



THEMES OF THE WEEK

"Aims & Ambitions"
"Priorities"

12th May 2017

PURSUE EXCELLENCE AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

I'm sure our pupils have enjoyed the recent four day weeks, but the reality is that we will keep driving our pupils forward for every minute of the day that they are with us. That has been highly evident with the number of Year 10/11 pupils that have been attending the significant amount of revision sessions that staff have laid on before and after school as well as of weekends. I am so proud to work with such committed staff that put your child's future first.

Our Year 11s are very focused on the end goal and I would like to wish them all the very best as they enter the final few weeks of their schooling at Woodlands. We have planned for the last full day at school to be 19th June with their leaver's assembly on Tuesday 20th June 8.00am. 😊

You will also be aware that we have two English Language exams on 6th June and 12th June, which will be for Year 10 and Year 11 pupils this year. This is to reduce the number of exams Year 11 pupils will face next year. As you can imagine, trying to seat 600 pupils will provide many challenges, but we have a comprehensive plan to ensure both of the exams run smoothly and pupils will receive the support they are entitled to during the exam. School will start at 11.20am for pupils in Year 7 - 9 and there will be no break time food available; only a lunch menu. Please ensure your child does not arrive before 11.00am as areas of the school will still be being prepared for normal lessons. Thank you for your understanding.

With regards to staffing, we are in a very healthy position and although staff do move on for promotions or new challenges, I anticipate there to be less than a 5% turnover of teachers for September, which is very encouraging. We are expecting to be fully staffed with outstanding teachers across the school. I will keep you posted.

It is amazing to see so many young people taking part in clubs after school at Woodlands, but special mention should go to our senior athletes who absolutely smashed all records last week in the district athletics. We are over 150 points clear of the nearest school and striving towards the 1000 point mark to win the Basildon, Billericay and Wickford District Championship for the third year in a row!! Well done to the athletes!

Please keep encouraging your child to attend a club and make the most of the support available to them at Woodlands School.

Thank you for your continued support and I hope you and your family enjoy your weekend.

'Be humble, be hungry and be the hardest worker in the room'

Kind regards,

Simon Cox



Woodlands General Election NOTICE OF ELECTION

- A School General Election is to be held on Thursday 8th June 2017.
- All pupils will have the opportunity to vote for a party during tutor time.
- The results of the election will be announced on Friday 9th June 2017.

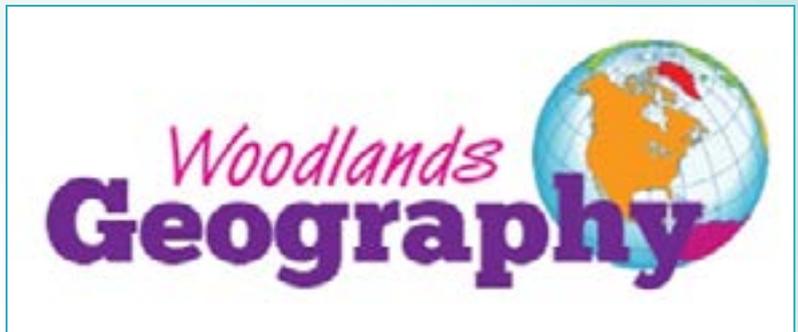
Any queries regarding the conduct of the election should be raised with the election co-ordinators as detailed below:-

Miss Sturgeon, G2/ Humanities Office
Miss Lee, G8/ Humanities Office
Mr Davies, T10, Science Office



Without Geography, you're nowhere....

Kath Merchant reporting.....



Year 11 Geographers preparing for their final examinations....

The exam season is rapidly approaching and the Geography Department (teachers and pupils) are working to ensure that all pupils are prepared for their forthcoming examinations. Pupils have already submitted their controlled assessment and grades have now been sent to the exam board. Controlled assessment contributes 25% toward final grades and the remaining three examinations are each worth 25%. All pupils have access to relevant revision materials, including revision guides, revision workbooks, examination papers and online support.



Examination Dates:

22nd May – Dynamic Planet – 2.00pm

6th June – People & The Planet – 2.00pm

12th June – MGD – 2.00pm

The Geography Department will also be hosting warm up sessions prior to the final examinations, these will support pupils in preparing them for their examination. For parents/carers wishing to support their children in preparing for their examinations, here are a few words of advice:

- The exam board we follow in Geography is Edexcel, the syllabus is Edexcel Geography B (first teaching 2012).
- Topics pupils must revise for Dynamic Planet include: Restless Earth, Changing Climate, Battle for the Biosphere, Extreme Environments, Water World, Coastal Change and Conflict.
- Topics to revise for People and the Planet include: Population Dynamics, Consuming Resources, Changing Economy of the UK, Challenges of an Urbanising World, Globalisation and Development Dynamics.
- The MGD examination focuses on making a geographical decision, focusing on sustainability and development. Pupils must make sure they can justify decisions, based on evidence/ sources of information.

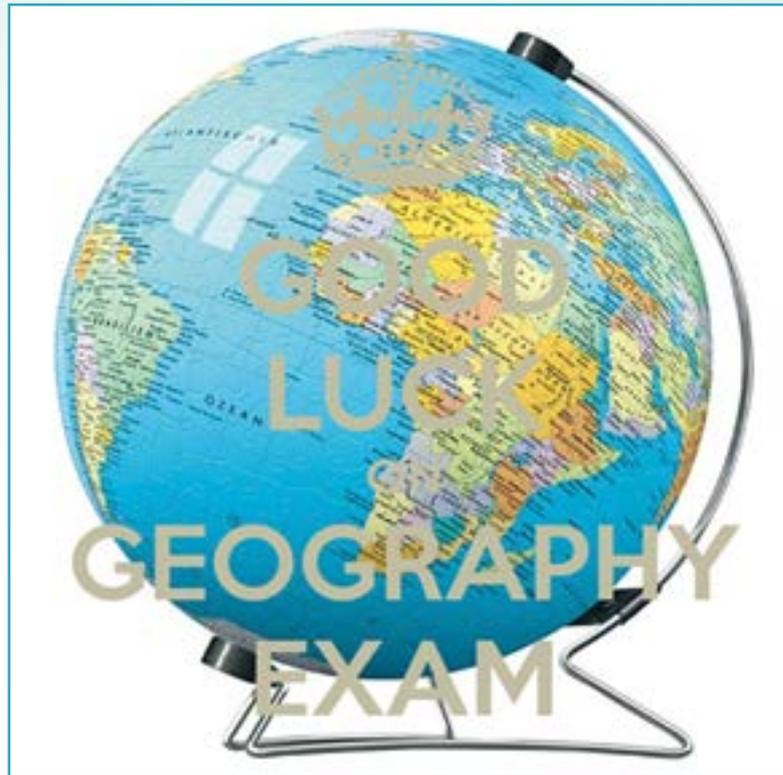
Geography Warm up Sessions

22nd May – Dynamic Planet – Lunchtime G5/G4 with Miss Tugwell and Mrs Merchant

6th June – People and the Planet – Lunchtime G4/G5 with Miss Tugwell and Mrs Merchant

12th June – MGD – Lunchtime G4/G5 with Miss Tugwell and Mrs Merchant

Good luck to all our Geographers this summer.



Year 10 Field Trip to Canary Wharf and Cubbit Town

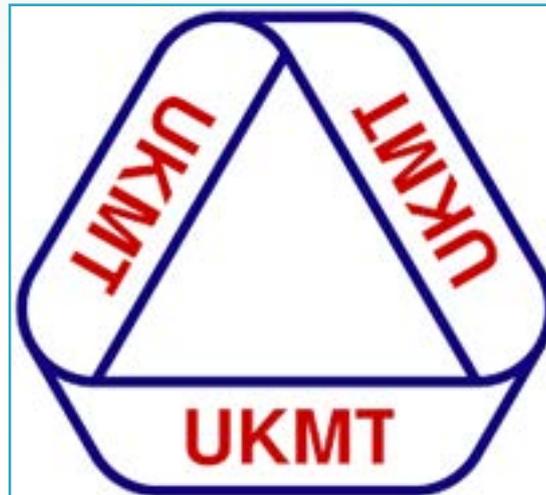
Today, Year 10 Geography pupils visited East London as part of their Geographical Investigations topic of work. Their fieldwork is answering the aim “How and why the quality of life varies within an urban area”. Pupils were carrying out quantitative and qualitative data collection methods to answer the aim; back in class they will present their findings, write an analysis and conclusion.

This fieldwork will be examined at the end of Year 11, along with the fieldwork completed in the Autumn term (Southend visit). More news of the field trip to follow in later editions of the Woodlands Community Newsletter.



Maths

Stuart Reed reporting.....



UNITED KINGDOM MATHEMATICS TRUST (UKMT) JUNIOR MATHS CHALLENGE – Thursday 27th April 2017

On Thursday 27th April, 120 pupils from Years 7 and 8 took part in the UKMT Junior Challenge. This is a National problem solving challenge, aimed at stretching our most able pupils in Mathematics.

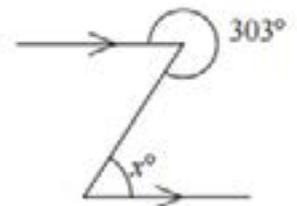
The challenge involves answering twenty five multiple choice questions in one hour under normal examination conditions. The Challenge is marked by UKMT and results should be returned to the school within six weeks. (Results will be published in a future edition of Woodlands Community Newsletter once they have been verified by the UKMT).

The Mathematics Department would like to thank all pupils who participated for their excellent conduct during the challenge and wish all pupils the best of luck with their results.

Here are some examples of actual questions from this year's Junior Challenge:-

3. What is the value of x ?

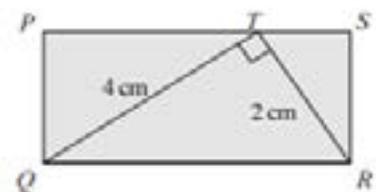
- A 43 B 47 C 53 D 57 E 67



8. The diagram shows a rectangle $PQRS$ and T is a point on PS such that QT is perpendicular to RT . The length of QT is 4 cm. The length of RT is 2 cm.

What is the area of the rectangle $PQRS$?

- A 6 cm^2 B 8 cm^2 C 10 cm^2 D 12 cm^2 E 16 cm^2



Answers will to be revealed in the next edition of Woodlands Community Newsletter.

Thanks to Mrs Becken, Mrs Holgate, Mrs Chankova, Mrs Jolly and Mr D O'Connor for helping with the organisation of the Maths Challenge.

Kingswood Activity Centre Trip

Jonathan Newby reporting.....

On Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd April 52 of our Year 11 pupils attended the Kingswood Activity Centre, Ashford, Kent. Our aim was simple: to give pupils the chance to work hard together on Mathematics and/or English practice questions ahead of their final Pre-Public Examinations. Pupils also had the chance to tackle physical challenges, such as team challenge, aerial runway and indoor climbing. On Saturday evening, pupils chose either to play football against the staff or relax and watch a movie in Kingswood's purpose built blue-ray cinema.

The 50 acre site hosted Woodlands staff and pupils and this visit is now developing into an eagerly anticipated event on the school calendar. One pupil so enjoyed the visit that his mother said he could not stop talking about it upon his return! The goals were to build confidence in pupils both inside and outside of the classroom at this crucial stage of the year and these goals were clearly achieved.

I would especially like to thank the staff for their commitment in planning, preparing and supporting the visit - our fifth and best ever visit yet. A special thank you to Mr. Meeheelall, Mrs Becken, Miss O'Mahoney, Mr D O'Connor, Mr R O'Connor, Mrs Tuna, Mr Bedford, Mr Hogger, Mr Hellen, Mrs Tugwell and Mr Cox for their support.

Watch this space for details of the next visit, already being planned for October 2017. Year 10 pupils look out for the invitations soon!





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.**

Stop Bullying

WHAT DOES BULLYING LOOK LIKE?

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

WHAT BULLYING LOOKS LIKE?

- IT involves threats
- Yes
- Name calling and insults
- 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 know and take all situations seriously
- Rights 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**



MIDDAY ASSISTANT REQUIRED

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

**£8.39 PER HOUR INC. OUTER FRINGE
PRO-RATA.**

TO APPLY CONTACT:

**JAN FENNELLY HR MANAGER FOR AN
APPLICATION FORM.**



DUTY PUPILS

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

Jonathan EI	Grace F	Callum F
Abby-Rose G	Shannon G	Ben H
Travis J	Brandon K	Patrycja K
Jack L	Shannon M	Kian M
Victor O	Kodey P	Taylor R
George S	Harrison T	Candy W



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.

LUNCH ACCOUNT REMINDERS

We are looking to send regular alerts to keep you up to date when a child's balance is no longer in credit, in order to keep parents/carers informed. Balances can be found and brought up to date on ParentPay. Year 11 accounts will need to be clear by **Friday, 23rd June 2017** and all remaining accounts will have to show a credit or nil balance by the end of the school year (Thursday 20th July 2017).

TRIP PAYMENT REMINDERS

The following trips and events will have a payment become due within the next two weeks. All payments should be made via ParentPay please, alternatively request a PayPoint letter for the relevant trip from the Finance Department.

Trip/Event	Payment	Due by Date
Prom - Year 11's	Rest of/full balance of £43.00	12th May 2017
Year book	£20.00	12th May 2017

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 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.

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.

Data Collection

Data collection sheets have been given out at each Parents Consultation Evening for you to check and make sure all the information is correct.

We ask that you please return these forms to Pupil Services so the pupil records can be kept up to date.

Catering Account – Daily Limit and Biometric Finger Image

A daily limit is available on the pupil's catering account, in order to set this up or amend the limit, please contact the Finance Office. ParentPay is always a good way of checking balances, food purchased and menu's available.



Also, in order to scan a pupil's biometric image we need to have parental permission. By using a biometric finger image, this allows the pupil to top up their account manually at the revaluation machines and allows the canteen staff to quickly identify the pupils at the till, reducing the time spent in the queue.

Should you wish your child to use the biometric recognition system, which is the quickest and most secure method, please sign and return the slip below to the Finance Office and we will carry out this service on a Tuesday morning between 8:15am - 8:45am in the canteen. However, should you choose not to give permission your child is still able to use the canteen using their unique PIN.

PUPIL NAME:

FORM:

Biometric Information: By signing below I agree to Woodlands School using biometric recognition systems (finger imaging). I understand that I can withdraw my consent at any time in writing.

SIGNED Parent/Carer

DATE

PLEASE RETURN SLIP TO FINANCE OFFICE

DIARY

Monday 15th May 2017

Religious Education Exam paper 1 9.00am
IFS Exam 9.00am
Citizen Exam 2.00pm
Year 6 Primary Schools Rugby Training Programme 4.00pm

Tuesday 16th May 2017

French Listening and Reading Exams 9.00am
Science Exams 2.00pm

Wednesday 17th May 2017

ICT Exam (Unit 1 written paper) 9.00am
GCSE Dance Moderation 1.00pm
RE Exam 2.00pm

Thursday 18th May 2017

Built Environment Day 20 Year 9/10 pupils
Science Exams 9.00am

Friday 19th May 2017

Spanish Listening and Reading Exam 9.00am
Hair and Beauty Exam 11.00am
Sport Science Exam 2.00pm
Turkish Writing Written Paper Exam 2.00pm

Monday 22nd May 2017

English Literature Exam 9.00am
Geography Exam 2.00pm
Year 6 Primary Schools Rugby Training Programme 4.00pm

Tuesday 23rd May 2017

Modern Foreign Languages Reading and Listening Exams 9.00am

Wednesday 24th May 2017

Turkish Listening Written Exam 9.00am
Science Exams 2.00pm

Thursday 25th May 2017

30 Pupils Years 7 -10 EPD Football Trip to Barcelona 25th - 29th May 2017
Maths Exams (non-calculator) 9.00am
ICT Exam (Unit 3) 2.00pm

Friday 26th May 2017

25 Pupils Year 10 Berlin Trip 26th - 29th May 2017
English Literature (paper 2) 9.00am

FIXTURES

Monday 15th May 2017
Boys Athletic Competition @ Brentwood School (a)

Tuesday 16th May 2017
Girls Athletic Competition v Chelmsford School @ Melbourne Park

Friday 19th May 2017
1st round of the English Schools Athletics @ Thurrock Athletic Club

Wednesday 24th May 2017
Athletics Meeting v Eastwood School @ Basildon Sporting Village

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

Thank you to our new sponsors A.R.C.S. Environmental Ltd, their logo will be on the front of the Year 8 Rugby kit.

A.R.C.S. Environmental Ltd



All your asbestos needs covered
(T) 01268 725477



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SCHOOL
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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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