

Duty Pupils

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

George Donovan,	Jake Morris,
Mitchell Shell,	Claire Redgrave,
Sophie Anderson,	Zoe Balcombe,
Bailey Hudson,	Adam Crook,
Connor Lawson,	Mehmet Ersoy,
Talor Mullen.	



Fixtures

Tuesday 9th June

Yr 9 & 10 Cricket v Billericay (h)
Yr 7 & 8 Rounders v Chalvedon (h)

Wednesday 10th June

Yr 7 Cricket v De La Salle (h)

Thursday 11th June

Yr 9 Rounders v Chalvedon & James Hornsby (h)

Friday 12th June

Yr 7 Cricket v Bromfords (h)

Yr 8 Cricket v Bromfords (a)

Saturday 13th June

County Athletics at Melbourne Park Chelmsford

Chinese Club

What? Learn Chinese with an experienced Chinese teacher

For whom? Open to all year groups.

When? Every Monday, 1.30pm-2pm

Where? in W3

Ms Barbier

ba@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk

connexions

Please could you arrange for the following students to attend their Year 9 Careers/Connexions interview in the connexions room situated in the Library.

Monday 8th June 2009

9.00	Alex Chapman	9JGr
10.00	Yasmin Ajax-Lawal	9DEs
11.15	Reece Clark	9DEs
12.15	Scott Clark	9RSh
2.15	Josh McRobb	9LDs

Tuesday 9th June 2009

9.00	Michael Binks	9LDs
10.00	Lauren Borley	9JGr
11.15	Perry Barnes	9Rld
12.15	Paige Burton	9Rld
2.15	Natasha Butcher	9EJo

Woodlands Library News!



Summer Competitions!
To celebrate the sunny days to come, the Library is hosting a great competition, with a £10.00 voucher up for grabs!



SHORT STORY

Write your own short summer story, with any genre, from horror to adventure, all will be accepted!

300 words maximum

Don't forget to use exciting storylines, vivid imagery, and suspense that will make the reader want to read on!
The competition closes on the 5th July.

All entries are to be placed into the "Treasure Chest" on the Library desk.
Good Luck!!!

Special points of interest:

*Read one of our new books and write a book review

*Any questions go to the Library and ask Library staff who are always happy to help

* If you have an over-drawn book please see Mrs. Knight as soon as possible



DIARY

8th June - 12th June
Trident, Year 10, Week 2



Tuesday 9th June
Year 6 Taster day

Tuesday 9th & Wednesday 10th June
Year 8 Chatham Dockyards

Thursday 11th June
Year 8 Parents Evening/Colchester Castle

Friday 12th June
ARU - Aim Higher Year 9



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



Man playing a horn?

or Woman's face?

A Native American profile? or
an Eskimo entering a cave?



Woodlands Weekly

~ Keeping You In Touch With The School ~



5th June 2009

Assembly Theme for Next Week
"Environment"

Issue No. 712



"Funded by the Jack Petchee Foundation" ~ www.jackpetcheefoundation.org.uk

French Theatre Group



Julie Haslett reporting...



On Monday 18th of May, the Oriatti Theatre group came to Woodlands to give their performance of the French play Cache-Cache (Hide and Seek). Françoise was a new girl at her school who was being bullied by a number of girls. She found a hide-out in the woods and made friends with a boy called Etienne. Together they overcome a number of problems and become good friends. An enjoyable performance which was seen by all Year 9 pupils.

"I found the play very good and a laugh. I appreciated the opportunity to watch French Theatre."

Samantha Baker, 9A1a



"It was very good and an amusing play. We were surprised about how much we understood in French."
Kieran Broom, 9JGr & Oakli-Jy Hardy, 9JGr



HEADLINES

by Andy White

WELCOME BACK

A very warm welcome back to all of our pupils following the half term break. Obviously this half term Year 11 will be taking their GCSE exams and then leaving, Year 10 are on Work Experience then move swiftly into GCSE and internal exams, the other year groups will be on normal timetable except for Activities Week. In all of these activities I wish our pupils the very best of luck for a successful term.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

This half term is going to be very busy with lots of extra events organised. I list below some important dates for your diaries.

- Monday 1st June until Friday 19th June - Year 10 Work Experience
- Thursday 11th June - Year 8 Parent's Evening (4pm - 7pm)
- Monday 15th June until Friday 19th June - Activities Week
- Thursday 25th June - New Intake Parent's Evening
- Friday 26th June until Thursday 2nd July - Year 10 Exams
- Tuesday 1st July - Drop A Day
- Friday 3rd July - Sports Day
- Monday 6th July until Thursday 9th July - Summer Performing Arts Festival
- Thursday 2nd July - Year 7 Parent's Evening
- Tuesday 14th July - Year Group Trips Day
- Wednesday 15th July - Last Day of term

Could I also remind families that Jumpers are now optional i.e. pupils can either wear their jumper or leave it at home. In September we revert back to the full school uniform rule.



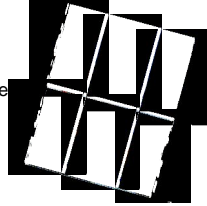
We love reading!



We asked the English Department about their favourite books, and this is what they told us:

Miss Eastman

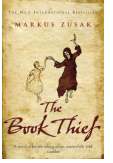
My favourite book is *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* by Louis de Bernières. I read it after watching the film and the book is much better. It's about an Italian soldier and Greek woman who fall in love during the war when they are supposed to be enemies. I like it because it's a love story that's true to life: everything doesn't just slot into place. The characters are really colourful and humorous but the story is sad and affecting at the same time. It's a book that shows us that love can survive anything! Hooray!



Miss Bailey

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

This book was so good I couldn't put it down. I was up until 4am finishing it! It is written from Death's point of view about a little girl and the tragic events that happened to her in World War II Germany. The novel shows how terribly Jewish people were treated by the Nazis, and how some Germans helped them, even though their own lives were put at risk. Although the topic seems tragic, there are some comic moments as we see the little girl grow up. I think this shows us that there is always hope, even when you least expect it.



Mrs Levine

I love reading and there are many books I have particularly enjoyed such as the *Twilight* series, the Harry Potter series, *Bridget Jones*, *My Legendary Girlfriend* and *The Da Vinci Code*. However, my favourite book of all time is *To Kill A Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. The story follows Atticus Finch, a respected lawyer, who defends a black man accused of assaulting a white woman in the deep-south of America during the depression.

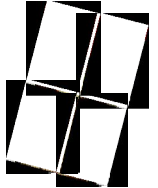


I read it when I was 14, and as an impressionable teen, the story really stuck with me as it is told so well. I loved the character Scout who is just 10 and her father Atticus who I saw as a real hero. I was also slightly terrified of Boo Radley!! The story is funny and touching yet skilfully deals with serious and sensitive issues such as racial inequality.



Miss Pearce

Whilst studying English at University, I used to find it really tricky to fit in my degree and social agenda... it's a hard life as a student at times- if it's not assignments, it's making acquaintances! I was lucky enough to have some wonderful lectures that made my degree exciting and inspirational; therefore it was a lot of fun too and if it wasn't for one lecturer setting *Wuthering Heights* as an exam piece, I may never have read it...



Wuthering Heights (Brontë, 1847) is regarded as an English classic due to its themes, structure, and most importantly, characterisation. Its main characters, Heathcliff and Catherine are involved in a passionate, turbulent relationship which eventually destroys each other and everyone around them... It's a really dark novel which had me gripped from beginning to end and the controversial characters were so well written that I could really imagine what they would be like.

Miss Russell

"All grown-ups were children first (But few remember it)." One book that I love is *Le Petit Prince* (The Little Prince) by *Antoine de Saint Exupéry*, and it was originally written in French. I must confess that I can only speak a very small amount of French – but I would love to be able to read this story as it was originally written one day. In the mean time I will practice my French. But, I can say that this book is bon. I love it for many reasons, but mostly because it taught me that although we may need to grow old, we do not need to grow up.



Mr. Claydon

The most memorable book I have read is *The Dice Man* by Luke Rhinehart. The book tells the story of a psychiatrist who begins making life decisions based on the casting of dice. The book is based on the author's own experiences of using dice to make decisions while studying psychology at University. I suppose this book is one of my favourites because it is unpredictable, controversial and funny. It makes you want to live your life by using the dice to make decisions.

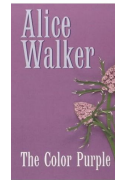


Miss Briden

The Very Hungry Caterpillar

This book reminds me of the assembly hall in Kingswood Junior School. If you visit you will see a magnificent drawing of the cheese that he eats. That cheese was drawn by me. Back when I was 8, after reading the book, we were each asked to draw part of his journey and I put such effort into that triangle of cheese I was filled with pride every time we sat for assembly and I looked up at the display.

This is obviously a child's book, but every time I see it it takes me back to when I was young and gives me a happy, 'no worries' feeling. Despite it being extremely basic in its plot line the illustrations are weirdly wonderful and it does have an important message about journeys and transformations. It also taught me about different types of food (an issue close to my heart), how to count (I'm still struggling) and the days of the week! This book means so much to me I even bought it for my niece, in the hope that she will love it as much as I do.



It just goes to show that when you want to do well in a subject, it helps to always see the positives and work hard!

Ms Vasa

Although it was a hard decision to choose only one, my favourite novel has to be *The Color Purple* by Alice Walker. I have read this book many times and each time I learn something new from it. It is a story which empowers and enlightens and is inspirational on many different levels. Walker's writing is savagely beautiful and it is a novel which I highly recommend.



Miss Yates

My favourite book is *The Gargoyle* by Andrew Davidson. It is quite a strange novel, beginning with the main character being burned almost to death in a car accident. He meets an intriguing woman whilst in hospital and she tells him how they have, in fact, been together for centuries! The novel is very hopeful and teaches a reader that, even when life looks at its most disastrous, there is still a reason to look forward.



You love reading too!

Miss Eastman also asked you what you think:

I like *Stormbreaker* by Antony Horowitz. I read it a couple of years ago. It's about a spy mission. I like its action and adventure. (Ross Johnson, 7JDa)



I like *The Living Planet* documentary book. It's all about different parts of the world like volcanoes and ice. I learnt a lot about what's happened and what could happen. (Elouise Brandon, 7PCI)

It's called *Goal* by Michael Morpurgo. It's about a boy who takes his dog for a walk and gets hit by a car and goes into a coma. The boy's favourite football player comes to the hospital. I liked it because it's about a boy whose dreams come true. (Amy Clark, 7JPr)

The best book I have ever read is *Private Peaceful* by Michael Morpurgo. It's about a boy who went to the army and is remembering everything he did when he was young. I have read the book three times and when I read it the first time, I nearly cried. The ending is the saddest part of the book. (Laura Reid, 8LEa)

The story of Tracey Beaker is our favourite book because it's funny, interesting and realistic. It's about a rebellious girl and her mischievous adventures. She lives in a foster home full of different kids but there is a sadder side when she can't get fostered. (Abby Murphy, 9CBa, Brooke Miles, 9EJo and Molly Dowling, 9ABa)

Miss Gordon

It was very difficult to pick a favourite book, as I have lots of books I read again and again depending on what mood I'm in. I always turn to *Pride & Prejudice* if I want cheering up or the *Hobbit* if I'm feeling nostalgic. However I have chosen *1984* by George Orwell, as I'm as fascinated by it now as I was when I first read it 10 years ago. It's about a society controlled by an organisation called 'Big Brother' where people aren't allowed to even think bad thoughts about the authorities. Their thoughts are controlled by the thought police and they are watched constantly. It's really interesting as this is where the term Big Brother first came from and Room 101. It is all about the dangers of a society which controls your every move and how society could be if we lost our freedom of speech and rights to express our individuality and the book shows us how scary that could be.

BIG BROTHER



IS WATCHING YOU