



WOODRUSHSTAR

SCHOOL NEWS . SPORT . ART . SCIENCE . ENGLISH . HUMANITIES & MORE

YOUTHS GOT TALENT!



PG 5
CYCLING
FOR MAX



PG 15
HEADING UP
THE SIXTH
FORM



PG 19
BIG DAY
OUT IN
LONDON



Dear Parents and Carers

Can I take this opportunity in our first Woodrush Star of the year to welcome all our new readers, both new students and parents. We publish four times a year with further editions available for students to take home at the end of the autumn, spring and summer terms to celebrate with all our wider community the success and talents of our students and staff.

This summer we again celebrated outstanding academic results in both Year 11 and also Year 13. We saw all our 6th form students gain 100% pass rate and see those that had applied gain places at Universities across the country to study a full range of courses such as medicine, the arts, humanities and science. At Key stage 4 we again saw 100% of Year 11 students gain top A*-C qualifications including over 80% achieving top grades in Maths and English. Our students also finished the year taking part in fantastic events ranging from sports day to activities week to performing at the Artrix theatre in Bromsgrove during our own 'Youth got talent' competition.

This summer has again seen us make considerable improvements to the fabric of our build with new windows in the maths block and hall and considerable upgrades in terms of ICT facilities, in particular our site becoming a Wi-Fi zone. We will of course be informing students in due course how they can make the very best of these facilities, along with continuing to use Frog (our online learning environment) to enhance their learning experiences.

I would thank all our parents and carers for ensuring that all our students have started the year smart, equipped and ready to make the very best progress they can and we look forward to seeing their successes over the next few terms.

Mr C King Headteacher



Contents

Student News	2-9
D of E	10 - 11
Sixth Form	12 - 15
Youth & Community	16 - 17
English & Library	18 - 19
Humanities	21 - 23
Creative Arts	24 - 25
Staff News	26 - 27
STEM	28 - 30
Sport	30 - 36

Free School Meals - are you eligible?

You are able to claim Free School Meals for your child if you, or your partner, receive one or more of the following:-

- Income Support
- Job Seekers Allowance - Income Based
- Employment & Support Allowance – Income Related
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1991
- Child Tax Credit – providing you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, and have an annual income as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs that does not exceed £16,190
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit



Did you know that: -

- By claiming your eligibility, you and your child can benefit even if they don't always take up the meal.
- You may also qualify for school transport, help with school uniforms and the cost of school trips.
- By claiming your eligibility, you can help your child's school as they can get extra funding based on the number of pupils eligible for a free school meal.

Applying for Free School Meals is easy. You can: -

- Collect an application from Reception or telephone the school on 01564 823777 and we will post one out to you.
- Download the application form which is available on our website. www.woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk or www.worcestershire.gov.uk

Big changes

Students and staff returned from the summer to see some wonderful changes to the school. We were successful in winning a bid to replace the windows to the hall and the Maths block which now look fantastic. We have invested in new technology, computers for 6th form and we now have an internet café in the small dining room. Information TV screens are all around the school and everyone can access the internet as the whole school now has full wireless connection. The hall will continue to get a face lift over the next year

but the new wall art has made a dramatic difference to its appearance, there are other areas around the school also benefiting from some amazing art work and the English and MFL block and the front of the school have been decorated. The Site Team have worked extremely hard and very long hours to get the school ready for the Autumn term and I am sure the students and staff agree the school is looking much better for all their hard work and commitment. A big thank you from us all.

Animal Club

Animal club runs every Monday afterschool from 2.50 until 4pm, and is open to all year groups. You will be able to cuddle the baby bunnies, walk the older rabbits, play with the guinea pigs and fluffy hamsters. If you are a little more adventurous we have snakes, geckos and a bearded dragon, not quite so cuddly though, and also mice and rats too! Come along to £8 for a taster session, although if you decide to join there is a minimal payment to help us care for the animals, for feed and bedding for an entire term. There is also an opportunity for students to take the animals home during the holidays, as long as we have parental consent.

We also run a community farm within the school and have some chickens and grow our own vegetables in our vegetable plots. You are welcome to come along and get involved.



Activity Days in School July 2013

On Monday 22nd July the Year 7 and Year 8 students went off site to go on visits to London, Paris, Alton Towers, Drayton Manor Park and West Midland Safari Park. Our Year 9 and 10 Students stayed in school and took part in three 90 minute activities:- Tug of War/ Five a side/ dance; Films and a big Quiz.

On Tuesday 23rd July the Year 9 and 10 students were off site at Alton Towers, West Midland Safari Park and Drayton Manor Park. In school our Years 7 and 8 took part in three 90minute activity sessions: - films; Big Quiz and the end of year Disco.



Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day will be on Monday 11th November and we will be selling Poppies on behalf of the Royal British Legion in the week leading up to the day. All the money that we raise in school for the Royal British Legion goes towards helping our British Servicemen and women who have served in the armed forces and in many cases helping them to rebuild their lives after terrible injuries they have received in Afghanistan.

Last year we raised £120.20p so help us to raise an equal amount please this year.



**St. Richard's
Hospice**

CARING FOR LIFE



Children in Need

Children in Need in on 15th November 2013. In school there will be a non-uniform day as usual and we will be selling Pudsey bear wrist bracelets for £1 and also Pudsey Bear Key rings for £2 each. There will also be various activities going on throughout the day including a cake sale.

In November 2012 we raised £1200 so it would be really good if we can do a similar thing this year.



St Richard's Hospice

In September we were asked to help sponsor a programme for a Golf Tournament at Droitwich Golf Club where money was raised to help St Richard's Hospice in Worcester. The cost of our School sponsorship was £185.00p.

St Richard's Hospice provides free specialist palliative care for patients living with cancer and other life threatening illnesses. It is an independent Charity, which relies on 70% of its funding coming from donations given to them. The Hospice helps more than 2,400 people in Worcestershire. So our donation plays a valuable part in helping with this care.

Prefects 2013-14

Back in the summer term Mrs Hatton and Mrs Sheppard began a recruitment campaign for a new set of prefects from the 2013-14 school year. There were over 60 applicants for the position and all students who applied have been given the opportunity to show that they can be a good role model and also to make a positive contribution to School. On September 11th all the prefects were taken to the Top Barn Activity Centre and had a day of team building and fun. The students were divided into five groups and they spent the day working through a series of activities that included Rock Wall Climbing; Canoeing; Low Rope Course; Archery and problem solving.

All of the students have taken up their duties at lunchtime this half term and they all took part in Open Evening and are now beginning to participate in school life through the specific roles they have been given within transition, mentoring and Faculties. It is hoped they will all complete this probationary period successfully, when they will be awarded their prefect badges in assembly.



Prefects Training Day

After handing in our forms and the teachers having much discussion, selected students were invited to go on the Prefect Training day to Top Barn to take part in team building activities. This training day allowed us to bond and to develop our team building skills and also give us the opportunity to make new friends and work with different sets of people. Despite the fact that we were being assessed on all of these things we all managed to have a laugh and a joke and really enjoy ourselves. At Top Barn we were split into groups for the day and we all had a go at canoeing, rock climbing, archery and problem solving. The weather was not very warm but it

didn't stop us from reaching our full potential. In some teams we were very competitive with each other and tried to outdo each other but we also encouraged, helped and supported each other through all the tasks we did.

We had a really fun day and thank Mrs Hatton for organising it and also the staff who came with us. I have come back with some great memories.

Drew 11C2

Prince's Teaching Institute Award for Geography and Science

A big well done to the Geography and Science departments for achieving the Prince's Teaching Institute Quality Mark: striving towards excellent Learning and Teaching at Woodrush.

The Prince's Teaching Institute (PTI) is an independent educational charity created by the Prince of Wales. It believes that all children, irrespective of background or ability, deserve a rich subject-based experience at school - both within and beyond the examination curriculum.

"We believe that young people's opportunities in life are maximised by having inspiring teachers, who are knowledgeable and passionate about their subjects. We allow teachers to rediscover their love of their subject through our various activities and, by bringing passionate teachers together, we encourage school departments to make rigorous curriculum choices, promote teaching beyond the test, and enable schools to forge links with other like-minded schools and academic institutions."

After spending the year gathering evidence of excellent practice and completing their assessment day in July, Mr Raistrick and Mrs Michell walked away with the 2013 award.

Well done Team Humanities and Team Science!



Hi, my name is Parry Glasspool. I am an actor and you may have seen me recently in Hollyoaks Later. I came to Woodrush from 2002-

2007 and some of you may know that my mum still works there. I was fortunate to have Mr Hall to encourage my love of acting while I was at Woodrush and then for sixth form I went to Stratford. In between partying and other distractions, I managed to get the A levels I needed to get into University in London to study acting. Three year later I have a degree, an agent and I'm finally doing the job I have always wanted to do - acting. Hopefully you'll be able to see me in something else soon.



Charity Bike Ride for Max!

Max Loxley's close friends wanted to do something special for the Children's Hospital (Ward 10) in recognition of their support for him. Max is currently in year 10 at Woodrush High School. Two years ago, he was diagnosed with a brain tumour which obviously had a huge impact on his life. He has since been through three operations, a course of chemotherapy and a course of radiotherapy and happily, is making really good progress in his recovery. Such is Max's determination to get back to normal, he is now back in school full time and taking part in his lessons.

We are all so pleased to have him back, and grateful for the incredible work that Ward 10 do for all the children that they support. All the girls wore Canal #5 for their ride alongside the canals of Worcester. Punctures, accidents, bike failures, seat loss, exhaustion, chips, friendly barge users, water fights and an all round super trip was enjoyed by pupils, parents and any bystanders.

Mr T would like to particularly thank the parents who offered lifts, repaired punctures, brought lunch and supported this charitable event.

Students raised a fantastic £1402 for the ward!

Well done to all that took part.



Tidbury go from 'Green' to 'Gold'

Thanks to the hard work of the staff, children and donations from parents and local businesses, Tidbury Green School have been awarded 1st prize at the Solihull Neighbourhoods in Bloom competition 2013. A healthy class competition got everyone across the school thinking about 'recycling' in a very different light.

The question was - How can we recycle outdoors? Each class came up with their own ideas on recycling which transformed all of our garden areas and courtyards into areas of natural beauty at no cost to the school. Donations were received from parents and Local Businesses and included flowers, plants, tyres, old cups, plates, straw, compost and an old bathroom suite which was later used in a display in Tudor Grange Park to represent the Solihull Borough. The competition allowed different year groups to work together and the children were able to express their ideas through their creativity and art whilst also exploring the outdoors. A fantastic effort that certainly paid off with some brilliant and quite unique ideas! To be awarded Solihull in Bloom 4 times previous and now receiving the Gold Award in the new Neighbourhood in Bloom competition is just amazing and we are all busy planning for next year!

Pay online...
for peace of mind



A convenient way to pay

Parents can now book and pay securely online for a range of items using a debit/credit card. Paying online gives you the peace of mind that comes with knowing that your money has reached the school safely and is used for its intended purpose.

Making payments is easy

- Log on to the school website and follow the link.
- You should already have your user name and password but if not contact the school at parentpay@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk
- Full instructions on how to pay for school meals and school trips are available on the website
- No need to worry about your child losing money at school
- See a record of what your child is purchasing for lunch
- Log on as see what school trips are available to your child

"No more
having to look
for change or
writing
cheques."
It's so easy
now



ParentPay

It's cool to be in School

Attendance Matters

As always Woodrush High School aims to ensure excellent attendance and punctuality for all students and to eliminate all but the most necessary and legitimate absences and/or episodes of lateness in individual students.

Excellent attendance, as measured against national norms, is a prerequisite for successful learning and good progress. Personal qualities, such as reliability, that are inferred by excellent attendance at school are amongst those most prized in society in general and by employers in particular. The promotion of excellent attendance is, therefore, a primary objective for us.

Students are continually praised for their good attendance and as a school we are keen to reward them. Here are some of our attendance rewards.

• **Students with 100% attendance from September to July will be rewarded with a trip out for FREE.**

• **Year 11 students who achieve 100% attendance from September to Easter term break will receive a FREE Year 11 prom ticket. "50 Year 11 students received a £25 prom ticket last academic year."**

• **Students who achieve 100% attendance over each half term will have the privilege of entering the lunch queue first for one week at the start of the following half term.**

Ms Davies

Attendance & Education Support Worker
Tel: 01564 823777 ext 7107

My role is to make sure all children are getting a suitable education and make sure that parents are meeting their own responsibilities in sending their child to school and making sure they attend.

I work with parents and children to improve attendance and behaviour. It is my job to assist in the resolution of problems by involving other agencies if necessary, and working with all parties to devise an action

plan to support full-time attendance at school or any agreed alternative provision.

Students enjoying a well-earned trip out for achieving 100% attendance 2012/2013



By making your child's school attendance a priority, you will be taking an important step in supporting your child's school success, and setting a good example. Remember every day counts!

WHAT WE ASK FROM PARENTS:

- Ring the school (Tel : 01564 823777 ext: 7107) preferably before 10.00 am on the first day of any absence.
- Send a note in on the first day of your son's/daughter's return to explain the reason for absence.
- Whenever possible make all medical appointments after 2.50pm.
- Please do not plan family holidays during term time.
- Check that we have the correct contact numbers (home, work and mobile numbers are all useful).

WHAT WILL THE SCHOOL DO?

- Contact parents at home or at work to check the reasons for absence.
- Inform parents by letter of any unexplained absences and request reasons for these.
- Inform our Education Welfare Officer of any poor attendees who will act accordingly and can ultimately prosecute persistent poor attendees.
- All holidays will be unauthorised, except in exceptional circumstances.

Zero-tolerance for term-time holidays

At Woodrush holidays during term-time will NOT be authorised except in exceptional circumstances, if it is exceptional circumstances please put this in writing to the relevant HOH.

Please remember a two week holiday in term-time means 50 hours of teaching missed and several homework's too. Students often find it difficult to catch up with work missed.

Maths and MFL Paris Trip July 2013

Laura B : 8C2

The trip to Paris was a whole new experience for me as I have never been to France before and I enjoyed it a lot. I learnt a lot in both Maths and MFL that I shall benefit from in the future.



Over three fun-filled and event-packed days in July, the MFL and Maths departments came together to whisk away 44 pupils on a 'voyage fantastique' to enjoy the fascinating sights and sounds of one of Europe's most spell-binding capital cities; Paris.

'Le voyage' was awash with exciting adventures and fun activities, as the pupils and staff savoured the culinary delights of a local 'creperie', where many even tried their hands at creating their very own fresh and authentic French crepes. Once in the famed 'City of Light', the entourage savoured 'une bonne journee' basking in the warm Parisian sun whilst taking in the most celebrated and emblematic sights on offer including the Stade de France, Eiffel Tower, Sacre Coeur and the eye-catching mathematical pyramids outside Le Louvre. A thoroughly pleasant afternoon was deliciously capped off by a fine meal at the restaurant Le Monte Carlo and an evening stroll spent window-shopping and people-watching along the most fabled thoroughfare of Europe; Les Champs-Elysees. Our Parisian escapade drew to a mind-bending close with a visit to La Villette maths exhibition at the renowned City of Science and Industry Museum, where the pupils attempted to uncover the mysteries of Pythagora's theorem.

All in all, a fabulous time was had by all pupils and staff, who represented Woodrush with superb pride and were a credit to the school and the local community. We look forward to returning to Paris in the near future for another fantastic trip.

Merci a tous!

Kaide B : 8C2

On the way to Paris it was really fun, although it felt like we had spent the entire day on the coach to get to the docks! The ferry was a really good part of the trip because it was the first time I had ever been on one. For most of the trip me and my friends followed Harry M-F because he had been on lots of ferries and knew all about them.

The second day was definitely the best day. We got to visit two main places. The Stade de France and the Eiffel Tower! These were definitely the best parts of the trip. We had a tour around the stadium and found out that it can be used for: football, running, athletics and much more. Also we had a tour around the bottom of the Eiffel Tower and it was interesting to see it from the inside.

On the third day instead of traveling straight home we went to a maths museum we spent about 30 minutes doing maths then we got to explore the rest of the museum. After a long time at the museum we finally journeyed home. It was a long weekend but was definitely worth the trip!

Charlotte 9B2

Well, where do I start? Paris: fun, hectic and a place you have to go and you have to see the Eiffel Tower – by gosh it's big!! But it's better in real life than it looks in the pictures and the shops...wow. Everyone wants to go, however we all dreaded the journey because it's takes so long, but take my word for it the journey did go quick!! The first day in Paris we had something to eat and a creperie (mmm pancakes!) then we went on to check in at the hotel and had some time to ourselves. Before we knew it we were getting ready for breakfast which was one of my favourite parts of the trip. Breakfast consisted of fruit cake, yoghurt, cheese and croissants. We then headed off to Stade le France to look around the iconic stadium. After that we went to see the sights of the rest of Paris; the Eiffel Tower, Champs Elysees and the Louvre. After that we went to a restaurant and then we came across every girls dream...a row of designer shops. That day was cool as we had a tour guide who showed us around as we drove on the bus through Paris.

The next day we went to the Maths and Science Museum which was fun and then headed on the long journey back home. I really enjoyed this trip and this was the second time I had been on this trip!!!!



Woodrush GCSE results 2013

We are delighted to report that our GCSE students have once again, achieved fantastic results in their examinations! For a second year running a record breaking 100% of students gained five or more top grades (A*-C) with 76% gaining 5+ A*-C grades, including GCSE English and Maths.

81% of students gained top grades in Maths and 86% in English. Overall, nearly half of all students gained A*/A grades.

Particular congratulations (pictured left to right) go to Hannah and Emily who scored 9 A/A* grades and Amy who scored 10 A/A* grades.

Congratulations to all our students for their successes and we look forward to them starting their 'A' Level courses at Woodrush 6th. We are delighted with all our students' hard work and their achievements, and must thank the support of our staff and parents and carers for ensuring that every single student, whatever their starting point or ability, finished their GCSE year with at least 5 A*-C grades.



Welcome to Woodrush Year 7's

Due to the excellent work and support our transition team do to ensure a smooth start for our excited new year 7's the settling in period has been plain sailing for all students concerned.

They have been fortunate to start their secondary school life at a newly refurbished Woodrush, well some parts of the school have had a makeover, with a brand new hall and many new windows including the whole of the Maths block.

The students have felt confident and enthusiastic during their first few weeks and it has been good to see so many happy smiling faces. It has been wonderful to hear some of the positive comments students have made to staff and proves that they are already fully part of our thriving Woodrush community.

Woodrush Star News

As you are aware we produce our fantastic 'Woodrush Star' school and community magazine four times a year which is then handed out to all our students, feeder schools, local businesses and the local community. We are very interested in hearing more about up and coming local events, interesting news stories and just general information you think other parents and students would like to hear about. You may even want to promote your own business or make the community aware of your services or facilities that are available to students and their families. If you would like to know more about any of the above please telephone the main school number (01564 823777) and ask for either Mrs Peters or Mrs Bishop. Alternatively email woodrushstar@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk.





The Woodrush Award

The Woodrush Award is an opportunity for students in years 7, 8 and 9 to achieve before being able to access Duke of Edinburgh (which starts in year 10).

The Woodrush Ethos and the Woodrush Way are printed in all student planners

Bronze: Year 7

- At least 95% attendance • At least 50 merits • Represented Woodrush on a trip/visit
- Represented your House in an event • Complete all your Independent Study
- Good discipline record • Take part in an extra-curricular club

Silver: Year 8

- At least 96% attendance • At least 70 merits • Represented Woodrush on a trip/visit
- Represented your House in an event • Complete all your Independent Study
- Good discipline record • Take part in an extra-curricular club
- Act as a tour guide for a visitor • Praise for at least 7 subjects in a progress Report

Gold: Year 9

- At least 97% attendance • At least 90 merits • Represented Woodrush on a trip/visit
- Represented your House in an event • Complete all your Independent Study
- Good discipline record • Take part in an extra-curricular club • Praise in at least 9 subjects in a progress report

Good luck to you all



WOODRUSH

**Volunteering . Physical Skills .
Expedition . Residential**

2013 Enrolments

This term has seen over 50 Year 10's begin their Bronze DofE award. They are currently deciding on and starting activities for the volunteering, physical and skill sections of the award. Woodrush has also had its largest ever sign up for Gold DofE with 11 Year 12's currently beginning the award.

To complete the award participants need to complete the following sections over the required time period:



Bronze			
Volunteering	Skills	Physical	Expedition
Two sections for 3 months and one section for 6 months			2 days, 1 night



Silver			
Volunteering	Skills	Physical	Expedition
6 months	One for 6 months and one for 3 months		3 days, 2 nights



Gold				
Volunteering	Skills	Physical	Expedition	Residential
12 months	One for 12 months and one for 6 months		4 days, 3 nights	5 days, 4 nights

DofE Achievements:

• **Well done to Hannah** who has achieved her Silver DofE by volunteering at the Youth Cabinet, dancing, learning how to crochet and completing two three day expeditions.

• **Well done to Becky** who has achieved her Silver DofE by volunteering at the library, playing badminton, learning how to keep bees and completing two three day expeditions.

• **Well done to Abby** who has achieved her Silver DofE by volunteering at the library, swimming, learning photography and completing two three day expeditions.

• **Well done to Josie** who has achieved her Silver DofE by volunteering at in learning support, doing pilates, learning how to knit and completing two three day expeditions.

• **Well done to Tori** who has achieved her Silver DofE by volunteering at the library, doing gymnastics, learning about bee keeping and completing two three day expeditions.

• **Well done to Heather** who has achieved her Silver DofE by volunteering at the library, playing badminton, learning about bee keeping and completing two three day expeditions.

• **Well done to Jem** who has achieved his Silver DofE by volunteering at a primary sports club, playing rugby, learning to cook and completing two three day expeditions.

• **Well done to Jamie** who has achieved his Silver DofE by volunteering at a primary athletics club, playing rugby, learning to cook and completing two three day expeditions.

• **Well done to Jess** who has achieved her Bronze DofE by volunteering as a netball coach, playing badminton, learning the drums and completing two two day expeditions.

• **Well done to Amy** who has achieved her Silver DofE by volunteering as a gymnastics coach, dancing, learning photography and completing two three day expeditions.

• **Well done to Charity** who has achieved her Bronze DofE by volunteering as a dance coach, tap dancing, learning photography and completing two two day expeditions.

• **Well done to Megan** who has achieved her Bronze DofE by volunteering at a charity shop, playing tennis, learning to go-kart and completing two two day expeditions.

• **Well done to Ellie** who has achieved her Bronze DofE by volunteering at brownies, dancing, learning photography and completing two two day expeditions.



TRIPLE GOLD:

Pressure is on for Year 12 Jamie. Jamie, who has just started his Gold award at Woodrush, is set to become the third generation of Gold badge holders in his family. His granddad was the first ever person to achieve the Gold award and his mother achieved her Gold award a generation later. Jamie also decided to take on the challenge this year and hopefully will be off to the palace next year to pick up the third Gold badge for his family.

Good Luck Jamie!

7 Golden Stars! An excellent end to the 2012/2013

DofE season:

Massive congratulations to Josh, Olly, Lucy, George, Suzie, Hannah and Alex who successfully completed a very tough and very hot Gold expedition at the end of the summer term. The team spent months preparing for their assessed expedition in July. After an equally tough practice expedition the team spent hours evaluating and improving on navigation and food provisions and even longer reassessing their kit (mainly making long lists of what they would not take after carrying very heavy bags for their practice). They travelled to scenic Yorkshire Dales and walked a route through remote hills and valleys over four days, averaging at over 8 hours of walking a day. The heat on the second day was very extreme and the team did well to keep themselves hydrated and motivated to continue. An excellent team morale was kept throughout the expedition and team work was exceptional. Peter, the external assessor, who monitored the group over the four days spoke very highly of all participants – a real credit to Woodrush! The team finished the expedition on a real high, walking the final day at record speed (maybe something to do with the fact they had to rush home, get changed in about 5 mins and rush back out to prom!). A huge achievement for the whole team who should all be very proud of their progress from Silver! Hopefully, we will be hearing of their trips to the palace to collect their award soon!

For further info on the DofE award visit

www.dofe.org or see Miss Houston.



Head Boy and Head Girl Elections

Who will be 'heading up' the Sixth Form students this year?

In July, twelve students campaigned for the positions of Head Boy and Head Girl. All of the candidates put together well conceived and well executed campaigns to outline their manifestoes. At their campaign launches staff and current and prospective Sixth Formers congregated in the Sixth Form centre to meet and listen to the candidates as they launched their campaigns. Clever marketing and political spin abounded as each of the candidates tried to persuade the electorate to submit a vote for them.

During the Sixth Form celebration evening Mr Sullivan and Ms Ashman were very proud to announce that Oliver ('Ollie') successfully secured himself the position of Head Boy and Nicola was declared Head Girl. Congratulations also go to Jay and Lois who were assigned the posts of Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl respectively.

I would like to thank all of the candidates for their efforts. This year's campaign was our biggest and best yet and all the candidates did themselves proud.

Mr M Sullivan – Head of Sixth Form



COMMUNICATION
CHARITY
COMMUNITY
COMMITMENT
CHANGE

VOTE
JAY



Sixth Form End of Year

Celebration

On July 19th, both Year 12 and Year 13 students donned their best threads to party the evening away at the Sixth Form end of year celebration at the Limes Country Lodge.

For all of our Sixth Formers the evening signalled the end of their exams. For Year 13 especially there was every reason to let their hair down and celebrate the end of their A-level exams and BTEC study. It was also an opportunity for Year 13 to bid a fond, and in some cases, teary farewell to their seven years at Woodrush High. During the evening itself, it did not take long for the Sixth Formers to hit the dance floor. Even some staff dusted off their dancing shoes and joined

in the celebrations. A particular highlight of the evening was the announcements of the new Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputy Head Boy and Deputy Head Girl for the next academic year. Congratulations to Nicola, Oliver, Jay and Lois on their appointments. The celebration evening itself culminated in many of the Sixth Formers arm in arm singing along to the cheesy classic 'I've had the time of my life'. We certainly hope these words resonate with them as they look back on their time at Woodrush High.





The Sixth Form committee 2013-2014

Head Boy (Oliver), Head Girl (Nicola), Deputy Head Boy (Jay) and Deputy Head Girl (Lois) have formed this year's Sixth Form committee. In attendance with Mr Sullivan, the Sixth Form committee have already met several times this year. The Sixth Form committee is an important decision making body that spearheads many new initiatives in the Sixth Form. These include organising charity and fundraising events, arranging social and sporting events, for the Sixth Form, liaising with students lower down the school and improving facilities for the Sixth Form.



The Sixth Form committee members this year are: Oliver – (Head Boy), Nicola – (Head Girl), Jay – (Deputy Head Boy), Lois – (Deputy Head Girl) Katie – (Sixth Form facilities and resources manager) Lucy, Ben H and Chris – (Charity/Social/Fundraising directors) Megan and Leanne – (Leadmentors/lower school liaisons), Josh S and Clo – (Sports directors), Duncan and Jack J – (Sixth Form videographers/technical liaisons). We look forward to seeing the impact these fourteen students will have on our Sixth Form this year. They are already brimming with ideas and strategizing about further improvements that can be made to our Sixth Form. Watch this space.

Sixth Form Success – Summer 2013

This year has seen Woodrush Sixth Form celebrate some of its best ever A-level and BTEC results. 100% of our Year 13 students passed all of their A-level subjects with nearly half of these results being A*-B grades.

Some results worthy of note include:

Jack C:
English Language and Literature: A*, History: A, Maths: A, Psychology: B

Cameron:
Biology: A, Chemistry: A, Maths: A

Jack M:
History: A, English Literature: B, Art: B

Shyam:
Psychology: A, Chemistry: B, Biology: B

Laura H:
English Language and Literature: A, Biology: A, Chemistry: B, Psychology: B

Jack W:
BTEC Science: Distinction*, BTEC Sport: Distinction, ICT: Merit

We are also thrilled that so many of our Sixth Formers have managed to secure themselves places on their chosen courses at their preferred universities.

Some of last year's Sixth Formers have recently embarked on the following courses:

- Medicine at the University of Newcastle
- Accountancy and Financial Management at Loughborough University
- Chemistry at the University of Birmingham
- Biochemistry at Warwick
- Physical Geography at Worcester University
- Science with Education at Sheffield Hallam University
- Creative and Professional Writing at Nottingham Trent University
- Biomedical Sciences at Cardiff University
- Criminology and Forensic Biology at the University of Chester
- Primary Education at Newman College
- Psychology at the University of Winchester
- Spanish and English at Coventry University

We are incredibly proud of these students and their successes and we look forward to hearing further positive news about their achievements at university.

We also wish all the best to those students who have embarked upon Higher Apprenticeships, Foundation Courses, are taking a 'gap year' or have entered the employment sector.

New Sixth Form Induction Programme

This year saw the launch of our new Sixth Form Induction Programme. Over the first eight days of term students attended a series of workshops designed to help and support them with the challenging transition from GCSE to A-level/BTEC study. Students attended workshops focused on developing some of the core skills required for Level 3 study. These included workshops on study skills, revision strategies, research skills, mathematical application in the sciences, essay writing skills, referencing (etc). Some of these sessions were also aimed at helping students with their subject choices and also to encourage them to get to know our Year 13 students. Finally, a series of workshops were also run to give additional support and guidance to our new Year 12 students. These included workshops on post Sixth Form research, interviews with learning co-ordinators and visits from guest speakers covering topics like student finance.



(L to R) Cameron, Jack C and Jack M open their results.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Macmillan Cancer Care and Support is a charity that provides personal support and expert information for anyone suffering from cancer. Last month, Woodrush Sixth Form held its annual Macmillan coffee morning to raise awareness for this very worthwhile cause.

Students and staff alike busied themselves making an array of delicious cakes, ranging from delicious cupcakes to a wide spectrum of home baked cakes; including Mr Raistrick's infamous brownies, which were devoured in a matter of minutes. These cakes were sold throughout the day to help raise money for the charity. At break-time, staff and Sixth Form students congregated in the Sixth Form Centre to salivate over, and ultimately purchase, these delicious cakes.

The Sixth Form Centre was packed as teachers generously donated money for these cakes. Many staff paid way over the odds for their 'sugar fix' as a means of showing their full support for Macmillan. At lunch-time, the aggressive marketing exploits of our Sixth Formers extended to the quad and the dining hall in an effort to sell more cakes to students lower down the school. Some staff even bought a second round off cakes as some of our Sixth Formers ventured into the Staff Room for the first time in their time at Woodrush High.

Thanks to the generosity of staff and students, and thanks to the hardwork of our Sixth Formers, we are very pleased to announce that this year we managed to raise £487 for Macmillan Cancer Care and Support – our highest ever total! The Sixth Form would like to thank staff for all of their hard work and support in making this year's fundraising event for Macmillan our most successful yet.



Woodrush High School

An Academy for Students Aged 11-18



Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 28th November 2013

6pm-7.30pm

Presentation at 6pm

Headteacher: Mr C King

Shawhurst Lane, Wythall, Worcestershire, B47 5JW

Tel: 01564 823777

Email: reception@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

www.woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

To any Year 11 students who are looking to join us in the Sixth Form next year, please note that this year's Sixth Form Open Evening will be on Thursday November 28th and will give you and your parents an opportunity to learn more about Woodrush Sixth Form.

At 6pm the Head of Sixth Form will give a presentation outlining lots of information about the Sixth Form. Additionally, there will be an opportunity to visit different subject areas around the school and speak to staff and students about the subjects we offer in the Sixth Form.

Please do not miss out on this opportunity to learn more about Woodrush Sixth Form.



Woodrush Youth And Community



Welcome!

Since our last Issue, we've been as busy as usual! In this issue you'll find details on: The winner of Youth's Got Talent 2013, our amazing transition week, how we fared in our first ever community fun run, our brand new welcome pack & the latest on our Community farm.

Fun Run

As part of our community activities, we took part in the Hollywood-Wythall Fun Run on 14th July 2013. We were raising money to put towards buying a Defibrillator for Woodrush to protect the whole community and have raised a considerable amount toward this fantastic cause! We are hoping to be in a position to buy a defibrillator by the end of 2013. It was a fantastic day for all of us, with all 14 members of our team finishing the 5km race despite the gruelling heat and then taking part in the shorter 1.5km Fun Run. We all had a great day while raising money for a great cause at the same time.

Community Farm

After a quiet summer with only two rabbit great escapes and ten new born chicks, Wythall community farm is back! We now have nine healthy chickens that will hopefully begin laying next spring so keep your eyes out for our free range eggs. We also are currently setting up a farm



club for KS3 that will include caring and playing with the animals, art business skills and gardening and we have up and coming visits to Meadow Green and Bromsgrove AGE UK groups. On our visits we give talks on the animals that we take and on the work we do in school as well as passing around the animals for a cuddle, which both children and the elderly alike find really relaxing. However, due to the sad closure of Dennis Potter courts AGE UK day club we are looking to create more connections with organisations, so would love to hear of any groups that would be interested in meeting us.

Chloe (Year 10)

Welcome Pack Now Available

Our brand new Welcome packs & Leaflets are now available. Pick up your copy from Kay Parker (Centre Manager)



YOUTH Got Talent!

After hours of auditions, months of practise, Youth & Community's Youth's Got Talent came to its climax with a bang! 18 lucky acts were whisked down to the Artrix Theatre in Bromsgrove to prepare for the star studied event. After a final dress rehearsal, the show was upon us! The acts included everything from Singers & Dancers to Gymnasts & Dancing Dogs. After witnessing the best showcase of talent we've ever seen, we were then treated to performances from our 2011 winner Alex Wheatley and Worcestershire's first Young Poet Laureate Laura Dedicoat.

The acts had done all they could it was now down to our star studied judging line up of Woodrush Assistant Head Mrs Lawson, Local Magistrate Max Field MBE, our local victor Rev. Rich Burley &

Glastonbury Poet Giovanni Esposito aka 'Spoz'. After long deliberation the winners were announced by our amazing presenters Evie Allen and Laura Dedicoat. In third place were Together Forever, who were Youth's Got Talent's first ever dog act. In second place were the Johnson Gymnasts who wowed with their amazing aerobics. And our winner was Carmen who sang her version on Beyoncé's 'Listen' to roar of cheers from the crowd. Congratulations to Carmen and all of our contestants you were all fantastic.

It was a truly amazing night and we'd like to thank all of the acts, parents, guests and especially all of the support staff working behind the scenes alongside our fantastic Management Team. We couldn't have put on the fantastic show without you all. We'll be back again soon so keep practicing for the next YOUTH Got Talent show.



English News!

The English Department celebrated another year of excellent results with 86% of students achieving an A* - C grade in GCSE English Language and 90% in GCSE English Literature. Our A Level students also did us proud as all students passed their A Levels in English Literature, Language/Literature and Film Studies by achieving an A* - E grade.

These fantastic results are testament to the determination, conscientious attitudes and sheer hard work of all our students and staff, as well as the support of the school to ensure these results are sustained. We would therefore, like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our students on their achievements; we wish you luck in all your future endeavours and the best wishes for your very bright futures.

As Woodrush was caught up in a pregnancy epidemic this year, English found itself losing two of its most established teachers, Miss Rejer and Mrs Rowe, to maternity leave for this academic year. Mrs Rowe was first to have her beautiful baby girl, Mia Heledd Rowe, on 23rd September who weighed in at a healthy 7lbs 4oz. She was followed a week later with the arrival of another beautiful baby girl, Harriet Grace Metcalf-Taylor (Miss Rejer's married name) who was born on 28th September. We wish both teachers huge congratulations on the safe arrivals of their bundles of joy and cannot wait to meet them!

On March 17th the English Department will be giving Year 10 and 11 students the opportunity to attend an AQA Conference led by examiners on how to achieve their target grade. A letter will be issued shortly providing details and costs of the trip; we hope that all students will wish to attend as this a rare opportunity to be taught by the very examiners who will be marking their exams in June!

Ms Richardson

Originally from Preston, Lancashire, I arrived in Birmingham to study at Birmingham University. After completing my degree, I taught in Athens, Greece then I worked as an archaeologist on a Roman site in Bedfordshire before returning to the University to do teacher training, subsequently gaining employment in the city.

I adore birds and small animals. I have had budgies since I was eighteen -months-old and currently have three of them as well as three cockatiels. In addition, I have a fish tank with three tame goldfish in it which take food from my hand. On top of this, I have a garden pond stocked with a mixture of goldfish, orfe and koi. As an experienced bunny owner, I have taken on several rescue rabbits that have had behavioural or long-time health problems making them difficult to rehome elsewhere. My animal family is regularly supplemented by pets I am looking after for friends - these have included rabbits, guinea pigs and pet rats.

As well as the animals, my house gets pretty full of shoeboxes which I am collecting for 'Link to Hope', a charity that rebuilds lives and communities in Eastern Europe through education and social care. I keep fit by attending yoga and Pilates classes and love water, going swimming whenever I get the chance - I have even braved the sea off the north coast of Scotland. My love of water has sometimes got me into trouble, though. I ended up in the river on my primary school residential and again on my secondary school Geography field trip. On that occasion, the teachers got their own back by making me change into an embarrassing outfit of a bright orange kagoule and matching waterproof trousers. My favourite theme park ride is, of course, the river rapids.



**STAFF
BIO**



My name is Mrs de Swardt and I teach English at Woodrush. I am originally from South Africa and have come to live in the Midlands as my husband works for a Coventry-based charity called

Homeless International.

I have taught in my home country, Yorkshire and nearby Solihull. I enjoy reading, going to the theatre and visiting cultural and historical sites.

Woodrush is an excellent school that I feel proud to be a part of.

Hi, my names is Ms Hegg and, although originally from sunny Southport, my teaching

has taken me from Turkey, to Cumbria, from France to New Zealand. We settled in Warwick 6 years ago to raise our 2 boys, one is in training to be a jedi and the other is a pirate. My hobbies and interests are a little less rock and roll nowadays: camping and visiting National Trust properties but I still escape into a good book whenever I can. Take note of what Groucho Marx said, 'Outside of a dog, a book is a man's best friend. Inside of a dog, it's too dark to read.'



John Boyne Visit

On Tuesday 8th October we visited Stourport High School to see a fabulous author, John Boyne, famous for writing The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas. I participated in the trip as I really enjoy reading and have heard lots about how amazing his books are. I'm really glad I went as I found out lots about his inspiration to write and where his ideas come from. It was a fantastic trip.

Once we arrived at the school we went into a big hall where the author told us about his life. He grew up in Ireland, started writing when he was seven years old and moved to England to do a degree in creative writing. He read us a bit of his new book and told us the answers to lots of our questions. I bought his new book Stay Where You Are and Then Leave and I brought in my book from home (The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas) which both got signed! I am so happy I got this chance and would definitely recommend going on these trips if ever you get a chance.

Larissa, Rajput, Darcy, Lucy





**Congratulations
to all the AS Level
English Literature,
Language and
Literature and Film
Studies students for
achieving 92% A*-C!**

**Well
done!!!**



Activities Week 2013: English Department Hits The Big City

HRH Prince George of Cambridge was not the only person to arrive in the capital city on Monday 22nd July 2013. As part of activities week the English Department, Mrs Bishop, Mrs Peters and 90 students from Y7 to Y12 headed off for two days in the big city. We made our way to London throughout the morning and checked into our hotel near Gatwick. After a quick freshen up we boarded our coaches and headed into the centre.

The city was thriving with tourists, commuters and royal well-wishers but we made our way through to see a number of famous sights including Trafalgar Square, Buckingham Palace and Hyde Park to name a few. It was then on to the Rain Forest Café where we dined amongst the setting and creatures (animatronics!) of a real rain forest with sound effects to add to the experience. We then set off to see the new stage show sensation; Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Once Charlie had made a friend for life in Willy Wonka it was back to the hotel for a well-earned rest.

The next morning we were up bright and breezy for a full continental breakfast before heading to the next attraction, Madame Tussauds; the famous wax works museum. We saw everyone from pop princesses to sporting stars, key political figures past and present to models that scared some of us out of our wits! Once back on board the bus it was time for one last stop; Westfield Shopping Centre for a quick mad dash for some last minute spending. It was then time to make our way back to school ready for the last day of the Summer Term!

Mrs Scotney
English Department

"I enjoyed every moment, a truly amazing trip" Ashleigh Y9
"It was really great to see the sights of London with my friends.
Best activities week ever!"

Lucy Y9



Alliance in Partnership

Your Education Catering Specialist

Founded in 1998

We are committed to providing

- Freshly, cooked nutritious food daily
- Source local produce
- High standards of customer service
- Affordable prices
- Promoting a healthy lifestyle
- To meeting all nutritional standards

Our menus adhere to the 14 nutrient groups set out by the Government and are analysed using the industry recognised Saffron nutrition

Alliance in Partnership is committed to the Soil Association's Food for Life programme.

Alliance in Partnership hold the bronze and silver catering mark accreditations.

All of our meals are produced using Farm assured meats, Fish which meets the marine stewardship council standards (MSC),

Food contains no hydrogenated fats or undesirable additives.

See www.foodforlife.org.uk

Dietary Information

If your child has been advised by their GP or Health Care Professional to follow a special diet please contact by calling 0121 552 0121

You may be eligible for Free School Meal government check website www.direct.gov.uk

New Menu being launched 4th November 2013

Please see the Schools plasma screen for details

All of our food is prepared fresh on site everyday using:

- Free Range Eggs
- British Farm Assured Meat
- Seasonal Fruit and Vegetables
- Local farms



Theme Days

Events Calendar
2013 - 2014



ALLIANCE in PARTNERSHIP

New Deli Bar opening 4th November 2013

DELI BAR TARIFF	
Roast Beef with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Chicken with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Pork with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Lamb with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Turkey with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Fish with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Chicken with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Pork with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Lamb with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Turkey with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Fish with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Chicken with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Pork with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Lamb with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Turkey with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Fish with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Chicken with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Pork with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Lamb with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Turkey with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50
Roast Fish with a Choice of Potatoes	£5.50

Providing Fresh Local & Seasonal Ingredients, High Welfare Meats & Sustainable Fish



Spiritual Summer experience

In RE during the last few weeks of the summer term we focused at looking at different ways people express themselves and their own spirituality. The aim of which was to encourage pupils to be themselves and question what makes them who they are. We focused on spirituality and different forms that can be used to express this, from poetry, dance, playing an instrument and singing. A group of people including Seasick Fist, Voice of the Poets and Beat Freaks kindly came into school and show cased their talents, as an expression of their own spirituality and personalities.

A huge thank you to Seasick Fist, Voice of the Poets and Beat Freaks for all their time and hard work!

Miss Kaur

ANGLO ITALIAN

TILES - BATHROOMS - FLOORS



- DESIGN, SUPPLY & INSTALLATION SPECIALISTS
- BATHROOMS
- WETROOMS
- TILES
- NATURAL STONE

CALL: 0121 4742920

FOR A FREE QUOTATION



T'S BACK - Christian Union every Wednesday for KS4 and Every Friday for KS3 with Dean Taylor.

Everyone is welcome to join in with inspiring discussions, games, thought provoking questions, lots of lollies, sweets and chillies!!!

Wythall Community Association Bonfire Night

at Wythall Park B47 6LZ, Saturday 2nd November.

Gates Open 6pm, Bonfire Lit 6.30pm

Firework Displays 7.30 & 8.30pm

Fun Fair - Hot Food - Music

Admission at the gate £7.00 each, (children 10 & under - FREE).

Tickets £6 from Wythall House and Hollywood Fish Bar in advance




No parking - Silver Street will be CLOSED.

Humanities News Autumn 2013

We had a fantastic year last year in Humanities!

Key Stage 3 students took part in numerous trips and enrichment opportunities, including Geography Club, Christian Union and the Jack the Ripper tour. Our Year 11 students saw some fantastic results across all of our subjects. History GCSE results have increased for the 4th year in a row, Geography and Health and Social Care had 100% pass rates and Health and Social Care was 27% above the national average! On top of that our Year 13 students saw a 100% pass rate across all Humanities subjects. We have enjoyed meeting our new GCSE and AS Level students in Geography, History, Philosophy, Health and Social Care, Politics, Psychology and Sociology – we are looking forward to yet more excellent results next summer!

We have also welcomed some new members of staff to the Humanities Team. Mrs Moss will be teaching Year 10 and 13 Health and Social Care, Mr Lovell will be teaching Years 12 and 13 Politics lessons. Plus Miss Brookes (History) and Miss Peters (Geography) have joined us to cover for Miss Williams and Mrs Michell whilst they are on maternity leave. On that note we would like to welcome baby Isla Michell and baby George Williams into the world!!

We are very much looking forward to working with all our Humanities students this year - keep up the hard work.
Miss Graham.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

October is Black History Month, where we highlight the histories and contributions of black communities across the UK. The potential of Black History Month as a major annual event in Birmingham city's calendar was realised in 1997. Since

then Birmingham Libraries have continued to play a key role in organising workshops, events and displays for Black History Month.

Some of the Black History Month events in the city have included:

- Exhibitions displaying the work of Black artists and photographers
- Poetry Reading
- Talks on Black History

This year Birmingham will be hosting a wide range of events throughout the month of October. For more information visit the BHM website:
<http://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/birmingblack-history-month/>

BHM Competition

At Woodrush have been learning about black history in lessons and also running a competition. For this students will have designed a badge that people could wear to promote Black History Month. The winning badge will win 75 merits for their house and will be displayed around school and in the next Woodrush Star, plus runners up will win 50 merits.



Miss Brookes



What were you like at school?

I always wanted to join in with every activity and get involved, especially with drama and the Duke of Edinburgh award.

Why did you want to become a teacher?

I feel like teaching is in my blood. Lots of my family teach and I have always had the itch to stand in front of a classroom. I love how every day is different being a teacher and how much I can learn from students as much as they can learn from me.

What are you most looking forward to this year?

Getting to know all of my groups and trying to teach as many exciting and interesting lessons as possible. Setting up History drama club because I think it will bring something very creative and different to the school.

Favourite Historical topic:

Crime, punishment and social conditions in the Nineteenth Century.

Best thing you did this summer:

Glastonbury Festival

Favourite Film : Forrest Gump

Favourite Book: Jane Eyre or Cold Mountain

Favourite thing to do in your spare time

Listening to music, walking with my dogs, reading and baking.

Dream:

To visit as many countries as I possibly can.



Human Rights Exhibition

After visiting Auschwitz with the Holocaust Educational Trust, we taught Year 6 students at Coppice and Year 7 Woodrush students about our experience. We wanted to highlight the importance of learning about the Holocaust and its contemporary significance. On 22nd July, we held an exhibition showcasing the artwork that the students created in response to their lessons. The exhibition was in aid of four human rights charities: Show Racism the Red Card, SOS Children's Villages, United to End Genocide and The Holocaust Educational Trust. We raised a considerable amount but we are hoping to organise more events in the near future to raise even more – so keep an eye out for opportunities to get involved!

One person who has already been involved is Bromsgrove MP Sajid Javid. He visited the exhibition for a private showing with Mr King and as somebody who has also visited Auschwitz, Javid strongly believes in the need to continue funding human rights charities and organisations. He was very impressed with the students' work and how mature their attitude was towards such a sensitive subject as the Holocaust.

We would like to give our thanks to all those who contributed to the exhibition and donated to the charities. We hope to see you at future events, supporting the important cause of protecting human rights.

Katie B & Nicola P



Geography Club

Every Wednesday
For year groups 7, 8 & 9
2.50 pm in H6

Come along if you are interested or want to find out more.

You can get involved with competitions, playing games, watching films and orienteering, as well as many other activities.



Miss Peters



What were you like at school:

I was very into art and science, and I loved sport (I was on the school netball team).

Why did you want to become a teacher:

I previously worked with disabled students at Staffs Uni and really loved it. I find it fascinating to take the time to understand how different people learn best, and how they engage with a subject.

What are you looking forward to this year?:

There are many exciting things happening in the Humanities department this year. Year 11 have just been on an fantastic trip to Swanage, Geography club has just started and in the summer there will be a guerrilla geographers competition.

Hobbies: I enjoy walking, yoga, and listening to music.

Best thing you did this summer: Chillaxed.

Favourite film: Cafe de Flore.

Favourite Geography topic: Can't decide as it is all so fascinating!

Favourite book: The 100 year old man who climbed out of a window and disappeared.



A poster for the History Drama Club. It features a stylized black and white face with a large eye and a wide smile, set against a background of swirling lines and dots. The text "HISTORY Drama Club" is prominently displayed in a large, bold, serif font. Below the title, it says "Come and express yourself in an exciting mix of drama played out through the ages. These fun sessions will combine the Razzmatazz of the stage with the rawness of History." At the bottom, it says "Discover how it would have felt to have lived throughout the ages and through significant historical events, as you step into the shoes of the heroes and heroines of the past."

Still Life At The Penguin Café

GCSE Dance students enjoyed an afternoon at the Birmingham Hippodrome to watch Birmingham Royal Ballet perform a matinee performance of three of choreographer David Bintley's contrasting works over the last 25 years. Students watched 'Tombeaux', 'E=mc²' and 'Still Life at the Penguin Café'.

Tombeaux is a classical ballet and draws the audience into a passionate landscape. E=mc² explores Einstein and Still Life at the Penguin Café is about animals seeking shelter from the storm and how they interact with humans in the Penguin Café.

The setting and costumes were amazing and really added to the atmosphere of the storylines that were being told through Dance.

This trip aimed to support the learning of our students and to provide them with the experience of seeing a professional dance company live on stage performing in a ballet. Students are also studying 'Still Life at the Penguin Café' for their GCSE Dance exam.

Students were accompanied by Miss Thomas, Miss Allen and Mr Thewlis. Miss Thomas quoted "the performance was amazing and has provided a fantastic opportunity to our Dance students".



Learning a musical instrument

Want to learn a musical instrument?

Woodrush offers a wide range of lessons to cater for your interests from Guitar, Piano, Keyboards, Voice, Flute, Saxophone, Clarinet, Violin, Trumpet and The Drums. Please see Mrs Sheppard or Mr Wendzina for details.

Also don't forget to check out extra-curricular clubs on the Creative Arts page on Frog!!!!



In the Wings

At the moment yr9 and yr10 GCSE groups are rehearsing an abridged version of Shakespeare's 'The Winter's Tale' which they will present alongside other schools at the MAC. To date the group has been at a workshop and had a chance to see the venue in which they will perform. By the time the Star goes to print the performance will have taken place-review in the next addition!!



Centre Stage

Well done to the yr11 GCSE drama group who achieved 100% A* to C this year

Since their course began they have taken part in a Shakespeare Festival at the Crescent Theatre, taken part in numerous workshops with guests and other acting companies, seen a number of plays and devised and performed work of their own, including a presentation of the anti-bullying play 'The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty'.

KS4 Photography trip to Kew Gardens.

Fungi Fairy Rings and giant pumpkin pyramids were the order of the day on Wednesday 18TH September when the Art department visited Kew Gardens in London. These giant fungi sculptures are up to four metres tall and represent seven

different species of native edible fungi! Students were given the brief of creating a colour wheel in photographs. However, this proved to be quite a challenge due to the autumn season, as the main colour in abundance was green! They eventually found an array of colours in the plants and were therefore able to achieve

their brief. The students also had a chance to walk through the trees on the Treetop Walkway, an 18m high walkway that cut through Kew gardens.



Miss Holmes

I went to Birmingham City University and completed a degree in Visual Communication in 2011 and qualified as an artteacher in 2012. I like experimenting with lots of different media and techniques

and am looking forward to sharing them with pupils at Woodrush. My other favourite things are; my dog Dylan, Chocolate and Lye-ins on a Saturday! I also play and umpire netball so you may see me helping out with netball club this year.

Mr Fewell

I originally used to live in Tooting, South London before I moved to the Midlands. I worked as a photographer before I decided I would like a career change and use my skills by going into teaching. One of my photography jobs was photographing Alistair Brownlee the British triathlete who won Gold at the London 2012 Olympics. My personnel interests are cycling and I enjoy playing and watching cricket. I spend part of every summer helping with my church youth camp in Somerset.



Miss Allen

I am the Woodrush Sport and Leisure Development Manager (Manger of the Sport Centre). There are plenty of activities you can come and take part in at the Sport Centre so make sure you keep a look out on the back of the Star for updates! We are currently devising a BRAND NEW, fun and effective fitness programme for all students and the community to attend. This will include some of the new FITNESS CRAZES: ZUMBA, BOKWA, POWER CIRCUITS, BOXERCISE, CROSS FIT and more....

I am a Dance Specialist and I will also be covering maternity leave for Mrs Bridgens this year in the Dance Department. I will also be teaching Dance and Sport in the PE department. It's great to be back at my old school to now teach, it doesn't feel that long ago that I was only a student here and I am sure there is a class photo of me around school ... see if you can spot me! I specialise in many Dance styles from Ballet to Street, so I will be looking to get Woodrush all dancing by the end of the year - Woodrush, so you think you can Dance? I love musicals and I am very excited to hear that Woodrush are staging their own performance of the popular musical Hairspray – it is definitely one of my favourites.



**STAFF
BIO**

HAIRSPRAY



COMING SOON!!!
APRIL 2014
Woodrush High School

Special Delivery

In our summer edition we showed off a picture of our lovely pregnant ladies...well we now have news of the Woodrush babies – at the time of going to press it is just Mrs Bridgen who has not yet given birth but watch this space...Huge congratulations to all our staff featured and their new additions to the Woodrush Family!



Nicole Amelia Price was born on 03/07/13 weighing 6lb 14oz.

Mrs Price



Beaux Kathryn Bannister was born on 01/08/13 weighing 6lb 4oz

Miss Warren



Isla Elisabeth Michell was born on 20/08/13 weighing 6lb 12.5oz

Mrs Michell



Isabella Grace Martin was born on 03/09/13 weighing 7lb 2oz

Mrs Martin



George Phillip Thomas was born on 13/09/13 weighing 8lb 1oz

Miss Williams



Mia Heledd Rowe was born on 23/09/13 weighing 7lb 4.5oz

Mrs Rowe



Dhruv Goswami was born on 27/09/13 weighing 7lb 5oz

Ms Goswami



Harriet Grace Metcalfe-Taylor was born on 28/09/13 weighing 7lb 8oz

Mrs Metcalfe-Taylor



at the time of going to press we are still waiting for baby news from Mrs Bridgen...



Mrs Cassidy

I'm a new Learning Co-ordinator at Woodrush. I haven't been assigned to a house yet as I'll be helping KS3 students for the time being. I previously worked for a charity in the information and advice sector, helping people from all walks of life; I'd like to think I can remain calm in every situation! I love going on holiday and exploring new places, I also love the cinema and enjoy losing myself in a good film as often as possible. When not at work, I have two young children who keep me busy. I'm looking forward to getting to know all the students and staff and Woodrush.



Miss Walton

I am a Teaching Assistant, and after working in several other schools I am pleased to come back to Woodrush. I have really enjoyed my first few weeks here almost as much as I enjoy baking cakes!

In my personal time my two children keep me very busy outside of work but when I do get some spare time I love to socialise with friends and visit relatives.



Mr Mitchell

"Hi! I'm the Digital Communication & Media Technician. My role involves improving aspects of the website, Frog and the information screens around the school. I'm a recent graduate from Keele University, Birmingham City University and a bit of an American Politics geek! As a previous student I have loved my first weeks back at Woodrush and can't wait for the year ahead."



Mr Smith

Hi, I am one of the new teaching assistants and cover supervisors and joined Woodrush this September. I enjoy quite a few sports, football and American football specifically, as well as having a real passion for music. I am really enjoying my time at Woodrush so far, and love being part of the Learning Support Team.



HOLIDAYS BY COACH

Door to Door Service
Friendly Drivers
Special Requests
Pre Booked Seats
Private Day Excursions

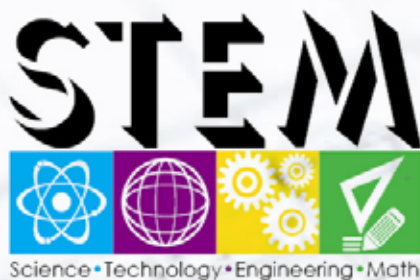
hollywoodtravel@chessbroadband.co.uk
www.hollywoodtravel.co.uk
Tel: 0121 436 6263

A.D.P Wall & Floor Tiling

CALL ANDY ON: 07939 424944

- ◆ **Competitive Rates**
- ◆ **Free Estimates**
- ◆ **Professional Friendly & Expert Service**
- ◆ **Fully Insured**





ICT and Business department

Last academic year the department said goodbye to Mr Kay at Easter, but welcomed Ms Choudhury as their new member of the team. She has settled in very quickly and I am sure she will be a huge asset to the department. We enjoyed a number of trips out including Masterclasses held at Birmingham University and revision sessions last year.

This year, we have a number of trips already organised for the Autumn term, including trips for Year 9 and 10 to Worcester University for an ICT trip, and



trips to Cadbury and Jaguar Land Rover with Business Studies. See what we got up to in the Christmas edition. We have a number of Raspberry Pis (mini computers) in school now and we will be looking at how we can use them in extra-curricular activities. They are already being used in KS5 lessons. Also we have included 2 TVs which we will be using in lessons along with the IPADS.



Remember to look at what is new in ICT and Business Studies on FROG during the year and follow us on twitter

@woodrushictbis.

Miss Choudhury

Hello, my name is Miss Choudhury and I teach ICT at Woodrush. ICT plays such a huge part in all our lives so it is incredibly important to me that my students are enhancing their skills as well as growing a passion in ICT. Pupils and colleagues here have been very welcoming and fantastic to learn from.



I love listening to different types of music and going to concerts. My all-time favourite band is Led Zeppelin. I also enjoy travelling and my favourite place to visit so

far has been Barcelona.

I am incredibly excited about being a part of such a wonderful and inspiring community.

D. Haskell

With a background in tennis coaching, I have always been sporty. In my free time I enjoy running and football, especially the latter... Having always been a fan of anything science I decided to study a degree in Biology at the University of Birmingham. Shortly after this I decided to pursue a career in teaching. I completed the first placement of my PGCE course at Woodrush and therefore new exactly what a fabulous school it would be to work at. I am extremely excited to be back at the school teaching science and look forward to a great year in the science classroom.

Two interesting facts about me:

- Petrified of spiders and heights.
- Went to school with England footballer Theo Walcott



STAFF BIO

J. McDowell

STAFF BIO

As a lover of Sports and Biology I proceeded from my A-levels in St Louis Grammar School, Co. Down, Northern Ireland to study a degree in Sports Science (Physiology) in John Moore's University, Liverpool. This combined my two passions – the physiology of the human body and sports performance.

Following my successful completion and achievement of a First Class Honours in this degree, I travelled to Wales to complete my PGCE in Science teaching at secondary school level at Aberystwyth University. As part of this course I worked as a trainee teacher in two South Wales schools, where I was confronted with the many challenges and enjoyable experiences associated with the career of teaching. Throughout this year I met some wonderful characters (both teachers and pupils) and made many great friends.

Unsurprisingly, my main interests revolve around sports. I play both Soccer and Gaelic football and I follow Manchester United in the English Premier League (and I openly admit this despite their poor start to the current season). I also am a music fan, with a particular love for acoustic guitar which I play. One of my favourite artists is John Mayer (an American guitarist and singer).

An interesting fact about me is that I have won an All-Ireland Senior Football medal as part of the successful team winning the popular televised RTE series 'Celebrity Bainisteoir' in 2008/09. Although I am currently working on winning the 'Best Science Teacher UK' award I have not lost sight of my lifelong goal of becoming a premiership footballer and winning the Champions league cup – it's only a matter of time really before my talent becomes world reknown.



WOODRUSHSTAR

SCHOOL NEWS • SPORT • ART • SCIENCE • ENGLISH • HUMANITIES & MORE

To advertise your business in the Woodrush Star please contact us on 01564 823777 and ask for either Mrs Peters or Mrs Bishop. Alternatively email woodrushstar@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk.

woodrushhighschool.worcs.sch.uk



Miss Holmes



I am a full time mum to two children aged 10 and 7 and in our household we also have a madcap cat called Lois. Some of my favourite books consist of Harry Potter (read them all 3 times over!), The Hunger Games, Jane Eyre and Little Women.

I love the seaside and I used to live in Bournemouth, strangely I hate swimming in the sea but like to swim in a pool when I get the chance. When I get some down time I like going to the cinema but just don't go often enough due to a busy work and family life. Some of my other enjoyments in my spare time are going to see live comedy acts and I make jewellery when I can find the time.

Although I am terrified of heights I like visiting theme parks and my favourite rides are Nemesis & Rita... joint favourites!! I like to travel and some of my best holidays have been to Morocco and Iceland. Driving a snowmobile across a glacier was by far an amazing experience I will never forget!

GCSE Science Revision Apps

You can now purchase GCSE Science revision apps from the App Store. There are revision notes, quizzes and games for all the topics on the GCSE Science syllabus. This is particularly for students in Years 10+11 studying GCSE Science. They cost £1.49 each and can be used on the iPod touch, iPhone and iPad. Once downloaded, use the OCR Gateway section.



C Hempson



As I have always enjoyed science I completed my degree in Biology at the University of Leeds. The University of Birmingham offered a teacher training course that stood out from the rest, and having links

in the West Midlands made this an easy choice for my place of study. I spent my first placement at Woodrush and loved the school so much so when the science teacher positions became available in the spring I jumped at the opportunity. Once qualified I spent the remainder of the school year working as a teacher and teaching assistant in a Special

Needs school back in Cambridge to gain some more experience. I am a keen sports person and enjoy playing badminton, tennis, hockey and ultimate Frisbee. I am currently training for the Birmingham half marathon, raising money for Cancer Research which is a charity I regard highly. Having lost some close family members at young ages, and my granddad just receiving the all clear, I hope that I can influence and motivate more pupils to go into science careers and maybe one day one of my pupils will have taken a part in the battle against cancer.

Maths Competitions at Open Evening

Woodrush ran a really successful open evening on Thursday 19th September and the Maths Department ran 2 competitions for year 6 pupils.

Adam from Fairway Primary school won the competition to complete a torture square in the fastest time – he completed this torture square in 4 minutes 52 seconds – could you beat his time

X	8	3	5	12	1	4	6	10	2	11	7	9
11												
2												
5												
12												
8												
1												
7												
4												
9												
6												
10												
3												

Mr Walton

I am married with two children young children: Isaac 6 and James 3. I moved to Woodrush High from a school in Tamworth called Landau Forte Academy QEMs. One of my previous jobs I worked in the telecommunications industry in the United Kingdom and the United States prior to training to become a teacher. I like to travel and I have been to a number of places on around the world including Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, Bali



I love sport and the outdoors and I used to compete for Solihull Athletics Club in a number of events, but primarily High Jump (I can jump more than my own height - or used to be able to!) I also

represented West Midlands Schools at English Schools Athletics championships whilst at school. I enjoy walking, camping and skiing and I am just about to run the Birmingham Half Marathon.



Hooting Halloween Owls

Cooking time:

Ready in 30-35 mins,
plus cooling and decorating

Skill level: Easy

Servings: Makes 12

Delicious and simple chocolate cup cakes to make with the kids at Halloween - real crowd-pleasers

Ingredients:

- 280g butter, softened
- 280g golden caster sugar
- 200g self-raising flour, minus 1 rounded tbsp
- 1 rounded tbsp cocoa powder
- 6 medium eggs

For icing and decoration

- 200g butter, softened
- 280g icing sugar, sifted
- 1 tube orange ready-to-use icing
- 1 small bag Maltesers
- 1 tube choco M&Ms minis (use just the brown sweets) or Cadbury's mini buttons
- 1 tub jelly diamonds (just orange ones)

Method:

- Heat oven to 190C/fan 170C/gas 5. Line a 12-cup muffin tin with brown muffin cases. Beat the first 5 ingredients to a smooth batter and spoon between the cases, almost filling them to the top. You may have a little left over. Bake for 20-25 mins until risen and spongy. Cool on a rack.
- Beat the butter and icing sugar until smooth. Slice off the very tops of the cakes and cut each piece in half. Spread a generous layer of icing over each cake.
- Working on one cake at a time, squirt a pea-sized blob of orange icing onto two Maltesers and use to fix a brown M&M on each. Sit the eyes, two pieces of cake top (curved edge up) and a jelly diamond on the icing to make an owl.

Maths About Me

The Maths department ran a house competition in September called Maths About Me. Students were asked to describe themselves using numbers; from how many siblings they had to how old they were in years, months, hours and even seconds! Students created posters to display this information and were very creative. We had some with

answers hidden under flaps, 3D versions and collage backgrounds too. The Maths department picked 20 finalists and the winners were chosen on Open Evening by prospective Year 6 students. The winners were as follows:

- First place - Lucy B - 8B2
- Second place-Kajol G - 8L2
- Third place-Jade H - 9L1

Look out in the next edition for winners of the October competition where students are being asked to draw a cartoon character version of one of the Maths teachers....



1st



2nd

3rd



In our second year of running STEM club, our student teams have entered and are now building and programming robots to compete in the First Lego League National competition! At STEM club, students take of the roll of engineers and scientists to explore the awe-inspiring storms, quakes, waves and more that we call natural disasters. The teams currently consist of a mixture of existing STEM club students from years 8 to 10 and enthusiastic newcomers from Year 7. They are currently preparing for this years' national Lego challenge 'Nature's Fury'. Teams will discover what can be done when intense natural events meet the places people live, work, and play. The teams are currently building, testing, and programing an autonomous robot using LEGO Robotics kits to solve a set of missions in the National Robot Games. Regional Tournaments are to take place between November and December 2013!

As well as the possibility of entering a national competition with our robots, our students have also been eligible to apply for a CREST award. Universities, colleges and employers are looking for people who can problem solve, work hard and work well with other people. A CREST Award says 'I can do this!' CREST Awards are also endorsed by UCAS for use in personal statements. If you would like to become involved in STEM club, please see Mr. Roberts in S6 or just turn up on the day! Every Tuesday from 2:50-3:50.

GREAT NEWS!

A special well done to William who has managed to win a place at the finals of the National Science + Engineering Competition 2013-2014 to be held at The Big Bang: UK Young Scientists Engineers Fair!

Excellent effort William!

Ms Goswami - Design Technology



COME AND JOIN STEM CLUB
OPEN TO ALL KS3 STUDENTS
STARTS TUES 17th SEPT
2.50-3.50 IN S6



Sporting Opportunities at Woodrush

Would you like to be part of a winning team? Do you fancy representing Woodrush in a sports team? Do you fancy having fun and keeping fit at the same time?

The PE department have a fantastic selection of clubs which give you the opportunities to develop your sporting skills and keep fit and healthy. Woodrush had several sporting successes during last year and we are really keen to continue this during 2013-14. The PE department are always looking for fresh faces to join the already fantastic sports teams that are available and to help keep Woodrush at the top of the game!

You have the opportunities to join the more traditional sports such as netball, football, rugby and hockey teams. However, if these sports are not for you then why not try out ultimate frisbee, zumba, power circuits, boxercise, trampoline, badminton, indoor athletics, gymnastics, aerobics, multi skills or many more of the wide range of activities PE have to offer.



**JOIN THE
REVOLUTION FOOTBALL ACADEMY**
ENJOY.DEVELOP.ACHIEVE

FOUNDED BY ANDY SINTON
EX-ENGLAND INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLER





"THE REVOLUTION FOOTBALL ACADEMY IS COMMITTED TO HELPING CHILDREN OF ALL ABILITIES AGED 6-14 ACHIEVE THEIR POTENTIAL"
ANDY SINTON, EX-ENGLAND INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLER

RUN BY ANDY SINTON, EX-ENGLAND INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALLER
COACHING BY EX-PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS AND UEFA / FA QUALIFIED COACHES
DEVELOP TECHNICALLY, PHYSICALLY & SOCIALLY

BIRMINGHAM ACADEMY TIMES & LOCATIONS

TUESDAYS	5:30 - 6:30	PM	OLTON
FRIDAYS	5:30 - 7:30	PM	SOLIHULL
SATURDAYS	9:00 - 10:00	AM	WYTHALL

FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO BOOK YOUR CHILDS PLACE
VISIT WWW.REVOLUTIONFOOTBALL.CO.UK OR CALL 07796 688985 NOW!

Sports clubs at Woodrush Autumn Term 2013				
Day	Activity	who	Where	Staff
Monday	Netball	All years	Sports hall/courts	Mrs Brown/Miss Loomes
	Boxercise	All years	Gym	Mr Rogers
Tuesday	Ultimate frisbee	Key Stage 4	Astro	Miss Rigley
	Football	Yr 7&9 boys	Astro	Mr Maidment/
Wednesday	Rugby	Yr7&8 boys	Field	Mr Rogers
	Netball fixtures	Yr 9 girls	See fixture sheet	Mrs Brown
Thursday	Hockey	All years	Astro	Miss Price
	Football	Yr10&11 boys	Astro	Mr Cannon/ Mr Maidment
Friday	Netball fixtures	Yr 8 girls	See fixture sheet	Mrs Brown
	Girls Football	All Years	Astro	Mr Thewlis
	Badminton	All Years	Sports hall	Miss Price
	Football	Year 8 boys	Astro	Mr Rogers



Netball

We have had a brilliant start to the netball season winning the majority of our matches played so far! We have over 40 girls attending netball club on a Monday after school which is fantastic! If you are interested in becoming part of the Woodrush netball squad then please come along too!! The more the merrier!! Thank you to all the girls who have shown such commitment and dedication already this season! Also, a big thanks also to Miss Loomes who is helping with our netball squad this year!

Year 7 netball squad

The year 7s have got a really promising team coming together and it has been fantastic to see so many enthusiastic girls turning up to training every Monday. We are really looking forward to playing in the Year 7 District tournament next half term which we will hopefully have as much success as our Year 8&9 teams!

Year 8 netball squad

Overall, the year 8 team has had a brilliant start to the season only losing two of their matches so far! They have really started to gel together as a team and the standard of netball is improving each week. We look forward to the team having many more wins this season!

Year 9 netball squad

The year 9 netball team have started the season on even better form than last year!! The team who were District champions in both year 7&8 are determined to make it a hat-trick by becoming champions for the third year running! They have had an amazing start winning all their matches they have played so far! The level of netball played is exceptional and the girls should be proud of themselves! Keep it up girls!!



County Netball here we come....

A big congratulations to Hannah (9C2), Sophie (9C1) and Jess (11C1) who have been selected to attend the County and Satellite academies for netball West Midlands. They were nominated to attend the Talent ID workshop in September where trials for County and satellite netball took place to identify talented athletes. Hannah, Sophie and Jess have all been selected to become part



of the County and Netball Academies. The academies are focused on training individual skills and helping every player reach their potential. Players at each County Academy are invited to



the regional festival where they play a Versatility Tournament against the other academies. It is in this arena that some athletes are then scouted to attend the West Midlands Pre Screening. We look forward to hearing about all future successes from our star netballers!!



U14 Boys Football Woodrush H.S. versus Christopher Whitehead H.S.

Congratulations to Woodrush year 9 boys' football team who secured their first win of the season away to Christopher Whitehead in the cup. On a mild afternoon, the game started off evenly with both teams having a fair share of the ball. Woodrush looked promising



on the attack with Reece P and Tom A threading balls through to the wingers and lone striker Corey G. It wasn't long before Woodrush pounced after a scruffy clearance in a crowded area as Liam S tapped in from a yard away. Conor D bagged the second of the match when his swerving effort flew over the goalkeeper's head. Many efforts were saved by the Christopher Whitehead keeper. However, Corey G scored just before half time with a good finish. The second half looked bright for both sides when Christopher Whitehead netted with a header. Reece P made it 4-1 when he converted from around a yard out. Woodrush looked in control as they continued to press when Aman S intercepted a goal kick well before miscuing a shot that found Tom A who then slipped the ball in from inside the box. Corey G got his 2nd of the match to make it 6-1 with a powerful shot. Christopher Whitehead hit back with a well struck penalty that Joe B could only watch fly past his fingertips. Although Aman S came very close with a run and a shot that was parried and Reece P had a deflected shot saved onto the bar, the match ended 6-2 and Woodrush High progressed to the next round of the cup!

The defence looked solid and Reece P and Tom A played well in the middle of the park with some great passes and a goal each. Corey G got two very good goals as the boys were just too strong for the home team. A great win that sees Woodrush through to the next round of the cup!
Aman S / Mr Maidment

Winning Start for Year 8

The Year 8 Football team started the year well with a convincing 5-2 victory in the County Cup against Droitwich.

Woodrush got off to a bright start and tested the Droitwich keeper early on numerous occasions. The wet conditions suited Woodrush's passing game and we found ourselves 2-0 up within the first 15mins down to some good fortune and good finishing with Ross N and Harry C providing the goals. Woodrush continued to dominate play with Ben F, Jordan M and Charlie S looking assured in possession. Droitwich managed to pull a goal back but a solid backline limited them

to few attempts with Lewis G a force in defence. The second half continued much as the first had started as the Woodrush frontline peppered the Droitwich goal with several attempts and the score line was soon increased to 4-2 with Woodrush looking comfortable. The best was saved until last as Ross N took the ball on the turn and fired in a low shot across goal into the corner to round off a great victory which sees Woodrush into the second round of the County Cup.

Goalscorers: Harry C (x2), Ross N (x2), James H

Man of the Match: Charlie S

Hit for 6

The Year 10 Football team secured their first win of the season in a goal fest that finished 6-4 to the hosts.

The game started brightly with both teams battling hard for the ball in the midfield. When Woodrush exploited the wings we looked dangerous in attack with Scott S and Adam S looking particular threatening down the left. The game was very much end to end and the score went back forth just as much

as with each team taking it turns to lead the game. Our crossing was looking good so it was no wonder that Tom A and Adam S both provided assists from out wide to set up Cameron J and Donovan P. Some costly mistakes in the middle from Woodrush led to North Bromsgrove scoring a couple of goals as we led 3-2 at half time.

We sured things up in the second half as we looked much more dominant in the middle. Donovan P put on a lesson in finishing as he finished the game with no less than 4 goals. His variety of goals showed his class up top and he rounded them off with a stunning finish from 25 yards. We continued to govern the midfield and looked good possession, and a silky solo run from Ashley M rounded off the scoring as he skipped past numerous North defenders before slotting a cool finish in the bottom corner.

The team seem to have found their goalscoring touch and hope to see this continue into the next game!

Goalscorers: Donovan P (4), Cameron J, Ashley M

MOTM: Scott S

8 for Year 8

The Year 8 Football continued their good start to the season by winning their first league game 8-0.

The game started a little slowly and whilst Woodrush dominated possession we didn't create any clear chances to test their keeper. Ross N broke the deadlock after a defence splitting pass from the midfield gave him the chance to score with a tidy finish. This got Woodrush in the mood and we imposed our passing style on the opposition. Charlie S and Jordan M were dominating the middle of the park and spraying balls to both wings allowing Kyle E and James H to get on the offensive. Harry G continued his goalscoring form with a blistering strike the pick of his brace, and James H helped himself to a hat-trick with some neat finishing. During all this, Luke W and Lewis G kept things tight at the back and were winning the majority of the headers, limiting Ridgeway attacking options. Despite being the smallest player on the pitch, Jackson J managed to score a header on his debut for the school, whilst another debutant scored the goal of the game. Brandon M cut in from the right wing and let fly with an effort that nestled in the top corner whilst the keeper could only watch. Confidence is high in the football team and they could go on a good run if they maintain their work rate and level of performance. Well done boys!

All Square at Trinity

The Year 10 Football team started their season with a 2-2 draw away at Trinity despite a largely dominating performance.

Woodrush were the slower starters in the game as they looked to dust off some cobwebs after the summer break and finally got into their stride 10 minutes into the game. Jack F was looking good going forward and whilst Donovan P and Kieren F were getting on the ball and looking dangerous. Scott S was putting in some great set pieces and Woodrush took a deserved lead from one of his corners with Kieren F scoring a great header. Woodrush looked to press from here on with Donovan P unlucky not to score. A second goal was finally scored when Kieren F turned provider and Oli H tucked away his chance. Unfortunately Woodrush could not hold on to the lead and found themselves level before half time with two tidy finishes from the hosts. Chances continued to be created but they could just not find the back of the net and on another day, four or five could easily have been scored. Oli H had a couple of good chances in the box whilst Kieren F was unfortunate not to double his tally from the penalty spot. Woodrush expected to open with a win and probably deserved to but it wasn't their day in front of goal.

Goalscorers: Kieren F, Oli H
MOTM: Jack F

Gr-8 Start for Year 7 Football

The Year 7 Football Team started their Woodrush careers with an emphatic 8-0 victory over Aston Fields which sees them through to the next round of the County Cup. Woodrush dominated the game from start to finish as Aston Fields barely entered our half, with Ewan B making a few saves to earn his first clean sheet. We kept the ball well but were kept waiting for our first goal, but boy was it worth the wait! Kyle E, playing a holding role in midfield, let fly with a rocket from all of 35 yards which was straight in the top corner. This goal opened the flood gates as our midfield kept creating chances with Charlie S and Louix G getting on the ball and starting the attacks. Jackson J and Brandon M were looking dangerous on the wings and their trickery enabled them to get crosses into the box. Kyle E managed to bag another whilst Ben E also grabbed a brace. Louix G got on the scoresheet as well as Charlie S before Tyrese CF crept in at the back post to score minutes after coming on. Brandon M rounded off the scoring with a mazy solo dribble. The attacking



prowess of the team shouldn't take all the credit however, as Ellis R and co at the back looked solid and sure in defence. With performances and hard work like today, Year 7 can be hopeful of a good cup run this year. Well done lads!

Goalscorers: Kyle E (2), Ben E(2), Louix G, Brandon M, Tyrese CF, Charlie S
Man of the Match: Kyle E

Year 7 : 7 a side Football Tournament

Woodfield Middle School 8th Sydney B, Morgan C, Darcy S, Hannah G, Emily M, Rebecca P

A Woodrush team of 6 (due to a player being unavailable), took part in a 7 a side football competition at Woodfield Middle School in Redditch. For most of the girls, it was the first time they had experienced girls competitive team football and they all represented Woodrush marvellously! Even with a girl down in all their games, the



team were able to progress to the semi-finals of the competition. The team rotated positions and everyone played really well with each player giving 100% effort! Well done to the team, and just think what the final score could have been with a full team!

COME AND PLAY

HOCKEY

KINGS HEATH HOCKEY CLUB

Junior Training for all ages from 5-17
on the Astro Pitch here every Sunday 10.00-12.00
 no experience necessary we have fully qualified coaches to help you learn how to play

www.kingsheathhockey.org.uk kingsheathhockey@hotmail.co.uk

A weekend to remember for Ex-Woodrush students

Ex-Woodrush student Sone Aluko scored his first Premier League goal at the weekend when in the 76th minute the 24-year-old striker met substitute George Boyd's cross with the sweetest of left-foot volleys to send the ball crashing in off the post from the edge of the area.

Sone's winner completed a joyous family double: his sister Eniola Aluko also an ex-Woodrush student scored the final goal in England's 6-0 victory over Belarus in a women's World Cup qualifier in Bournemouth on Saturday 21st September.

Mr
Maidment



**HOLLYTREES
ANIMAL
RESCUE TRUST**

**HOLLYTREES BOARDING
KENNELS AND CATTERY**

OPENING TIMES 11am TILL 4pm SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
With the exception of Christmas and Boxing Day
view by appointment only

**HOLLYTREES ANIMAL RESCUE TRUST
HOLLYTREES KENNELS
PACKHORSE LANE
HOLLYWOOD
Nr BIRMINGHAM B47 5DH
Telephone or Fax 01564 823244
Registered Charity 1072094**

Woodrush Rugby Club Needs YOU!

Are you the next Chris Ashton or Chris Robshaw?

Well, put down your Xbox360 and your PSP
and pick up a rugby ball at your local rugby club.

'The Mini and Junior section of
Woodrush RFC are looking for
boys and girls from U6's (3½ - 6)
up to U12's and boys up to U16's
to join our experienced and
RFU trained coaches'

Interested?

Contact Bob Boden at Woodrush RFC on
07966 310923
or check out our website
www.pitchero.com/clubs/woodrush

Find us on

Training and matches on **Fridays** and **Sunday mornings** at Woodrush Rugby Club on Icknield Street, not far from the 'Beckett's Farm' island in Wythall. A family club with many of the mini and junior players attending local community schools - come and try it and bring your Moms and Dads too!

TOUGH ENOUGH RECRUITING NOW

The few, the proud the bold.

WOODRUSH RFC

Icknield Street, Forhill, Birmingham. B38 0EL

Follow us

/PITCHERO

If you are looking to play rugby and interested in joining Woodrush RFC visit us on pitch hero, contact us on or simply pop in to the club for more information.



Woodrush Youth, Sports & Community Centre

Woodrush Sports Centre Facilities to hire:

- Flood-lit astro turf pitch
- Sports Hall
- 4 Badminton Courts
- Tennis Courts
- Senior grass football pitch (91m x 59m)
- Junior grass football pitch (82m x 46m)
- School Hall with stage

Woodrush Sports Centre Birthday Parties

- NEW Animal Party
- Football Party
- Multi-sports Party
- Jungle inflatable party
- Fun & Party Games



Look out for Festive Activities running over the Christmas Holiday Period - activities include:

1. Weekly Late Night Festive Drop 'N' Shop Activities for children between 5.30pm-8.30pm, to give parents time to get the last minute gifts.
2. Festive Football Fun 3. Christmas Craft and Cooking Workshops 4. Santa's Sports Days

NEW refurbished Artificial Grass Pitch will be opening Week Commencing Monday 2nd December 2013

- *NEW 1/3 Split Sections
- *NEW Team Shelters
- *NEW two 7 aside goals

- to book or reserve a slot please contact Woodrush Sports Centre T. 01564 820 099 or E. lettings@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk
Prices are as follows:

Facility

Full AGP

Adult: £87.00

Child: £69.00

1/3 AGP

Adult: £29.00

Child: £23.00

*invoiced 10 week block bookings qualify for a 10% discount

For more information or to book, contact Woodrush Sports Centre on:

Tel: 01564 820 099

E: lettings@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

Due to further Capital development, Woodrush Sport Centre's Holiday Programme will not be running over the October Half Term Week.



Editors: Mrs J Peters & Mrs C Bishop

E: woodrushstar@woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

W: www.woodrushhigh.worcs.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mr C King MSc, PGCE, NPQH

Woodrush High School,

An Academy for Students Aged 11-18,

Shawhurst Lane, Wythall, Worcestershire B47 5JW

T: 01564 823777 F: 01564 820092



© 2013 Woodrush High School. The Woodrush Star is published by Woodrush High School

The use of school photos, videos and other digitally held material for publicity purposes. We often use pictures, names and videos for students for publicity purposes. In our weekly Friday newsletter The Woodrush Branch, and our magazine the Woodrush Star, we like to acknowledge and celebrate our student's achievements, resulting in photos and names of students being printed. If you would prefer your child's name/image not to be used for such purposes, please contact the school and the necessary arrangements will be made.

Design by : www.craiglippett.co.uk

Printed by: www.supaprint.com



SupaPrint

