



NEWSLETTER

January 2026

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@mulberryaws  

EXPLORING THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE



THIS ISSUE

Right Result in the Performance

Giving Back with FirstGive

Building Skills, Building Futures

Mulberry
Academy Woodside

MULBERRY ACADEMY WOODSIDE
White Hart Lane, Wood Green
London, N22 5QJ

 020 8889 6761
 020 8365 8164

Ms Wallace's Announcements

LATEST UPDATES FROM THE HEADTEACHER

DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS,

Welcome to another week at Woodside. It has been a busy one, including the first week of our Get Caught Revising initiative.

Former alumni have now started tutoring. Please ask your child for details or email Liam Davies if your child is in Year 10 or Year 11 and would like to take part.

Thank you to the parents who attended the Year 11 parents' evening. It was a strong turnout with many positive and focused conversations. Please continue to reinforce our revision guidance of 2 to 3 hours on weekdays and 4 hours at weekends. School remains open from 7:30am to 5:30pm, with warm spaces, computers and past papers available. This is open to younger year groups as well.

Our first Science Museum visits have now begun, giving students a chance to engage with STEM learning beyond the classroom. In Year 9 Computing, students are working on robotics, and students in the STEM Academy begin the Geeky Kids programming course this week. STEM uptake in the UK remains lower than in many European countries, so these early experiences aim to encourage future interest and ambition.

On Monday, families are invited to our "Brew Monday" community event. This is an informal opportunity to focus on wellbeing during the darker months, share a warm drink and spend time together.

Next Friday, Year 7 and Year 8 students will take part in a reward event marking National Popcorn Day, which falls next Sunday. Our Year 9 Film Festival also begins. With the Oscars approaching, this is a good time to enjoy a great film. Please see the Year 10 and Year 11 Film Studies recommendations below.

All the best for the weekend.

Ms. Wallace

UPCOMING KEY DATES



Monday 19th January

Brew Monday -
Community Event
8:30 am - 9:30 am

Mon 26 - Fri 30 January

Year 7 - 9 assessment
week

Friday 30 January

SEN Coffee Morning
9:00 - 10:00 am

Thursday 5 February

Year 10 Parents Evening

Thursday 5 March

Year 8 Parents Evening

Tuesday 10 March

Year 9 Options Evening

NEXT WEEK: WEEK 1



@mulberryaws

If you have any specific questions regarding the transfer of school to the Mulberry Schools Trust, please email

clerk@mulberryschoolstrust.org



Right Result in the Performance

Year 9 boys put in a committed, disciplined performance and pushed the game right to the final whistle. The match stayed tight throughout, with the team staying organised, working hard for each other and refusing to drop their standards, even when the scoreline stayed against them.

They moved the ball well, tracked back when needed and showed real grit in the closing stages. Finishing one goal short told only part of the story. The attitude, effort and togetherness on display mattered far more.

The boys left the pitch disappointed but proud, knowing they matched their opponents and gave a strong account of themselves. That mindset will serve them well as they head into the next fixture.



Giving Back with FirstGive

We're excited to share that Year 9 students are starting the First Give Programme this term, with a strong focus on raising money for a chosen charity.

The First Give Programme encourages students to develop leadership, teamwork, and creativity while making a positive impact beyond the classroom. Throughout the term, students will plan and run fundraising activities, learning valuable skills such as problem-solving, communication, and social responsibility.

This is a fantastic opportunity for Year 9 to give back to the community, understand the importance of charitable work, and see how their efforts can make a real difference. We're proud of their enthusiasm and look forward to seeing the impact they create this term



Exploring the Wonders of Science

Year 8s have started the term with an exciting trip to the Science Museum. Students explored galleries on space, technology, engineering, and medical breakthroughs, enjoying time with their form groups. The visit aims to inspire the next generation of Mulberry scientists and innovators.



Building Skills, Building Futures

Construction Youth Trust delivered a hands-on workshop introducing students to careers in the construction and built environment sector.

Working in teams, students built a solid roof model, using measurement, problem-solving and teamwork to create a stable structure.

The practical task helped students see how technical skills link to real jobs and sparked interest in vocational pathways in a clear and engaging way.

We are turning
BLUE MONDAY into
BREW MONDAY!

19th January, 2026



Families welcome to join us in The Hub from 8:30am to 9:30am for an informal chat about our own and student wellbeing, and a cuppa.

UPCOMING NATIONAL DAYS SPRING TERM

JAN 17

POPCORN DAY

JAN 19

BREW MONDAY

JAN 29

NATIONAL PUZZLE DAY

FEB 14

VALENTINE'S DAY

FEB 17

INTERNATIONAL DAY
FOR WOMEN AND
GIRLS IN SCIENCE

MAR 5

WORLD BOOK
DAY

MAR 8

INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S DAY

MAR 14

PI DAY

MAR 21

WORLD
POETRY DAY

CULTURAL EVENTS



SPRING TERM



2026

**FEB
17**

Date may vary

**CHINESE NEW
YEAR**

**FEB MAR
17 - 18**

Dates may vary

RAMADAN

**MAR
03**

**BULGARIAN
LIBERATION DAY**

**MAR
04**

HOLI

**MAR
17**

**ST.
PATRICKS DAY**

**MAR
24**

NEWROZ

**APR
05**

EASTER

**APR
05**

ORTHODOX EASTER



Safeguarding

Encourage regular sleep and daily routines to protect your child's wellbeing. Knowing your child's schedule, bedtime, and activities helps you spot changes in behaviour or mood that could signal stress or unsafe situations. Supporting routines gives children stability, making them less vulnerable and more confident in managing everyday risks.

Getting enough sleep plays a big role in children's decision-making and mood. When children are tired, they struggle to concentrate, make sensible choices, and manage their emotions. Regular sleep helps them stay alert, think clearly, and respond calmly to challenges.

ATTENDANCE TOP TIP FOR PARENTS

TIME TO SHINE

The way we talk about school at home makes a difference. Speak positively about teachers, lessons, and learning. When children hear encouragement and optimism, they feel more motivated, confident, and keen to attend every day.

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING?



A worry is a concern. People you can talk to:



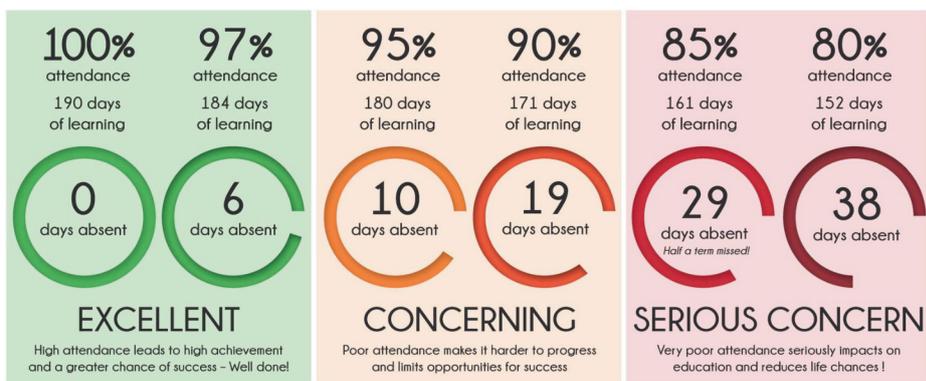
If you have any questions or concerns regarding SEN provision, please feel free to get in touch directly at jrees@mulberryschoolstrust.org

ATTENDANCE LADDER



ATTEND AND ACHIEVE

SCHOOL SUCCESS STARTS WITH SHOWING UP. EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS.



The Attend and Achieve approach to education at Woodside is rooted in the fact that school attendance is a significant determining factor in attainment outcomes and GCSE grades. Students with no absence are 2.2 times more likely to achieve 5+ GCSEs A*-C or equivalent.

Excellent attendance means being in school at least 97% of the time or at least 184 days.

UPCOMING

HOUSE COMPETITIONS



JAN

5TH

TUTOR TIME

**HOUSE TUTOR
QUIZ**

JAN

15TH

LUNCH

**BASKETBALL
SHOOTOUT**

JAN

22ND

LUNCH

**TIMES TABLE
QUIZ**

FEB

2ND

LUNCH

**TIME LOOP
CHALLENGE**

FEB

9TH

TUTOR TIME

**TEAM BUILDING
CHALLENGE**



Mulberry
Academy Woodside

CAREERS FAIR

4th March, 2026

9:10 am - 12:50 pm

We Need Your Help

We are running a Careers Fair for Year 9 students that aims to provide our students with various insights into the employment industry.

We would be honoured if you or your company could participate in this year's event scheduled for Wednesday 4th March 2026, from 9:10pm to 12:50 pm.

Our attendees for this event are keen to explore and engage with representatives from distinguished companies or professions like yours.

If you are interested in attending or if you have any questions about the event please do not hesitate to contact sozcan@mulberryschoolstrust.org

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STUDENT JOURNALS

EXPECTATIONS

For all students - checked daily by staff



YOUR JOURNAL MUST

Have your timetable displayed

Say "No HW" if no homework is set

Be brought to school every day

Have a trusted adult written in

Be free from graffiti or inappropriate markings

Have homework written in for every subject



IN LESSONS

Displayed in all lessons, including RR / Respite

Journal on your desk at the start of every lesson



TUTOR TIME

Journal checked daily

Homework checked

Journal signed weekly by a parent/carer



IF THERE IS A PROBLEM

Issue logged on Class Charts

Parents/carers informed

Repeated issues → Lunchtime detention

Not resolved → SLT detention

LOST OR DAMAGED JOURNAL?

Purchase a replacement from Student Reception

PRAISE POINTS FOR ACHIEVING EXPECTATIONS!



Your journal is a non-negotiable part of school equipment.



NEXT WEEK'S VALUES IN ACTION

BEING ON TIME AND ORGANISED

NEXT WEEK OUR VALUES FOCUS ON HOW TO GREET PEOPLE APROPRIATELY AND SPEAK POLITELY. YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD AT HOME BY:

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

CHILDREN COPY WHAT THEY SEE. USE POLITE LANGUAGE IN DAILY CONVERSATIONS, INCLUDING 'PLEASE', 'THANK YOU', AND 'EXCUSE ME'. SHOW CALM AND RESPECTFUL COMMUNICATION, EVEN IN BUSY OR STRESSFUL MOMENTS.

TEACH PROPER GREETINGS

ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILD TO MAKE EYE CONTACT, SMILE, AND USE CLEAR GREETINGS SUCH AS 'HELLO' OR 'GOOD MORNING'. PRACTISE GREETINGS WITH FAMILY MEMBERS SO THEY FEEL NATURAL AND CONFIDENT USING THEM IN SCHOOL AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY.

EXPLAIN WHY MANNERS MATTER

TALK WITH YOUR CHILD ABOUT HOW POLITE WORDS AND A FRIENDLY TONE HELP PEOPLE FEEL RESPECTED AND VALUED. HELP THEM SEE THAT GOOD MANNERS MAKE IT EASIER TO MAKE FRIENDS, ASK FOR HELP, AND RESOLVE PROBLEMS.

PRACTISE THROUGH ROLE PLAY

ACT OUT EVERYDAY SITUATIONS SUCH AS GREETING A TEACHER, SPEAKING TO A VISITOR, OR ASKING FOR HELP IN A SHOP. KEEP IT RELAXED AND SUPPORTIVE SO YOUR CHILD CAN PRACTISE WITHOUT PRESSURE.

PRAISE POLITE BEHAVIOUR

ACT OUT EVERYDAY SITUATIONS SUCH AS GREETING A TEACHER, SPEAKING TO A VISITOR, OR ASKING FOR HELP IN A SHOP. KEEP IT RELAXED AND SUPPORTIVE SO YOUR CHILD CAN PRACTISE WITHOUT PRESSURE.

