

**THEMES OF THE WEEK***“Community and Citizenship”**“World Book Week”*

10th February 2017

**PURSUE EXCELLENCE AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES**

Another busy half term has been and gone, giving us the chance to look forward to another exciting half term, as well as much anticipated rise in temperature!

Our young people have been incredibly busy over the last few weeks and as always, staff are committed to giving them access to some amazing opportunities:

- STEMMETTES trip to Ford Dunton
- Citizenship visit to the Houses of Parliament
- Meeting some inspirational guests (John McAvoy, Kriss Akabusi, Richie Gray)
- Attending the ‘Getting into Top University’ conference
- Boccia tournaments for SEND pupils
- Today’s ski trip to Italy!
- Essex Cross Country Championships
- GCSE Science Live trip to Apollo theatre
- Dads and Lads reading

- Nine sports teams in to Essex cup Semi-finals (to date!)
- Holiday Interventions
- Breakfast Club
- MENSA testing
- Walking Talking Mocks for Year 11
- Auditions for ‘Little Shop of Horrors’
- HPQ /Loudspeakers

I am always amazed at what opportunities our staff are able to offer the pupils and I am delighted with how eager these young people are to seize what is put in front of them at Woodlands. Please continue to encourage your young person to attend at least one club per week to enrich their Woodlands experience.

Included in today’s community newsletter is the feedback from the Year 11 Consultation Evening. There are so many positives to take from this feedback, especially the corporate willingness amongst our Year 11 pupils to achieve great things! Thank you to our families for your ongoing support and we will look to act upon the feedback offered.

*continued.....*

Thank you for your continued support and I hope that you and your family enjoy a safe and restful break.

***‘Champions keep going until they get it right.’***

Kind regards,

Simon Cox



*Kim Downton reporting.....*

I just wanted to say a massive congratulations to our fantastic Anti-Bullying Ambassadors for their donation to The Diana Award. They were so pleased to hear that we had taken time to support them. The donation will contribute to the transformative experience The Diana Award Anti-Bullying Campaign has on the victims, bystanders and perpetrators of bullying.

Well done team!!

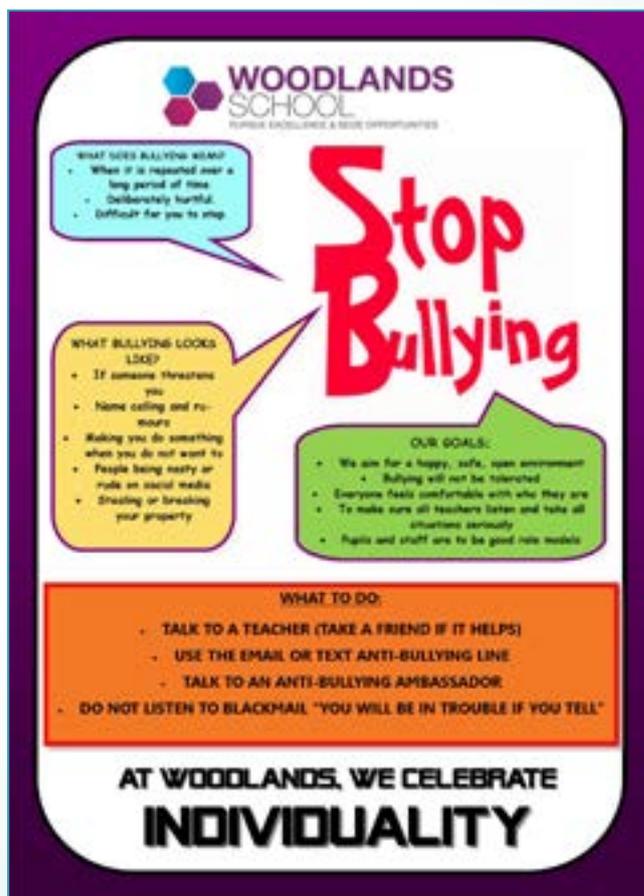


**ANTI-BULLYING  
TEXTLINE**

**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**  
FOR THE EXCELLENCE & WELL-BEING OF ALL

**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**

## District Swimming

Leigh Cann reporting.....

Congratulations to the following pupils who won medals at District Swimming Gala.

Year 7 – Matthew H 3rd place in backstroke.

Year 8 – Ben C 3rd place in backstroke and Libby P 3rd place in backstroke.

Year 9 – Matt F 3rd place in front crawl and Amelia Mathieson 3rd place in butterfly.

Well done to all of the swimmers that represented the school!!



## Essex County Indoor Athletics Championships

A group of athletes travelled to Lee Valley indoor athletics centre to compete in the Essex and Eastern Championship. They were competing against club athletes from across Essex and the East of England.

There were many fantastic performances including :-

Year 7      Paige S – Essex and Eastern Champion in long jump and 60m hurdles.  
              Carlie D – 2nd place Essex and Eastern in long jump and 60m hurdles.  
              Charley H – 3rd place Essex and Eastern in 60m hurdles.  
              Charlie H – 2nd place shot Essex and Eastern Champs.  
              Henry F - Essex and Eastern Champion in 60m hurdles, 2nd place in long jump and 3rd place in 60m.  
              Harry O – 2nd place 60m sprint, 3rd place long jump and 60m hurdles.

Year 8      Frank W – 2nd place shot putt.

Well done to all that competed, a great start to the athletics season.



## Cross Country

Daizy Mai H is representing Essex in an intercounties cross country match against Surrey, Hampshire, Kent and Sussex. Well done.





## Trampolining

A huge congratulations to Maisie S who finished 3rd in the Midland Zonal Trampolining championships. This means she has now qualified for the National finals which take place in March.

Fantastic performance Maisie, well done.



## Netball

Hayley Clarke reporting.....

The Netball girls have worked exceptionally well this term and have faced tough and challenging matches.

The U16 girls faced St. Marks in the quarter final of the Essex Cup on Monday. The match was tight at the beginning with both teams scoring off their own centre passes. Holly H and Ellie C made some fantastic interceptions out on court which turned the ball over and regained us the possession. Olivia F and Jade K did a fantastic job at putting the shots away in the net. However, as the game went on St. Marks were able to pull away and the first quarter finished 13-6.

In the second and third quarter the girls started to pull back the goals with some fantastic movement on court from Amelia M and Katie P. Katie was accurate and quick with her passes which helped with the feeding into the circle. Once again the two girls shooting put their shots away with no hesitation. At one stage in the third quarter there were three goals in it, St. Marks on 21 and Woodlands on 18.

The girls went into the fourth quarter knowing they had a tough job ahead of them. They fought right through until the end. Lyanda W worked hard for rebounds and blocking the shooter out the circle but unfortunately they were able to pull away and the final score ended with St. Marks winning 40 goals to 30. A great team effort from all the girls, well done.

Year 7 boys rugby team remain unbeaten this season.



## Rugby

Jon Bonnett reporting.....

It has been an extremely successful season so far for the Year 7 Rugby team. On five occasions, we have fielded two teams and in one game we had three teams of boys representing the school which is a fantastic achievement. The boys won the local Rugby festival at Basildon RFC earlier in the year and have played a number of Saturday fixtures against tough local opposition. So far, A team have played 7, won 6 and drew 1 but the amazing stats are the fact we have scored 305 points and only conceded 39. This shows what a brilliant defence we have, which is becoming quite a Woodlands tradition running through all of our teams this year. In particular, our Year 9 and Year 11 teams who have both qualified for the Essex Cup Semi-finals, congratulations to both of these squads.

After half term the Year 7 squad have lots to play for. The Essex festival has been rearranged for Thursday 23rd February 2017, all district league games, playing in their first 7s competition and one more Saturday fixture. It will be a very busy half term but certainly an exciting one for the boys. Good luck to everyone who represents the school!

Year 9 Rugby team made the Essex Cup Semi-final. After last year's unbelievable season winning the Essex Plate competition, I wasn't sure how we would fair stepping up against the top sixteen schools in the county. However, the boys have worked extremely hard in training in preparation for our group games, and the hard work paid off which resulted us winning the group setting up a quarter final game against New Hall School. Last week, the boys put on a defensive masterclass against New Hall School. Frank W and Georgie A led from the front and put in some huge hits to knock New Hall School back. The game was very even and with the score at 5-5 with the last play of game in their 22 we knew something special had to happen. Richard O delivered an amazing solo effort and we scored under the post and Tom J put the extra two over. The referee blew his whistle and Woodlands were through to the Essex Cup semi-finals (top four schools in the county).

The boys have lots to play for after the half term: Coopers/Davenant in the Essex Cup Semi-Final, Essex 7s comp, Brentwood 7s and the remaining district games. On a separate note, at the start of the year Tom J and Matt F were selected for the Essex squad which is a great achievement. However, Georgie A, Frank W and Finley R-C have all been called up to the Essex U14 squad on the basis of their performances for Woodlands in the Essex Cup. This is a brilliant accomplishment and great for the school having five county players in one team. Well done boys!

# Senior Rugby power into County Semi Final.....

Alex Lee reporting.....

The Senior Rugby squad have made the Essex Rugby semi final where they will face New Hall School for a place in the County Final.

Having beaten a tough William Edwards side 27-14 in the second round, who had two Saracens EPDG players and a Essex DPP player in their ranks, the squad were drawn against Coopers Coborn School in the quarter final who are a traditional powerhouse of schools rugby within the County. Having trained really well leading up to the game the boys travelled to the game in good spirits and with a real determination that this would be a successful journey.

Having met with ex pupil and Woodlands Rugby stalwart Danny C before the game they knew what it meant to our former pupils to have Rugby success in their school careers. During the warm up the coaches could tell that this was a game we were in the right frame of mind for and was there for the taking.

Woodlands started the game in fine form with an early try and touchline conversion from Tom C (his only conversion of the day!!) and after a short period midway through the half where we lost some intensity in defence the game was totally controlled by our team. In fact when the conditions started to deteriorate we stepped up to another level and finished the game 27-3 winners. The most pleasing thing after the game was that the team led by captain Emmanuel I were talking about the hard work beginning for the semi-final and the desire to continue this journey.

We under no illusions that the next challenge is a massive one but will continue to follow the mantra for the squad of '**No Regrets**'.



The semi-final will be at home so we look forward to a large vocal support to push the squad on.

Senior Rugby Essex Cup Squad:

Jack R, Flynn D, Victor C, Daniel C, Ehtan R, Joe C, Tyler P, Emanuel I (capt), Henry M, Thomas C (v.capt), Will H-D (v.capt), Josh P, Alex E, Kuhle N, Jake T, Jack P, Ryan B, Christian N, Clement W, Adrian D.



# Basketball

James Gardner reporting.....

It has been a busy basketball season here at Woodlands with over sixty fixtures being played since October half term across the District, Essex Cup, National Cup and the Junior London NBA competitions. Training sessions have been on every morning, lunch time and after school which has involved over one hundred pupils working hard for their place on the basketball teams.

## Year 7 Boys

With over thirty different boys regularly attending the Year 7 sessions, the great competition at training has allowed the Year 7 boys to succeed and have a very successful season. The boys went unbeaten in the District with seven wins and have progressed to the Essex Cup semi-final after beating Chase 77-3, King John 74-38, Eastwood 52-16 and Fitzwimarc 37-22 on the way. They will face Shenfield after half term in the semi-final, date to be confirmed.



## Year 7 Girls

The Year 7 girls have had a fantastic season and remain unbeaten across all competitions. They have been crowned District Champions and have eased their way into the Essex Cup semi-final after beating Maltings 20-0, Appleton 20-0, St. John Payne 74-22, Shenfield 61-33 and Shoeburyness 89-18 on route. They have also won all their games in the Junior NBA league and hope to progress to the knockout competition. Let's hope there are plenty more trophies to come from this team.

## Year 8 Girls

Last year's Essex Cup finalists have had another great season and remain unbeaten this year. Although they play their district games with the year above, they've been getting plenty of court time and it has payed off in the U13 Essex Cup competition. The girls are through to the semi-final after beating Mayflower 40-38, Chase 77-6, St. John Payne 29-24 and St. Martins 63-26 on the way. The semi-final is a repeat of last year's final against Fitzwimarc after half term. Let's hope the girls can turn the result around this year.

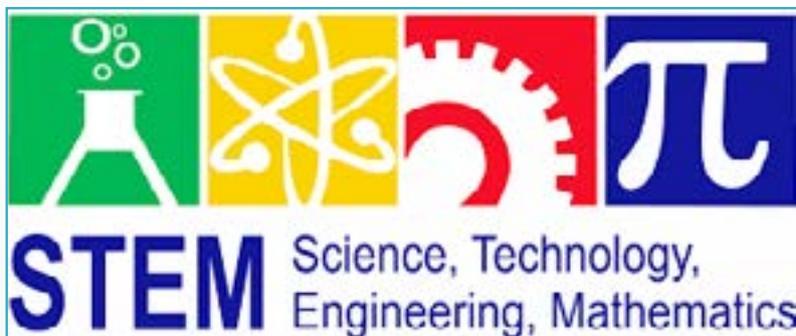
## Year 8 Boys

The Year 8 boys have had a quality season so far. They've been crowned District Champions after winning all of their games and have gone one step further in the Essex Cup than they did last year, reaching the semi-final for the first time. In a tough Essex Cup group the boys beat Southend 46-28, Eastwood 47-35 & Shenfield 20-0 and then beat a strong St. John Payne side 52-31 in the quarter final. Last year's runners up Great Baddow are next for the Woodlands boys.

Continued.....

## Year 9 Boys

The Year 9 boys retained their district title last week after a thrilling game against Billericay which Woodlands won 50-43. They narrowly went out of the Essex Cup after beating Appleton 76-39 but losing to Great Baddow 39-66 and King John 49-58. No more fixtures for these boys this year as they move onto the Athletics season and aim to improve on last year's National Final. All in all, it has been a fantastic season for basketball here at Woodlands School and it's far from over yet. With four teams in County Cup semi-finals and a strict training schedule to adhere to after half term let's hope we can better last year and get more than one Essex Cup final and maybe even a championship winning side. Watch this space!



Trevor Cain reporting.....

2017 is looking to be an action packed year for STEM activities at Woodlands.

We are rebuilding the schools' racing car for this years Greenpower Race and we hoping to beat last years 12th place. The car has been stripped and we are currently designing the new bodywork.

Other activities on the horizon:

- Guest speakers from industry specialist.
- Virtual reality days.
- Rocket launching with the Army!!

Year 7 STEM Lego club has begun.

We meet every Wednesday lunch time in the construction building. Each term a new task will be set .

This term pupils are looking at ways to transport a Lego man (in one piece) from one side of the room to another.



# Music

Tom Turner reporting.....



This half term in KS3 Year 7 Music pupils have been moving on from the traditional piano towards more modern instruments such as the guitar, bass, drums and even ukuleles. Using the music technology to aid our link to English has supported the creation of songs about Macbeth and Frankenstein.

The Year 8 pupils have followed a more traditional route by performing as a Samba band and utilising instruments from the Calypso culture such as steel pan drums to recreate well known musical pieces.

Classes have also learned of the diverse selection that an orchestra has to offer and understood the difficulty of playing these instruments by having a go themselves.



KS4 Music is fully underway with the composition part of the course allowing pupils to compose three minutes worth of their own music linking into strands such as classical and pop. The music studio has been very eventful due to this enabling pupils to record vocal and guitar tracks to support their works.



**BENFLEET TEACHING  
SCHOOL ALLIANCE**



**National College for  
Teaching & Leadership**

## **Do you want to train to be a Teacher?**

Learn more about Primary and Secondary teacher training opportunities available through the Benfleet Teaching School Alliance.

We still have vacancies to train with us in September 2017 for Primary and various Secondary subjects.

Our next Information and Recruitment Event is on:

**Monday 20th February 2017**

**11.15am until 1.30pm.**

**at**

**The King John School**

**Shipwrights Drive**

**Benfleet**

**Essex**

**SS7 1RQ**

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)

Or

If you are unable to make this event or wish to discuss further contact:

**Maxine Howard ITT Administrator on 01268 794215 extn 210  
or email: *mhoward@theappletonschool.org***

Year 11 Consultation Evening family survey responses:



**WOODLANDS SCHOOL VIEW - SPRING TERM 2017**

RESULTS FROM YEAR 11                      2016/ 2015

**1. My child is happy at this school**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
40% 44% 33%	58% 49% 54%	1% 4% 11%	1% 2% 1%	0% 1% 1%

**2. My child feels safe at this school**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
48% 46% 34%	51% 49% 59%	1% 3% 6%	0% 1% 0%	0% 1% 1%

**3. My child makes good progress at this school**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
48% 37% 32%	51% 54% 54%	0% 5% 12%	0% 1% 1%	1% 3% 1%

**4. My child is well looked after at this school**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
44% 40% 26%	54% 52% 72%	1% 5% 1%	1% 1% 1%	0% 2% 0%

**5. My child is taught well at this school**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
37% 35% 12%	62% 61% 76%	0% 2% 5%	0% 1% 6%	1% 1% 1%

**6. My child receives appropriate home learning for their age**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
36% 42% 11%	62% 53% 70%	1% 1% 5%	0% 2% 10%	1% 2% 4%



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Woodlands School, Woodlands Approach, Basildon, Essex, SS16 5BA

Email: woodlands@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk

**7. This school makes sure its students are well behaved**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
34% 36% 12%	62% 51% 76%	3% 5% 6%	0% 3% 5%	1% 2% 1%

**8. This school deals effectively with bullying**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
36% 24% 16%	58% 57% 68%	3% 6% 6%	1% 3% 4%	2% 10% 6%

**9. This school is well led and managed**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
34% 32% 18%	64% 62% 60%	2% 2% 12%	0% 2% 2%	0% 2% 8%

**10. This school responds well to any concerns I raise**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
40% 28% 24%	58% 61% 56%	2% 2% 6%	0% 4% 6%	0% 5% 8%

**11. I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
42% 35% 20%	57% 57% 64%	1% 5% 10%	0% 2% 2%	0% 1% 4%

**12. Would you recommend this school to another parent?**

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
40% 40% 24%	58% 54% 54%	2% 1% 8%	0% 2% 6%	0% 3% 8%

## School Shop

The school shop opening days and times are as follows:-

Monday 8:30am – 12:30pm

Tuesday 8:30am – 12:30pm

Please adhere to these times, unless otherwise stated.

Alternatively, please visit the school web shop either via the school website (found under Information, school shop) or using the link below:-

<https://www.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=320>

All purchases will become available for collection on the stated school shop open days above.

**Free  
School  
Meals**



**Are you entitled?**

## 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](http://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.

Please note this is an annual entitlement, you must apply each academic year for your child to qualify.



## Locker Hire 2016/17

If you wish to purchase a locker for this academic year details can be found on ParentPay under "Locker Fee 2016/17" or alternatively, please request a unique PayPoint Locker 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.

## 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.

## 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.

Payment needs to be made on ParentPay before 12.00pm to ensure sufficient funds are available.



Please can we have any unwanted uniform; trousers, blazers etc to Pupil Services - thank you.

## WE ARE COLLECTING SAINSBURY'S VOUCHERS

We are collecting Active Kids Vouchers to enable us to obtain PE equipment for our school.

A collection box is situated in Pupil Services.

Your support is very much appreciated.

# DIARY

**Saturday 11th - Saturday 18th February 2017**  
Years 8 - 10 Ski Trip

**Monday 13th - Friday 17th February 2017**  
Half term holidays

**Monday 20th February 2017**  
Mensa Testing

**Tuesday 21st February 2017**  
Years 8-11 Twelve pupils visiting HMP Brixton Prison

**Thursday 23rd February 2017**  
Various Year 7-10 pupils Dove Workshop  
Year 11 Trip to Cinema 'Hidden Figures'

**Friday 24th February 2017**  
Lord Taverners Boccia Regional Finals

**Saturday 25th February 2017**  
2017/2018 Academy Programme West Ham United EPD+

## DUTY PUPILS

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

Nathan T	Joe A	Lucy A
Shanice B	Cameron B	Michael B
Joshua B	Jake B	Liam B
Danielle C	Videl D	Jayley E
Ray G	Bradley G	Mia H
Lucha H	Michaela H	Kurtis K
Arthur K		

# FIXTURES

**Tuesday 28th February 2017**

Year 7 Football v Bromfords School (h)

**Wednesday 1st March 2017**

Year 7 Rugby v Mayflower School (a)

Year 7, 8 and 10 Netball v Greensward Academy (h)

**Thursday 2nd March 2017**

Senior Football v Beauchamps School (h)

Year 8 Football v Beauchamps School (h)

**Friday 3rd March 2017**

Year 7 Football v De La Salle School (h)

**Saturday 4th - Sunday 5th March 2017**

Year 7 Rugby Tour to Gloucester

U13 & U15 Indoor Open Athletics @ Lee Valley Athletics Centre

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

# Pursue EXCELLENCE & Seize OPPORTUNITIES



For up-to-date information please visit our website: [www.woodlandsschool.org](http://www.woodlandsschool.org) and Schoop ID: 22047  
or follow us on Twitter: @Woodlands\_sch