

# WOODLANDS NEWSLETTER



ISSUE: Dec 2021

Enabling aspiration and achievement for all through delivery of a knowledge-rich curriculum underpinned by our CORE values:

C

COURAGE

O

OPTIMISM

R

REGARD

E

ENDEAVOUR

## WELCOME

We are very proud of all that has been achieved and managed this year at school. Not only have we had a semblance of normality in the running of the school day and curriculum delivery but we are delighted to have been able to run theatre trips, sporting fixtures, musical performances and a range of out of lesson activities and clubs. More than ever, we have recognised the importance of the different opportunities available; we believe that our students grow as people when they are able to engage with new experiences and challenges and we encourage this. Our new Lead for Enrichment, Cultural Capital and Opportunity, Mrs Walker, has started work on mapping this part of our offer so that we can share it with families and ensure everyone has a chance to find something for them.

Our students have adapted well to the arrangements for the school day and these remain under review as part of our Covid response. We have had several external visitors to school including national a training provider, and author, local authority officers and our senior school improvement advisor all of whom have commented positively on the calm and orderly atmosphere of the school. Our students have been polite and friendly with visitors; they demonstrate our CORE values in what they say what they do and how they do it. This is also true in the wider community where members of the public have contacted me to thank our students for helping out, checking on someone who is struggling. The vast majority of our students are a credit to the school. Our planned achievement awards have had to be pushed back to January but they tell a story of excellence and endeavour that is precisely what we expect from students.

You will notice inside this newsletter that our Student Leadership Team is now in place and they have established sub-committees with areas of focus around environmental awareness, diversity awareness, public speaking and school publications. Our vice-chairs also have a specific role in promoting mental health awareness and anti-bullying. It is wonderful to see our students taking a lead in these important areas.

As we move to the new year, there is undeniable uncertainty created by the Covid pandemic. However, as a school, we are well prepared to respond to what comes. We are hoping that we have a high uptake for on-site lateral flow testing at the start of term to give us all some security about coming back into school safely for the new term. While testing is going on, learning opportunities will still be provided as per other emails. We are also pleased to have introduced our school app to make communication with families easier and more immediate. If you haven't yet signed up, you can do so via the website.



From all at Woodlands, we wish you a safe and peaceful festive break and a happy new year.

## Student Leadership Team



This term we have seen the election and selection of our 21/22 Student Leadership Team. A group of passionate Sixth Form Students, each individual fulfils a crucial role within the school, whether that is as a committee lead, or as someone who takes the student body's perspectives to staff in the hope of finding solutions to some of the problems encountered by everyday pupils at Allestree Woodlands School.

This term, the Student Leadership Team have been active in their roles, helping to organise Show Racism the Red Card, as well as a Christmas jumper sale for the environment. They have also met with students to discuss what is going on around the school, and our Chairs are in the process of communicating this key information to staff. Next term, there will be plenty of updates as to what is going on and what comes next – watch this space!



The school committee arranged for students to donate 2nd hand jumpers which could then be sold on to other students. This was a great way to help the environment and also help raise funds for the school.

Well done to Jaya Banga 10M1 and Hannah Mitchell 11M2 for volunteering!!





My name is Ben. I am the Project Lead for The VOICE Project, I am also a year 12 student here at Woodlands and have been here since 2016.

So you are probably wondering what The VOICE Project is, in essence it is a group of people who work together to provide opportunities for students ,at this and hopefully one day multiple schools, that will interest and provide useful skills for the students of said schools.

VOICE Magazine is our first project. The goal for issue number one was to create a full magazine with content that interests the student's of Allestree Woodlands School. In my opinion we were successful. The first issue contained articles that touched on student interest's surrounding politics and education rights, but in contrast there was a piece that asked whether a Jaffa Cake was a cake or a biscuit which I just think goes to show that you can do a piece on practically anything that peaks your interest.

With that in mind I would be remised if I didn't take this opportunity to tell you all about the great opportunities we are providing in our upcoming STEM issue. To start we are allowing student's to interview any staff member of a STEM related faculty. We are also providing a one time offer to student's to interview the head of a Space Agency run project, Rebecca Crawford Richardson. Remember you can join VOICE just by turning up to room 1010 on a Tuesday lunchtime.

I hope that everyone who has already seen VOICE enjoyed reading it and to those who haven't read it yet then I must say pick up a copy (we release a new issue every 8 school weeks), the talent of some of our contributors this Issue have been incomparable and I am overjoyed at the results we achieved.

### What issues do I believe most affect young people in Derby?

The top three issues, that I spoke about in my speech and, that I believe affect young people in Derby the most are discrimination, maintaining good mental health, and the climate crisis. There are many issues that affect young people in Derby but I believe that these issues must be tackled first so that we can achieve a safer Derby for all young people.

### Why do I believe that I will make a good Youth Mayor?

I believe I would make a good Youth Mayor for the sole reason that I have the ability to share the voices and concerns of others. I may not always have all the great ideas, but I don't need to, as being Youth Mayor, to me, means listening to young people and using my confidence and position to amplify what they have to say. I know many people who rarely get involved in class, but once you get talking to them, they share their entire world with you. These people wouldn't think that they are capable of talking in front of lots of people, so that is what I am here for. I am here to highlight the concerns and ideas of the people who have first-hand experience in the areas that are being discussed.



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Huge congratulations must go out to Hannah Mitchell 11M2. She has been voted through to the final round of the Derby Youth Mayor Programme.

To get through to this final round, Hannah had to deliver a speech to the Voice In Action Youth Council. The topic of the speech was about what she believed were the three most important issues facing young people in Derby today. She selected; discrimination, maintaining a good mental health, and the climate crisis.

Her speech was a roaring success and, according to those who heard it, her passion about the topics and for serving young people in the capacity of Youth Mayor were extremely clear to see.

The final round involves all young people in Derby's secondary schools listening to the speeches of the four finalists, and then voting for who they would like to represent them as their Youth Mayor.

I know the whole school will be proud of Hannah's achievements this far and will rally round her when voting occurs in January.

Miss Smith

Head of Year 11 and Teacher of Geography



## Woodlands Chess Tournament



Chess is a hugely popular activity in our school community and during the last three weeks of term, students from all year groups have participated in a Round Robin Chess Tournament during their breaks and lunch times in the LRC. To accommodate all those who enjoy chess, 3 tournaments have taken place, as well as additional and very exciting elimination rounds.

All students involved wonderfully demonstrated our CORE values. Showing the courage to play tough opponents, optimism that they may win, regard in terms of their conduct with each other, and great endeavour to keep on going no matter how challenging their chess match became. We have seen students develop their chess skills, especially KS3 who have shown tremendous courage during match play with accomplished older students.

Tournaments are not for everyone, there are students who wished to continue playing chess with friends, so we ensured they were able to do so. We are extremely proud of our entire chess community, of their commitment and perseverance, not only in tournament matches, but in the friendly games they play and the support they show to each other. On the unexpected last day of term, we were able to celebrate with certificates, chocolates, and trophies! (Break 1's Elimination Tournament will continue in January.)

Our students always say it best:

"Chess gets your brain thinking and ready for your next class." Gracie Year 7

We are looking forward to more Chess Play in 2022!

Mrs Weightman, LRC

To follow all LRC news, parents and carers may follow @AwsLrc on twitter



## Year 7 Roman Shields



As part of their first topic of study at Allestree Woodlands School, Year 7 have been asked to create Roman Shields using recycled material and their imagination. Because of the fantastic quality and quantity of shields, Year 7 have been able to build and show off some fantastic Roman Tactics that they have learnt in their History lessons over the last couple of half terms. Some students showed some brilliant regard by letting students borrow their shields and take them into battle.

I think it is clear, from the photographs that were taken on the battlefield, that there was a high level of endeavour that went into both making the shields, and learning the tactics, in order to execute them effectively.

Well done Year 7!

Mr Findlay

Teacher of History



## Year 7 Roman Shields



7M1 – Going through their paces as Roman soldiers, showing how well they knew the 'Wedge, Orb, Repel-Cavalry and the Tortoise'.





## Year 7 Roman Shields



701 – Also going through their paces as Roman soldiers, showing how well they knew the 'Wedge, Orb, Repel-Cavalry and the Tortoise'.





## Year 7 Roman Shields



702 – Had their training interrupted by torrential rain (the Romans were always complaining about British weather!) so were allowed to lower their masks for a quick photo-shoot so you could see their faces.

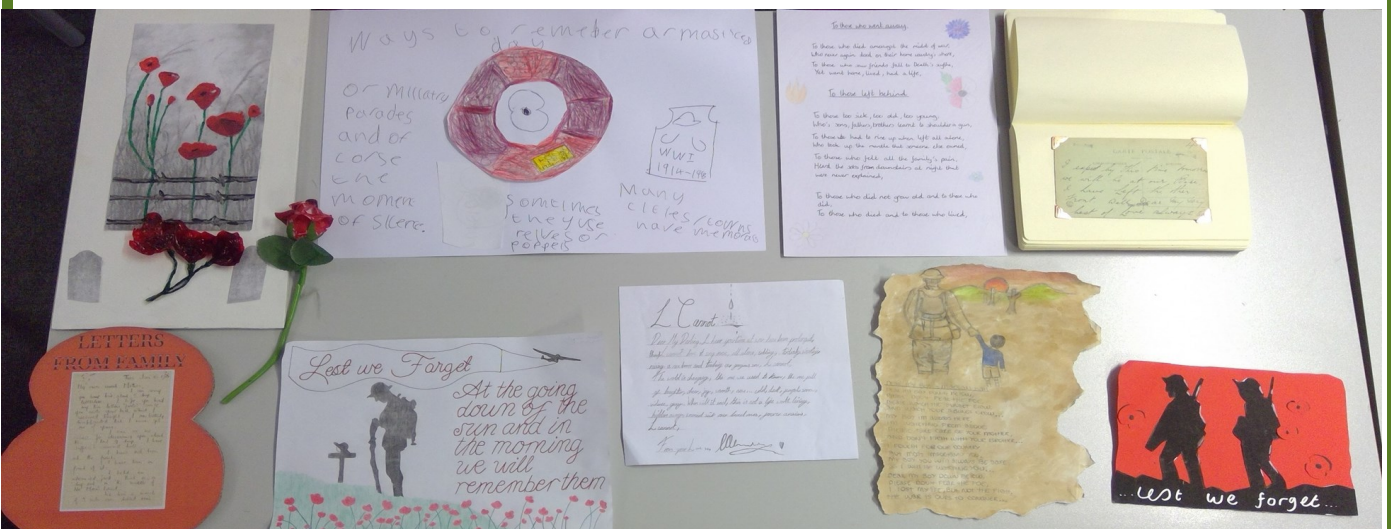
A big 'thank you' to all those students across the year group (and their parents and carers) for their great efforts. This is the best year we've had and it was so great to get outside and for pupils to show their knowledge of Roman fighting techniques. Well done all!

Mr Oswald

Teacher of History



## Beautiful Work for Remembrance Day



Year 9 students have been completing remembrance projects to commemorate remembrance day on the 11th of November and Remembrance Sunday on the 14th of November. Above are pictures of their work to display the endeavour they have shown to create such thoughtful and colourful tributes. The displays are from 9C1, 9R2 and 9O1 who have shown high amounts of regard for the people that have been affected by the First World War and subsequent conflicts.

Mr Findlay

Teacher of History



## KS3 Youth Theatre



Our Youth Theatre is held every Monday in the Theatre by Mrs Oldham and Mr Tomlinson. The students have been enjoying taking on their imaginary roles whilst being lead by their short comedy scripts.

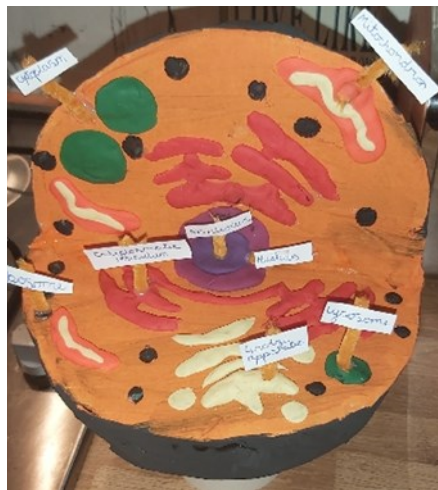
All Year 7, 8 and 9 students are more than welcome.



# Science 701 and 702 - Beautiful Work



<p>Solid</p>	<p>Liquid</p>	<p>gas</p>
They are all different		
<p>Sunrise Solid</p>	<p>Melting liquid</p>	<p>evaporation</p>
Cube just been placed next to window not melting yet.	from all of the heat in the window turns into liquid	liquid turns into gas and the gas is water basically
<p>Solid</p>	<p>Liquid</p>	<p>gas</p>
All the particles in a solid, liquid and gas are different because a solid is all together vibrating. A liquid is the close but not touching and the moving sloshing and the moving all about and there moving quickly.		
The End		



## The 3 states of matter by Eonia Dwan

<p>The 3 states of matter</p>	<p>Boiling = Liquid - Gas the substance gains energy in boiling state</p>	<p>Condensing - Gas - Liquid the substance loses energy in a condensing state</p>
<p>Freezing = Liquid - Solid The substance loses energy in a freezing state</p>	<p>Melting = Solid - Liquid The substance loses energy in a melting state.</p>	<p>Gas particles have lots of energy and move in random direction far apart. It can be compressed and flow however it doesn't have a fixed shape or volume.</p>
<p>Liquid particles slightly around each other and are not in a pattern. They don't have a fixed shape but they do have a fixed volume and they can't be compressed, but they can flow.</p>	<p>Solid particles don't have lots of energy, they vibrate in one spot. They are arranged in a pattern, they have a fixed shape and volume and can't flow or be compressed.</p>	<p>The End</p>



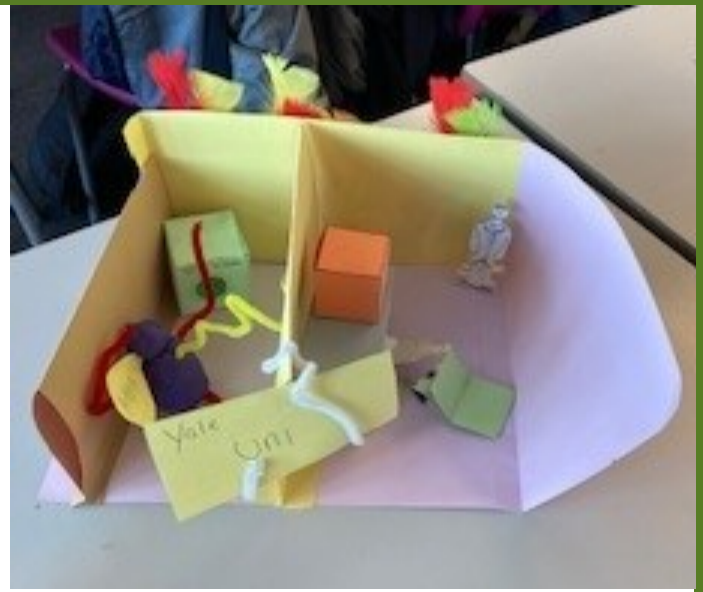
## Year 12 Sociology Beautiful Work



Our Year 12 Sociology students have been making educational triage figures. They represent how teachers have expectations of their students, which helps them to identify the students who may need extra support during their school years to achieve their full potential.



## Psychology Students Beautiful Work



Our 6th Form Psychology students have been showcasing their understanding of Milgram's baseline study, about how ordinary people will bend to the will of an authority figure and deliver what they believe to be fatal electric shocks.

## Derby City Mission

Our students have been collecting food donations for Derby City Missions. To help the 6000 people in Derby in need of our help this winter.

We're very proud of everyone who helped with this worthy cause.



## Children In Need



Woodlands school raised £272.77 for Children In Need. Raffle tickets were sold to the students with a variety of chocolate being the prize.

Well done to everyone who took part!



## Year 7 Christmas Lunches



## Tutor Time Reading

# Tutor Time Reading

Year 7 and Year 8  
have been reading -



Amazing books by  
wonderful authors.



## Football City Tournaments



Congratulations to our Year 8 & Year 9 Girls Football Team who came 2nd in the city tournaments.

Results were:

Da Vinci 4-0, Derby High 2-0

West Park 2-0 in the semi final:

They then played against Chellaston in the final and hit the woodwork 3 times! But alas... it went to penalties and then sudden death penalties, in which they unfortunately lost.

## Derby City Table Tennis Tournament



Congratulations to George Dickens 802, who won the Derby City Table Tennis Tournament which was held at Woodlands school.



## Woodlands Netball Team



Two Year 7 Netball teams played Derby High in their first netball fixtures for Woodlands. They played well and have huge potential.

Well done girls!!

## Drama News



## THE MAGICIAN'S ELEPHANT

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY – STRATFORD  
DECEMBER 2021

On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December over 60 students for years 7-11 enjoyed a trip to see the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of The Magician's Elephant. The production was stunning with phenomenal puppetry, amazing lights and set, beautiful music and wonderful acting. The students who went were a credit to the school and a big thank you to the staff who support the trip at a busy time of year.



## THEATRE REVIEW WINNER – AMY LOWETH

Well done to Amy Loweth in 11R1 who won the Theatre writing review! Amy recorded a fantastic review of a production of Macbeth which she watched in Digital Theatre+ starring Niamh Cusack and David Eggleston. Amy's review was a pleasure to listen to, very detailed with excellent attention to detail.

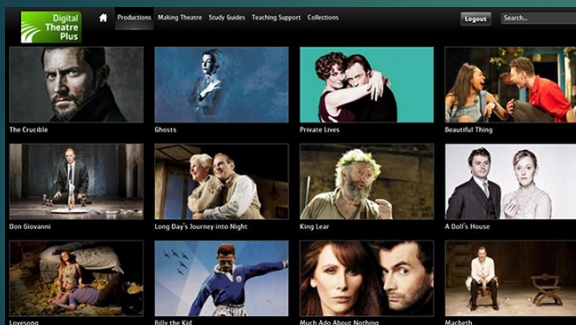
Amy, the drama department hope you enjoy spending your National Theatre Vouchers and look forward to hearing about the production you choose to watching them.

The Drama Department will be launching a new competition in the new year and look forward to finding out about the productions you have been watching

Do you fancy an evening watching fantastic theatre?

**DIGITAL  
THEATRE +**

Do you want to escape into a different world for a couple of hours?



All staff and students can now access Digital Plus and view a wide range of theatre productions as well as documentaries about theatre practitioners and behind the scenes videos from home



The link for Digital Theatre + has been emailed out to all students and to access the plays you will need to log in using your school email address and password. If you need any help, please email Mrs Oldham ([h.oldham@woodlands.derby.sch.uk](mailto:h.oldham@woodlands.derby.sch.uk)).

## Lateral Flow Testing

Please find below the details for Lateral Flow Testing on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January for years 7, 8 and 9.

Students should arrive at school at their allocated time. Entrance is through the Sports Hall car park gates. Students will have their test and then leave through the Sports Hall fire exit.

There is no need for students to remain on site and they should return home to continue the online learning.

Anyone with a positive LFT result will receive a call after half an hour and should book a PCR test.

Students who are displaying any COVID related symptoms should also book a PCR test and not attend school for testing.

If a student has had a confirmed PCR result during the 90 days prior (between 12<sup>th</sup> October and 10<sup>th</sup> January) then they do not need to attend the LFT day.

Form Groups	Testing time
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7C1 and 7C2	9am
7M1 and 7M2	9.30am
7O1 and 7O2	10am
7R1 and 7R2	10.30am

8C1 and 8C2	11am
8M1 and 8M2	11.30am
8O1 and 8O2	12 noon
8R1 and 8R2	1.30pm

9C1 and 9C2	2pm
9M1 and 9M2	2.30pm
9O1 and 9O2	3pm
9R1 and 9R2	3.30pm



POOL SESSIONS AT WOODLANDS SPORT & LEISURE

# FAMILY SPLASH SESSIONS

Bring friends and family, and have fun  
with floats and toys in the splash session.  
Ideal for all ages and abilities.

Saturdays 8.30am till 9.25 and 9.30 till 10.25am

Adults £3.20 | Children £2.50 | 4 and under FREE

Additional Family Fun Sessions will be added  
to our Pool Programme during School Holidays.  
Please check our website for more information.

**[www.woodlands.derby.sch.uk](http://www.woodlands.derby.sch.uk)**

or telephone: 01332 555904

email: [the.pool@woodlands.derby.sch.uk](mailto:the.pool@woodlands.derby.sch.uk)



## Safeguarding Team

# THE WOODLANDS SAFEGUARDING TEAM



**Mrs Brailsford** Assistant Head Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Mr Roe** Deputy Head  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Miss Martin** Attendance Officer  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead



**Mrs Bailey** Behaviour  
Improvement Co-ordinator  
Deputy Designated  
Safeguarding Lead

Woodlands is committed to the safety and protection of students. If you have any concerns please speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team or email [safeguarding@woodlands.derby.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@woodlands.derby.sch.uk)



Courage | Optimism | Regard | Endeavour

TO SAFEGUARD THE STUDENT COMMUNITY

## Heads of House Contact Details

Should parents/carers have any concerns regarding their child, could they please initially contact their Form Tutors. Thereafter, the next point of contact would be the following Heads of House:

### Head of Year 7

Helen Curr

[h.curr@woodlands.derby.sch.uk](mailto:h.curr@woodlands.derby.sch.uk)

### Head of Year 8

Emily Pitter

[e.pitter@woodlands.derby.sch.uk](mailto:e.pitter@woodlands.derby.sch.uk)

### Head of Year 9

Lucy Colley

[l.colley@woodlands.derby.sch.uk](mailto:l.colley@woodlands.derby.sch.uk)

### Head of Year 10

Damon Hammond

[d.hammond@woodlands.derby.sch.uk](mailto:d.hammond@woodlands.derby.sch.uk)

### Head of Year 11

Helen Smith

[h.smith@woodlands.derby.sch.uk](mailto:h.smith@woodlands.derby.sch.uk)

## KEY DATES

Monday 10th January—Lateral Flow Testing for students

Tuesday 11th January—Return to school for all year groups

Friday 21st January—Year 9 Subject Reports to Parents

Monday 24th January—Year 9 Parents Information and Options Evening

Friday 28th January—6th Form Interviews

Monday 31st January—Year 9 Options Form Deadline

Wednesday 9th February—Year 7 Parents Evening

Friday 18th—Tuesday 22nd February—A level Iceland Trip

Thursday 17th February—Start of Half Term

**Friday 18th February—INSET DAY**

Monday 28th February—Start of Second Half Term