



Woodbrook Vale  
School



# WOODBROOK VALE

2025/2026

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



## UPCOMING EVENTS/DEADLINES

Please visit our school website for more information

**DofE Bronze Expedition  
Skills Training**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**DofE Bronze Training Walk**

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

**Year 7 Parents Evening**

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026**

*Congratulations*



Congratulations all!

Our students went above  
and beyond  
demonstrating the core  
values of our school.



[www.wbvs.co.uk](http://www.wbvs.co.uk)



[office@wbvs.co.uk](mailto:office@wbvs.co.uk)



01509 557560



## CONGRATULATIONS

Last week, 27 year 9 girls visited Loughborough University for a campus visit to conclude the SportMAD Programme which the year 9 girls PE groups have been involved in. The purpose of the programme was to utilise sport to begin discussions around Higher Education. Loughborough University students who volunteer with the Coach & Volunteer Academy visited the girls' PE lessons for 3 weeks to deliver sessions and have conversations with the girls about everything from living away from home to what they study and why they chose their university course. To begin the campus visit, the students took part in sports activities with the Coaches, then they had a tour where we saw different sports facilities, the student union, accommodation, and learning spaces such as labs. The afternoon consisted of a Higher Education talk and a Q&A with university staff and Student Ambassadors. The girls were enthusiastic throughout, really engaged in their sports sessions and asked lots of great questions on the tour and during the Q&A.



## SCIENCE

### Last Weeks Answer

**What causes magnetism** - The motion of electrically charged particles within an atom, primarily electrons, where each electron possess an intrinsic magnetic moment (spin). In most materials, electrons pair up and spin in opposite directions, cancelling out their magnetic effects. Magnetism occurs when there are unpaired electrons in an atom giving a net magnetic moment.

### CONUNDRUM of the WEEK

When you react sodium thiosulphate with hydrochloric acid why does the liquid turn cloudy?





Woodbrook Vale  
School



## DONATIONS

**HELP**

Down in the food room we are desperate for spare containers as lots of students forget to bring a tub to take their food home in.

If you know you have any unwanted take away tubs or chocolate tubs at home, please could you donate them to the food room?



**We're on the hunt  
for pre-loved  
Woodbrook Vale  
blazers!**

**If you have any unwanted  
blazers please donate  
them to the main  
reception!**

**Thank you**



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Woodbrook Vale  
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 **Loughborough**  
COLLEGE GROUP

**START HERE.**

**GO ANYWHERE...**

We offer a range of courses to help  
you discover your full potential.

**BTECS**

**T LEVELS**

**APPRENTICESHIPS**



**Stephenson College**

**OPEN DAY**

**Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April • 9.30<sup>am</sup> - 1.00<sup>pm</sup>**

 **Stephenson**  
COLLEGE

Thornborough Road  
Coalville  
LE67 3TN



**SCAN TO BOOK YOUR  
OPEN DAY PLACE**



[www.wbvs.co.uk](http://www.wbvs.co.uk)



[office@wbvs.co.uk](mailto:office@wbvs.co.uk)



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# CAREERS

## APPRENTICESHIP ENGINEERING PROGRAMME

The Apprenticeship Programme at Linde is designed to cultivate top-tier engineers who can meet the growing demand for workshop, field, and site-based roles. As an apprentice, you'll embark on a journey to become a fully proficient Linde Engineer, combining college education with hands-on experience.

An apprenticeship is a work-based learning programme, where you earn while you learn. It builds industry-specific knowledge, skills, and behaviours through on and off the job training to make sure you are competent in your role. An end-point assessment ensures competency. All apprentices must achieve Functional Skills in Math's and English.

Linde have partnered with SMB College to deliver the 3-year Lift Truck and Powered Access Engineering Technician Apprenticeship (Level 3).



Apprentice Engineer Programme 2026 (Register Your Interest)

Join the Linde Apprenticeship Programme! Are you ready to kickstart your engineering career with a global leader? Th...

[myworkdayjobs.com](http://myworkdayjobs.com)

## UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM - GETTING INTO GAMING

We are delighted to invite you and your students to attend our Getting into Games: Advice and Insight from Andy Wilson, COO, Sledgehammer Games

- Date: Wednesday 6th May 2026
- Time: 6.30pm (Doors open: 5.45pm) – 8.00pm
- Location: B52 Auditorium, Business School South, Jubilee Campus, University of Nottingham, Wollaton Road, Nottingham, NG8 1BB

As Chief Operating Officer for Sledgehammer Games, University of Nottingham graduate Andy Wilson (Computer Science, 2001) has worked within some of the biggest video game franchises in the history of the medium, including Call of Duty. If you're interested in a career in the industry, here's your chance to get ahead of the game with advice and insight from the man behind the controller!

The event will cover:

- The structure of a typical games team and the publisher/developer relationship
- Core disciplines and roles
- A typical Project Lifecycle
- Advice for aspiring game developers in the current climate, including tools and technologies to be aware of
- Career journeys of the Sledgehammer Development Team
- Current and future trends to consider

To register, please ask your parent or guardian to complete this form as it is mandatory that they accompany you. Register here: <https://forms.office.com/e/iaAWr1EnuE>

**Getting into Games:**  
advice and insight from our industry expert

With Andy Wilson (Computer Science, 2001)

Wednesday 6 May, 5.45pm  
Business School South, Jubilee Campus





**Woodbrook Vale School**



Entry price includes  
**FREE T-Shirt & Refreshments**  
£20 adults / £8 child

# CHARITY BIKE RIDE 2026



**SUNDAY, 17<sup>th</sup> MAY**  
**9am START**

**Join us!**

Alpine House Surgery are hosting their Charity Bike Ride for a second year. This time, to raise funds to support two wonderful local hospices, LOROS and Rainbows. Both charities do incredible work giving care and providing support for children, adults and their families during their time of need.



All abilities welcome! Our figure of 8 route will cover 54km of the local area. A shorter route of 22km is available by completing the first loop only. We have also introduced a smaller route this year of 11km for families and children aged 10 and over (must be competent cyclists). All children under 16 years old must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

**ROUTE MAPS AVAILABLE FROM ALPINE HOUSE**  
[www.alpinehousesurgery.co.uk](http://www.alpinehousesurgery.co.uk)

**Donations (via Just Giving)** In addition to the Registration fee, if you are being Sponsored for the event or wish to donate to either, or both Charities, please scan the relevant QR code below. Any donations appreciated even if you are NOT taking part in the event.



**LOROS**



**Supporting Rainbows**  
Brightening short lives

**REGISTER HERE**

To book your place, please scan this QR code



100% OF ALL MONEY RAISED WILL BE SPLIT EQUALLY BETWEEN OUR TWO CHARITIES



**Hampshire Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services**

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



Options after completing the first loop:

- 1 Carry straight into the second loop.
- 2 Stop for drinks and refreshments before tackling the second loop.
- 3 Finish if you feel the second loop is too much.

Route information:

- First loop 22km (approx 14 miles)
- Second loop 28km (approx 18 miles)
- Family loop 54km (approx 34 miles)



## Upcoming Events

2026

BOOK NOW

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](http://www.neurodiversitysupport.org) / [admin@neurodiversitysupport.org](mailto: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



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Woodbrook Vale School



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](#)

# IS THE GOVERNMENT BANNING CHIPS?

You may have seen various stories in the media this week about school dinners. The government is looking to update the current School Food Standards as they have not been updated in the last 10 years.

There is a chance for parents and carers to give their feedback to the government on the proposals.

Follow the link below where you will find the proposal documents at the bottom of the page and the link to complete the online survey.

The survey is available until June 2026.

CLICK HERE

COME AND GIVE IT A TRY TASTER SESSIONS

## GIRLS RUGBY AT LOUGHBOROUGH RFC

OPEN TO AGES 5-15 YEARS (RECEPTION TO YEAR 10)

SAT 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL. 12-4PM

Fun rugby activities 12-1:30pm followed by free food and Then watch England v Wales LIVE on the big screen as the Women's Six Nations Championship kicks off!

SUN 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE. & SAT 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY 10AM-12PM

Fun rugby activities followed by a picnic and music!



## FAMILY SUMMER TOUCH RUGBY

EVERYONE WELCOME AND IT'S FREE!

WE WILL BE RUNNING TOUCH RUGBY FOR EVERY FAMILY MEMBER! MEN, WOMEN, TEENAGERS & CHILDREN. THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

NO RUGBY EXPERIENCE NEEDED. JUST TURN UP FOR FITNESS, FUN & FRIENDS! UNDER 13'S TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

EVERY WEDS STARTING WEDS 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY 18:30 - 19:30

LOUGHBOROUGH RFC, DERBY ROAD PLAYING FIELD, LOUGHBOROUGH, LE11 5FJ. PLEASE EMAIL FEMALERUGBY@GMAIL.COM TO REGISTER OR MESSAGE 07821283344

CONTACT: FEMALERUGBY@GMAIL.COM DERBY ROAD PLAYING FIELDS, COTTON WAY, LOUGHBOROUGH LE11 5FJ



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# 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 |
| 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      |

linguaspote 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





# 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

All years  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May

Sign up in the sports hall!

### Boys Cricket

U12  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

U14  
Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April

U15 (T20)  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May

### Girls Cricket

U13  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April

U15  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May



## Woodbrook Vale Sports Clubs



| Day       | Club           | Year Group | Time               | Location    |
|-----------|----------------|------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Monday    | Badminton      | Year 10    | Lunch 12:25-1pm    | Sports hall |
| Tuesday   | 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 |





# A PARENTS GUIDE TO

# SPARX MATHS



## 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.