

WOODFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Tuesday 10th September 2019

Issue No. 307

Dear Parents

Welcome back

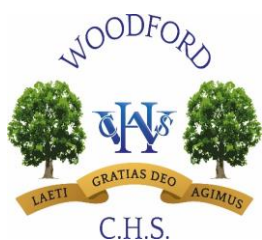
As always it's a pleasure to welcome students back to the new academic year. As well as swapping tales of their summer holidays (in this sunny year, whether home or abroad), girls have new teachers to meet, new goals to which to aspire and new friends to make. A particular welcome to girls and their families joining us for the first time. We look forward to getting to know you over the weeks and months ahead.

Even August can be busy on a school site. Mid-August each year brings public examination results. A-Level results are published first. You will have read the headlines: results at the top end nationally were the lowest they've been since 2007. This brings a level of disappointment for students like ours, at the higher end of the ability range, but there was plenty to celebrate too. In a context where results across the country were depressed, university offers came more readily than usual. It's the first year when we've seen places for medicine, dentistry and veterinary science available through UCAS Clearing. Our 2019 leavers are now preparing themselves to study at a wide range of Russell Group universities. 8 students secured Oxbridge places: 4 in Oxford and 4 in Cambridge. GCSE results were very strong this year across the curriculum. 77% of entries gained grades 9-7 (the old A* / A range) and, as always, the progress made by Woodford students between KS2 and KS4 was outstanding. These girls now start their Sixth Form studies on very strong foundations.

September this year, of course, marks the beginning of our Centenary celebrations, of which more anon. It's a special time to be a part of the Woodford community. I urge parents to dip into the weekly bulletin, issued on Tuesday each week, to keep up-to-date.

Ms Jo Pomeroy

Headteacher



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WHOLE SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPH

A reminder that tomorrow, **Wednesday 11th September** is the day of the whole school photograph.

Girls must come to school in proper uniform (white tops and black skirts/trousers for Sixth Form) including long-sleeve shirts.

TERM & HOLIDAY DATES FOR 2019 -2020

AUTUMN 2019

Non Contact Day	Monday 2 September 2019	
Non Contact Day	Tuesday 3 September 2019	
Term	Wednesday 4 September	Friday 18 October
Half-term	Monday 21 October	Friday 25 October
Term	Monday 28 October	Friday 20 December
Non Contact Day	Thursday 3 October 2019	

SPRING 2020

Term	Monday 6 January	Friday 14 February
Half-term	Monday 17 February	Friday 21 February
Term	Monday 24 February	Friday 3 April
Non Contact Day	Wednesday 18 March 2020	

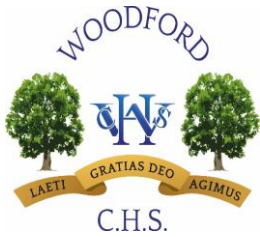
SUMMER 2020

Term	Monday 20 April	Friday 22 May
Half-term	Monday 25 May	Friday 29 May
Term	Monday 1 June	Friday 17 July
Non Contact Day	Monday 20 July 2020	

BANK HOLIDAYS

Please note the following are Bank Holidays:

- Wednesday 25 December 2019 (for Christmas Day)
- Thursday 26 December 2019 (for Boxing Day)
- Wednesday 1 January 2020 (for New Year's Day)
- Friday 10 April 2020 (Good Friday)
- Monday 13 April 2020 (Easter Monday)
- **Friday 8 May** 2020 (Early May for VE day)
- Monday 25 May 2020 (Spring bank holiday)



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STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Parents **MUST NOT** drop their children off or pick them up by pulling into the main entrance gate at the front of the school. This entrance is for staff and school visitors only and not a drop off zone.

Parents are also stopping on the yellow zig-zag markings and double yellow lines on Woodford Green High Road which causes traffic problems on this very busy main road.

Additionally parents are parking on the double yellow lines on The Charter Road and have even been observed pulling entirely onto the pavement at the junction of this road and Chingford Lane.

If you cannot safely drop or pick up your daughter on The Charter Road, parking is available at Sir James Hawkey Hall around the corner on The Terrace.

We appreciate traffic can be very busy at the start and end of the school day, but **for the safety of all students, staff, parents and local residents, parents MUST park safely and considerately in marked bays or where parking restrictions otherwise allow.**



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USE OF PRIVATE TUTORS

We are aware that many parents choose to use private tutors for their daughters while they are studying at the school. This is not a practice we would encourage for the academic subjects we teach, although we appreciate that in certain circumstances it may be useful.

Whilst there are many good tutors, and it is clearly for you as parents to make this decision, there are a number of educational reasons for avoiding using tutors for regular academic subjects if possible:

1. Many tutors focus on how to pass examinations rather than the teaching of a subject in its broader sense. This narrow approach impoverishes the curriculum.
2. Students who are tutored in subjects outside school are often less focused in class, which is not only detrimental to their own studies, but can also be a distraction for others.
3. Tutoring takes up time that might be more constructively utilised elsewhere – for example in taking part in extra-curricular activities, completing homework for non-tutored subjects or simply allowing pupils some “down time”.
4. It can damage enjoyment of the subject: girls simply get fed up with over-exposure to a subject.
5. It can create an unhealthy over-reliance on tutoring. This makes it more difficult for girls to develop their independence, which is an absolutely vital attribute as they progress through the school and then go on to university.
6. It inhibits creativity. Because of the narrow focus of much tutoring, those who are over-reliant on it find it difficult to think laterally and problem solve.
7. Many tutors are not especially expert in their subject. We frequently have to deal with girls who have been taught something that is simply wrong. If this is not detected early it can be difficult to get them to “unlearn” it.
8. We have a well-rounded curriculum taught by expert teachers. In the vast majority of cases, tutoring is simply unnecessary.

Should you decide that you would still like to employ a tutor for your daughter, please note that the school cannot make any recommendations. We also do not allow our own teachers to tutor girls who are studying here even if they do not teach them.

If you employ a tutor you must, of course, assure yourself of their suitability to work with children and of their qualifications for the task in hand. Attached to this bulletin is some safeguarding guidance from the London Borough of Redbridge which you might find useful.

Yours faithfully,

C. Jenkins,
Deputy Headteacher



YEAR 8

HPV Immunisations will be taking place throughout the day on **Wednesday 18th September** in the main hall. Please return your form to Mrs Sawyer in the medical room if you haven't already done so.

Medical appointments etc.

We appreciate that there is little flexibility with hospital appointments but remind parents that optician and dental appointments should **not** be made within school hours.

The School should be made aware of hospital or orthodontist appointments before the actual day.

The date and reason for absence can then be recorded on your daughter's register and file.

Please note that if your daughter has been given a new appointment she should bring in proof (e.g. an appointment card or letter) to show the KS3/4 Administrator in the Student Support Office.

Please confirm in writing or by telephone whether you wish your daughter to leave by herself to travel to the appointment.

Your daughter must take responsibility for signing out for her appointment at the appropriate time. The office staff will not be in a position to fetch her. Her form tutor must be aware that she has an appointment before she signs out on the InVentry system.

Thank you for your support of our efforts to ensure good attendance.



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Survey about the SEND Local Offer

The London Borough of Redbridge would like to gather feedback from parent carers, children and young people, and practitioners about the SEND Local Offer.

Your feedback will help them improve the SEND Local Offer website so that you can find the information quickly and efficiently.

Link : <https://engagement.redbridge.gov.uk/regen/269311e4>

They are launching a survey on the Local Offer website aimed at:

Parents / Carers / SENCos / Teachers / TAs / Health Care Workers and other Professionals working with SEND Children and Young People aged 0-25.

It is a short questionnaire comprising of 9 sections and will take between 5-10 minutes to complete. They will use the information collected from the survey to produce a “you said – we did” section, to make improvements to the existing look and content of the Local Offer Website and to ensure that everyone that uses the Local Offer is aware of how to report missing, incorrect or out of date information or if they have any helpful suggestions or comments.

Poland Trip



Calling all year 9 parents of students attending the Poland Trip in March 2020

Please can you ensure that you are up to date with payments. A payment of £75 was due by 15th July.

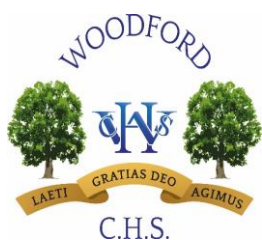
Advance Notice:
A meeting for parents and students about the trip will take place in September...we will notify you nearer the time

Reminder:
Third payment details:
September 15th 2019
– A further **£125** will need to be paid

EXTRA-CURRICULAR MUSIC TUITION

Timetables for students taking extra-curricular music tuition classes will be issued on the Music notice board and put in Form registers the day before lessons are due.

Please check the notice board or with your Form teacher.



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PE Extra-curricular (Autumn 1)

These clubs are run by the PE department and are completely free of charge to pupils. All pupils are welcome even if they are not part of the school team.

The morning Badminton and Trampoline club are restricted to the first 30 and 40 pupils that attend respectively. For morning badminton pupils only need their trainers. For all other clubs pupils need to wear their PE kit.

9th Sept 2019 - 18th Oct 2019

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School (7:50 - 8:30)			Badminton JBR Sports hall		Friday morning mile JBR Field
Lunch time (1:20 - 2pm)	Football (Y9 - 11) HBA Field	Football (Y7 + 8) JBR Field	Indoor Athletics (All Years) KRI Sports hall	Netball (Y7 + 8) HBA + KRI Netball courts	Y11 Fitness Suite VJA
After school* (3:30 - 4:45)	Netball (Y9 - 11) VJA, JBR, HBA Netball courts	Trampolining JBR/VJA Sports hall			

**Some after school clubs may be cancelled due to fixtures. Check the notice board regularly.*

Year 7 Netball Trials September 2019

The Year 7 Netball trials will take place on the following days:

7A, 7B & 7C – Wednesday 18th September 3:30pm – 4:45pm

7D, 7E & 7F – Thursday 19th September 3:30 – 4:45pm

Please sign up on the sheet that will be placed on the noticeboard between the two PE changing rooms by this Friday (13th September 2019) if you wish to attend.

You will need your full PE kit (white PE top, blue netball skirt, short white socks/blue long socks, white trainers – you may also wish to bring your PE jumper as we may be outside).

Any questions – please speak to Mrs Baillie in PE

I ♥ Netball!

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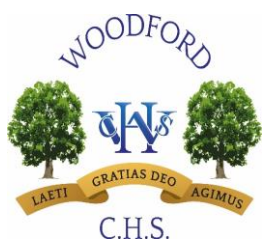
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After School Clubs Schedule September-October 2019

Day	Activity	Time	Place	Cost	Group
Monday 16/09/19 14/10/19	Arts& crafts	15:	CANCELLED		
	Jui Jitsu	15.45-16.45	Sports hall	£40.50	16
	Yr.8+ Badminton	1.15-1.55	SH1	£8.50	22
	Henna Art	15:45-17.00	N1	£45.50	10
	Basic cookery	15:40-17:00	SG8	£52.50	12
	Homework club	15:30-17:00	H3	Free	30
Tuesday 17/09/19 15/10/19	Basic cookery	15:40-17:00	SG8	£52.50	12
	Hairstyling	15:45-16:45	H2	£42.50	10
	Sewing/Textiles	3.45-17.00	AT5	£50.50	8
	Self defence	15.45-16.45	Sports hall	£40.50	16
	Homework club	15:30-17:00	H3	Free	30
Wednesday 18/09/19 16/10/19	Dance	15:40-17:00	Dance studio	£38.50	16
	Jam Drama	15.45-16.45	SG7	£28.50	16
	LAMDA Drama	15.45-16.45	Conf.	£25.50	16
	Cakes & Cookies	15.45-17.05	SG8	£55.50	12
	Homework club	15:30-17:00	H3	Free	30
Thursday 19/09/19 17/10/19	Street food	15.45-17.50	SG8	£55.50	8
	Homework club	15:30-17:00	H3	Free	30
Friday 20/09/19 18/10/19	Yr.7 Badminton	1.15-1.55	SH1	£8.50	22
	Film making	3.45-4.55	T.B.C	£40.50	12
	Musical Theatre	3.45-4.45	Dance studio	£28.50	12
	Homework club	15:30-17:00	H3	Free	30



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Registered Charity No (1103422)

Indoor Boot Sale

(Raising funds for the school)

SUNDAY 9.30am -12pm

13 October 2019
17 November 2019
8 December 2019
19 January 2020
16 February 2020
15 March 2020

at

Woodford County High School

High Road, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9LA

Refreshments available

Booking: £14 (Table provided)
Telephone - 07400 238515

Email: pfwchs@yahoo.co.uk
Booking Form available from
www.woodford.redbridge.sch.uk



Public parking at Sir James Hawkey Hall
Broomhill Road, IG8 0BG

**Admission
50p**

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN MUSICAL



*"A wonderful
production"*

London Theatre 1

*From the producers of
The Secret Garden*



Based on the story by Edith Nesbit

With Book & Lyrics by Dave Simpson

Music by Katherine Mount, Orchestrations by Teresa Barlow

September 14th & 15th 2019

AT THE DEATON THEATRE, FOREST SCHOOL, SNARESBROOK

Book online via wansteadfringe.org

Sat 14th: 3pm/7pm Sun 15th: 3pm Tickets £17/13 Family discounts available

Photo by Mark Turner @MarkMakesPhotos