

Rhythm of the Night

Dance Show Rehearsals:

If you auditioned for the **Dance Show** rehearsals are being held in the West Studio Theatre every Thursday lunch 1.30-2pm

Performance Dates:

Wednesday 14th & Thursday 15th December 2011
7pm in the West Studio

Dance Show tickets are now on sale in the Performing Arts office priced at £3.00.



PARENTS' HOUR

Andy White is available to be seen by parents, without appointment, every morning 7.15am until 8.15am and Thursday evenings 5.15pm until 6.15pm.

Tel: 01268 282146 Fax: 01268 531655
E.mail: woodlands@btconnect.com

Duty Pupils

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

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Callum Doo | Chloe Duller |
| Jessica Edwards | Bonham Fennell |
| Daniel Foreman | Maisie Fox |
| Charlie Fripp | Bethany Head |
| Shannon Hernaman | |

FIXTURES

Monday 28th November 2011

Year 8 Essex Cup Rugby v Appleton (h)

Tuesday 29th November 2011

Year 7 Boys Basketball v James Hornsby (a)

Wednesday 30th November 2011

Year 7 & U14 Girls Basketball v Mayflower (a)

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

90% attendance = ½ day missed every week

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of missed lessons

TOP ATTENDANCE:

| | | |
|---------|-----|-------|
| Year 7 | OMc | 100% |
| Year 8 | DBe | 98.7% |
| Year 9 | JGr | 99.2% |
| Year 10 | MGa | 97.8% |
| Year 11 | MNe | 97.6% |

Woodlands Weekly

~ Keeping You In Touch With The School ~

25th November 2011

Assembly Theme for Next Week
"GLOBAL COMMUNITY"

Issue No. 801

HEADLINES by Andy White

CONGRATULATIONS

Yesterday we held our presentation of GCSE certificates to last year's Year 11 leavers. As always it was an absolute pleasure to present the certificates as well as congratulate our pupils on their excellent results. Undoubtedly, they were rewarded for hard work as well as gaining recognition of their ability. It was good to hear from our students how well they were doing on their college courses or in some cases the success they are making in employment. This was their final official appearance at Woodlands but no doubt many of them will continue to keep in touch and let us know as they progress through life. It has been an absolute pleasure to teach this year group and therefore I speak for all staff and governors in wishing them well in the future.

ADVANCE WARNING

On Thursday 8th December at 7.30pm we will be holding our annual Awards Evening. Parents of award winners will have received a letter inviting them to this important event. The evening will recognise our very brightest as well as our hardest working pupils and therefore, if invited, could you make every effort to attend as well as returning the acceptance slip back to us as soon as possible. It promises to be an exceptional evening during which we can fully congratulate our very best pupils.

YEAR 11 REMINDERS

A reminder to Year 11 parents and pupils that next week, Tuesday 29th November, Year 11 start their Mock Exams. It is important that pupils do well in these exams in that it will give them much confidence as well as invaluable exam practice prior to the real thing in June. I understand Year 11 is heavily involved in coursework at present but they should also ensure that they revise properly for these important exams. On the note of coursework it is clear that most pupils are up-to-date but records from staff indicate that a number of pupils still owe coursework – could parents please check with their son or daughter and take appropriate action. *We all need to support Year 11 pupils at this crucial point in their last year at Woodlands but we also need to challenge pupils where they are not working to capacity.*

END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS

As we approach the end of term I thought it would be useful to outline our end of term arrangements.

- * Tuesday 6th December – Woodlands Christmas Carol Service – 7pm – East Hall.
- * Monday 12th December PM – Non-Uniform Day + Year Group Trips and Activities – details from Heads of Year.
- * Friday 16th December – Last Day of Term – Year Groups 10 and 11 finish at 12.15pm – Year Groups 7, 8 and 9 finish at 1.15pm.
- * School commences on Wednesday 4th January at 8.45am for the new term.

Please contact the school if the above information causes any problems.

NON-UNIFORM DAY

A reminder to families that on Monday 12th December, it will be a non-uniform day. Pupils should pay £1 to their tutor with the money going to deserving charities. Although it is non-uniform day pupils should not wear hats, excessive jewellery or extreme clothes. I am sure the day, as always, will go well and that we will raise a large amount of money for our preferred charities. Thank you in anticipation of everyone's co-operation on this issue.

REPORTING ABSENCE

A reminder to families that if your son or daughter is ill then you should telephone the school on the morning of the absence and leave a message with our Attendance Officer. It is important that we track all absences – currently we telephone or text the majority of absentees on their first morning of absence. Full attendance is a vital part of attaining high standards – if you are not here then you can't learn. With this in mind could parents please work with pupils in trying to attain at least 95% attendance. Clearly we want all of our pupils to do well – a starting point is getting our attendance as high as possible.

Woodlands' Christmas Cracker



Come along and enjoy a seasonal sing-song with the staff and students of Woodlands School



Tuesday 6th December 2011
At 7pm



Tickets available from Miss O'Shea in the Library

ROAD SAFETY

Please could parents remind children about the dangers of running across busy roads. Crossings are provided on all access routes to the school and must be used.

Please reinforce the message to keep everyone **SAFE**.

Thank you!



DIARY

Tuesday 29th November 2011

Drop a Day (2)

Year 11 Mock Exams start until 6th December

Wednesday 30th November 2011

Anglia Ruskin University Trip (Year 10) - POSTPONED

Thursday 1st November 2011

BTec LIV meeting (lunch and P5)

Friday 2nd December 2011

Year 10 Science BTec Moderation 1
Lille Christmas Market, France (Year 9)



LOTS OF HAPPY PUPILS

Visit to Club Taishikan at the Embassy of Japan, London

Reported by Catherine Gilbey, 9EMo and Shannon Briggs, 9NGr

On Tuesday 8th November 2011, 20 of Woodlands' top Geographers in Year 9 visited the Embassy of Japan in London. We were accompanied by our Geography teachers Mrs Merchant and Miss McIntosh. When we arrived we had to go through a metal detector, just like at an airport; this is because the embassy is a government building. For extra security, we had to hand in our phones and cameras!

When we arrived at Club Taishikan (which is a part of the Japanese Information and Cultural Centre within the embassy building), we watched a PowerPoint about Japan. The PowerPoint was very informative and gave us an introduction to the country of Japan and Japanese culture. We were then split into 2 groups; the first group (our group) went to do some calligraphy (Shodo). Calligraphy is a way of writing the Japanese alphabet (there are three alphabets: Hiragana, Katakana and Kanji). We were shown some symbols which we copied using the calligraphy brush and ink on rice paper.

We then learnt to write our names using the Kanji alphabet.

After the calligraphy, we swapped with the other group who had been doing origami, also known as paper folding. We were shown how to make a samurai warrior hat. We then made our own samurai hat out of Japanese newspaper. We were also given instructions on how to make origami jumping frogs. This was much more difficult, we had to be very precise and accurate about our paper folding.



Finally both groups were reunited for a group photograph. For the photograph we all wore a Japanese Happi (this is a traditional Japanese straight-sleeved coat usually made of indigo or brown cotton and imprinted with a distinctive crest; they are usually worn only to festivals). Some pupils wore their samurai hats for the photograph too. When the photograph was taken we were all asked to make the peace sign with our hands as the Japanese people find this very important.

Overall this trip was very enjoyable and educational. If we had the opportunity to go again, we definitely would!

For more information about Club Taishikan, visit: http://www.uk.emb-japan.go.jp/en/study/club_taishikan.html



WOODLANDS RALLY ROUND

Mrs Chisholm reporting...

On Sunday 20th November, the U14 Netball team took part in the next round of the county rally at New Hall School in Chelmsford. They played seven games, of which they won five, beating schools including Westcliff High School and Southend High School, an amazing achievement. Unfortunately they lost two games which meant they just missed out on going through to the next round, which would have been regionals.

Just want to say a big well done to Isabel Chase, Georgia Kilroy, Paige Grindy, Emma Gadlin, Chloe Brown, Sian-Louise Dockerill, Nadine Leveridge and Lauren Benson. They all played fantastically well and did Woodlands proud!

STOMP! WHAT A BONUS!

Miss Rabbitt reporting...

On Wednesday 9th November, Year 10 Bonus students took part in a highly engaging and fun workshop run by the very successful theatre company STOMP. The workshop made for an entertaining and enjoyable day, promoting team work and participation. STOMP Theatre Company



has run a very successful West End show for many years now, and offers students a unique experience with their workshops. Stomp encouraged Bonus students to work together using simple building blocks to create dynamic and interesting sounds and beats. Students enjoyed using their hands, feet and household objects like plungers, pipes and dustbin lids to make rhythms. Well done to all Bonus students whose enthusiasm made the day a huge success!



Children in Need

Miss Fuller reporting...

Well done to Josh Attard, 10TPa for raising £30 for Children in Need.

Josh had the idea that he would like to raise some money so he decided to do a two hour silence. Josh was absolutely brilliant and did not speak at all. When he deposited the money at the bank the cashier said he was the first deposit for Children in Need that day.

Well done Josh for a great achievement.

