

Our Ref: DWt/LPu

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2022

Dear Parent/Carers,

Please do forgive me writing to you on a non-pupil day but I really wanted to share events of yesterday. We had 496 families, 1,677 in total join us, not bad at all. Our youngsters did us proud yesterday afternoon and evening at our Open Evening as we welcomed our guests who are considering joining us on our journey next September. I had the opportunity to have a good look around and listen in to some of the information being shared by our guides and faculty ambassadors. What came across was the real sense of pride our youngsters have in our school, which really was a sight to behold. The detail being shared in classrooms in each department and faculty area was very clear and delivered in an open and honest way. Not to mention those who spoke on stage in the Performance Hall.

Events like yesterday really do reinforce just how wonderful our, your, young people are. The confidence, manners, loyalty and again pride, was there for all to see. I am forever grateful to be able to play my part in taking our school to where it can be, but we all know it is our youngsters that play the biggest role, ably guided by a wonderful group of staff.

### Post 16 – Mrs Robertson

Many thanks to those of you who attended the Year 11 Post-16 Careers event last week. This is an important event as it gives pupils the first opportunity to start thinking about the courses or subjects, they might wish to study next year, where they are going to study and what the entry requirements will be. On Monday I will meet with Year 11 in assembly and talk about next steps. The main thing being that they should now be planning which Open Evenings they will be attending. We encourage you and your child to attend as many as possible to keep options open at this early stage. If I can be of any help in this process please contact me via email on: [kro@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:kro@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk)

### Work Experience – Mrs Robertson

This coming week the Work Experience program will be launched with our Year 10 cohort. This is an exciting opportunity for pupils to experience what it is like to be outside of the classroom in the world of work. With many applying for placements at the same time, it will be important to secure these as early as possible. On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September parents and pupils are required to attend our Work Experience evening which will be held in the Performance Hall at 6.00pm. The evening will cover the importance of Work Experience, expectation, process and deadlines; and how as parents/carers you can support. We look forward to seeing you there. Should you have any queries please contact me via email on [kro@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:kro@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk)

### Enrichment Opportunities: Extra-Curricular Activities – Mrs Heseltine

Extra-Curricular Activities (clubs) started this week, information about what have on offer was emailed out last week and can also be found on the 'Pupil' tab of our website in the 'Enrichment Opportunities' section:



## [Extra-Curricular Activities \(Clubs\) Autumn 2022](#)

Pupils attending a lunch time club may wish to bring a packed lunch. For pupils requiring a school meal; club passes are in the process of being circulated to pupils; this will allow them to go to the front of the lunch line when presented to the staff member on duty. In the interim period pupils can get a note from their teacher to allow them priority access to food.

### **ePraise Top Achievers Shout Out – Mrs Robertson**

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

#### **Aspiration**

- Lily-Rose F (Year 10)
- Maddison W (Year 7)
- Dylan B (Year 8)
- Charlie B (Year 8)
- Alfie H (Year 7)

#### **Resilience**

- Louie C (Year 8)
- Angel-Louise T (Year 8)
- Blake B (Year 8)
- Lara C (Year 10)

#### **Opportunity**

- Emily A (Year 7)
- Ryan A (Year 8)
- Cassie A (Year 9)
- Jayla C (Year 9)

#### **Excellence**

- Finley M (Year 8)
- Hayden P (Year 10)
- Chrisette E (Year 8)
- Mia B (Year 10)

Well done all and keep it up!

### **The House System at Woodlands – Mrs Robertson**

This week's assemblies reminded our pupils in Years 7-10 about the House System at Woodlands. Pupils have since received a 'House badge' which represents the House that they are a member of in their time here at Woodlands. House names are taken from the six leading UK universities and hope to inspire academic excellence in all of our pupils.

Badges are colour coded by house;

- Bath (Yellow)
- Cambridge (Light Blue)
- Durham (Purple)
- Loughborough (Pink)
- Oxford (Dark Blue)



- St. Andrews (Red)

We ask that pupils wear the badge with pride and on the left lapel of their blazer, tutors will be checking for this as part of the daily uniform checks. Lost badges must be reported to me.

Pupils' ePraise points also feed into the points for their house, tying up all aspects of their school like both inside and outside of the classroom (including attendance, behaviour and conduct, and participation in enrichment opportunities. Well done to all pupils in house Durham, you have made an early lead!

### **AROE Curriculum Lessons – Miss Ash**

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

[AROE Curriculum Autumn Term 1A \(Parental Communication Calendar\)](#)

Please contact me via email on [has@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk](mailto:has@woodlandsschool.essex.sch.uk) should you have any queries/concerns.

### **Moving forward**

We have tours every morning next week from 9.15am to 10.45am as well as one at 2.15pm to 2.45pm on Monday as we opening up to those seeking to join us next academic year continues. We have visited twelve primary schools and I have been really impressed by the Year 8 youngsters who joined us to deliver their speeches. There may well be a few smaller tours the following week if the demand keeps up but we are seeking to get things back to normal the week after next.

I look forward to seeing many Year 10 parents and carers at the Work Experience evening next Thursday. Many schools have dropped this but we believe that it is an important part of giving all the right kind of experience to help withy decisions moving forward.

A reminder that we are back at normal time on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September, just in case.

Best wishes,

Mr David Wright  
**Head Teacher**