

WOODLANDS

COMMUNITY
NEWSLETTER

THEMES OF THE WEEK

*"Science Week"**"Understanding Others"*

4th March 2016

PURSUE EXCELLENCE AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

As they enter the final part of their school career, I would like to re-assure the Year 11s and their families that we are here to support them and will provide them with every opportunity to be a success in their final exams. This is always a stressful time for pupils because they understand the need to achieve the grades that will help them access learning at the next level. Below is a list of some of the interventions and opportunities that our Year 11s can and will need to access over the next few months to be a success:

- Tutor group interventions in English and Maths
- Holiday programme in all subjects (Feb / April / May)
- Period 6 and in some cases P7
- Boost sessions during curriculum time
- Saturday coursework sessions
- Walking / talking mock exams
- Additional qualifications offered both in curriculum time and after school
- 1 to 1 Connexions session
- Guest speakers offering careers advice
- Motivational speakers
- Access to pupil data via Go4 Schools
- Personal monitoring programmes (Motivational/ Coaching/Aim Higher)
- 3 Pre Public exam sessions with result event and prizes for pupils making progress

We set out every year to ensure that our pupils will be successful in the exams and they will achieve this by accessing these wonderful opportunities where staff give up their time to help pupils pursue excellence. Good luck to our Year 11 pupils, I know you'll be fantastic and work really hard to achieve personal success!

You will also see the results from Year 10 Consultation Evening in this issue of the Community Newsletter. Thank you to the families who took the time to complete these; your feedback is most appreciated and helps us keep moving forward.

At the other end of the school, Tuesday was National Offer Day and I know that we have some very excited young people who will be joining us in September. We also have some very disappointed people who were unable to gain a place at Woodlands and over the next few weeks there will be a number of appeals because we are oversubscribed in Year 7-10. We look forward to working with the new cohort and I am sure they will embrace the opportunities that staff provide for our pupils.

Referring to opportunities, can I thank staff, families and pupils for providing and accessing **so many of them outside** the classroom:

- Show Racism the Red Card event
- Careers in Art Festival
- University visits
- Preparation for 'Aladdin'
- Year 7/8 boys and girls in Essex Cup Semi-Finals for Basketball
- Year 8/9 boys in Essex Cup Rugby Finals
- Higher Project Qualification
- Star gazing evening
- Residential trip

Thank you as always for your continued support and allowing your child to access all the opportunities we can provide for them.

We demand the highest standards from our pupils and expect them to work very hard to achieve these standards in every aspect of their education.

Thank you all for your continued support in driving standards forward rapidly at Woodlands.

'Victory belongs to those who persevere.'

Kind regards

Simon Cox, Head Teacher

MFL at Woodlands...

Mr Terry Curtis reporting...

Attainment, Achievement and Progress

Go4Schools

Wow, what a busy term! We have seen both Year 10 and 11 parents and carers over the past few weeks which has allowed MFL staff to further discuss information held on GO 4 Schools.



This has been vital for Y11 as they have mostly completed all controlled assessments for the course and are now in the final push of vocabulary revision for each of the topics covered since Year 7.

Year 11 Support

MFL staff also identified key pupils who hadn't quite reached the magic milestone of 'C' grade in their written work and had around 30 pupils working with me last week to secure this. The pupils at first were not quite sure what to expect (apart from maybe missing their favourite maths or trampolining lesson!) but soon realised that in many cases it was simply a case of using the resources available a little more smartly to extend their work past 200 words. Fantastisch! Fantastic!

Revision is now key for pupils on each of the topics and we look forward to the results of the forthcoming PPE3 in reading and listening.

Year 10 Speaking Exams

Many thanks to all for their support during what pupils often describe as, "...the most stressful exam ever!"

Most pupils arrived well-prepared and on time for their exam which counts as 15% of their final grade.

The MFL team has recently moderated a selection of the exams against Edexcel's current criteria and provisional results will be with pupils shortly, along with an Assessment for Learning sheet to celebrate success and to provide targets for next time.

Some pupils did not make the grade and the MFL team are now collating the intervention strategies for both writing and speaking to ensure summer term and Year 11 do not prove to be a pressure cooker for the pupils concerned.



Useful websites

- <http://www.memrise.com/courses/english/>
- <http://www.languagesonline.org.uk/>
- www.atantot.com (username, etc. available from your MFL teacher)
- www.linguascope.com (username, etc. available from your MFL teacher)
- www.bbc.co.uk/languages (archived but free!)
- www.duolingo.com (app based video and sound files to immerse the learner.)

Update - French Department

Congratulations to all the pupils in Year 10 C/FR1 who performed very well in their GCSE speaking on the topic of sports and leisure. They revised thoroughly and it is very pleasing to see that all of their HARD work was rewarded.

In the course of spring term 2, the pupils will be embarking upon new challenges and be presented with new topics in which to develop and strengthen their knowledge of French.

The topics are as follows:

Year Groups	Topics
Year 7	Mes passe-temps - Hobbies
Year 8	Mon identité – My identity (personal informal as well as relationship, music, clothes and interest)
Year 9	Les vacances - Holidays
Year 10	Les Loisirs – Free Time
Year 11	Mode vie – Environment and finalising coursework

Spring term 2 will also be about poisson d'avril literally translated as April's fish but most commonly known in English as April's fool.

In France, the tradition consists in hanging a fish made of paper to the back of someone we want to have a laugh about. The cultural differences are always fascinating and always create opportunities to learn that in essence we are all the same.

Joyeuses Paques! – Happy Easter!

KEY IMPORTANT DATES:

Tuesday, 17th May

French Listening and Reading exam on Tuesday 17th May

Starting Monday, 4th July

Year 10 GCSE Speaking exam to start on Monday 4th July

School in France

Pupils study French, English, maths, physics, chemistry, earth and life sciences, two modern foreign languages, and one classical foreign language (like Latin or Greek), fine arts, history and geography, music, technology and road safety ; where you learn to ride a bike and a motorcycle.



Normally in France, you start school between 8am and 8.30am in the morning in Secondary School and you finish between 4pm and 5pm in the afternoon.

The lunch-time lasts two hours, so you can go and eat at home and even have a nap!!!

There is school on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays all day and Wednesdays and Saturday mornings



In France, there are four stages of school:

- *Nursery from 2 years old to 6 years old,*
- *Primary school from 6 years old to 11*
- *Secondary school from 11 years old to 15 years old and*
- *High school from 15 years old to 18 years old.*

If the teacher is not here, then there is no lesson and you go to the study room where you can study, or chat with your friends so it's pretty cool. However, if the teacher is there, the atmosphere is very strict and you need to work in silence !!



In France, there are 17 to 20 weeks of Holiday according to where you live.

If you live in:

Zone A: 20 weeks
Zone B: 18 Weeks
Zone C: 17 Weeks

There are two important exams in France:

At the end of Secondary School, there is: 'Le brevet des Collèges', which is also called 'Junior School Certificate'. This certificate encompasses all the topics from Year 7 to Year 10 and there is no re-sit. It is either a pass or a fail. You need 360 out of 720 to pass !!

At the end of the 'Lycée' also called 'High School' you need to pass your Baccalaureate. If you are doing the General Baccalaureate, you can re-sit the subject in which you have not done well in. However, if you are doing the Technological Baccalaureate and you fail you cannot re-sit it, you will have to re-take the year.



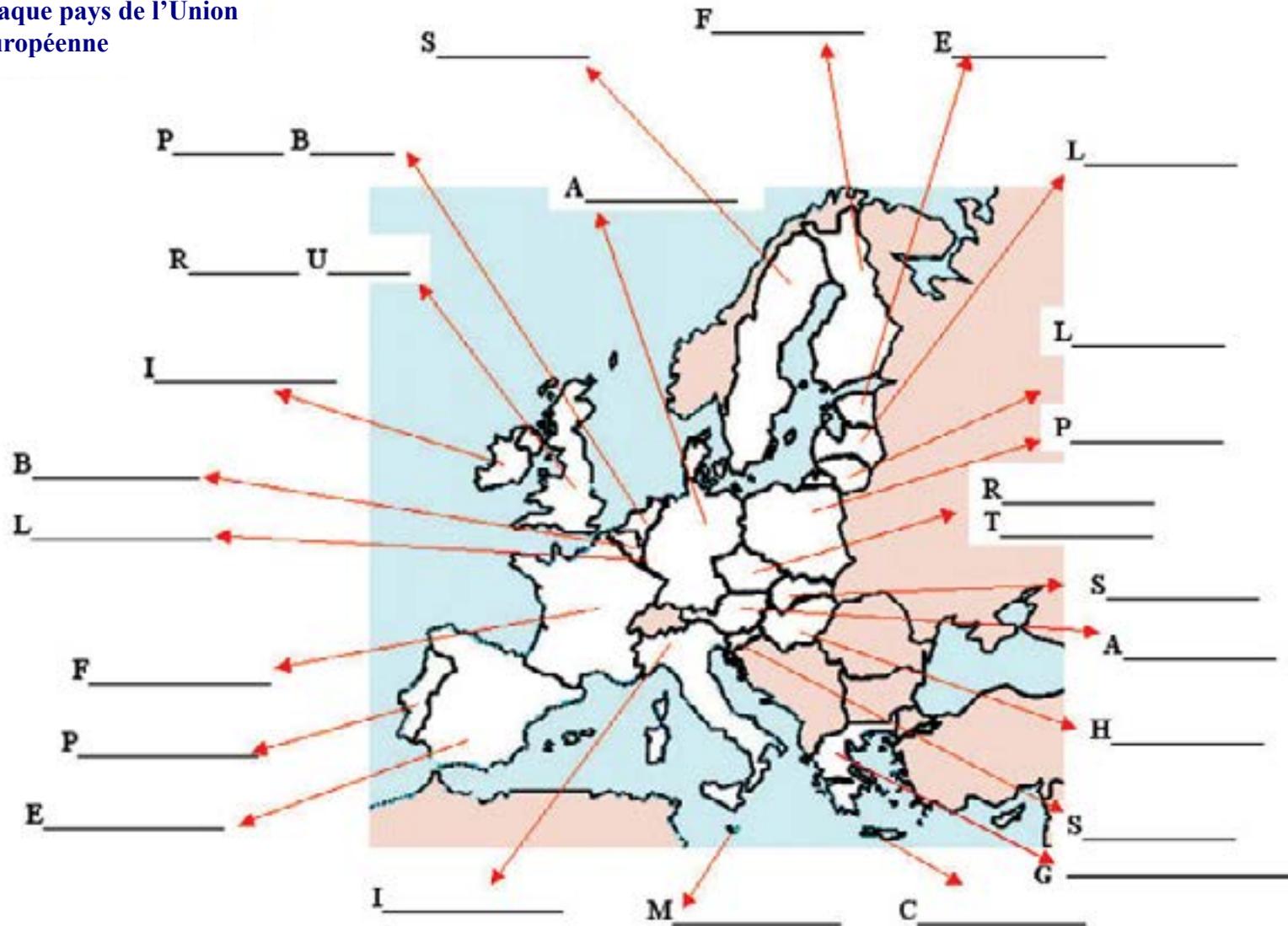
You can wear your own clothes because pupils do not wear uniform at school unless you are at a private school.

You have to buy your own equipment: pencil case, maths' equipment, exercise books and textbooks. **Arriving at school with no equipment will give you a hour's detention on Saturdays.**



Can you label all of the countries in the European Union? Use the list on the right ...

Retrouve le nom de
chaque pays de l'Union
Européenne



- Autriche
- Allemagne
- Belgique
- Chypre
- Danemark
- Espagne
- Estonie
- Finlande
- France
- Grèce
- Hongrie
- Irlande
- Italie
- Lettonie
- Lituanie
- Luxembourg
- Malte
- Pays-bas
- Pologne
- Portugal
- République
- Tchèque
- Royaume Unis
- Slovaquie
- Slovenie
- Suède

Drapeaux européens

	Allemagne
	Autriche
	Belgique
	Danemark
	Espagne
	Finlande
	France
	Grèce
	Irlande

	Italie
	Luxembourg
	Pays-bas
	Portugal
	Royaume Unis
	Suède
	Malte
	Slovénie
	Hongrie

	Lituanie
	Slovaquie
	Pologne
	République Tchèque
	Estonie
	Lettonie
	Chypre

Language Leaders Project



Miss Lehnardt reporting...

It has been an exciting number of weeks for the Language Leaders. Following rigorous preparation for several weeks we finally completed the planning stage of our first lesson and set out to teach it in Merrylands Primary School on Thursday 4th February. Despite initial stage fright the group taught a wonderful lesson on "Introductions and Greetings" in German to a combination of Year 5 and 6 pupils. The lesson was well received and all pupils actively participated. Here is what the Language Leaders had to say about the experience:

"I thought it was a very interesting and rewarding experience because I loved seeing the smiles on the kid's faces when they understood the German we taught them."

Daniel P

"It was exciting to plan the lesson. I was nervous that the primary school pupils would find it boring but I was relieved to see that they very much enjoyed it."

Mia S



"It has been an enjoyable experience and it has given me a view of being on the other side of the classroom. I don't take all the work my teachers do for granted anymore."

Billy G

"I liked to see the primary pupils learn something that I enjoyed learning myself one year ago when I was in Year 7. It has showed me how far I have come in my German learning in the past year and a half in Woodlands."

Hannah K

"Since becoming involved in the Language Leaders Project I am thinking of becoming a German teacher myself"

Heather D-B

We are very grateful to have been invited to teach yet another lesson in Merrylands Primary School, which will hopefully take place before the end of the term.

Bis bald



EU Quiz

How much do you know?

1. What does EU Stand for?
2. Name 2 countries that started the EU?
3. After which war was the EU formed?
4. Which country didn't want Britain to join the EU?
5. When did Britain join the EU?
6. How many countries are there in the EU?
7. Are all EU countries part of the Euro Zone?
8. How long did it take to set up the Euro Zone?
9. Is the USA in the EU?
10. What is the name of the people that help to run the EU?
11. How many British MEPs are there?
12. How often do MEPs meet?
13. How much does the UK pay into the EU?
14. Do you need a passport to travel in the EU?
15. Can you live anywhere in the EU?



PSHE FACULTY

Mrs Sturgeon reporting...

Congratulations to Year 11 Citizenship pupils who have now completed their course. If any more pupils wish to buy a revision guide, then please ensure that you pay via ParentPay and collect the guide from myself in G2.

Year 10 are now in the process of completing their first controlled assessment, well done to those pupils who have handed it in already.

Year 7 pupils have now completed a module of work on '**Being British**', this culminated in pupils creating video pitches for Mr. Cox which each lasted 2 minutes and explained to him why they felt they should have a '**What's Great About Britain Day**' at Woodlands. Pupils had spent time during the module learning about the importance of Tolerance, Freedom and Democracy & Law. The pitches were based on these concepts. Pupils had considered what they could learn about in each subject, which Guest of Honour they would like and even what stereotypically British food they would eat from the canteen. I'm pleased to say that Mr. Cox has now watched these videos and was blown away by the knowledge and persuasive

language used by the pupils, so much so that a '**British Week**' is now in the diary for the Summer Term, so watch this space for more details. Well done to all pupils concerned. VIVOs will also be awarded for this. If there are any parents/carers who feel that they could contribute during this week, perhaps as a guest speaker on a relevant issue then please get in touch.

Year 7 and 8 pupils have now began a module of work on Sex & Relationships Education. Letters went out to all parents/carers before Christmas detailing this Programme of Study, however, if any parents/carers would like more information please get in touch on the email below.

Some of our Year 10 pupils are currently part of a National Careers Service Programme which involves them completing an online personality assessment and having this analysed by an outside professional. Pupils will have a session with a Careers Specialist before the Easter holidays explaining the results of the session, so more details will follow about how they got on.

WOODLANDS SCHOOL VIEW - SPRING TERM 2016

RESULTS FROM YEAR 10 (132 responses) 2016 / 2015

1. My child is happy at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
38% 27%	60% 70%	1% 2%	1% 1%	0% 0%

2. My child feels safe at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
37% 26%	62% 72%	1% 1%	0% 0%	0% 1%

3. My child makes good progress at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
46% 28%	53% 65%	1% 3%	0% 1%	0% 3%

4. My child is well looked after at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
43% 28%	56% 69%	0% 1%	1% 1%	0% 1%

5. My child is taught well at this school

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
35% 26%	64% 65%	1% 3%	0% 2%	0% 4%

6. My child receives appropriate home learning for their age

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
50% 15%	44% 74%	4% 7%	1% 2%	1% 2%

7. This school makes sure its students are well behaved

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
28% 22%	66% 67%	4% 8%	0% 1%	2% 2%

8. This school deals effectively with bullying

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
30% 21%	60% 56%	4% 8%	0% 0%	6% 15%

9. This school is well led and managed

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
35% 28%	63% 65%	1% 3%	0% 1%	1% 3%

10. This school responds well to any concerns I raise

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
33% 20%	61% 70%	2% 4%	0% 0%	4% 6%

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

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
45% 28%	50% 61%	4% 8%	1% 1%	0% 2%

12. Would you recommend this school to another parent?

Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
65% 38%	34% 54%	0% 1%	0% 1%	1% 6%



RISKY BEHAVIOUR INFORMATION SESSION FOR PARENTS

FRIDAY 18 MARCH 2016

7PM START

At Woodlands Secondary School, Basildon
Please arrive at 6.30pm for registration

Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Refreshments will be provided.
Please book early to avoid disappointment.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT:

Tel: 01268 498810

Email: communitysafety@basildon.gov.uk

www.basildon.gov.uk

**IF THEY
DON'T KNOW...
DO YOU KNOW?**

Topics covered will be
Online Safety, Gangs,
Drugs and Alcohol



WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFER BOROUGH
Basildon • Billericay • Wickford • Pitsea • Laindon



Basildon Council
BASILDON • BILLERICAY • WICKFORD

DUTY PUPILS

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

Samuel B	Isabelle B	Shanine C
Carly-Louise E	Stevie H-C	Herione J
Kai J	Bradley K	Daniel L
Alesha M	Rebecca M	Alfie M
Aaron M	Finlay M	Henry P
Koko R	Jamie S	Josh W

Answers to EU Quiz (on page 6):

1. European Union
2. Holland, Luxembourg, France, Italy, Germany or Belgium
3. World War 2
4. France
5. 1973
6. 27
7. No
8. 9 years
9. No
10. MEP = Member of European Parliament
11. 87
12. Once a month
13. £11.5 Billion a year
14. No
15. Yes



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.



schoopetition

WINNER - 2nd March 2016

Finlay R-C

The question was: What was the name of the Hobbit from the book 'The Hobbit', written by JRR Tolkien

The answer: Finlay

Well done Finlay who won VIVO's and £5 ParentPay credit.

WINNER - 24th February 2016

Kupranur G (7TDa)

The question was: In the Diary of a Wimpy Kid, what is the Wimpy Kid's name?

The answer: Greg Heffley

Well done Kupranur who won VIVO's and £5 ParentPay credit.

Extra prizes sponsored by Beeline Promotional Products, www.beeline-promo.co.uk

Competitions run Wednesday to Wednesday during term time

schoop ID: 22047

PURSUe EXCELLENCE AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

DIARY



Monday 7th - 10th March 2016

PPE3 (Pre Public Exams)

Monday 7th March 2016

Cyber Bullying Workshop

Tuesday 8th March 2016

First Essex Network 4 Careers Meeting

Thursday 10th March 2016

Head Teacher's Commendations - 11am
BFL Commendations, a celebratory lunch - 1.20-2pm

Saturday 19th March 2016

Controlled Assessment Catchup session - 9.30am-12pm

Monday 14th March 2016

Challenge Day at Cambridge University (10.30am-3.30pm)

Tuesday 15th March 2016

Primary CEOPS Roadshow Walk Online

Wednesday 16th March 2016

Apprenticeship Fair (4-7.30pm)

Trip to HM Prison Brixton: Keep Out Programme

Thursday 17th March 2016

Year 11 Performing Arts Exam - Unit 2

Saturday 19th March 2016

Controlled Assessment Catchup session - 9.30am-12pm

IMMUNISATIONS

If your Year 9 or 10 child missed their DTP/ACWY Meningitis injections this time around, please call the **Immunisation Team on 07943 533 460** to make an appointment at their catch-up clinic.

A letter will also be given to the necessary parents to this effect.

Thank you, Pupil Services

FIXTURES

Monday 7th March 2016

Yr 7 Football Semi-Final v Mayflower (h) - 3pm

Tuesday 8th March 2016

U15 Essex 7s at Champion School (a) - time tbc

Yr 8 Rugby v Beauchamps (h) - time tbc

Wednesday 9th March 2016

Yr 7 Rugby v Billericay (a) - time tbc

Yr 9 Football v Billericay (a) - 3pm

Yr 8 Netball v Billericay (h) - 3pm

Yr 7 Netball v Billericay (h) - 3pm

Thursday 10th March 2016

Yr 8 Football Semi-Final v Beauchamps (h) - 3pm

Friday 11th March 2016

Yr 7 Rugby v Mayflower (h) - 2.30pm

Yr 8 Rugby v Mayflower (a) - 3pm

Yr 7 EC Semi-Final Basketball v Gt.Baddow (a) - 3pm

Monday 14th March 2016

Yr 9 Rugby v De La Salle (a) - 3pm

Yr 8 Netball v De La Salle (h) - 3pm

Yr 7 Netball v De La Salle (h) - 3pm

Tuesday 15th March 2016

Yr 7 Rugby v De La Salle (h) time tbc

Yr 8 Rugby v De La Salle (a) - time tbc

Yr 7 Netball v Beauchamps (a) - 3pm

Yr 8 Netball v Beauchamps (a) - 3pm

Wednesday 16th March 2016

Yr 8 Netball v Mayflower (a) - 3pm

Yr 7 Netball v Mayflower (a) - 3pm



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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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