



Woodbrook Vale
School



WOODBROOK VALE



2025/2026

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



Happy Easter

UPCOMING EVENTS/DEADLINES

Please visit our school website for more information



**Easter Holidays -
School closes 3pm**

Friday 27th March 2026



School Opens Monday 13th April 2026

**Cadbury World -
Year 10 Business Studies**

Friday 17th April 2026

**Loughborough Library
Creative Faculty**

Friday 17th April 2026



www.wbvs.co.uk



office@wbvs.co.uk



01509 557560

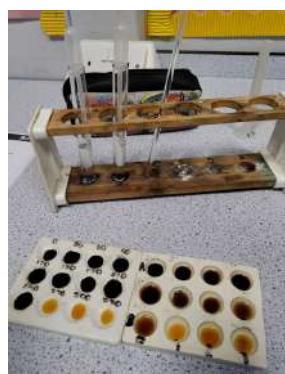
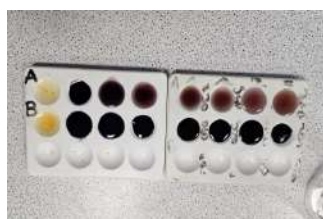


FROM SCIENCE

We've packed so much into this short half term here in Science!

Year 7s have been learning about 'Inheritance and Reproduction' whilst continuing to develop their practical Chemistry skills in their 'Metal Reactions' topic. There has been some excellent practical skills on display!

The year 8s have been looking at digestion - They all loved the digestion demonstration in class and have completed a complex practical into enzyme reactions – check out this picture of 8AP's investigation into amylase and starch.



At KS4, the year 10s are working their way towards the end of paper 1 topics with mocks coming up in June. Revision sessions will be starting closer to the time so keep an eye out for details in the school newsletter. Also, more fantastic practical skills have been on display with photosynthesis required practicals and endo/exothermic reaction investigations.



Last but not least, our hardworking and committed year 11s continue to prepare for GCSES. Their attitude in class and their dedication to attending revision session (both at lunch and afterschool) has been very impressive. We are really proud of the efforts you are putting into Science success. Keep it up! Not long to go now!

Year 9s have been continuing their start to GCSE Science with required practicals in Physics and Biology and they have been working hard towards end of topic assessments - keep up the good work!

KS3 have also taken part in British Science Week in March with assemblies, a poster competition and a workshop all around the theme of 'Curiosity.' Poster competition winners will be announced after the holidays.

In the community, primary school outreach successfully continued at Lift Beacon and Mountfields Lodge primary school with Outwood's Edge visiting us here at Woodbrook with their top scientists from year 6! It's the year 5's turn after Easter, with planned visits to Outwoods and Beacon year 5 classes for some fun, hands on science! We look forward to working with everyone involved! Have a restful break and we look forward to seeing everyone after Easter.

The Science Department





CREATIVE Faculty

Year 10 Art & Design

Year 10 Art & Design Students have now completed their first coursework project. The project got the students exploring a number of different 2D and 3D media, techniques and processes, after which they specialised into Fine Art, 3D Design or Textiles. In the near future there will be a pop-up exhibition to display the extensive range of outcomes that have been produced. Here are some examples from the Fine Art specialists who have worked with Oil Pastel to create A2 sized outcomes.





Year 10 and 11 Drama



Year 10 and 11 GCSE Drama students took a trip to Nottingham's Theatre Royal, this week, to watch the iconic and tragic 'Miss Saigon' (based on the Puccini opera 'Madama Butterfly'). Students will be able to write about the performance in Section C of the written exam (worth almost half the marks of the entire paper).

Despite running late due to issues such as Mrs Hopkinson misplacing her keys, not to mention ridiculously long queues for the toilets and merchandise stands as well as the disappointing absence of a much-anticipated helicopter and American Dream car, the show was a memorable and moving experience that will leave an indelible mark on our young thespians for years to come.

A wonderful time was had by all and, as always, members of the audience were eager to approach staff with compliments about the exemplary behaviour of the exceptional students we are so fortunate to teach.

Thank you to all who came and for conducting yourselves so beautifully and thank you, also, to parents for supporting the trip as well as your youngsters (especially at such short notice).

Although the ending left us feeling saddened, it was with even heavier hearts that we reflected on the fact that this will be the last theatre trip with Year 11. They are a fabulous group of individuals who will be sorely missed on our next theatre outing!

Best of luck for upcoming exams!

Mrs Hopkinson
(Teacher of Drama and English)





CONGRATULATIONS



CLUB NEWS



HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO KAMIL & HARRY FROM OUR U16S PROGRESSING TO THE NEXT ROUND OF THE LEICESTER TIGERS ACADEMY 🐯🐯

OFF TO THE DENSTONE COLLEGE CAMP AND AN EXCITING FIXTURE VS BRISTOL U16S ON 18TH APRIL 🔥

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU BOTH – WELL DESERVED 💙💛

Evie and Isla who were selected to run for Team Leicestershire in the Schools National Year 7 Cross Country Final on Saturday at Stoneleigh Park in case you wanted to include in the school newsletter.

They both did amazing on what ended up being a hot afternoon. Isla finished in 00:12:10 and Evie in 00:12:26 and Team Leicestershire took 3rd place overall.



Emma has thoroughly deserved her second Sports Leader of the Month recognition for her hard work in the planning and organisation of the Year 7 Inter-form Football tournament for Schools' Football Week.

Emma uses her initiative to complete tasks without needing to be prompted, and is enthusiastic about her responsibilities. She speaks confidently to her peers and is able to put her thoughts and ideas across maturely and clearly to enable positive discussions and good decision making. In addition, Emma has been present at the recent Cross Country events, and was fantastic at motivating participants during their races.

Well done Emma!





FRANCOPHONIE COMPETITION

Thank you to all the year 7s who took part so enthusiastically in this competition but especially to those who found all the countries and brought the completed form back on Friday.



Duke of Edinburgh Silver Expedition

A group of our students took part in a practice expedition for their Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award in the stunning White Peak, demonstrating impressive determination and resilience throughout.

Over several days, they hiked across challenging terrain, applying their map-reading and navigation skills to stay on course through the rolling limestone landscape. Along the way, they worked as a team to set up camp and cook their own meals, building independence and confidence. Despite moments of fatigue and unpredictable weather, the students showed real perseverance, supporting one another and rising to every challenge the expedition presented.



SCIENCE

CONUNDRUM of the WEEK

Last Weeks Answer
In chemistry what is reduction -
 The gain of electrons by an atom, ion or molecule. When oxygen is removed from a metal oxide, electrons are added to the metal ions, and they form metal atoms.

In the human body what is the function of Amylase?





SCIENCE REVISION

SCIENCE REVISION	YR 11		
Monday Date	Topic	Room	
16/03/2026	PHYS	25	Lab 3
23/03/2026	BIO	Lab 1	Lab 3
30/03/2026	EASTER		
06/04/2026			
13/04/2026	CHEM	Lab 3	Lab 2
20/04/2026	BIO	Lab 3	Lab 2
27/04/2026	PHYS	25	Lab 2
04/05/2026	CHEM	Lab 2	Lab 3
11/05/2026	BIO	Lab 3	Lab 1
18/05/2026	PHYS	25	Lab 3



Upcoming Sports Fixtures



Athletics

U13 & U15
Wednesday 22nd April

U17
Wednesday 29th April

Boys Cricket

U12
Thursday 23rd April

U14
Thursday 30th April

U15 (T20)
Thursday 7th May

Girls Cricket

U13
Tuesday 28th April

U15
Tuesday 5th May

Sign up in the sports hall!



Woodbrook Vale Sports Clubs



Day	Club	Year Group	Time	Location
Monday	Badminton	Year 10	Lunch 12:25-1pm	Sports hall
Tuesday	Netball	All years	After school 3-4pm	Ball court
	Girls Football	KS3	After school 3-4pm	Field
	Boys Futsal	Year 7 & 8	After school 3-4pm	Sports hall
Wednesday	Basketball	All years	Lunch 12:25-1pm	Sports hall
Thursday	Athletics	All years	After school 3-4pm	Field
Friday	Badminton	Year 11	Lunch 12:25-1pm	Sports hall





Woodbrook Vale Clubs

Woodbrook Vale Clubs – Autumn Term 2025-26

Day	Club	Staff Member	Year Group (s)	Time	Room	Starting Date	End Date
Monday	Christian Union	Mr Lewney	All Years	12.30 - 1.10 pm	Room 15	September 2025	ongoing
	Drama – production rehearsal	Mrs Hopkinson	Cast members	12.45 – 1.10 pm	Drama Studio	October 2025	End Jan
	Drama Club	Mrs Hopkinson	All Years	3 - 4 pm	Drama studio	October 2025	ongoing
Tuesday	Darts Club	Mr Clargo	KS4	12:35 – 1:10 pm	Room 12	September 2025	ongoing
	Mindfulness Club	Miss Vaughan	All Years	12:25 – 1:10 pm	Room 1	September 2025	ongoing
	Drama – production rehearsal	Mrs Hopkinson	Cast Members	12.45 – 1.10 pm	Drama Studio	October 2025	Jan '26
	Drama – Theatre Tech Club	Mrs Hopkinson	All Years – flexible session limited no.s	3 – 4 pm	Drama Studio	October 2025	ongoing
	Homework Club	Miss Roberts	All Years	3 – 4 pm	Library	September 2025	ongoing
Wednesday	GCSE Drama Rehearsals & Intervention	Mrs Hopkinson	Year 10&11 GCSE	12.45 – 1.10 pm	Drama Studio	October 2025	ongoing
	KS4 Documentary Club	Miss Vaughan	Years 10 & 11	12.30 - 1.10 pm	Room 5	October 2025	ongoing
	Homework Club	Miss Roberts	All Years	3 – 4 pm	Library	September 2025	ongoing
Thursday	Darts Club	Mr Clargo	KS4	12:35 – 1:10 pm	Room 12	September 2025	ongoing
	GCSE Drama Rehearsals & Intervention	Mrs Hopkinson	Year 10&11 GCSE	12.45 – 1.10 pm	Drama Studio	October 2025	ongoing
	School Production Rehearsal	Mrs Hopkinson	Cast members	3 – 4.30pm	Drama Studio	October 2025	Jan 2026
	Homework Club	Miss Roberts	All Years	3 – 4 pm	Library	September 2025	ongoing
Friday	Drama Production Choreography	Mrs Hopkinson	Choreography Team	12.45 – 1.10 pm	Drama Studio	October 2025	End Jan '26
	School Production	Mrs Hopkinson	Cast Members	3 – 4 p m	Drama Studio	May 2025	ongoing

linguaspice website - the password has changed to **international20**, the username is still woodbrook



Homework Club

A safe, supportive environment

Looking for a quiet and supportive space to get your homework done? Come along to the Homework Club in the school library every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:00 to 4:00 PM. Open to students from all year groups, the Homework Club is the perfect place to focus on your assignments, study, or catch up on work. There's no obligation to stay for the entire hour—drop in for as long as you need! Whether you're looking for a peaceful environment to concentrate or need some guidance with your tasks, the Homework Club is here





YEAR 10 TRAVEL & TOURISM STUDENTS VISIT MAG AVIATION CAREERS FESTIVAL AT EMA

On Thursday 26th March, Year 10 Travel and Tourism students took part in an exciting and highly valuable careers experience visit to the MAG Aviation Careers Festival, held at East Midlands Airport (EMA). The event took place at the Aeropark Attraction, a unique setting featuring dozens of vintage and classic aircraft, including planes and helicopters, which provided an inspiring backdrop designed to spark students' interest in aviation and related industries. The purpose of the visit was to broaden students' understanding of the wide range of career opportunities available within the aviation, logistics, engineering, and travel sectors, while also helping them make informed choices about their future pathways. Events such as this are a vital part of our WBVS careers programme, giving students real-world insight that goes beyond the classroom.

INSPIRING INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

The day began with a careers talk in the aviation theatre delivered by the Head of Operations at East Midlands Airport. Students were fully engaged throughout and demonstrated excellent participation in the Q&A session, asking thoughtful questions about routes into the industry, daily responsibilities, and the skills required for success in aviation careers. Following this, students explored a wide range of employer stalls and interactive experiences. Exhibitors included major organisations such as Rolls-Royce, DHL, MAG, Jet2.com, BAM, Border Force, the UK Civil Aviation Authority, Ryanair, Swissport, and Nottingham College, alongside the innovative "Future You" AI photo booth experience. These stands allowed students to speak directly with industry professionals and gain first-hand insight into potential career pathways, apprenticeships, and training opportunities.



HANDS-ON CHALLENGES AND EXPERIENCES

A key highlight of the day was the themed "Escape Van" challenge, where students and staff were tasked with solving a series of aviation-related puzzles under timed conditions. The activity encouraged teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills. Despite their best efforts, Miss Roberts' team narrowly missed escaping in time, while Mr Moore's team successfully completed the challenge with just one minute to spare. Students also had the opportunity to take part in a flight simulator experience, where they were challenged to land a passenger aircraft safely. This proved to be a highly popular activity, offering a realistic glimpse into the precision and concentration required in aviation roles. A particular highlight was Zachariah Dakin's impressive performance, achieving 2nd place on the overall event leaderboard. In addition, students were able to experience a variety of airport roles through interactive activities, including working as air stewards, security personnel, and other operational staff. These experiences helped students understand the breadth of careers required to keep a major airport running smoothly.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CAREERS EXPERIENCES

Opportunities such as the MAG Aviation Careers Festival play a crucial role in shaping students' aspirations and raising awareness of the many career pathways available to them. By engaging directly with employers and participating in realistic industry activities, students develop a clearer understanding of the skills, qualifications, and attitudes needed for future success. For WBVS students, these experiences are an essential part of preparing for life beyond school. They help to inspire ambition, build confidence, and ensure that students can make informed decisions about their next steps, whether that be further education, apprenticeships, or employment.

We are extremely proud of the enthusiasm, maturity, and engagement shown by all students who attended and look forward to providing further enriching careers opportunities throughout the year.





Woodbrook Vale School



SYSTON NORTHFIELDS

OPEN DAY

**Saturday 11th April
2pm-5pm**



Try tennis plus Pickleball, Pop Tennis and TYPTI.

RISE UP
RACKET SPORTS

book holiday camps by visiting
www.riseupracketsports.com.

Phone 07800 599057 and Email edd@riseupracketsports.com

CREATING CULTURAL BELONGING & CONNECTIONS COFFEE MORNING

Come and join us for a brew with a different view



The Specialist Teaching Service warmly invites you to a coffee morning to find out more about our services. It will also be an opportunity to listen to speakers share their lived experiences of Intersectionality, SEND and Neurodiversity.

**When: Tuesday 14th April 2026
9:30am - 11:00am**

To book a FREE place, scan this QR code:



**Where: Brocks Hill Primary School
Howdon Road, Oadby, Leicester,
LE2 5WP**

Please note there will be no onsite parking

For further information please contact:

Rita Nagar - rita.nagar@leics.gov.uk
Rohini Dhamella - rohini.dhamella@leics.gov.uk
Leona Brown - leona.brown@leics.gov.uk
Sadie Barden-Marshall - sadie.barden-marshall@leics.gov.uk
Alicia Simpson - alicia.simpson@leics.gov.uk



Upcoming Events

2026



SCAN ME



MARCH
28

Safe Steps- Road Safety Project

St Peter's Church- 11.00am to 1.00pm BOOKING REQUIRED

APRIL
11

Diet/Food and Menopause

St Peter's Church- 11.00am to 1.00pm BOOKING REQUIRED



APRIL
25

Safe Steps- Road Safety Project

St Peter's Church- 11.00am to 1.00pm BOOKING REQUIRED

MAY
09

Cancer Neurodiversity Group

St Peter's Church- 11.00am to 1.00pm BOOKING REQUIRED



MAY
23

Safe Steps- Road Safety Project

St Peter's Church- 11.00am to 1.00pm BOOKING REQUIRED

If you would like more information or would like to join our WhatsApp group to keep up to date with our sessions:

www.neurodiversitysupport.org / admin@neurodiversitysupport.org

Mobile: 07957 377 770 / 07934 591 061 / 07398 997 187

To donate: Neurodiversity Support CIC

Sort code: 08-92-99 / Account: 67336186



Cuppas & Connections



For neurodivergent individuals seeking community and connection

Starting 28th March 2026 and Every 2 weeks after



St. Peters Church- 2 St Peters Rd. LE2 1DA

11.00am - 1.00pm

Admin@neurodiversitysupport.org

07957377770



Holland Barrett



www.wbvs.co.uk



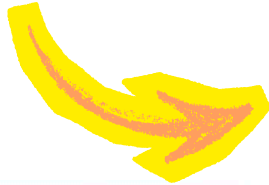
office@wbvs.co.uk



01509 557560



THINGS TO DO THIS EASTER HALF TERM...



Molly's Gift Holiday Camps

You will find all of our Holiday Activities & Food Programmes on this page. Including our Primary...

eequ.org

NHS
Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service



Do you have experience of waiting for mental health support? We Want to Hear From You!

Share your experience of waiting for:

- Mental health support
- Autism or ADHD assessments
- Other neurodivergence assessments
- Waiting can be hard – for young people and families.
- Your voice can help improve what support looks like during that time.



Why are we asking?

This survey is part of the Joined Up Institute project by UK Youth, working with organisations across Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland. Although we can't shorten waiting lists, we can improve the experience while people wait.



We want to know what helped you:

- ✓ Coping skills or strategies
- ✓ Supportive people
- ✓ Activities, groups or services
- ✓ Helpful resources

(Formal or informal – anything that made the wait easier)

We have two short anonymous surveys: one for young people and one for parents or carers. They take just a few minutes to complete.

Please complete them by midnight on 9 April 2026.

Please also share the survey with others who may have experience of waiting for support – more responses mean more ideas to improve things.

Waiting Well - Young People's experiences

[Click here for Young persons form](#)

Waiting Well - Parent and Carer's experiences

[Click here for Parent and carers form](#)

New Strategy Based Films for parents/carers and Professionals New for 2026

What is Emotionally Based School Avoidance



Risk factors for Emotionally Based School Avoidance



Tips for Emotionally Based School Avoidance



Thriving with ADHD in school



ADHD and sleep



Reframing ADHD



Girls and ADHD



ADHD – order out of chaos



Growing older and changing ADHD symptoms



The importance of sleep



Tips to support sleep optimisation



To watch the videos, scan these QR codes

For players with cerebral palsy, hearing impairments or visual impairments.

Open to players aged 7 - 16

Wed 1st April 2026

St George's Park, DE13 9PD



Scan to register.

To find out more visit:

EnglandFootball.com/Para

Email: Liam.Drake@TheFA.com



PARA FOOTBALL ENGLAND TALENT DAYS





A PARENTS GUIDE TO



WHAT IS SPARX MATHS?

Sparx Maths Homework is an online learning platform that creates personalised maths homework for students aged 11-16.

We believe that practice makes perfect, so each week, your child's teacher selects the topics that have been taught in class and we build a personalised set of questions to match your child's current level of understanding.

Our aim is for all children to strive for 100% completion of their homework.

By consistently using Sparx Maths, your child can build a solid foundation in maths and achieve their full potential.

WHY IS MY CHILD ENCOURAGED TO DO WRITTEN WORK AS WELL AS ONLINE?

We believe that written work is essential in supporting your child's understanding of maths and to help them create positive habits.

Sparx provides bookwork checks to encourage your child to do written work when they're answering questions in Sparx Maths. These checks remind students to write down the question and their working, which is helpful if they get stuck as teachers can see where they are going wrong. We advise your child to do this work either in the back of their exercise book or at your discretion, a notebook dedicated for their maths work.

HOW YOUR CHILD WILL LOGIN TO SPARX MATHS?

- Search for 'Sparx Maths student login' in google search engine
- Click on Student Login
- Type Woodbrook Vale School into the select your school box
- Then click on Woodbrook Vale School and press continue
- Now select Log in to Sparx using Google
- The student's username and password are the same as they use to login into the computers in school

WHAT IF MY CHILD IS REPEATEDLY GETTING AN ANSWER WRONG AND CAN'T COMPLETE THEIR HOMEWORK?

Sometimes when your child is completing their homework they might keep getting an answer wrong which prevents their homework from being complete. To help with this, we encourage your child to watch the helpful support video for that question and if they are still stuck, then they can use the new question swap feature which will give them an easier question to attempt. They can use this feature three times in each homework. If your child needs further help after this then we would encourage them to ask their teacher for support before the homework deadline.

HOW CAN I HELP MY CHILD WITH THEIR SPARX MATHS HOMEWORK?

We believe your child can answer all of the questions correctly in their homework, but we know there may be times when they struggle, so how can you support your child with their homework?

Our top three tips for you and your child when using Sparx Maths...

- Encourage them to tackle it on their own
- Nudge them to use the support videos
- Suggest that they start early to give plenty of time for help if they need it.

WHAT IS XP?

- Sparx XP or 'Experience Points' is an effort based points system that we as a school will use to support and inform a reward scheme.
- Pupils can go to the Independent Learning tab and find topics and activities at any time. This will also be so valuable to aid any revision for examinations and assessments too.
- Students earn XP when they complete a task or win a reward game.
- Tasks from different homework types earn different numbers of points, for example students can earn more XP if they complete XP Boost and Target homework tasks compared with Compulsory ones.
- Students go up a Sparx level for every 10,000 XP they collect.
- They can be encouraged to increase their number of XP by completing all of their XP Boost and Target homework.
- Certificates are awarded for levels attained.
- There will be prizes awarded termly for the pupils with most XP points and most improved XP points.

IN CONCLUSION

Teachers select topics that have been taught in class. Sparx Maths builds a personalised set of questions. Students complete their homework online. Teachers monitor homework so they can motivate and support students. Parents can monitor homework using Go4Schools and receive an email from Sparx before homework is due. Teachers receive powerful insights each week with the pupils attainment.

If you require any more information then please go to <https://sparxmaths.com/parents/> or contact your child's maths teacher.