

DIARY

Monday 27th April
Design Museum Trip (Year 10)

Tuesday 28th April
Drama GCSE Practical Exams

Wednesday 29th April
Drama GCSE Practical Exams
Epping Forest - Water Sampling (Year 9)

Thursday 30th April
Drop A Day (5)

Friday 1st May
Year 11 GCSE Art Exam (Day 1)
INSET DAY



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.

Emma Nash	Robbie Broyd
Tom Mason	Jimmy Tasker
Megan Young	Brooke Valentine
Tony Tom	Jacey Ritchie
Joel Rajan	

Year 7 Cake Sale...

The Year 7 Gifted and Talented pupils would like to thank all pupils and teachers who bought any cakes or donated money. All the money raised will go to Cancer Research UK.

THANK YOU

We raised an amazing total of £117!



We hope that many more charity events will follow and be just as fun and successful as this one.

Drop in Clinic



School Nurses
Here every Thursday lunchtime
1.15pm - 2.15pm
in the Parents' Meeting room

Advice on health, stress, relationships, smoking and lots more issues.
Come along and have a chat

YEAR 10 APPLIED ART EXHIBITION



Watt Tyler Park, Pitsea is hosting an exhibition of our Year 10 Applied Arts work. Their work is based on a nautical theme in mixed media. The museum and exhibition is free. Please take the opportunity to see their hard work when writing.

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK

We say goodbye and good luck to Janet Carlton after 30 years at Woodlands, Janet left just before the Easter holidays.

Janet was once upon a time the Head of the Office and as such was a really exceptional colleague, who always had time 'for a friendly chat'.

We will miss her enormously, but know that she has so many commitments outside of Woodlands that she was finding it hard to 'fit us in'. Take care Janet and come back and see us soon!



Woodlands T.V.

If you would like to put a message on Woodlands T.V. screens wishing your friends a Happy Birthday, let Miss Clark in Reprographics know and she'll be happy to do so for you. Write your friend's name, birth date and what he or she likes, such as favourite colour, football team, animals etc. on a piece of paper, and drop it in to Miss Clark.



FIXTURES

Thursday 23rd April
All years Athletics Field Event
at Chalvedon

Woodlands Weekly

~ Keeping You In Touch With The School ~



24th April 2009

Assembly Theme for Next Week
"Perseverance"

Issue No. 707



"Funded by the Jack Petchey Foundation" ~ www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk



Colchester Zoo



Miss Ladd reporting...

On Wednesday 18th March 2009, 22 Year 10 pupils went to the zoo for their Leisure and Tourism Coursework. They are studying marketing of a local visitor attraction and we have been going to Colchester Zoo for many years now.

We explored the different zones including the Aquatic Zone and the Heights Zone. We saw many rare animals including the white tiger and an orang-utan. The students spent the morning completing their coursework booklets looking for evidence on how the zoo meets the needs of its customers. After lunch we went to a seminar hosted by the Educational Officer at the zoo. Her name was Laura and she provided a lot of information about the zoo, including facts about the marketing mix and how much it costs to run a day... **£26,000!!!** The weather was excellent and we had a fantastic day.



All pupils were well behaved and have now got a good first step into completing their GCSE coursework.



WELCOME BACK

A very warm welcome back to all pupils and staff. I hope everyone, whether you soaked up the sun or stayed at home, had a very enjoyable and restful holiday. Last term was very busy and therefore I am sure everyone was delighted to have the two week break. Thank you to all staff who gave up their holiday time in order to teach at the Year 11 Easter Revision School. Numbers at revision school were exceptional and therefore I am confident that this will help pupils achieve their very best in their forthcoming GCSE exams. As I have said before we are very confident that this year group will achieve record results with, we hope, 60% of pupils gaining 5 or more A* to C grades. Of course we are also hopeful that 100% of our pupils will be successful in achieving their best GCSE results. **Could I welcome to Woodlands Lynsey Sturgeon who joins Woodlands as our new Head of Personal, Social, Health and Religious Education (PSHRE). I speak on behalf of everyone in wishing her well in her new post.**

WHAT'S ON AT WOODLANDS

- Year 11 start their GCSE exams on Wednesday 13th May. Study Leave will start following a final assembly on Tuesday 12th May.
- Year 9 school exams (SATs are now abolished) start on Tuesday 5th May.
- Friday 1st May is the day set a side for GCSE moderation and GCSE exams in Art and Languages - Only Year 11 pupils will be required to attend school on that day.
- Monday 4th May is a Bank Holiday when the school will be closed.
- Thursday 30th April is a Drop A Day when all pupils will be following a revised curriculum instead of their normal timetable.
- Year 10 will start their three weeks Trident Work experience immediately after Half term (Monday 25th May until Friday 29th May). Following that they will have revision sessions and GCSE exams in Science.
- Activities Week is set for Monday 15th June until Friday 19th June.

A busy term but lots of things happening that should motivate and enthuse our pupils. Finally could I remind families that pupils should be in proper school uniform - black pumps are not allowed!

HEADLINES by Andy White



Cambridge Initiative



The Cambridge Initiative is a three day event (17th-19th March) which runs each year for a small group of Year 10 students with the idea of providing them with an experience of Higher and Further Education. The three days are split between Palmer's College and Cambridge University. Arron Matthewman (10TWa) and Jack Huggins (10GBr) reported on the three days...

Day One

We departed for Palmer's College nervously excited and looking forward to the days ahead...as soon as we got to Palmer's we were put into groups with students from other schools and took part in some ice breaker activities. One activity was the 'Great Egg Race' which required us to make a piece of equipment to transport a Kinder Egg the furthest

distance yet with minimal damage to the egg! A tough task! We then had a tour around Palmer's with some students from the college. On coming back from our tour we had to try and draw a map of the college from memory. We then spent the afternoon tuning our advertising skills as we had to create an advert for a new product and then attempt to sell the product to the rest of the group!



Day Two

On the second day we went on the main part of the trip - a day at Cambridge University. We had to get up very early and caught the coach to Cambridge at 7.45am!! We arrived in Cambridge and were taken to one of the 31 colleges, Fitzwilliam. We first had an introductory lecture to the university and found out that you don't need to be push to go to Cambridge! The group then experienced their first Cambridge lecture; a two hour session on symbols and meaning behind certain symbols. After a great lunch (which was served to us in Fitzwilliam's dining room) we had a tour of the town with a Cambridge undergraduate. As we went round Cambridge we had to find out answers to quiz questions - the porters in the colleges were particularly useful in providing us with answers! We then returned to the coach for the long journey home, but passed the time quickly with riddles and jokes (the purple story - ha ha ha!)



Day Three

For our final day we returned to Palmer's. Our last challenge of the three days was to create a professional presentation of our experiences of Higher and Further Education. The presentation had to be both informative and entertaining - before we started work on the presentation we received some 'top tips' for presenting from a Palmer's teacher. The presentations were watched by Palmer's staff as well as Miss Lester and two Year 9 pupils, Amber Clark and Abi Flack, who had joined us for the final day. We then celebrated the three days being over with a final lunch at the college. Overall the three days had been informative and enjoyable - they provided us with an experience of college and university life, and have given us a lot to think about for the future!



From all the pupils on the trip we would like to thank Miss Lester for organising the experience.



Winston Churchill ~ British War Museum

Reported by Kieran Gutsell, 9SKe

On Thursday, 26th March 2009, 22 pupils from the gifted and talented group went on a day trip to the Winston Churchill, British War Museum in London.

First, we met up at the school reception, hoping no one would be late, but we were wrong: I said I would not mention any names (Luke Blake).

We then left and made our way to Basildon train station and bought our tickets; we got on the train and left for London. We all sat in different places on the train as most of us wanted to play on our phones. As we arrived at Fenchurch Street Station, Adam, Suypra, Jamal and Shanice (our tour guides) took charge and showed us lots of different London attractions. We met a cool street entertainer who sang and danced for us. After 1½ hours of looking around London we made our way to the museum thanks to our guides. When we arrived at the museum we discovered we were half an hour early but the man at the door said that we were ok to go in, so we left our bags and went in.

Then we started our tour, first we got into an elevator but it did not move, then the doors behind us opened and we entered a room, it was dark inside and there were chairs for us to sit on, we all watched a video about the war and what it was like for the soldiers. When this had finished we all went through to another room where there were models of soldiers in their uniforms with all the equipment they would have used during the war.



There were different masks that we could try on and we have got some good photos of pupils in these masks. After that we went into another room and it was set up like the trenches would have been in the war with dead bodies everywhere, dripping water and smoke everywhere just like a bomb had been dropped and destroyed everything.

After the Museum we set off for Cafe Rouge but before the cafe we went to the market and had a look around and some pupils bought some stuff whilst the teacher had a coffee and a talk. Then we all went into Cafe Rouge and Sophie and Andrew took control and told us where to sit and ordered all the food and drinks. After we had eaten our main meal our desserts came, they were lovely. We left Cafe Rouge and headed for Fenchurch Street Station but on route we visited the docks and had a look at all the boats, then off home to Basildon.