



Issue 17 • Autumn 2012

WOODRUSH STAR

**Welcome to STEM: Science,
Technology, Engineering
and Maths pages**

See pages 21-25

www.woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

**SIXTH
FORM
SPECIAL**
SEE PAGES 15-19



**NEWS & VIEWS FROM
AROUND WOODRUSH**

**Sixth Formers
Celebrate**

**Never miss an edition! If you would like the latest copy of The Woodrush Star
directly sent to your inbox, please email woodrushstar@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk**

The Woodrush Star wins a prestigious award

Staff and pupils from across Birmingham and the Black Country were rewarded for their A+ efforts at the Birmingham Mail Schools Awards.

Unsung heroes had their chance to shine in the spotlight when they were rewarded for going the extra mile at the annual awards.

Hundreds of schools applied for a chance to win one of the prestigious prizes, with shortlisted finalists across nine categories invited to a ceremony at Thinktank at Millennium Point hosted by Heart FM presenter Ed James.

Woodrush High School won the school newspaper of the year award for the Woodrush Star, which produces more than 1,500 copies around the school and in the local community, as well as on-line.

Birmingham Mail editor Dave Brookes said: "We have had nominations from teachers, parents and children telling us about exceptional people who always go the extra mile to help pupils achieve

their best." "We have learned of a host of initiatives, from environmental projects to community schemes, which keep our schools buzzing. "It is clear

that our schools are overflowing with dedicated teams of inspirational staff and children."

(extract from Birmingham Mail)



Paul Fulford and Ed James present the award for School Newspaper/Website to Mrs Reeves and students from Woodrush High School.

Dear Parents and Carers

Can I first of all welcome all our new students and parents to the first 'Woodrush Star' of our academic year. We publish four times each year, one now and then one at the end of each of the main terms, Christmas, Easter and Summer and we hope each time to give you a flavour of the activities and achievements of our students of which we are always extremely proud. We have over the summer again invested in further improvements to our facilities and students will again notice a new ICT suite, re-furnished toilets and flooring across the school. All of this work on top of our student's excellent examination results this summer has meant we have had lots to celebrate at the start of term. Out of all the results our students gained we are most proud of the fact that 100% of students in Year 11 gained 5A*-C grades in the summer. In addition 79% of students gained this measure including GCSE English and Maths, key qualifications that will support them in gaining further qualifications and careers in the future.

The starts and ends of term are always busy and we have lots of features in this edition of the 'Woodrush Star' celebrating our students work and our schools achievements so far. In particular I must say well done to all those that contribute to this publication as at the end of the year our very own 'Star' was recognised by the Birmingham Mail in winning the best school magazine / web site category in their prize evening celebrating educational achievements.

This is an excellent achievement considering the number of schools that took part in the Birmingham area.

I must thank parents and carers for making sure that all our students have returned to us smart and fully equipped ready for the new academic year. As always our students attendance is excellent so far and with an average attendance of over 95% by the end of last year I must again thank parents for their support in ensuring that students do not miss school time if it can be helped at all as the more time students are with us the greater the progress they will make.

We have also published a list of extra-curricular events and opportunities for students, in addition to student attendance their involvement in other activities whether it is sporting or cultural is of huge benefit to them and we always encourage them to get involved as much as possible over the course of the year. Your support in encouraging students to take part and get involved in activities is always appreciated.

We hope that you enjoy reading the first edition of the 'Star' and look forward to sharing more of our student's achievements with you over our next editions and through our weekly 'Branch' publication. Thank you again for your continued support of what we do, it really does make a difference and we look forward to all our students making great progress this year.



Mr C King, Headteacher



Dear Jaslyn,

We recently received a letter from your Grandma, Sandra Green. She told us how you have been very brave since the sudden death of your Stepdad in December. We know this is a very difficult time for you. We would like to send you a Blue Peter badge in recognition of all the support you have given to your Mum.

Here at CBBC we are not trained to be able to offer you all of the help you may need at the moment. However, there are people who can offer you help:

Winston's Wish – the UK's leading charity for bereaved children has a website with a special section for young people. Go to www.winstonswish.org.uk and click the green tab for 'young people'. They also have a national Helpline for adults supporting children when someone has died. It is 08542 030405 (local call rate) and the Helpline is open between 9am and 5pm. Monday to Friday.

You could also call ChildLine. This is a free telephone service for children, open 24 hours a day, where you can talk confidentially about any subject that you are concerned about, with trained counsellors. The number is 0800 11 11. They have also have a website which has information for children about issues they might be worried about. The address is www.childline.org.uk.

The CBBC website www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc has a section called Bug Bears which contains some advice for problems, including a list of different helplines in the SOS Help section.

We hope you will find this information useful.

Blue Peter Badge winners will also need a Blue Peter Badge Card to gain free access to the Blue Peter Badge Attractions listed on our website. To register your address and date of birth, go to the Blue Peter website, click on 'Blue Peter Badges' and follow the link to 'Blue Peter Badge Card'.

With best wishes from Helen, Barney and all of us at Blue Peter.

Yours sincerely, Tim Levell, Editor, BLUE PETER

Prize Winning Art!

This summer so some fantastic success in the Wythall Art Competition by Woodrush student Harry from 8B2. He entered the competition to paint/draw a picture that captured the local community. Harry created a fantastic mixed media piece that depicted 'Wythall House'. He won second place in the U18 category, collecting a prize of £30!

Well done Harry!

Record Breaking GCSE Results 2012

Well done to all of last years Yr 11. Another outstanding year as our GCSE students have again broken records with their exceptional performances in their examinations.

This year a record breaking 100% of students gained five or more top grades (A*-C) with nearly 80% gaining 5+ A*-C grades including GCSE English and Maths. 81% of students gained top grades in Maths and 86% in English. Overall, nearly a quarter of all students gained five or more A*/A grades and 98% of students achieved 2 top grades (A*-C) in Science.

Particular congratulations go to Leanne who gained 11 A*/A grades, Suzie with 12 A*/A grades, Lily with 11 A*/A grades, James with 10 A*/A grades and Sam who gained 11 A*/A grades. Congratulations to these students and to all our students that have gained places in the sixth form at Woodrush this September.

We are delighted with all our students' hard work and their achievements, and must thank the support of our staff and parents for ensuring that single student, whatever their starting point or ability, finished their GCSE year with at least 5 A*-C grades.

Reported by Ms N Rancins Deputy Headteacher (standards)

Pay online... for peace of mind



A convenient way to pay

Parents can now book and pay securely online for a range of items using a debit/credit card. Paying online gives you the peace of mind that comes with knowing that your money has reached the school safely and is used for it's intended purpose.

Making payments is easy

- Log on to the school website and follow the link.
- You should already have your user name and password but if not contact the school at parentpay@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk
- Full instructions on how to pay for school meals and school trips are available on the website
- No need to worry about your child losing money at school
- See a record of what your child is purchasing for lunch
- Log on as see what school trips are available to your child

"No more having to look for change or writing cheques."

It's so easy now



ParentPay





Animal club

Maisy and Daisy are just young ferrets about 16 weeks old and come from working parents. They love to be handled and are very playful especially when they come out on a Monday night at Animal Club. Bella is a Royal Python and is only 4 months old but she will be about 6ft long when fully grown and will also become thicker in the girth (wider) as she gets older. Bella is extremely friendly and loves to be handled. We have two new Tarantulas coming soon, a Mexican Red knee and a Chaco Golden knee. They are only slings at the moment (babies) so will take time to grow to their full size. Look out for their pictures in the next edition.

Parents/Carers

Contact Details Reminder

Don't forget to inform the school if you have moved house or changed your telephone number including mobiles, as soon as possible. Please send a note into school with your child to bring to Student Services.

To publish community news in our next issue of 'The Woodrush Star', or to advertise your business contact Mrs Peters or Mrs Bishop on 01564 823777 or email us at woodrushstar@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

Whats new in PSHE?

Your personal health, social life & Economic Wellbeing

NEW CLUBS STARTING NOW!

Both clubs will be held after school in **ICT2**

The PSHE department are starting two new clubs to help support Woodrush Pupils in Personal, Economic wellbeing and Financial capability.

Questions PSHE

Every Monday 3.00pm - 3.40pm

Please See Mrs Peters / Mr Kay for further details

Feel stressed? Angry? Unhappy? Concerned?
Help & advice is always available in this club

Start Date:
Monday 14th October 2012

- Anyone can come to ask Questions
- You can use IT facilities to independently research things in private

Woodrush High School
ICT 2

Economic Education & Financial Advice Club

Every Wednesday 3.00pm - 3.40pm

Please See Mr Kay for further details

Start Date:
Wednesday 17th October 2012

Personal Finance Tips

HSBC bank will be available to support you once a month in:

- Financial management
- Savings
- Opening accounts
- Economic education

Woodrush High School
ICT 2

ALL Pupils of all ages are welcome

Written By Mr Kay

THE WOODRUSH AWARD

Bronze:

- At least 95% attendance
- At least 50 merits
- Represented Woodrush on a trip/visit
- Represented your House in an event
- Complete all your Independent Study
- Good discipline record
- Take part in an extra-curricular club

Silver:

- At least 96% attendance
- At least 70 merits
- Represented Woodrush on a trip/visit
- Represented your House in an event

- Complete all your Independent Study
- Good discipline record
- Take part in an extra-curricular club
- Act as a tour guide for a visitor
- Praise for at least 7 subjects in a progress report

Gold:

- At least 97% attendance
- At least 90 merits
- Represented Woodrush on a trip/visit
- Represented your House in an event
- Complete all your Independent Study
- Good discipline record

- Take part in an extra-curricular club
- Take part in a Learning to Lead Team
- Praise in at least 9 subjects in a progress report

Congratulations to Lydia, Emily and Kim on receiving their 'Gold' Woodrush Award





Summer Celebration Assembly – Well done Brindley!

We have a celebration assembly at the end of every term to celebrate all our students hard work, outstanding achievements, to announce competition winners and above all have a fun time! The overall house champions is decided by calculating points given for House competitions, sports day, attendance and merits which have been accumulated over the academic year. The winning house this year was Brindley so a big well done to all of the team: Mr Thewlis, Mrs Reeves, Mrs Ashman, form tutors and of course all the Brindley students. All students in Brindley will celebrate their well-deserved success by visiting Drayton Manor Theme Park this October. This assembly was all of the afore mentioned and more as the theme this time around was based on the hit television programme 'A League of Their Own' which is hosted by James Corden. It gave a some of the students a chance to take part in the game show shenanigans if they volunteered. It was compulsory for all 'contestants' to wear a moustache before each game commenced and the two teams consisted of three members each. There were three rounds in total including games such as penalty shoot-out, hole in one and a quick fire round of sport related questions. Each assembly was entertaining, hilarious and extremely loud! Of course in between the games medals, certificates and fantastic prizes were handed out to students to celebrate their achievements in sporting events, 100% attendance and form groups who had gained the most merits.

The lucky students below were the winners of the merit prize draws:

Brindley

- Bronze: Johnathon 8B1
- Silver: Emma 8B1
- Gold: Mia 7B1

Cadbury

- Bronze: Robert 9C1
- Silver: Connor 7C1
- Gold: Adam 8C1

Lanchester

- Bronze: Chloe 9L1
- Silver: Shivani 7L1
- Gold: Jamie – Lea 7L1



An additional special prize was handed out in each assembly for those in the merit Gold prize draw – three pairs of tickets to the Olympic Games! The winners were Millie W 9B2, Luke H 9C1 and finally Katie H 8L1.

All the Heads of House would like to say well done to all of you and continue with the hard work and team effort and we look forward to celebrating again at the end of term.



Welcome to Woodrush Year 7's

Due to the excellent work our transition team do to ensure a smooth start for our new year 7s the settling in period has been plain sailing for all students concerned. They have been fortunate to start their secondary school life at a newly refurbished Woodrush; well some parts of the building have had a makeover unfortunately not the whole school, so it is looking better than ever. The students have felt confident and enthusiastic in their first few weeks and it has been so good to see such happy smiling faces. Below is a small snapshot of how some of our year 7s are finding Woodrush.

What I've enjoyed so far is Drama! It's really good and Mr Hall is really fun!

Liam from Meadow Green Primary School

So far it's been great! I've joined hockey club and animal club so far.

Morgan from the Coppice Primary School

It's been exciting and scary because it's a big school and easy to get lost but exciting because of all the new classes and subjects – there really is nothing to be scared of.

Shanice from Hollywood Primary School

At first I was really nervous but after a couple of days you feel like you've been here forever! All of the teachers are really nice too. In fact, it's just awesome!

Harry from Peterbrook Primary School

It is so wonderful to hear such positive comments and proves that they are fully part of our thriving Woodrush community.

Parent/Carer Focus Group

At Woodrush as part of our monitoring, evaluation, review, consultation and improvement planning process we regularly run a Parent/Carer Focus Group. The group meets once every term when we welcome a direct input from parents/carers in determining how Woodrush develops in the future. We believe strongly in working in partnership with our parents/carers and value the contributions that they are able to make in the continued development of our school.

New members are always welcome to join this important group; membership is entirely voluntary requiring a simple letter, phone call or email (nrobinson@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk) to school and we can inform you of the date of our next meeting.

Reported by Mr S. Baker, Deputy Headteacher

Helping Heroes

On the 28th September it was Help for Heroes day and to support this 8L1 sold wristbands to raise money for the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards who are currently serving their third tour of Afghanistan. We raised over £80 which will go towards supporting the families of those killed in action and those wounded or injured on operations. Thank you to everyone who bought a wrist band!

Reported by Miss Williams and 8L1

The Duke of Edinburgh Award at Woodrush High School

The DofE programme is intended to be adventure from beginning to end. It doesn't matter who you are or where you're from. You just need to be in Year 10 to start the Bronze level and from that point you can move to Silver and Gold levels by Year 13.

As well as the time devoted to the scheme in the curriculum, participants must also complete many elements in their own time, commitment is vital.

You achieve your Award by completing a personal programme of activities in four sections (five if you're going for

Gold) – Volunteering, Physical, Skills, Expedition and for Gold, a Residential.

You'll find yourself helping people or the community, getting fitter, developing skills, going on an expedition and taking part in a residential activity (Gold only). Currently our students have been

volunteering at scouts or guides, coaching youngsters and helping at local libraries. In the physical section involvement covers a huge range of sports, and in the skills section our students have been learning to cook, play instruments, and build robots.

Congratulations to the following pupils for completing their DofE

Congratulations to George who has completed his Silver DofE. George has been volunteering at a primary school club, played football, learnt how to build a robot and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Heather who has completed her Bronze DofE. Heather has volunteered at a library, taken part in zumba, learnt how to perform poetry and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Becky who has completed her Bronze DofE. Becky has volunteered at a library, taken part in zumba, learnt how to perform poetry and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Tori who has completed her Bronze DofE. Tori has volunteered at a local church, participated in gymnastics, learnt how to cook and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Josie who has completed her Bronze DofE. Josie has volunteered at a library, played rounders, learnt how to coach netball and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Jess who has completed her Bronze DofE. Jess has volunteered at a library, played netball, learnt how to coach netball and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Andy who has completed his Bronze DofE. Andy has volunteered his time to help children, regularly attended the gym, learnt how to present digital media and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Alex who has completed his Bronze DofE. Alex has volunteered as a sports coach, played rugby, learnt how to care for specialist animals and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to James who has completed his Bronze DofE. James has volunteered as a sports coach, played rugby, developed his book reviewing skills and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Lucy who has completed her Silver DofE. Lucy has volunteered her time at a stables, been horse riding, learnt how to build a robot and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Olly who has completed his Silver DofE. Olly has been volunteering as a referee, played football, learnt how to build a robot and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Matt who has completed his Bronze DofE. Matt has volunteered at a stables, been horse riding, learnt how to play the flute and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Megan who has completed her Bronze DofE. Megan has volunteered as a netball coach, played netball

herself, learnt how to cook and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Emily who has completed her Bronze DofE. Emily has volunteered at girl guides, danced, learnt how to cook and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Hannah who has completed her Silver DofE. Hannah has volunteered her time to teach dance, danced herself, learnt photography and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Alex who has completed his Silver DofE. Alex has volunteered at a stables, played football, learnt how to build a robot and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Matt who has completed his Bronze DofE. Matt has volunteered at scouts, played badminton, learnt the guitar and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Suzie who has completed her Silver DofE. Suzie has volunteered at a primary PE club, competed at athletics, learnt lifesaving skills and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Alex who has completed his Bronze DofE. Alex has volunteered at Scouts, played badminton, learnt the drums and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Abby who has completed her Bronze DofE. Abby has volunteered at a library, danced, learnt photography and completed two expeditions to achieve this.

Congratulations to Lydia who has completed her Bronze DofE. Lydia has volunteered at Rainbows, danced, learnt the piano and completed two expeditions to achieve this.





In recent years the number of staff getting involved with the scheme has increased as have the qualifications they have gained in order to take our youngsters out on expeditions

DofE activity in the 2011-12 academic year

Last year saw our largest numbers at Bronze, with 35 pupils completing the expedition section and a large number of these achieving the whole award. We also had 11 students successfully complete their Silver expedition and most of these completed the award and received their badges and certificates.

This year looks even more promising with nearly 40 students signing up for Bronze, 20 for Silver and we have a group of 7 about to take on the ultimate challenge of Gold (only the second group to do so at Woodrush). Good Luck to all involved!

So why bother doing the DofE Scheme?

Good question! From the first day to the last it's a real adventure. Every section gives you something different – that's the fun of it!

You'll enjoy loads of new experiences, discover talents you never thought you had, challenge yourself and meet loads of people just like you. Plus you'll do things you love and get a kick out of. It's a real buzz!

Then there's all the other stuff...

...achieving an Award will give you



skills, confidence and a view on life that everyone is looking for, from employers to colleges and universities.

...you're getting recognised for doing things you want to do (and may even be doing already).

...you'll make a difference to other people's lives and your community, be fitter and healthier, make new friends and have memories to last you a lifetime.

What does industry say about the value of DofE?

The United Learning Trust (ULT) recently published the results of a major survey, focusing on the methods major employers used for selection of new employees. It was primarily about graduate recruitment and asked for the employers' views on the attributes that were most attractive in candidates.

The organisations interviewed were all major employers, representing 12% of all UK employers, 3.6% of the private workforce and 47.5% of the public sector and included Boots, Vauxhall, BT

Student News

and Tesco. The organisations were asked what attributes and characteristics they valued as key determinants in the selection of employees. The following were rated the highest: leadership, teamwork, self-motivation, communication, confidence, consideration and the ability to learn.

The sample was asked what they considered to be the most important activities undertaken at school and were asked to rate them from 1-5, with 1 being the highest.

Guess which activity came out top; The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, closely followed by Work Experience.

For more information please speak with Miss Houston (DofE Coordinator)

Our Duke of Edinburgh scheme has again seen much success with students gaining awards at all levels and with many now also starting their preparation for new awards this year. Well done to all our students that take part in this, to our parents for their support of it and to all our staff that give up so many evenings and weekends to support students through this fantastic award.

Reported by Miss Houston

www.dofe.org



Snowdome

On Wednesday 18th July 2 coachloads of keen Woodrush students took to the slippery slopes of the Snowdome for their chosen activity on Activities Day.

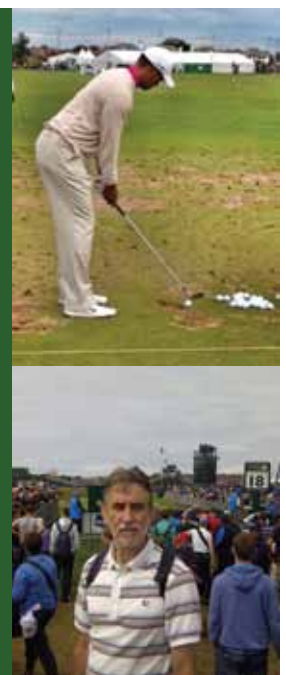
The day consisted of 2 hours of ice skating, where we had a brilliant time; half an hour of tobogganing where we all got cold and covered in snow and then after lunch to top it all off we spent an hour and a half in the pool – swimming and playing on the inflatables. A fantastic way to spend a summer's day!

Reported by Amy

Mr Middleton at the British Open

The day started very early. On a bright Thursday morning we set off to Lytham to watch the opening day of the open championship 2012. We had great weather through the day to watch some quality golf from the best players in the world! Many players were on their best form producing some great shots that created an exciting atmosphere around the course! There were many low scores through the day and the lowest coming from Australia's Adam Scott who finished the tournament in a dramatic second place! It was a great experience to see the likes of Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy standing just in front of you instead of through a TV screen! We finished the day by the putting green where we got autographs from Francesco Molinari and Sergio Garcia. A really enjoyable day, and if you ever get the chance it is definitely a great opportunity. Going to the British Open also saw the last full day of Mr Middleton's teaching career. An avid golf fan and player, Mr Middleton taught at Woodrush High School for over 20 years and thoroughly enjoyed his 'hoorah' at Royal Lytham and St Annes. Mr Middleton will be missed around school but I'm sure he will replace his time by being on the fairways in his retirement. We wish him well and hope that his handicap doesn't get too low or we may start seeing him playing at the next British Open!

Reported by Thomas G & Mr Monk





Miss Duncan

My name is Miss Duncan and I teach Business and ICT. I am very pleased to come to Woodrush. Both students and staff have been super, helping me to settle in and find my way around.

A little bit about me, I like to go to the gym regularly and love holidays – have been lucky enough to go to some amazing places such as Australia and America. I work for a charity in the summer called 'The Challenge'. I get to spend 3 weeks with 16 years olds where we do various activities like kayaking, sea level traversing and abseiling in The Lake District for one week and spend the other weeks developing and implementing community projects to help improve community cohesion.



Ms Dommart

I am originally from Paris, but I have been in the UK for many years, and a foreign language teacher for 8 years.

I enjoy keeping fit, and I run the aerobics club after school on Fridays at Woodrush.



Miss Colbourne

Hi, I'm Miss Colbourne and I teach Design Technology here at Woodrush. I am enjoying my time here and starting a new life in Birmingham. I am originally from Portsmouth and have lived in London for the past 2 years teaching at a large school in Surrey. I love Formula 1 and go to Silverstone to Watch the British Grand Prix every year. This year I met Jake Humphrey! I also enjoy baking and spending time with my partner watching the F1 races. I love traveling and have been on 6 cruises around the world.



Miss Ruprai

Hi I'm Miss Ruprai and I teach Maths. I previously worked at Hall Green School for 6 years. I believe anyone can learn Maths whatever your ability. You just need a little confidence and not be afraid to make a few mistakes along the way. I love dancing and travelling. This year, I have travelled to Thailand, Morocco and France and plan to go to Hong Kong later this year.



Mr Cogollo

Hola a todos! My name is Mr Cogollo and I am from Montería, a town located in the north coast of Colombia, more exactly in the Caribbean area of South America. I will be working throughout this academic year in Woodrush High School as a GTP teacher in the MFL department. I am very pleased firstly to be back to the UK after completing my master degree in the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language in Spain and Sweden; and secondly to be able to share my teaching expertise with foreign language students of all levels and ages at Woodrush.



Miss Hunter

I am Miss Hunter and I teach science (Chemistry). I am originally from Coventry, but studied at Birmingham University. When I am not teaching, I enjoy playing and listening to music, particularly playing bass guitar and saxophone in a small, local band.



Mr Wendzina

I am from Bath and moved to Coventry 7 years ago to study at music college. I moved up to Leeds to study further before returning back to Coventry! This is my first teaching position and really enjoying it so far..! Some things I really enjoy doing when not working (in no particular order!) are cycling, photography, surfing (and generally being on the coast – worst thing about being in the middle of the country!), playing piano & guitar, food and friends! Look forward to growing in experience as a teacher in what I feel is a brilliant and friendly school where I am learning loads, amongst great staff and students!



Mr Ellis

I have recently moved to the area from mid Wales. My interests are all sports, particularly football and I support Liverpool FC!



Mr Lovell

My name is Mr Lovell and I've come to Woodrush having previously taught in Sandwell and China. I am originally from Kent but studied at the University of Birmingham and have come to reside in the West Midlands.

I love going to see almost everything that is on at the cinema and try and get some sort of film or media reference into all my lessons. My favourite films are Aliens and The Shining.

Aside from that I love to read (an obligatory comment for all English teachers), cook and travel. I have previously taught in China, travelled around Russia and cycled to Germany. I guess I just enjoy having wild ideas and seeing if I can make them happen.



Mr Paget

I am originally from Shropshire and have moved into the area to start teaching at Woodrush. I will be teaching Engineering, Construction, Resistant materials/product design, textiles and ICT. Before starting a career in teaching I worked for several different engineering companies across England, both designing and manufacturing many different products.

I enjoy many different sports including fishing, Boxing, Rugby, Art and also playing the Guitar (although not very well!)



Miss Hewitt

I am a graduate from the University of Birmingham with a First Class degree in Sport, Physical Education and Coaching Science. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first few weeks at Woodrush, both staff and pupils have been very welcoming. I have always been very active throughout my life and enjoyed taking part in a variety of physical activities. My passion for sports such as netball, swimming, tennis, horse riding and outdoor and adventurous activities led to my career choice as a teacher of Physical Education, a subject I believe to be particularly important to young people today.



Mr Virdee

I did my teacher training at University of Birmingham. My interests are pretty much all sports with football being a particular favourite. I enjoy watching American sports for a bit of difference. I also play 5-a-side football twice a week and enjoy going to the gym when the opportunity arises. I have really enjoyed my first weeks at Woodrush and look forward to the future with all the staff and students.



Miss Hollingworth

My name is Miss Hollingworth and I teach science and maths. After working at Kingsley College for the last two years, I am very pleased to come back to Woodrush. Woodrush is an excellent school and the students and staff are great.



We say a temporary goodbye and best wishes to Mrs Dawson and Mrs Holtham-Brown who left for maternity leave just before half-term. We would like to take this opportunity to wish them both a safe delivery and 'good luck' in their new role as a mum. What an exciting time for both families.



Kia Ora from New Zealand!

I hope you all had a fantastic summer holiday...



As you all now know, I am writing this article from the other side of the world. Emigrating was a huge decision to make as you can imagine. Woodrush means a lot to me, with me being a former Woodrush pupil meant it was more than just a brilliant place to work with the friendliest people; it was filled with fantastic memories which I will always treasure.

New Zealand is a wonderful place though. After doing lots of research and having a holiday back in 2011, my family and I decided to begin the visa process. The process proved to be rather unpredictable and resulted in not knowing when or indeed if it was definitely going to be accepted; unfortunately this meant

I couldn't say goodbye as I'd hoped.

We've all now settled in The Bay of Plenty and we're enjoying having the beach close by, Mount Maunganui to climb and hot spas to relax in. It's the beginning of spring here; schools here will break up for their summer holidays in December, and begin back in February – Christmas in the sunshine will take a bit of getting used to as well!

Flip flops are called 'jandals', shopping trollies are 'trundlers' and I have discovered the delight of 'Hokey Pokey' icecream...

For those of you who are Lord of the Rings fans, my new house is exactly 49 minutes' drive from 'Hobbiton' (I just Googled it).

Thank you for all the fantastic memories; The Black Eyed Peas 'I got a feeling', I'm a HOH get me out of here, the brilliant trips and experiences that I had the chance to be part of, being part of Brindley winning the House Cup – twice!

I would like to welcome Miss Price as the new Brindley Head of House, ask you all to look after Mr T for me and I would also like to give my congratulations to Mrs Peters and Mrs Bishop for taking on the responsibility of The Woodrush Star – I will definitely be reading it on Woodrush's website to keep me up to date on what you've all been up to...

I hope to stay in touch with Woodrush – I miss you all!

Reported by Mrs Reeves

An amazing summer – Olympics 2012

I was really lucky to get some tickets to see the Olympics this summer. It was an amazing experience. As they say 'once in a lifetime'.

I set off to London wondering what to expect and was prepared for the worst but got the best. The trip to the Olympic stadium was no problem. The 'game makers' really were tremendous and made you feel very welcome. I saw 5 finals, including the semi-finals of the men's 200m, where Usain Bolt was running. (He is in lane 6 in the photo). The journey home was again easy and London was shown as its best. The motto was 'Inspire a generation' which I am going to use all year.

Reported by Mrs Sedgwick





G&T News

The Big Deal Competition

Since March of this year, Hannah and Scott in Year 10 have met weekly to plan their own business idea in preparation for a 'Dragon's Den' style business pitch. Along with some support from their business mentor, Hannah and Scott came up with a business idea, allocated themselves roles of responsibility, created a detailed business plan and practised their business pitch.

On Thursday 5th July, Hannah and Scott pitched their social enterprise idea of a food catering service for university students to a large audience comprising of business judges and other schools at Warwick University. Although they did not win the competition, the judges praised them on the quality of their idea, the maturity of their business plan and how engaging their pitch was.

Well done Hannah and Scott; you represented Woodrush superbly and worked effectively as a team to create a fantastic business plan that I am sure even Duncan Bannatyne from 'Dragon's Den' would be impressed by!

Reported by Miss Denyer



Shining Stars

National Poetry Day 2012 was celebrated with afternoon tea in the library. The theme this year was stars, and at lunchtime our own young poetry stars entertained a select audience, reading winning poems from previous competitions.

Later, in a short workshop, students had the opportunity to examine a range of poetic devices, before enjoying afternoon tea and writing a poem of their own.



Modern Foreign Languages

European Day of Languages 2012

This September saw our annual celebration of languages. This year the MFL department held a European Café set up by our A level French students and well-advertised by French, Spanish and Italian students from year 8. Our year 8s dressed up as Mexicans to test Woodrush pupils' knowledge of language and dished out prizes to those who could answer correctly some challenging questions! Our café served cakes and biscuits from across Europe such as Italian biscotti, and French brioche.

Merci, Grazie, Danke and Gracias to all those who got involved and here is to a bigger, better European Day of Languages 2013!!!



The winners for the National Poetry Day competition were:

- 1st Sophie 9B1
- 2nd Joseph 8L1
- 3rd Mia 7C1



Activities Day: Through My Eyes

Some of you may have been to different places on Activities Day – like me. Some of you may have had a day out; not like me. Me, and around about 88 other students, went to see Shrek: The Musical, had a tour of the Harry Potter Studios in London and went to Pizza Hut. How did we fit it all into one day? We didn't: we fitted it into TWO DAYS! And no, we didn't see Shrek, then come home then go back to London to have the Harry Potter Tour-we stayed in London. Where? A Premier Inn Hotel!

After hours on the coach, we arrived in London at the Premier Inn and the coaches buzzed with excitement. "I can't

believe it" I thought "We're finally at the Premier Inn!" After waiting in the main lobby, me, Michael and Lewis grabbed our keys and raced to our rooms like bumper cars! We burst through the doors and each chose our beds. I got the smallest one (surprise, surprise!)

We all had until 3:15pm to get changed and ready for our meal at Pizza Hut. Everyone couldn't wait to have a look around London, and we were even more excited about seeing Shrek but we knew 'Good things come to those who wait'. After scoffing our faces with pizzas and for those who didn't (like me) we scoffed our faces with breadsticks and tortillas, we got on the coach and drove to Shrek and we couldn't wait to experience Shrek: The Musical.

After climbing loads of stairs, we got to the Upper Circle and Shrek the Musical was about to start. It was amazing! But even though we had enjoyed Shrek, we were all absolutely exhausted and got back to the hotel at 10.30pm and got into bed. Some people (like me) stayed up a little bit longer till about 1.30pm – then eventually fell asleep.

It was the start of a new day and a new adventure in London as we were leaving the Hotel and made our entrance to The Harry Potter Studios. We were blown away-this place was ENORMOUS and it was filled with all things Harry Potter from flying cars to the Streets of Diagon Alley. As we walked into the Studios, we were taken into what seemed to be a cinema and watched clips from all

the films and got a summary of Harry Potter; then the magic really happened. Once we'd finished watching the clips, the cinema began to fill with light and the screen began to rise to reveal curtains. Then the curtains rose to reveal doors then the doors opened to reveal.....The Great Hall itself! Everyone was gobsmacked, especially me and we raced in to observe the real-life Harry Potter Grand Hall. That's when the magic REALLY happened...

After wondering around the magical studios, it was time to go home. What an adventure we had! From Pizza Hut to Shrek to Premier Inn to The Harry Potter Studios. It was a breath-taking, yet tiring experience but I enjoyed every single second of it and I highly recommend it!

Thanks to Miss Denyer, the English Department and the Heads of House for taking us!

Reported by Jamie 8B1





The Mystery Cupboard

Talented students, Emily, Holly and Harry, set about creating a secret world in a hidden corner of the library. Using only recycled materials and a lot of imagination, they have changed a dingy cupboard into a scene from *The Secret Garden*. At our recent open evening the girls dressed up as Mary from Frances Hodgson Burnett's book and helped younger visitors guess what was in the cupboard. Emily says "It was really good fun and I've got lots of ideas for future projects!" Look out for their Christmas-themed installation which will be ready for December.



Opening day of The Hive

Earlier this year, the Young People's Committee and some other people from the school, went to the opening day of The Hive in Worcester. The Hive is a newly built library that looks like a bee hive, which is why it is called The Hive. When we were there, we did a poetry slam, which involved making a poem, which we did in groups, and then we read it aloud to everyone else. About an hour and a half later two very important people walked around the library and those people were her Royal Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. Then we watched the Queen, with the Duke of Edinburgh beside her, pull a cord to reveal a plaque to say it was officially open. Weeks later I asked Mrs Robertson (our librarian) what she thought about the library, she replied "I loved the range of books and the funky reading wall in the children's section. I hope to take more students to the library in the future to take advantage of the facilities". I also asked Analisa what she thought about the poetry slam, she replied "it was interesting and great fun, I really enjoyed it". Millie said the part of the library she enjoyed the most of all was the manga section!

Reported by Cat

Poetry Slam

On Thursday 12th July, Joe, Connor, Luke, Jack and Charlie, in Year 7 at the time, represented Woodrush at the Worcestershire High School Poetry Slam. After beating off stiff competition by winning the Woodrush Poetry Slam, the Year 7 boys performed at the Artrix in Worcester against fourteen other Worcester-shire high schools. The poem had been written entirely by themselves on the theme of war and the poet, Spoz was particularly impressed by what they had written. On the night, their performance was flawless and moving and the audience and judges were captivated by what they heard. Despite, their enthusiastic performance, the boys unfortunately did not win but we are particularly proud of what they achieved and they even got a mention by one of the judges! Well done!

Reported by Miss Ludford



Buzzing About Books



Once again, every Year 7 student will be receiving a free book before Christmas. During English lessons, each child has selected from a possible twelve titles and we are now eagerly waiting for the books to arrive in school. The books cover a range of genres, from real life stories to fantasy, with something to appeal to everyone. As part of our whole school reading programme, each Year 7 tutor and several book club members have been given one of the books to read and review.



Holly, Year 8, rates *Lost Riders* by Elizabeth Laird 10/10. She describes it as an emotive, adventurous and touching story about two children aged 8 and 4, sold to a camel riding place. When they are put in different places they can hope to find each other. The one boy, Rashid, becomes a favourite but his brother is an unfortunate one.



Mrs Sedgwick, 7L2, read a book of poems, *Journey to the Centre of my Brain* by James Carter. Rating it 8/10, she wrote: it has very clever observations about different aspects of life e.g. being scared, teachers etc. The poems are short and it will not take long to read the whole book. It may inspire some people to take up poetry and give it a go!

For more details about all of the books and their authors, visit the website www.bookbuzz.org.uk

Woodrush Dancers at Artsfest 2012



Dancers from Woodrush were part of Artsfest 2012 when they performed on the main festival stage in Centenary Square, Birmingham City Centre on Saturday 8th September at 11am. Force Dance Company, is led by Miss Thomas and they rehearse at Woodrush on Friday evenings. They were chosen to perform on the main festival stage after several years of successful performances at the previous Artsfest events.

Many of the dancers in Force Dance Company are Woodrush or ex-Woodrush students. Woodrush Force, the Gifted and Talented dance group held

at Woodrush, were also part of the performance. The 25min set included a piece choreographed by Megan, an ex-Woodrush student to a piece from Chicago. A second piece, originally choreographed by Mrs Bridgen and the BTEC Level 3 Performing Arts students was also performed. This piece is entitled "Asylum" and is based on a famous piece of dance called Rosas Danst Rosas that was originally choreographed by Anne Teresa de Keersmaeker. Woodrush Force then performed their dance to "Beggin" by Madcon that was first performed at last year's Olympic Sports Day and Induction evening. The final dance of the slot was choreographed by Miss Thomas and was performed to live music. Faye played guitar whilst Ellie sang lead vocals and Lauren sang backing vocals for Jessie Js "Pricetag". The dance is an abstract contemporary piece based on movements associated with shopping.

Later on the same stage on the same day the Birmingham Royal Ballet were also performing! But Force were the first act on the stage!

Woodrush Force dancers are:

Lucy Y10, Beth Y10, Jodie Y10, Bethany Y9, Lydia Y8, Katie Y9, Emily Y9, Amy

Y11, Samantha Y9, Hannah Y11, Alex Y11, Ellie Y10, Abigail Y8, Ellie Y8, Alex (last year's Y11) and Mille Y10.

Force Dance Company are:

Miss Thomas, Amelia, Megan (ex Woodrush), Kim Y11, Hannah Y12, Lucy Y10, Jodie Y10, Beth Y9, Georgie (ex Woodrush), Emily Y9, Katie Y9, Lauren Y13, Alice Y10, Amy (ex Woodrush), Ellie (ex Woodrush), Amy Y11, Hannah Y11, Bella (ex Woodrush), Alex Y11, Alex (ex Woodrush), Amber (ex Woodrush) and Milli Y10.

Miss Thomas and Force Dance Company would like to take this opportunity to wish good luck to all those dancers who are leaving this year!

- Amelia, going to Bangor Uni to study Biology
- Ellie, going to DeMontfort Uni to study Performing Arts
- Megan, going to Bournemouth Uni to study Fashion Photography
- Amy, going to Chester Uni to study Drama

For more information on Force Dance Company and Woodrush Force, please see Miss Thomas in S8 and look out for details of this year's auditions!

Dance GCSE

In September a brand new GCSE dance course was launched by Mrs Bridgen. It's a great new course where students learn more about performing and more about choreography. It's fun, exciting and interesting. Students learn different types of dances and find styles they like or they don't. It's somewhere where students can try styles of dance that they have never tried.

Reported by Annalisa



Yorkshire Sculpture Park

The Art department took year 10 Art and Photography students to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park in Wakefield on Tuesday 3rd July. The trip was to look at how sculpture enhances the environment and to build on the students current unit on Rural and Urban Landscapes. The sun was shining when we arrived and the students had an excellent day walking around the park. They got to see sculptures by Henry Moore, Anish Kapoor, Juan Miro, Barbra Hepworth, Anthony Gormley and Richard Long.

Welcome to



Ms Ashman
Sixth Form Learning
co-ordinator

Mr Sullivan
Head of
Sixth Form

Welcome to the Sixth Form Year 12

After some fantastic GCSE results this summer, we are pleased to announce that over half of our Year 11 students from last year have enrolled into the Sixth Form to study a range of BTEC and A-level courses. Over the past few weeks over eighty students have been busy enrolling onto their new courses and preparing themselves for the new challenges that lie ahead in their post-16 studies at Woodrush. After acclimatising to the new surroundings of the Sixth Form centre, meeting their new form tutors and deliberating over what to wear on their first day, our new Year 12 cohort have already shown all the signs of being an enthusiastic and motivated group of students.

As a school we are really excited about what lies ahead for both our Year 12 and Year 13 students. With a range of events, courses and initiatives planned for the Sixth Form this year we are thrilled that so many of our students have decided to continue their studies with us.

The next two years mark an important juncture for all our Sixth Formers. Every member of our staff is determined to support these students and ensure that every student meets their full potential and overcomes the challenges that lie ahead. We are already looking forward to seeing all of our Sixth Form students develop and progress and we are really excited about what the future holds for them.

Good luck to all of our Sixth Formers for the year ahead.

Mr Sullivan
Head of Sixth Form

Sixth Form Celebrate

It was another year to celebrate for our sixth formers as they collected their results on August 16th.

One of the highlights of this year's results were the results of Evie, who gained 4 A grades in Maths, Chemistry, Biology and English Lit/Lang and 2 Distinctions* in Performing Arts. These are a truly exceptional set of results that will enable Evie to pick the University of her choice after her gap year. Pictured are Ross (B,C ,C) Kirsty (A,C,C) and David (B,B,C) who gained fantastic results, which enabled Kirsty and David to go to their first choice Universities of City University Birmingham and Leicester University, and Ross to also choose the University of his choice after his gap year.

In total, 27% of results were A*-B and 97% A*-E, which again is another excellent set of results for our students. All students who have applied to university have gained a place of their choice with all other students moving into employment or further training.

Many congratulations should go to our year 13 students and also a great thanks must go to the parents and staff who have supported our students over the past 2 years.





Woodrush Sixth Formers help out with Open Evening

Well done to all the Sixth Formers that helped out as guides for the school's open evening on the 20th September. Your help guiding parents around the school and answering any of their questions was greatly appreciated.

Despite the evening being primarily focused on parents of prospective Year 7 students for the next academic year, many parents were keen to meet and talk to our Sixth Formers about post-16 study at Woodrush High. All of our Sixth Formers did a fantastic job on the evening and were a real credit to the Sixth Form and the school as a whole.



Introducing this year's Sixth Form Head Girl and Head Boy:



After a closely contested election campaign back in June, Jack and Laura were voted Sixth Form Head Boy and Head Girl for the academic year 2012-2013. Both Jack and Laura are starting their second year of A-level studies in Year 13. Jack is studying A-levels in History, Maths and Psychology, and has already achieved a full A-level in English Language and Literature. Laura is studying A-levels in Biology, Chemistry and Psychology, and has also already achieved a full A-level in English Language and Literature.

Jack and Laura will help ensure that student voice is heard and fully represented in the Sixth Form in terms of Sixth Form developments, initiatives, facilities, social events, trips and charitable concerns.

One part of their role is to oversee and chair this year's Sixth Form student council. Jack and Laura have played a big part in selecting students that they feel would effectively represent the Sixth Form in the student council. Members of this year's Sixth Form student council are as follows:

- Deputy Head Girl: Alice
- Deputy Head Boy: Cameron
- Charity/Fundraising Directors: Steph, Hayley and Dan
- Social Directors: Livvy and Lauren
- Student liaison to Lower School: Laura and Poppy.

Laura and Jack will be meeting regularly with the Sixth Form student council and making important decisions regarding the future improvement and growth of our Sixth Form.

Cameron, Laura and Dan help out with the Macmillan Coffee Morning



HOLLYWOOD TRAVEL LTD • HOLIDAYS BY COACH

Door-to-door Service • Friendly Drivers • Special Requests • Pre-Booked Seats • Private Day Excursions

Email: hollywoodtravel@lineone.net Tel: 0121 436 6263

Life in the Sixth Form: new Year 12 students have their say...

Kerry (studying Photography, Film Studies and Art)	Jay (studying History, Business Studies, Government and Politics and English Language and Literature)	Mark (studying Maths, Physics, Photography and Product Design)	Lewis (studying Chemistry, Psychology, English Language and Literature and History)	Lucy (studying Biology, Chemistry, Sociology and English Language and Literature)
--	---	--	---	---

Why have you decided to continue your post-16 studies at Woodrush Sixth form?

The teachers are really helpful and I knew that I would get more support than if I went elsewhere. I also know the environment and I am local to the area. Also, a lot of my friends have stayed on in the Sixth form.	Well, all my friends decided to come and I know the teachers are all good. I also live locally and the school is really easy to get to.	I knew I would get more support and attention. I also know the teachers and I have already formed relationships with them.	I wanted to build on the past successes I have had here. I also feel familiar with the place and I feel comfortable with the teachers. I was also concerned that if I went elsewhere it might not be as easy to get one on one support from staff.	I am a Woodrush student and wanted to stay. Teachers also know my strengths and weaknesses and know how to get the best out of me. It's also clearly an 'outstanding school'.
--	---	--	--	---

How have you settled into the Sixth form?

I've settled in well. I love the fact that you can pick the subjects you want to do. I've also enjoyed making use of the Sixth Form centre facilities and I've also noticed that the teachers act slightly differently towards me. They were friendly anyway, but now they seem even friendlier.	Great yeah! I know a lot of the people here, which is a real benefit. We have also had plenty of opportunities to socialise with each other. In fact, I have formed friendships with students that I didn't really know in Year 11. The whole place feels like a really nice community. I have also found the support really good and I like that I can go to teachers whenever I like for advice and help. Also, the timetable feels flexible and I am finding there is lots of opportunity to get work done in school.	Very well. At the start it was a bit overwhelming, but I've quickly settled. Having already been a student in Woodrush, I know the staff and I know my way around, which has made it easier to settle in. It has also helped that the teachers are good and that I have been able to form new friendships.	I've settled in quicker than I thought I would. I've found it really easy to quickly establish a schedule that will benefit my studies. I also find it a really friendly atmosphere; lots of my friends have stayed on and the Year 13s have been friendly and helpful. The facilities here are useful and it's great having a separate study area.	Good. Everyone merges together. Everyone is here to study and we are all in that frame of mind. Teachers have also been really helpful in making me feel settled. I also find that I now talk to people that I didn't really know in Year 11. Everyone just seems to get along really well.
--	--	--	---	---

Would you recommend the Sixth form for the current Year 11s?

Yes, I would recommend you join the Sixth form. It's a really supportive environment, you feel familiar with the school and the staff, and it's really reassuring that you know you can continue with the successes you have achieved lower down the school.	If you want good teachers . . . yes! If you want good grades . . . yes!	Definitely! It's a really friendly place and you know that the teachers want you to do well and give you lots of support.	Yes, definitely! It will help them continue to be successful in their studies. There's greater familiarity with staff and good advice about your future.	Definitely! You can see how the Sixth form is improving and getting better all the time. I know I have definitely made the right decision.
--	---	---	--	--



The Sixth Form offers our students a wide range of subjects

Applied Science
Art
Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
English Language & Literature
Film Studies
French
Further Maths
Geography
Government & Politics
Health & Social Care

History
ICT
Law
Maths
PE
Photography
Physics
Product Design
Psychology
Sociology
Spanish
Textiles
■ new for 2013-14

What our Students are saying about the Sixth Form

You learn new things and take up new and interesting subjects. There is a great choice in what subjects and qualifications you can do.

I feel comfortable working here. Teachers are friendly and I feel I can talk to them if I am having problems with my course.

The teaching is fantastic.

The staff know your strengths and how you can improve. There is plenty of course choice to suit your needs.

I feel valued. I went to another college and didn't like it. There was no personal value attached to you there.



Woodrush High School
An Academy for Students Aged 11-18



Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 29th November 2012


6pm-7.30pm

Presentation at 6pm


Headteacher: Mr C King
Shawhurst Lane, Wythall, Worcestershire, B47 5JW
Tel: 01564 823777
Email: reception@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk
www.woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

Macmillan Coffee Morning


A Great Sixth Form Bake Off . . .




On September 28th the Sixth Form held its annual Macmillan Coffee morning to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Support. The Sixth Form, and many members of staff, produced a wide range of mouth-watering cakes to sell to staff and students around the school. These cakes ranged from chocolate brownies to cupcakes, from lemon drizzle cakes to Victoria sponges. Just about every cake imaginable was baked to help raise money for this very important cause.



This year, a competition was also held to create the best carrot cake. Well done to all the students who went to great efforts to produce some lovely carrot cakes. However, staff voted and decided that Annabelle Brice's delicious offering just edged the competition. Well done Annabelle!



Thank you to all of the Sixth Form for their hard work and effort in ensuring that this year's Macmillan Coffee morning has been our most successful yet. A huge thank you is also extended to staff and students for their generous donations.



As a result of all of their hard work, and the generosity of staff and students, the Sixth Form has nearly doubled the amount raised last year.

The Sixth Form is very proud to announce that this year Woodrush High School will be donating **£476** to Macmillan Cancer Support.



Creative Arts Department



A-Level Photography students visit the Forest of Dean

On Wednesday 19th of September, the A-Level Photography students went West to visit the Forest of Dean to capture iconic and interesting abstract photographs, using the wilderness around them and placing contrasting props and items to create unique and eccentric images. This venture into the fantastic forest was an exceptional start for the Photography students, opening ideas and creating possibilities for what's to come this year.

In the forest, the pupils had to investigate the area for locations that would enable them to create interesting photos, that displayed the theme of abstract, through the use of prop placement. Many items, such as photo frames, masks and musical instruments, were used to complete the task and some extraordinary photos were captured.

The forest helped produce some stunning work as it created great scenery and introduced key components that enabled the students to show their flare as photographers. The students divided into groups and set off to find the best spots at which they could create some stunning photos within a couple of hours. It was a long and eventful day but everyone agreed that the trip was a great experience.

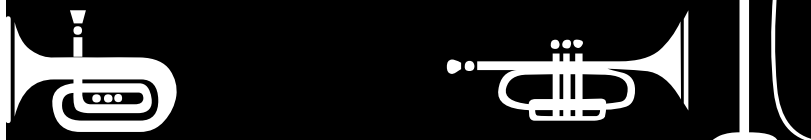
Reported by: Jack – Year 12 photography student

Singing Lessons starting soon at Woodrush

We have a great new vocal coach joining the music department in the next few weeks. He will be coming in each Friday to give singing lessons. You can learn on your own, in a pair or a group with a few friends. There is a charge for lessons but it can work out quite cheap if you learn as a group. See Mrs Sheppard if you are interested. If you would like to see if you like it before committing, there will be some free trial lessons available.

Instrument Lessons... have now all started back

If you are a new year 7, or an existing student who would like to learn an instrument, please get details from Mrs Sheppard in the Music Room.



Art Textiles enrichment club

The Art Department have started to run an Art Textiles enrichment club. This is open to all KS3 students who want to investigate the properties of a wide range of materials and processes. Students have already

experimented in felt making. Students will be weaving, dissolving, melting, dyeing, stitching and embellishing. Anyone interested should come along and give it a try. Sessions are run on a Wednesday 3-4pm in A1.



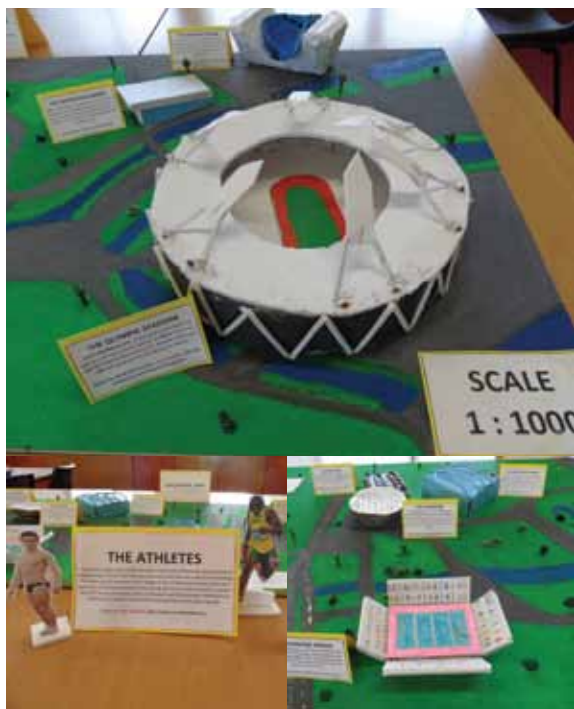


Olympic related activities using Maths

As part of Woodrush's cross curricular Olympics celebration the Maths department did lots of different Olympic related activities in lessons. KS3 pupils designed flags with lines of symmetry and some year 10 pupils spent 2 weeks designing their own swimming pool complex and investigating the costs involved.

Meanwhile top set year 9 were busy recreating the Olympic Park. This activity was not as easy as it sounds as they decided to make a perfect scale model. They had to find the actual sizes of each of the structures; scale these down to a scale of 1:1000 and then work on making the buildings. They worked in small groups with each group being responsible for one structure. First they had to experiment with different materials such as straws, pipe cleaners, foam board, plasticine and cardboard in order to make prototypes before finding the best design and creating the final model village. Even trees were re-created from pipe cleaners and straws as well as the pathways being painted onto the base board. Whoever said you couldn't have fun in Maths – there was paint, glue and all types of modelling materials all over the classroom every lesson.

One group also decided to re-create some of the athletes – however when working to the original scale of 1:1000 it became clear that the athletes would be the size of ants and so it was decided to make the athletes using a scale of 1:15. Images of the athletes were found online and then scaled appropriately before being attached to foam board for support.



Welcome to the STEM pages!

Wherever you see this logo you will find news about the exciting things happening in the STEM subjects. The Term 'STEM' groups together the subjects of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths which are closely linked in solving the many challenges facing the world today. Throughout the year you will be seeing and hearing more about STEM and the incredible possibilities that these subjects offer. So keep your ears open and get involved in as much as you can!

Reported by Miss Taylor

Staff changes in ICT and Business Studies Department.

In the summer we said farewell to Mr Helmore who had been at Woodrush for 5 years. We wish him all the best for the future. In September we welcomed a new member of staff Ms Duncan. She has settled in very well and is making a great contribution to the department already.

ICT and Business Studies Results 2011_2012

The department would like to congratulate 2012 Year 11 on their fantastic results. Another fantastic year for ICT as it is our fourth year of achieving 100% pass rate A-C. The students and staff work very hard to ensure that every student has at least has 1 GCSE in ICT and some achieve up to 4 with the top grade. The A level results were impressive as we had a small group of students undertaking Business and they all achieved their target grades or above.

Reported by Mrs Sedgwick

What is happening this year in ICT

ICT IS NOT JUST FOR GEEKS	Years 9, 10 & 11	October
GADGET SHOW	Years 12&13	November
BUSINESS REVISION	Years 12&13	December and March
BLETCHLEY PARK	Year 10	Spring 2013
	Year 7	Spring 2013
BBC TV STUDIOS	Year 9	Spring
CADBURY'S	Years 10 & 11	TBA
LEGOLAND	Year 8	TBA
BUSINESS ENTERPRISE DAY	Years 8 & 9	TBA



Sci-tech 2012 – an insight into future science careers

Year 12, Level 3, B-Tec Applied Science students attended the annual Sci-Tech event at NEW College, Redditch in the summer to take part in workshops and seminars to experience different science careers and further their science knowledge. Presentations were given by Dr Jon Wood, of Birmingham University, on the history and future of neuroscience and a very entertaining performance was given by Dr Mark Lewney, 'The rock doctor'. Dr Lewney, a cross between Einstein and Jimi Hendrix, explained everything from sound waves to the Big Bang with the use of his electric guitar.

In the morning, students took part in a variety of workshops including Chemical Engineering with Rolls Royce, Biotechnology with Harper Adams University and Forensic science with West Mercia Police. The afternoon was started with a Forensic Science challenge and ended with a science quiz. Unfortunately no prizes were won but the students represented Woodrush well and came away far more open minded about science careers.



Eco-School growing competition

Form groups across all years at Woodrush dug deep during the spring/summer term to find creative ways of growing carrots, beans, lettuce, onions and cucumbers in a house growing competition. Forms were judges on the quality of their crop and the originality of the containers. It was shown that just about anything can be used. Unusual objects used included tea cups, recycled drinks bottles, old saucepans, pant tins and even some rubber gloves. Here are some of the winning entries.



Clockwise from top:
10L1's Jubilee rubber glove display complete with French beans and 10B2's recycled containers
The winning 9L2's paint pots and 9L1's pot lettuce.
Miss Kaur who kindly lent her tea-cup for 7C1's carrots

Got an iPhone, iPod touch or iPad? You can now do Science revision on the go!

CGP (the company we order our revision guides from) have created an app for iPhones that covers all of GCSE Core Science. It costs £1.49 from the App Store. Just search for OCR Gateway Science.

If you are doing Core Science in Year 10.... This is perfect for you.

Additional Science and Triple Science Apps for Years 10 and 11 are going to be made available very soon.

Let your Science teacher know what you think!



Woodrush wins Silver Eco-Schools award

The hard work of Woodrush's Eco-schools group has been rewarded with the National Eco-Schools Silver award. Throughout the year the group has lead many projects including an audit of the school's energy usage, litter picking, native hedge planting, and the whole school vegetable growing competition. The award would not have been possible without the support of the whole school.

Well done Woodrush – keep up the good work!





BTEC Level 3 Science Trip – Sixth formers make drugs!

On Friday 15th June, the Level 3 BTEC Scientists went on a trip to the Chemistry labs at Warwick University. The trip was organised so that the students could complete their assignment work successfully and to give them the experience of working in a proper laboratory.

19 Y12 and Y13 students met in the morning ready to get in the minibus for the drive to the university. We were met by Nick Barker on our arrival who took us up to the fifth floor of the Chemistry building. Here we were given a safety briefing and left our belongings so that they wouldn't get damaged in the laboratory.

We then went down a floor to the undergraduates chemistry lab, which cost £14 million to refurbish 3 years ago. The sixth formers then split into pairs and found a fume cupboard to work in. They were assigned a university helper between two pairs and given the prac-

tical instructions. As the room we were working in is a designated laboratory, we had to wear goggles and lab coats at all times, have hair tied back and there were purple disposable gloves to wear when handling chemicals. Some of the helpers were undergraduates (completing their first degree in Chemistry) and some of them were researchers or post-doctoral students, so proper scientists! They were very knowledgeable and offered our students excellent support. Two of them also took the sixth formers on tours of their research labs during the afternoon.

Our students were involved in making drugs! They made samples of aspi-

rin and paracetamol and purified these. They also used a technique called Thin Layer Chromatography (TLC) to find out how pure their samples were.

During the day, several of the university lecturers and professors came to visit us and to chat with individual students. We were lucky enough to have some of Professor David Fox's time. He has developed a wonder drug to treat asthma and many of the techniques he used to do this were being used by our sixth formers to make their drugs!

They all had a great day, learned a lot of new practical skills and passed their assignments successfully!

Jeans for Genes Day 2012



On Friday 5th October Woodrush raised money for Genetic Disorders UK by holding a non uniform day. The Science department ran a cake sale and genetics quiz to raise even more money on the day. A big thank-you to all the other staff who baked cakes, donated tables and helped out on the stall. Congratulations to Shanice in Year 7 who won the genetics quiz top prize and helped Cadbury win the overall house competition.

A big thank-you must also go to our 6th form who dusted off their old school uniforms for the day and helped raise money by running competitions around the school. Congratulations to Joe in 8C2 who correctly guessed the number of sweets in the jar and won them all!

Overall Woodrush raised an incredible £1111.83 for the charity so a big thank-you for all your support.

Reported by Mr Raistrick

The Tomorrow's Engineers roadshow

At the end of October Year 9 were visited by the Tomorrow's Engineers roadshow. The event began with a show that highlighted the importance of engineering in our world, what engineers do, how engineering affects our lives and how engineering companies from the Midlands are making a difference on a global scale. The interactive show included demonstrations of electricity generation, earthquake proof buildings and how engineers are working to combat climate change. This was followed up with workshops that allowed us to the chance to get some 'hands on' experience of the sort of work engineers do. Everyone had a go at making solar powered cars and seeing how we can harness energy from the sun. We also looked at the design process as well as the huge variety of work involved in different engineering careers. Everyone had a great time and hopefully it has inspired some talented engineers of the future!



Activities day – Trip to Birmingham City Football Club

As part of Activities day the ICT department took approximately 50 pupils to Birmingham City Football Club. The group got divided into smaller groups as they had to do some work before the tour. It was a competition for the best presentation on 'How to make a fan's experience better, when they come to the Football club'. The ideas that were generated were fantastic and inventive. The tour around the ground was really informative especially about the tactics the club use in the visitors changing room. The pupils had a chance to visit the shop to purchase mementoes. At the end of the day the pupils were given a certificate and also had a chance to have their photographs taken with the Carling Cup. Those who won can attend a football match for 2 for free.

A great day was had by all!

Reported by Mrs Sedgwick







If you like science, technology, engineering and maths then join our STEM club.

There will be awards and competitions running throughout the year, and it will look great on college applications!!!

TUESDAYS
2:50-3:50
in S1

Projects include:
1) Technology and Nature
2) Fashion Design
3) Console Gaming Design





Design Technology Fashion + Textiles Club!

Wednesday
2.50-3.50pm
T3
Ms.Khatri



To publish community news in our next issue of 'The Woodrush Star', or to advertise your business contact Mrs Peters or Mrs Bishop on 01564 823777 or email us at woodrushstar@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk



ICT Clubs

If you really want to improve your ICT skills then the ICT Club is for you.

If you are interested then come along to IT2 on:

Tuesday – Multimedia Advanced Skills 3:00-3:40

Wednesday – ICT Club 1:25 – 1:50

All welcome on a Wednesday lunch time!

Mrs Sedgwick



Design Technology

Design Technology is about using different materials to design and make products that meet our needs and wants. It prepares you to be able to participate in tomorrow's rapidly changing society. It will help you learn to think creatively so that you can solve problems and improve the quality of life. You will be able to develop a range of ideas to meet wants and needs and then make some of your ideas so that you can develop a range of skills. Your work must be evaluated and tested, both the design and the practical, to see if the products produced are suitable and fit for their purpose.

Course content for Food Technology Years 7-9

- Safety and hygiene
- Equipment
- Healthy eating and nutrition
- Food choices in relation to healthy eating
- Design and make tasks
- Specifications
- Flow charts
- Taste testing
- Labelling and packaging
- Properties of food
- Disassembly of products
- Product development
- Lots of practical work!

Students are to make sure that they bring recipes home so ingredients can be obtained and prepared for practical lessons. They will be doing a practical every week. You will need a set of kitchen scales too. Please ensure they measure their own ingredients independently when asked to do so, with guidance where necessary, as this will help develop numeracy skills in weights and measures – grams, kilograms, millilitres and litres.

Some practical work will be brought home prepared but not cooked. This is sometimes due to time constraints in lessons, timing of lessons later in the day as we do not wish students to be carrying home hot items. Also, some products are unsuitable for reheating and we would like you to enjoy them at their best. Please encourage your child to make their recipes again at home for you and try being creative and innovative in their use of ingredients to adapt the recipes.

Practical lessons are preceded by a demonstration lesson where possible, so students are able to 'see' how to apply new and existing skills, discuss modifications and also try the food before they make it. This always provides an excellent introduction to try out new or unfamiliar foods and develop their palate. Don't be put off by the beetroot in the muffins in year 7 – they taste delicious with cocoa and have proved to be a resounding success at introducing hidden nutrients in simple and popular baked foods!!

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fruit smoothie • Fruity flapjacks • Panther Puffins • Vegetable Cous Cous • Fruit crumble 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetable soup • Tomato and basil Ragu • Bread rolls • Vegetable pizza • Victoria sponge • Roasted stuffed vegetables • Pasta bake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick vegetable lasagne • Curry • Risotto • Stir fry • Design a Healthy meal

Whooppee Pie

Ingredients

- For the cookies:
- 1 stick unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 1 1/4 cups caster sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 cup buttermilk, at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 3/4 cups plain flour
- 3/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- Pinch of salt

For the filling:

- 4 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup canned pure pumpkin or fresh pumpkin
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- Pinch of salt

Method

Make the cookies: Line 3 baking sheets with grease proof paper (or use 2 baking sheets and bake the cookies in batches). Preheat the oven to 200 degrees C. Using a stand mixer, beat the butter and granulated sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in the egg, then the buttermilk and vanilla. Whisk the flour, cocoa powder, baking soda, baking powder and salt in a bowl. Gradually add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients, mixing until just combined.

Drop 8 scoops of batter, about 2 tablespoons each, onto each prepared baking sheet, spacing them 3 inches apart. Bake until the edges are set but the cookies are still soft, about 8 minutes. Remove from the oven and let the cookies cool 2 minutes on the baking sheets, then transfer to racks and let cool completely.

Make the filling: Beat the cream cheese and butter in a small bowl with a mixer until smooth. Slowly beat in the sugar until smooth. Add the pumpkin, cinnamon and salt and beat until smooth.

To assemble the whoopie pies, spread a heaping tablespoonful of filling on the flat side of a cookie and sandwich with another cookie. Repeat with the remaining cookies.





Olympic site visit

An early start was in order for our trip down to the Olympic site. After a three and a half hour journey we finally arrived in Stratford just after 11am and our tour guide Jeannie led us off into the massive Westfield shopping centre that has been built right next to the Olympic village.

The area was full weird and wonderful shops including a shop dedicating to selling magnum ice creams! It was also buzzing with tourists, games makers and athletes from all around the world.

We went straight up to the top floor of the John Lewis store in order to get a bird's eye view of the Olympic park. The area was huge and we could take in all the different stadi-

ums and buildings including the main stadium, the velodrome, aquatics centre and the orbit. We also saw the athlete's village which was also already covered in the flags of all the competing teams.

In the afternoon we went on a coach tour of the other venues around London including the Excel centre, which hosted some of the martial arts and boxing events. We finished our tour at Greenwich where the equestrian events were being held and had a look at the Cutty Sark and the old Royal Naval College museum, before heading back on the long journey home.

Reported by Mr Cooper, Mrs Michell and Mr Moss



Geography awarded PTI mark

Over the summer the Geography Department was awarded the Prince Teaching Institute Mark for its participation in the institute's schools programme over the last academic year. The award recognises the work the department has made in revitalising the KS3 curriculum to make it more relevant and challenging for students. We have offered more enrichment opportunities for students over the last year such as guest speakers, more educational trips and we have also set up a Geography club after school to give students the opportunity to try more hands on Geography. In addition, we have been developing links with universities and our local primary schools. Last term a number of our students from years 7, 9 and 10 were excellent ambassadors for the school when they helped out groups of year 5 and 6 students at the Coppice Primary school with their Geography project as part of their Olympic week. We have now set a new set of objectives for this year's schools programme to continue to improve Geography for students at Woodrush.



Black History Month

Black History Month (BHM) is held every October in Britain, and February in USA and Canada. The aims are to: Promote knowledge of the Black History, Cultural and Heritage; Disseminate information on positive Black contributions to British Society and Heighten the confidence and awareness of Black people to their cultural heritage.

The origins of BHM go back to 1926 when Carter G Woodson, editor for thirty years of the Journal of Negro History, established African Caribbean celebrations in America. It is still celebrated there in February each year. In Britain, the BHM has now grown to over 6,000 events.

At Woodrush we will be celebrating Black History Month during our assemblies and some of our lessons, finding out about the experiences of black people around the world and learning about some inspirational people from the black community.

In RE lessons students have been learning about prejudice and have been studying the life and achievements of Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks. In History Year 9 and 10 students have been learning about the experiences of African American people in the 1920s in America, whilst Year 11 are just completing their controlled assessment which is all about Nelson Mandela and the end of Apartheid in South Africa. GCSE Eng-



From left to right – Charlotte, Jack and Kaycee



lish students have been reading the novel, 'Of Mice and Men,' which focuses on the lives of black people in America in the 1930s.

Finally the Humanities Faculty have been running a competition to design a poster to promote Black History Month. Every entry into the competition will receive a merit and the winning entries will be used as posters around the school, as well as gaining extra merits for their houses. We have had a number of entries and the winners are...

- Year 7 winner: Carmen 7L2
- Year 7 runners up: Victoria-Louise 7L2 and Alissa 7L2
- Year 8 winner: Olivia 8L1
- Year 9 winner: Olivia 9L1
- Year 10 winner: Himena 10B1
- Year 10 runners up: Callum 10B1 and Rebecca S 10B1
- Year 11 winner: Charlotte 11L1
- Year 11 runners up: Kaycee and Jack 11L1
- Charlotte (11L1) was the overall winner

Other news in Humanities:

Independent Study:

Years 7 and 8 Humanities students are trialling a new format of Independent Study, based on a points system. Students must achieve a set number of points depending on their target level. There are 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10 point tasks. This new style of homework has been designed to give students more responsibility for their own learning and to introduce an element of competition. Good luck Years 7 and 8.

Trips:

The Humanities Faculty will be running a number of trips this term. Year 12 Politics/Law/History students are off to the Houses of Parliament in November for a tour and workshop and RE students will enjoy several trips including a tour of Coventry Cathedral. Year 13 History students will be working with Worcester University and visiting the new library in Worcester, The Hive, which was opened by the Queen earlier this year. We will keep you posted as to how these trips get on. Finally, at the end of November we will be visited by a Peer from the House of Lords, Lord Faulkener; he will be speaking to a variety of Humanities students about the UK political system.

Year 7 County Cup Boys Football

Woodrush 4-3 St Egwins

Harry scored early to put Woodrush 1-0 up. St Egwins then scored 2 goals and were winning 2-1 at half time. An own goal made it 2-2 then Dillon scored a brilliant header and James scored another goal to make it 4-2 to Woodrush. St Egwins scored a late goal to make it 4-3 but Woodrush held on and are through to the next round! Well done lads!

By Luke (Captain)



Y9 Boys Football Match Report

Worcestershire County Schools FA Cup Woodrush versus Haybridge

On the 17th September Woodrush had a game in which we won 9-2. We played well and deservedly got the win, with two great goals from Adam, Ashley and Ollie and one each for Scott, Xavier and Donovan giving us an easy victory. The defence was very tight at the back but unfortunately we couldn't stop two goals going in. Overall everyone played well and the team couldn't be faulted.

Reported by James A



Woodrush girls first training session

Under the new management of Mr Thewlis and Mr Paxton Woodrush girls first training session commenced in September. The up and coming season started in earnest at Woodfield School on Tuesday 9th October for the year 7's five a side team.

This will be the platform for some exciting, satisfying and winning football and a good kick off to the start of the season for Woodrush.

Pictured are: Maisie, Mollie, Lauren, Rachel, Emma, Kyla, Poppy, Faye, Lauren, Rebecca, Alissa, Mya, Lucy, Emma, Mr Paxton and Mr Thewlis.

Year 7 Girls District Seven-a-Side Football Tournament

Tuesday 9 October 2012

- Birchensale
- Ipsley
- Ridgeway
- St. Bedes
- Walkwood
- Woodfield
- Woodrush High School



The tournament started well for the green army, a 4-0 win against Walkwood set the scene. The next opponents Ridgeway frustrated the Woodrush girls and held on for scoreless draw. Birchensale were the next team to feel the wrath of a team scorned and were beaten 2-1.

The team of the tournament Ridgeway played some lovely football and ran out 3-0 winners. Woodrush in patches matched their academy based players for effort and skill.

Ipsley then stepped up to the plate and were soundly beaten 3-0 by the girls who had never played together competitively.

The accumulation of scores meant that the final match against St Bedes was a winner takes all for second place. An added spice to the game involved Mrs Peter's daughter playing against the mighty Woodrush.

St Bedes took an early lead and doubled it just before half time. The second half saw the spirit of Woodrush shine and the girls played their hearts out, but to no avail.

Lauren T-S refereed all the games for Woodrush and was a credit to her house (Cadbury) and to Woodrush.

Well done to Lucy, Emma, Ellie, Mia, Becky, Mya and Alise for the goals scored and defending so well during the tournament.

Many Thanks from Miss Parker and Mr T



Woodrush students selected for the County netball squad...

A big congratulations to Sophie (Year 10) Sophie and Hannah (Year 8) who all got selected for the County netball squad this week. A fantastic start to the netball season. We are looking forward to hearing all about your County successes and also to see you represent Woodrush netball teams this year. Well done girls.

Well done to all the year 8 netball team on an excellent start to the sea-

son! They won their first match against St Bedes 15-2. Ellie and Sam scored some amazing goals and a big well done to Holly for playing a great match as goal keeper for the first time. The year 8 girls continued their winning streak going on to win two matches played on the 26th September. In the first match against Ridgeway, Woodrush won 14-8. The girls played really well together and

Zoe was a great addition to the team playing WD in her first ever match. When Woodrush played Ipsley beating them 29-0, the girls had to battle the elements with heavy rain made the game more difficult. However this did not dishearten the team who already had the match in the bag!

Well done girls keep it up!

Reported by Abi 8L2

Woodrush Gymnasts

Megan

Megan is a competent gymnast who has competed at county and national levels, representing both her gymnastics club and school. Megan is a very dedicated and enthusiastic gymnast training a minimum of 4 times a week, (15 hours minimum). Megan is currently a member of the West Midlands County Squad and continues to strive to succeed.

Stephanie

Stephanie is member of the Rebound Gymnastics Club, which she has been attending for the last 5 years. She is now in the advance group at the club. Stephanie has competed in Regional and National competitions, many of which were arranged through her gym club or in her time at her primary school. She has achieved first place at club competitions and has been placed second at a Nationals competition. Stephanie has won a variety of medals and trophies and enjoys competing.



Ellie

Ellie started gymnastics when she was 8 years old. She trains for 2 hours a week. She started at the Revolution Gymnastics Club and is now at the Rebound Gymnastics Club. She has won Birmingham team and individual gold medals. Ellie has competed at regional level where she has again medalled winning silver and gold medal plus other Birmingham and club titles.



SPORT IN BRIEF



Success at County Trials

Sophie started playing netball when she was 9 years old and went to 'Little League' in Yardley Wood. When she was 10 she joined Foxes Netball Club where she developed both her skills and knowledge of the game. Sophie was successful at county trials and now plays for Satellite Academy. She has won a variety of trophies and medals and hope to continue to be successful in the game.

Woodrush students selected for the County netball squad...

A big congratulations to Sophie (Year 10) Sophie and Hannah (Year 8) who all got selected for the County netball squad this week. A fantastic start to the netball season. We are looking forward to hearing all about your County successes and also to see you represent Woodrush netball teams this year. Well done girls.

Year 8 Rounders

In a summer term very much hampered by the weather the year 8 rounders team had a very successful campaign and managed to play all their matches. The team worked well together supporting and encouraging each other both in fielding and batting. They were narrowly beaten by Ridgeway who

were the eventual winners of the league. The team are worthy runners up and a credit to themselves and to the school. The Team: Rachel (captain), Poppy, Lauren, Chloe, Tammy, Zoe, Emma, Nicole, Hannah, Lauren, Abby, Sophie and Torri.

Year 9 Netball Match Report

On Tuesday 25th September our netball match was against South. Unfortunately because we didn't have a full year nine team it was only myself, Poppy and Amy, the remainder of the team were made up from our year 8 squad. South were a very strong team and started off well with several goals in the first half. It has to be said that all the Woodrush girls tried really hard but we just couldn't beat them on tactics or speed. In the

second half we still had not scored however in the last few seconds of the match Sophie from year 8 stole one back to win our one and only point, so at the end of the match the score was 16-1. Thanks to all the girls from year 8 and let's hope we can get the opportunity to practice more and become a better side as a result.

Stop press...

Woodrush 8-1 Church Hill

Well done to the year 7 boys football team who gained their second win of the season. They played brilliantly throughout, solid in defence and clinical up front! Stand out performers were Robbie B and Ben F who both scored goals from Midfield. Well Done!

Reported by Mr Bennett

Qualified Coach

TRAMPOLINE COACHING

SATURDAYS

10.00am to 11.00am or 11.00am to 12.00pm

WOODRUSH SPORTS CENTRE

Please see reception for Booking details

Starts 15th September 2012 Limited Spaces

Woodrush Sports Centre
Phone: 01564 820099
Email: lettings@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

Woodrush Sports Centre October Half term

COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR FUN FILLED ACTIVITY DAYS THIS HALF TERM

Wednesday 31st October
Halloween Fun
Fun and Games, Fancy dress, Party

Thursday 1st November
Animal Day

Friday 2nd November
Make a giant Guy & Bonfire

FOOTBALL FUN SESSIONS
9.30am to 11.30am all 3 days

Phone: 01564 820099 or email: lettings@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk





Woodrush Rugby Football Club



Mini and Youth Section 2012/13

After a truly inspiring Olympic summer, things are back in full swing at Woodrush RFC, your local rugby club.



- Observe the Laws and regulations of the game
- Respect opponents, referees and participants
- Reject cheating, racism, violence and drugs
- Value volunteers and paid officials alike
- Enjoy the game

Woodrush is a local club at the heart of our community, with links with various local schools, but particularly the school where many of the original founder players went to school – Woodrush.

We are delighted by the number of players who progress up the age levels and into our senior teams, and keeping players involved throughout their school days and beyond means that they benefit from being part of the rugby family and from the friendships and health benefits that our sport offers.

September is registration and training month, where old friends and new join forces to learn, train and have fun playing this wonderful game.

This season at Woodrush RFC we now have 7 teams in the Mini and Youth Section, from the under 6's who are just starting out at the rugby club, Under 7's and 8's who play tag, touch rugby for the Under 9's and 10's, and full contact for the Under 12's, Under 14's and Under 16's.

We had a hugely successful season last season, with player numbers growing to over 100 players across the age groups. There are many players at Woodrush RFC who attend Woodrush School, but we would love to see more players from the school playing for the club.

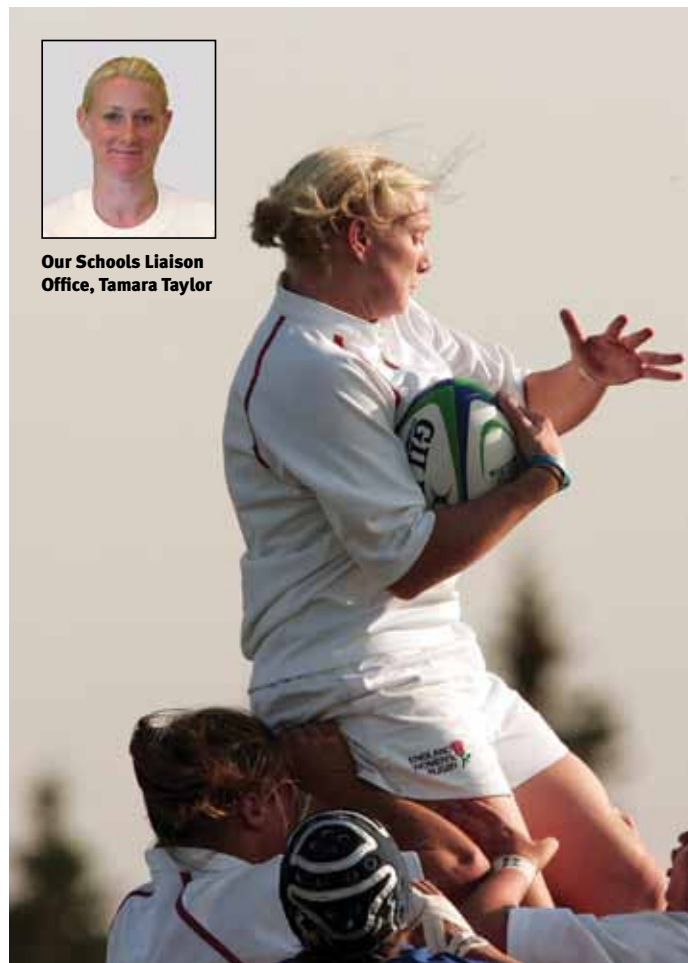
Our Schools Liaison Office, Tamara Taylor, has visited the school to promote rugby at Woodrush RFC. Tamara is a well known and experienced England International rugby player with over 50 caps, and who plays her club rugby for Lichfield RFC. Tamara has also been instrumental in arranging for Woodrush school to play home rugby matches at Woodrush Rugby Club.

The seasons fixtures start in earnest in October, with matches against local rivals in all age groups, including Redditch RFC, Bournville RFC, Edwardians and Kings Norton. Our younger teams all start at the Moseley Festival on Sunday 7th October. Home games are played at Woodrush RFC in Icknield Street, and kick off is usually at 11.00am on Sunday mornings.

Rugby is a great game played hard but fair, learning to win with dignity and lose with grace. We are very proud of our achievements and the excellent attitude of our young players. The club aims to ensure that players uphold the Core Values of rugby union, Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship and these values stand our young people in good stead both on and off the rugby pitch.



Our Schools Liaison Office, Tamara Taylor



If you would like any further information about Woodrush Rugby Club, check out our web site www.woodrushrfc.com or contact Bob Boden, Mini and Junior Chairman, on 07966 310923. Everybody is welcome!

Woodrush RFC aims that we:

- Play to win – but not at all cost
- Win with dignity, lose with grace



ACTIVITIES & CLUBS



	ACTIVITY	WHEN	WHERE	FOR
MONDAY	Quizzes, Puzzles, Games Maths Shop Art GCSE Coursework Arts Award Boys Street Dance Woodrush Force Netball PSHE Questions-help & advice Animal Club Youth Centre Senior Night	1:30 – 2:00 1:15 – 1:30 3:00-4:00 3:00-4:00 3:00-4:00 3:00-4:00 3:00 – 4:00 3:00 – 3:40 3:00 – 4:00 7:00 – 9:00	Library M4 Art MU2 Drama Studio Gym/Hall Courts ICT2 S8 Youth Centre	All All GCSE ? All boys G&T All Girls ALL All Years 9,10,11
TUESDAY	Quiet Study + Reading Maths Shop Photography Coursework Drama Club Dance Club Art Club Orchestra Trampolining – Boys Football Multimedia Advanced Skills Geography Club Youth Centre Junior Night	1:30 – 2:00 1:15 – 1:30 3:00-4:00 3:00-4:00 3:00-4:00 3:00 – 4:00 3:00 – 4:00 3:00 – 4:15 3:00 – 4:00 3:00-3:40 3:00 – 4:00 6:30 – 8:30	Library M4 Art Drama Studio Gym/Hall Art MU1 Gym Field/ASTRO ICT H6 Youth Centre	All All GCSE All Years 7,8,9 Years 7,8,9 All All Year 7 boys G&T All Year 7 & 8
WEDNESDAY	Book Club (Every other Wed) Manga Club (Every other Weds) Maths Shop Art Textiles Club GCSE Dance Intervention Woodrush Voices Hockey Handball Football Finance Club ICT Club	1:30 – 2:00 1:30 – 2:00 1:15 – 1:30 3:00-4:00 3:00 – 4:00 3:00 – 4:00 3:00 – 4:00 3:00 – 4:00 3:00 – 4:00 3:00 – 3:40 1:25 – 1:50	Library Library M4 Art Gym/Hall MU1 ASTRO Gym ASTRO ICT ICT 2	All All All Years 7,8,9 GCSE All All Years 7,8,9 YR 10,11 boys ALL All
THURSDAY	Quiet Study and Reading Maths Shop Rugby Football Football Cookery Club	1:30 – 2:00 1:15 – 1:30 3:00 – 4:00 3:00-4:00 3:00 – 4:00 2:50 – 4:00	Library M4 Field ASTRO ASTRO/Field T6	All All Year 11 boys All girls Year 8,9 boys All
FRIDAY	Fun with Fiction Maths Shop Christian Union GCSE Drama Coursework Guitar Group GCSE Music Intervention Aerobics	1:30 – 2:00 1:15 – 1:30 1:30 – 2:00 3:00 – 4:00 3:00-4:00 3:00-4:00 3:00 – 4:00	Library M4 H2 Drama Studio MU1 MU2 Hall	All All All GCSE All GCSE All



Keep a look out for Activities and Clubs in the Woodrush Branch, and remember that The Branch is also available on Woodrush's website. If you are interested in any of the clubs and want to know how you can get involved or if you have any ideas of clubs you would like to get involved in at Woodrush, speak to Faye Parker. Faye's office is opposite H2.

Tel: 01564 823777 • fparker@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

Address:

Woodrush High School, An Academy for Students Aged 11-18,
Shawhurst Lane, Wythall, Worcestershire B47 5JW

Telephone:

01564 823777

Fax:

01564 820092

Email:

woodrushstar@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

Website:

www.woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

Headteacher:

Mr C King

Editors:

Mrs J Peters &
Mrs C Bishop

© 2012 Woodrush High School. The Woodrush Star is published by Woodrush High School.

The Use of school photos, videos and other digitally held material for publicity purposes. We often use pictures, names and videos of students for publicity purposes. In our weekly Friday newsletter The Woodrush Branch, and our magazine The Woodrush Star, we like to acknowledge and celebrate our student's achievements, resulting in photos and names of students being printed. If you would prefer your child's name/image not to be used for such purposes, please contact the school and the necessary arrangements will be made.

Design and layout Character Design • 01981 541154 • info@characterdesign.co.uk

