WOODLANDS NEWSLETTER



ISSUE: Oct 2021

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

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COURAGE

OPTIMISM

REGARD

ENDEAVOUR

WELCOME

Welcome to our October half term newsletter. We were delighted to start the new academic year with some sense of normality for our students. In the strangest of times, seemingly little things have taken on a new importance: year group assemblies, being able to move around the building, having lessons in specialist classrooms, being able to do practical work across subjects; all of these things were symbols of better times and we have done incredibly well to get to this week before things have become more challenging.

Whist we are treading very carefully as we approach half term and we have had to reintroduce some safety measures to try to get an increase in Covid cases under control, we are hopeful that a combination of vaccination uptake, regular lateral flow testing and adherence to safety measures will see us in a position to be able to review where we are at the end of the first week back.

I am so pleased to share this newsletter with you as it really shows how we are moving forward as a school.

We have 4 school improvement priorities for the next 3 years; these are informed by what students, families and staff have told us alongside leaders' evaluation of how the school is doing. They are summed up as follows:

Priority 1: #relationships

Priority 2: #curriculum and learning for all
Priority 3: #community in and beyond school
Priority 4: #leadership of continued improvement

We have already had some excellent assemblies led by our own students to increase students' awareness of some really important issues and topics. Today, sees our first Stand Up to Racism Wear Red Day and I am immensely proud of the leadership and engagement with this shown by our students. In being a school that wants to be more aware of our community and our place in the wider world, we want our students to value and celebrate diversity and to be brave enough to take a stand against discrimination. A huge thank you to students who have organised this event.

In our newsletter, you will see lots of participation and success in the sporting fixtures and events that have been arranged across the city and in some cases more widely. We know how important it is for students to be able to take part in these sorts of activities and we will continue to support and encourage them with this.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a peaceful and restful half term break. As usual, we do ask that students undertake lateral flow tests on the Sunday before they return to school in the hope that this will be one step towards us staying open and keeping everyone safe.

Mrs Penny Head Teacher

Wear Red Day











Wear Red Day









This year, for the first time, Woodlands took part in Show Racism the Red Card's Wear Red Day (WRD) on 22nd October. The decision to embark on this day was championed by the work of the Diversity Awareness team which is led by a passionate group of students in school. Their mission Statement is "Raising awareness and educating our school community to ensure an inclusive and diverse school environment where we feel supported and safe being ourselves"

WRD was an excellent opportunity for staff and students to visually show support and raise awareness of the fact that racism will not be tolerated at Woodlands by wearing non uniform and an item of red. On the day there was also a voluntary option to support the charity 'Show Racism the Red Card' by donating £1 to the charities anti-racist endeavours.

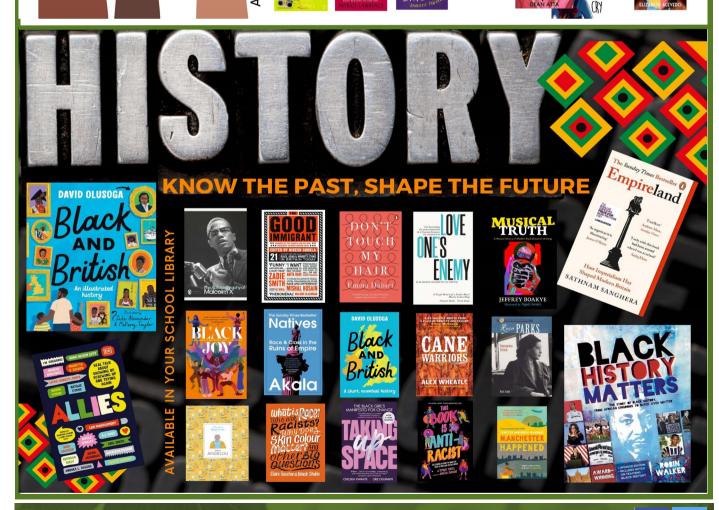
The Diversity Awareness teams motivation for promoting this day in school were to raise awareness, show support and to communicate our message of anti-racism by wearing red.

If you wish to find out more about the charity, please visit the website <u>www.theredcard.org</u> for more information.

The Diversity Awareness Team

Celebration of Black Literature





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Racial Equality

This half term, year 10 students, Ejiro Kafi and Jaya Banga have been leading assemblies for Years 7, 8 and 9. These students have shown great courage in drawing on their own experiences to develop powerful message to our students about racial equality and to encourage students to take action against racism.

These inspirational students are keen to ensure that all students at Allestree Woodlands School feel supported by making it clear that we have a zero tolerance for racism and ensuring that students know where to find the help they may need. As role models to the younger students, Jaya and Ejiro are motivating students to find the courage to stand up for what is right and speak out when they know something is wrong.



Their optimism that they can instigate positive change and their endeavour to make it happen is a credit to themselves, their families, our school and the wider community. I am excited to see what these young women will achieve next!

Mrs Walker

Teacher of English

Derby Youth Mayor Scheme



Allestree Woodlands School are once again participating in the Derby Youth Mayor scheme where students across the city vote on who they would like to represent them as their Youth Mayor.

The Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor help to raise awareness of the positive contribution young people make to our city and ensure their voices are heard. They represent the views of young people at the Council Cabinet and at public events, as well as chairing the Voices in Action Youth Council meetings.

All students in the school were invited to apply to take part in the first round. The school then had to whittle down the applicants to two students, who are now through to the next round. The two students selected are both exemplary candidates, who both put forward very convincing arguments as to why they would be the best person to represent young people in the city. As such, congratulations to Hannah Mitchell 11M2 and Anette Tooma 9R2 who will be representing Allestree Woodland School in the next round of the competition!

In January, all students will be able to go to the voting booths to vote for who they would like to be their Youth Mayor.



Author Daniel Blythe



'On Wednesday 29th September, we had the incredible pleasure of an author, Daniel Blythe, visiting Allestree Woodlands School. Daniel Blythe is our Patron of Reading, and he will be visiting us regularly to encourage our students to enjoy the wonders of reading. During his visit, Daniel conducted a series of workshops with part of our Year 9s, which focussed on enhancing our creative writing skills by writing the opening segment to a story. We look forward to welcoming him again to visit three different Year 9 classes in January - he will also be involved in activities around the school, including more book signing. All students who purchased a book will be receiving them imminently.'

Miss Kent

Teacher of English

Fundraising for the school – we need your help!!

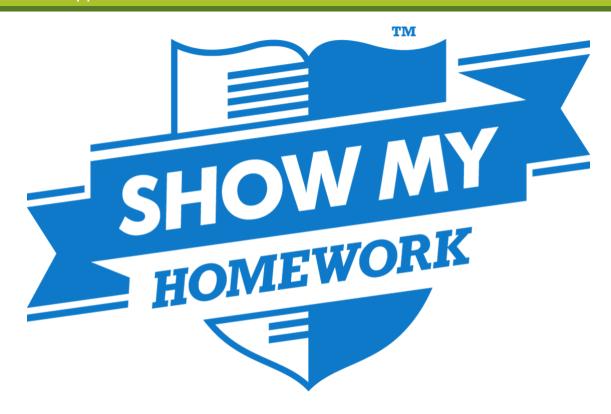
Did you know that the Woodlands School PFTA run a 50/50 lottery club? The 50/50 Club is our well-established fundraising lottery that provides much needed PFTA income to support and enrich the school and gives **YOU** the opportunity to win **Great Cash Prizes!!!**

- Anyone can play; parents, friends, relatives or staff and each number in the lottery costs £1 a month. You can choose to pay £1 a month for one number in the draw, £2 for 2 numbers and so on, up to a maximum of £10 a month for 10 numbers.
- Every month, half the proceeds go straight to the main PFTA funds for the benefit of the school recent projects include funding a minibus, the CanSat science project and visits by authors.
- The remaining half of the proceeds is divided into 3 prizes for the monthly draw (1st prize 70%, 2nd prize 20% and 3rd prize 10%). Typical monthly income is around £200 so 1st prize is around £70.
- The prizes are paid by cheque each month, sent to the winners by post.
- Winning numbers will be announced in the school newsletter from now on we can no longer publish names however (due to GDPR) and so if you play the lottery and you need reminding of your numbers then please contact PFTA@woodlands.derby.sch.uk
- For more details please email <u>PFTA@woodlands.derby.sch.uk</u> with 50/50 Club as the subject

Winning numbers and amounts over the Summer this year:

	1 st Prize and winning number	2 nd Prize and winning number	3 rd Prize and winning number
May	£71.75 (198)	£20.50 (98)	£10.25 (53)
June	£68.25 (112)	£19.50 (37)	£9.75 (40)
July	£67.55 (227)	£19.30 (104)	£9.65 (15)

Homework App



This half term, we have been pleased to launch our new homework app – Show My Homework. Students have been able to download the app to their devices or open this up on their computers, to see their homework 'to do list' and tick off when they have completed this. The student response in school has been very positive – they have reported feeling generally more organised, that they can see when deadlines are much clearer and that they like all their homework being in one place. This half term, we have been working to develop this in school and how this can be used to track student engagement. This last week we have been ironing out any final issues with logging on and devices and so we expect all students will now be able to access this platform and complete all their homework.

In addition to this, Show My Homework also have a parent app. This app can be downloaded to a device or viewed on a computer in the same way. This means parents and carers are able to see what homework their child has been set and whether they have handed this in. We encourage all parents and carers to download this app to support their child in completing their homework. The school has sent a bespoke email to each parent with a PIN code to set this up. Once this has been completed, parents and carers will not need to complete this process again and will be fully set up. If you require any further support with this, please email SMHW@woodlands.derby.sch.uk and we will be happy to support you in this process.

Mrs Middleton-Lee Deputy Head Teacher



Year 6 Open Evening

On Monday 4th October we held our Year 6 Open Evening. It was great to be able to hold this event in person and invite parents and students into the school to see the wonderful things that Allestree Woodlands has to offer students who will be making the move from primary to secondary school in September 2022.

During the evening we had some fantastic events happening. The mathematics department showcased the resources for Mathematics Mastery and had demonstrations of programs to support students' learning such as mymaths and kerboodle. But, as ever, the main attraction was the "solve a mathematical puzzle and win sweets" stall. A particular mention of huge appreciation goes to the many Y12 and 13 mathematicians who gave up their time to staff and run this stall for us. It was a pleasure to see these students share their enthusiasm for the subject with prospective students and their parents.

Furthermore, the way in which our sixth formers engaged with the young visitors; supporting and encouraging the year 6's to solve the mathematical puzzles, was an absolute delight to see...we have some potential teachers in the making here! In Technology there was cake decorating, manufacturing desk tidies and a montage of food work on display and the PE department had students demonstrating their athleticism in the Sports Hall. The science department encouraged participation in biology and chemistry practical's and, of course, the physics department once again wowed participants with the hair raising Van de Graaff generator.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who attended and also to say well done to the many students who showed great endeavour and became involved in these activities and also to the sixth form and current Year 7 who volunteered to assist with the tours of the school. Finally a special mention goes out to Isla Smedley in 7M1, Charlotte Dyer in 7M2, Cuthbert Zhakata in 7C1 and Angel-Rose Mugadza in 7C2 who showed great courage when they volunteered to speak to prospective students and parents in the Theatre during the information giving section – they were confident, funny and most of all gave the audience a real feel of what life at Woodland is really like.

Mr Roe

Deputy Head Teacher

New Woodlands App Coming Soon!

We have listened to feedback from parents and staff and are pleased to announce that a new app will be launched very soon – a 'one stop shop' for Allestree Woodlands.

Details to follow next week!

#Hello Yellow Day at Allestree Woodlands School.





Young Minds is an organisation that provides mental health support for young people & advice for their parents/carers. Over the past two years many young people have needed extra support with their mental health. Young Minds can help with lots of information & resources, available via their website.

. At Allestree Woodlands School the good mental health of our students is very important to us.

On Friday 8th October we supported the Young Minds charity in school and celebrated World Mental Health Day. Lots of staff wore something yellow to raise awareness & to start conversations with students. Yellow ribbons were sold in aid of the charity, lots of stickers were given out & opportunities were created to talk with our students about taking care of their mental health. For more information please visit www.youngminds.org.uk

If you are worried about the wellbeing of any of our students please feel free to contact a member of the Safeguarding Team –

safeguarding@woodlands.derby.sch.uk



The Duke of Edinburgh Award



ALLESTREE WOODLANDS SCHOOL

The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

Year 9

It is with excitement that after half-term, we are offering the current year 9 pupils the opportunity to complete The Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Mr Harries will be leading an assembly to the pupils on Wednesday 3rd November 2021 to inform pupils of what this amazing award entails. In short, the pupils will have to demonstrate initiative and commitment to completing the award by dedicating time to complete the four key sections: physical, skills, voluntary and expedition. For pupils interested, a letter consisting of key information will be given out after the assembly.

Year 11

On the back of two very successful expeditions in the summer, we look forward to completing another expedition with the final 10 pupils! Due to the expected poor conditions over the next couple of months, we will put this on hold. However, we will aim to offer the pupils the opportunity to complete their expedition as soon as possible in the new year and will be in touch soon to confirm dates!

Finally, for all pupils who haven't gained 3 green ticks (physical, skill and voluntary) on their DofE account, please ensure that you do this as soon as possible.

Enjoy your half-term.

Mr Harries

Andorra Ski Trip

Two places have become available on the school ski trip to

Andorra during February Half Term.

Please contact Mr Bate or Mr Hammond if you are interested.

t.bate@woodlands.derby.sch.uk d.hammond@woodlands.derby.sch.uk







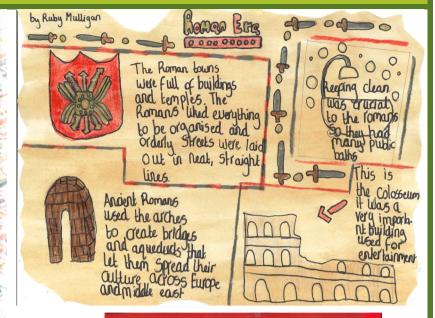
Roman Cities

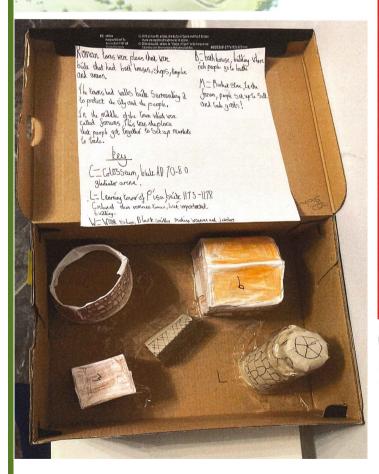
Most Roman cities had Gladiator rings.
Where the public would place bets on the victors and even decide who would live or

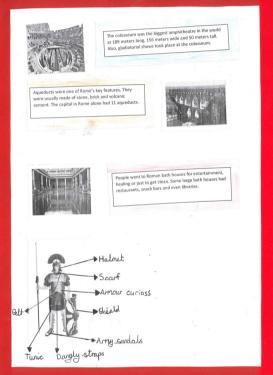
ve or
The Romans loved a good market.

PROPERTY OF STREET

Farmers and tradesman could self their produce. They were forward thinking enough to have deliveries at night when the roads were









Year 7 students have been looking at Roman cities, with some excellent thinking and learning taking place.

Beautiful Work





Our students have been busy during their cookery lessons. Displaying their culinary skills to an expert level.

Staff and students are always made hungry as they pass cookery rooms, by the beautiful aromas coming from their work.







National Deaf Cross Championship





12 Woodlands students took part in the National Deaf Cross Championships held at Markeaton Park this week. There were some excellent performances, including Macie White who came 2nd in the girls race and Rylee White 2nd, Harlee White 4th and Hilal 5th in the boys race.

Well done to everyone who took part!

Kenya Mitchell



Congratulations to our Year 9 student Kenya Mitchell, who has been selected to be part of the Derbyshire Netball Team. Selection for this particular team is of a high standard and Kenya has worked incredibly hard to reach their expectations.

Well done Kenya!

XC Cup









Results from the first round of the XC cup at Mount St Mary's School in Spinkhill:

Junior Girls

Ishal Daval 29th Jessica Winfield 34th

Junior Boys

Sam Exley 5th
George Dickens 7th
Ben Winter 22nd
Seth Blanchenot 23rd

Marcus Wilson 29th

Inter Girls

Iris Clark 1st Lena Clark 19th

Matilda Downes 20th Ellie Shaw 25th

Inter Boys

Daniel Cope 18th Jack Gadsby 25th

Congratulations to the junior boys who have made it through to the regional round at Hull!

Fixture and Results First Half Term

Year 7

Woodlands 4-0 St Benedict's

Woodlands 2- 0 Da Vinci

Woodlands 0- 1 West Park

Woodlands 0-1 Ecclesbourne

Year 8

Woodlands 3-6 Lees brook Netball

U19 Netball County placed 6th out of 8

U15 Woodlands 12 v 11 Littleover

U16 Quad Cup 4th place

U14 Woodlands 18 v 8 West Park

U15 Woodlands 6-1 Landau

U15 Woodlands 2-1 St Benedict's

U15 Woodlands 5-1 West Park

U15 Woodlands 4-1 Littleover

U15 Woodlands 4-2 Ecclesbourne (City semi-final)

U15 Woodlands 1-9 Derby High (City Final

Woodlands 6-1 Derby Moor

Woodlands 3-5 Murray Park

Year 9

Woodlands 6-4 Lees brook

Woodlands 3-3 Murray Park

Year 10

Woodlands 6-0 Landau

Woodlands V Derby Moor (DM Concede)

Woodlands Noel Baker 19th October.

Year 11

Woodlands 5-7 Noel Baker

Woodlands 4-2 Ecclesbourne

Woodlands 6-3 Murray Park

Woodlands 3-6 Derby Moor.

Sixth form

Woodlands 4-0 Derby Moor

Woodlands 7-1 Landau

Woodlands 1-5 John Port

Play off finals will be completed in March

County cup football Boys and Girls games to start next term.

Netball

U19 Netball County placed 6th out of 8

U15 Woodlands 12 v 11 Littleover

U16 Quad Cup 4th place

U14 Woodlands 18 v 8 West Park

U15 Woodlands 6-1 Landau

U15 Woodlands 2-1 St Benedict's

U15 Woodlands 5-1 West Park

U15 Woodlands 4-1 Littleover

U15 Woodlands 4-2 Ecclesbourne (City semi-final)

U15 Woodlands 1-9 Derby High (City Final

Extra Curricular Activities

Do you want to have the chance to learn and perform a monologue?



Would you like to opportunity to take an acting exam?

LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art)

LAMDA gives students in year 8 and 9 the chance to work towards exams in acting. Students will work with a teacher to prepare monologues for a performance exam

- · In the Theatre
- Thursdays 3:15-4:30

See Mrs Oldham or Mr Tomlinson for more details

DRAMA GAMES

WHO? YEAR 7 STUDENTS

WHERE? IN THE THEATRE:

WHEN? FRIDAY LUNCHTIMES

SEE MRS OLDHAM OR MR TOMLINSON FOR MORE DETAILS



REHEARSE AND REVISE



ARE A GCSE DRAMA STUDENT IN YEAR 10 AND 11?
DO YOU WANT THE OPPORTUNITY TO REHEARSE A PIECE OF DRAMA

IN THE THEATRE/STUDIO?

DO YOU WANT TO REVISE A KEY AREA FOR THE EXAM?

DO YOU WANT DISCUSS AND DEVELOP YOUR DEVISING LOGS?



'Rehearse and Revise' takes place in the Drama Studio and/or Theatre every Thursday from 3:15pm until 5.00pm.

You do not need to stay for the whole session but you are welcome to drop-in as it suits you.

On certain dates their will be teacher-lead sessions to help support you on particular aspects of the course. Please speak to Mrs Oldham for more information



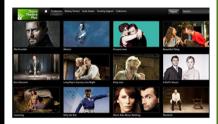
Extra Curricular Activities

Drama Extra-Curricular

What	When	Where
KS3 Youth Theatre Youth Theatre is open to all students in year 7,8 or 9. As a group students will work with a teacher-director to rehearse and create plays for performance.	Monday After school 3:15 - 4:30	In the theatre
Rehearsal and Revision Rehearsal and Revision gives GCSE Drama students the chance to rehearse pieces for performance, revise key theory and catch up on coursework. It will be a mix of teacher lead sessions and time for students to work on their own, asking for support if needed	Thursday After school 3:15 - 4:45	In the drama studio
LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) LAMDA gives students in year 8 and 9 the chance to work towards exams in acting. Students will work with a teacher to prepare monologues for a performance exam.	Thursday After school 3:15 - 4:30	In the theatre
Drama Games Drama Games is open to year 7 and 8 students who enjoy taking part in drama games and activities	Friday Lunchtime 12:40-1:10	In the Drama Studio







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

After a time when theatres and arts venues have been closed, you now have the opportunity to watch many exciting plays.

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).

Extra Curricular Music

	Time	2029	2033
Monday	Lunch 2	Year 8/9 ukulele group	
Tuesday	Registration/break Lunch 1 Lunch 2	Band Year 10/11 choir	Guitar/strings
Wednesday	Lunch 1 Lunch 2	Year 7 Keyboard	Year 8/9 Keyboard
Thursday	Registration/break Lunch 1 Lunch 2 After school	KS3 Choir Staff Choir Staff Choir Theory	Jazz Band Year 7 Ukulele Theory

Our Arts Mark Journey

We are delighted to announce that AWS are working towards becoming an Arts Mark school. The Artsmark journey is about establishing, embedding and evaluating the impact of the arts within our school community

Overview	Silver	Gold	Platinum
Quality of provision	Emergent	Established	Stretching
Pedagogy	Develop expertise	Develop best practice	Opinion former
Impact	Tangible results	Measurable effects	Making a difference

September 2021

New extra-curricular groups have been added to the Arts timetable to enable all students to have access to all Arts subjects

Everyone is welcome



Look out for our updates on our Arts Mark progress.
Follow us on Twitter AWS ARTS

ARTS STUDENT COUNCIL

Do you want an opportunity to use your voice?

Do you want to have your say on matters within the arts?

We are looking for students in all year groups to be part of our Arts school council.

Please see Mrs Swain/Miss Cowling after half term

Summer Term

We are introducing Arts Award bronze to our year 8 Curriculum.

Bronze Arts Award is a Level 1 qualification on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF)

To achieve a Bronze Arts Award, young people collect evidence in an individual arts log or portfolio of their experiences of:

- developing their interests, knowledge and skills through actively participating in any art form
- experience of at least one arts event/experience as an audience member and their review of that event/experience
- researching the career and work of an artist or craftsperson that inspires them
- experience of passing on an arts skill

Music Extra Activities









lan has been teaching brass in Derbyshire and Leicestershire schools for over 30 years.

He gives lessons on all brass musical instruments and is an enthusiastic player of the trumpet and cornet in various musical groups within the area.

Lessons are focused on developing technical and musical skills to enable not only exam success but also, and more importantly, an enjoyment in making music.

LESSON PRICES

£9.20 - 20 minute lesson

Email: lan7hammond@gmail.com

Music Extra Activities



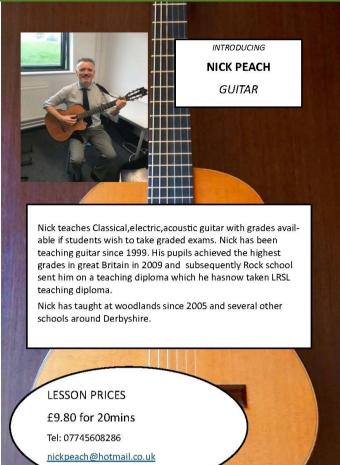
I started singing and 18 and quickly became passionate about exploring music and voice. Starting after secondary school left me feeling a little behind other my age, so I'm really keen to get people started and enjoying their singing as soon as possible.

I aim to bring all my experience to my teaching to help you develop to your goals and have fun getting there.

I want you to enjoy what we work on, so I tend to invite you to find some ideas which we have a go at in lesson and choose the best song for you at that time. As you gain experience and knowledge of your voice you will get better and choosing songs that suit your voice and develop it healthily. I am here to help you build that understanding.

LESSON PRICES £15-30min lesson

Contact 07967101994/jonmorris61@hotmail.com





40 years, he absolutely loves playing this instrument

He constantly strives to improve his playing, and enjoy practicing when he has spare time.

He has worked in a number of bands, and numerous venues through the years, and he is now working with a 4 piece cover Band, around the Derby and Burton area.

Chris Brown Drum Tutor | Derbyshire | Home







Lessons are available:

- individually £10.00 / £7.50

- in pairs £5.00

and classroom music in Derby schools for over 20 years. I also teach whole class violin and viola to many Year 4 classes across the city too, so I may be a familiar face already seen around school!

I have been teaching violin, viola

Alongside my teaching, I am also a conductor at **Derby Music Centre** with the City of Derby Youth Orchestra.

I am also a violinist in the Nottingham Philharmonic Orchestra, & really passionate about the importance of making music with others!

Derby & Derbyshire Music Partnership

As an accredited teacher with the Music Partnership, I can access a wide range of subsidies available to support with the cost of learning an instrument

- Starter Scheme the first 6 lessons are subsidised by £3.00 per lesson
- SEND Bursary pupils who are on the SEND register receive a £5.25 subsidy on every lesson
- Assisted Bursary assisted bursary pupils receive a £3.00 subsidy on every lesson and a free instrument loan. This bursary may be applied for if you are in receipt of any of the following:



For further information vickykeane@outlook.com 07715957129





Safeguarding Team

THE WOODLANDS **SAFEGUARDING TEAM**



Mrs Brailsford Assistant Head Designated Safeguarding Lead



Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Deputy Designated



Deputy Designated

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



ALLESTREE
WOODLANDS
SCHOOL
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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

Head of Year 8

Emily Pitter

e.pitter@woodlands.derby.sch.uk

Head of Year 9

Lucy Colley

l.colley@woodlands.derby.sch.uk

Head of Year 10

Damon Hammond

d.hammond@woodlands.derby.sch.uk

Head of Year 11

Helen Smith

h.Smith@woodlands.derby.sch.uk

KEY DATES

Monday 1st November—Start of Autumn 2nd Half Term Friday 5th November- Year 9 and Year 13 Summary Reports to Parents Friday 5th November—Inset Day

Monday 8th November—Inset Day

Monday 8th—Friday 12th November—Year 13 Biology & Environmental Science Trip

Friday 12th November—Year 8 Reports to Parents

Friday 19th November—Year 12 Reports to Parents

Monday 22nd November & Tuesday 23rd November—Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 25th November—Drama Performance Evening

