



# WOODFORD COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Issue: No 7    December 2012

## Headlines

Things are never as simple as you think. You would suppose an understanding of the word “year” to be very straightforward and unlikely to cause any problems at all, unless of course you lived on Venus where a year is shorter than a day. (I’m sure one of our physicists could explain that one.) But actually, our understanding of the word is all a matter of perspective, of the point in time from which you measure your twelve months. Our thrice-yearly newsletter is a retrospective journal looking back over the events of the three chunks into which an academic year is divided. But as I sit down to write this December issue I realise that as well as intentionally marking the end of a period of learning, all three newsletters also in fact herald the start of a new year: the academic year in September, the calendar year in January and the financial year in April.

The subject brings to mind the quest of a former colleague to discover how the rest of us in the staff room visualised a year. Perhaps not surprisingly most of us could do no better than somewhat apologetically describe the year as it’s usually represented – 12 months on a calendar page. This answer seemed both to frustrate and to satisfy. Since early childhood, we learned, he’d only ever seen the calendar year in the form of a clock face with Christmas and New Year’s Eve at the top. He could see it no other way and two decades in education with its rhythms and temporal markers had not been enough to endow the start of a new school year with the same importance as that defining moment at the top of the dial. Twenty years of staff room chatter had also not identified a single other human being for whom the 12 months of a year presented themselves – and only ever presented themselves – as divisions on a clock face.

Writing this newsletter in the second week of December, I’m keenly aware of another significant delineator of a year – the “compass points” of the solstices and equinoxes which mark the extremities of winter and of summer. The winter solstice this year on

Friday 21 December coincides with the end of our term, making it perhaps a double focus of celebration for those who find themselves craving the sunlight.

But anyway, it’s true for me too, now I come to think about it, that not even the month of September with its focus on new cohorts and refreshed aspirations has quite the same buzz and diversity about it as have the weeks preceding Christmas in a school. Consequently, of the three newsletters it’s my pleasure to present you with, it’s this one, the last of the calendar year, which seems most special. September saw us return to school to swap stories of the Olympics in London, in addition to the usual show-and-tell of holiday exploits. After the deluge of late spring, we are at long last benefitting from the restoration of flood-damaged classrooms and equipment as the Music Department, repopulated and rehoused, recreates itself. Eleven new teaching staff have found their feet and been initiated in the traditions of the autumn term; the school birthday (2012 marked by the creation of a beautiful new banner and the introduction of an off-site activity day for Year 11), House Drama and the extraordinary success of the Five-Penny race. Tradition needs to be balanced by innovation, however, and in this newsletter you will read about the Geography Department’s first trip to Iceland and a Master Class on “A View from the Bridge” given by playwright Lucy Kirkwood, former Head Girl of Woodford. A lot is crammed into the diminishing days of December and students and staff will be ready for opportunity for ‘recreation’ that the holidays will provide. In conclusion, I hope that this festive season will be a happy and a peaceful one for you and your family. We look forward to welcoming your daughter(s) back to school on Tuesday 8 January 2013.

**Ms Jo Pomeroy**  
**Headteacher**



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## School Birthday 2012

### The Big Picture

This year's school birthday saw the year 9 girls team up with the Art department to produce four large scale floor drawings.

Each form were given a dual theme, and had the few hours of the birthday to design, resource and create their art work.

The girls showed great creativity and imagination, whilst at the same time demonstrating competitive team work and communication skills.

The eventual winners were 9H, with their interpretation of "old and new" but it would be fair to say everyone involved was impressed by the artistic transformation of the main hall floor into a mosaic of imagery.





## Y11 Scale the Heights

It is fair to say that the present year 11 students have always been enthusiastic about the school birthday celebrations. Every year, we have joined in singing the school songs as tradition dictates: with perhaps more enthusiasm than melody. It may indeed be for that reason that Ms Pomeroy this year hatched a cunning plan to ship us off to Thriftwood, an outdoor activity centre. Purportedly, a day to develop “team spirit, interpersonal relationships and personal independence.” In other words, fierce competition, emotional breakdowns and torture in the name of friendship!



Suitably attired in the latest line from Sports Direct, we boarded the coaches and having sung in Latin all the way (which says a lot about Woodford Girls), we finally arrived. Shooting was an early challenge. Our teachers’ looked on concerned as girls expertly shot the target with worryingly good aim. They seemed very eager for us to “put the gun down”. “Zorbing” was another activity. If you haven’t had the pleasure, it is a punishment whereby victims are degraded by being enforced to run like a gerbil in an exercise ball.



Jacob's ladder was a challenge which exercised muscles many of us didn't even know we had. (Congratulations are due to Mr Utting who managed to climb right to the top.) Crate stacking was interesting. It didn't rely on muscular strength or athletic prowess but on teamwork. By teamwork of course, we mean one person lifting and stacking the crates to build the tower while the other stood clinging to their waist crying like a baby. The prime form of entertainment however came from looking on as your friend struggled to overcome the many challenges of the activities and then taking photos of them in compromising circumstances.



On the whole, the day, as I'm sure all of Year 11 will agree, was thoroughly enjoyable. Save for the odd harness that was a little too tight around the seat. Every brave, young adventurer rose to the challenge that every activity brought in true Woodford style drawing on knowledge from Biology, Chemistry and Physics to form a plan of action. One crate in position, however, all strategy went out the window.

Yes, there were a few whose knees were set a-quivering after they saw that Jacob's ladder was taller than four Woodford girls standing on each other. But as we know, whether it be House Drama, Sports Day, the 5 Penny Race or the most traditional Woodford activity, studying for Medicine, girls are accustomed to hearty motivation of the vociferous kind.

Once we all got into it, encouraging, occasionally heckling, our fellow peers, the majority of girls managed to conquer their fears and scale that lofty climbing wall or stagger up that intimidating ladder. We came to realise that this was the true meaning of the trip. It wasn't just a day out after all, would you believe? The climbing of impossibly tall ladders is very metaphorical of the next few years for us at Woodford. Whether that's revising extra hard for our GCSEs or A-Levels, being ambitious with A-Level options or university choices, or really pushing the boat out for the perfect prom dress, we realised that when we really put our minds to any task, with a little help from our friends, we can succeed.

**Qudsiyah-Bano Agha-Shah and Tsara Crosfill-Morton (11H)**





## Birthday Banner 2012

We've been fortunate indeed that our proximity to London has involved us so immediately in the events that have made 2012 special: the Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games. With great generosity of spirit and not a little foresight, Mrs Bradnum, working with students in her tutorial group, took on the task of creating a new birthday banner. Abhi and Amsajini designed the piece which references the four houses at Woodford alongside the four countries of the United Kingdom. In a coherent fusion of the very local and the national, its embroidery will remind us for years to come of our Albert Hall Concert 2012 and of the Jubilee Flotilla; of House Drama and of the Olympic Games. It's beautifully crafted and now hangs in pride of place in the school foyer. Look out for it when you visit the school.



## Fivepenny Race 2012

In October we held our annual Fivepenny Race in aid of Leukaemia Research. This year we raised £2,151 of which £1,662.35 were in 5p pieces!

Although the total was less than 2011, because the lunch hour is now 15 minutes shorter, we actually raised more per minute than last year.



Do start saving those five penny pieces now for next year, and we'll see if we can raise even more money for Leukaemia Research.

## Mr Becket

(Charity Co-ordinator)



## Prize Giving 2012

On Thursday 8 November 2012 it was our pleasure to welcome Susannah Simons to Woodford as Guest Speaker at our annual Prize Giving. A drama student by original training, Susannah's career in Arts broadcasting has been creative and varied. As Project Executive for the BBC 2012 Cultural Olympiad she has been instrumental in designing and delivering the celebration of the Arts which ran in tandem with the Olympic Games this summer.



Susannah addressed her audience of Year 12 students, younger prize winners, parents, teachers and governors on the challenges and rewards of career opportunities for women. She drew attention to the level of success already attained by students here and of possibilities for the future but also spoke engagingly of the need for resilience, humour and flexibility in the work place.



Parents, teachers and governors joined Susannah in applauding the achievements of the GCSE class of 2012, of the Prize Winners in attendance and of all the students of Woodford, represented by those present at the event.





## Geography Department

### Autumn 2012

There were no volcanic eruptions taking place so, last month, 28 students travelled to Iceland for the department's first ever overseas geography fieldtrip. It was a huge success and every student seemed to enjoy it immensely. Glaciers, volcanoes, geysers and waterfalls were some of the highlights of the stunning natural landscape seen and for the girls it instilled a renewed fascination for physical geography.

The department is currently in the process of launching 'Iceland 2013'!



*Many thanks to all parents who supported this visit.*

Whilst Iceland was definitely the highlight of the term there have been a few other things going on as well. Year 7s have completed the department's annual assessment of shops in Woodford Green, Year 11s have been to Saffron Walden to complete fieldwork for their Controlled Assessment and Year 13's have attended an all-

day conference on tectonic hazards in Central London.

A big change for the geography department has been the installation of a full suite of computers into one of the two classrooms we use. This is enabling us to begin incorporating the use of computer software, hardware and the Internet into lessons for all year groups.

Finally, the department has been getting used to some staffing changes following Mrs Smith's departure last term. Miss Richardson is now a full time member of the team and we have been joined by Miss Harrigan who is teaching some of the Year 8 Geography curriculum with a focus on aspects of environmental geography.

**Mr I Saxton**

(Head of Geography)



## Field trip to Epping Forest

On 3<sup>rd</sup> October, our Year 13 Biology class took a trip to Epping Forest to enrich our knowledge of ecology and to gain hands on experience in investigating populations. We started the day with practising how to dip net in the large pond at the back of the Epping Forest Field Centre.



We then tried to identify the invertebrates we had found using a biological key and observed the features these organisms had which made them well adapted to their habitat. We had the opportunity to devise an investigation to look at the abundance of different species in the different microhabitats of the pond; the open water, vegetation and the detritus layer found at the bottom of the pond.



After planning our study and deciding how we were going to standardise our method we went back outside in our groups and carried out our investigation and collected our results which we would analyse when we got back to school.

After a short break we went back outside to a hill in the area which is a popular place with members of the public. This footfall



had resulted in compact soil around the path.

Our next study aimed to investigate the effect of soil compactness on the number of different species and on the height of the plants. In our groups we were given the chance to plan our own

investigation and decide which type of apparatus we would use, this allowed us to really think and analyse the limitations and advantages of different methods and equipment used to measure populations.



After lunch, Michelle, our tutor for the day, gave us a talk on ecological succession in woodlands, one of the topics in our A2 syllabus. After a brief presentation on succession, we were taken outside to different sites to see the effects of succession for ourselves and were given the chance to identify at which succession stage each site was. We were able to see how over time, succession leads to an increase in the species diversity of not only plants but animals too, something a textbook can only tell you. The whole day was incredibly enjoyable and a much more interesting way to learn about ecology than just reading about it. Being able to see what you are learning about definitely makes it a lot easier to understand.

**Reshma Khalique (13KH)**

## A visit to the Goethe Institut



On 4<sup>th</sup> December our year twelve German group and I went up to the Goethe Institute in Exhibition Road, South Kensington, to visit the library and to see the film "Frau Holle".

The Goethe Institute London is offering film screenings for

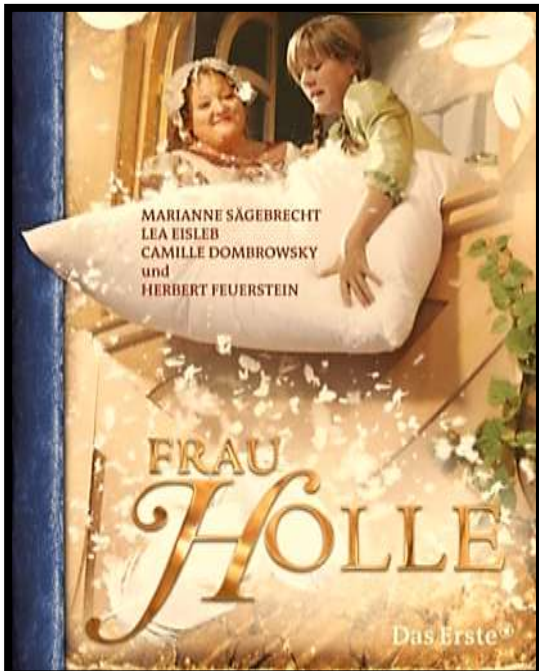
schools this year to celebrate the Grimm year 2012. The films are from the television channel ARD's new fairy tale adaptations. Prominent actors and actresses are involved in the productions. The films were made at original locations as well as in a number of open air museums. All the films are being shown in German with English subtitles. The film tells the story of two sisters, Luise and Maria, who have to help their widowed mother with housework and other chores. One is friendly, helpful and diligent and the other indolent, vain and egoistic. Only one of them is able to prove herself to the kind Frau Holle, who makes the snow fall down....



The Goethe Institute Library is a wonderful resource for our students. It has been refurbished recently. We found the staff very welcoming and helpful. There is a very impressive collection of books, magazines and journals as well as a section of resources selected especially for students of "A" level German. There are computers available for use and they have been set up to provide easy access to the Goethe Institute materials.

**Miss C. Corney (Modern Language Department)**

Ich heie Chupa und in Klasse zwlf studiere ich Deutsch fr "A" level.



Ich muss einfach sagen, dass es ganz viel Spaß macht! Jede Unterrichtsstunde hilft mir meinen deutschen Wortschatz zu erweitern. Im Moment lernen wir ber die Sorgen von Jugendlichen. Ich finde es interessant, weil ich auch Jugendliche bin. Am Dienstag dem 4. Dezember sind wir fr unsere Klassenfahrt zum Goethe Institut gefahren. Es dauerte etwa eine Stunde, um South Kensington zu erreichen. (Das ist der Ort, wo das Goethe-Institut ist). Ich hrte ganz viel Musik auf meinem Weg dorthin. Die U-Bahn war sehr voll, aber glcklicherweise hat meine Musik mir geholfen, die Zeit schneller zu verbringen. Als wir am Goethe Institut ankamen, gingen wir direkt in die Bibliothek. Dort gab es sehr viele (und verschiedene) Arten von Bchern. Als ich durch die Bibliothek ging, sah ich viele Manga Bcher - in Deutsch! Ich bin ein groer Fan von Manga und es berraschte mich, dass Manga ein groer Teil der deutschen Kultur ist.

Um zwei Uhr gingen wir in das Theater des Gebudes, um ein Mrchen namens "Frau Holle" zu sehen. Der beste Teil des Films war, wenn Frau Holle die Kissen schttelte. Als sie es gemacht hat, begann es zu schneien. Es war erstaunlich! Ich muss zugeben, dass der Film sehr toll war. Er hatte auch eine

gute Moral. Ich habe gelernt, dass, wenn man nett und fleiig ist, man belohnt wird, aber wenn man gemein und faul ist, man bestraft wird. Danach sind wir zurck nach Hause gefahren. Leider war die U-Bahnstation sehr gefllt, weil wir an einer verkehrsreichen Zeit das Institut verlassen haben. Ich wrde auf jeden Fall gern nochmal dorthin fahren!

**Chuphangini Chandrakanthan (12JS)**



## Community Language successes

This half term saw the success of another round of Community language teaching among our Year 8 groups. A group of girls volunteered in 8N to teach Tamil to their peers during form time. This takes place in 4 to 5 sessions and topics like numbers, greetings and cultural facts are presented to the form. Being their form tutor, I was most impressed by the talents displayed. The other students showed such great enthusiasm and truly enjoyed chanting some Tamil words (such as 'Nandri'!). We all were tested with a quiz where chocolates could be won. All the girls got involved in all year 8 groups and students feel they know a bit more on each other's culture. Examples of community languages taught next term will be: Greek, Punjabi and Spanish.

### A Maldjian

(MFL Department)



## Linguists of the Month

Teachers in the Modern Languages Department can nominate girls every month who are making exceptional progress or trying extremely hard during lessons or in their homework.

### Linguists of the Month for October

Maham Maqsood (8N)

Sameen Siddiqui (11N)



### Linguists of the Month for November

Eve Register (8W)

Hanna Procter (8H)

## BSL – British Sign language course for Year 12 enrichment activity

This term, ten Year 12 students have been given the opportunity to take part in a course in the basics of sign language at Roding Primary School in Redbridge. We are now on our fifth week, and we have learnt a surprisingly amount in what seems like a very short time; how to say our names and describe the physical attributes of a person, for example. It isn't just how to sign what we want to say that we have learnt but, as the weeks pass, the speed at which we can sign has steadily increased too. I have also begun to notice that when I want to fingerspell a word, I automatically recognise the right sign or finger that I need to use – a development that I didn't expect to occur so soon. Our course runs for 1 ½ hours every Thursday, but when we are in the class, the time goes past so fast that we are left wishing we could do it for longer or more frequently. We are very grateful to Roding Primary School for providing us with this amazing opportunity.

**Hafsa Mughal (12 BM)**





## Year 10 Graphics GCSE Visit to MOBPA

On the 26<sup>th</sup> October the Year 10 Graphics students went on a visit to the **Museum Of Branding, Packaging and Advertising** – “MOBPA” - in Notting Hill. Our first thoughts were that the visit wouldn't have much to offer us in terms of 'enjoyment' as the name “The Museum Of Branding, Packaging and Advertising” didn't exactly conjure up a of entertainment. After all, there is a limit to how excited you might be about brands and packaging.... Or so we thought!



Despite our reservations, we all ventured off on a chilly morning and arrived at the small, yet unique museum to find ourselves pleasantly surprised. We were able to weave our way around the 'time tunnel' displaying hundreds of British brands in chronological order. We saw how the many brands and products had evolved over the years, why they were changed and what significance these changes had on society. We were all especially fascinated by the well-known brands and products that we have grown up with – Coca-Cola and Cadbury were our particular favourites. It is definitely safe to say that we underestimated how interesting brands and packaging can be, as we all thoroughly enjoyed the visit despite our initial thoughts.

As well as relishing the fact we were on a visit and not in the classroom, we increased our knowledge and ideas about brands and packaging, which will enrich our controlled assessment task. Everyone agreed that the Graphics visit to MOBPA was a huge success!!



**Thamanna Akther (10N)**

## The Young Shakespeare Company visit Woodford.

On the 5th of November, the Young Shakespeare Company visited Woodford to perform scenes from the play 'Romeo and Juliet' to Years 10 and 11. Unlike other performances of Shakespeare's plays, the Young Shakespeare Company invite the audience to get involved in directing the actors and interpreting the play's scenes in different ways. Students were even encouraged to get up and act with the professionals. The company was invited to Woodford in order to enrich our KS4 students' experiences of Shakespeare and for girls it will have been quite a different experience to that when they visited the Globe to see 'Much Ado About Nothing' or 'Macbeth' earlier on in their Woodford careers. Year 10 students are currently working on the play in preparation for coursework essays which will contribute towards their English and English Literature GCSEs.



**Mrs G Charlton**

## 'A View from the Bridge' - Year 11 Drama Project



Since the beginning of the Autumn term around a third of our year 11 students have been working, in collaboration with the English Department, on Arthur Miller's play, 'A View from the Bridge'.

At the beginning of the project, students were split into acting groups and allocated key scenes from the play to stage. Ms Thorp and Mrs Charlton have been supporting the groups in staging their allocated scenes in lunchtime and after school sessions. In the last fortnight the different acting groups have joined up to put together their scenes in an abridged production of the play. There will be two performances of their production. The first will be on the 14th of December to year 10 and 11 students and the second one evening in January to parents and friends (final date to be confirmed).

On the 11th of December Lucy Kirkwood, an Old Girl and now a successful playwright, very kindly held a workshop for students involved in the project. In this workshop, amongst other activities, students were given the opportunity to explore their characters in more depth, before their performance.

This is the second year that the English Department has run the project with Year 11 students. 'A View from the Bridge' is one of the core texts in GCSE English Literature and the project, as well as being a lot of fun, is also intended to support students' understanding of the play.

### Mrs G Charlton





## From the Library Shelves....

by Neha Din Form 11N

Neha has been a keen library user and reader ever since she came to Woodford County High.  
From our Junior Library Shelves Neha recommends:

### Non-Fiction Books

290 African Mythology – Geoffrey Parrinder

292 Greek and Roman Mythology A to Z – Kathleen N. Daly

419 Signs and Symbols, What they mean and how we use them - Mark O'Connell and Raje Airey

530 Wonders of the Universe – Brian Cox and Andrew Cohen

551.7 Time Machine – Bernard Walton



### Fiction Books

Tim Bowler – Starseeker

Aidan Chambers – Postcards from No Man's Land

Peter Dickinson – The Kin

Morris Gleitzman – Now

Sonya Hartnett – Stripes of the Sidestep Wolf

Andy Mulligan – Trash

June Oldham – In the Blood

Michelle Paver - Wolf Brother

Terry Pratchett – I Shall Wear Midnight

Celia Rees - Pirates!

## Carly Truong writes about her work as House Librarian

House librarians are responsible for sorting out books and returning them to their assigned sections and most importantly keeping the library tidy in order to create a pleasant environment for students to study. As a new House Librarian I was intrigued to find out how the library runs smoothly, and discovered that it is largely due to the efforts of the team of House Librarians who work hard to keep everything in order. Being a House Librarian has allowed me to appreciate the amount of resources the school has provided for us to help us during our studies. The library contains many useful texts for a wide range of subjects including fiction and non-fiction books for all ages. I aim to encourage students to take advantage of the library to borrow books to broaden their knowledge and to grow as students.



**Carly Truong (Year 13)**

## Lauren Tang, writes about her work with the Physics section of the School Library

House Librarian from April 2012-April 2013,

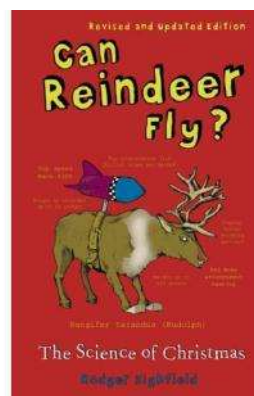
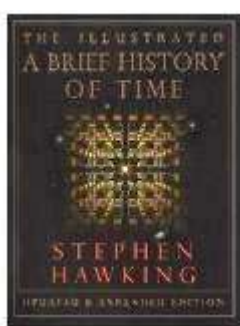
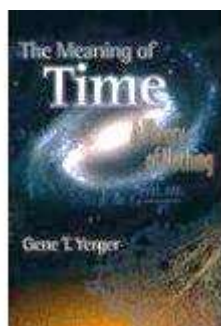
Come to Lab 8 to find a variety of new Physics books for the Year 7s and Sixth Formers alike. From sci-fi and fantasy to fascinating new discoveries, you are sure to find something to get your gamma brain waves in action!

Is time travel possible? When did humans first glimpse the 'dark side of the moon'? Could we really be living in The Matrix? These are just a few of the thought provoking questions answered in the beautifully illustrated 'The Physics Book', where we take a journey into the 250 most illuminating achievements in Physics. Consider for example the 3 billion BC discovery of mysterious black diamonds known as carbonados and nicknamed 'diamonds in the heavens', formed in exploding stars called supernovae; the 1965 invention of the 'ultrabouncy superball'; the 2008 search for the darkest ever substance in a quest for the 'blackest black'. You'll never believe that you once found Physics dull!

For any curious physicists who have ever wondered why our bodies maintain the same temperature of 98.6°F whether we live in the Arctic or the Sahara or how it is possible to take a direct temperature measurement of the sun's very core, 'Einstein's Refrigerator' may be the book for you! More importantly, why did Einstein invent a household refrigerator- and how on Earth (literally) is this linked with the atomic bomb?

Or for those wanting a lighter but nevertheless educational read, join Dorothy and the yellow building block road through the land of the 'Wizard of Quarks' - a book where Alice in the Wonderland meets quantum physics. Difficult concepts of subatomic particles will not only be easier to grasp but also enchanting and certainly entertaining.

### Lauren Tang (Year 13)



*Mr. Leo's enthusiasm for reading and for Physics has greatly encouraged us to develop and to extend the use of the Physics section of the school library. Mr Leo has been recommending excellent titles and we have bought some of them as new books and many from second hand booksellers, thus helping to stretch the library budget a little further. One important title was even found in the Oxfam bookshop in Walthamstow. We hope and aim to have the best read physicists in the Borough.*

**Miss Corney**



## Woodford Sixth Form student awarded *Best Position Paper*

12 Woodford girls participated in the Model United Nations (MUN) at Woodhouse College in early December. They committed themselves to three days of debating and they performed very well. Beatrice Leong was awarded best position paper for her piece on India's perspective on disarmament. Over 100 students produced position papers on a variety of topics, putting Beatrice's achievement in perspective. We are proud of all 12 girls.

Ms B Quinn



## Woodhouse College Model United Nations 7 - 9 December 2012

### Woodhouse MUN

This December a team of year 12 politics students took part in Woodhouse College's Model United Nations Conference from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup>. The Woodford team represented two countries, India and Japan, each country having a spokesperson for each of the 5 committees

The conference started with some preliminary lobbying and a committee meeting. During the lobbying we were able to discuss with other countries about where they stood on the two issues that were presented to us in the committee.

Prior to this, extensive research had been done, not only on the countries we represented but the topics that we were allocated. This then resulted in detailed position papers which we all wrote for our committees.

After the lobbying on Friday, we had the remainder of the weekend to negotiate and generate resolutions for our committees' issues. The difficulty of coming up with resolutions was that most of these issues were very controversial and the differing views of countries meant extensive scrutiny of any potential resolutions. For example in the committee of Disarmament, the delegate of Syria had extremely differing views from the delegate of Germany on the regulation of Private Military Companies.

This exercise proved very beneficial as we practised our skills of advocacy and negotiation. The conference aimed to mimic to the real United Nations procedures as closely as possible, this gave us the opportunity to experience what it would be like if we wanted to pursue a career in international politics.

The conference concluded on Sunday with all resolutions being finalised and passed in the general assembly when all delegations congregated and voted on the proposed resolutions.

One of our girls even picked up the award for Best Position Paper and the most prestigious and coveted award... Best Dressed!

Overall, the experience was very fruitful as we learnt many new skills and met new people who shared the same passion for politics. It was most definitely worth waking up at 7 am on a weekend (and not getting home till 8)! The lack of sleep was a small cost to pay for such a wonderful weekend, with some even taking a cheeky nap \*Indonesia\* during the committee.

Many thanks to Woodhouse College for fuelling our political passion with Krispy Kremes and unlimited bottles of water. We forgive you for not having fireworks. Just this once.

**Beatrice Leong & Deety Dubal (Year 12)**



## University Applications for October 2013

An important focus of activity in the Autumn Term for the Sixth Form is the preparation of UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) forms. University options (the courses available and the different “feel” of universities; their location, their accommodation, their focus and their demographics) are explored by students in Year 12 who take advantage of the chance to visit Open Days and get a glimpse for themselves of university life. In the ideal world, choices have been made before students enter Year 13, but in reality, for many students the excitement and anxiety of these choices is a feature of the first half of the autumn term.

With just a few students still to submit forms, we have this year processed 104 forms. 60 of these were processed for the earlier deadline which applies for Oxford and Cambridge and for all applications for Medicine, Dentistry and Veterinary Science. 27 girls have applied for medicine and a total of 31 for Oxford or Cambridge colleges. Students aspire to study for first degrees in subjects as diverse as Chemical Engineering and Liberal Arts. Those who submitted forms in the first months of the term are beginning to receive their conditional offers, at which point the prospect of university next year becomes a real and immediate one. Exciting times! We wish all our students success with their university ambitions.



**Ms E Fearnhamm**  
(Head of 6<sup>th</sup> Form)

## Road Safety Awareness – A Competition Winner

On Thursday 13 December in the Fullwell Cross Library, Ananya Ambekar (Year 7) accepted her Prize for an entry in the Redbridge Road Safety Calendar 2013. Ananya's page (for August 2013) is pictured. She received a framed copy of her work, a book token and some calendars to distribute to friends and family. Miss Corney accepted a £20 book token for the school library.





## Classical Society production of Euripides' 'Medea'

At Woodford, every student, parent and member of staff is aware of the several productions that are put on throughout the year, the first and arguably most famous being the House Drama festival in Autumn, followed by the Christmas Pantomime, Spring Production and finally the year ends with Summer Production which ends the year. However, for the first time in many years, this November an extra production was added to Woodford's long exciting list- a Classics Production! Held in Woodford's very own Greek Theatre, Euripides' 'Medea' (in translation) was directed and put on by two Classics students from Year 13. Until now, the Greek Theatre was known to all for having the sole purpose of accommodating students during lunch times, but having studied Classics and Greek since Year 10, the two girls were inspired to use the Greek Theatre for its intended purpose - a Greek play!

They set out to rewrite the original Medea in a way that younger students would be able to understand without the background knowledge that the audience in Ancient Greece would have had before watching the play. The plot consists of the protagonist, Medea, exacting revenge against her cheating husband Jason, by killing his new bride and her father along with Medea's own children. With the play simplified, the two directors held auditions over two lunch times. They were happy to see the high numbers of girls coming to audition, but were more excited about the fact that so many students who had never studied Classics before were so interested.



Within a week, a cast list was drawn up and those who had not received a main part but had made an impression were collected to create a chorus, as was the custom in all classical Greek plays. Rehearsals began in October, but with them came the wind and the rain! It became incredibly difficult to rehearse in the Greek theatre and so the venue each lunch time was ever changing. Eventually, the rain cleared and the directors decided a date for the actual performance immediately.

The day of the performance arrived, and the Greek Theatre quickly began to fill up as the directors dressed the actresses backstage (the forest!) in white bedsheets and old lace to resemble the togas and tunics worn by the Ancient Greeks. The madness of Medea, Jason's passion and the collective voice of the chorus all came together with the costume and the numerous shocking murders conducted off stage to draw all sorts of reactions from the audience. The play was a success and raised £88 in ticket sales. All proceeds went to Proshanti, a charity based in East London which aims to improve maternal healthcare in a rural village in Bangladesh. The Classics Society hope that the younger girls take the Classics Production upon their shoulders to ensure that there is one held and directed in the Greek Theatre every year!

**Mehjabin Ahmed (13JMC)**

## October Recital Evening

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of October 2012, the current Year 11 GCSE and AS Level students gave a recital evening, which offered a diverse range of genres, from pop to classical. The evening consisted of fourteen performances, featuring five different instruments including the piano, veena and voice. For the Year 11 pupils, this was a very important occasion as their performances were recorded and marked as part of their music coursework, which contributes to 30% of their overall GCSE grade. Amongst titles by composers such as Bach, Mozart, Gershwin and Debussy, Jade Hill's (11W) composition 'Spring Daze' for piano impressed and entertained the audience of family and friends. Being the first recital of the academic year, it was a highly enjoyable and successful evening, which welcomed the new teaching staff to the music department and consequently kick-started the musical term at Woodford.

**Ellen Madhani (12KH)**

## Year 12 Visit to LSO St Luke's

In early November, the year 12 music class visited the London Symphony Orchestra headquarters at St Luke's, in Old Street, to take part in a seminar on Poulenc's Sonata for Trumpet, Horn and Trombone, which is one of their set works for AS Level. The seminar included a variety of performances by members of the LSO, and was highly interesting and useful.

## Year 10 and 11 Visit to Wigmore Hall

In December, the year 10 and 11 GCSE Music classes visited Wigmore Hall, one of London's top classical music venues, to watch a performance of minimalist and experimental music inspired by the composer Steve Reich.





## 7N Carol-singing at New Jubilee Court

In the last week of term, members of 7N performed a programme of festive songs to the residents of New Jubilee Court sheltered housing, and led the residents in a selection of Christmas carols. The class thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to perform their vocal work outside of school, and the residents were very appreciative of the performance.



## Musicians of the Month

Each month, four students (one each in years 7-9, and one from Key Stages 4 and 5) are awarded the title of 'Musician of the Month' in recognition of their commitment to, or excellence in, music. Typically, students are awarded the title for commitment to one or more musical ensemble, but students can also receive the title for significant improvement, achievement or an outstanding attitude in classroom music lessons.

The students that have been awarded the 'Musician of the Month' title so far this year are:

### September

Year 7 – Sophia Kannathasan	For joining several ensembles and enthusiasm in lessons
Year 8 – Hanna Procter	For commitment to ensembles
Year 9 – Inova Lee	For commitment to ensembles and supporting young musicians
KS4/5 – Sanggeeta Surandran	For setting up and running the Carnatic Music Group

### October

Year 7 – Tharshaana Thayaparan	For exceptional academic achievement
Year 8 – Eve Register	For enthusiasm in lessons and commitment to ensembles
Year 9 – Priya Patel	For motivation in lessons and commitment to orchestra
KS4/5 – Caitlin Robinson	For teaching herself the bass guitar in order to join the jazz band

### November

Year 7 – Anchaliie Thasarathakumar	For commitment to several musical ensembles
Year 8 – Ananya Ambekar	For exceptional commitment to WCHS Singers
Year 9 – Subirna Visvalingam	For commitment to Junior Band
KS4/5 – Lara Janes-Walton	For a significant improvement in academic work



## Classics Visit to the Bay of Naples 2012

In the summer of July 2012, 4 teachers and 31 classics students from years 10-13 ventured on an exhilarating journey to the Bay of Naples, Italy. The trip lasted for five days giving us an insight to the ancient world, and the lives of Roman citizens prior to the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD.



Our first destination was the town of Herculaneum, where we met with and were accompanied by a friendly, Italian tour guide, who led us around the city. We were informed that the town of Herculaneum was buried under approximately 50–60 feet of mud and ash, resulting in its remaining well preserved for centuries to come. Herculaneum lay hidden and nearly intact for more than 1600 years when it was accidentally discovered by archaeologists! Needless to say, the town left a resounding impact on us all, enthralled by the original mosaics, colonnades and unique Latin inscriptions.

Next, we arrived at the site of the notorious Volcano itself and were struck by its size! Having been driven halfway up the volcano by coach, we had not anticipated how high up we were until we began the mighty ascent. With the sun beating down on us hard, we carefully trekked up the volcano - draining countless water bottles along the way. The hike was difficult, but worthwhile as the views from the top of the volcano were breath-taking. We even saw the huge crater formed by lava which had spewed, wiping out entire cities many centuries ago. After a quick group photo, we descended, which admittedly, was much easier than the upward climb! In the evenings we got a flavour of Sorrento nightlife and were encouraged to buy once-in-a-lifetime souvenirs by vendors left right and centre. There were numerous street-acts and the city was alive with music and entertainment. Some of us spent these evenings cherishing each and every spoonful of gelato!

On the second day we were ferried to the beautiful island of Capri - the ultimate holiday destination! Full of vibrant flowers, palm trees and brilliant white villas, Capri is definitely somewhere I'd like to return to one day. Not only did we voyage on cable-cars enabling us to make the most of the stunning views, we also climbed the ruins of the Emperor Tiberius' palace. We then returned to the hotel for dinner and to prepare for our second shopping spree in Sorrento by night! On the final day of the trip, we were full of a mixture of emotions, yet our sorrow (for we would be leaving the next day) was overpowered by our excitement to visit the fascinating city of Pompeii itself. After studying the town in theory and translating many related passages from Latin for many years, the real-life experience was incomparable. Overwhelmed by the relative sizes of the forum, amphitheatre and house of the Vettii (a wealthy family in Roman times) I was in awe of Pompeii throughout the day. I felt as if not enough time was spent there, as the city is so large, yet all crucial features of the town were covered. Viewing the plaster casts truly hit home, as it made the entire experience more real and a particular favourite was the original Roman baths. Without doubt, Pompeii was one of the highlights of the trip for me.



Our journey came to a close by paying a visit to Naples' archaeological museum, which encompassed a vast variety of Roman history. Full of busts of famous emperors and larger-than-life representations of mythological creatures, this museum is a must-see. As a backdrop to this the weather was incredible and the views so relaxing, that there was almost a dreamlike aspect to the end of our epic school trip. We returned to dreary Woodford with impressive tans cherishing each and every moment of our trip to the Bay of Naples. Hands down, the best school trip of all time, definitely one I would label unmissable to any student studying Latin or Classics for GCSE or A-level.

**Zaynah Ahmed (11W)**



## Miss Hasler performs at Westminster Abbey

As the new Head of Music at WCHS, I am very much enjoying getting to know all of the musicians in the school, and helping them to prepare for their own performances and concerts. Outside of school, however, I'm also involved in a lot of concerts of my own – the most recent of which was a solo recital at Westminster Abbey in early December.

As part of an 'Organ and Instrument' series running throughout December, I played a recital on the clarinet, accompanied by Martin Ford, the Assistant Organist at the Abbey. Our programme included works by Vaughan Williams, Mendelssohn and Finzi – none of which were originally written for clarinet and organ, but all of which seemed to work well, and were much enjoyed by the audience. Of course, I enjoyed it too – and I hope to be invited back again in the future!

### Miss K Hasler



## Miss Dhiman Exhibits her work at Brighton



Miss 'D' was chosen from four hundred applicants to exhibit her work at the Brighton Craft and Art Fair in November. The fair, which lasted four days, allows original makers to show and sell their work directly to the public. The fair also gave Miss D a chance to exhibit and sell new work, produced using the laser cutter at school. The feedback from the public was positive and many galleries and shops were interested in Miss D's work. Everyone commented on the use of colour and patterns. These exhibitions give Miss D a chance to see other exhibitors' work and get ideas about materials and techniques that can be used by Art students at Woodford.

## Our Trip to the Paralympics

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2012, we were fortunate enough to begin the new school year by watching the Paralympics which formed an important part in the London 2012 Games. From the minute we stepped out of Stratford station, we were struck by the electric atmosphere and were full of excitement as we headed to the magnificent stadium. We attended the morning session of the athletics which included events such as the men's and women's 200m, shot putt and javelin. One of the highlights for us was seeing the South-African runner, Oscar Pistorius receiving his gold medal. We all agree that the Paralympic athletes are very inspiring for not allowing their disabilities to prevent them from achieving their dreams. Perhaps the most wonderful feeling we experienced that day was the sense of pride when an athlete from team GB received a medal or won an event. The applause from the audience was incredible and motivating. All in all, going to the Paralympics was an amazing experience and definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity.

**Prem and Saloni (Year 11)**





## Miss Keeling reports for London 2012 - Inspiring a Generation

On the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2012 I took my seat in the Olympic Stadium along with 80,000 other people to witness first-hand the amazing spectacle that was the Olympics Opening Ceremony. From the James Bond sketch featuring the Queen to Sir Paul McCartney's classic Hey Jude, the whole event was astonishing. However this was only the beginning of a fantastic summer of sport. With 36 Olympic sports, 304 different events, 10,820 athletes and millions of spectators, London 2012 was unquestionably a great success. Both the Olympics and Paralympics captured the nation's attention and Olympic fever swept across the country. We even held our own Olympics Opening Ceremony and Olympic themed events here at school to celebrate the occasion. Along with our school celebrations some lucky students had the chance to go and see events such as Paralympic athletics, basketball and football. A great time was had by all and I know the students very much enjoyed it.



As well as attending the Opening Ceremony I was also fortunate enough to gain tickets to a variety of other events including athletics, table tennis, judo, football and Paralympic swimming. Two of the highlights for me were seeing Ellie Simmonds gain a bronze in swimming and Oscar Pistorius win gold in the 400m. At one event I saw some of our Sixth Form Games Makers, keeping the crowd entertained on their megaphones. Even when I was not there in person I was at home glued to my TV screen waiting for the next GB medal to be won or world

record to be broken, as I bet many of you were.

My Olympic experiences were finished off with retaking a seat in the Olympic Stadium to watch the Paralympic Closing Ceremony. Singing along to Coldplay and Rhianna whilst celebrating the success of London 2012, the whole evening was incredible and one I will not forget for a long time.

Everyone will have their own personal highlights of London 2012, whether it was doing the Mobot or watching Team GB win medal after medal. All we can hope now is that Rio 2016 can follow in London's footsteps.



### Miss H Keeling





## A Games Maker's View

The 2012 Olympic Games was a memorable event for London and the rest of the UK. It made even the cynical proud to call themselves British. A lucky few had the opportunity to experience the Olympics at first hand, either a spectator or as a volunteer. I was one of the latter.

Through Woodford Green and Essex Ladies Athletics Club seven young athletes and I were presented with the opportunity to volunteer as a kit carrier at the Athletics stadium. After a demanding selection process, which we aced after beating our two competitors by making the tallest building made out of newspaper; and a training session in which we were taught how we should lift and carry the kit boxes, we were left anticipating the games. Who would we carry kit for? Could it be Mo Farah, Jessica Ennis, or even Usain Bolt?



My most memorable experience came on the first day of volunteering. It wasn't an important day on the schedule, we were on shift for one of the numerous 800m heats I wasn't expecting anything too exciting as, embarrassingly, I didn't recognise any of the athletes competing in the race. (To be honest of course simply stepping out onto the track proved exciting enough). I was reliably informed by my fellow volunteers that Andrew Osagie was someone to be excited about, not only was he British and fast, he was from Harlow. However, when I stepped out on to the track the noise of the

crowd, the sheer number of spectators, was so intimidating I could only concentrate on keeping a straight face and not messing up. It is hard to imagine the nerves and other emotions that athletes face in front of such a large audience, with real pressure on their shoulders. Unbeknown to me, as I concentrated on keeping a straight face, and worried I was going to miss my cue to walk on the track my face appeared on TV! That was cool but it would have been nice if I had been able to prepare myself beforehand. I was just as excited about Osagie saying thank you to me, the majority of athletes tended to be silent in preparation.

It is only on reflection that I realise how inspiring I found my experience. The Athletes were toned, they had pushed and moulded their bodies to ensure that it was at its peak when it was asked to perform under the pressure of the games (simply a sighting of Caster Semenya confirmed this). The tension was palpable; there were muttered prayers, silent visualisations and superstitious rituals performed by the athletes. I realised how much hard work goes in to producing a performance at such a high level, I could only dream of achieving anything close to Osagie's success as an athlete. He came last in the 2012 final, but it was exciting to realise if he had run the same time in the last Olympic Games he would have won.

**Holly Bedeau (Year 13)**



## PE Results

### Netball Inter-form

The autumn term marked the start Netball Inter-form competition. Girls from year 7 to year 9 went head to head in both an A and B Team league. The results of the highly competitive games are as follows:

#### Year 7A:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Highams
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Newton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Warner
- 4<sup>th</sup> Repton

#### Year 8A:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Warner
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Repton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Newton
- 4<sup>th</sup> Highams

#### Year 9A:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Highams
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Newton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Repton
- 4<sup>th</sup> Warner

#### Year 7B:

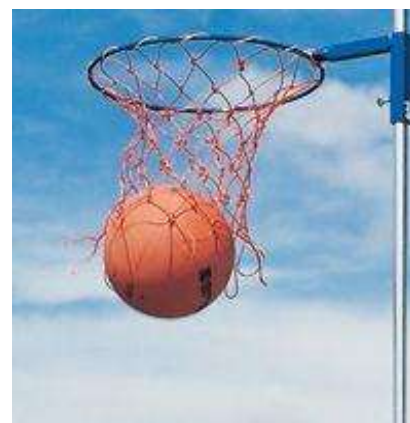
- 1<sup>st</sup> Warner
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Highams
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Newton and Repton

#### Year 8B:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Newton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Repton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Warner
- 4<sup>th</sup> Highams

#### Year 9B:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Newton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Highams
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Warner
- 4<sup>th</sup> Repton



Girls in year 10 and 11 entered an A team league. The competition was close to call. The teams worked well together with some sharp shooting on the day. The results of the year 10 and 11 inter-form are below:

#### Year 10:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Newton
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Repton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Warner
- 4<sup>th</sup> Highams

#### Year 11:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Warner
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Newton
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Repton
- 4<sup>th</sup> Highams



## Cross country

### Woodford League

Cold, wet and muddy...it must be time for cross country. The 3 week Woodford Green and Essex Ladies Cross country league kicked off on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October at Claybury.

After the first race Woodford's Year 7 & 8 team sat in 2<sup>nd</sup> place with all girls placed in the top 20. The Year 9 and 10 teams placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in their competition with 5 girls in the top 10.

Week 2 saw the Year 7 and 8 girls maintain their form and hold on to their number 2 ranking behind Woodbridge.

The Year 9 & 10 team moved up the table to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> behind Roding Valley.

Both the Year 7 and 8 and the Year 9 and 10 teams ran a fantastic final race. The Year 7 and 8 stormed round the course to finish on top of their league. The Year 9 and 10 teams held their position to take home 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the league.





### District Cross country

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October was the day of the District Cross Country. True to form the Claybury course was a mud bath, but the Woodford girls took to the course with confidence and determination.

The junior team (year 8 and 9) came in a very respectable 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The inter team (year 10 and 11) went one better being placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in their competition. The senior race was dominated by the Woodford team; Holly Bedeau placed 1st, Stephanie Smith 2nd, Eleanora Vriend 4th, Meg Ward 7th and Izzy Mooney 8<sup>th</sup>. As a result the senior trophy has come back to Woodford for the 6<sup>th</sup> year running. The day was a resounding success and all the girls thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Due to a very successful season the following girls have been selected to represent Redbridge in the Essex County Schools Cross Country: Myriam Vriend, Mayo Oremakinde, Lily Auguste, Holly Beadeau, Stephanie Smith, Eleanora Vriend

The Y7 District is yet to be run but after a very successful start to the season we have high hopes for the team.



## Should religion offer women more?

This was the provocative title of our Year 13 R.S. Conference in December this year which was inspired by the decision of the Church of England not to ordain women bishops. We held the conference at Ilford Library where students could reflect without the hurly burly of school life intruding.



Helping our students make up their minds on this issue were representatives of different faith groups, including a Youth Worker from All Saints, Woodford Wells, an Imam from South Woodford Mosque, a Rabbi from Newbury Park synagogue, a Sikh chaplain at King George's Hospital, a teacher from the Brahma Kumari movement, and a member of the British Humanist Association. We are very grateful to them for giving up their time to be with us.



After all the discussions the vast majority of the conference came to the conclusion that religion did offer women enough, but in Religious Studies, the questions we ask are often more important than the answers!

**Mr Becket**

(Head of Religious Studies)



## Musical Magic - House Drama 2012

Like every year, each house chose a musical and everyone involved worked hard for a month-and-a-half to prepare their own 30 minute interpretation to present to the audience of judges, students, teachers and parents. I think that it is safe to say that every performance was a great success but that Warner were worthy winners with their production of *Cats*!



**Newton's** rendition of "*Billy Elliot*" won awards for Chorus and for Senior Supporting Actress (Lara Janes-Walton's portrayal of Mrs Wilkinson) and Certificates of Merit for Orchestra, Choreography and for Dearbhail Sheeny's Billy Elliot. Dearbhail and Lara's stand-out performances brought the show to life, while the opposing sides of policemen and miners portrayed by the chorus were evocative of the emotion involved in the events of the time, with the tight harmonies and aggressive dance moves forcing the audience to sit up and take notice.

**Repton's** "*Matilda*" won awards for Scenery and for Junior Leading Actress (Kat Fu as Matilda), and Certificates of Merit for their Chorus and for several actresses: Katerina Fletcher as Miss Honey (Senior Supporting Actress), Sonita Ramani as Bruce (Junior Supporting Actress) and Sayakki Pransveswaran as Mrs Trunchball (Senior Leading Actress). The school kids' angry songs and aggressive dancing was enough to scare the audience more than once, while the actresses showed both the funny and touching sides of Matilda's story thoughtfully and with great success.



**Highams'** performance of "*Blood Brothers*" won them both of the awards for Senior Leading Actress, (Ellen Madhani for Mrs Johnstone, and Simran Seehra for Mickey Johnstone). Certificates of Merit were awarded for Costumes, Choreography and Acting, with certificates going to Bahaar Massouleh as the Narrator (Senior Supporting Actress) and to Jenny Essery and Herkiran Kambo as Eddie Lyons and Linda (Senior Leading Actresses). The dark and ultimately tragic story of *Blood Brothers* was brought to the audience with strong performances from the entire cast. The regional accents transported the onlookers to the council estates and the posh houses of Liverpool, while the dramatic ending brought tears to more than one eye.

**Warner's** "*Cats*" was the indisputable winner, scooping awards for Orchestra, Costume, Choreography and Overall Production. They also gained certificates of merit for Scenery, Chorus and Acting – with certificates going to Tasnim Ali, Ruby Woloski and Pratima Chhabra (Senior Supporting Actresses), Maeve Rowley O'Donnell and Zaynab Ahmed as Grizabella and Rum Tum Tugger (Senior Leading Actresses). The colourful costumes, enthusiastic dancing and loud singing delighted audiences with the visual spectacle. The non-stop music and singing wowed everyone and the cast and chorus' stamina was something to admire!

Overall this was a great showcase of our school's dramatic talent and we already can't wait till next year!

**Jenny Essery (Year 12)**





## Student Enterprise at the PFA Christmas Fair

The success of the ice skating venture at last year's Fair set the PFA an inevitable and unenviable challenge in December. Just exactly how were they to follow that? Sunday 2 December dawned bright, sunny and cold bringing visitors out in good number and making them grateful perhaps, that all the activity this time was indoors.



The school hall was transformed into a Roller Disco for the day with children of all sizes – and even an ambitious French teacher – donning skates to whizz around with ever greater confidence. Year 10 Sports Leaders championed the event, skating themselves and supporting the less confident until they were surer on their wheels.



At the instigation of our very impressive Silver Badge Team, students played a very active role in the Fair this year. Each KS3 Form group devised and ran a stall or activity, supported by their Form Helper. Anonymous bears sought names, noses were pinned on reindeer and both staff and students were challenged to identify teachers from their (very cute) baby photos. External stall holders marketed their wares in the Conference Hall and, as ever, the PFA did a roaring trade in tea and cakes, mulled wine and hamburgers, soft drinks, curries and pizzas. The afternoon was brought to a close with the drawing of tickets for the Grand Lottery and then folk made their way home, a Christmas or present or two further forward, in many cases.



The PFA this year are raising money to renovate a very special feature of the school. A target of £14,000 has been set to fund repairs to the Greek Theatre which, it is hoped, will be re-opened next summer as a venue for performances both by Woodford actors and by touring companies. Profit from the Fair has yet to be finalised but it is hoped that £3,500 has been raised towards this target. An enormous thank you is owed to everyone who supported the event: the parents and friends who made it happen, the students who ran stalls or helped with the Roller Disco and everyone who took time out of their Sunday to support the event.

## A Musical Selection Box

Our Christmas Concert in the last week of term delighted its audience with a varied, challenging and at times witty programme of music and song. It was a concert of two halves. The opening section showcased the work of a variety of groups (two bands, two choirs and the full orchestra) and its music spanned almost three hundred years, Handel's *Water Music* sitting comfortably enough alongside the theme music of films and a Christmas chart topper.

After festive refreshments provided by the PFA the audience settled to the more traditionally festive programme beautifully launched by a Year 8 soloist, Olivia King, who set the tone for the carol singing of the evening. Two members of each of the four houses presented a reading and then, in lighter mood, we were all sent festively home with a rousing rendition of Slade's *"Merry Christmas, Everybody"*. Girls are congratulated for the calibre of their performances and thanked for the wonderful evening of music we enjoyed.



*Woodford's 2012 Christmas card was designed by Devika Shah in Year 8*

## Seasons Greetings

**Students, staff and governors  
extend their best wishes to  
everyone in the wider  
Woodford community for a  
Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.**

