Woodford Weekly Bulletin



Issue No. 616
27th November 2026

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High Rd, Woodford, Woodford Green, IG8 9LA

Key Dates and Reminders…

AUTUMN 2026		
Term	Friday 4 September 2026	Friday 23 October 2026
Half-term	Monday 26 October 2026	Friday 30 October 2026
Term	Monday 2 November 2026	Friday 18 December 2026

SPRING 2027		
Term	Monday 4 January 2027	Friday 12 February 2027
Half-term	Monday 15 February 2027	Friday 19 February 2027
Term	Monday 22 February 2027	Thursday 25 March 2027
Inset Day	*Friday 29 January 2027*	



27 November – 1 December – Scholastic Book Fair
2 December – Year 12 Parent Evening
3 December – Christmas Concert
9 December – Years 7-9 End of Year Disco at ICHS
10 December – Year 7 Music Extravaganza
11 December – Medicine and Dentistry Event

Please remind your daughter to bring in her lanyard, locker key and fob to school every day.

Contact us...

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 Key Stage 3 or Key Stage 4, other than absence, please email admin@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk

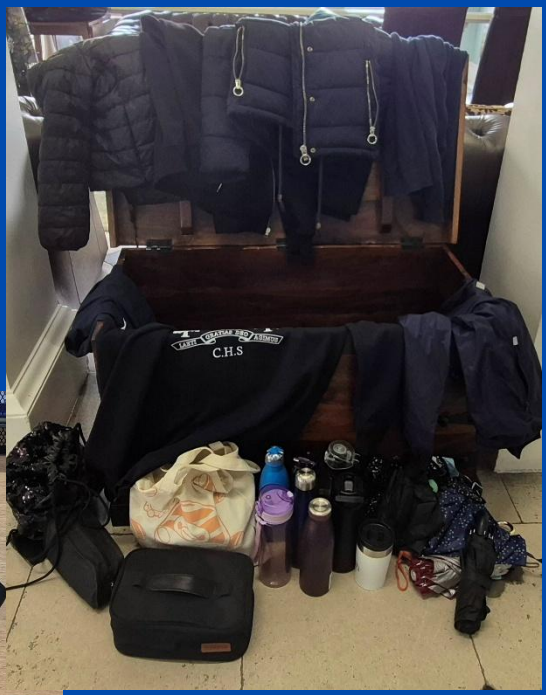
For Sixth Form (Key Stage 5), parents are required to call Miss Mamtora on 020 8506 2927 before 8.30 am on the day of absence.
Alternatively, parents may email 6formattendance@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk before 8.30am on the day of absence.

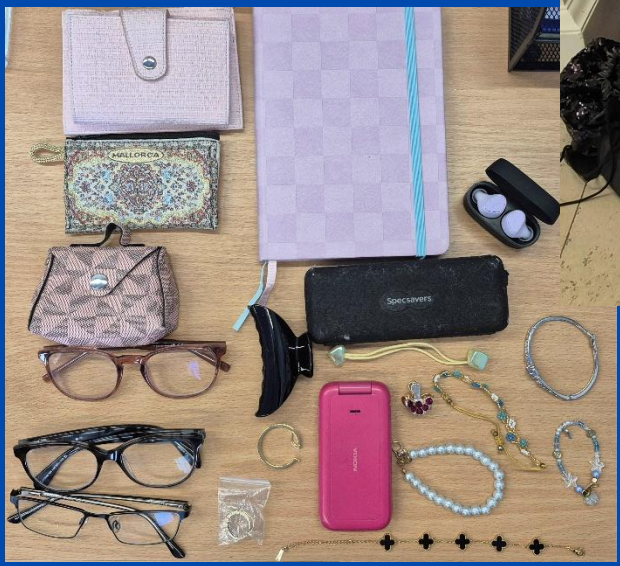


Lost Property...

If your child has misplaced something, could you please ask them to check the big wooden box, which is situated near Reception in the main school building, as soon as possible.

Small items are normally left at the main school reception.





Scholastics Book Fair

Over 200 TEEN TITLES

returns to the

CONFERENCE CENTRE

Nov 27th – Dec 1st

Friday 27/11

PREVIEW @ BREAK TIME

fortune cookies & wish lists



Monday 30/11

open LUNCHTIME

book arts – book repair



Tuesday 1/12

open LUNCHTIME

second hand book bargains

last chance to buy!!

SIXTH FORM

welcome to bring their favourite board games:

chess - dominos - scrabble - MONOPOLY

and OTHER retro games available to play

Well, preparations for 9 to 5 Jr - The Musical are officially in full swing! We have had a staggering **150** students sign up to audition. The enthusiasm, commitment and courage shown by so many of our students wanting to get involved in the performing arts is truly inspiring.

We have also had a large number of students offering their services in supporting backstage. Absolutely!! Please watch this space - more information regarding how you can get involved in the running of the show will be coming in the following months. We're also looking at ways that we can further utilise some of the amazing dance talent we have at Woodford County.

Over the coming weeks, students will have the opportunity to showcase their talents, develop their confidence, and experience the excitement of the audition process. We are immensely proud of every student who has stepped forward and cannot wait to see the creativity, energy and dedication they bring.

Emails have now gone out to those who have applied to audition, letting them know when their slots are, so please be sure to check those emails and let Mrs Mainwaring know if there are any issues.

Thank you to our families for their continued support of Drama and the Performing Arts at Woodford County - there are certainly exciting time ahead!

The 9 to 5 Team

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Featuring the musical ensembles of WCHS



Thursday 3rd December 2026
6pm

School Christmas Lunch 2026

Tuesday 15th December - Forms 7 (A-C) 8 (A-C) 9 (A-C) 10 (A-C) 11 (A-C) Staff & 6Th Form

Wednesday 16th December - Forms 7 (D-F) 8 (D-F) 9 (D-F) 10 (D-F) 11 (D-F) Staff & 6Th Form

The cost of the Christmas meal with a cracker will be £3.00, and will be served by ticket only. Tickets must be purchased and paid in advance at the tills at Breakfast and Lunch sessions from Monday 23rd November till Monday 7th December.

There will be a meat and vegetarian option consisting of

Roast Halal/Non-Halal Turkey OR Vegan Sage & onion cranberry Wellington with a selection of

Roast Potatoes, and seasonal vegetables, Sage and Onion Stuffing and Gravy.

&

Christmas Pudding with Vanilla Sauce OR Festive white chocolate confetti cookie

Tickets will be on sale up until Monday 7th December as numbers need to be known in advance for catering purposes

On the days /times you are not having a Christmas dinner, PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH.

There will be the usual snacks / sandwiches at breakfast and morning break.

Please ensure that you purchase your tickets in advance from the dining hall.

MEDICINE & DENTISTRY

MMI EVENT

AT WCHS

FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2026

8.45AM – 1.30PM

BREAKFAST SERVED FROM 8AM

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE DAY

MMI STYLE INTERVIEW WORKSHOP, GUEST SPEAKERS & Q&A PANELS

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN THE MEDICAL & DENTAL FIELDS

Click the following link or scan the QR code to register your availability

https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/nsD1tfDMHS

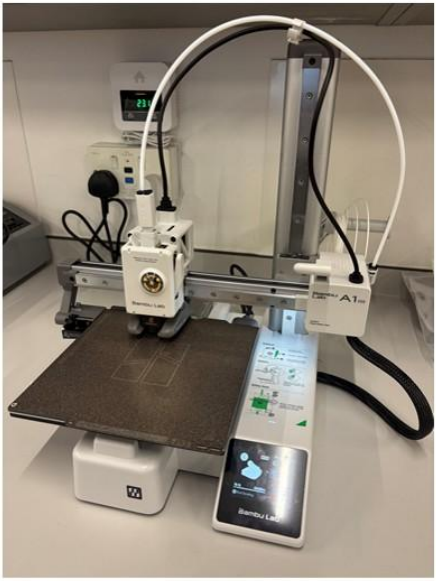
Design & Technology Department Welcomes New 3D Printing Technology!

The Design & Technology Department is delighted to announce the arrival of **two new Bambu Lab 3D printers**, purchased through funding generously provided by a **Jack Petchey Achievement Award Grant**. This investment in cutting-edge technology will significantly enhance learning opportunities across the curriculum, enabling students to rapidly turn their ideas into high-quality prototypes and finished products.

The new printers will give students hands-on experience with **Computer-Aided Design (CAD),product development, engineering, and modern manufacturing processes**, helping them develop the skills used in industry today. Faster printing times and improved print quality mean that students can test, evaluate, and refine their ideas more effectively, supporting an iterative design process and encouraging innovation.

These printers will play a key role in strengthening our Design & Technology curriculum, allowing students to bring their creative concepts to life while developing valuable problem-solving, technical, and digital design skills.

A huge thank you to the **Jack Petchey Foundation** for making this exciting addition to our workshop possible. We look forward to seeing the innovative projects our students will create in the months ahead.





Year 11 Visit to Young V&A

The **Year 11 GCSE Design & Technology** students enjoyed an inspiring visit to the **Young V&A** on 3rd November as part of their preparation for the Non-Exam Assessment (NEA) coursework.

During the visit, students explored a wide range of innovative and interactive design exhibits, gaining valuable insight into the design process and discovering how designers respond to real-world challenges.

A particular highlight of the day was meeting Christie Swallow, the Young V&A's Artist in Residence, who shared his creative practice and discussed how observation, experimentation and problem-solving influence is work.

The trip provided students with a wealth of inspiration for their GCSE projects, encouraging them to think creatively and develop original design ideas. From product design and materials to user-centred thinking and sustainability, students left full of ideas and a deeper understanding of how design shapes the world around us.

We look forward to seeing how this experience influences the exciting coursework projects that will develop over the coming months.



















FIVE MOVES AHEAD

Woodford County Students take on Chess, Maths & STEM

Last Friday, eight Year 7 and Year 8 students took part in the **She Plays To Win Secondary Girls Chess, Maths & STEM Day**.

Our students' view

"I found the Chess trip very exciting and interesting wit plenty of fun experiences. My favorite part of the day w playing the challenge sheets they provided at the cente overall, the entire experience. This was my favorite par the entire day because I got to work collaboratively wit partner and I felt that it allowed our friendship to grow more. One thing I learnt at the Chess trip was that ches comes down to strategic thinking and that you have to 5 steps ahead of your opponent. I also learnt how to rig down a players proves during a tournament and it was of fun.

Aiyanna (7A)

"I am very happy to have gone to the chess trip and I th that my favourite part of the trip was the Rubik's cubes the chess, being able to play against other people in different schools and writing down what the different n were and what they mean."

Safa (7F)

"My favourite part of the trip was probably the chess puzzles we did in pairs because I personally found that were testing my brain even though some of them were like 'How many dominating queens can you fit onto an chessboard?' That's what made it incredibly fun. One p of knowledge that I took from this trip was how to use chess score sheet."

Umaira (8A)

"I learnt new rules in chess such as writing down your moves. It was really fun and sparked my interest. My

Could you solve the puzzles?

Our students threw themselves into the chess challenges with impressive determination. Parents and families: why not have a go at some of the chess puzzles yourselves? Can you find the checkmate before looking too closely at our students' workings?



Chess Puzzle 1

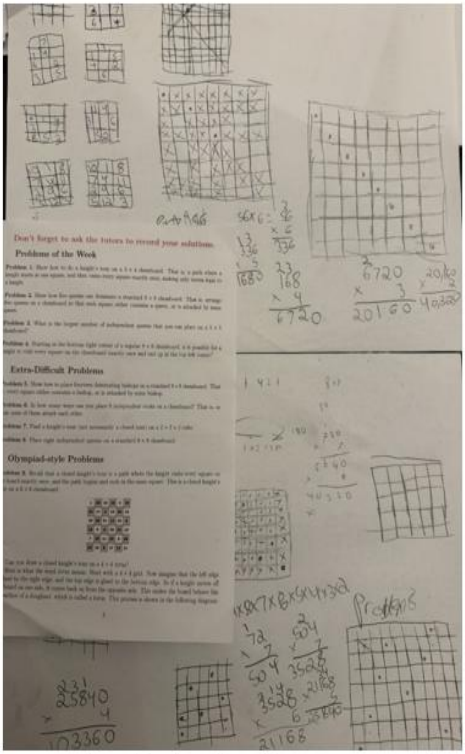


Chess Puzzle 2

favourite part was the tote bags! Actually my favourite part was the chess maths questions - it really bent my mind!"

Lakeisha (8A)

Chess Maths Puzzles: students' working shows the experimentation, calculation and perseverance behind the



challenges. **They were praised for their success rate, effort and resilience, progressing all the way to Problem 5.**

Read more about the She Plays To Win Chess, Maths & STEM Day: She Plays To Win event report

♟ COME AND PLAY SOME CHESS AND SOLVE RUBIK'S CUBES 🧩

Students interested in chess or solving Rubik's Cubes are warmly invited to join.

Chess Club and Rubik's Cube Club

Woodford County PFA | Ilford County PTA

Jointly hosted by Woodford County PFA and Ilford County PTA

END OF YEAR DISCO 2026

Wed 9th December

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

ICHS Sports Hall

Ilford County High School (Mossford Ln entrance)

★ **Years 7 – 9** ★

Amazing DJ & Magician

★ **Dance-off** ★

★ **Cool prizes to be won** ★

£10 ENTRY TICKET

Pizza | Samosas | Snacks | Refreshments | Disco themed items

can be purchased on the day

Buy tickets on ParentPay

Contact us: Secretaryp@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

Try something new!

	Time	Club	Year(s)	Location
Monday	13:45 – 14:15	Junior Band	KS3	SF1
	13:45 – 14:15	Art rooms open	KS3	AT1
	13:30 – 14:00	Badminton	KS3	Sports Hall
	13:30 – 14:00	Volunteering in library	KS4	Library
	13:45 – 14:15	Brass Ensemble	All	Jubilee
	13:45 – 14:15	Carnatic Ensemble	All	SF2
	13:30 – 14:00	Dance for All	All	Dance studio
	13:40 – 14:10 (Week B)	Law & Debate Club	All	N6
	13:30 – 14:00	VEX Robotics	All	Innovation lab
Tuesday	13:45 – 14:15	Junior Choir	KS3	SF2
	13:45 – 14:15	Senior Choir	KS4 & 5	SF1
	13:20 – 14:15	Art rooms open	KS4 & 5	AT1
	13:30 – 14:00	Creative Writing club	All	Library
	13:30 – 14:00	Cross country	All	Field
	13:30 – 14:00	Football	All	
	13:30 – 14:00	Islamic Society	All	N6
	13:30 – 14:00	VEX Robotics	All	Innovation lab
	15:30 – 17:00	Art rooms open	KS4 & 5	AT1
Wednesday	13:45 – 14:15	Y7 Choir	Y7	Hall
	13:55 – 14:15	Astronomy Society	Y7 & 8	Lab 3
	13:30 – 14:00 (Week A)	Drama	Y8 & Y9	Drama studio
	13:30 – 14:00	Food and Nutrition	Y9*	SG9
	13:30 – 14:00	Volunteering in library	KS4	Library
	13:30 – 14:00 (Week B)	Drama	KS4	Drama studio
	13:30 – 14:00	GCSE PE	KS4	Sports Hall
	13:30 – 14:00	Model UN	KS4 & KS5	SF8
	13:30 – 14:00	Eco Club	All	AT5
	13:45 – 14:15	Jazz Band	All	SF1
	13:30 – 14:00	Crochet Club	All	N4
	13:30 – 14:00	VEX Robotics	All	Innovation lab
	13:45 – 14:15	Ukulele	All	SF2

Get involved!

EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLUBS

Try something new!

Make friends • Learn new skills • Have fun!

	Time	Club	Year(s)	Location
Thursday	13:30 – 14:00	Y7 Drama Club	Y7*	Drama studio
	13:30 – 14:00	Classics Club	KS3	H5
	13:20 – 14:15	Art rooms open	KS4 & 5	AT1
	13:30 – 14:00	Film Club	All	Library
	13:45 – 14:15	Guitar Club	All	SF2
	13:45 – 14:15 (Week B)	Mindful Colouring	All	SF6
	13:30 – 14:00	Netball for all	All	Netball courts
	13:45 – 14:45	String Orchestra	All	SF1
	13:30 – 14:00	VEX Robotics	All	Innovation lab
	15:30 – 17:00	Art rooms open	KS4 & 5	AT1
Friday	13:30 – 14:00	Science club	KS3	Lab 10
	07:50 – 08:20	Badminton	KS5	Sports Hall
	13:20 – 14:15	Art rooms open	KS4 & 5	AT2
	13:30 – 14:00	Volunteering in library	KS4	Library
	13:30 – 14:00	Badminton for KS4	KS4	Sports Hall
	13:25 – 14:15	Chess Club	All	CC10
	13:30 – 14:00	Hunger Games Club	All	N6
	13:45 – 14:45	Orchestra	All	SF1
	13:30 – 14:00	VEX Robotics	All	Innovation lab
	After school	Institute of Research in Schools	Y10	Lab 1

Get involved!

VISION ISMUSIC

Saturday 28 November | 14:00 - 16:30

Redbridge Music School

Endangered Instrument Taster Day

Ages 8-17 (No Experience Necessary)

Join us at the Redbridge Music School for a fun afternoon exploring a range of wonderful, lesser-known instruments!

Registration fee **£5**

Try out the **Oboe, Bassoon, Cello, Double Bass, French Horn & Trombone!**



Sign up on the form:
vrcl.uk/endangered-instrument

REDBRIDGE MUSIC SERVICE

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

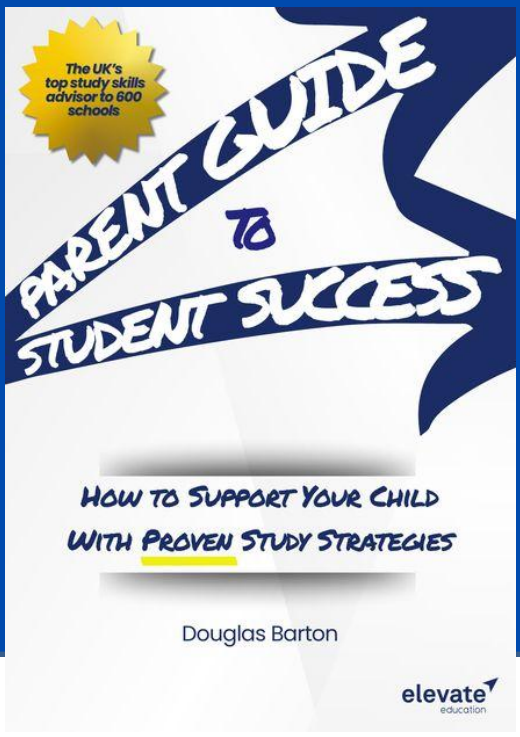
London Borough of Redbridge


WIN
a Free Term of Performing Arts in Loughton!
Want to give your child a confidence boost in the New Year?
The multi-award-winning Anna Fiorentini Theatre & Film School (at Roding Valley High School) is giving one local child aged 4–18 a
FREE Spring term of acting, singing, and dance–
or a free holiday school place!
Plus, all new students joining our Loughton Sundays branch in January are guaranteed to perform on stage at the
world-famous
Hackney Empire
on 21st March 2027!
Thursday Loughton students will get to perform at the Hackney Empire in 2028!
Takes just 2 minutes to enter.
Entries close 5 January
Click here to enter the competition:
https://www.afperformingarts.com/theatre-and-film-school/competition

As part of our partnership with Elevate Education, we are pleased to offer parents and carers a free digital copy of their Parent Guide to student success.

This covers motivation, time management, how to study, technology and AI, exams, stress and resilience, and managing relationships at home. You will need to fill in your details to download. You can do this via **this link**.

Please also see the link on the last page for information on their free webinar series.



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!

· 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 our school!

Useful Links

FREE weekly fitness classes for girls aged 11-16

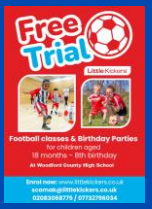




Popular Apps and Games Guide for Parents

Free Parent Webinar Series

elevate education



Little Kickers Free Trial at Woodford County High School

Redbridge Mental Health Support Team Free Webinars

