

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we come to the end of the term, this bulletin shares some key notices, a brief round-up and a look ahead to what is coming next. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for the positive partnership we share with our families. Please do keep an eye out over the holiday period for an email from me, which will follow up on questions raised at the parent and carer coffee morning earlier this term, introduce some new and exciting provisions and opportunities, and share further information that we hope you will find useful. I would like to wish you and your families a restful and enjoyable holiday, and encourage everyone to take time to look after themselves and one another over the break.

Thank you.

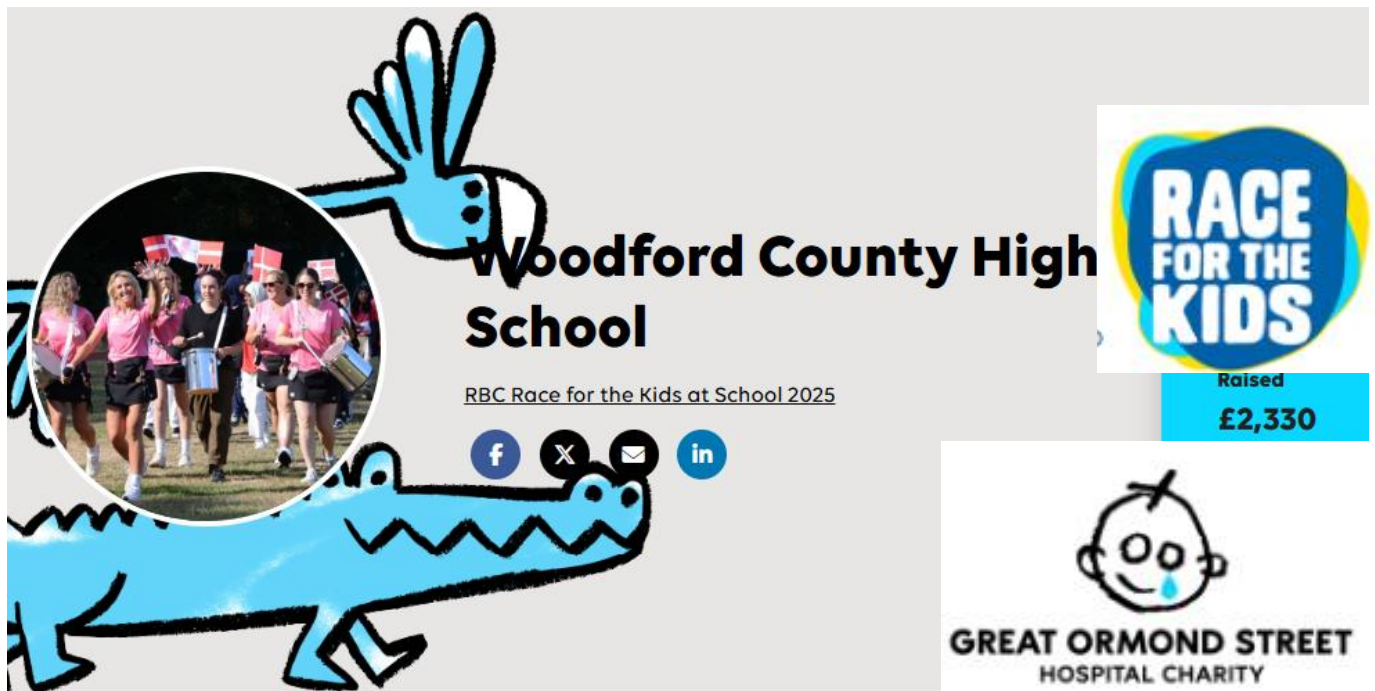
Gemma Van Praagh

Head Teacher

With warmest wishes for the
Holidays
and a
Very Happy New Year

CHARITY DONATIONS

We have taken part in the 'Race for Kids' fundraising event during October, where every student in years 7-11 was running 2km during their PE lessons. We are pleased to let you know that we have raised £2,330 for Great Ormond Street Hospital.



During our November Bazaar where students have organised a bake sale and games, jewellery sales etc. we have raised £948.53.

This donation was equally split between two good causes:

- Islamic Relief's Afghanistan Earthquake Appeal

and

- Human Appeal's Pakistan Floods Appeal



Thank you for your donations.



Parents

Can you offer a Y11 student work experience during the summer?

Help our young people gain real-world skills by creating opportunities in your workplace or community.

The placement should be for two weeks (from 29th June), however we can be flexible. If you are able to accommodate one of our students, please fill in the form below or contact Ms Summers summersh@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk

Work Experience Placement Offers - Fill out form



6 Finding Work Experience Tips!

1 Questions to ask yourself

If you're not sure what type of work experience you want to do, start by asking yourself a few simple questions:

- What are my interests?
- What types of career paths appeal to me?
- What are my strengths? My weaknesses?
- What hobbies do I have and do any of them relate to careers?



2 Use your network

You can ask friends and family if they know of any employers you could approach, or even if you could do work experience at their workplace.

Look out on Woodford's bulletins for a variety of different opportunities too!

3 Apply directly with an employer

If you'd like to work for a particular employer, you can apply directly. First, do a Google search for the name of the company and "work experience". If they have an existing scheme in place, this will direct you to the appropriate webpage. Many large companies have well-defined work experience schemes with a specific application process.

Don't forget that you're not limited to traditional businesses, either. Many charities and public sector organisations also offer work experience placements.



4 Plan ahead

Once you've got the dates confirmed, make sure you start looking for placements in plenty of time. Some work experience placements are quite competitive, so getting your application in early will give you an edge over less organised candidates. Researching placement options might also show you some exciting options you didn't know you had.

5 Don't put too much pressure on yourself

Work experience is a learning activity first and foremost. Committing to a work experience placement doesn't mean you're committing to a career in that industry.

So if you're not sure what you want to do yet, don't panic. Work experience is never wasted as long as you go into it with an open mind and plenty of enthusiasm,



6 Follow up on your applications

Work experience placements are competitive. Therefore, it's a good idea to apply for several placements. This will ensure you end up with something that will be beneficial to you.

Also, do not hesitate to contact the employer if you have not heard from them. They might just need a reminder to say yes!

Festive creations in the Food and Nutrition Department



Battenberg Cakes
Yr 10

Alexa 10B



Aaliya 10C



Festive Buns!

Making the festive buns was really collaborative and has inspired me to pick up food at GCSE.

We also learned about flavouring and how to set us apart from other teams.

The enterprise element helped us gain a better understanding of how to appeal to a target audience.

POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS APPS PARENTS / TEACHERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

THESE APPS CAN EASILY BE USED AS GROOMING TOOLS BY ONLINE PREDATORS LOOKING TO MEET UP & SEXUALLY ABUSE CHILDREN.



This is not exhaustive, and updated each year to reflect new risks and dangers (updated 2022). New apps are constantly being created, so it's important to monitor what children download.

FACEBOOK Allows you to connect with others and share comments, photos and videos. You can add friends, write on people's pages and posts, join groups and play games.



SNAPCHAT Is one of the most popular apps in recent years. Whilst the app promises that photo's, videos and stories disappear, others can take screenshots of private photo's.



INSTAGRAM Kids are creating fake accounts to hide content from their parents, according to police. Messages are also deleted once a user leaves a conversation.



WHATSAPP Allows you to send messages, images and videos in 121 and group chats with your contacts. You can choose to share your live location for up to eight hours with one contact or a group.



OMEGLE Is a video chat website where users are matched randomly with strangers.



KIK MESSAGING Kik Is a messaging app that allows content normally filtered on a home computer.



WHISPER Is an anonymous social media app that promotes sharing personal secrets with strangers, (new people). It reveals a users location so people can meet up.




CALCULATOR % Is only one of SEVERAL social media apps disguised as a calculator, the app is actually a secret photo vault to hide photos, videos, files and browser history.



HOT ON NOT Strangers rate a user's 'attractiveness' with the aim of real-world meet ups in your local area.



ASK.FM Ann app where users can anonymously ask questions and receive answers. The app has been featured in a number of cyber bullying cases.




YUBO Similar to Tinder, the app is designed to allow teens to flirt with each other.




BURN BOOK Anonymous rumors can be posted about people through audio messages, texts and photos.




WISHBONE This app allows users to compare kids and rate them on a scale.



SKOUT Is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts.




MEET ME Is a dating social media app that allows users to connect with people based on geographic proximity. The app encourages people to meet



TELLOYMN Anonymous messenger app. It calls itself "the most honest place on the internet." Age controls are inconsistent and sexual explicit material can be found.




Zoomerang Is a popular app that looks like a harmless messaging app however it allows private anonymous messaging and is location enabled.




TIK TOK Is one of the most popular apps in recent years used for sharing short videos with very limited privacy controls users are vulnerable to explicit material.




FACEBOOK MESSENGER Is one of the most popular message apps in the world. It has already heavily been used by predators and the end-to end encryption will make it even more unsafe.




BADDO Is a location based dating app and website. Whilst people under 17 are unable to share private photo's, Children can easily create fake accounts.




KIDSCHAT Is one of the most popular apps in recent years used for sharing short videos with very limited privacy controls users are vulnerable to explicit material.



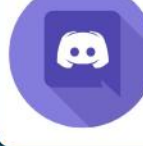
VINE Allows users to watch and post six second videos. While many of the videos are harmless, porn videos do pop up into the feed, exposing your children to sexually explicit material.




POOF Hides other apps on your phone. If children have apps that they want to keep hidden from their parents, all they have to do is download this app and "poof," their screen is clear.




DISCORD A gaming app that allows video sharing and video chat. Bullying is a problem on Discord. Some of the bigger problems include suicidal ideation, hate speech and graphic images.




HOOP Hoop is a dating app that connects to SnapChat and allows 12 + teens to swipe on pictures that they like with the purpose of meeting. This leads to issues with fraud and sexual predators.



GALLERYVAULT GalleryVault and other vault apps hide photos and videos. One of the scarier options on it gives the user access to a secret web browser and alerts the user if someone attempts to break into the app.



PSST! Is a chat room app that prides itself on messages being deleted almost immediately from the server, ID-masking, and secretive private chat. For parents, these features are worrying.



CALL FOR INFORMATION, ADVICE OR IF YOU JUST WANT TO TALK

Prevented
ABUSE PREVENTION EDUCATION

IF YOU SUSPECT ABUSE CALL NSPCC HELPLINE
0800 800 5000

IF YOU'RE A CHILD & WANT HELP CALL CHILDLINE
0800 1111

NNECA
NATIONAL NETWORK TO END CHILD ABUSE
WWW.NNECA.ORG.UK
WWW.CHILDABUSEHELP.ORG.UK



ACT Early and be vigilant when buying new devices for children this Christmas

We know many parents and carers will be buying new phones and devices for their children in the run up to Christmas, which is why we're calling on parents to be vigilant about your child's online activity.

This follows a 38% increase in referrals of children to the Prevent scheme last year in London, which helps stop people becoming radicalised. It's vital that parents are setting appropriate controls to ensure their children are kept safe on their devices. We'd also urge parents and carers to take an active interest in their children's digital lives to try and ensure they don't become drawn towards extremist content that could lead them down a path to radicalisation.

There is information on the ACT Early website (<https://actearly.uk>) which has tips on warning signs to look out for, as well as advice on having conversations with your child, and information on what to do and who to contact if you do have any concerns.



School Facilities Available for Lettings!

Looking for the perfect space for your next event, class, or rehearsal?

We are pleased to offer **availability in our Dance Studio and Conference Hall** for external hire!

Facilities Available:

- **Dance Studio** – Ideal for dance classes, fitness sessions, and rehearsals.
- **Conference Hall** – A spacious venue perfect for meetings, training sessions and community events.

Available Hours: 17:30 – 22:00

For more information on availability and pricing, or to make a booking, please contact <https://schoolhire.co.uk>.

Don't miss this opportunity to secure a fantastic space at your school!



Free Trial



Little Kickers®



Football classes & Birthday Parties

for children aged
18 months – 8th birthday

At Woodford County High School

Enrol now: www.littlekickers.co.uk
scomak@littlekickers.co.uk
02083068775 / 07732796034



LIVE FOR THE MOVEMENT

Sign up today for **FREE**
weekly fitness classes

Calling all girls aged 11-16! Check
out our new **MOVE TOGETHER**
FITNESS CLASSES.

Good for both body and mind
our specially designed classes
will help you to build strength,
confidence and get you moving.
It's the perfect opportunity to
have fun with friends.

[Find out more](#)

MOVE TOGETHER

Join our next class at...

Time:

Date:

Location:

nuffieldhealth.com/movetogether



Would you like to talk to someone?

Do you need some support with creating a daily routine for your child?

Are you concerned about your child's emotional wellbeing?

Are you struggling to motivate your children at home or manage sibling relationships?

The Educational Psychology Service (EPS) are here to support you.

We have a **dedicated telephone helpline for parents/carers** where you will receive advice and guidance from a professional

Educational Psychologist.

The EPS helpline is available for all parents and carers - your child does not need to be known to the EPS, does not need to have a special educational need or additional support within school.

We welcome calls from all parents and carers.



EPS Helpline

Telephone: 07741 331 009

Opening hours: Every Wednesday 10am - 4pm

Webpage: <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/educational-psychology-service/>

FIND: [Educational Psychology Service](#)

@Redbridge_aep Twitter account.



Call to Action—Educational Psychology

Please click on the link to access the “Call To Action” video from the Redbridge Educational Wellbeing Team (REWT) and the Redbridge Mental Health Support Team (MHST), who work with students and staff here at Woodford. This video is specifically for parents and carers and is part of their “break the stigma” campaign.

[Click here to access video](#)

AUTUMN 2025		
Term	Monday 3 November 2025	Friday 19 December 2025

SPRING 2026		
Term	Monday 5 January 2026	Friday 13 February 2026
Half-term	Monday 16 February 2026	Friday 20 February 2026
Term	Monday 23 February 2026	Friday 27 March 2026
Non-Contact Day	Wednesday 4 March 2026	

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER



5 January—Spring Term Starts
22 January—Year 12 Parents Evening
28 January—Year 9 Parents Evening
5 February—Music Recital Evening
9 February—Year 7 Parents Evening

EMAILING THE SCHOOL

To report an absence relating to KS3 and KS4, please email

absence@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk. Any absences 5 days before or after a school holiday will require medical supporting evidence in order to be authorised. If this requirement is not met, the absence will be marked as unauthorised.

If you need to contact a member of staff regarding your child for any matter relating to KS3 or KS4, other than absence, please email admin@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk.



For KS5 (Sixth Form), students are expected to call Miss Mamtora themselves on the day of the absence, before 8.30am, on 020 8506 2927.

Thank you.