



Newsletter - Friday 18th July 2025

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels as though, all of a sudden, we are at the end of the school year – and what a successful year it has been! From our Ofsted visit to Art Competitions to the Cheerleading Festival, Fairs, One World Day, Celebration Assemblies, and so much more – we've packed so much into a fantastic year of learning and fun.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all parents and carers for your ongoing support. We have thoroughly enjoyed welcoming you into school for assemblies, workshops, and special events – it is always a pleasure working in partnership with you.

To all our children, I am incredibly proud of everything you have achieved this year. You always work hard, show resilience, and enthusiasm and I hope you all enjoy a well-deserved and wonderful summer break.

As we say goodbye to our Year 2 children, we wish them the very best as they embark on new adventures at their next schools – you will be greatly missed! We also say farewell to Miss Maycock and Mrs Stoneman. Thank you for all that you have done for our pupils – your contribution has been truly valued.

To the families leaving Damson Wood, we wish you happiness and success in the future and hope you'll stay in touch. You'll always be part of our school community.

For those staying with us, we look forward to seeing you back in school on Wednesday 3rd September for the start of another exciting year!

Once again, have an enjoyable, safe and (hopefully!) sunny summer and I wish you all the very best.

Miss Hull

WOODIES

This last half term Woodies children have been enjoying the lovely weather and taking their 'Over the Rainbow' learning outside. This has included lots of sand and water play as we talk about The Rainbow Fish. As well as practising their physical skills by running, climbing, learning to throw and catch with the balls along with singing and ring games using the parachute.

The children enjoyed their end of year fun day where they had an outdoor picnic and an ice lolly treat.

The staff would like to thank all their children and families at Woodies for another great year and wish all the best to the children leaving to go off to their new nursery classes. Have a great summer.

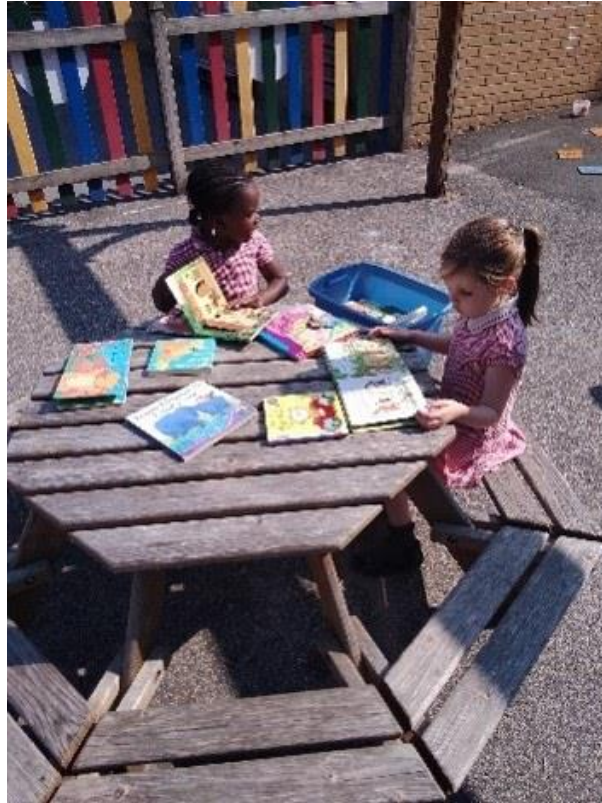
The Woodies Team



ASH CLASS - NURSERY

This week in Nursery the children have enjoyed spending time with their friends playing and having fun together. We have talked about what the children might do over the summer holiday and about staying safe.

Mrs Morris





WILLOW CLASS - RECEPTION

Willow Class have been busy putting the finishing touches to their Ocean themed costumes for our Skills Builder project. The children used lots of plastic waste and recycled it to make a fabulous outfit. The children have really taken on board the message about how plastic is causing problems for our planet. They understand that we need to use less plastic and ensure all litter is always put in the bin or recycled.

We rounded off our topic with a fabulous catwalk parade to show off our designs. The other children and teachers came to watch and loved clapping along to the music. The children showed great confidence and teamwork when putting on our catwalk show. Well done Willow!

Miss Amies and Mrs Rayner







MAPLE CLASS - YEAR 1

This week Maple Class have been enjoying their Skills Builder project called Ready Teddy Go.

They have been challenged to use their Speaking, Teamwork and Aiming High skills to plan an event - a teddy bear's picnic. They discussed themes, food choices and decorations to have the best picnic possible.

Children spent time using their food preparation skills from D.T. lessons to cut up the food ready for eating. They even arranged the picnic blankets so that everyone could fit in with their bears.

We had such a lovely time enjoying eating together in the sunshine, it was a very successful event! Well done Maple Class.

Mrs Wright



BEECH AND ROWAN CLASS - YEAR 2

This week, Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed their last week with us here at Damson Wood. On Tuesday, we had a tea party, with dancing party games and a picnic. They also decorated cakes. On Wednesday, we welcomed parents and carers in to school for a puppet making workshop. The children used their designs from lessons to help them create their final product. The afternoon then saw a cinema afternoon with popcorn.

As the end of the year has now reached us we would like to say how much we have loved teaching the children of Year 2 and will dearly miss them. We would like to wish them all the very best in their new schools.

Miss Maycock and Mrs Rayner





SPARKS Awards

Today, we presented the final SPARKS Awards of the year and we are so proud of the children who received their very special certificates and keyrings today. Our SPARKS values underpin the behaviour expectations at Damson Wood and it is vital that all members of our community behave in line with them. Children have learnt throughout the year what our values mean and what they look like in practice. Huge congratulations go to the following children who received SPARKS awards today for exemplifying our SPARKS values consistently this term:

Ash - Murewa

Willow - Isaac A

Maple - Matvii

Beech - Logan

Rowan - Abdallah

ATTENDANCE

Well done to Willow Class for such amazing attendance this week! Thank you to parents/carers for ensuring your child is in school, on time ready to learn. We really see the

effects of great attendance on their learning each day. The expectation is attendance should be 96% or above in line with the National average.

Class Attendance for last week was:

Ash - 92.2%

Willow - 96.3%

Maple - 89%

Beech - 89.4%

Rowan - 94.4%

The whole school attendance for the week was 92.3% and the year to date attendance for the whole school is 91.8%.

99 CLUB!

On Thursday, we rewarded children across the school and Nursery who achieved 99% attendance or above. We celebrated with a special 99 ice cream! Well done to the children who achieved such excellent attendance for Summer Term – it is wonderful to see children in school on time every day and evidence shows that these children to learn more and make better progress than their peers who have persistently poor attendance and punctuality. Thank you for your support in helping your child to be in school at 8:45am every day.

SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL FOR FREE!



We're aiming to reach **over 100 supporters** on Easyfundraising over the summer holidays — and we need your help! It's a completely **free** and **easy** way to raise funds for our school while you shop online with your favourite retailers.

Damson Wood Infant School
£683.15 raised
of £1000.00



Same shopping, but just through Easyfundraising. There are more than 7 000 brands on the site, like Morrisons, Pets at Home, Dunelm, Booking.com and many more.



Scan the QR code, sign up and you are ready to go!

Attendance Support Drop In

The Solihull EPAS team are offering attendance support to all families at:

Monkspath Junior and Infant School on Monday 18th August 10:00 until 1:00pm. (They will be located in the house adjacent to the school building)

And also at:

Elmwood Place Family Hub on Wednesday 20th August 10:00am until 1:00pm.

There will be professionals from Early Years, Early Help, EHCP team, Employment and Skills team, Police and Mental Health in Schools attending.

'Is your child worrying about returning to school in September? Then please come and see us. We are here to support you and your child with any issues you may have around school attendance—whatever they may be. We can offer advice and guidance around overcoming barriers that your child may be experiencing. We look forward to seeing you'.

If you have any questions please email attendanceenquiries@solihull.gov.uk

WALL OF FAME

Our Wall of Fame has grown once again with the addition of personalised legacy bricks from this Summer term's brick order. These bricks stand as a lasting tribute to pupils past and present, creating a meaningful legacy for families and our alumni community. Thank you Mr Mayall, our Site Manager, for adding the new bricks.

Should you wish to be part of this tradition, our next order will be in the Autumn term (order by date to be confirmed) but please view: <https://www.damson-wood.co.uk/buy-a-brick/>



TERM DATES FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2025 - 2026



		INSET DAY – School closed to pupils
Term Commences	Monday 1 st and Tuesday 2 nd September 2025 (Staff only) Children start back to school on Wednesday 3rd September 2025	Monday 1st September 2025 Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Half Term	Monday 27 th October to Friday 31 st October 2025	
Term Ends	Friday 19 th December 2025	

		INSET DAY – School closed to pupils
Term Commences	Monday 5 th January 2026 (Staff only) Children start back to school on Tuesday 6th January 2026	Monday 5th January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16 th February to Friday 20 th February 2026	
Term Ends	Friday 27 th March 2026	

		INSET DAY – School closed to pupils
Term Commences	Monday 13 th April 2026	
Half Term	Monday 25 th May to Friday 29 th May 2026	
Term Ends	Friday 17 th July 2026	Friday 3rd July 2026