



WOODLANDS

COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER

9th December 2016

THEMES OF THE WEEK

*"Reflect and Improve"**"New Beginnings"*

PURSUE EXCELLENCE AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

As I write the last Community Newsletter of the year, I reflect on what has been an amazing year for Woodlands School and the pupils who attend here every day. Your commitment and support plays a significant part in your child's success and staff are very grateful for the positive interactions we have with you and members of our community.

You will see we are holding our non uniform charity day Friday 16th December. We will finish at 12.00pm and the money raised will go towards the Mayor, David Harrison's nominated charity.

I felt it only right to recognise just a few of this year's achievements and allow everyone to look ahead to 2017 with pride and anticipation:

- Outstanding exam results in the summer exams - Top 20% of schools in the country for pupil progress.
- School record results in every category, including 38 pupils achieving 3 A*/A or more.
- Investors in People Award achieved.
- Sports Charter Mark/Arts Mark Gold/ISM Music Award/Anti Bullying status.
- Several Essex cup successes in various sports, including a significant amount of Basildon, Billericay and Wickford district titles.
- Runners up in the National Athletics final.
- Several individual champions, including Halle H at this weekend's British Gymnastics final and Maisie S in the English Trampoline final.
- An amazing summer production of Aladdin.
- 322 first choice applications for new Year 7.
- Excellent 'Once Upon a Time' production last week as well as 'Cirque du Freak' dance show.
- STEM club events at PROCAT.
- Joined by some more outstanding teachers.
- State of the art facilities with a fully inclusive curriculum.

Continued.....

These are just a few successes this year and I would like to thank you for being so supportive. 2016 has been very impressive and I hope that when we return on Thursday 5th January, the pupils will be focussed on pursuing excellence and seizing the opportunities presented to them.

I would like to wish you and your family a happy festive period and a happy New Year #PESO

Thank you for your continued support and commitment.

‘Be the best you can be.’

Kind regards,

Simon Cox



A thank you from David Fisher, one of our guests at ‘Once Upon A Time’ The Creative Arts Show on Thursday 1st December:-

From: David Fisher
Date: 2 December 2016 at 10:49:15 GMT
To: mto@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk
Cc: Simon Cox Headteacher <SCo@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk>
Subject: **Once Upon a Time**

Good Morning Martin

Thank you for the invitation to the Creative Arts Evening which I enjoyed immensely.

I would like to congratulate all the pupils for a fantastic show and for the hard work they had obviously put in to achieve the standard on display.

Clearly the performance would not have reached the heights it did without an immense contribution from the staff and I would like to thank them for the hard work and dedication to the pupils.

I would also like to comment on the script woven throughout the evening which was creative, original and funny and congratulations are in order for those involved.

Whilst under normal circumstances I wouldn't comment specifically on one student, because of my own musical background although a long time ago, I think the young lady that sang solo partway through the show is destined for great things if given the right guidance.

Best wishes

--

David Fisher
Governor and Vice Chair of the Finance Sub-Committee



Working with a REAL Artist!

Miss Ash reporting....



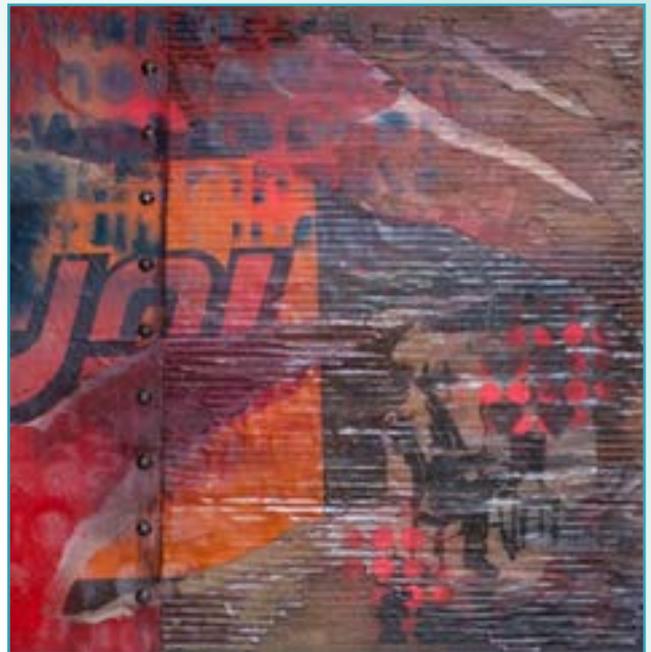
This year at Woodlands, we have been very fortunate to invite in an Artist in residence.

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 done fantastically well and have some exciting artworks they completed 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 how our Year 10 boys do next!





FOUNDATION



We have pleasure in hosting a Christmas Cracker Soccer School with West Ham United Foundation on Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd December 2016. The courses run between 9.00am – 3.00pm, with suggested arrival at 8.45am. We are keen for the courses to be accessible and of benefit to all Woodlands School pupils. As a result of this we have a fantastic offer for our pupils:-

***30% off all West Ham Foundation United Soccer Schools –
Discount code = WHUHUB***

As always, our Soccer Schools will be delivered by coaching staff that are FA qualified, DBS checked and trained in emergency first aid and child protection.

To find out more, or to book a place please visit:

<https://soccerschools.whufc.com/index.htm>

Luke Hirst reporting.....



CONSTRUCTION



Trevor Cain reporting.....

Construction pupils had the amazing opportunity to spend a half day at Prospects College of Advanced Technology (PROCAT). They each had to wire up a light and switch circuit, as well as compete in a plumbing exercise.

Pupils also had the chance to speak with a careers adviser to discuss their options and to find out what the college expected from the pupils.





Congratulations!



On Saturday we received some unbelievable news. Halle H was crowned Great British Gymnastic Champion. Not only this, but she qualified for all four individual finals (beam, floor, vault and bars). With a foot injury, Halle walked away with a gold on the beam and silver on the floor. This is a huge achievement, especially competing against girls who were the year above her.

On the day, Halle was watched closely by Amanda Reddin who is the Head National Coach for GB/Olympic selector...Tokyo 2020 is firmly on the cards!



Congratulations Maisie S, who competed at the weekend for Woodlands at the National Schools Trampolining Competition.

Maisie performed incredibly well and finished second overall. This means Maisie has qualified for the regional finals in February. Well done and good luck in the next round!

Jon Bonnett reporting.....



District Football



Year 9 team have picked up two excellent away wins in the district league since half term against schools they had lost to last year.

They beat James Hornsby 6 v 0 (Liam G x 2, Mitchell M, Kofi E x 2, Michael B) and Billericay 4 v 2 (Mitchell M, TJ H, Cameron E and Liam G).

Cup Competitions

Year 10 team has now progressed into the 4th round of the National Cup, with a number of impressive performances over St John's Catholic Comprehensive School, St Gregory's School and Harris Academy Beckenham. Next up is Bishop Stortford High School away on Thursday 8th December.

Year 10 team have also made the 3rd round of the Essex Cup with a superb 3 v 0 victory over St Martins School, who had made the Essex Cup final in the last two years. Goals from Morgan B and Ralphie C (x 2) secured the victory. They are now away to Hall Mead in the third round on Monday 12th December.

EPD Success

Congratulations to EPD Footballer Koby Y (Year 8) who has recently signed a one year contract for Southend United. This is the second EPD footballer to sign for a professional football club since September.



Billy Manners reporting.....



NETBALL

Hayley Clarke reporting.....

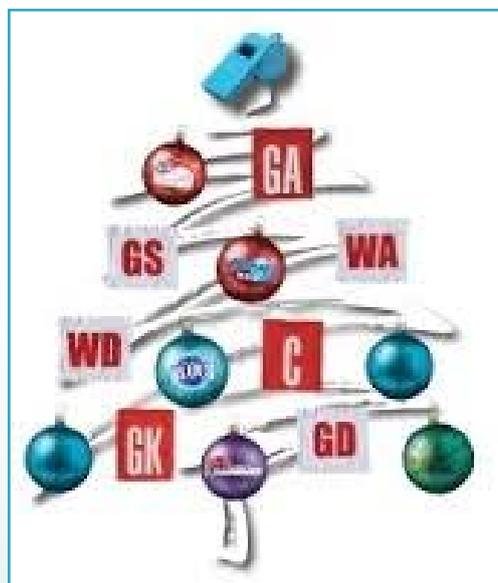
The Year 7 Netball team have had some fantastic successes so far this term. They have played two of their matches in the group stages of the Essex Cup and won them both. Their first match was against Chingford, with a fantastic win of 30-2. Stevielee H scored some fantastic goals alongside Chloe D. Paige S also made some great interceptions during the game to regain us possession ready to go on the attack again.



The under 14's Netball girls have also had a very successful term, having won both rounds of the Essex Cup. They are now through to the last sixteen and face Southend High School in the upcoming week. In the first round the girls faced St.Claire's B Team and won by a tremendous amount of goals. The squad then went on to face Sacred Hart School in the second round with another fantastic win. Ellie H and Amelia M were on point with their shooting and demonstrated some fantastic netball around the circle. Holly M and Holly H performed some phenomenal interceptions to regain possession of the ball. The girls recently played in the county round for the National Schools Cup and narrowly missed out a place in the semi-final. Leaving them to finish in 3rd place. Bayley B performance throughout the competition was incredible, she was a great asset to the team.

In the Districts rounds, Year 8 and 9 teams are currently undefeated but still face Beauchamp's and Mayflower after the Christmas break. Overall, the girls have showed amazing commitment and dedication to their Netball and the progress they have made is exceptional.

The under 16's have had a mixed start to the District League, with some brilliant wins and some very close losses. Olivia F and Jade K have shown great dedication to the team as their shooting accuracy has been impressive throughout the matches. The squad have recently beaten Westcliff High School in the second round of the Essex Cup and are looking forward to continuing their success in the competition.



SENIOR RUGBY BREAKING NEW GROUND.....

Alex Lee reporting.....

In what has been an extremely successful term for the senior rugby squads, we can now take stock on the progress that the boys involved in the programme have made. There has been blood, sweat and who knows even a few tears in training but this hard work has been rewarded with a string of positive results. However, more importantly a brand of rugby that is physical in defence and positive in attack and where everybody works hard for each other.



The U15 squad have progressed the furthest the school has ever achieved in the National NatWest Vase. With some notable grammar school and independent school scalps along the way. This run was unfortunately ended by King John in the 4th round, which was in fact a County Cup double header so they now need to focus on the District Cup and Sevens season after the Christmas break.

The U16 squad have an Essex Cup fixture against William Edwards on the 13th December, which if victorious will see them in the quarter finals.

The most pleasing aspect of the term has been the emergence of the senior squad for Saturday fixtures and the way the players have sacrificed outside commitments to be a part of this. They are unbeaten in Saturday fixtures and with some big games after Christmas in our Saturday fixture card, I can't wait to see the positive performances continue.

The way the squads have bought into the new programme has been great. But remember to keep working hard on your fitness over the Christmas break and ready to work hard on our return in the New Year.



Senior Rugby Programme performers in term 1:-

Victor C, Jake G, Alfie F, Kurtlan E, Theo SR, Charlie H, Oliver S, Tyler P, Ellis L, Luke O, Jordan B, Alex E, Kuhle N, Clement W, Matt F, Alfie OT, Tommy R, Finley RC, Frank W, Georgie A, Taylor P, Tom J, Sean O, Flynn D, Daniel C, Jack R, Ethan R, Emanuel I, Henry M, Thomas C, Will HD, Josh P, Jack P, Christian N, Adrian D, Jake T.



Evening of Creative Arts

On Thursday 1st December, Woodlands Music Department joined forces with the Drama and Art Departments to celebrate the beginning of the festive season in true Creative Arts spirit. Pupils with a passion for music and drama were asked to put together a handful of performances based on our theme this year, Once Upon A Time.

It was a fantastic evening, full of excellent musical and dramatic contributions, and showcased some of the amazing talent we have here at Woodlands School.

Above: Shout Out Loud Choir performing 'I See the Light' from the Disney Classic, Tangled with Mrs Brown.



Once Upon A Time

Opening the evening with a crash, bang, and wallop was our KS4 Band, who performed a fabulous arrangement of Love Story by Taylor Swift. Featuring silky tones from Emily C on vocals, a thumping rhythm section from Brandon O and Rodney DJ, lezer V shredding the guitar and our very own Mr Turner tinkling the ivories, this performance definitely grabbed our audience's attention from the very start!

The world of Fairytales was lampooned by a courageous bunch of Year 9 performers, who showed what the world of Cinderella would be like in the world of speed dating. Well done to Lauren S, Sean O, Hermione J, Ellie OF, Chloe C, Chloe L, Luke W and also to Ivy S and Billy G for stepping in the day before the performance.

continued.....

Our next musical performance was by the fantastic Jaianna E, who wowed the audience with a stunning performance of 'Somewhere In Time' on the piano. The skill and accuracy that Jaianna performed with was an impressive feat for a pupil of Year 9. A beautiful piece played beautifully!



Next up, was a tear-jerking performance of 'I See The Light' from our Shout Out Loud Choir, faithfully led by Mrs. Brown and Miss Burdett. The sheer enthusiasm of our pupils rang through the performance hall.

A special guest was invited to talk about his hatred for all things magical, and looked mysteriously like Donald Trump. His wonderful orange glow got the audience laughing and showed how Year 10 pupils could link politics and fairytales to a satirical and clever performance. Joseph T, Krisdeana R, Paige F, Isobel T, Josh L and Vinnie B, you did Woodlands School proud.

We were also treated to a trio of energetic performers in the guise of Megan C, Megan B and Chloe H. Their performance took a dark twist when they explored the character of "Drizella" the sister of Cinderella. The girls linked comedy with physical and abstract theatre with great ease and should be commended on their efforts within lessons and after school to achieve this slick performance.

Up next, our brand new Acapella/Pop Choir performed 'The Cups Song' and pitched it just perfectly. It was great to see so many of our younger pupils performing with confidence and presence on a stage in front of parents, friends and family.



Paris L performed a bluesy/jazzy arrangement of the slightly more unknown 'Fairytale' by Sara Barellies. This lyrically sassy number is a tough song choice and Paris excelled in her performance, especially considering the fact she's only in Year 8. Her vocals blew the audience away, and the music department looks forward to hearing much more from this pupil in the future.

Year 11 pupils poked fun at the structure of fairytales and how they do not meet the expectations of the real world. Brandon O, Ashish H, Isabelle M, Caysie F, Rachel A, Rhys S, Josh C and Daniel L used satire to highlight social issues and expectations to a backdrop of comedy and energy.

Closing the evening, we had three Year 7 pupils perform 'Naughty' from Matilda The Musical. These audacious young pupils performed wonderfully with a sparkle in their eye and impressed the audience with the confidence and moxie. They also proved to be true professionals when experiencing a technical hitch, continuing to perform to the best of their abilities!

We had a great time showcasing some of the talent we have here at Woodlands School, and the pupils relished the opportunity to show parents, family and friends how much hard work had gone in to their performances. We look forward to the next show and hope to see some of your familiar faces there in support again! Merry Christmas!



"Music is a world within itself, with a language we all understand."

Stevie Wonder

Danni Gooch reporting.....

Christmas Dinner



Christmas Dinner £3.50

**Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th
December**



Roasted Turkey with gravy.

Traditional stuffing, pigs in blankets, carrots, brussels and roast potatoes.

Christmas pudding or chocolate log, mince pies and a festival cracker.

Vegetarian option: nut roast with a sweet sauce.



End of Term Arrangements

Seddeer Amran reporting



We aim to ensure all pupils are fully engaged in their learning, right up to the end of term with subject lessons being taught. Therefore, pupils' attendance is essential to ensure they do not miss out on important learning experiences. To reward pupil attendance and engagement during the last week of term, pupils experience 'VIVO Double Bubble Week'. All staff will be issued with double their weekly VIVO allocation that needs to be rewarded to pupils. Attendance will have a high priority during this week, ensuring pupils are automatically rewarded for 100% attendance each day.

On the last day of term, Friday 16th December, the school will hold a "Christmas VIVO give away" themed event with the Senior Leadership Team and Heads of Year issuing VIVO credit bundles for those pupils "caught doing the right thing" during school climate walks.

Also on the Friday, we will be holding a non-uniform day, with the intention of raising money for this year's nominated charity, Wagtail Children's Ward. If pupils choose to support this charity, they may wear non uniform and donate £1.00, which will be collected from them during their end of term year team celebration assembly. During these assemblies, pupils will receive a short presentation from Jerusha, Head of Childrens Nursing, from Wagtail Children's Ward, explaining the importance of the charity and the amazing work they do. Heads of Year will also use these assemblies to celebrate their year group's achievements of this term: issuing attendance badges, VIVO certificates, sharing sporting reports, watching pupil performances etc.

To ensure that all year groups are able to have their assembly, we have amended the school timetable ensuring all activities and lessons are completed by 12.00pm. Please see the timetable below:

Start of day:	8.40am ready for Tutor at 8.45am
Period 1	9.00am (Year 11 assembly in Performance Hall)
Period 2	9.30am (Year 8 assembly in Performance Hall)
Period 3	10.00am (Year 9 assembly in Performance Hall)
Break	10.30am-11.00am (packed lunches are available for pupils entitled to free school meals).
Period 4	11.00am-11.30am (Year 10 assembly in Performance Hall)
Period 5	11.30am-12.00pm (Year 7 assembly in Performance Hall)

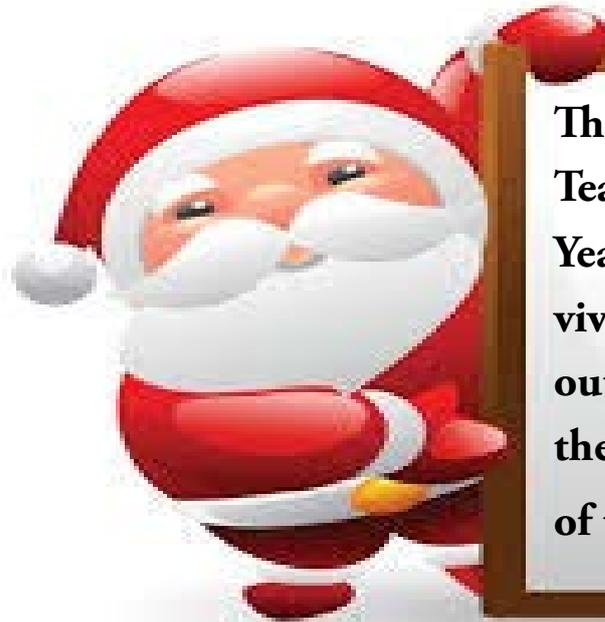
When pupils are not attending their year group assembly they must attend their normal lessons and follow the timetable above.



Christmas



giveaway



The Senior Leadership Team and Heads of Year will be issuing 20 vivo credit bundles to outstanding pupils on the last day of term.



Designed by: Haydn 2



DEL. ITS DOUBLE BUBBLE VIVO CREDITS WEEK ON THE LAST WEEK OF TERM

LOVELY JUBBLY!

ALL WOODLANDS STAFF WILL BE ISSUING DOUBLE THE NORMAL VIVO POINTS DURING THE LAST WEEK OF TERM!

DON'T MISS OUT!!



Thank you



Lisa Hendy reporting.....

A very successful week was had by the Year 11's doing their second round of PPE's. Pupils took the time to use this advantage to know what they are confident with within their studies. It has also helped them with understanding what they need to revise for ready for the next session which is in February 2017.

I want to thank the pupils for the maturity that was shown whilst doing the exams. Until the next time...**KEEP WORKING HARD AND REVISING!**

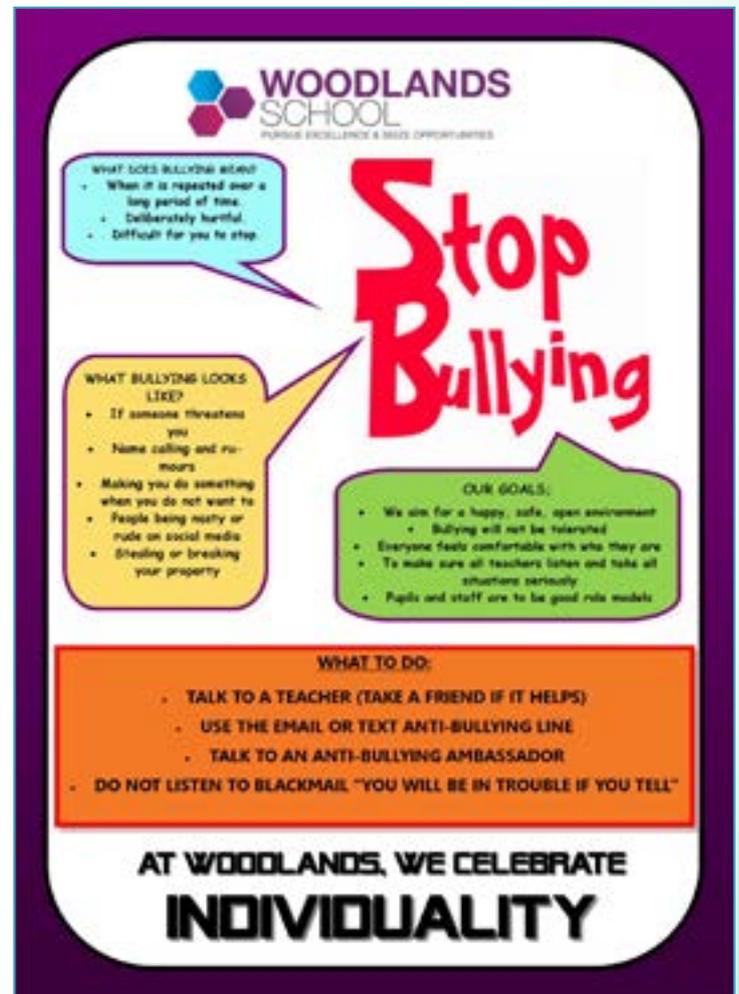


ANTI-BULLYING
TEXTLINE

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
PUPILS EXCELLENCE & BEST OPPORTUNITIES

Stop Bullying

WHAT DOES BULLYING MEAN?

- When it is repeated over a long period of time
- Deliberately harmful
- 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



Locker Hire 2016/17

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 pupils, 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.

Contents of lockers which were emptied out during October half term will be disposed of on the last day of this term, 16th December 2016, so any items not collected by this date will be discarded.

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



Saturday 10th December 2016

Fifteen Year 7 & 8 pupils going to England Netball International Workshop 2.00pm

Monday 12th December 2016

Parent Ski Meeting 6.00pm

Tuesday 13th December 2016

Ten Year 7 - 11 pupils performance at St Luke's Hospice 1.00pm

Christmas Lunch 1.20pm - 2.00pm

Year 11 Riverside Ice Skating Trip 5.30pm

Wednesday 14th December 2016

Christmas Lunch 1.20pm - 2.00pm

Friday 16th December 2016

Non-Uniform Day School Closes 12.20pm

Monday 19th December 2016 - Thursday 5th January 2017

Christmas Holidays

Monday 9th January 2017

John Macavoy visit

Wednesday 11th January 2017

Sixteen Year 10 pupils going to 'Getting into Top Universities' Studen Conference

Thursday 12th January 2017

Year 7 Consultation Evening 3.30pm

Friday 13th January 2017

Sports Science Exam 2.00pm

DUTY PUPILS

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

Bobbi R

Abigail S

Grace S

Carlos V

Edward W

Jamal A

Sonny B

Shaun R

Hollie-Anne S

Tyler SR

Peter W

Mouna A

Craig B

Joe C

Jay S

Tyler S

Nicole T

Hubert W

Kane A

Owen B





FIXTURES

Monday 12th December 2016

Year 10 Essex Cup Football v Hall Mead School (a)

Year 9 Essex Cup Netball v Southend (h)

Tuesday 13th December 2016

Year 8 Girls Essex Cup Basketball v Mayflower High School (h)

Year 11 Essex Cup Rugby v Williams Edwards (h)

Year 7 Football v William De Ferrers (a)

Wednesday 14th December 2016

Year 8 Essex Rugby Tournament @ Barking Rugby Club

Lee Valley Indoor Athletics Cup Final (a)

Year 9 Boys Basketball v Appleton (a)

Thursday 15th December 2016

Year 9 Boys Basketball v Great Baddow High School (h)

Wednesday 11th January 2017

Year 7 Rugby v Sweyne Park School (a)

Saturday 14th January 2017

Year 7, 8 and 9 Rugby v The Boswells School (a)

Our new Woodlands School Sports Website:
<http://www.woodlandsschoolsport.co.uk/>





WOODLANDS
SCHOOL
PURSUE EXCELLENCE & SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

Pursue
EXCELLENCE
& Seize
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WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY
MERRY CHRISTMAS



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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