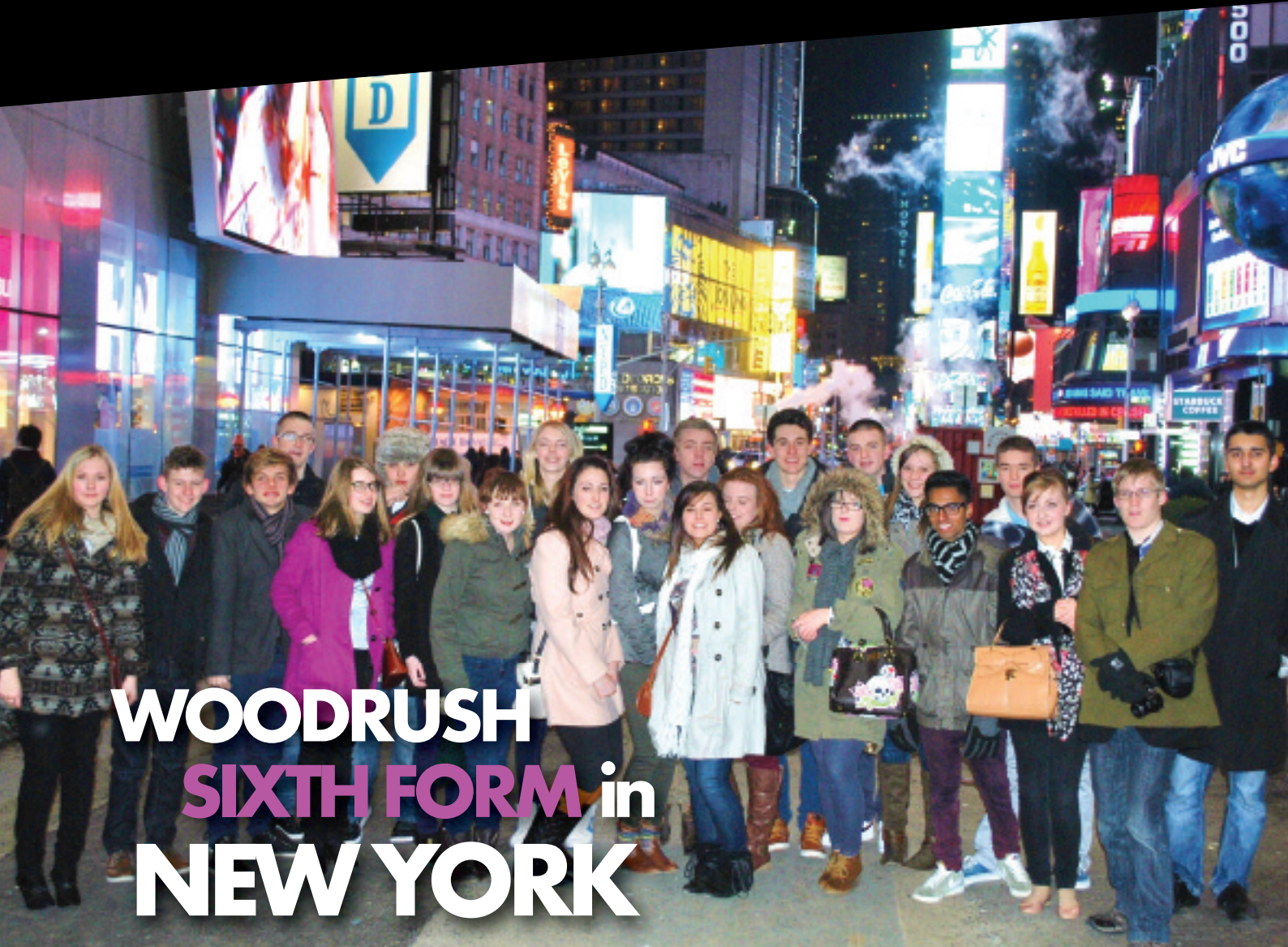


WOODRUSH STAR



WOODRUSH SIXTH FORM in NEW YORK

**Skiing
in Italy**

Un'fur'gettable
Crufts

New Years Honours
for Mr Nelson

**Getting Ready
for Year 11 Prom**

WOODRUSH STAR



Dear Parents and Carers...

It doesn't seem that long ago that we returned after the Christmas holidays but as always our students have made great progress this term towards their target grades. In particular it's a hard time of the year for all our young people taking examinations.

With Easter school running on the 10th-12th April and examinations starting in May for some student's revision and preparation for these is well underway and we wish all our students sitting external examinations this summer the very best. We know that Year 11 students will be working towards grades to allow them to start 'A' level course in our sixth form in September and that Year 13 students will be aiming for grades to allow them to start degree courses in their chosen universities.

This term our students have experienced a huge range of extracurricular visits and events from trips to New York, Skiing in Italy to events in school such as World Book day and the huge range of sporting and inter house events that have taken place. As with all our events our students do us proud with their conduct in representing themselves and our school whilst away and huge thanks also to all our staff for the additional time they give up to ensure that such experiences take place. On that note I must also congratulate Mr Nelson, who retired last academic year who received the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours list. This was as a result of his services

to Duke of Edinburgh at Woodrush over many many years, a tradition that continues even stronger now with more and more students taking this up. We hope you enjoy reading our latest 'Star' and look forward to seeing all our students back on Monday 15th April, have a great Easter holiday.

Mr C.King
Headteacher

Contents

Student News	3
Year 11 Prom	4
Reflecting on Christmas	5
Attendance	6
Safer Internet Day	7
Modern Foreign Languages	8
Sixth Form in New York	10
Skiing in Italy	15
Humanities	16
Creative Arts	17
Duke of Edinburgh	18
Primary News	20
English	21
STEM	24
Sports	27
Extended Woodrush	32



Woodrush App now available!

If you have a smartphone you can now download the Woodrush App. It has the latest news as well as important dates for your diary. Search the App stores for 'Woodrush' now!

**HOLLYWOOD
CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTRE**

**Would like to invite you to join
with us for our Easter Services.**

Good Friday 28th March 2013 at 11.00am

Easter Sunday 31st March 2013 at 11.00am

Simms Lane, Hollywood, B47 5HN

the real Apprentice

Year 13 students Andy, Danny and Ben discuss careers in engineering with staff from the Peterson Group.



On Wednesday 13th February a number of our Year 11 and Year 13 students visited the Real Apprentice showcase at The Abbey Stadium, Redditch, with Mr. Cooper and Mr. Mitchell. The idea behind the event was an opportunity for our final year students, who would like to take up an Apprenticeship after their GCSEs or A level and BTEC courses, to meet with local Training Providers and Employers. The event was a market place style showcase with various local colleges, Apprenticeship providers (in areas such as Hospitality and Catering, the Construction industries, Business and Finance and IT) and local recruiting employers all in attendance. Despite the current economic climate our students were impressed by the range of opportunities being publicised and eager to find out more information about potential pathways available after they have completed their exam courses at Woodrush. Several of them realise that a fulfilling and worthwhile future career might well be tied closely to the ideas behind the Real Apprentice!

Mr. Cooper



Year Book Year 11 2013

The Year book team have been working hard to put together the year book for the class of 2008-13. The book contains photographs of all Year 11 forms and their tutors. There are also photographs of year 11 students taking part in different activities in school, trips they have been on whilst at school as well as photos of students as they are now.

The year book costs £17 and will be in hardback so it is good value and of course it is a great book to look back on and remember your friends.

Un'fur'gettable!

Crufts just has to be the biggest and best celebration of dogs, and I was fortunate to attend this year with my husband on the final day. It is a tail-wagging, fact finding, show stopping, un'fur'gettable family day out...

It's more than a dog show. Believe it or not it is a shopping heaven with over 400 stands with special treats and offers (well if you want to treat your four legged friends that is, and I did much to my husband's dismay). There is lot's to do, and this year's programme was no different to others as was jam packed with agility and flyball displays and new for 2013 the Scruffts final and Crufts Factor! You can meet, greet and discover over 200 breeds of dogs, and the ultimate that 22,000 dogs are striving for, the title of 'Crufts Best in Show' on the final day!



The Young Kennel Club (YKC) had a jam packed programme yet again this year, at which two of our students from Year 9, Katie and Emily, were competing. They did an absolutely fantastic job with their dogs Chay and Shaun (also brother and sister), competing against other dogs and their handlers from up and down the country in classes, graduate and intermediate where they had to deal with different exercises such as heelwork, recall, retrieve, scent and stays, narrowly missing out on being placed.

Emily has also been invited to Manchester this weekend to do some television work with her dog Frankie, so watch this space for further news in the next edition.....

Mrs Bishop



Crufts

Year 11 Prom Night!

2013



The Year 11 Prom will be taking place on 9th May 2013 at the Lake at Barston, West Midland Golf Club. This has been the favoured venue for our Year 11 Prom for the last few years not just because of lovely setting of the Golf Club but also because the venue is ours for the whole night and we don't have to share it with any other schools. The Prom will take place in the large restaurant area, which has a dance floor, and tables will be set out for you to sit at. We also have access to the large patio area and lawns outside, which is a lovely place to go and cool off and chat to your friends.

The evening will begin at 7:00pm and will finish at 11:45pm when coaches will then return all students back to school. Students can then make their own arrangements about what they do after being dropped off.

There will be a hot finger buffet served during the evening for everyone, as part of the cost of your ticket, and soft drinks can be purchased during the evening from the bar. However only the adults will be allowed to buy and drink alcohol during the evening and if you are caught with alcohol it will be confiscated.

The DJ has been booked for the night and a Photographer has also been booked for the evening. The Photographer will take photographs of individuals or groups of friends throughout the evening and you will need to pay for the photographs on the night. They are quite big photographs and they will cost approx. £10 each, so make sure you have money to pay for this on the night. You can order photographs afterwards online but they will be more expensive.

Payment for the Prom can be made by logging into your secure online ParentPay account. Making a payment

is straightforward and ParentPay holds an electronic record of your payments to view at a later date; no card details are stored in any part of the system. If you are unable to pay online please contact the Finance Officer, Mrs Webb, to make arrangements to pay via PayPoint.

Finally it is your night to have a good time but please don't spoil the lead up to this point with unacceptable behaviour as you risk losing your chance to be there!



Prom night is one of the most anticipated nights on a year 11 student's calendar. Filled with great expectations and grand designs prom can be one of the best highlights of your school life. Essentially you need to plan well in advanced your evening as there is a lot to organise beforehand from getting the right outfit, booking your mode of transport to choosing your date. If you would like a few tips to make your prom night as stress free as possible then read on.

- 1) Set a budget and stick to it as once you have bought an outfit, purchased accessories to match and hired a limo you could have spent a small fortune. You do not need to spend a large amount as long as you speak to friends who can chip in with costs, shop around for the best bargains and plan well in advance.
- 2) Girls should start looking for a dress at least 2 months before and boys can leave it until at least 3 weeks before. Think about maybe hiring an outfit rather than buying as this gives you a chance to be a bit extravagant on style. Or shop around for a second hand bargain in the local newspaper or on eBay.
- 3) If you want to have your hair or makeup done professionally it is advisable to book a practice run at your chosen salon so that you can iron out anything you are not 100% happy with.
- 4) If you want to look have a sun kissed glow then again try one out a few weeks before especially if you are self-tanning. You want to make sure your tan is as natural looking as possible and streak free and not all products (although they promise this on the side of the can) end up perfect. Remember – exfoliate the day before a tan, moisturize elbows and knees and take light weight clothing to go home in as straps especially will spoil the effect.
- 5) Bought new shoes? Wear them around the house a few weeks beforehand to wear them in and pop some plasters in our bag in case you require them on the night. I recommend 'Party Feet' gel pads to fit inside your shoe to help ease any discomfort.
- 6) Order your corsage, if you desire to take one, from the florist as soon as you have chosen your outfit and take the dress with you if you want ideas of which colours to choose.
- 7) Double check appointments booked for hair, nails, makeup etc. because if the salon has made a mistake you may struggle to find an alternative at the last minute.
- 8) Check your camera has new batteries to last you the night or if you are using your mobile to take pictures make sure it is fully charged the night before.
- 9) Make sure you get plenty of sleep the night before the prom as you need to be looking your best and have enough energy for all the dancing you will be doing.
- 10) And finally enjoy yourself as this is once in a lifetime experience that you will never forget!

Presentation Evening 2013

On 13th December, the school hall was transformed into a glittering arena of Woodrush's stars as we recognised and celebrated the achievements of last year's Key Stage 4 and 5 prize-winners.

We were pleased to welcome back many students who left Year 13 in the summer, many of whom had especially returned from University for this important night. With the hall laid out in true 'cabaret style', staff, parents and governors enjoyed refreshments as they arrived, and sat at tables to applaud the efforts and achievements of many of our students. Our guest speaker this year was Holly Beckett, marketing and events manager from the local, hugely successful family business, 'Beckett's Farm'. Holly's speech was humorous, eloquent and inspirational, and well received by all.

The Awards were divided into Form Progress Awards, Subject Awards and then Whole School Awards. The relevant staff read out the citations they had written, explaining to the audience just why students had been selected for their special awards. In particular it was impressive to hear why students had gained the whole school, House and Team Awards, as we learnt of the hard work, resilience and commitment of so many of our Woodrush students.

We enjoyed musical interludes by Ellie, who sang 'Skyfall', and Matthew and Kirsty who performed a flute and violin duet – all were award winners in the Creative Arts category, and performed superbly.

Special thanks goes to Mrs Hatton and Mr Cooper for co-ordinating the event, and to all staff and students that contributed to the success of the evening, whether by reading citations, decorating the hall, photography or organisation during the evening, and by supporting the event with their attendance on the evening. Thanks also go to our guest speaker, and to our parents and carers who attended the evening and for their on-going support. Finally, congratulations to all our award winners, who so deserved of their awards.

Mrs C. Sheppard



Mrs Peters

The Christmas Celebration Assembly



The Christmas Celebration Assembly well and truly got us all in the mood for festivity. The assembly featured acts from the talented students of Woodrush Force who performed to a montage of hits including Destiny's Child and Robbie Williams. In true Sixth form style, leaping and sliding across the stage dressed in all their Christmas regalia, they performed Santa and I know it, to the well-known 'Sexy and I know it' parody. The finale of acts came from the Heads of House, who turned the British tradition of a winter pantomime into the current and ever popular Gangnam Style dance. As always, during each House Celebration Assembly which culminates each term, we did the much anticipated merit prize draws.

Bronze Prize Draw winners were: 9B2 Connor H, 11C2 Dan B, 10L2 Lewis C
Silver Prize Draw winners were: 10B1 Callum B, 9C1 Thomas W, 8L1 Michael M
Gold Prize Draw winners were: 7B2 Jordan W, 7C1 Olivia O, 7L2 Fraser N

To be in with the chance of winning a draw, students must gain between 10 and 24 merits for Bronze, between 25 and 59 merits for Silver and 60 merits or more for Gold. Each term students have a fresh start and another chance to achieve their goals.

Good luck to you all for the next prize draws

Christmas Concert 2012

On the last night of the Autumn Term, nearly 200 students took part in Woodrush's Christmas Concert. Along with the traditional 9 lessons and carols, the packed hall was treated to performances by the Orchestra which included the theme from Pirates of the Caribbean and 'Feel my love' by Adele.



The Woodrush Voices singing group also performed an Adele number, 'Rolling in the Deep' as well as Disney's 'Colours of the Wind' and 'When Christmas Comes to Town' from The Polar Express. Having been working on a vocal unit in their music lessons last half term, all of Year 7 had learnt 'Winter Wonderland' and 'Merry Christmas Everybody' and 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' which they performed with gusto in the concert. The grand finale of the concert was a performance of Gary Barlow's 'Sing', arranged by Mr Wendzina for all Year 7 singers, the orchestra, guitar group and dhol drum.

Huge congratulations to all students for all their time and effort rehearsing and for such a great performance on the night itself.

Thanks also to all staff helpers and to all parents and friends who attended the event.



StudentNews

Attendance Matters

As always Woodrush High School aims to ensure excellent attendance and punctuality for all students and to eliminate all but the most necessary and legitimate absences and/or episodes of lateness in individual students.

Excellent attendance, as measured against national norms, is a pre-requisite for successful learning and good progress. Personal qualities, such as reliability, that are inferred by excellent attendance at school are amongst those most prized in society in general and by employers in particular. The promotion of excellent attendance is, therefore, a primary objective for us.

Students are continually praised for their good attendance and as a school we are keen to reward them. Here are some of our attendance rewards.

- Students with 100% attendance from September to July will be rewarded with a trip out for FREE.
- Year 11 students who achieve 100% attendance from September to Easter term break will receive a FREE Year 11 prom ticket. "50 Year 11 students received a £25 prom ticket last academic year."
- Students who achieve 100% attendance over each half term will have the privilege of entering the lunch queue first for one week at the start of the following half term.



House Attendance so far:

Cadbury – 95.0%
Brindley – 94.8%
Lanchester – 94.6%

Current whole school attendance from September 2012 to March 2013 is 95%.

Remind for parents, times of the school day

DAILY SCHOOL TIMES

8.35 AM	Warning bell for registration
8.40 AM	Registration for all
8.55 AM	Period 1
9.55 AM	Period 2
10.55 AM	BREAK
11.15 AM	Period 3
12.15 AM	Period 4
1.15 PM	LUNCH
1.45 PM	Warning bell for afternoon registration
1.50 PM	Period 5 (including statutory pm registration)
2.50 PM	End of School
3.50 PM	Library closes

IF FOR ANY REASON YOUR CHILD IS LATE TO SCHOOL PLEASE SEE THAT THEY ALWAYS SIGN IN AT EITHER STUDENT SERVICES OR RECEPTION.

WHAT WE ASK FROM PARENTS:

- Ring the school (tel no: 01564 823777) preferably before 10.00 am on the first day of any absence.
- Send a note in on the first day of your son's/daughter's return to explain the reason for absence.
- Whenever possible make all medical appointments after 2.50pm.
- Please do not plan family holidays during term time.
- Check that we have the correct contact numbers (home, work and mobile numbers are all useful).

WHAT WILL THE SCHOOL DO?

- Contact parents at home or at work to check the reasons for absence.
- Inform parents by letter of any unexplained absences and request reasons for these.
- Inform our Education Welfare Officer of any poor attendees who will act accordingly and can ultimately prosecute persistent poor attendees.
- All holidays will be unauthorised, except in exceptional circumstances.



Students with 100% attendance from September to July will be rewarded with a trip out for FREE

'50 students enjoyed an afternoon of bowling and lunch provided at Hollywood Bowl, Birmingham.'



Are you Safe Online?

On Safer Internet day the whole school completed an Internet and Technology use survey.

We found out that a whopping 97% of you have your own mobile phone and 98% of you have access to a computer! This is brilliant news as the internet has opened up huge opportunities for creativity and innovation and now that Frog (the new VLE) has arrived it will be even more useful for helping you continue your studies at home. However, with any new technology, we must make sure that we are using it safely.

On these pages there are hints and tips to make sure that you stay safe and use new technology responsibly.

Using Chat Rooms

Almost half of you use online chat rooms.

Things to remember...

It's very easy for people to lie about who they are, even if you've been chatting to the same person for ages and you feel like you know them, remember it's very easy to lie on the internet and there is no way of knowing if someone is telling the truth. Even if someone shows you a photo of themselves, this could be a picture of someone else or could be faked. This applies to webcam or video footage too; seeing a person in a video, does not mean it's them.

Sharing personal information

Be careful not to share too much information with other people in chat rooms. You don't know who could be listening in or what they might do with that information. **If you wouldn't be comfortable yelling it out in a crowded room, its best not to write it in a chat room.**

There are some adults who will try to get in touch with young people and children because they have bad intentions. Bear this in mind whilst you use chat areas. If anything makes you suspicious tell an adult you trust or report any serious concerns to us using ClickCEOP.

Blocking people

Make sure you know how to block Instant Messaging contacts. They will not be told you have blocked them; you will just appear offline in their contacts list, so they cannot message you. Don't forget you can always delete a contact if you don't wish to talk to them anymore.

On Windows Live Messenger you can block a user by right clicking on their icon in your contacts list and choosing 'block'.

Saving Evidence

It's also a good idea to learn how to save conversations. This way, if anything weird or dodgy happens, you have evidence of it and you can show it to an adult you trust or copy and paste it into our reporting form.

If you think someone has hacked into your account – report it to the people who run the site.

Using Social Networking Sites

Over 75% of you have a Facebook account and many of you are also on other social networking site. These can be great fun but remember these key messages;

Be careful what information you give out on your profile. **Remember that you don't know who your friend's friends are... or your friend's friends' friends!** And you don't know what they'll do with your picture or your phone number if you give it out by mistake. Once your picture is out there, it's out there forever and you won't be able to get it back.

Be aware that information on your profile could potentially be viewed by anyone. So if you wouldn't be comfortable printing it off and handing it out on the street, maybe it shouldn't be on your profile.

Use a nickname or your initials instead of your name – you don't want just anyone knowing who you are. Consider changing your photo to a cool graphic or picture of your favourite band, that way strangers won't have access to a picture of you. It's not a great idea to post where you're going on your profile or twitter or where you live. Think through if you'd want everyone who can view the post to turn up at any time!

Privacy Settings

Use your Privacy Settings. Adjust your account settings (sometimes called "Privacy Settings") so only approved friends can instant message you. This won't ruin your social life – new people can still send you friend requests and message you, they just won't be able to pester you via IM. This means that people you don't want to see your profile can't! post to turn up at any time!

Uploading Photos

Only upload pictures that you'd be happy for your mum to see – anything that you would NOT passed round the dinner table should NOT make it onto the web, as you don't know who could be looking at it or what they might be doing with it. Don't post your phone number or email address on your homepage. Think about it – why would anyone actually need this info when they can message you privately via your social networking site?

Don't post pictures of you or your mates wearing school uniform – if dodgy people see your school badge, they can work out where you are and find you. The more anonymous you are, the less vulnerable you are to people with bad intentions. Tick the "no pic forwarding" option on your settings page – this will stop people forwarding your pictures to anyone without your consent.

Cyber Bullying



By using technology like mobiles or the internet, this type of bullying can affect someone not just at school, but at home as well. Because it takes place in the virtual world, it has a 24/7 nature and can make someone feel upset or threatened in their own home.

It can sometimes be hard to identify who the cyberbully is because they could block their number or post things on a website anonymously. The nature of this type of bullying means it can have a large audience, many of whom may not even realise they are being bullies.

A positive thing about this kind of bullying is that it can be evidenced. With normal bullying, it can be one person's word against another's, but with cyberbullying you can save texts or print our emails / IM's / WebPages. This can be used as proof to catch the bully and stop them upsetting someone; this could be you or a friend.

What should you do if you are being Cyber Bullied?

Save all evidence you have of the bullying. If you have nasty emails or things posted on your profile save them to your machine so you can use it as proof. Save texts or voicemails that say anything horrible. Learn how to **block the bully** on IM or delete them from your contacts.

Try not to reply or retaliate to things they say or do; it might make the situation worse. If you don't respond, they are more likely to get bored and move on. Make sure that you report it to a trusted adult.

CEOP

CEOP are **The Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP)** Centre if anyone ever makes you feel weird or uncomfortable online they are the people that you can report it to. If you visit their website <http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/> you will find information that can help you as well as a button that you can report what has happened. Look for this button!

Information for this article was taken and adapted from <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/> as well as <http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/> which are both excellent resources for finding out more information.

The Great MFL Bake Off!

In December the MFL Department held a Christmas Bake Off where students were asked to bake a festive treat from France, Spain, Italy or Germany.

Mr King and the Heads of House had the 'difficult' task of judging all the entries. Due to the large number of entries the winning bakes were chosen initially on appearance and then the finalists on a very important taste test! After much deliberation the



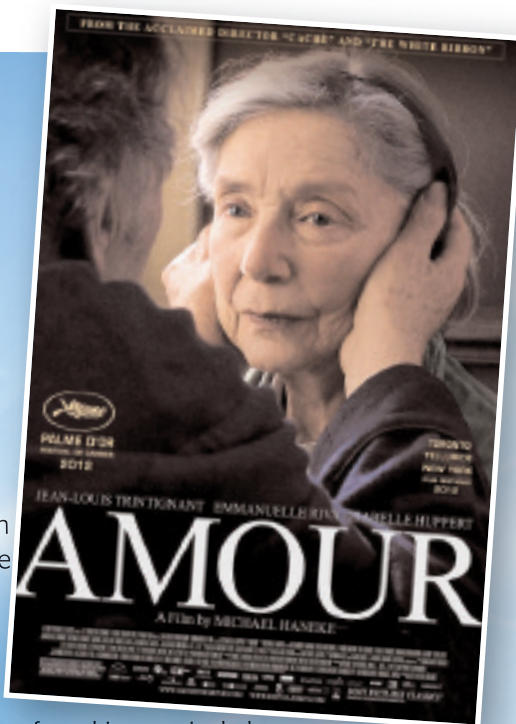
winner of the Great MFL Bake Off was Josh (8B1) with his classic festive gingerbread house, 2nd place went to Keisha (7C1) and 3rd place went to Georgia (7C1) both with delicious

yule tide chocolate logs. Special recognition must be given to Louisa (8B1) with her 'Leaning Tower of Biscotti'! The Bake Off was such a success with the students that we decided to extend it to staff and once again Mr King had to do some very important taste testing. The winning stollen was that of our site Handyman, Norman Swain! Many congratulations to all who entered the Bake Off and demonstrated some fantastic baking skills! Mrs Monk



Cinema Trip - Amour

In January, a small group of language students went to the Artrix Centre in Bromsgrove to see the French language drama film, Amour, written by Michael Haneke. The students found it a particularly moving film as it was based on an identical situation that had happened in the writer's life where he managed the suffering of someone he loved. Deservedly so, the film has already won a number of awards and has been short listed for the Best Foreign Film at the Oscars!! This was a great opportunity for KS4 and KS5 students to be exposed to develop their language skills.



Star Ambassadors

In January, 3 Star Ambassadors from Routes into Languages, came into school to talk to a selection of year 9 students about their positive experiences of learning foreign languages.

Star Ambassadors are students who are currently studying a language at university and visit schools in the area to highlight the importance of studying a foreign language at KS4 and KS5. All students found this a really enjoyable and inspiring experience!



iFeliz Pascua!

Spain is well-known for Holy Week ceremonies that are held between Palm Sunday and Good Friday.

Parades include floats of Christ or the Virgin Mary.

Approximately 60 people hold each float on their shoulders. During the parades, matching hooded robes are worn.

Easter Week is called Semana Santa in Spain. The week begins on Domingo de Ramos (Palm Sunday) and ends with Lunes de Pascua (Easter Monday). On Domingo de Ramos, people attend mass in the morning. Children take palm branches to be blessed. Most churches have parades to represent Jesus arriving in Jerusalem.

The Easter day feast is special. Godfathers present a cake known as la Mona to their godchild. The cakes can be normal round shaped or almost anything, such as Disney characters or toys. Also special is the torrijas, slices of warm bread soaked in milk, sugar and egg and fried in olive oil, served with syrup, honey, sugar, cinnamon and wine.



Modern Foreign Languages



'Les Misérables' trip

On Tuesday 5th February, the Creative Arts and Modern Foreign Languages faculties combined to take 100 students to watch the current chart hit film 'Les Misérables' at The Regal Cinema in Evesham.

'Les Misérables' has smashed box office records, racked up an impressive eight Oscar nominations, and taken home the coveted 'Best Actor' and 'Best Supporting Actress' awards at the Golden Globes. Its impressive cast, including Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway, Hugh Jackman and Amanda Siegfried are wowing audiences everywhere with the new screen adaptation of the much loved musical, based on the French novel by Victor Hugo.

The 1930s Grade II listed art deco 'Regal Cinema' in Evesham has recently re-opened following its refurbishment, restoring the building by reinstating architectural detail and maximising the fine art deco elements. The cinema, which has wonderful art deco features dominating the auditorium ceiling and stage area, was recently shortlisted for an English Heritage Award. The cinema kindly put on a private showing of the film for us.

A good time was had by all, though many students came away in tears due to the great acting, powerful songs and emotional impact of this cinematic wonder.



Joyeuses Pâques!

The majority of the population of France is Roman Catholic, so many people attend special church services on Easter. Church bells stop ringing on Good Friday to commemorate Jesus' death and ring out again on Easter Sunday in recognition of his resurrection. When the bells stop ringing on Good Friday, children are told that they have gone to Rome to see the Pope and when the chimes return, they will bring the eggs with them.

The night before Easter Sunday children prepare nests in their gardens and houses and then on Easter Sunday children look for their eggs, this egg hunt is called la chasse aux œufs.

There is a traditional game on Easter Sunday. Children throw raw eggs up in the air and catch them. They keep doing this until someone drops one.

April Fool's Day, on 1st April, occurs around the time of Easter. In France, the tradition is that children play a trick on as many adults as possible by sticking paper fish onto their backs and running away. They shout 'poisson d'avril!' - meaning 'April fish!'



The Sixth Form Hit New York

Recently, twenty-three Woodrush Sixth Formers headed for New York City. Accompanied by trip leader Mrs Milne, Mrs Rejer and myself (Mr Sullivan), these students flew into JFK airport and spent the next three days taking in all the sights and wonders of this iconic city.

From Broadway to Times Square, from the Empire State Building to the Statue of Liberty, these students managed to see and experience so much in just a few days. Even when the blizzard hit New York, our Sixth Formers remained undeterred and ventured out into the city to visit Wall Street and the New York Stock Exchange. Miles of the city were covered by foot, subway and coach, to ensure that all of our students got to see as much of this wonderful city as possible.

The next few pages detail some of the students' favourite memories of the trip. We hope you enjoy reading about their experiences and seeing some of the pictures we took.

For those of you that are planning to join us in the Sixth Form next year, look out for news on next year's planned trip to New York.



From the Tip of the Top of the Rock...

70 floors up, at eight hundred and fifty feet high, we stood at the top of the famous Rockefeller Centre with the entire New York City skyline right in front of our camera lenses.

70 floors up, at eight hundred and fifty feet high, we stood at the top of the famous Rockefeller Centre with the entire New York City skyline right in front of our camera lenses. Arguably the best view in Manhattan, with no glass panels to hinder your 360-degree panoramic view, we enjoyed an unobstructed view of Central Park, the Hudson River and the Empire State building. With fair weather (luckily before the snowstorm hit) we wandered on all sides and levels of the three-tier observation platform, and with a bit of squinting we were pretty sure we even glimpsed the Statue of Liberty. The stomach-churning sixty-something floor lift ride was totally worth this breathtaking view of one of the world's most celebrated cities.

With friendly staff who could point out all the visible landmarks, the visit was definitely my favourite part of the trip. The only thing I would change would be a chance to have seen the cityscape glow at night, but I won't be forgetting this visit anytime soon as New York City's iconic skyline is a sight unrivalled with any other I have ever seen.

By Leanne (Year 12)





Big Bites in the 'Big Apple'

One of the things I was told to do before disembarking on our trip was to eat excessively in New York, and boy did we eat!



We were treated to some extremely delicious food in top quality restaurants like the 'Hard Rock Café', 'Bubba Gump's restaurant' and the 'Stage Door Diner'. I had a mouth-watering BBQ pork cob with chips (sorry, I mean 'fries'), which was to die for, from the 'Hard Rock Café', and, what felt like an entire cow on a burger with fries from 'Bubba Gump's'. However, the highlight of the restaurant experiences wasn't just the food, or the entertainment

provided by the waiters and waitresses, the main source of entertainment came from the sometimes odd, and always funny behaviour of old man Duncan (Year 12). He has earned this legendary title, and his geriatric status, for complaining about absolutely everything, and I mean everything!! But even Duncan has to admit that there really was nothing to complain about when it came to eating out in New York. The food, the service, the ambience and the general atmosphere were all excellent and everything you expected from dining out New York style.

By Tom (Year 12)



Chicago

On our second night in the Big Apple we took a walk through the dazzling neon lights of Times Square to the Ambassador theatre.

We were full of excitement at the prospect of seeing the classic, famous and highly revered musical, 'Chicago'. The theatre glowed with thousands of lights spelling the title; it was an amazing sight with all the splendour you would expect from a prestigious Broadway theatre. Once inside the splendour continued. The inside of the theatre was wonderful with high ceilings and huge chandeliers; it was the perfect setting for a wonderful show. The glitz and glamour of New York was reflected on the stage with sleek costumes and a fashionable, ingenious set. The cast wowed us with their voices and intricate dance numbers. As the infamous lyrics of 'All that jazz' and 'Razzel – Dazzle them' filled the room, you couldn't help but sing along. The classic story of a young girl's desire for freedom and fame was made fresh and new as some amazing acting brought the characters to life before our eyes. We will never forget the wonderful evening we had; it was a spectacular, once in a life time experience that will stay with us forever.

Reported by Laura (Year 13 student and Head Girl)



Meeting Jedward

After being blown away by the musical spectacle of 'Chicago' on Broadway, the group were walking back to the hotel trying to take in the breath-taking sights of Times Square at night.



While waiting at the crossing, we suddenly saw two little quiffs of bleach blonde hair, and to our surprise, it turned out to be Jedward. Wearing matching black and white outfits, they were as full of life in reality as they are on TV. After taking several photos with a lucky few, Jedward wandered off into the bright lights of Times Square. Whilst many of us were hoping to see more famous celebrities in New York, I believe it was an experience that none of us will ever forget (except for perhaps Mr Sullivan, who I think would perhaps like to forget we ever met them).

by Lois (Year 12)

Shopping - New York Style!



When you think of New York, what do you think of? 5th Avenue, Macy's, Hollister? New York is known as one of the fashion capitals of the world and coincidentally the week we were there was the run up to the biggest fashion event of the year - New York Fashion Week!

As soon as we reached the New York runway we hit shops such as Hollister and Abercrombie on 5th Avenue where some girls in year 13 got very excited! We also went to H&M, which ended up being a saviour for Jack C (Year 13) after his trousers split earlier in the day. Not only were there hundreds of high street stores but there was the biggest department shop in the world, Macys, which I made a rather huge splash in. Gucci, Ralph Lauren, Louis Vuitton, alongside more affordable brands such as Uggs, Converse and Levi's, were all sold in the heavenly store that was over 9 floors high and has been featured in the classic Christmas film 'Miracle on 34th Street' and the television show 'Ugly Betty'.

The shopping did not end as the following day we went to the store famous for their 'Brown Bags', the brilliant Bloomingdales, which had an impressive men's shoe selection and free frozen yoghurt! Unfortunately, on the way home, the airport's shopping was pretty much non-existent, but it did not matter considering we had already spent hours of retail therapy in one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Jay (Year 12)

An Ice Cool Adventure

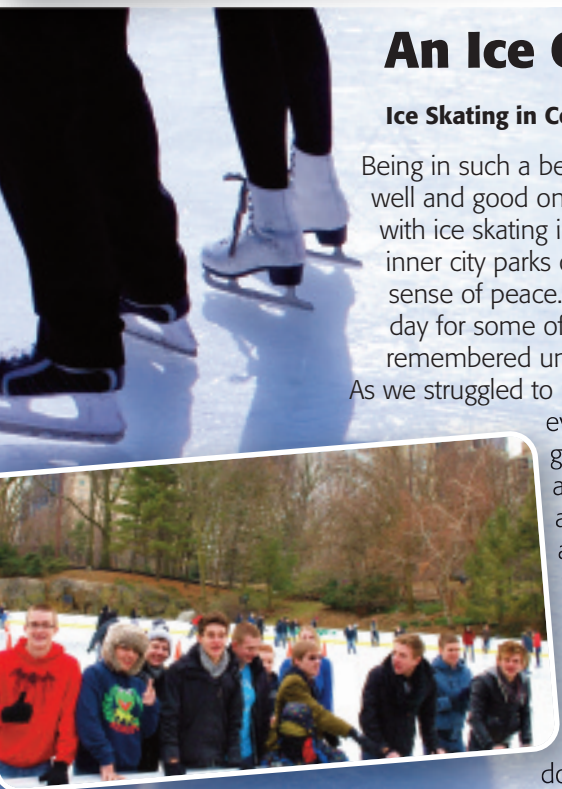
Ice Skating in Central Park

Being in such a beautiful, diverse and bustling city is all well and good on its own, however, when coupled with ice skating in one of the most serene and filmed inner city parks on Earth you cannot help but feel a sense of peace. Central Park ice skating rink hosted a day for some of the sixth formers that will be remembered until they tell the tale in years to come.

As we struggled to maintain our balance, keeping our eyes fixated on the ice, the occasional glance upwards would reward you with a sight that literally took your breath away. The surprise of the two Laura's and Ben W's magnificent skills were masked only by the odd slip up by some. Many of us circled the rink again and again like Bambi on ice, followed by a comforting hot chocolate break. Surging on to the battlefield like an army, we dominated the rink bit by bit; some of

us zigzagging through the crowds at high speeds and others taking the slow but steady approach around the rink's perimeter. Legs collapsing, ankles chaffing and feet sore, we exited the rink with the memory of a lifetime at our heels.

By Christian (Year 12)





Movie & TV Tour

After landing in New York late on the Wednesday evening, the movie tour on Thursday was the first real chance we all had to see the city in the sunlight.

The tour was conducted from the comfort of a coach and took us to see the most famous spots in film and TV history filmed in the state with commentary from our tour guide/actor Gary. The first stop was the George Washington Memorial Arc in Washington Square Park where scenes from I am Legend starring Will Smith were filmed. The apartment that featured in a further Will Smith film, Hitch, was also on the tour, which was pointed out to us whilst we were on the way to see the firehouse from Ghostbusters. We also passed the iconic Times Square that had seen movies from Vanilla Sky with Tom Cruise to Friends with Benefits with Justin Timberlake and Mila Kunis shot there. We then headed onto Central Park where scenes from Home Alone: 2 and When Harry Met Sally were filmed. The final location on the tour was the very recognisable F.R.I.E.N.D.S. apartment building that was used to shot the exterior shots that accompanied every episode. Everybody clamoured for photos on the street outside the apartment block before we had to return to the coach. On the journey to the Rockefeller Centre for the 'Top of the Rock'

visit, our tour guide, Gary, kept us

entertained with clips from the various films and shows. Overall, the tour was a very unique and very interesting way to see such an iconic, famous and recognisable city and, the best possible way to start our trip!

By Megan (Year 12)



Boat Cruise around New York Harbour

This took place on our final day in New York and it was one hell of a final day. So after a brisk stroll down to the harbour we are greeted with the spectacular of the 'USS Intrepid' fully equipped with fighter jets on deck.

Sadly, that was not our tour ship, but the circle line cruise ship was all we needed to get some of the best views of the entire trip. With open aft and fore decks, as well as window lined cabins we were afforded great views of the city as the cruise ship took us down the East and Hudson rivers and around the coast line of Manhattan. Moreover, our informative and knowledgeable tour guide, John, alerted us to the best sights and all of the significant landmarks.

Luckily for us, we had a clear blue sky for the cruise allowing us to get those perfect photos without any grey clouds in sight. And within seconds of pulling out of the harbour we had our first shot, a British Airways' Concorde at rest next to the 'Intrepid' giving us a sense of home. Many of the other great sights we saw on this tour were the tall financial district centred around Freedom tower, standing taller than its predecessors the Twin towers; as well as the sight that everyone who comes to New York wants to see: The Statue of Liberty.

Overall, for me, this was one of the high points of the New York trip, as we were able to see almost the entire city. The afternoon we cruised for two hours around New York harbour will be etched in my memory for the rest of my life.

However, the whole trip was an unforgettable experience. New York is an amazing place to visit and I feel really lucky that I got to share the experience, and have such a laugh, with some of my best friends.

by Duncan (Year 12)

'New York – Spring 2014'
Coming to a form folder near you!

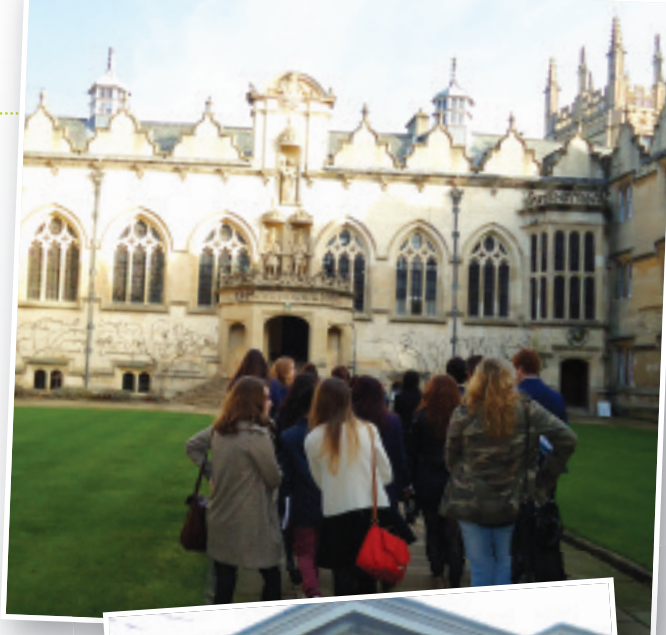
Exploring Oxford, aiming high!

On Friday 1st February a group of ten Woodrush students took part in an 'Exploring Oxford' day at St. Hildas and Oriel colleges, Oxford University.

Designed to help students to get a better appreciation of what The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge can offer, the day was divided in to two halves. During the morning our students took part in two academic tasks led by a Lecturer from the English Department and by one of the University's eminent Botanists. The challenges helped our students to appreciate that at a top university it is often not the case that you need to find a right or a wrong answer; what's important is how you argue and support your point of view.

In the afternoon students went on a tour of Oxford and, in particular, Oriel College. Our students were fascinated by the rich history of the university, the very different feel of the student accommodation and the fact that a

it is in no way simply an elite university that our students cannot aspire to. On the contrary, the impression we all left with was of a university very much open to all students who are high achievers in their A level subjects and who want to both contribute to and get a great deal out of their university experience. The Student Panel at the end of the afternoon reinforced that point of view! On leaving, our Year 12 students felt not only well informed about the UK's leading academic universities but also inspired to reach for their goals! We wish them the very best of luck in their university applications next year!



**Do you sing? Dance? Tell Jokes?
Rap? Play an Instrument?
Are you in a band?**

IF YOU HAVE A TALENT - IT'S TIME TO SHARE IT!

Woodrush's Local Community Talent Show is back!

Auditions April 2013

Grand Final at local theatre in July

Cash Prize of £100!



**Hollywood
Travel**

Holidays by Coach

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

hollywoodtravel@chessbroadband.co.uk
www.hollywoodtravel.co.uk

Tel: 0121 436 6263

Woodrush Ski's Falcade Italy 2013

On Saturday 15th February 43 students and 6 staff set off on the long Journey from Wythall to Falcade – a mere 991 miles from door to door and a short 25 hours in our luxury coach!



After fond farewells, and parents thinking of a week's peaceful bliss, it didn't seem long until we were climbing up and down the mountains in the Austrian Alps and into the Italian Dolomites. With a few hairy hairpins negotiated along the way The Hotel Val Gares was a very welcome site with many weary eyes waiting for a good night's sleep. With a welcome 4 course meal inside, we could all start dreaming of the white slopes that awaited us for the rest of the week.

An early start to Monday morning meant we were up on the slopes by ten o'clock, fully equipped waiting for our instructors, Domenico, Wilma, Patrick and Roberto in beautiful sunshine. At nearly 2000m above sea level it was a great place to really appreciate the stunning views that are the Dolomite Mountains.

It wasn't long before we were soon into action. The group of 43 split into 3 groups – experienced skiers, intermediates and beginners. Everyone soon got into the swing of things and huge progress was seen almost immediately in all groups as red slopes and blue slopes were experienced by all on the first day. Even Mr Monk got into the swing of things – after he had negotiated how to use the button lift! Everyone was able to get a flavour of the food from our Italian hosts, with plenty of pasta and pizza consumed during the break between lessons. It was a very tired group of skiers that

made it back to the hotel that evening as the journey and a full days skiing took its toll on most people. The second day was filled with excitement and also a little bit of trepidation, due to the progress made by so many on the first day. It was literally onwards and upwards. The sun shone again for most of the day as the beginners group negotiated the 10km long 'lovers ski run', a beautiful alpine cross country ski from the top of the Falcade resort down to the bottom of the ski run. Both the intermediate group and the experienced skiers made it to the San Pellegrino Pass and used the cable car down into the next valley to ski in the neighbouring resort. The top of which forms the highest point in the whole of the region for skiing.

The second day involved an evening activity where most of the group went back into Falcade for an evening of ice skating. It seems that the majority of students are just as good on hard ice as on the snow and showed off many moves from dancing on ice! An evening of Champions League football completed the evening for the rest of the group.

The next few days seemed a blur as all groups advanced onto the harder red slopes and some even negotiated sections of black runs in both the San Pellegrino Pass and the Falcade Valley. The advanced group also made it to Moena, the third resort in the area, where they caught the ski-bus from San Pellegrino. By this time limbs and bodies were beginning to ache as days spent in ski boots were starting to take their toll. There was time however and enough energy in the tank for a bit of tubing! This was where ski grudges could be settled in huge rubber rings racing down more gentle slopes. A fun evening was had by all especially when the 30 man sledge took to the slope!



By Friday it was competition time where all students take part in the 'Woodrush Slalom'. After a practice run by all, each student took it in turn to negotiate the turns of the slalom course. In the beginners group Harrison made the quickest time of just over 34 seconds. In the intermediate group Jack took the honours with a time of just over 29 seconds. For the advanced group it was a case of who could beat Jem, but after the quickest run of the day in just over 25 seconds, Jem took the honours for the group and all students. It was then a case of whether Mr Cannon or Mr Maidment could beat Jem's time, but Mr Maidment couldn't repeat the previous days victory over Jem as a precursor to the big event! All students received a medal at the presentation evening to show their participation in the event.

By the end of the week everyone was exhausted but had many memories to take home of what was a fantastic week in Italy. Some even dreaming of "Snow Plough! Snow Plough!" in broken English all the way home! Every student on the trip was an absolute credit to Woodrush High School and conducted themselves as only Woodrush Students do. We must again thank Mr Maidment for organising what was another fantastic Woodrush Ski Trip where everyone had a wonderful experience on and off the slopes – can't wait for the next one!

Humanities

Holocaust week

January 27th was Holocaust Memorial Day.

Students at Woodrush commemorated this day in their assemblies and lessons during the following week. I was so impressed with the mature attitudes students demonstrated towards this important event and a number of students wanted to find out more.

In Geography, History, RE and Humanities lessons Year 8 and 9 students found out about the causes, events and impact of the Holocaust and other genocides. In assembly I talked about the theme of this year's day: Build a Bridge and asked students to reflect on what this meant to them. A number of students entered our Holocaust Memorial competition, designing and making sculptures and models of their designs. Chloe, Sam, Olivia and Emily produced amazing pieces of work and these are now on display in reception for visitors to see. A massive well done to them!

Miss Graham



The Auschwitz Project

In the Autumn we applied for sixth form students to take part in the auspicious 'Auschwitz Project' and were lucky enough to be awarded 2 places for the school. Katie and Nicola were selected to represent the school and will take part in 2 workshops in April and May. As part of this project they will also visit the famous concentration camp from the Holocaust, Auschwitz. As part of the project the Katie and Nicola will be share their experience with some students on their return. We look forward to the Summer edition of the Star to hear all about this exciting opportunity.

Good luck Katie and Nicola!

Year 11 trip to Birmingham city centre

As part of their GCSE controlled assessment, year 11 are carrying out a fieldwork investigation into how and why shopping has changed in Birmingham city centre. The year 11 group braved the snow before half term and took the train up to Birmingham. The group worked really hard despite the freezing conditions and were able to ask over seventy people a questionnaire to find out their views on shopping in Birmingham. They also carried out a land use survey of the major shopping areas, carried out shopping quality and environmental quality surveys which rated everything from the pavements to the greenery to the toilet facilities. They also carried out a number of pedestrian counts – which wasn't easy in a busy shopping street! Back in the warm classroom, year 11 are now focusing on writing up their findings in no more than 1200 words.

Best of luck year 11!

British Red Cross visit to the Humanities faculty

On Tuesday, Vicky Gatley from the British Red Cross came into school to talk to a number of year 7, 8 and 9 forms during their Humanities lessons. Year 9 had a thought-provoking workshop on child soldiers. They learnt how some children came to be child soldiers and what their daily life was like on the front line. They also thought about what sort of help they would need to recover and learnt what organisations like the Red Cross are doing to help them.

Year 8 learnt about food insecurity and how food isn't always distributed evenly across the world. This was demonstrated by chocolate not being fairly distributed amongst the class causing outrage! Year 7 followed on from their lesson on the Sichuan Earthquake in China by designing a refugee camp out of play dough to meet the needs of all the people left homeless by the earthquake.



Year 9 Trip to Solihull

As part of their Geography module in Humanities year 9 are carrying out a fieldwork investigation so they are prepared for the real thing at GCSE. At the end of January, 9B2 and 9B1 went over to Solihull town centre to investigate how shopping in the town had changed.

They asked over 60 shoppers their views on shopping in Solihull and whether they felt the Touchwood development had improved shopping in the area. They also took photos, carried out environmental quality surveys and land use surveys to compare with 1999 data before Touchwood was built. Both year 9 groups are now working on writing up their investigation and analysing their results. Good luck with the write up.

Geography Club

Geography club is back on Tuesdays after school and is open to all. The focus this term is on the weather. We have made tornadoes in a bottle and also designed our own instruments to measure different elements of the weather. The club is open to all years. Please come and join us in H6 on Tuesdays from 2.50 – 3.50pm



ART & Photography Trip to London Galleries

Year 11, 12 & 13 Art and Photography students sought inspiration for their forthcoming exam in London's Tate and Saatchi galleries on a beautiful sunny Wednesday last week.

They were inspired by Turner and the colossal size and detail of the masters in the Tate and then intrigued and sometimes confused by some of the challenging yet brilliant Art and Photography at the stunning Saatchi gallery on the Kings Road. Students behaviour as always was impeccable, and the day was rounded off with a high when KFC was open at the services on the way back!

CreativeArts



Focus on Imaging

On the 6th March the Art Department took a group of Year 10 & 12 students out on a trip to the NEC. Focus on Imaging is Europe's biggest imaging exhibition, with launches of new products including new digital cameras and other equipment.

Students enjoyed experimenting with new technologies and having an insight to the world of photography. Students had the opportunity to see Professional Photographers in action and to attend seminars run throughout the day. "Opportunities offered by the companies hosting the event, including demos, hands-on product tryouts and vintage auctions, (not to mention the gorgeous models wandering about), stirred up a positive feedback from both tutors and students alike."

John 10C2

New Instrument Lessons on offer



We now have 12 students having singing lessons with a professional tutor. Want to improve your singing? Lessons in a small group, with friends, can cost as little as £5 per lesson. Or if you want private tuition, that's possible too. Just see Mrs Sheppard for details.

We also have a new drum teacher who has spaces available for new pupils.



DofE Update

All DofE participants are now well underway with the award. They are all volunteering, learning a skill and participating in a physical activity on a weekly basis in addition to completing training for the upcoming expeditions. The Gold group are also planning week long residential trips for their half term holidays.

The Bronze group will be completing two 2-day expeditions in Bewdley and the Cotswolds in June and July. The Silvers are busy preparing for two much more challenging 3-day expeditions to the Long Mynd and Elan Valley in April and May.

The very brave Gold group are completing training to take on the ultimate challenge of two 4-day expeditions to the remote areas of the Brecon Beacons and the Yorkshire Dales in June and July.

All participants are giving up a huge amount of time to complete all the sections of the award participating in activities such as;

Volunteering: Helping at scouts and guide groups, coaching a variety of sports, helping at primary school clubs, volunteering at charity shops, assisting in local libraries, getting involved with animal welfare and working with youngsters with learning difficulties.

Skills: Learning musical instruments, cooking, photography, creative writing, bee-keeping, knitting, crocheting and driving.

Physical: Football, netball, dance, gymnastics, badminton, horse riding, pilates, swimming, rugby, tennis and martial arts.

Volunteering
Physical
Skills
Expedition
Residential

Staff DofE'ers

This year Woodrush will be visiting a new expedition area – the Cotswolds, a popular AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty). Mr Coates, Mr Coates, Miss Rigley, Mr Thewlis and Miss Houston have spent two days of their half term holidays walking the routes to check out the area in preparation for the Bronze DofE'ers expedition in June.

Miss Rigley, Miss Price and Miss Houston are also off to North Wales for a Leaders Walking course on a weekend in March.

Notice to all DofE'ers: Be nice to Mr T!!! (as he has recently attended a course to become an expedition assessor).

Bronze			
Volunteering	Skills	Physical	Expedition
Two sections for 3 months and one section for 6 months			2 days, 1 night

Silver			
Volunteering	Skills	Physical	Expedition
6 months	One for 6 months and one for 3 months		3 days, 2 nights

Gold				
Volunteering	Skills	Physical	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One for 12 months and one for 6 months		4 days, 3 nights	5 days, 4 nights

A.D.P Wall & Floor Tiling

CALL ANDY ON: 07939 424944

- ◆ Competitive Rates
- ◆ Free Estimates
- ◆ Professional Friendly & Expert Service
- ◆ Fully Insured



Do you want a Part time job for 2 hours per week?
We are urgently looking for good reliable

Cleaners

To work Monday to
Friday 4 -6pm

For more details and an application form
please contact Mrs Rossiter by phone on
01564 820095 or email jrossiter@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk



Woodrush High School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and as such expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment



Mr Nelson The Duke of Woodrush

Mr Nelson, who retired last October, has an appointment to attend Buckingham Palace to meet the Queen, after receiving an award in the New Year's Honours. Mr Nelson was awarded a BEM (British Empire Medal) for his services to education and extra-curricular activities, especially the DofE which he ran for over 30 years! Mr Nelson is a true Woodrush legend and is still giving up his time to come and assess our current DofE expeditions. His medal is well deserved recognition of the commitment and hard work he has put in to the DofE Award Scheme over the years.



Duke of Edinburgh



Gold DofE'ers planning their expedition routes

Suzie & Alex complete their Gold Duke of Edinburgh Residential

As Part of our Gold DofE award we attended a MedLink residential at Nottingham University. This involved five days of exploring pathology, bioterrorism, surgery and general medicine. One of our practical sessions involved a group of pathologists and doctors in an emergency situation, identifying and diagnosing a simulated cholera epidemic.

Suzie & Alex (Gold DofE'ers)

"For my Gold Duke of Edinburgh Volunteering Section I have volunteered at Woodrush Youth & Community Centre for 12 months.

As part of volunteering at the youth centre I have done many different things such as: Staffing the bar, organising projects, completing a first aid course, resolving problems and generally making people's time at the youth centre fun. Although, I started volunteering at the youth centre solely for Duke of Edinburgh, it has made me

remember the times I spent here when I was younger and I have loved it. While here, I have progressed from being a volunteer to the Vice-Chair of the Youth Management Team and I wouldn't have changed the experience for the world and it was all thanks to Duke of Edinburgh."

Olly (Gold DofE'er)



Woodrush Star News

As you are aware we produce our fantastic 'Woodrush Star' school and community magazine four times a year which is then handed out to all our students, feeder schools, local businesses and the local community. We are very interested in hearing more about up and coming local

events, interesting news stories and just general information you think other parents and students would like to hear about. You may even want to promote your own business or make the community aware of your services or facilities that are available to students and their families. If you would like to know more about any of the above please telephone the main school number (**01564 823777**) and ask for either Mrs Peters or Mrs Bishop. Alternatively email **woodrushstar@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk**

The Coppice Primary School expands to three form entry, meeting the needs of our community



We have responded to the needs of our community by starting an expansion process. Because of our high standards we were able to access funding for this; the government is eager to support schools whose SATs results reflect this. This year we had many applications for places, and could not have met this demand without this expansion.

Also, the demand for places will increase as the new housing in the area is built.

The Coppice Primary School has historically had two classes within each year group. This will change from September 2013 with our first ever intake of three classes in our Reception year group. This will continue year on year until we fill up to a full three form entry school in 2020. Accordingly, this change will be very gradual (over seven years), allowing us plenty of time to appoint quality teachers and resource the new classes. The Coppice has a wonderful ethos that we are very precious about; we believe that this gradual transition will enable us to preserve this ethos. The design and layout of the new buildings will allow us to manage infants and juniors separately, ensuring that we still have a smaller school feel about us but still retaining the same leadership, shared vision and ethos throughout the school.

Our SATs results over the last three years have been record breaking, with The Coppice appearing in the national press. However, we do not purely focus on academic excellence, having gained top national awards for the arts (Artsmark Gold), sports (Activemark Gold), Eco Schools (Green Flag status), and we also have Healthy Schools Award as well as our second Quality Mark Award which recognises that our provision for Teaching and Learning is of a high standard. As well as this we are the leading primary school for

gymnastics in the whole of the West Midlands, winning competitions year on year, going on to represent the West Midlands in national finals at Stoke-on Trent, where we have been national champions. In September we had an Ofsted inspection resulting in a good report with some outstanding features.

Being immediate neighbours of Woodrush High school, understandably, we have close links with them and good transition processes that ensure the move to

high school is as smooth as it can possibly be for our children. Accordingly, every one of our children is guaranteed a place at Woodrush High School.

We are very excited by our new build which will give us seven brand new, fully equipped, state of the art classrooms as well as an extra hall. Effectively creating an infant block (see picture above).



My Family and Other Aliens

by Matt Haig and Woodrush Year 7 Book Club

Danny Shovel had little idea that the people he called his mum and dad were in fact deadly extra-terrestrials originally from a planet several galaxies away.

Mind you, neither did anyone else. All their neighbours on Dullard Street would have been surprised to learn that Derek and Marjorie Shovel were really called Slupperax and Droovil, and were from a planet so dry and hot it would melt an earth lizard in a second.

All he knew is that they were stricter than other parents. 'Now, after you've finished your homework,' Danny's mum told him, the day he found out this news, 'you can polish the door-handles.'

Polishing the door-handles was precisely the kind of pointless job Danny was always made to do.

As Danny polished the front door handle something unexpected happened. The handle turned as a key entered the lock. It was his dad.

'What's the matter, darling? Why are you home so early?' said Danny's mum.

'Something's happened at Andemia,' said Danny's dad in a serious voice, as he shut the door and placed down his briefcase.

'What is it?' asked Danny's mum. 'What's happened?'

They both looked at each other with their serious eyes and then those serious eyes together stared down at Danny.

'Bed,' said Danny's mum. 'Now.'

Danny looked at his watch.

'It's only half past seven,' he said.

'Do as your mother says,' said his father. 'Or there'll be trouble.'

Later, in bed, he heard something.

Something from inside the house. A noise far stranger than the twittering sparrows outside.

Kalackawacka.

Very slowly he peeled back his covers and stepped out of bed. He knew that if his parents heard him they'd be furious.

Karacka... karackee... hoorak... wyeeka...

Halfway down the stairs, he could see the shadows of his parents against the living room wall. They were standing up and seemed to be talking, but all he could hear were those strange sounds.

Heekaka... kookoo... nanack... wahwah... kackee...

Then he noticed something even weirder. The shadows. They were the strangest of shapes. He wanted to believe that these shadows were perfectly normal, and belonged to his parents. Human parents. But the shadows had three antennae sticking out of the top of each head. And then he realised the truth.

His parents were aliens.

If they had ever even been his parents.

So what were they doing living here? With him?

"Perhaps their planet could have exploded because of them?" Danny thought.

"Maybe they wanted to see what it was like to live in the human world" Danny said to himself.

"Am I an alien? What am I really? If I ask them they might go mad. They might not know that I know! What happens if I am? Will I start to change into one of them?"

"But what should I do now?"

All of a sudden the aliens turned around. "You saw nothing, boy!" said Slupperax...

Now only one question remained that Danny needed to answer. Should he stay or should he go?

"Oh no now I'm in big trouble!" thought Danny. He tried to run but they had a good grip. He didn't even want to look at them. But that was impossible. They were staring right into his eyes and he was instantly under their control...

They said "you are coming with us. Back to our own planet, mmmwwuu hahaha!"

Danny tried to scream but he couldn't he was under their control.

"We have to go back to our planet something has happened, you do understand how important this is my son."

"Of course mom, but I need time to think" said Danny. Scratching his head Danny paced up and down the room. If he went he could discover a whole world of alien adventures, but that would mean leaving behind his friends, his home, his life!

"Don't rush him Droovil" said Slupperax, "he can make up his own mind."

"We need him, it's important and besides we are his parents he should listen to us" said Droovil.

"I'm not sure about my friends" said Danny.

"Say yes" said Droovil...

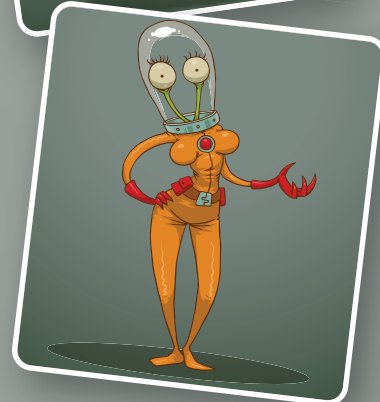
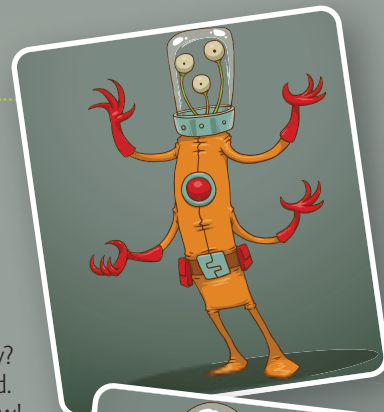
He paced a bit more around the room than his dad came up to him saying "come with me and live a good life or I will make you blow up EARTH!!!" He had no choice. He chose to sacrifice himself for the good of humanity.

So he went. Not knowing what was on the other planet. It was a long ride to get there. He landed then saw a load of creatures. They all crowded around him. Then he realised there was nowhere to hide. Slowly he started changing form. He was becoming one of them.

"What's happening to me? I don't want to be one of you" he said disgusted.

"Our King!" shouted all of the other aliens. Danny had totally changed and he spoke like a true king. "We must attack earth!!"

(Woodrush Year 7 Book Club)



English

Y7 and Y8 English 'A Christmas Carol' Trip

On Tuesday 11th December 90 students from Y7 and Y8, along with the English teaching staff and Mr Thewlis, went up to Chester to see a live performance of A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens.

After a 3 hour coach journey our experience began as we climbed the steps of Chester's magnificent Town Hall

where we were greeted by 'in role' characters singing Christmas carols at the door, followed by basket-carrying cheery-faced urchins offering apples and flowers for a penny as we made our way to our seats. The staging was fantastic with the seating being arranged around three sides of the hall with the specially built stage stretching through the centre of the room, dominated by timepieces and a curtained four-poster bed. Costumed characters wandered through the entire building, greeting the crowds, wishing them

a Merry Christmas, all adding to the tangible feeling of being taken back in time to a Victorian Christmas.

And all this was before the show even started!

What followed was a brilliant adaptation of the famous novel, which didn't disappoint. One moment we are watching an intensely dramatic scene between just two characters, the next the stage is teeming with life as dozens of company members packing the area to help create an authentic Dickens' scene. We were treated to numerous well known carols from the singers and musicians and an entertaining afternoon of drama, heart-breaking scenes and of course a happy ending. A truly seasonal trip!



ANGLO ITALIAN

TILES - BATHROOMS - FLOORS

EST 1949

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM
FOR A FREE QUOTATION

Call: 0121 4742920

ANGLO ITALIAN | 71 ALCESTER ROAD
HOLLYWOOD | BIRMINGHAM | B17 5PN
www.angloitalian.net | info@angloitalian.net

- DESIGN, SUPPLY & INSTALLATION SPECIALISTS
- FAMILY BUSINESS SINCE 1949
- LIFE TIME GUARANTEES
- BRITISH & EUROPEAN QUALITY



WORLD BOOK DAY

7 MARCH 2013

Our year 7 book club generated a real excitement for books and reading by organising a successful book fair in the week running up

to World Book Day. As well as manning the fair during break and lunch they organised a treasure hunt, a cake sale and competitions to win free books. Every child in years 7, 8 and 9 had the opportunity to visit the book fair during a lesson, where they were all given a £1 book voucher to spend either in school or at a high street book shop. Overall a fabulous £467 was made, allowing the book club to choose a selection of new books for our library.



English/Library



Students can't have failed to notice all the bunting, objects from different films, large books and even 'Where's Wally?' that appeared all over the school the week before Book Day!

campaign to raise awareness of the forthcoming event. The students created story boards of their ideas and made some mock ups, and then in a very business-like manner, presented their ideas to Miss Packwood and Mrs Robertson who loved them all! Btec students have worked their socks off to get all the books, backdrops and props ready in time for the launch, with a bit of help from our Art Textile and G&T club students. A very successful team project for the 6th form students!

Art Btec students were given the brief in February to come up with a way of advertising World Book Day on the 7th March. They had to work together as a team and come up with an advertising

St Mary's Wythall

6th Form Art BTEC students have been involved with St Mary's church in a competition to help design the new church stained glass windows. The church which will be a combined school hall for The Coppice is due to be completed by this time next year. Swansea School of Glass will be making the final window design, and the BTEC students will be given a chance to be involved in a Stained Glass Workshop later on in the year as part of their prize. The stained glass that they produce in their workshop will be displayed in the new building.



World record attempt at Woodrush High School

On Wednesday 6th February 2013, to celebrate International Libraries Day our year seven book club took part in an attempt to break the world record for the most children writing a continuous story at different locations through out the country. The year seven book club came up to the library at 4th period to write two lines each. This story had to follow on from a short story called My Family and Other Aliens by Matt Haig. Danny shovel's parents are aliens from the planet Andemia. 26 students took part and came up with a brilliant story. By Esther 7B1 and Jordan 7B2 (Competitors)



EASTER SCHOOL 2013

Weds 10th, Thurs 11th, Fri 12th April

Leap ahead and put yourself in the lead!

Helpful exam preparation and crucial coursework support to improve your grade.

You only get one chance to give it your best shot.



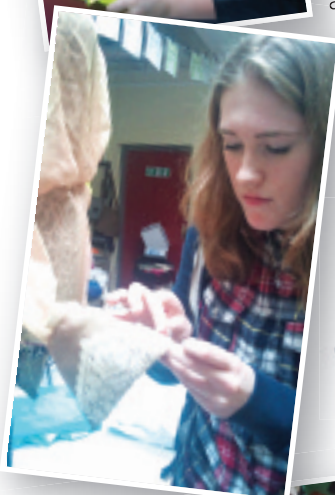
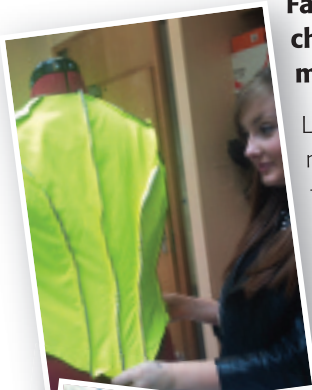
Design Technology@Woodrush

A-Level Fashion/Textiles students continue to strive to create innovative designs offering solutions to real life scenarios. Students have opportunities to explore Fashion/Textiles at all aspects of life, challenged by identifying the gap in the market!

Lois — "I'm really enjoying textiles at the minute. We are making innovative designs and had the opportunity to go to the clothes show. #SASSY"

Vicky — "Textiles is the best subject, where you can make what you want! It's fun, creative and inspirational."

Chloe - "I've always had a passion for Fashion Textiles and have especially enjoyed this year! The clothes show was my highlight of the year. I wish to carry on Textiles in the future. Thanks Ms Khatri for everything you have taught me!"



Clothes show success!

Fashionists took to the NEC Clothes Show Live Exhibition to experience DESIGN through showcased catwalks and design seminars. Students experienced a n inspirational, fun and educational day celebrating 25 years at the heart of British Fashion supporting the future of fashion with creative, educational seminars and activities appreciating DESIGN! Students have been inspired to create innovative designs through textiles technology and Fashion Club showing flair and creativity!

'Follow DT on Twitter!'



BIG welcome to Miss Harris!

Wow! What a great start!

I feel so privileged have been given the opportunity to work in such a high achieving school! All students and staff have such great enthusiasm and there is an amazing moral around the school!

During my time at Woodrush I hope to keep this enthusiasm going and can't wait to showcase the design ideas and final pieces made by Fashion Club!!

Fashion Club makes a fantastic hit!

Fashion Textiles Club was re launched earlier this year offering all KS 3 Fashionists the experience of fun Fashion Textiles through creative, challenging and inspiring workshops led by Fashion Textiles specialists, Miss Harris and Ms Khatri.

Students build on knowledge, skills and specialist techniques which are then applied into their own innovative Fashion Textiles products and sketchbooks. The work is also accredited by the ARTS AWARD which will enable students to build on their portfolios of experience and a taste of DESIGN at another level.

Some of the year 11 Product Design students have had the results for their re-sit of the Innovation Challenge, the controlled assessment module. The results

were a great improvement on last year and it is a credit to the hard work and determination each of them put into the task—well done to all of them!



Engineering Geniuses!

Woodrush is very fortunate to work in partnership with a local practising Engineer, Mr Thompson. Young Engineers of Woodrush are set to the challenge every week within DT workshops, working closely with Engineers, Mr Thompson and Mr Paget. Students have been involved in a number of 'hands on' workshops experiencing electronics and motor engineering.

The young engineers work to:

- Develop independent learning skills
- Learn how to be an effective group member
- Improve oral and written communication skills
- Develop investigative skills
- Learn how to be a critical thinker
- Become confident in project management

Students identify a question with an intended outcome for a topic of their choice enabling the young engineers to:

- manage
- use resources
- develop and evaluate the outcome

The topic can either complement current studies or be based on future interests. Students will showcase their work at DT /Engineering exhibitions as well as gaining a Project Award, a Nationally recognised qualification striving to succeed!



Year 12 Applied Science students trip to Malvern

In February, Year 12 BTEC Applied Science students visited the Three Counties Agricultural Society to carry out soil and water surveys as part of their Environmental Science coursework.

Under the guidance of Louise, our representative from OPAL, the Open Air Laboratories network, students discovered there are about 20 different species of earthworm in the UK and soon put aside any fears to dig deep and catch the wigglers. They even learnt how to use mustard to entice the deeper burrowers out of hiding.

After testing the soil for its pH, texture and porosity they then moved on to sample lake water. Of particular enjoyment was the macro-invertebrate sampling (pond dipping to most people!). Lauren came out top scorer with her brilliant caddis fly larvae find.

Despite the weather being very cold and fresh, the students did really well and helped to provide valuable information to be used in a Nation wide survey to assess the quality of soils and freshwater across the country. Well done!

A big thank you to Mr A Baker who helped out on the trip.



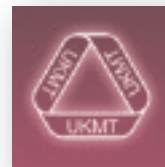
Intermediate Maths Challenge

The Intermediate Maths Challenge successfully went ahead on Thursday 7th February, but unfortunately only 24 pupils out of a possible 30 pupils from year 9 and 10 turned up to take the paper.

Of those 5 pupils achieved high enough results to receive certificates from the University of Leeds. Bronze certificates were awarded to Kyla and Tuathla in year 10 and Silver were awarded to Millie and Joanna in year 10 and Emily in year 9.

Millie and Emily also get best in year certificates and special congratulations go to Millie who receives the 'Best in School' certificate.

Well done to everyone who took part – lets see if we can achieve even more certificates next year.



Making Easter Nests

Ingredients

- 1 Normal sized box of shredded wheat (16 large biscuits)
- 400g milk Chocolate
- 2 x 100g bags on mini eggs
- Cake cases

Method

1. Crush the Shredded Wheat biscuits into a bowl using your hands or a food mixer
2. Break the chocolate into pieces and melt in a microwave on a low heat, stirring every 30 seconds
3. Pour the melted chocolate into the bowl and mix with the crushed Shredded Wheat
4. When mixed and all the Shredded Wheat is covered with chocolate, spoon the mixture into bun cases and press down in the middle of each to create a place for the eggs
5. Press two or three Mini Eggs into each nest
6. Leave to set for at least 2 hours (or less if refrigerated)



WOODRUSH YOUTH, SPORTS & COMMUNITY CENTRE



Woodrush Sports Centre facilities to hire:

- . A Flood-Lit Astro Turf Pitch
- . Sports Hall
- . 4 Badminton Courts
- . Gymnasium
- . Tennis Courts
- . Senior Grass Football Pitch (91m by 59m)
- . Junior Grass Football Pitch (82m by 46m)
- . School Hall with Stage



Woodrush Sports Centre Birthday Parties:

- NEW Animal Party
- Football Party
- Multi-Sports Party
- Jungle Inflatable Party
- Fun and Games Party



Woodrush Sports Centre EASTER Holiday Programme

Woodrush Holiday Scheme is back providing a whole two weeks of more fun and exciting activities, to keep all entertained this Easter Half Term ... it will be EGG-TASTIC!

. Egg Hunt . Egg Art Attack . Easter Animalz . Easter Disco & More!

LOOK OUT FOR THE EASTER LEAFLET ..COMING OUT SOON!

For more information or to book, contact Woodrush Sports Centre

Telephone number: 01564 820 099

Email: lettings@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk



Y7 Rugby Woodrush v Walkwood

This match was one we had to win because it would mean we get the easier semi-final. It was against Walkwood a school that played a lot of rugby, so we knew it was going to be tough.

Our first try came through Ivor S who had powered through the defence and scored. Our lead was not for long though, as Walkwood came straight back with a try. Then Ben F darted down the left wing to score in the corner. Unfortunately, Walkwood struck back again and the scores were 14-14, this happened again with a try from Ivor S which again our lead was killed after walkwood scored their third. The forwards started to turn over some ball so that the backs could score which we did through Ivor S, he got his hat trick. This time Walkwood didn't come back but Woodrush got a try just before the halftime whistle the score was now 35-14 to Woodrush. In the second half there were two more tries from Ben F and the score was 49-14 to the lads. Though we were tiring and Walkwood got two back, the full time score was Woodrush 49-28 Walkwood. Well done lads.

Ben (captain)

Y9 Unbeaten Run Continues

The Year 9 Football Team maintained their chances of winning the District League as they continued their unbeaten run at the expensive of South Bromsgrove with a close 2-1 victory.

Playing conditions weren't ideal for a side who like to play it on the floor but that didn't prevent them from getting stuck in and showing they can do gritty work too. Woodrush started brightly with Adam getting through on the left on a couple of occasions as Cameron and Kieran sliced open South's defence. The first half proved to be a testing battle in the middle of the park but the breakthrough came when Cameron's through ball found a late run from Kieran who slotted home with a cool finish. However, the sides went in level at half time as the Woodrush backline was caught flat footed by a long throw to the back post which seen a looping header nestle in the top corner.

After some changes in tactics at half time, Woodrush really took a stronghold on the game and it only looked a matter of time before the second goal came. Donovan switched to the left and gave the South's right back a torrid time as Ashley continued to win the battle of the midfield and the captain had strong claims for a penalty turned down by the referee. With 10 minutes remaining, Woodrush finally got the second goal they worked desperately hard for. Xavier put in a fighting display throughout the game and he deserved his goal which, with a slice of luck from a deflection, looped its way over the keeper from outside the box. Woodrush didn't have it easy in the final stages of the game, with South Bromsgrove pushing for an equaliser and hitting the bar when they really should have scored. Woodrush keeper James had to be at his best and produced an outstanding save to deny a close range header, and ultimately protect the 2-1 lead.

This result sees the Year 9 team maintain their unbeaten status, and they

have a good chance of silverware if they continue to show fighting spirit.
Man of the Match: Donovan

The West Midlands Schools Gymnastics Competition

The West Midlands Schools Gymnastics Competition took place at Fenton Manor Sports Complex in Stoke on Saturday the 8th December.

The girls (Abby J, Jasmine L, Alice H, Ellie P and Laura C) represented the school admirably, and all came home with a Bronze medal, with Amy taking Gold in her category. Congratulations to you all.



Year 11 County Cup Football Fixture

Woodrush County Cup comes to an end

Despite the u16 county cup fixture being postponed several times due to flooding, snow and frozen pitches Woodrush finally played Nunnery Wood High School in the quarter finals of the County Cup.

The game was played on an excellent pitch and both teams played good football. Nunnery Wood had more possession but Woodrush had the better chances in the first 20 minutes. However, Nunnery Wood took the lead just before half time when Woodrush failed to stop or deal with a cross from the left and the player finished well from just outside the six yard box. This was a shame as it was Nunnery Wood's only clear chance of the half and the Woodrush defence had dealt comfortably with what Nunnery had to offer up to this point. In the second half Woodrush started the stronger of the two sides but unfortunately Cameron B, Luke O and Kyle B were all denied by some excellent goalkeeping. It was after these chances and as Woodrush tried to push up for an equaliser that they left themselves more exposed in defence. Nunnery capitalised on this and scored their second goal when a cross shot deflected off Charlie W in the 70th minute for Nunnery Woods second goal. From this point on Nunnery looked the more likely to score again and if wasn't for Charlie W making a fine save surely could have. Despite losing the game 2-0 Woodrush should take lot out of pride out of their performance as the Nunnery Wood team consisted of several county players.

Mr Maidment

BECKETTS FARM

THERE'S SOMETHING HATCHING AT BECKETTS!

FREE ENTRY

29th March to the 14th April

Open everyday from 10am to 4pm

Come and join in the 'eggcitement' and see the real Easter chicks hatching from their shells everyday!

BECKETTS FARM
RESTAURANT • FARM SHOP • CONFERENCE

2012 Winner
Family Business Awards
Family Business of the Year

FARM SHOP & RESTAURANT OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

TO FIND OUT ABOUT OFFERS AND EVENTS VISIT BECKETTSFARM.CO.UK OR FOLLOW US ON



Year 7 Boys Rugby District Tournament Match Versus Woodfield Middle School

Woodrush 64 - 0 Woodfield

This was the first time Woodrush year 7 had played a competitive match of rugby. The game started well with everyone getting stuck in.

In the sixth minute we had our first try coming from Ivor S, and then with boosted confidence Lewis G evaded a few tackles and scored under the posts. They both got another try each and the lads were really enjoying it. Woodfield had some quick and agile runners but our defence held strong up to half time. In the second half the forwards started to retain ball and helped Ivor crash over for his hat-trick followed by a try from Ben F. Jevon G had just come on and in minutes he got his first try, and soon after darted over the line for a second. Will B got our last try just before the full time whistle. Conversions were all converted and were taken by Ben F and Fraser N. Well played lads!



At the end of February a 30 strong team from Woodrush went to the Worcestershire winter games to represent Redditch in the county tournaments in netball, cross country and badminton.

The year 7 cross country runners did very well in their respective races with Ross finishing 10th and Lucy 22nd on a long and difficult course. The 4 badminton teams all got through to the semi-finals where they competed well with some very good matches being contested. The KS4 girls match went to the final game which Woodrush narrowly lost. Rachel, Lauren, Ellie and Zoe won through to the final of the KS3 girl's tournament. At 2-2 everything rested on the last game which Woodrush narrowly won. The KS3 team now goes through to the regional finals in Birmingham at the beginning of March. The year 8 netball team had a really mixed set of results, and at the end of the tournament finished third.



JB4 Challenge

At the beginning of January a Year 8 and Year 9 team took part in the JB4 challenge, a competition a bit like superstars where each team undertakes 4 challenges.

The team is then given a score for each event depending on where they are placed. The scores for each event added together to give a final score. Both teams started really well in the badminton challenge gaining maximum points. In the football event they got the tactics wrong going for speed rather than accuracy finishing well down the rankings. In the rowing and the basketball there were some good performances but not enough to put the teams in the medals. There was some excellent teamwork and the teams were a credit to the school, and to themselves.

Yr 7 Netball

Year 7 took part in their first netball match representing Woodrush High School on Wednesday 23rd January.

The game against Walkwood was played in good spirits by both teams however, Woodrush were narrowly beaten the final score 4-9. The team consisted of Emma, Lucy, Jasmine, Ellie, Holly, Alice, Ester and Mya. They should all be congratulated on their performance as this was the first time they had played together as a team. The girls are continuing to attend training in preparation for the year 7 Worcestershire schools netball tournament in March where I am sure they will secure their first win.

The year 8 netball team also played their final netball game of the season securing a sound win over Walkwood

Sports Hall Athletics



Following on from the Year 8 competition which took place before Christmas, the Year 7 teams took up the gauntlet at the beginning of February.

The indoor teams of 5 – 8 athletes took part in a variety of events. It was a fiercely fought competition where all points counted. The girls finished in the medals being runners up to St. Bedes. On the day the boys finished 4th with only 3 points separating 2nd, 3rd and 4th positions. On a count back an error had been made and the boys also gained medals finishing 3rd. The athletes worked well together, motivating each other to go that extra mile and were a real credit to themselves and the school.



18-8. This final win means the team have won every match and will go on to represent the region at the winter school games at the end of the month. Hannah and Sam worked as strong shooting pair in the absence of Elena. Holly and Abi formed a strong defence putting great pressure on the Walkwood attacking side. Sophie, Abby and Zoe should also be recognised for their contribution to the game. Congratulations to all the girls on their hard work this season





KS3 Girls Badminton District Tournament

The KS3 girls badminton tournament took place at the end of January. The team had a lot to live up to as the KS3 boys and KS4 boys and girls teams had all made it through to the county round at the Worcester games at the end of February. They didn't disappoint and with style and certain panache they also sailed into the county round without losing a single game. Some very tactical and close games were played but Woodrush were the stars on the day.



Five a Side Regional Finals at Stourport on Severn (5/2/2013)

The old Ryton car plant (Peugeot cars and history lesson all in one) was the venue for the football tournament the girls had qualified for last year.

Breezing through passport control, the cool weather and listening to year 7 girls talking, singing and general all round smiling; led to a feeling of anticipation not seen since the rumour of Mr Mitchell running the half marathon.

Mrs Bishop co-ordinated the 12 games with panache and agility, only matched by the one and only Usain bolt. Rotating the squad of eight for each game, advising the girls of the tactics and general fall guy for the girls was Mr T. 3 Wins, 6 draws and 3 loses meant the girls earned 6th place in this prestigious regional finals.

New player Jazz got over her debut nerves and performed admirably in front of the assembled masses. Cara defended and attacked in equal measures and in her usual enthusiastic smiling demeanour.

Mia the quiet smiling role model for the team; led by her normal high standards throughout the tournament. Becky and Lucy scored goals for fun in all areas of the opponents half. Ellie the free kick specialist (Beckhamish) led the technical side of the team to good effect.

Emma as usual covered every blade of artificial plastic on the pitch and was the modern day version of Billy the Whizz (for the older generation). Last but definitely not the least was the pocket dynamo and last line of defence Amellia.

As usual it was a pleasure to watch good football, good manners and laughter in equal measures. Champion's league here we come
Many Thanks
Mrs Bishop and Mr Thewlis.

Woodrush RFC Mini and Junior "Sensational Season"

As the end of the season approaches, now is a perfect time to reflect upon what has been happening and what awaits the club for the future. This season has marked huge successes for Woodrush's Mini and Junior section, which is reflected by the dedication and commitment of the club, it's coaches, the children and their parents. Building a quality experience for all has been the main focus and it seems our efforts are paying off.

For the first time, Woodrush has been able to offer coaching to almost all age groups (ages six to sixteen), turning out teams to represent Woodrush RFC every week against other local clubs. This has been possible due to the high number of children registering, over 120 children registered this year, and an increased number of volunteers who are all committed to high levels of training, with some looking to complete their level 1 and 2 coaching! In addition to this, we have established a new group within the Mini and Junior's, our Micros team, which offers training through fun games to children aged three and a half to six years old. This has already proved successful and the numbers of players are increasing, ensuring the future of our growing club



Providing a quality experience within rugby isn't always easy. Many of our coaches have attended training courses (Rugby Ready – basics, First Aid at Work, Safeguarding Children and Young Adults), as well as attending sessions with the Senior coaches to help develop their skills and abilities. This is helping to forge pathways for junior members transition to senior rugby and likewise for the coaches.

This picture is from our Presidents Day in March, our superb U12's v Old Edwardians at home in Icknield Street

We also have the privilege of having Tamara Taylor (England Women's Lock/Number 4) as part of our club and committee. As part of her role, she has been appointed as a contact to link with the club and Woodrush High School, offering a high level of coaching to the school and further building upon the positive relationships we have with the school.

It is through the club's continued culture of learning and putting the players first, that we have been able to grow and develop our club this season. Clearly we are doing something right and long may it continue!

Please remember we are always looking for new players, in all age groups, so if you want to watch grass roots rugby, or try it for yourself, come down to Woodrush RFC and enjoy a great experience.

Jason Smith, Head Coach for Woodrush RFC Mini and Juniors.

WOODRUSH YOUTH, SPORTS & COMMUNITY CENTRE



Woodrush Sports Centre Coaching Courses:

Tai Chi

ONLY £3.50
per session

MONDAYS

8.00pm— 9.00pm

Woodrush Sports Centre

Gymnasium



Trampoline Coaching

ONLY £4.00
per session

SATURDAYS

10.00am— 11.00am

Woodrush Sports

Centre

Gymnasium



For more information or to book, contact Woodrush Sports Centre

Telephone number: 01564 820 099

Email: lettings@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

XtendedWoodrush

	ACTIVITY	WHEN	WHERE	FOR
MONDAY	Quizzes, Puzzles, Games	1:20 – 1:45	Library	All
	Manga Club	2:50 – 3:50	Library	All
	Maths Shop	1:15 – 1:30	M4	All
	Art GCSE Coursework	2:50 – 4:00	Art	GCSE
	Arts Award	2:50 – 4:00	MU2	KS3
	Boys Street Dance	2:50 – 4:00	Drama Studio	All boys
	Woodrush Force	2:50 – 4:00	Gym/Hall	G&T
	Film Club	2:50 – 3:50	E3	YR 7
	Netball	2:50 – 4:00	Courts	All Girls
	Sports Leadership	2:50 – 4:00	Gym/Hall	YR10 boys/girls
	PSHE Questions-help & advice	2:50 – 3:40	ICT2	ALL
	Animal Club	2:50 – 4:00	S8	All
	Youth Centre Senior Night	7:00 -9:00	Youth Centre	Years 9,10,11
TUESDAY	Quiet Study + Reading	1:20 – 1:45	Library	All
	Maths Shop	1:15 – 1:30	M4	All
	Photography Coursework	2:50 – 4:00	Art	GCSE
	Drama Club	2:50 – 4:00	Drama Studio	All
	Dance Club	2:50 – 4:00	Gym/Hall	Years 7,8,9
	Art Club	2:50 – 4:00	Art	Years 7,8,9
	Orchestra	2:50 – 4:00	MU1	All
	Trampolining	2:50 – 4:15	Gym	All
	Rugby	2:50 – 4:00	Field	Year 7 boys
	Hockey	2:50 – 4:00	Astro	All
	Multimedia Advanced Skills	2:50 – 3:40	ICT	G&T
	Geography Club	2:50 – 4:00	H6	All
	STEM Lego Robots Club	2:50 – 4:00	S4	Years 7,8,9
WEDNESDAY	Book Club (Every other Wed)	1:20 – 1:45	Library	All
	Manga Club (Every other Weds)	1:20 – 1:45	Library	All
	Maths Shop	1:15 – 1:30	M4	All
	Christian Union	1:15 – 1:45	H2	Year 10,11
	Art Textiles Club	2:50 – 4:00	Art	Years 7,8,9
	GCSE Dance Intervention	2:50 – 4:00	Gym/Hall	GCSE
	Woodrush Voices	2:50 – 4:00	MU1	All
	Drama Catch Up	2:50 – 4:00	Drama Studio	GCSE
	Film Club	2:50 – 4:00	E3	Year11,12
	Fashion Club	2:50 – 4:00	T3	All
	Engineering Challenge	2:50 – 4:00	T1	G&T
	Badminton	2:50 – 4:00	Sports Hall	All
	Handball	2:50 – 4:00	Gym	Years 7,8,9
	Football	2:50 – 4:00	ASTRO	YR 10,11 boys
	Finance Club	2:50 – 3:40	ICT	All
	ICT Club	1:20 – 1:45	ICT 2	All
THURSDAY	Quiet Study and Reading	1:20 – 1:45	Library	All
	Maths Shop	1:15 – 1:30	M4	All
	Rugby	2:50 – 4:00	Field	Year 11 boys
	Football	2:50 – 4:00	ASTRO	All girls
	Football	2:50 – 4:00	ASTRO/Field	Year 9 boys
	Cookery Club	2:50 – 4:00	T6	All
FRIDAY	Fun with Fiction	1:20 – 1:45	Library	All
	Maths Shop	1:15 – 1:30	M4	All
	Christian Union	1:20 – 1:45	H2	All
	GCSE Drama Coursework	2:50 – 4:00	Drama Studio	GCSE
	Guitar Group	2:50 – 4:00	MU1	All
	GCSE Music Intervention	2:50 – 4:00	MU2	GCSE
	Aerobics	2:50 – 4:00	Hall	All

Remember activities and clubs change throughout the year so keep a look out. Dates and times will be advertised around school also.

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 see at school then speak to Faye Parker or drop an email to the address below:

Call 01564 823777 ext 300 or email fparker@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk



Editors: Mrs J Peters & Mrs C Bishop

Shawhurst Lane Wythall
Worcestershire B47 5JW

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

T: 01564 823777

F: 01564 820092

E: woodrushstar@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

W: www.woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr C King

The use of school photos, videos and other digitally held material for publicity purposes. We often use pictures, names and videos for 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.

