

**THEMES OF THE WEEK**

“Does it Add up? Year 8 Options”

“Being Successful and Achieving”

11th November 2016**PURSUE EXCELLENCE AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES**

Even with the dark mornings and evenings, our staff and pupils are still working hard to pursue excellence and seize the opportunities that are presented to them.

I would encourage your child to travel safely to school and ensure they follow the Highway Code. We have extensive bike racks and it is recommended your child travels in a high visibility jacket with a helmet. It is also important that families who are collecting their child by car use the front entrance, which is fully staffed. I would also ask that if you do need to use the Takely Rise entrance you are courteous and respectful of our neighbours, especially during busy periods.

We are very fortunate to have some outstanding teachers at Woodlands School and I know that the feedback from pupils is incredibly positive about their daily teaching and learning diet. Having recently led a number of tours for prospective Year 6 families, I can whole heartedly agree that we are very proud of the product we can offer pupils at Woodlands School. This has been endorsed by the 322 first choices we have for 300 pupils next year, credit must go to pupils and staff for creating such a positive environment to work in.

It has been a busy two weeks and I would like to highlight some excellent opportunities that have taken place:

- Year 10/11 pupils have completed their Nutrition practical exam.
- Year 9 pupils performed at the Shakespeare Festival at the Palace Theatre.
- PIXL conference for ‘Gaining access to Russell Group Universities’.
- Year 8 Pre-Options evening.
- Hosted a visit from Maltings Academy looking at outstanding practice.
- The West Ham United primary school football tournament.
- All teachers observed teaching in last 3 weeks.
- Hosted the ‘Online safety’ roadshow for 20 primary schools.

Continued.....

- Boccia tournament.
- Armistice Day commemoration.
- Year 9 STEM event at PRO CAT.
- Year 10 Art visit to the Tate Modern.
- Unbeaten Basketball, Rugby and Netball teams in Year 7/8/9.

A lot of a positives within the first two weeks after half term!!

It is a pleasure to work with your child every day and I am grateful for your support with our 4 Golden Rules; arrive on time, dress smartly, be respectful and work hard. I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming school event soon.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment.

‘The line of progress never goes straight.’

Kind regards

Simon Cox

First World War Commemorative Tree Planting

Stephen Metcalf MP helped with the commemorative tree planting ceremony that took place on Thursday 20th October 2016.

The tree was planted in memorial of a fallen soldier from the First World War.



Working with a REAL Artist!

This year at Woodlands we have been very fortunate to invite in an artist in residence.

Matt Markham, is a local artist who creates work along the theme of Pop Art, layering images in a billboard style to show our twenty four hour culture.

For the first six weeks, we have selected some Year 11 boys to work with Matt on a Thursday evening. The project he has planned for them will boost their GCSE coursework, as well as giving them a new skill set and the chance to see how a real artist works!

The boys have started fantastically well and are half way through their project with Matt and have shown great enthusiasm.

As teachers we are learning new techniques too. It's exciting to see the work the boys are creating and we are looking forward to seeing the final outcomes!



Heather Ash reporting.....



A thank you from the Creative Arts Fair:



*Enriching lives through
the arts*

Patrons: Sir Andrew Motion,
Richard Sorrell, RA., Mark
Wallinger

Dear Simon,

Thought I would drop you a line on behalf of the Foundation team, to thank you and all your staff for their substantial help in hosting our Careers Fair and for making such a success of this event last week.

Visiting schools were really impressed with the facilities you have at Woodlands and we were very grateful to have had access to some of those facilities last week. I realise Valerie Webb has visited already but wish to add my thanks as this, our second Careers Fair, appeared to go down even better with the schools, teachers and pupils alike. My understanding is that the paper puppets were all over Woodlands the next day and the school was buzzing about the Fair. UAL have indicated that their team felt the day had gone really well, and we are again grateful for all their hard work.

Pupils were asked to complete an on-line survey following the sessions and the result is very positive giving our team the reassurance that it was a job well done and worth repeating in some way going forward.

We have some ideas of how we may now take the initiative from these Careers Fairs with some of the older, more committed pupils, and visit UAL in person to facilitate their potential creative career decision making.

Until the next time we meet.

Kind regards

Trevor W Harwood
Trustee Director / Chair
T: 01277 218688 M: 07960 292212

W: www.tfca.org.uk Registered address: Wilkins Kennedy, 1 Nelson St, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 1EG UK Registered Charity No. 1146040

PSHRE

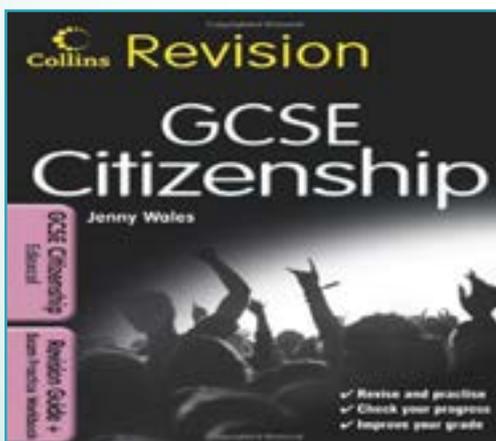
Lynsey Sturgeon reporting.....

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our recent Macmillan Coffee Mornings within PSHRE, the Grand Total raised was £301.45. A special thank you to the local business 'Cupcaketastic' who donated to us the delicious cupcakes in the photo. After Christmas, we will have a representative from Macmillan come into our assemblies and we will present them with the cheque. This follow up visit will also allow the pupils to hear in person from the charity in regards to the work that they do.



Also, on the note of charities, I would like to provide you with a little snippet of what Year 10 are currently doing (Year 9 pupils will participate in this after Christmas). Year 10 have just began their 'First Give' project. First Give is a unit of work where pupils will work in small teams within their class to tackle a social issue of their choosing. Pupils research a local charity involved with the issue, contact them, visit them (in their own time) to learn about the work they do and then produce a presentation about them. The best team from each class will go forward to a Year Group final evening and compete against other class teams to win a first prize of £1000 and a second and third prize of £250 each for their chosen charity. This is a great opportunity for pupils to gain many skills and win big prize money! The Year Group Final Evening for Year 10 will be held on the 31st January at 6.00pm in the Performance Hall, all parents/carers are welcome to attend.

In the next couple of weeks, Year 8 pupils will receive a taster lesson during their PSHRE lesson in GCSE Citizenship and GCSE RE. If pupils have any questions or queries about these options then please see Miss. Sturgeon (for Citizenship) and Mrs. Heckles (for RE).



All Year 11 Citizenship pupils will now have been supplied with their free revision guide, if anyone has slipped through the net and not received this then please do see Miss Sturgeon as soon as possible. Please do ensure that this is the Revision Guide that you use as it is this one which is written by the Examiner and that will give you the best insight into what to expect in the real exams in May.

The deadline for Year 11 pupils to enter their Employability for Life portfolios is fast approaching, please ensure that you are bringing in all of the evidence of your achievements over the next few weeks.

Finally, I would like to make pupils aware of a Rewards Trip for Citizenship which will be happening at the end of the next half term (February). Pupils will have the opportunity to be nominated by their teacher to attend the trip. Nominations will be based on progress, improved attitude and impressive homework. The trip will be to Parliament and will be completely free, pupils will have the opportunity to have a tour of Parliament, to speak with their local MP and to participate in an 'Election' workshop. To ensure that you are in with a chance just perform to the best of your ability at all times!

#PESO.

Progress in MFL - Looking To The Future!

Terry Curtis reporting.....

As we move into winter, it is important that we remind ourselves of the fabulous opportunities available to the pupils in MFL here at Woodlands:

- Year 7 are now securely embedded in their language learning and have recently completed their first assessment. Bravo! Gut gemacht!
- Years 8 and 9 have the opportunity to go to France in Summer 2017.
- Year 10 will be able to visit Berlin also in Summer 2017.
- Year 10 and 11 hyper-linguists have been invited by Mrs Grimshaw to Essex University for an Exotic Languages taster event. Parents and pupils have received an email copy of the invitation to try out Italian, Russian and/or Chinese.

Year 8 are to make their pre-options preferences over the coming weeks: most pupils will continue with German or French but there is the opportunity for some to take two languages, the second being Spanish! Taster sessions for this will take place in normal MFL lesson time with Mr Michelin and myself.

MFL Home Learning

Many thanks to the parents/carers and other adults who regularly support pupils with their home learning. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 have a task booklet for each of their modules and this has a clear focus on spellings, reading and grammar. This is also set through Show My Homework.

GCSE classes will have homework set on Show My Homework and are regularly supported by booklets in preparation for writing and speaking exams. Homework is set at least once weekly for each class and is designed to help pupils move from Year 6 through to success at GCSE.

Independent work is also a key indicator for where pupils are ready to springboard to the next level or maybe need a little more support. Without properly timetabled and supported home learning, success will be a stranger. It's a bit like practising for a sport when your coach isn't there. Can you do it without him or her? Will you always need someone to help you? When you are an adult in a job, people will be supportive – probably – but you will be accountable. Not your coach. A different language learning website for French and Spanish:

<http://legacy.language-gym.com/>

Give it a go! Email me your thoughts! Win a prize!

Finally...

...Halloween Competition Winner

Well done to all of those who completed entries for the last edition of WCN. The winner was Mr Michelin who has been awarded a cauldron of Haribo Scremix!



Overview

Year 7 - Starting a new topic of Meine Familie and Tiere (my family and pets).

Year 8 - Starting new topic Klassenfahrten (class trips).

Years 9 and 10 - Still continuing with school and looking at the new GCSE.

Year 11 - Revision for the PPE exam.

Wusstest du das?

The beginning of December is also the beginning of the traditional Christmas markets.

This is the Christmas market in Leipzig:



People meet to share Glühwein, Lebkuchen und Zuckerwatte.





Bruno Michelin reporting.....

I would like to start by congratulating all of the pupils in Year 11, who through their hard work and commitment last term, have managed to achieve a GCSE grade in their speaking assessment they can be proud of. This represents 15% of their overall GCSE mark and clearly is very important to their success. Many thanks also to the MFL team and support staff who ensured the pupils were well prepared for their exams.



In preparation for their next writing controlled assessment (PPE) pupils may want to try one of the following techniques:

Use mobile phone apps: **Memrise** (www.memrise.com) or **Duolingo** (www.duolingo.com)

Use mobile phone apps: **Voki** (<http://www.voki.com>)

Use flashcards or mind mapping.

Break down your work into short paragraphs.

Upcoming topics for this autumn term are as follows:-

Year	French - Theme/Topic	Spanish - Theme/Topic
7	Au college	
8	T'es branche(e)?	
9	Identity and culture	Local area, holiday and travel
10	Identity and culture	Local area, holiday and travel/school
11	Holidays	



Please be aware that your son/daughter has now been issued their pink homework for the Autumn term 2. This is designed to help both parents and pupils organise themselves well in advance.

In order for your son/daughter to continue making the progress expected, please ensure homework is delivered on time. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact myself or your child's teacher.

Login details are as follows:

<https://www.pearsonactivelearn.com/>
The password is welcome123

Village de Vacances Stella Maris - French Trip

Jo Ballard reporting.....

All Year 8 and 9 pupils who study French have been given information regarding a trip I am running to the Opal Coast in France, in July. This trip is an excellent opportunity to see the French language in its own context and to experience French culture first hand. We will be staying in the Stella Maris – Village de Vacances on the Opal Coast.



It's the perfect location to see the most of the area and is in a lovely town on the French coast. The benefits of such a trip from an educational point of view are many: linguistically it is an opportunity for our pupils to practise the language learned in the classroom which will help with fluency and confidence. Then there is a comprehensive programme of activities designed to enhance cultural awareness and familiarity with France and the French way of life.

We intend to visit several of the area's main attractions as well as spend time completing language activities to enhance confidence and the language learning experience. There will be lots of well planned activities including sightseeing, a visit to a theme park, a market trip, a snail farm, Étapes military cemetery and a sea life centre.

Places are still available – please contact Mrs Ballard, in the languages office, for more information.



Year 7 Enrichment

Patrick Shanahan reporting....

As mentioned earlier, it is great to see that Year 7 are now securely embedded in their language learning and have recently completed their first assessment. The pupils have completed their speaking assessment and are now in the process of completing their first listening assessment. It was very pleasing to hear a native speaker in our department say how well some of our Year 7 pupils did in their speaking assessments and this should hopefully continue to build their confidence in MFL.

It has been really nice to hear the different ways in which our department have been teaching our pupils in Year 7 and I personally have enjoyed using celebrities and famous cartoon characters to help our Year 7's, when they describe themselves or other people in French. In addition, I will be looking to either begin a French lunchtime club or for our able linguists who are showing real promise in languages, I will look to introduce an Italian lunchtime club.

Watch this space!!

Cordialement.



Katie D (8JGA) passed her 3rd brown belt with another 1st class pass on Saturday.

She has a clean sweep of 1st class passes in the 4 grades she has passed this year. It just goes to show that if you want it enough and you work hard you can achieve great things.

She now has a lot of work to do over the coming months as she starts studying for her black belt. Her instructor says to aim for about this time next year. Her karate is taught in Japanese and she is graded in 100% Japanese.

ANTI-BULLYING UPDATE

Kim Downton reporting....

As a parent/carer, we understand talking to your child about bullying can be a difficult subject to breach or even understand.

Please contact myself, Kim Downton Anti-Bullying Ambassador, via email kdo@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk or on 01268 282146 extension 153, or your child's Head of Year if you have any worries. The pupils can also contact myself via the Schools Anti-Bullying phone/text line and email which is advertised throughout the school.

Anti-Bullying Governor

Please note that the Safeguarding Governor (which incorporates Anti-Bullying) is Mr Terry Reynolds. Should you wish to raise any concerns with Mr Reynolds in the first instance, please contact Mrs J Fennelly on 01268 282146.

Also, take a look at the parents/carers guide on the Anti-Bullying pro website. This is full of lots of information and links to help support you and your child at home:-

<http://www.antibullyingpro.com/parentsguardians>

http://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/?_ga=1.215319006.890592710.1477994591

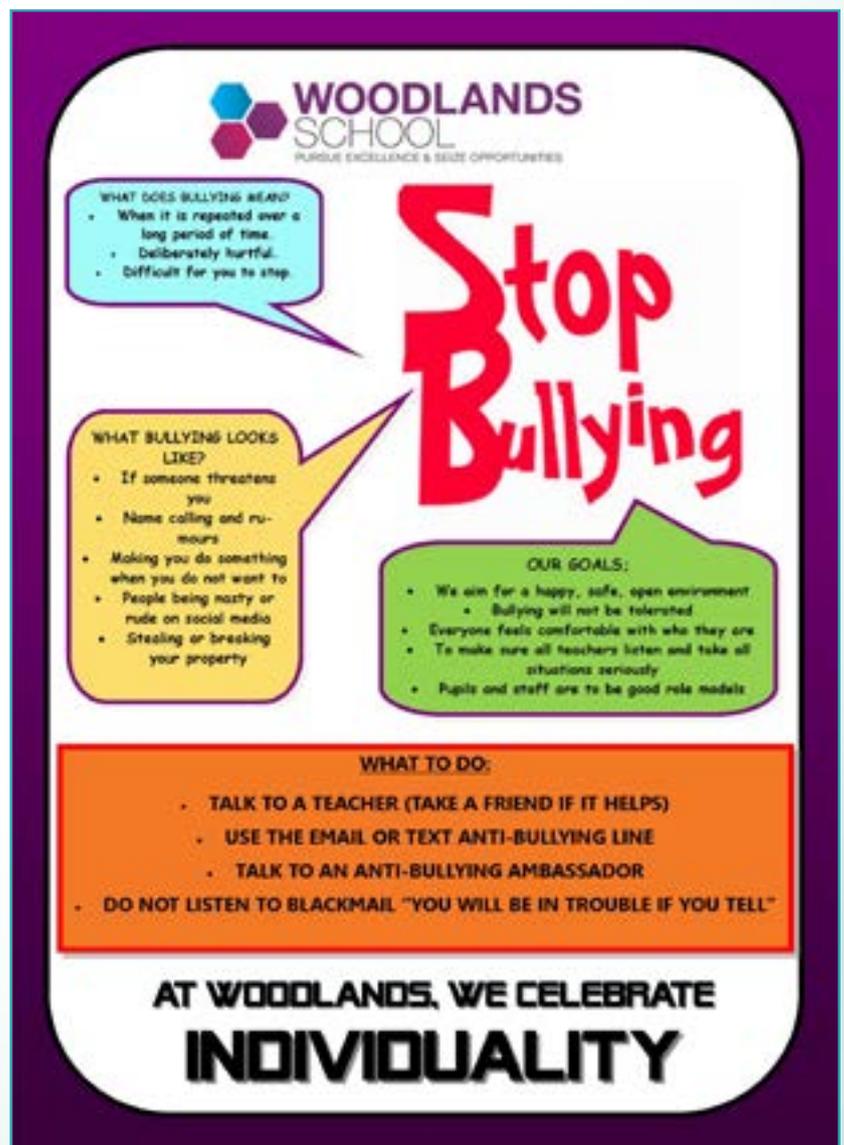


ANTI-BULLYING
TEXTLINE

07519 361717

IF YOU ARE A VICTIM OF, OR
A WITNESS TO BULLYING IN
WOODLANDS, TEXT US NOW FOR
HELP & SUPPORT

Woodlands operates a ZERO
TOLERANCE policy on bullying.



WOODLANDS
SCHOOL
PURSUE EXCELLENCE & SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

Stop Bullying

WHAT DOES BULLYING MEAN?

- When it is repeated over a long period of time.
- Deliberately hurtful.
- Difficult for you to stop.

WHAT BULLYING LOOKS LIKE?

- If someone threatens you
- Name calling and rumours
- Making you do something when you do not want to
- People being nasty or rude on social media
- Stealing or breaking your property

OUR GOALS:

- We aim for a happy, safe, open environment
 - Bullying will not be tolerated
- Everyone feels comfortable with who they are
- To make sure all teachers listen and take all situations seriously
- Pupils and staff are to be good role models

WHAT TO DO:

- TALK TO A TEACHER (TAKE A FRIEND IF IT HELPS)
- USE THE EMAIL OR TEXT ANTI-BULLYING LINE
 - TALK TO AN ANTI-BULLYING AMBASSADOR
- DO NOT LISTEN TO BLACKMAIL "YOU WILL BE IN TROUBLE IF YOU TELL"

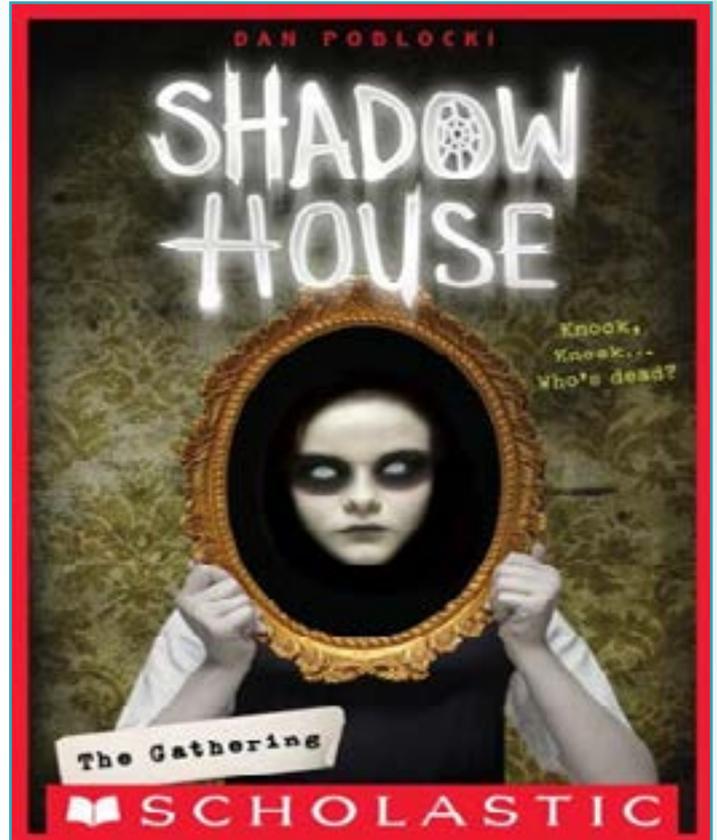
AT WOODLANDS, WE CELEBRATE
INDIVIDUALITY

Library Book Club

We would like to introduce ourselves, we are the Year 8 book club. We discuss which book we would like to read and our librarian, Mrs Knight, then orders our requested book. We meet every Wednesday from 3:00pm to 3:45pm to read and discuss our novel.

We decided to read Shadow House by Dan Poblocki to coincide with Halloween.

Shadow House is a horror story about five friends who enter a mysterious house for different reasons. A haunted house full of strange characters, magic and the supernatural.....who knows if they will ever escape?



Anya W. gave a brief description of chapter 16:-

'I loved chapter 16. It has a scary picture of 4 dolls that are broken and worn down. I enjoyed this chapter because I love scary things!'

There is an app for Shadow House that we have all played which we very much enjoyed and kept us engrossed in the story. The app gave us extra sentences and pictures; we got to choose a path to go on and read an extra extract from the story. The app was amazing because it linked with the story and gave us more detail, including what the pictures were about. Here are some pictures below:





**BENFLEET TEACHING
SCHOOL ALLIANCE**



**National College for
Teaching & Leadership**

Do you want to train to be a Teacher?

**Learn more about the teacher training opportunities available
through the Benfleet Teaching School Alliance.**

Our next Information and Recruitment Event is on:-

Monday 28th November 2016

10.00am until 1.00pm.

at

The Appleton School

Croft Road

Benfleet

Essex SS7 5RN

This event will include a short presentation about the various routes into teaching and how the teacher training programme works at BTSA, a chance to hear from trainees in this year's cohort and to ask any questions you may have. There will also be a tour of the school and opportunity to observe lessons.

The ITT Coordinator will be available to discuss the questions you may have regarding the application process, funding and bursaries.

To request a place at this event please email:

mhoward@theappletonschool.org

(Please state your subject specialism for secondary teaching)

MIDDAY ASSISTANT REQUIRED



1 HOUR PER DAY (5 DAYS PER WEEK)
TERM TIME ONLY
(+5 NON PUPIL DAYS)

£8.20 PER HOUR INC. OUTER FRINGE
PRO RATA'D.

TO APPLY PLEASE CONTACT:-

JAN FENNELLY HR MANAGER FOR AN APPLICATION
FORM ON 01268 282146.



Locker Hire 2016/17

We have now finalised our review of lockers and if you wish to purchase a locker for this academic year this can be found on ParentPay under Locker Fee 2016/17 or alternatively, please request a unique PayPoint letter from Finance.

Please remind children, padlocks should be kept on their lockers at all times to help ensure their personal possessions and belongings are kept safe.

If you have not purchased a locker then please refrain from using one.

Should you require any further information please contact the Finance Office.

ParentPay

Our aim is to become a cashless contact school and in order to achieve this we are requesting all parent/carers to activate their ParentPay accounts.

Going forward we will require all trips, music lessons and any other payments to be made on ParentPay to alleviate cash being brought into school. ParentPay offers you the freedom to make payments whenever and wherever you like, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week – safe in the knowledge that the technology used is of the highest internet security available. Thank you to all parents who have already activated their ParentPay accounts and have fully embraced the cashless concept.

We also offer the facility of a PayPoint letter, which is unique to each trip, music lesson etc... and a request for the relevant letter will need to be made to Finance for each individual service.

School Shop

Opening Hours:

Monday 8.30am - 12.30pm

Tuesday 8.30am - 12.30pm

Please adhere to these times unless otherwise advised.

Finance Office Request

Please note we no longer keep cash in the finance office, you will need to ensure you send your child(ren) in with the correct money.

Free School Meals

Are you currently receiving or could you be eligible for Free School Meals?

The school is now checking the eligibility of Free School Meals instead of Essex County Council, you can check your eligibility online at www.myfreeschoolmeals.firmstep.com and if you are eligible you will be given an immediate response.

Free School Meal allowance of £2.20 is only active during our lunch period and cannot be used throughout the day or carried over.



DIARY

Monday 14th November 2016

Anit-Bullying Week Monday 14th - Friday 18th November
Years 7, 8 & 9 Anti-Bullying Ambassadors attending the Anti-Bullying Conference at
Alexandra Palace

Tuesday 15th November 2016

District Cross County

Wednesday 16th November 2016

Year 8 & 9 pupils attending The Teenage Years Conference at Bromfords School
Year 10 & 11 Pupils attending Languages Taster Event at Essex University
GCSE Presentation Evening (Informal)

Thursday 17th November 2016

Year 10 Speak Out Challenge Workshop
Year 10 Work Experience Information Evening 6pm

Friday 18th November 2016

Year 10 University of East London Visit
Boxclever Performance of A Christmas Carol - Year 9 in the performance hall
Year 10 pupils visiting Prospect College

Saturday 19th November 2016

Year 9 Royal Institute STEM Workshop
Pupils attending 'Forget the Somme' Exhibition at Wat Tyler Park, Basildon

Saturday 26th November 2016

Watching international rugby match at Twickenham Rugby Stadium

DUTY PUPILS

To the following Year 8 pupils who have acted as Duty Pupils, thank you very much for all your hard work.

Esther D	Bryony D	Hilary E
Mille E	Sophie F	Sadie G
Joe G	Amiee G	Harley-Marie G
Daizy Mai H	Sofie H	Charlotte H
Jamie H	Halle H	David M
Mohamed M	Demi N	Evienne P
Archie R	Taylor S	Louie Y

FIXTURES

Saturday 12th November 2016
U12/13/14/16 Rugby v Latymer Upper School (a)
Football 1st V Plume School (h)
Monday 14th November 2016
Year 7 Girls Basketball v St John Payne Catholic School (a)
Tuesday 15th November 2016
District Cross Country at Sporting Village, Basildon 12.30pm start
Wednesday 16th November 2016
Year 7 A/B Rugby Union v FitzWimarc School (a)
Year 8 Rugby v FitzWimarc School (h)
Year 8 Netball v James Hornsby (a)
Year 8 Basketball v De La Salle (h)
Year 7 Netball v Chingford (a)
Thursday 17th November 2016
U14 Girls Basketball v Billericay (h)
U15 National Cup Rugby v Bancroft's (a)
Friday 18th November 2016
U16 Basketball v James Hornsby (h)
Year 7 Girls Basketball v James Hornsby (a)
Saturday 19th November 2016
Year 7 Senior Rugby v King John (a)
Year 8 Rugby v King John (h)
Year 9 v King John (h)
Senior Rugby v King John (a)
Sunday 20th November 2016
U14 Netball Regional Finals (a)
Monday 21st November 2016
Year 7 Boys Basketball v Eastwood (h)
U14 Netball v Sacred Heart (a)
Tuesday 22nd November 2016
Year 9 Boys Basketball v De La Salle (a)
Year 7 Netball v Robert Clack (h)
Wednesday 23rd November 2016
U14 Girls Basketball v St Martins (h)
Year 8/9 Indoor Athletics (a)
Year 10 Football v St Martins (h)
Thursday 24th November 2016
Year 7 Girls Basketball v Shenfield (h)
Friday 25th November 2016
Year 10/11 Boys Basketball v De La Salle (h)
U14 Girls Basketball v James Hornsby (a)
Saturday 26th November 2016
Year 7 - 11 Boys Rugby Trip 'England V Argentina'

Our new Woodlands School Sports Website:

<http://www.woodlandsschoolsport.co.uk/>



WOODLANDS
SCHOOL
PURSUE EXCELLENCE & SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

Pursue EXCELLENCE & Seize OPPORTUNITIES



For up-to-date information please visit our website: www.woodlandsschool.org and Schoop ID: 22047
or follow us on Twitter: @Woodlands_sch

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Tel: 01268 282146