

Our Ref: DWt/LPu

12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

Thank you to all who have supported us this week and the first two days last week getting all back into the habit of learning. I have been leading assemblies this week reminding all of our values, what our school is all about and reclarifying expectations of our Woodlands Way. I feel proud to play a part in what we are trying to do as a community and it never hurts to go back through the basics.

There have been two university trips this week, one to the University of Essex for our budding mathematicians to show them what options they have in this area moving forward. The other was our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths) club competing in the STEM final at Greenwich University where they performed incredibly well. This further exposes our youngsters to what happens at university and makes them consider where they could end up studying in the future.

### Year 8 Virtual Options Evening

Thank you to all who joined Mr Roberts yesterday evening for our Virtual Year 8 Options Evening. Very well attended and full of incredibly useful details on how to navigate the process of choosing subjects to study at Key Stage Four. We have an extremely large selection of subjects on offer as I believe that if you get the right youngsters choosing the right courses then you are onto a winner. Please do take some time to read the Options Booklet and encourage all to attend the taster sessions as many subjects will be new to some.

### Year 8 Consultation Evening

Following on from last night we are looking forward to welcoming all our parents and carers of those in Year 8 to our **Consultation Evening on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January on-site from 4.00pm to 7.00pm.**

### Year 8 Options Assemblies and Taster Sessions

As shared last night all in Year 8 will receive their Options booklets today during tutor time which explains the Options process and goes through each subject as many are different. Next week and the week after sees Year 8 have assemblies each day where a different head of department will be sharing what their subject is all about. Taster Sessions take place the same week at lunchtimes and a tannoy will let all know where and when, usually from 1.35pm-2.05pm.

The schedules are here for assemblies:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
15/01	History Geography	Film Philosophy	Music Technology Music Performance	Psychology Sociology	Citizenship Hospitality and Catering



# WOODLANDS SCHOOL

ASPIRATION, RESILIENCE, OPPORTUNITY, EXCELLENCE

Woodlands School, Woodlands Approach,  
Off Nether Mayne,  
Basildon, Essex, SS16 5BA  
Tel: 01268 282146

Email: [woodlands@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:woodlands@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk)

Woodland School is part of Compass Education Trust Ltd, a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales  
Company number 07666213. Registered Office: The Billericay School, School Road, Billericay, Essex, CM12 9LH

<b>22/01</b>	Hair and Beauty Health and Social Care	Construction DBE Drama	Retail Business Business Studies	Computer Science Creative iMedia	Art Sports Studies GCSE PE
--------------	--	------------------------------	--	--	----------------------------------

Taster Sessions:

	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>15/01</b>		Philosophy (G7)	Film (MU2)	Sociology (G1)	Psychology (T9)
<b>22/01</b>	Citizenship (RES2)	Health & Social Care (T5)	Construction (CO) Design in the Built Environment (TE3)	Hair & Beauty (HS)	Business Studies/Retail Business (DR3)

**The sessions may be subject to change so do encourage all to listen out for the tannoy.** The reason not every subject, Maths and English for example, are not included here is because those Taster Sessions will be taking place in class.

## Year 11 Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs)

The week beginning Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February up to and including Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February sees another opportunity for our Year 11 to show what they know in preparation for the summer exams. More details will follow for all involved via Miss Jordan and Mr Roberts.

## Annual personal data record check

A reminder that the deadline for completing the reply slips for the annual personal data record check is 3.00pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January. Please can this be done via Progress Teaching, and any issues with access can be supported by contacting the data team on:

[datateam@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:datateam@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk)

## Mrs Handford – Literacy

Please see the literacy newsletter which has gone out on the same email.

## Cultural Capital:

**Mrs Heseltine – Assistant Head Teacher - Cultural Capital**



## Post 16 – Mrs Robertson

All Year 11 pupils will have had their Directions Careers meetings before the start of their PPEs in a few weeks. Meetings will continue after half term where pupils are still unsure about their Post-16 destinations.


Emma and Wendy from Directions will be available to speak to pupils and their parent/carer at the Preparing for Success Evening.

I will shortly be asking pupils to confirm their Post-16 destination applications. This will be done during tutor time.

## Apprenticeships

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January the Department for Work and Pensions and the charity Make Happen will be in all day to work with Year 11 pupils who are interested in applying for an Apprenticeship. There will be an opportunity for them to learn how to write a CV and start looking for apprenticeships. Pupils have already expressed interests in this however if there are any more pupils who would like to take part they must come and see me.


Please see below for any pupils in Year 11 who may be interested in a career in Engineering through the Ford Apprenticeship Scheme



### The 2024 Advanced Engineering (Level 3) Apprentice Campaign is Now Open!

Do you know someone who may be interested in an Apprenticeship with Ford? Particularly, if they would like to join in September 2024.


For more information about our apprenticeship opportunities go to: [ford.co.uk/apprenticeships](https://ford.co.uk/apprenticeships). To apply, use the QR code below:





**SCAN ME**



Ford is committed to diversity and equality of opportunity for all and is opposed to any form of less favourable treatment or harassment on the grounds of sex, marital status, civil partnership status, parental status, race, ethnic origin, colour, nationality, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, religion/belief, gender reassignment and gender identity, age and those with caring responsibilities









## Remaining application deadlines

Southend High School for Girls 21/1/24  
Westcliff High School for Boys 31/1/24

**Westcliff High School for Girls 29/2/24**

**Bromfords 26/1/24**

**Billericay 12/2/24**

A reminder that pupils who have applied for a 6<sup>th</sup> Form or Grammar school must have a college application as a backup.

**USP** have 2 remaining Open Events - **Palmers Campus** Wednesday 24th January 5.20pm to 7.00pm.  
**Seevic Campus** Wednesday 31st January 5.20pm to 7.00pm.

Pupils who have yet to apply for any courses must now do so with some urgency, this is to avoid disappointment if the courses fill up.

Should you require any help please do not hesitate to contact me via email on  
[kro@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:kro@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk)

### Work Experience – Mrs Robertson

The Department for Work and Pensions have been in school this week and worked with some pupils who have been unable to secure a work placement for July. They are keen to support more pupils and as such I will be asking pupils without placements to see me next week during tutor time so we can help them find a placement.

Parents/Carers of pupils without placements have received a FORMS survey to complete this week. Please ensure that you complete this.

Year 10 must continue to actively contact companies to find their placements and return the self-placement form as soon as complete. A reminder that the deadline is Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me via email on  
[kro@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:kro@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk)

### Careers across the Curriculum – Mrs Robertson



**WHY STUDY... CONSTRUCTION**  
Check out some of the jobs you can do, the skills you'll develop and pathways available!

**JOBS**

- Architect
- Bricklayer
- Building Surveyor
- Civil Engineer
- Construction Manager
- Drone Pilot
- Electrical Engineer
- Gas Service Technician
- Land Surveyor
- Mechanical Engineer
- Quantity Surveyor

**SKILLS**

- Problem Solving
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Leadership
- Customer Service
- Time Management
- Attention to Detail
- Health and Safety

**PATHWAYS**

**APPRENTICESHIPS**

- Architect
- Bricklayer
- Building Surveyor
- Civil Engineer
- Construction Manager
- Drone Pilot
- Electrical Engineer
- Gas Service Technician
- Land Surveyor
- Mechanical Engineer
- Quantity Surveyor

**FURTHER EDUCATION**

- Architect
- Bricklayer
- Building Surveyor
- Civil Engineer
- Construction Manager
- Drone Pilot
- Electrical Engineer
- Gas Service Technician
- Land Surveyor
- Mechanical Engineer
- Quantity Surveyor

**HIGHER EDUCATION**

- Architect
- Bricklayer
- Building Surveyor
- Civil Engineer
- Construction Manager
- Drone Pilot
- Electrical Engineer
- Gas Service Technician
- Land Surveyor
- Mechanical Engineer
- Quantity Surveyor

**SCAN ME**

Greater Essex CAREERS HUB

CAREERS & ENTERPRISE COMPANY





## Enrichment Opportunities: Extra-Curricular Activities and Pupil Leadership Roles – Mrs Heseltine

Last half term we saw a record number of pupils taking up Pupil Leadership Roles and taking part in clubs, well done to all of those pupils who are pushing themselves to get involved and boost their Cultural Capital.

Why not start the new year off by committing to a club or a Pupil Leadership role? Use the link below to take you to our website where the clubs and Pupil Leadership Role lists can be found:

[Enrichment Opportunities Page \(Clubs, Pupil Leadership Roles, Trips/Visits links\)](#)

**Year 10:** Don't forget that the deadline for applying for the position of Prefect will soon be coming up, all application forms need to be completed and handed in to me by **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February**:

[Prefect Application Form](#)

[Prefect Job Description](#)

[Enrichment Opportunities Page \(Clubs, Pupil Leadership Roles, Trips/Visits links\)](#)

## ePraise Top Achievers Shout Out – Mrs Robertson

The pupils receiving the most AROE ePraise points this last week are:

### Aspiration

Sara	Year 8
Samiyah	Year 11
Demi	Year 11
Maya	Year 8

### Resilience

Nykiya	Year 9
Amber	Year 9
Ava	Year 7
Lorenzo	Year 7
Bethany-ann	Year 9
Hannah-Louise	Year 11
Bailey	Year 7
Ira	Year 7
Rafael	Year 9
William	Year 11
Tommy	Year 8
Isla	Year 9
Brandon	Year 9
Yusra	Year 7

### Opportunity

Tommy	Year 7
Finley	Year 7
Alex	Year 7

Jayden	Year 7
<b>Excellence</b>	
Layla	Year 7
Archie	Year 7
Hayden	Year 11
Nathan	Year 7

Well done all and keep it up!

### AROE Curriculum lessons – Miss Ash

Please ensure that you have checked the AROE lesson Parental Communication Calendar for you to familiarise yourselves with the topics due to be covered this half term:

[AROE Parental Communication Calendar 2023-24](#)

**Year 7** – Relationships – Diversity ([RELATIONSHIPS](#)) - *This unit will cover diversity, prejudice, and bullying.*

**Year 8** – Relationships – Discrimination ([RELATIONSHIPS](#)) - *This unit will cover discrimination in all its forms including racism, religious discrimination, disability, discrimination, sexism, homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia.*

**Year 9** – Respectful Relationships ([RELATIONSHIPS](#)) - *This unit will cover families and parenting, healthy relationships, conflict resolution, and relationship changes.*

**Year 10** – Financial Decision Making ([LIVING IN THE WIDER WORLD](#)) - *This unit will cover the impact of financial decisions, debt, gambling and the impact of advertising on financial choices.*

**Year 11** – Communication in Relationships ([RELATIONSHIPS](#)) - *This unit will cover personal values, assertive communication (including in relation to contraception and sexual health), relationship challenges and abuse.*

All information regarding how we deliver Relationships, Sex and health in AROE lessons can be found here: [AROE Curriculum & RSHE Policy](#)  
[RSE Parental Right to withdraw form](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email on [has@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:has@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk) should you have any queries/concerns.

### Assemblies – Mrs Heseltine

Thank you to Mr Wright for Leading on Assemblies this week, resetting the scene and the standards we expect for, and from, our youngsters.

In the following two weeks face to face assemblies will be held in the Sports Hall to accommodate the Options assemblies which will be held in the Performance Hall.

Next week I will be presenting a Cultural Capital assembly to Years 7, 9 and 10, Miss Jordan will be leading the Year 11 assembly on PPE Revision and Preparation, and Year 8 start their first week of Options assemblies which are stated on page 2 of this letter.



# WOODLANDS SCHOOL

ASPIRATION, RESILIENCE, OPPORTUNITY, EXCELLENCE

Woodlands School, Woodlands Approach,  
Off Nether Mayne,  
Basildon, Essex, SS16 5BA  
Tel: 01268 282146

Email: [woodlands@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:woodlands@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk)

Woodland School is part of Compass Education Trust Ltd, a company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales  
Company number 07666213. Registered Office: The Billericay School, School Road, Billericay, Essex, CM12 9LH

## [Assembly Themes 2023.24](#)

### Dates for Diaries

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 6.00pm to 7.00pm:** Year 11 Preparing for Success Event. If you haven't done so already, don't forget to let us know if you can or can't make it – this reserves your seat and a free revision pack for your child. Thank you to all parents/carers who have let us know already:

[Y11 Preparing for Success Event Reply Slip](#)

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February:** Year 10 Prefect Application deadline. All forms to be handed to Mrs Heseltine by the end of the school day:

[Prefect Application Form](#)

[Prefect Job Description](#)

### Moving forward

I have been talking to staff about the importance and power of being consistent. We will never get everything right and are far from perfect, but I came across this which is well worth a share:

*"Success is neither magical nor mysterious. Success is the natural consequence of consistently applying basic fundamentals."*

Best wishes,

Mr David Wright  
**Head Teacher**