Charlie, Bear, Harry, Dyllan, Molli-Jane, Jasper W, Joby-Ray, Roslyn, Luke, Noddy, Eden, Freya, Axl-Rose, Elodie, Izzy, Roslyn, Oliver, Iyla and Tiegan-Grace.

We are always proud to celebrate our children's achievements beyond the classroom too, including our talented gymnasts, footballers, swimmers, Beavers, Rainbows and keen runners. Their enthusiasm, commitment and determination are wonderful to see, and we love hearing about their successes and activities outside of school.

REACH award winners: At the end of each term, the staff nominate, and the Governors choose one child from each class to be celebrated for showing **R**espect, **E**ndeavour, **A**chievement, **C**reativity and **H**appiness. This term we are celebrating: Elodie, Imogen, Beauden, Florence, Poppy P and Joby-Ray.

'Get Caught Reading' winners: If children choose to read in their 'Discovery Time' in class, their name gets entered into the weekly 'Get Caught Reading' draw. Each winner gets to choose a book to keep, taking it home to share with their favourite person, in their favourite place.

iRock stars: We are incredibly proud of our budding musicians who have taken part in iRock lessons this year. Through their enthusiasm, confidence and perseverance, they have developed new musical skills and experienced the excitement of performing as part of a band. It has been wonderful to watch their talent grow, and we all really enjoy their end of term concerts.

A huge well done to everyone!





Staffing update

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Stoodley to Wootey Infant School in September. Mrs Stoodley will be joining Puffin Class as Class Teacher, working alongside Miss Collins. We are also pleased to welcome Miss Rachel Frater to the Wootey team. Rachel will be joining our After School Club, alongside Mrs Jo Sharratt, Mrs Julia Davis and Ms Jonquil Todd-Eeles. At the same time, we will be saying a fond farewell to both Miss Chloe Jenkin who has supported at lunchtimes, in Penguin Class and across the school and Mrs Lucia McMullan, who has been a valued member of our After School Club team. We would like to thank them for their dedication and the wonderful support they have provided to the children and staff, and we wish them both every success for the future.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Every day in school counts!

 GOLD	98%+	Outstanding Attendance You are in school nearly every day. 
 SILVER	96-98%	Excellent Attendance You attend school regularly. 
 BRONZE	Improving Attendance	You are making progress and getting better. 
 AMBER	90-95%	At Risk of Persistent Absence Your attendance is a cause for concern. 
 RED	Below 90%	Persistent Absence Your attendance is below the expected level. 
 SEVERELY ABSENT	Below 50%	Severely Absent Your attendance is very low. This seriously affects your learning and progress. 



Good attendance helps you learn, achieve and thrive!
Let's aim high – every day, every lesson, every opportunity.



Attendance

Attendance target: 95%

- 95% school attendance equates to approximately 9 days of absence over a school year
- This is often seen as missing about 2 weeks of school
- 'Late after the register is closed' is recorded as an absence for the morning session, so it is important to be in school for 8.55am, when the register is taken.

Attendance for this half term:

Whole school attendance: **95%** [target 95%+]

Year R attendance: **94.9%**

19% children have outstanding attendance [98%+]
50% have excellent attendance [96%+]
2 children have 100% attendance

Year 1 attendance: **94.3%**

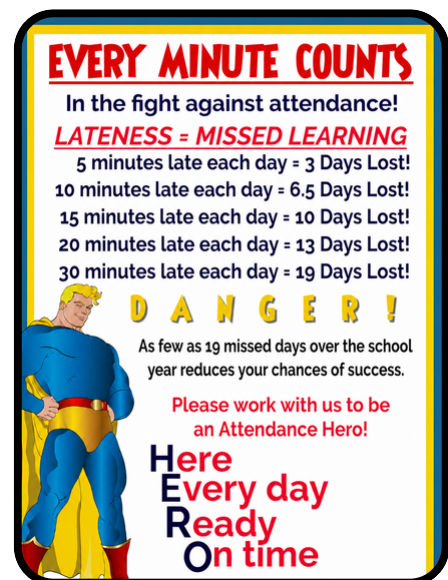
23% children have outstanding attendance [98%+]
56% have excellent attendance [96%+]
2 children have 100% attendance

Year 2 attendance: **96.2%**

47% children have outstanding attendance [98%+]
63% have excellent attendance [96%+]
4 children have 100% attendance

Patterns:

Lateness on Monday mornings, absences on Fridays and before a school holiday are common trends.



Attendance Success – Thank You!

We are delighted to share that our school's attendance continues to improve.

We are currently ranked 2nd out of 21 comparable schools for attendance. This reflects the fantastic support from our families in ensuring children come to school regularly and on time.

Good attendance is vital for children's learning, friendships and wellbeing, and these results show the positive impact of our partnership with parents and carers. Thank you for helping your child make the most of every school day. Together, we are ensuring our children have the best possible opportunity to learn, grow and succeed.

PAWS and Volunteers

Thank you to Parents at Wootey Schools [PAWS] PTA, for buying the Year 2 children a special leaving book to commemorate the end of their time at Wootey Infant School.

PAWS, who - through running discos, cake sales and the Christmas Fayre - provide Wootey children with memorable extra-curricular activities while raising vital funds for the school. Please do offer to help next year, even for a little while, to ensure these activities can continue. Please look out for our Wootey BBQ in September - details to follow.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the parents, other family members, and volunteers who have actively participated in our school community. Our 'Reading Volunteers' have continued doing a grand job helping our children become confident readers.

Your involvement, whether it be through volunteering, attending events, or supporting fundraisers, has played an integral role in creating a nurturing and vibrant school environment. We appreciate your dedication and commitment to our shared goal of providing the best education for our children.

We love to read!

At Wootey, our mission is that every child leaves our school a reader! We are thrilled that children are 'getting caught reading' throughout the day, and at home too! Please continue to promote this love of reading. Please do sign up for the Alton Library Summer Reading challenge. We will celebrate in Assembly all children who take part and display certificates in our Library.



Governor Update

As we close the summer term, on behalf of the Governors, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to all of the staff, helpers, children and families for your unwavering support of the school. We are immensely proud of the achievements of all of the children and the dedication of the staff to achieve the best outcomes for everyone.

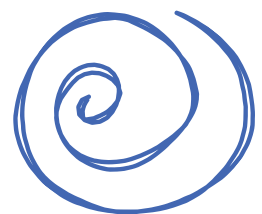
As governors we are not always able to get into school as often as we would like and the parent questionnaire provides us with valuable insight in to your views of the school. We would like to thank you for all of your responses and comments. Parental support of the school is vital, be it helping at and supporting school events, volunteer reading, engaging with your child's learning at home or even becoming a school Governor!

We would like to welcome our two new Governors - Dawn Booker and Emily Boucher, thank you for joining the Wootey team.

Additionally, we would like to pass on extra special thanks to all of the staff for their hard work and support . As governors we are very much looking forward to continue working closely in the new school year.

Wishing all children, families and staff a wonderful summer break.

Sarah Thirkell - Chair of Governors



Dates For Your Diary

SEPTEMBER

1st - INSET Day [school closed]

2nd - INSET Day [school closed but will be open from 2.30pm to 3pm for children who may be anxious about the return to school]

3rd - Start of Autumn Term for Year 1 and Year 2

14th - Individual Photos – Younger Siblings from 8am

18th - PAWS BBQ [more details to follow]

OCTOBER

1st - CENSUS Day

3rd - Open Day for YR September 2027 intake

6th - Open Day for YR September 2027 intake

9th - Harvest Assembly

14th - Open Day for YR September 2027 intake

20th - Parent Consultations

21st - Parent Consultations

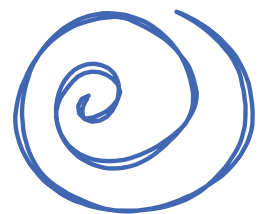
26th - 30th Half Term

NOVEMBER

2nd - INSET Day [school closed]

23rd - Flu Immunisations

Link to school website calendar [here](#)



We wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable summer break.

Thank you for entrusting us with your children's education, and very best wishes for the future to the families leaving us.

We look forward to welcoming Year R, Year 1 and Year 2 children, back to school in September for another incredible year of learning.