



As we successfully end another busy period I would like to thank pupils and staff for their hard work over the Autumn Term. At Woodlane we ensure learning always takes centre stage and our curriculum is followed right up until the end of each term. Please note, during the last week of term, we remain teaching subject curriculums.

The only exceptions are the behaviour reward trip and the last day of term itself, however, these days contribute to our pupils' development towards gaining their 'Cultural Capital' and are equally important, for further information

see www.woodlane.lbhf.sch.uk/page/?title=Cultural+Capital&pid=191).

It is therefore imperative that parents do not book holidays during term time and all children attend school every day, including the last day of term, as absence will inevitably impact the progress of their child.

Pupil progress and outcomes are always high on the agenda at Woodlane, we are very pleased to share highlights from the previous academic year 2022/2023:

Headteacher Message



Progress

- 99.01% of pupils met and exceeded expectations across all subjects. This is a rise by 0.32% from the Summer Term 2021/2022 (year on year) and comfortably over our 'Outstanding' threshold.
- 62.2% of expectations were exceeded, a 7.77% increase from the previous year and the highest proportion of pupils exceeding since 2019.

Please note, our school threshold for outstanding progress is 97%+ meeting expectations and 50%+ exceeding.

Outcomes

- The proportion of pupils exceeding expectations rose overall by 9.54% when compared to last academic year with 77.54% of pupils exceeding.
- 95.72% of pupils met expectations (a small dip of 1.28% from last year).
- 100% of pupils met expectations in Art, DT, Maths, English, Languages, PE and Humanities qualifications.
- Art, DT, PE, Languages, and Computing met the school's threshold overall for 'Outstanding' achieving over 80% in meeting and 50% in exceeding expectations.
- Science achieved a majority (50%+) of pupils exceeding expectations, the highest Science has ever achieved.

Please note, our school threshold for outstanding outcomes is 80%+ meeting expectations and 50%+ exceeding

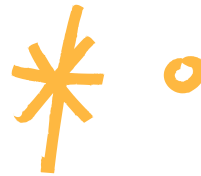
This year's Self-Evaluation Form (SEF) and School Improvement Plan (SIP) 2023/2024 has undergone a redesign to ensure it is accessible to a wider audience and reduces repetition, it is also linked to the Ofsted framework. Both documents, along with detailed reports on progress and outcomes, can be found on our school website. Our headline school improvement priorities for 2023/2024 are as follows:

- Further raise progress and outcomes in Science to ensure they meet the school's 'outstanding' threshold.
- Ensure reading practices are high profile, promoting our 'love to read' agenda.
- Reduce 10 highest office referred pupils' behaviour incidents, reducing their office referrals by at least 25% (this will also support the reduction of behaviour incidents of pupils in receipt of pupil premium).
- Ensure the RE (+ Geography) curriculum is board, balanced and offers challenge.
- Ensure the Woodlane staff team is strong, with complimentary skills.

We will ensure you are updated on progress towards these targets throughout the year, in particular, expect to hear from us further regarding reading practices at Woodlane.



Headteacher Message



I wrote to you last term regarding our summer refurbishment, as promised, here are some photos:



Work in progress...





Thank you to all parents and governors who attended the school tour on Wednesday 20th December 2023. We very much hope you liked the changes you observed. And finally, I would like to share our best wishes to Laura González, our current History Subject Leader and Evan, our current supply Teaching Assistant, who will both be leaving Woodlane this term. We welcome Hannah Ryall who will be our new History Subject Leader from January 2024. I also temporarily leave the school for maternity leave in January 2024, I do so in the knowledge that the school is in the best possible hands with Mr Heapy, once again, as interim headteacher, with a superb management team and staff in place.



Mr Heapy

Headteacher Message

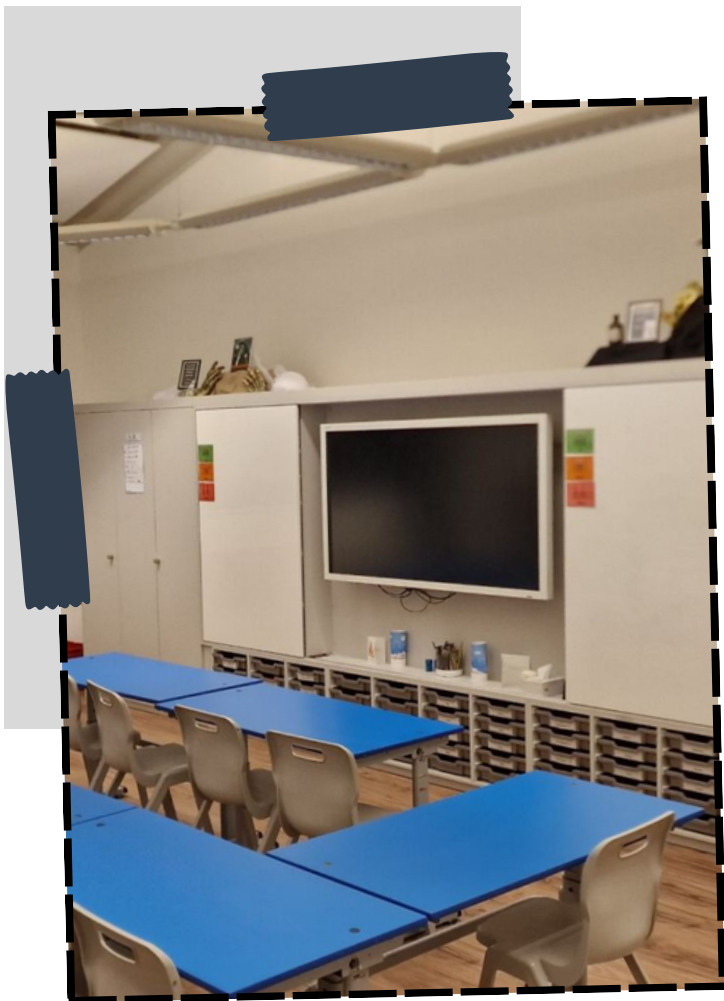


Congratulations to both Ms Jermain who will be temporarily supporting as Assistant Head during the remainder of Ms Corless' maternity leave and Ms Hall who has gained our permanent Lead Practitioner position. I will be actively involved in school practice during my leave and will be visiting regularly. Thank you, Mrs Jermain and Ms Corless, for our newly designed newsletter. I do hope parents/carers find its content useful. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year when pupils return on Tuesday 9th January 2024. Wishing everyone a very happy Christmas!

Best wishes
Claire Maynard
Headteacher



Ms Jermain



Headteacher Message

Newly refurbished Maths, English and Science classrooms, including corridors and the Library. See our 'Reading for Pleasure' article to view our new and improved reading space.





'Barceloneta Beach'

'I enjoyed going to Barcelona as it was a new experience and I had a lot of fun. I loved going to the food market where I bought some chicken and potato wedges and a jackfruit. I would like to visit again in the future'. All in all, an amazing experience for everybody!

Jaylen Year 10

BARCELONA TRIP

On 20th November 2023, 15 Woodlane pupils went on their first ever school trip to Barcelona, Spain.

It was a fantastic opportunity to learn about Spanish culture and use their Spanish language skills. Pupils visited the Camp Nou Football Stadium, Barceloneta Beach, Montjuic Castle and sampled some delicious Spanish food. They also used the 'Teleférico' to travel up the mountain and see Barcelona's beautiful views. They finished their tour by visiting the wonderful Parc Guell, designed by Antoni Gaudí. Pupils loved their trip! Daniel in Year 9 said, 'I loved the Barcelona stadium visit and the hostel'. James, also in Year 9 said 'I loved being at the Nou Camp'.

"It was the best experience"
Tiffany Year 10





Snowman Biscuits

This half term, the pupils have been thinking about how food and celebrations can be linked. Have a look at some of our dishes:



Diwali Coconut Rose Ladoos

FESTIVE COOKING



Eid Stuffed Parathas



Hanukkah Latkes



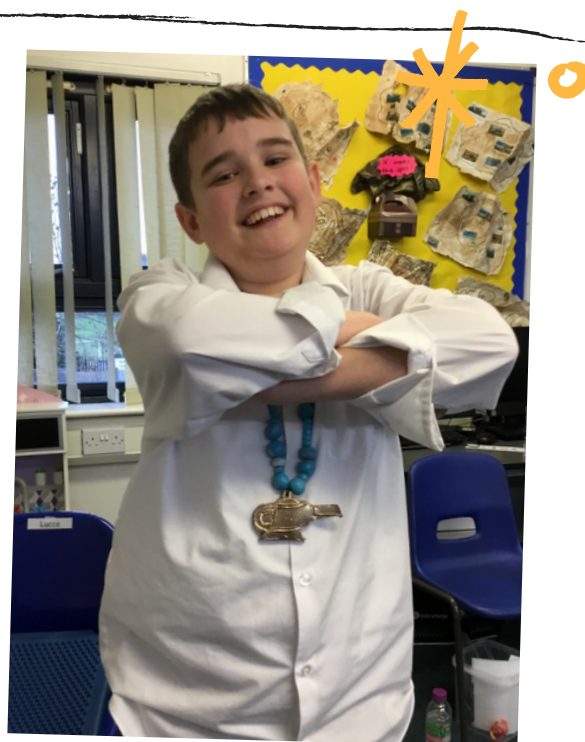


As a part of their RE topic, KS3 Nurture Class went on trip to look at the special Christmas decorations and Christmas food in the local area.

KS3 NURTURE CLASS



Christmas food in the local area



Jewellery Making

KS3 Nurture Class spent this term in art learning all about jewellery. First we evaluated existing jewellery, then designed our own. Next we made beads and pendants out of clay. Then we spray-painted these and carefully threaded them in a pattern. Last, we had a fashion show to show off our amazing jewellery!

READING FOR PLEASURE



“The Book Nook”

At Woodlane we aim to provide an environment that promotes reading for pleasure; although this is not new, this year, we have rolled out and embedded some exciting initiatives to help this culture for reading grow.

Whole school 'reading for pleasure' time is embedded into the timetable (Friday tutor time) to allow opportunities for modelling reading, encouraging independent reading, group reading, peer reading, reading to therapy dogs etc... The newly redesigned library, 'Book Nook' will give pupils a comfortable space to read for pleasure, with a wide range of books to suit every interest. Every year on 'World Book Day' we celebrate that 'reading' comes in many forms, activities in the past have included escape room clues, murder mystery, reading recipes with tasty results, theatre productions, the power of words affirmation activities and much more.

At the beginning of October, we launched a new reading scheme 'Rapid Reader' to develop reading skills amongst pupils and encourage reading for pleasure. These sessions will run for the rest of the academic year and beyond. Pupils will be encouraged to read at their level and challenge themselves, to support fluency in reading and reading comprehension.

At the launch, pupils were informed that there would be a reward for demonstrating our Woodlane values of resilience, effort and independence within these sessions.

Congratulations to Kemony, Joel, Jayla, Elle B, Mael, Daniel and Ayman. Our winners went to Westfield to buy a book and hot chocolate with all the trimmings. Next term, books from these sessions will be available via eBook, so you can read these alongside your child at home.

In the Spring Term 'Mega Prizes' are reading-related, and there will be a travelling book fair. Look out for announcements and opportunities for parental partnership in supporting reading at Woodlane next term.

Before reading RESCUE

Characters

Imran, A big boy, Tariq

Tricky words

- canal
- something
- thought
- fancy
- scared
- stupid

Read these words to the student. Help them with these words when they appear in the text.

Introduction

Tariq is in the year above Imran at school. Sometimes they get on OK, but sometimes Tariq likes to boss Imran around. One day Imran was walking by the canal when he saw something in the canal. He thought it was a cat.

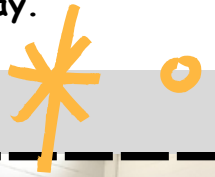
Imran was walking by the canal. He saw something in the canal. It looked like a cat.

“It’s a really nice colour choice. It’s calming, chilled and relaxed vibe. I love the name ‘Book Nook’, it feels like a special space.”
Cosy Year 7

LAMDA's Shakespeare in Schools Tour



After the show concluded, pupils were participated in a re-run of the scene where Brutus explains to the people that the cause of Caesar's assassination was the preservation of the Roman Republic from Caesar's ambition to be king; pupils enjoyed the chorus of Shakespearean rallying and heckling. Year 10 and 11 then participated in a drama workshop around some of the imagery and emotions seen within the play.



On the 17th of October, The London Academy of Music, Drama and Arts, put on a special performance of Shakespeare's 'Julius Caesar' - Pupils were captivated by the performance.

“It was really interesting to learn about Julius Caesar”

YEAR 8 PERSONAL SAFETY WORKSHOP

Year 8 had an hour-long work shop with our School community Police Officers Waleed Khan and Gemma Taylor. They gave an exciting insight on what the role of a Police officer is and how they keep our community safe. They spoke to our pupils about the importance of staying safe and how to stay safe within society. They gave pupils some helpful tips on how to stay safe in the community, online and how to report any problems they are facing. All pupils were highly engaged and loved seeing some of the police equipment. All pupils then had the opportunity to ask the PC Waleed and PC Gemma any questions they like.



MATHS THEME DAY



Ring Gliders - Pupils used their origami skills to create paper rings, gliding them through different targets, scoring points and tallying their scores.

The Challenge - The Problem-Solving Company were invited in to deliver a fun and interactive session where pupils developed their problem solving and team building skills through a series of engaging challenges.

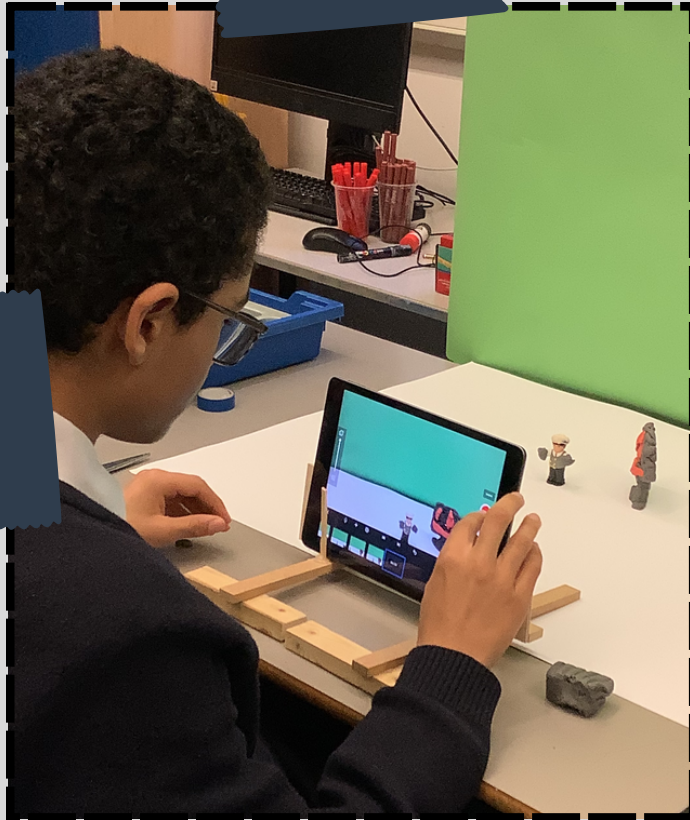
Pupils really seemed to enjoy the day and provided positive feedback!

On Thursday 30th November, pupils took part in the Maths Theme Day. Pupils had the opportunity to participate in a variety of fun and exciting Maths activities throughout the day, which included the following:

- **Sports** - Pupils used a range of maths skills while taking part in a basketball shootout, ten-pin bowling and a bean-bag and quoits challenge!
- **Robot Wars** - Pupils used coding to control a robot and navigate through an obstacle course, competing with their peers for the fastest time.
- **Scavenger Hunt** - Pupils took part in a scavenger hunt where they were asked to find items around the school using their measurement and geometry skills.
- **Pizza Fractions** - Pupils learnt about fractions of amounts to help them design and cook their own pizza using different amounts of toppings.
- **Kahoot** - Pupils competed with their peers in a series of fun maths Kahoot challenges.



“Pizza Fractions was my favourite activity”



COMPUTING THEME DAY



Another activity was Beebots. The pupils learned about algorithms and how they can be used by different technologies. The pupils implemented this by using floor robots called 'beebots' on different city inspired mats. Pupils used the arrows on top of the Beebot to feed a certain algorithm, enabling the robot to reach a specific destination.



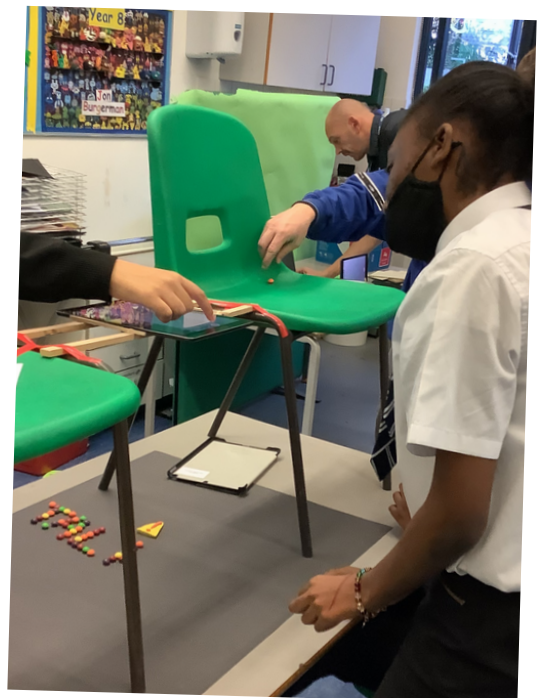
On the 23rd of November, pupils took part in the annual Computing theme day. All year groups thoroughly enjoyed the day and participated in a variety of different computing themed activities.

To start the day pupils created a stop motion animation about E-safety. The pupils created the stop motion using various different props such as clay, Lego and figures and filmed this using the Ipad.

The pupils also engaged in coding and learned how to use different types of software such as 'Scratch' to create their own games. The aim of this activity was to further develop their skills in coding and allow the pupils to acquire a better understanding of what coding is.

The pupils also created a compass using a software called 'microbits' and took part in a scavenger hunt using the compass. The pupils worked on a variety of skills such as 'team work' and used these to successfully complete the hunt.

The pupils learned about the different career paths within the IT sector, they attended a short careers fair in which they used key skills such as leadership and communication skills to ask questions and complete a range of activities.





KEY SKILLS EVENT

Year 11 and KS4 Nurture had a trip to the Excel Centre where they were holding a Careers event. The pupils had the opportunity to explore around and visit different stands and ask questions about college and courses. There were so many Colleges, Apprenticeships and internships available.

TRIP TO SCIENCE MUSEUM



On 4th December 9MU and KS4 Nurture class visited the Science Museum in South Kensington They watched an exciting show about light, matter and sound. They also got to try lots of hands-on activities in the Wonderlab.

L'OREAL WORKSHOP

A few of our Year 11 pupils were given the opportunity to visit L'Oreal's new Head Quarters in White City. The even was celebrate the International Day of the Girl Child. This event was planned by the council's Women's Network, in partnership with L'Oréal. The event took place on 13 October 2023, and focused on the challenges faced by young girls both globally, and locally. It covered a range of challenges faced by young girls and aim to empower them on these topics through both speaker panels and workshops. The pupils even got to meet Sharifa Jay; Cllr Emma Apthorp, and Niamh Faleye (Youth Mayor) they even had to privilege to meet Alex Scott!

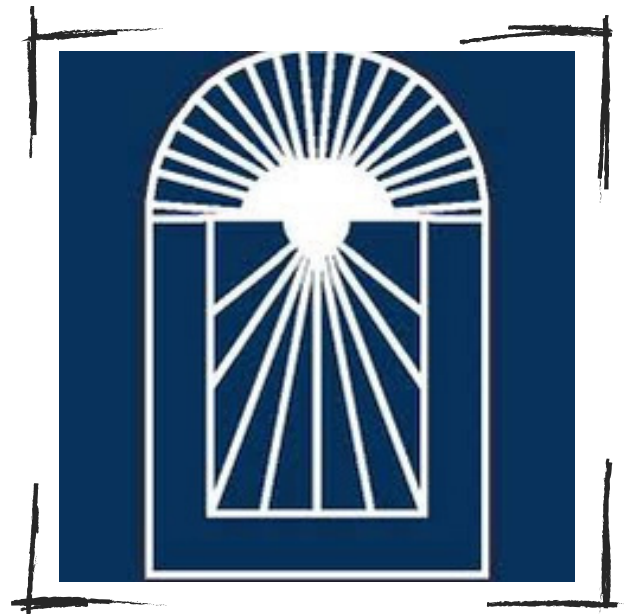


"It was so amazing and I loved meeting Alex Scott"
Ziah Year 11

A BIG THANK YOU

On behalf of Friends of Woodlane, we would like to thank all those people who donated goods for our raffle to be held on Thursday 21st December. We would also like to thank all the children and staff who have purchased tickets; we look forward to announcing the winners on Thursday. Good luck everyone and have a wonderful Christmas!

From all the members of the Friends of Woodlane.



STAY HEALTHY IN THE HOLIDAYS

Mr Entwistle's top tips to keep yourself active and healthy in the christmas break.

It is important to rest over the Christmas break but equally as important to keep yourself active and healthy. The government says that young people should aim for an average of 60 minutes of physical activity per day. This could be walking, running, playing sport, stretching, dancing and cycling, or any activity that keeps you moving. You can still exercise at home and there are some great videos on Youtube you can choose from.

See below for some of my favourites;

- Joe Wicks 8 minute workout
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qjcw2Vov_5k
- Just Dance <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CyfM2o0dOIE>



**Wishing everyone a
Happy Holiday
and a Happy New Year!**

