

## Woodlane High School

achieving success in a nurturing environment

## **Blacklands Farm Camping trip**

I went to Black Lanbs Farm for 3 nights and 2 days with year 9 and 10. We spent the night camping and the days doing activities. For lunch we made cheese and tuna sandwiches before building our tents for sleeping.

During the afternoons we did zip lining, rock climbing and canoeing which was fun. We climbed up a ladder

and then onto a zip line which was attached to a tree. The ride was cool. It was fast. It was going towards the floor then it went back up. For rock climbing we were in groups of 4 where 3 people had to hold the 1 person who was climbing. We had to hoist them 3 times on both sides of the rock climbing. For canoeing we paddled for an hour as one big group which was cool. We had 2 guides to look after us in the water. I had fun.

Written by: T(9JJ)

## **Year 7 Afternoon Tea**

Year 7 have been busy this term learning about the tradition of afternoon tea. We have learnt how to make a cup of tea, with a great debate about when to put the milk in the cup! Decorated cupcakes, pizza wheels, sandwiches, scones with strawberry jam, dips, fruit kebabs and smoothies were amongst dishes made in Woodlane's kitchen. It would be great to keep these independent living skills going throughout the summer, as allowing pupils time in the kitchen making simple dishes really enhances their self-confidence!



## **Culture Theme Day**

Culture Theme Day took place on Tuesday 22nd June. It was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to learn about other world cultures, customs and languages! Pupils loved taking part in 6 different workshops. They learnt new football skills in Brazilian Futsal and how to say some key phrases in Portuguese, for example 'Pasa a bola'. They also learnt the basics in a new language in the Woodlane Language Lab. Languages taught were Filipino, Arabic, Polish, Portuguese and German. 9MU loved the Filipino session with P (Year 9) the star of the session! Pupils were able to cook and taste their own French crêpe in the International Flavours session and then check their knowledge of the recipe afterwards (in the French quiz workshop). Salsa dancing was a popular choice for pupils and they thoroughly



enjoyed the Latin American dance moves and music! During their Art session, pupils designed a world flag superhero by creating a flag costume for them. K (Year 10) designed a brilliant 'Captain Grenada'! Finally, pupils took part in an African Drumming Session called 'World Beats Drumming' with a specialist musician. They learnt how to play the Djembe drums and how to create their own rhythms. It was a really enjoyable day and pupil feedback was extremely positive. Many pupils said they cannot wait for next year's Culture Theme day!

N said "!It was fun to learn how to count in Polish. I got a little confused about the flicks on top of some of the letters." A said "I enjoyed the challenge of counting in Polish. It was fun as well."

S said "It was great fun and I learnt a lot about other cultures."







## Parents training sessions

This term we have had some interesting training sessions for parents to attend. On Thursday June 17th we had our Autism training where parents learnt about how Autism may affect individual pupils, some support strategies and access to further information and autism resources for parents.

On May 24th 2021 we had a training session regarding pupils mental health. This training was delivered by our Anna Freud psychologist, Cyra Neeve, who attends school every Tuesday to work with individual pupils. Training involved discussion around breaking the stigma around our mental health, learning about changes to mental health support in the UK, key factors in enhancing our own well-being, practical skills in talking to children about their own mental health and how to show empathy when talking to pupils in a low mood.

Both evening trainings were well-informed and helped parents think about their own child's needs and how to best support them in their education and the outside world.



about Autism

## Year 11 Leavers

This term we said goodbye to our fantastic year 11s. Due to covid-19 restrictions we couldn't do our usual celebrations, so instead we threw a party to celebrate all their achievements.

Thank you to all our current students and staff who wished them good luck and made their last day so memorable. We look forward to seeing what these young adults accomplish!









## Sports



We had lots of events on Sports Day, it made me so tired. I was on the yellow team which won the tug of war! We had running races, football, javelin, moon ball and water races which was nice because it was hot! Moon ball is a game where a ball is in the middle and we have to get it to cross the other teams line without kicking it. It was hard but fun. I also scored 4 goals in football!

Written by: J (8EA)



"I was on the red team. We won a few of the tug of war battles, but my favourite part of the day was the sack race. I felt good at the end of the day but a little tired." - Z "I was also on the red team, and I enjoyed the sack race too! Plus, I thought the sponge race was pretty fun. After sports day I was so hot and tired, but it was still fun." - A

# Sensory circuits at home

#### What is a sensory circuit?

Sensory circuits are similar in function to a gym circuit, but instead of focusing on fitness, they focus on supporting arousal. Arousal is the body's level of alertness and it can range from sleepy to highly stressed. In order to learn, a student needs to have adequate arousal to focus. Sensory circuits help students with this.

#### Indicators that sensory circuits might be required:

- Fidgets, rocks on chair, makes inappropriate noises, deliberately distracts others always on the go
- Slow to start work, lethargic, dreamy, doesn't seem to be listening or aware
- Struggles to focus on even short tasks and remember instructions
- Poor coordination and balance
- Struggles to control emotions

#### Before you start:

It is important to consider the individual needs of the child, setting a goal is a great way to monitor if the circuit has been helpful. If your child is super fidgety and inattentive, the goal may be that they are able to sit and concentrate on homework for 15 minutes.

If you have a child who is very fidgety then movement to increase their arousal coupled with heavy work to finish should help. This could include pushing, pulling and yoga.

If your child needs to calm down, yoga, heavy work like lifting and breathing activities should be in the circuit.

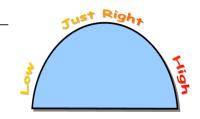
#### Setting up a circuit:

Circuits look very different from house to house, as it will depend on what space and equipment is available. It should also depend on the needs of the children that are doing the circuit.

It can be helpful to schedule the circuit into the daily timetable. Parents of children who are easily overloaded find them helpful when their child arrives home from school.

#### Activities that could help:

- Physical activities: jumping jacks, running on the spot, stretching, wall push ups, pull a theraband, play catch, skipping, hopscotch or balancing beam
- Make and crawl through a tunnel
- Sensory activities: roll out playdoh with a rolling pin, using scissors, water play,
- Calming activities: yoga, stretching, kneel statues, superman (lying on stomach with feet and arms up in air), breathing exercises, hot dog (roll child up in a blanket and leave for 30 seconds then roll out and repeat)







**Alerting:** This provides vestibular stimulation, preparing the brain for learning and for the demands of the school environment.

**Organising:** This includes activities that

require multi-sensory processing and balance. People need to organise their body, plan their approach and do more than one thing at a time in a particular order (sequence).

Calming: Calming

activities involve deep pressure to the muscles and ensure that as students leave the circuit and return to class they are calm but alert and ready for learning again. It's always better to finish your circuit with a green activity.



Star Jumps



Walk heel to toe on line



Blanket



It was such a pleasure to welcome back the fantastic Globe Players to Woodlane and to experience the joy of the theatre after such a long break.

The company performed and commented on sections of Shakespeare's plays to a very responsive and engaged student audience.

The show was a great way to open up the world of live Shakespeare to our pupils and they asked some very interesting and thought-provoking questions in the Q&A session at the end of the show. Thank you to everyone for their immaculate behaviour and positive feedback.



### Simple Science: Nature journaling

A nature journal is a great way to encourage kids to be creative and really pay attention to what's going on around them. All you need is a blank journal (you can buy one or make your own) along with something to write with. Then just go outside and encourage your children to write or draw what they notice. This could include descriptions of animals they see, tracings of leaves, a drawing of a beautiful flower, etc. Encourage your kids to ask questions about what they observe (Why do birds need to build nests? Why is this flower so brightly coloured?) and explain to them that scientists collect research by doing exactly what they're doing now.

#### **Materials Needed**

Blank journal or notebook Pens/pencils/crayons/ markers Tape or glue for adding items to the journal



#### What to include in a nature journal

- Leaf and tree rubbings
- Sketches
- Watercolor paintings (we also love watercolor crayons)
- Poetry
- Quotes
- Statistics
- Pressed flowers
- Nature stamp art: collect rocks, acorns, and other hard objects, then dip them in paint and use as stamps.
- Lists of birds, flowers and insects you have observed.
- Record the seasons of a tree: photograph or draw a tree once each season to observe how it changes.
- Photographs
- Record animal tracks seen in your yard or on a nature walk. Try to identify them.
- Seeds to plant: when planting your yard, tape a seed to the page and draw or glue a picture of the plant next to it once it has grown.

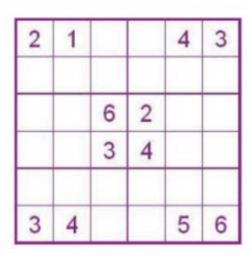
### Attendance Update

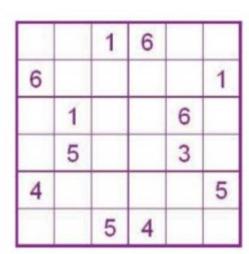
At Woodlane we feel that pupils should be attending school regularly in order to get the most out of their education. All pupils should be aiming for 98% attendance with the expectation that they will also arrive on time for school everyday.

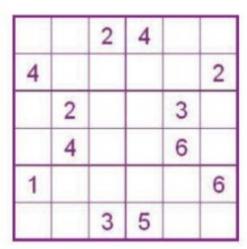
All for one gift cards have been awarded to all pupils who have managed to achieve an **outstanding 100% attendance** this term. This is particularly impressive during Covid! These pupils are:

KS3
S 7KR
C 7KR
J 8SI
R 8SI
J 9MU
R 9MU

KS4 K 10SW K 10SW







PERFECT ATTENDANCE

### Ingredients:

450g of semi-sweet chocolate 36 Oreo cookies, finely crushed 250g cream cheese



#### Method:

Remove 1 Tbsp. cookie crumbs; set aside. Mix cream cheese and remaining cookie crumbs until well blended. Shape into 42 (1-inch) balls. Refrigerate 30 min.

Melt chocolate as directed on package. Dip balls in chocolate; place in single layer on parchment or waxed paper-covered baking sheet. Sprinkle with reserved cookie crumbs.

Refrigerate 1 hour or until firm.

# A fond farewel

be leaving such wonderful students and staff at such an amazing school, but I am happy to be moving closer to my family and the countryside, and closer to my dream of owning joyable teaching experience I've ever had, and I have learned so much from all of you! I feel incredibly lucky to have been dancing! I hope one day I can come back to visit and see how you have continued to grow into brilliant young people. I will always cherish the memories I have of Woodlane and never 📆 forget you! Stay positive, enjoy your time here, and keep rising to the challenges before you, as you have shown yourselves so capable of doing. Most of all, have fun in life and in learning!



I will miss you all. Be brilliant! Miss Roberts



Also, a big goodbye and good luck to:

Chloe Yasmin James

A wonderful bunch of TA's!

I have had a wonderful 4 and half years at Woodlane! I have really enjoyed teaching you and seeing you all develop into fantastic young people. You have made my time at Woodlane unforgettable. I hold so many fond memories. I have appreciated the hard work and enthusiasm you have all shown in my lessons. I will look back on my time at Woodlane with pride, satisfaction, laughter and happiness of how far you have all come, and I will always remember you. You are so lucky to have fantastic teachers and TA's, so keep working hard and push yourself to achieve your full potential! Remember to live a healthy lifestyle, eat as healthy as you can and exercise regularly. Continue to win lots of sports matches and competitions and maintain the reputation that 'WOODLANE IS THE BEST!'

'Never say never because limits, like fears are just ILLUSIONS'. (Michael Jordan).

THU THU THU THU THE

Have an amazing summer holiday. Mr Best





A yearly occurrence we had Eco Day last week where pupils came together to help look after the environment and clean up the school. Pupils participated in a variety of activities like sanding benches, cleaning windows, picking up rubbish, sweeping and weeding our vegetable patch!

Pupils and staff came together to get the job done!

A big thank-you to Miss. Wieliczko for organising the event.



J said "I enjoyed cleaning the windows and doing an adult job ." M said "I enjoyed cleaning the windows."

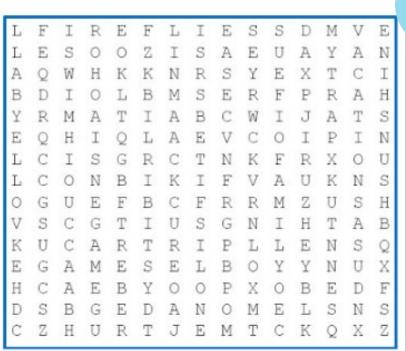
## Summer Fun Word Search

BARBECUE LEMON.
BATHINGSUIT PARTY
BEACH BOAT PICNI
CAR TRIP POOL
CHALK SUNGL
FAMILY SUNSH
FIREFLIES SWIM
FIREWORKS TOWEL
FRIENDS VACAT
FUN VOLLE

GAMES

ICE CREAM

LEMONADE
PARTY
PICNIC
POOL
SUNGLASSES
SUNSHINE
SWIM
TOWEL
VACATION
VOLLEYBALL
ZOO



Provided By Chicken Scratch NY

## **Art Theme Day**

On Wednesday the 30th of June was the Art theme day at Woodlane! The event was organised by Mr Freitas and Miss Corless with some help from our new student Arts council. There were a range of exciting activities that covered different areas of the Arts, such as 3D modelling, creating seascapes, spray painting, Drama workshops, Pointillism, cooking and an Anime and Manga workshop. Feedback from students was fantastic and everyone enjoyed the activities on offer, we are already looking forward to planning next year's Art theme day! Thank you all for making it such a successful day.











## Thank-you Mr.

card or loan.

### 

Board games such as Monopoly and Life can be a fun way for kids to learn about money.

Explaining the concept of credit early and reinforcing it often will help kids mature into financially informed young adults who will be ready for the responsibility of a credit

Teaching kids about money can be a part of regular household routines such as going to the grocery store. Tell your child what your budget is and make a game of buying what you need under that set amount. Bring a calculator to check the cost! Make sure your child has a safe place to keep their money. Letting them pick out a cool piggy bank or wallet is a great start.

Go with your child to the bank and open up an account. This is the perfect opportunity to weave in more advanced financial concepts. And the value of saving and not always spending their money.

Kids are able to do more chores and help out around the house. Whether or not you tie chores to an allowance, it's a good idea to get your child into the habit of managing their own money.

# Message from the Head

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a year that was truly full of highs and lows. Optimism about beating Covid turned to the sad reality of another lockdown. We bounced back to school in March, managed to open up a little and offered some experiences and opportunities paused over the last year. We have seen bubbles and social distancing become the norm, and so many adaptions to school/home life to keep our community safe.

Throughout the year, I have been continually impressed by the positivity of the pupils and their adaptability in the most challenging of circumstances. I don't think we would have found the energy without their enthusiasm and excitement for learning, (online and in person) and we want to say a big thank you to them all! I also have to thank all



the staff who have worked so hard this year. Everyone has their own personal circumstances and we have had to learn lots of new things, but without fail, staff have been on hand throughout the difficult times to support all pupils and hopefully this has not gone unnoticed.

During periods of self-isolation or closure, many pupils have stood out for exceptional engagement. I want to name just a few and I am sorry that I cannot name you all! A in Y8 completed every piece of work during closure and it was a joy to see him in lessons. Y in Y10 joined every live learning lesson and contributed significantly. F in Y10 joined lessons despite being stuck out of the country! During the most recent bubble closure for Y7, C, E and S were fantastic attenders and contributed well in every live lesson.

Our Year 11 pupils have experienced potentially the biggest disruption to their time in school. However, I hope the wonderful end of Year 11 send off Miss Corless organised, and the teacher assessed grades that all staff worked so hard to support are the best rewards for the hard work you have put in over 5 years at Woodlane!

I have loved our Thursday assemblies, where we have been able to showcase the great things pupils have been doing across school. We have had guest speakers each week, and the videos, pictures and contributions pupils have made have brightened up the week! This is something we will be continuing with next year.

The progress of pupils this year has been consistently good, with the a high proportion of pupils continuing to make outstanding progress in many subjects, despite the disruption. We know we have more to do in 2021/22 to help pupils catch up, and this is a big part of our planning. Our recent pupil survey, (PASS) shows that pupils have continued to be in good spirits in this difficult time, with questions related to pupils 'Attitudes to Teachers', 'Feelings about School' and 'Preparedness for Learning' receiving overwhelmingly positive responses.

A big congratulations to our 2021 Pupil Award winners, as voted by staff across the school. In particular, I want to say a huge well done to H in Year 10, for winning this year's Role Model Award. H has consistently shown the

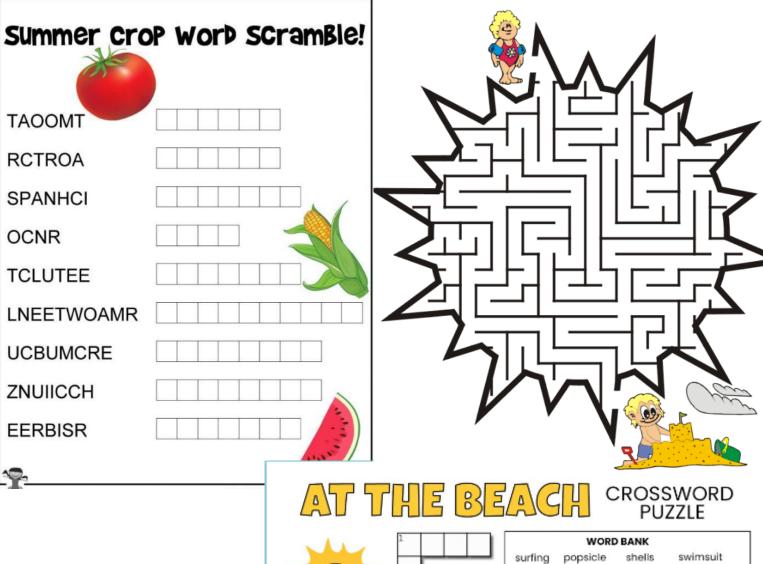
values we expect of all pupils, but goes the extra mile to support his peers and help staff. Keep up the great work in Year 11 H! I also want to congratulate A and T in Y7, R in Y9, and J in Y10, who were nominated in various categories, but missed out on winning by just 1 or 2 votes. You should be very proud of your hard work! The full results can be seen in the box to the right and winners will receive a voucher and a trophy.

Personally, I have learnt much this year in my role as Interim Headteacher. This role will come to an end in

#### 2021 Pupil Awards—The Winners

Most Improved Literacy— L Y9
Most Improved Numeracy—I Y8
Most Improved Behaviour & Social Skills—F Y9
Independence Award—J Y9
Hard Work and Effort Award— A Y8
Role Model Award—H Y10

September, but I will still have lots to do over the summer holidays and will remain in contact with many of you throughout that time. I am delighted that Claire Maynard will return to the role of Headteacher, and I will move back to my previous Deputy Head role, but with a wealth of new experience and knowledge. I am excited to continue to be part of a management team that truly has the best interests of each pupil at it's heart. I cannot wait to get started on new projects next year at Woodlane and know the school will continue to go from strength. Have a wonderful summer break, you have earned it. Best wishes, Mr Heapy.



1. Kids love to dig in this.

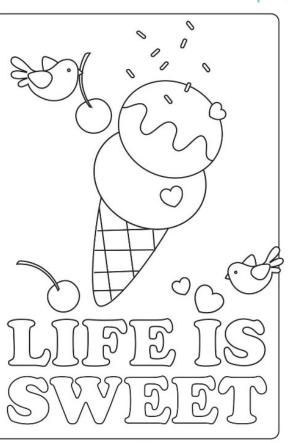
us from the sun. 13. A trip away from home.

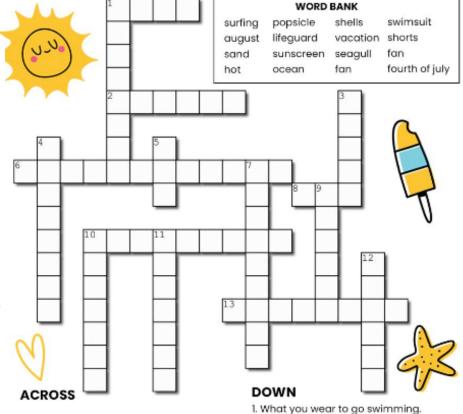
2. You can collect these on the beach.

6. An American summer holiday.

You turn this on to cool off.
 We put this on our skin to protect

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3. You swim in this at the beach.

7. Someone whose job is to make sure

A bird you see often at the beach.
 When you ride a wave with a board.
 Commonly worn in summer.

A frozen treat on a stick.
 The weather in summer.

swimmers are safe.

9. The last month of summer.