

THEMES OF THE WEEK

*“Pupils to respond effectively to marking”**“Priorities”*

15th May 2015

PURSUE EXCELLENCE AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

As you will have been aware, the last two weeks have seen some very important elections. The most important of these were led by the pupils and their own version of the General Election! I would like to thank Mr Maher and Ms Sturgeon for organising and supporting the entire process. The three candidates organised their own hustings and presented to all the year groups in assemblies. The entire process created many interesting debates amongst the pupils, especially on the policy of allowing young people to vote at 16! Congratulations to Kayleigh L for winning with 398 votes for Labour and well done to Ryan C (Conservatives) 268 and Joyce J (Lib Dem) 210 votes.

You should have received a ballot paper for the election of 2 parent / governors to our new governing body. I would like to thank the 3 candidates for applying and expressing an interest in supporting our pupils as we drive standards upwards. The successful candidates will join our Multi Academy Trust Board, which ensures that there is a high level of accountability for my performance as a Head Teacher, as we strive to meet all of the targets set by the governing body at the start of the year.

The third election was the General Election which has seen the election of 1 political party. Education funding has been the topic of many debates and with an increase in National Insurance contributions, a 1% pay increase and an increase in pension contributions, along with, in real terms, no financial increase, schools are finding it very difficult to balance the books. I would like to reassure you that we are fully committed to maintaining the excellent staffing levels we have introduced at Woodlands this year; average class size of 22.5 and this drops to 20.5 in option groups. We have recruited outstanding teachers to join us, many from outstanding schools. We will remain frugal with our spending, but

will ensure that we continue to provide our pupils with excellent opportunities.

Congratulations to our newly selected Year 10 Prefects who now take over the role from our outgoing Year 11s. The Year 11s have been a real credit to their families in delivering a calm school environment, where academic expectations are high and they have acted as wonderful role models for younger pupils. Thank you to all Prefects for your service, with a special thanks to Daniel S and Victoria H who were outstanding as Head Boy and Head Girl. I look forward to working closely with Joyce J and Ryan C as they enter the prestigious role for this year.

Good luck to our Year 11s as they enter the busy part of the exam season and I know their hard work will pay off. Revision is still taking place before school, during lessons, Period 6 and Saturdays. We will also be running a full programme over half term and would appreciate your support in ensuring that pupils arrive on time and ready to learn! The exam timetable can be found on the website under calendars.

All families can also access all of your child's performance data at go4schools.com. This is an excellent way for you to keep up to date with your child's progress and support us in driving standards forward for every young person.

Thank you all once again for your continued support, it really is appreciated. I look forward to seeing you at a school event in the future.

‘Good isn't good enough if you can be better. Better isn't good enough if you can be the best.’

Simon Cox, Head Teacher

Congratulations!

Year 10 into 11 Prefects 2015/16

Mr Mayer reporting...

I would like to personally thank all the Year 11 prefects for their hard work on behalf of Woodlands School. The commitment and enthusiasm they have shown towards their service as a prefect in this school year has been exceptional. They have shown not only to their peers in Year 11 but to all other pupils in the school just how positive an impact a group of pupils can have on our community. It is because of this positive impact that we have been given a very strong field for the Year 10 into 11 prefects.

In my role I have seen pupils engaged in activities such as fundraising despite the rain and cold in order to have a positive impact on the lives of others. I have seen pupils be willing to push themselves out of comfort zones and engage in activities that they may not have done had it not been for this role, including public speaking and singing in the carol service.

The next group of prefects have already been appointed and are listed below. As a school it's important that we are providing pupils with the opportunity to take up a leadership role in a supported way. This is a role that they have taken on voluntarily and have gone through a rather rigorous process to acquire their ties and badges, so please support them in any way you can. They are required to maintain the highest possible standards of behaviour and uniform, therefore, if you have any concerns please get in touch with me or Mrs Robertson so we can rectify the issue.

At Woodlands School we attach a huge value to the Prefect Program and making sure that prefects are representing and promoting all the very best things about our school.

Successful candidates are as follows:

Olivia J, 10ABa
Maxine M, 10ACo
Amber S, 10JDa
Charlie A, 10MNe
Alisha C, 10ADy
Bobbie J, 10ABa
Monique A, 10KOT
Chloe W, 10GRo
Cheyenne M, 10ADy
Kyle, 10ABa
Jack, 10ABa
Illistyl S-S, 10JDa
Alana A, 10SLa
Nicole G, 10ADy
Lillie P, 10RSh
Joe B, 10ACo
Hannah P, 10RSh
Georgia W, 10GRo
Shelby H-C, 10ABa
Katie C, 10NSh
Ellie H, 10ABa
Keely M, 10NSh
Alex C, 10NSh

James M, 10NSh
Charlotte C, 10ACo
Mitchell W, 10NSh
Sophie W, 10JDa
Tynisha M, 10NSh
Elleny B, 10ACo
Bavitira M, 10MNe
Helen S-D, 10GRo
Bethany O, 10ACo
Maddison R, 10MFr
Damilola O, 10ACo
Tyler B, 10JDa
Kylie F, 10MTo
Jade P, 10GRo
Phillip R, 10JDa
Jonathon W, 10MFr
Josh G, 10JDa
Charlie B, 10KOT
Zachary D, 10KOT
Louise M, 10MFr
Georgia L, 10MFr
Kevsar G, 10NSh
Chloe B-B, 10MNe

Joe C, 10ADy
Rebecca P, 10KOT
Beverlyn N, 10KOT
Paris C, 10NSh
Kerry W, 10MTo
Bethany L, 10JDa
Jack C, 10ABa
Victoria E, 10MNe
Bryony M, 10ABa
Bradley W, 10MFr
Samaha S, 10MTo
Bethany B, 10MTo
Neve M, 10GRo
Shannon B, 10SLa
Jordan K, 10SLa
Reece B, 10SLa
India D, 10JDa
Chloe W, 10RSh
Emily C, 10MFr
Racha E, 10JDa
Harry M, 10GRo
Luke S, 10ACo
Jade F, 10KOT

Chloe A, 10MFr
Chloe W, 10ACo
Tammy H, 10ACo
Oliver S, 10MNe
Ryan S, 10SLa
Saffron L, 10MNe
Isabelle P, 10NSh
Isobel M, 10MTo
Charlotte L, 10JDa
Eden A, 10MTo
Gemma R, 10ABa
Shauna O, 10RSh
Abdul B, 10ADy
Mary C, 10MNe
Colby F, 10JDa
Grace D, 10JDa
Mollie-Mai A, 10ACo
Taylor B, 10MNe
Kizzy V, 10MNe
Alissa B, 10MTo
Jack S, 10GRo
Ellie S, 10ABa
Liberty B, 10MTo

Katie P, 10NSh
Mara N, 10MTo
Claire S, 10MTo
Emily B, 10MNe
Kayleigh L, 10MTo
Demi Rose-H,
10ACo
Leanne S, 10SLa
Jessica C, 10MTo
Georgia B-H, 10ABa
Sophie C, 10GRo
Amber H, 10KOT
Joseph Q, 10ACo
Bradley G, 10MNe
Hannah W, 10MTo
Victoria A, 10SLa
Rosie W, 10ADy
Amy C, 10ABa
Amy S, 10GRo
Rebecca P, 10MFr
Joyce J, 10MFr
Ryan C, 10ADy



STEMettes VISIT WOODLANDS SCHOOL

Fliss Compton reporting...

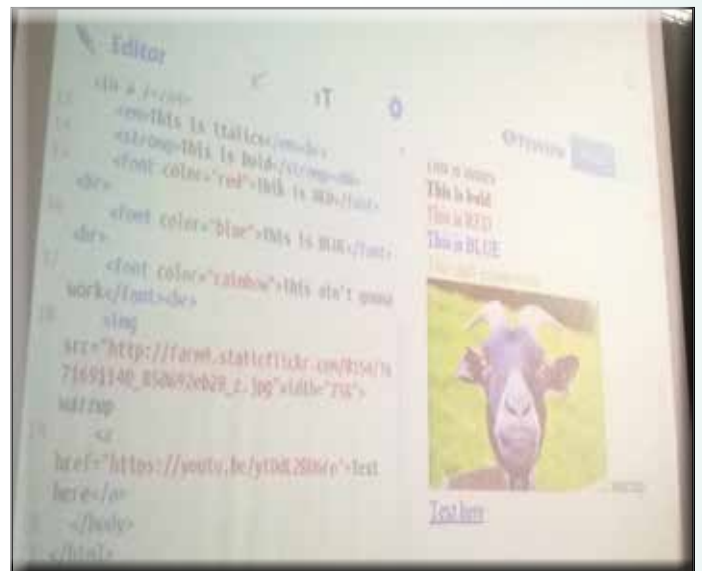
On Thursday, 7th May the STEMettes visited Woodlands School, where sixty Year 9 girls spent the day working alongside industry experts, building a website and developing their coding skills. The day came about as a result of their school's involvement in the Essex County Council Education and Industry STEM programme.

The event was delivered by the STEMettes, a group of female IT professionals, whose aim is to inspire more girls to consider careers in the technology sector. As a result of the day, some of the girls will be given the opportunity to spend the day work shadowing IT professionals in a city-based marketing company.

The winning team won lots of goodies and all of the girls were given information about where to find out about careers in STEM industry, and also received sweets to keep them going.

Feedback was very positive and we are looking forward to following this day up within the IT department and to continue things further in STEM subjects.

Thank you to the STEMettes for making it a really enjoyable day.



'Merchant of Venice' at the Globe

Jayne Dear reporting...

On Tuesday, 5th May a group of pupils went to the famous Globe Theatre on the South Bank of the Thames in London to see 'The Merchant of Venice'. The play is a comedy but has plenty of dark moments. The lead actor Jonathan Pryce who played Shylock, the much maligned Jew, was recognised by all for his roles in Doctor Who and James Bond etc. He played alongside his real life daughter, who was his daughter in the play.

As a bonus, the pupils had the opportunity to see inside the historic Globe Theatre which was recreated on the site of Shakespeare's original theatre. All that has changed is the installation of modern safety features such as smoke alarms (to stop it burning down like the original) and toilets (they used to go where they stood!).

Theatre trips are designed to broaden pupils' horizons and give them the opportunity to see live theatre which supports a number of key curriculum areas. The experience of seeing a Shakespeare play at the Globe is relevant to Performing Arts, English and History. The play was highly acclaimed and has received good reviews.

Quotes from the Theatre Goers:

It was very funny!

I recognised the main star

It was a spectacle!

The set was very good

I loved the dresses

It was fascinating to go to the Globe

I want to work in the theatre.

When is the next trip?

Thank you Mr Petchey!

We nearly missed the start of the play because the traffic in to London was dreadful but we just made it!

Any pupils who would like to go on the next theatre trip should see Ms Dear for a letter.

Many thanks to the Jack Petchey Foundation for supporting this trip.





MFL@Woodlands



Terry Curtis reporting...

As we come to the end of the half term, it is time to congratulate the MFL team and support staff for their brilliant efforts in helping Y11 pupils complete their controlled assessment portfolio. This represents some 60% of each pupil's final grade and is clearly key to seizing the next opportunity post-16.

Many of you will also have met Mr Michelin who joins us as Head of French. An excellent practitioner with pupil progress as his raison d'être, Mr Michelin will be working alongside Mrs Coyle (Head of German) ensuring pupils give only their best to meet the most exacting of standards.

Attainment, Achievement and Progress

You may recall that in January I affirmed three tenets that would help pupils pursue excellence:

- Working together
- Excellent resourcing
- Planning for success

Many of the new resources are fully embedded into our curriculum plans which will allow MFL staff to plan for excellent outcomes from all pupils. We are also moving to make what we expect of pupils even more accessible:

- Pupils in Years 7, 8 and 10 French have piloted Assessment for Learning (AfL) overviews
- These pupils have also clear homework expectations through booklets or their AfL overview
- Differentiated vocabulary learning homeworks are also built in to Year 7 and 8 booklets.

These will not only ensure pupils preparing for the current controlled assessment-based GCSE are supported but also those in lower years will be well placed to succeed in the rather more traditional course being introduced.

LCWC: Look, Cover, Write, Check!

This is an important system many adults will be familiar with for younger children learning key spellings in the junior phase...it works just the same way for MFL and we know you will want to support your child in improving literacy, memory and overall fluency in MFL.

Even better...we provide a template in the HWK booklet and it only takes 5 minutes of your time!

Upcoming MFL Topics

	French	German
Year 7	Let's go...holidays	Gute Reise – town
Year 8	Teenage Life	Holiday plans
Year 9	My world	Preparing for GCSE – out and about
Year 10	Work	Work
Year 11: GCSE revision programme of all topics covered Years 7-11.		

Congratulations...

Year 11 for the drafting, redrafting, learning and improving so many pieces of work to reach 200+ words for C grade and above!

Year 10 for positive feedback at consultation evening and efforts in PPEs

Year 9 for being ready to jump into GCSE

Year 8 for bringing their parents/carers to Consultation Evening: it's always great to meet you!

Year 7 for getting to grips with their vocabulary learning in French

Helpful MFL websites:

www.hellomylo.com

www.linguascope.com (username, etc. available from your MFL teacher)

www.atantot.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.)

ICT at Woodlands School

This term has been excellent time at Woodlands where pupils have been working really hard in ICT to achieve or work towards their target grades. Pupils have been working on many project based activities where they have work collaboratively to strive for success.

All year groups follow slightly different programmes of study but all will complete a basic online test in the last half term. This allows us to write a meaningful Scheme of Work for the following year which helps identify the pupil's key skills. We would like to take this opportunity to share some of the ICT and Computing projects that our pupils have been working on.

Year 7

All pupils have enjoyed finishing their Virtual Tour Projects and the effort and skills shown by the pupils has been outstanding. Pupils have now started the new exciting Scratch Project. All parents will remember the 1980's sensation Pac-man, and we hope the pupils will discuss their new gaming skills as they embark on making their own version of this classic game.



Year 8

Year 8 have been looking at ICT in the real world with the completion of a systems project for a charity fashion show. All pupils have learnt new skills including Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Access. After half term our pupils will re-visit a gaming topic they looked at briefly last year and we are hoping that they can extend their knowledge of computing by producing exciting and new computer games.

Year 9

This term we gave all Year 9 pupils the opportunity to sample a single unit of work from a GCSE online project. Whilst they have found the workload different, our pupils have shown maturity in completing this task. After half term we intend to move the pupils forward with ICT in a very different way. The pupils will complete a new project on a Soundation. We are looking forward to spotting any potential DJs in our midsts.

Year 10

Our pupils have started their controlled assessment for ICT which is based around an animal shelter. Pupils have to use different software and various skills to complete a number of activities. After talking to our Year 10s they are really enjoying creating a web banner using online software and Adobe Flash.



GCSE Year 11

Our GCSE pupils have worked so hard this year to fulfil their potential in their ICT coursework and revision for their final exam. Pupils have been learning about the following key areas:

- Connectivity using ICT;
- Input and output devices;
- Network and computer security;
- Advantages and disadvantages of using ICT in our society;
- Wi-Fi, broadband and bandwidth capabilities;
- Password protection whilst being online (using the internet);
- Mobile technologies.

They all sat their ICT exam this week and we wish them the best of luck; all results will be issued in August.

“Pursue Excellence & Seize Opportunities”

At Woodlands School, every pupil has access to a fully inclusive and appropriately challenging curriculum, which is taught by highly qualified and outstanding teachers. We expect all pupils to strive for excellence in their academic studies and that they will always challenge themselves to extend their knowledge and understanding. High aspirations for all pupils will allow them to flourish as life-long learners.

There is an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities for all pupils to experience. Our programme provides an outstanding opportunity for each young person to enrich and extend their learning, whilst developing key social skills that will allow them to access Higher/Further Education and a suitably challenging career. We are incredibly proud of our school and as a learning community we work with all stakeholders to allow our pupils to pursue excellence and seize opportunities.

This is a very exciting time to be a young person at Woodlands School, with our wonderful new building which provides specialist accommodation for Science, Art, Music, Drama, Dance, ICT and Physical Education; a spacious central atrium; large classrooms; wide corridors and a fully furnished Library and Resource Centre.

TOURS WITH SIMON COX HEADTEACHER Every Friday 9.15am from 04 Sept 2015
(Contact Reception for an appointment)

Open Evening 24th September 2015 - 5pm until 9pm

Open Days 28th September to 2nd October 2015, 9.15am (2.15pm Mon Only)
(Contact Reception for an appointment)

“ There is a corporate willingness amongst all staff to secure good behaviour and ensure that the new buildings are a safe, stimulating and friendly environment in which to learn.”

OFSTED

www.woodlandsschool.org

T: 01268 282146

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





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.**

Please see below some useful links to websites concerning safeguarding children online:

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/search/?query=online%20safety>

<http://www.ceop.police.uk/>

<http://www.ashe-essex.org/>

Woodlands' Mathematics Challenge

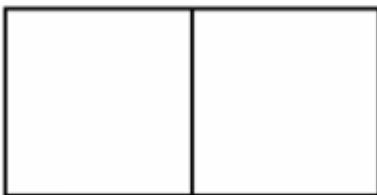
Weigh Anchor

David has taken Julie out for a romantic boat trip on the lake. They want to fix their attention just on each other, so they drop the anchor out of the boat to stay put for an hour or so. Does the water level go up, go down, or stay the same when they do this? You must explain your answer.



Making Squares

This Rectangle is twice as long as it is wide. How would you cut it up so that you could rearrange the pieces into a square?



Entry for under 17s only and closing date is
3pm on Wednesday 3 June.

Up to 50 VIVO points are available, so get thinking and good luck!

schcoopetition

WINNER - 12th May 2015

Lili M (CMa) - Year 7

The question was: What big event is happening on 24th September 2015?

The answer:

It is the Woodlands School Open Evening

Well done to everyone who got this answer!

Lili has been awarded 50 VIVO points and 5 vouchers to be used at either break or lunch.

WINNER - 6th May 2015

Meerab B (NWh) - Year 11

The question was: How much did the new school building cost in 2014?

The answer: £25 million

Thank you to everyone who took part: don't forget to enter again this week. Entry is free, and it only takes a couple of minutes. Parents and carers can enter too on their child's behalf, giving everyone more chances to win.

**Competitions run Wednesday to Wednesday
during term time**

schcoop ID: 22047

PURSUE EXCELLENCE AND SEIZE OPPORTUNITIES

Congratulations Alice !

Alice recently fought at Western Karate Union Spring Invitational at National Competition level, an English ranking event which was held at Weston-super-Mare.

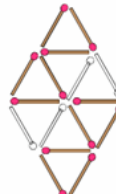
She fought in high grade 10-12 year old +40Kg. Alice took the bronze medal in this important event, only losing to the winner on the judges' decision after drawing the fight.



Congratulations Alice, an outstanding achievement.

Answers to last week's Maths Challenge

Missing Matches



The Jumping Frog

It will take him 28 days to escape. After 27 days and nights the frog has only 3 metres to go. On the 28th day the frog is able to jump clear.

DUTY PUPILS

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

Vinnie B	Mary B	Charlie H
Louis B	Megan C	Harry U
Philip C	Eryk C	Harriett R
Thomas D	Paige F	Tyler B
Chloe H	Callum H	Ryan H

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

TOP ATTENDANCE:



Year 7	GAS	99.5%
Year 8	GMI	98.1%
Year 9	PHI/KMc	97.3%
Year 10	JDa	96.9%
Year 11	KMe/LSSt/SKi	100%

Woodlands' PE FIXTURES

Monday 18th May 2015

Years 7 & 8 Field Event at Mayflower School
(3.45pm - 5.30pm)

Tuesday 19th May 2015

Year 7 Track Event at Woodlands School (3.45pm - 5pm)

Wednesday 20th May 2015

Year 9 District Hammer Competition at Basildon Sporting Village (2.30pm - 4pm)
Essex Combined Athletics Event at The Brentwood School (9.30am - 4.30pm)

Thursday 21st May 2015

Year 9 District Field Competition at Basildon Sporting Village (2.30pm - 5pm)

Tuesday 2nd June 2015

Years 7,8,9 Track Event at Woodlands School (3.45pm - 5pm)

Friday 5th June 2015

Years 7,8,9 District Athletics at Basildon Sporting Village (9am - 4pm)



@woodlands_sch

For fixtures, results and the latest news

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 Student Services.



Your continued support is very much appreciated.

DIARY



Monday 18th May 2015

Year 11 GCSE English Literature Exam (Understanding Prose)
Year 7 Report session open for 2 weeks
(3 weeks if including half-term)
Year 10 BTec Trip to Professional Artist Studio
Year 11 History Controlled Assessment

Tuesday 19th May 2015

Year 11 Geography Exam (Dynamic Planet)
Keep Out Programme - visit to HM Prison Send (female)

Wednesday 20th May 2015

Year 11 GCSE Science Exam (Physics Units 2&3)

Thursday 21st May 2015

Year 11 GCSE Maths Certificate Exam (non-calculator)
Art Moderation (pm)

Friday 22nd May 2015

Year 11 GCSE English Literature Exam (Understanding Poetry)

Saturday 23rd - Sunday 31st May 2015

Visit to Ardeche, South of France (Years 7-10)

Monday 25th - Friday 29th May 2015

Half-Term

Monday 1st June 2015

Year 11 Art Exhibition - Main Hall
Year 11 GCSE History Exam (Unit 1)

Tuesday 2nd June 2015

Year 11 Art Exhibition - Main Hall
Year 11 GCSE English Language Exam
Year 11 Art Exhibition - private viewing (5-7pm)

Wednesday 3rd June 2015

Year 11 Art Exhibition - Main Hall
Year 11 GCSE Geography Exam (People & Planet)
Year 11 GCSE German Exam (Reading/Listening)

Thursday 4th June 2015

Year 11 Art Exhibition - Main Hall
Year 11 GCSE Maths Exam (non-calculator)
Year 11 GCSE Maths Certificate Exam (calculator)
Show My Homework Parent Information Evening (6-7pm)

Friday 5th June 2015

Year 11 Art Exhibition - Main Hall
Year 10/11 Science Exam (Biology - Unit 1)
Year 11 GCSE Music Exam (Unit 1)

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