



Great Wood News May 2026



This month's value is Patience



We've been planting! – Any connections to source used ground coffee to keep slugs at bay welcome.



This Friday morning, we are hosting a Dyslexia information sharing workshop for parents. With increasing numbers of children being identified as having dyslexic tendencies, we are offering an opportunity for parents to learn what dyslexia is, how it affects children and strategies that can be used to support children with dyslexic tendencies. 9am- 10:30 in the school hall – We have sent out invites but all parents are welcome.



Please Welcome Mrs Sanabrias who will be covering Mrs Newton's maternity leave with 3HN until the end of the school year. Mrs Sanabrias is familiar to the children having covered the class a number of times to release Mrs Newton for her leadership role. Mrs Newton's last day with the class will be Thursday May 14th.

May 10th is the last day parents can purchase early-bird half-price Bouncy Castle wrist bands for the Summer Festival. The PTA and school have been listening to both parent and teacher feedback on the summer festival over the past few years. Comments on the cost of the bouncy castle and the fact the PTA do not get this money was a concern along with management of children when on the bouncy castles. Hardy's who will run the inflatables have done a site visit and risk assessment and have left the school with a good impression. The last day you can purchase Summer Festival wrist bands is May 22nd which will come round sooner than you think and no sales can be made beyond that date. We are looking forward to a fun filled Saturday!

You will have seen the PTA selling ice creams on sunny days. Could YOU help for one hour. Each session runs from set up at 3pm, selling 3.15/3.30- 4.00pm from the staff room



into the junior playground. Ideally 4 volunteers make it run smoothly. The PTA can explain what to do and if you're picking up kids they can be sent through the school to meet you. Just let us know if you're able to help the next few weeks to half term by Email pta@greatwood.lancs.sch.uk

Fundraising enables trips, visitors and extra resources. Everyone benefits greatly. The PTA welcomes other fundraising ideas and email as above or post a note in our letterbox (found in vestibule of office reception)



Congratulations to the GW Football Team. Coach Lamb was really pleased with their performance at the William Smith's Easter Field Competition at the Giant Axe – postponed from Easter due to bad weather - After knocking out the national finalists (Bolton-le-Sands) in the semifinal they lost narrowly (1 nil) to Dallas Road in the final.



Well done also, to both Infant football teams who competed at a local tournament . We sent two teams and they both won their groups and semi finals and met in the final. A huge thank you to Coach Vincent who has set up two clubs to manage the demand. Special congratulations to the Player of the Tournament (pictured.)



Parents – please make sure you gather at the listed pick-up locations for after school clubs – We have Sunset Club Childcare using the play space behind school we must maintain separation; therefore, parents are not allowed to go round the back of school and watch the football training. The timber trail is available for children to play on after school, however, children don't have permission to go beyond the path under the trees, onto the stage or on the field; we must keep the Sunset Club children who have access to the field separate. Thank you for your co-operation.

Please also cooperate with our No nuts products in packed lunches policy. We have 5 children in school with nut allergies. No Nutella, Peanut Butter etc. Safety First- Sorry.



Next week, Year 6 children will be sitting their SATs and we know all of them will do their best. With the assessments behind them they will be able to put a lot into other aspects of school, making the most of their last term at Great Wood; their end of year play and many activities are planned. Year 6 certainly showed resilience when their local walk coincided with wet and windy weather. Other years' walks are coming up – and the children will be using maps to plot their walks and make sense of how features are represented on maps. If you at home are travelling, or having a weekend walk we'd encourage referring to maps.



We are excited to be welcoming 60 children and their families to Great Wood soon as they prepare for reception in September 26. Our first open day for interested parents for September 27 is June 11th

Staff had training with a PE specialist recently. We reviewed all the health and safety rules and regulations and reflected on the implementation our ear-ring policy and access to PE lessons. Please make sure that your child can take out ear-rings and has somewhere to put them – simple studs only for school.

Some screen time can be really worthwhile. With David Attenborough reaching 100, his previous programmes are on BBC iPlayer, free to access. The initial Life on Earth Series is great family viewing for children with an interest in nature.

We had two messages from local residents regarding parking – see below. We appreciate this will be aimed at a small number of parents and thank everyone else for their considerate parking locally.

One resident wrote in – “There is a repeated problem with parents parking their cars on South Road. Please walk down yourself and see the damage that the parents of Greatwood School are creating. (the corner of Farnlea drive - where the bollards are) Every morning parents are lazy and instead of parking further down the road where there is ample road parking, they all park on the grass verge in the cul de sac which is now like a muddy race track and have completely ruined the grass.

The land is council owned and maintained by the council and after speaking to a representative of the Lancashire county council, I can confirm that although there are no parking restrictions eg yellow lines, IF the parking is damaging or obstructing (which it is both) then that could be classed as an offence and people fined. It is damaging and it is also causing an obstruction to people walking on the grass land.

It's also a safety concern. Children walk on the grass area and are having to dodge parents who are often racing to get the school run complete. I am on the verge of making an official complaint and feel that I am going to have to as even you do not have the power to stop parents parking in this manner.

Unfortunately parents come twice a day and park up for like 10 mins to drop off and pick up their children.

They drive away without a care in the world. We however as residents have to live with this every day, and it's sad to see an area of nature which is to be enjoyed by everyone, ruined by a handful of careless and inconsiderate drivers.

I have written polite notes previously asking them not to park in such a way, just to witness a parent "tear up" the letter and drive off. I don't understand why people don't care. I'm sure if I parked outside their house in this way and ran my tyres all over the grassland outside their house and ruined it they would feel differently. If you could communicate something to parents then that would be appreciated."



Another resident wrote – "Please see pictures below of the parking on Strickland Drive. I came home from the doctors to find that I couldn't enter my driveway. I had to park down the road and move my car after all the school traffic had left. I shouldn't have to do this. This isn't an isolated incident and happens frequently"

Diary Dates

May 26	
Thur 7 th	Y2 Walk from Half Moon Bay to School.
Fri 8 th – 9 to 10:30am	Dyslexia Workshop for Parents at School
11 th – 14 th	Y6 SATS
Mon 11 th	Governors – Finance & Premises
Tue 12 th	Y1 Lancaster Castle Trip – postponed to 30 th June
Wed 13 th	Y5 trip Ingleborough
Mon 18 th	Y6 Slave Trade visit to Lancaster
18 th – 22 nd	Finance Week
Tue 19 th	1LE Class Assembly Pm Y5 French at MBA
Wed 20 th	Y1 Walk to Torrisholme Barrows
Thur 21 st	3:30pm Parents in classrooms/look at books
Fri 22 nd	1LO Class Assembly
25 th – 29 th	School Closed
June 26	
From 1 st	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check Fortnight
Mon 8 th	Y6 trip to Buddhist Temple
w/c 8 th	Y1 Phonics Check Week (Y2 retakes too)
Early June	Y2 Assessment Period
Tues 9 th June	Y4 Arnside Knott Walk
Thurs 11 th	a.m. Opening Morning for 9/27 start
Fri 12 th June	Y3 Walk to Williamson Park
Mon 15 th	Y5 Brockhole trip
16 th & 23 rd	New Starters Play Morning
Tues 16 th 1:30	Infant Sports Day
Wed 17 th 9:15	Junior Sports Day
Sat June 20 th	PTA Summer Festival
Mon 22 nd	Y5 Trip to Brockhole
Tues 23 rd	Infant Sports Day Rain Plan
Wed 24 th	Junior Sports Day Rain Plan
Fri 26 th June	SCHOOL CLOSED - INSET
Tues 30 th	Y1 Lancaster Castle Trip
Thur 16 th July	Leavers' Assembly 2:00pm Last Day of School Year End at Normal time

Summer Activities at Great Wood

Enjoy a Ball Paul has will be running activity days on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of the first week of the Summer Holiday at Great Wood. He plans to offer more dates over the summer but they aren't finalised yet.

Community News and Support



C.H.A.T.S



CIC
Counselling Help, Advisory, Training, Support



Meeting dates Easter to Summer 2026

No April Social Café due to Easter holiday
 No April Connections Meeting due to Easter holiday
 Thursday 16th April - EBSA - 10am-1pm
 Emotionally Based School Avoidance
 Thursday 30th April - Zoom online meeting - 7pm-8.30pm

Friday 1st May - Social Café - 10am-12pm
 Thursday 14th May - Connections meeting - 10am-12pm
 Thursday 21st May - Workshop - 10am-1pm
 No May Zoom meeting due to half term holiday

Friday 5th June - Social Café - 10am-12pm
 Thursday 11th June - Connections meeting - 10am-12pm
 Thursday 18th June - Workshop (to be confirmed) - 10am-1pm
 Thursday 25th June - Zoom online meeting - 7pm-8.30pm

Friday 3rd July - Social Café - 10am-12pm
 Thursday 9th July - Connections meeting - 10am-12pm
Thursday 16th July - Connections Fair - 10am-1pm
 No July Zoom meeting due to summer holiday

Social Café, Connections meetings & Workshops are hosted at
More Music 13-17 Devonshire Road, Morecambe LA3 1QT

chatsnorthwest@gmail.com




Spaces are limited so please book your place by contacting us:

chatsnorthwest@gmail.com
 Rebecca - 07852297215
 Steph - 07494206371

 easyfundraising



SEND support GROUP

There will be no group in April,
 as we will be hosting the
 SEND Roadshow at Lune Park,
 on Wednesday 15th April 2026
 between 9.30am - 1pm

Dates for your diary...

Friday 1st May at Lune Park
1pm - 3pm

Friday 5th June at Lune Park
1pm - 3pm

Friday 10th July at Lune Park
1pm - 3pm







BREW & YOU



FEELING OVERWHELMED, ISOLATED, OR JUST IN NEED OF A CHAT WITH PEOPLE WHO GET IT?
YOU'RE NOT ALONE

WHY NOT JOIN US ON OUR WEEKLY VIRTUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP

EVERY WEDNESDAY 10:30-11:30AM

SELF LOVE CLUB

BE GENTLE WITH YOURSELF

WHETHER YOU'RE NAVIGATING YOUR OWN MENTAL HEALTH OR SUPPORTING A CHILD, PARTNER, OR LOVED ONE. THIS GROUP IS FOR ALL.

OUR SUPPORT GROUP IS A WARM, WELCOMING SPACE WHERE YOU CAN CONNECT WITH OTHERS WHO TRULY UNDERSTAND.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE ANY MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 01524 581280

Please email lancasterfamilyhub@lancashire.gov.uk or scan the qr code below



Lancashire County Council

FAMILY HUBS NETWORK

SAFE

COFFEE & CONNECT

Free refreshments
Toys available to keep your little ones entertained too.
Everyone welcome

A chance for people to drop in and connect with others in a warm and friendly environment.

Get practical advice on:

- Housing & Finance
- Employment
- Parenting Advice
- Emotional Health & Wellbeing
- SEND advice



every first thursday of the month

9:30am-11:30am

Lancashire SEND IAS

citizens advice

C.H.A.T.S

nct

hcrp

Lancashire County Council

LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

FAMILY HUBS NETWORK

BEST START IN LIFE

Morecambe Library
Central Dr. Morecambe LA4 5DI

Lancashire Fire

NHS


HELP ME GET READY FOR SCHOOL

Is your child starting school? Are you prepared?

Come along to our 3 sessions to support your child's journey into their primary education in a fun and interactive way.

THURSDAY 7TH, 14TH AND 21ST MAY
9:30-11AM
FIRBANK FAMILY HUB, FIRBANK ROAD, LA1 3HL

- Breakfast station with refreshments for everyone
- "Getting school ready" themed activities with prizes and freebies
- Advice, tips and guidance for being school ready
- Open for children with their parents/carers and have the opportunity to meet others you might be starting school with



SCHOOL

Lancashire County Council

C.H.A.T.S

Lancashire & South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust

ANXIETY

Is your child/young person struggling with anxiety?
Join our free workshop designed by parents, for parents

Gain a better understanding of what anxiety looks like, why it happens and how best to support your child/young person through it.

Time - 10am - 1pm Date - Thursday 21st May 2026

More Music - Devonshire Road, Morecambe LA3 1QT

Spaces are limited so please book your place by contacting us:
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Steph - 07494206371
chatsnorthwest@gmail.com

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