

## Newsletter - May 2021

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life"

*John 8:12*

### Message from Ms Phillips

#### Year 11 Leavers

Today we said goodbye to Year 11. It has been a challenging final year for them, however they have shown themselves to be an extremely appreciative and resilient year group. Since returning to school in March Year 11 have worked hard on their Centre Assessed Examinations. They have also continued to contribute to school life, many of them showing service and thankfulness for the opportunities offered to them at Woodchurch High School.

Our final assembly will take place in June, when we will present awards for those pupils who have shown academic excellence, effort and displayed our Christian Values. This year there will be a special prize and certificate in memory of Jack Loftus, who very sadly died last year following many years of illness. His endurance and graciousness throughout his time at Woodchurch are a great example to us all.

This half term the Woodchurch High School community has also mourned the loss of a member of the school family—Jack W Jones. Our pupils and staff paid their respects to Jack on his final journey past the school. Jack's family were comforted by the show of support for them and grateful for the kindness shown to the whole family. Many of the motorbike outriders and members of the community have written into school to express how impressed they were by the pupils' conduct and respect. We continue to remember Jack's family in our prayers.

Ms Phillips  
Headteacher

# Farm Visit

The school was delighted to welcome Steve Rotheram, Metro Mayor of the Liverpool City Region, and camera crew from ITV Granada to the Farm. Following a successful bid the school received funding to develop facilities and opportunities for the local community to experience and participate in animal management and land based activities. This is an ongoing project and Miss Hackett will provide a progress report in our final newsletter of the academic year.

Steve Rotheram clearly enjoyed his time on the farm and expressed amazement that this facility was available to our community. He also talked about the opportunities that it offered young people in developing their skills and appreciation of the environment.



## **County Lines Awareness Training**

On 20th and 21st of May, one hundred and twenty pupils were selected to participate in a County Lines awareness day run by the police. We were delighted to have been chosen to be a part of this pilot project funded by the Government.

Each day, sixty pupils from each year took part in a carousel of activities, all under the umbrella of raising a knowledge and understanding of County Lines - what it is, what its implications are and how to keep themselves safe when they are out with their friends.

The sessions included military-style First Aid, an army assault course and a session with a rapper, making a song about the dangers of County Lines.

At the end of each day the pupils got together and each group performed their verse of the rap!

The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the two days and feedback was excellent. Several parents also contacted the school to thank us for selecting their child, but also to pass on their thanks to the police for organising the event.

## **Covid Home Testing Kits**

It is vital that we continue to test at home using the lateral flow test kits. Pupils involved in the programme have been issued with kits for the period up to 11th June 2021.

Please test your child/ward twice per week and report results using the following links:

Report results using the [report a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test result](#) portal.

In addition, please inform school, using the following link: <https://forms.gle/ntPDg9EmB1wcMp6M8>

# Chaplaincy

Since we returned after Easter we have covered a number of topics in our Collective Worship series. We started the term with the Christian Value of Trust, thinking about what it means to be a trustworthy person, and how being trustworthy ourselves and being around trustworthy people can increase our confidence and how comfortable we are around people. The Bible often reminds us that God is the only one we can wholeheartedly put our whole trust in as his love for us is unfailing and his plans for our futures are unchanging; he is the same now as he always has been and always will be, so we can rely and trust in him when everything going on in the world around us is so transient and temporary. Corrie Ten Boom says, "Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God."



Through the month of May we have been thinking about the Christian Value of Endurance. Endurance is like perseverance; it's about keeping going even in the face of disappointment or adversity. Endurance helps us to see beyond whatever present challenge we're facing, into a future which is better and brighter. The author Enid Blyton said, "The best way to treat obstacles is to use them as stepping-stones. Laugh at them, tread on them, and let them lead you to something better." The Bible reminds us that although suffering is a part of life, God promises to be there for us through it all; it tells us that he will never let us face situations that we can't handle with his help. Endurance is not easy, but with God we know that we don't have to face any challenge or problem on our own.

We have also spent time this term and last term thinking about who we are in God's eyes. We learned that we are created by God with intrinsic value, we are unique and known by God. We are loved just as we are, and we shouldn't be afraid to be ourselves the way that God created us. We are designed to be part of a community that loves one another and cares for each other; and we should develop and use our skills and abilities to help others.

In school we have a Say One for Me box, where pupils can post prayer request cards for our Chaplaincy Team to pray for. This has run successfully for many years, and we are delighted to extend the offer to you. If you would like our Chaplaincy Team to pray for you, or those you care about, for any reason then send them an email to [chaplaincy@woodchurchhigh.com](mailto:chaplaincy@woodchurchhigh.com) and they will Say One for You. These prayer requests are viewed and prayed for by the Chaplaincy Team in school and by a small group from the St Mary's Parish Church in Upton.

This has been a half term mixed with joy and sadness for many, and we hope and pray that this half-term holiday is a time to relax and enjoy time together with your loved ones.



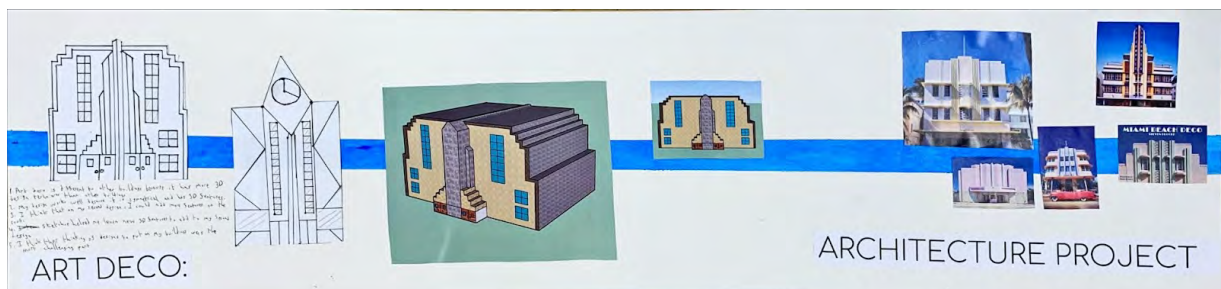
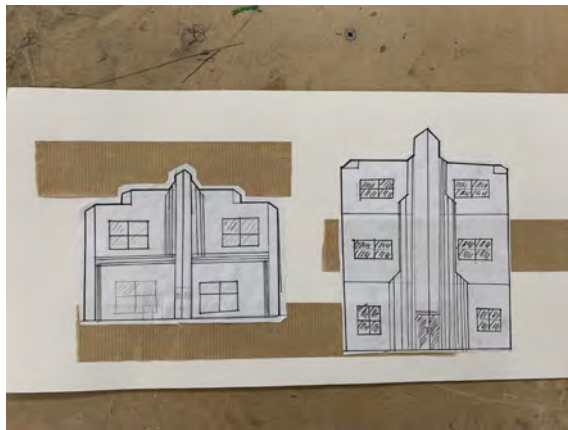
# ECAD

## Engineering

In Engineering Year 9 have just completed a CAD project linked to designing a building based on Modernism or Art Deco. The brief was to complete a building that would fit into the culture and history of Florida. The students created a range of designs that were influenced by the colours and styles seen throughout the state.

Students learnt a variety of skills in Sketch up including rendering, 3D generation, push pull, offsetting, scene setting, massing.

Overall the outcomes were excellent and students really enjoyed working from a sketch and realising their design into a 3D model. Below are examples of sketches and 3D models.



# ECAD

## Engineering

We would like to congratulate both Samuel Robinson and Grace Carmen on their continued excellent effort in Engineering, throughout the spring term. This effort has not gone unnoticed and because of this they have been awarded with the **Engineer of the Term** for the Spring Term.

This award is a great privilege and reflects the level of commitment and focus these have shown throughout the term.

Both students will be presented with a trophy, will receive a certificate as well as being published on our internal Engineering website. (Please follow the link: <https://sites.google.com/woodchurchhigh.com/engineering-ecad/home>)



Samuel and Grace are clearly working hard, with integrity and focus and have a great attitude. We hope this continues throughout the year.

Well done!



## Year 7 3D Art

Pupils in 7XE have recently completed their 3D Art rotation looking at the Artist Anders Arhoj. Pupils explored what it means to be a ceramicist and the notion of how a modern day art studio is run. They learnt how to work with clay as an art material, exploring mark making and also how different glazes react with the clay. Pupils created their own sculpture inspired by the artist.





# ECAD

## Synthesia Project - Art Graphics

Year 10 Art Graphics students have been working on a project exploring how we can use mark making in order to create a visual representation of sound. This project was inspired by the artist Melissa McCracken, who has a condition called synthesia that allows her to see sound in marks and colour, which she then recreates in paint on canvas.

Pupils have created a series of drawings, 3D wire sculptures, and photography in order to create a visual response to their favourite songs. They did this by listening to their chosen music and recording the marks and colours that came up while they listened. The students have embraced the challenge of the conceptual project fantastically, and their outcomes are an exciting exploration of mark making, colour, and layering. These images will eventually be simplified and pupils will use screen printing to print onto bags!



**Year 11 Fine Art** pupils have worked extremely hard recently to complete their individual, final pieces linked to the work of International renowned artist Ian Murphy. Pupils visited Liverpool and created their own interpretation of the city centre and its iconic buildings, linking to the painting style Ian shared with them during his visit to the school in January 2019.

# English

## Year 7

*"O Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?"*



This term, Year 7 have been exploring the world of The Bard himself, William Shakespeare. They have enjoyed discovering the ins and outs of Elizabethan theatre, as well as learning all about the dos and don'ts of the period and getting to grips with Shakespearean English.

Focusing on our theme of Conflict in Relationships, Year 7 have learned all about the war between the Capulets and Montagues, Juliet's arguments with her father regarding her arranged marriage to suitor Paris, Romeo's struggles with love and the conflicts between our leading star crossed lovers and their "death mark'd love."

Miss Allum's class had a wonderful time on the farm searching for inspiration for their Eco Poems. They were respectful of the Farm facilities and produced some lovely work following their visit.



Year 7 have all settled well into their new English classes following changes made after the Spring Break, and are working hard to set the foundations for success in the next school year and beyond. Well done for your impeccable endurance and service this half term Year 7!



# English

## Year 8



This term, Year 8 have begun their studies of a new theme, Conflict and Class. They have been working towards considering the Big Question: How can we transcend our conditions?

Through the MIMO, pupils have been studying the context of Liverpool in the 1980s and the political conditions of the city which contributed to the poverty and class division that became so prominent. They have been exploring non-fiction examples to gather as much information as possible about this turbulent time in the North West.

Where is all this going towards? Well, Year 8 have been studying the play 'Blood Brothers' and how the contextual background affects twins Mickey and Edward as they are separated at birth: one going to live with the middle-class Mr and Mrs Lyons, and the other remaining with their birth mother, Mrs Johnstone who is financially hindered, divorced and already trying to provide for seven other children. This is a story of nature vs nurture and how our environment can play a key role in our development and journey through life.

Year 8 will sit their Trial Exams in the first week back after half-term. They will be expected to complete a Knowledge Test on their 'Blood Brothers' MIMOs and write a response to an extract question.

Good luck, Year 8!

# English

## Year 9



This half term, Year 9 pupils in English have been exploring 16th and 17th century witchcraft. From James I's revolutionary and terrifying *Daemonologie* to the infamous Salem witch trials, pupils have been evaluating the impact of these superstitious times on the people that suffered.

Pupils have been developing their knowledge of this historical context by reading Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* and Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. While linking in the Salem witch trials with *The Crucible*, pupils have also been discussing the McCarthyism of 1950s America which acted as a 'witch-hunt' in itself. The character of Abigail has infuriated our pupils while John Proctor is praised as an honest man fighting for the truth. Pupils who have already started studying *Macbeth*, perhaps Shakespeare's most infamous play, have been exposed to the terrifying influence of the Witches.

*Macbeth*, in addition to an introduction this year, is one of our key texts for GCSE English Literature. To that end, now would be a perfect time to purchase a revision guide to help pupils with their study of *Macbeth* as they finish up Year 9 and start studying for GCSEs. Pupils will need an in-depth knowledge of the plot, characters and themes of the play so it's a great idea to start developing this knowledge early. This is especially important due to the disruption caused by lockdowns since March 2020 - a large number of Year 9 pupils have not studied Shakespeare in-depth since Year 7!



We are confident in the English Department that Year 9 pupils will rise to the challenge of their English GCSEs next year.

# English

## Year 10

This term, Year 10 have begun their English Language: Component 1 studies. Pupils have been developing their reading skills as well as their own narrative writing skills.

Pupils will sit a full Language: Component 1 paper in their trial exams in June, which will involve reading a short extract from a story and answering 5 questions. These will follow the following format:

1. List 5 things...
2. What impressions...
3. How does the writer...
4. How does the writer create tension...
5. To what extent do you agree...



For each question, pupils will be expected to discuss quotations and language choices by the writer and how these create specific effects for the reader. Pupils would benefit from revising key techniques that writers employ so they can fully discuss writers' intentions to the best of their ability.

In addition, pupils will also be expected to write their own narrative, employing all of the narrative techniques they have seen used successfully in the reading section. It is advised that pupils revise their knowledge of key punctuation and sentence structures so they can effectively entice and entertain their readers.

The best thing for Year 10 to do to support their story writing is to read independently at home. Don't forget that we have our Woodchurch Audio Library up and running. This is a fantastic resource that was put together in preparation for World Book Day and has members of the Woodchurch High School teaching staff reading short stories for pupils. Audio books count towards reading, too!

Year 10 should ensure that they are continuing to revise the poems from the Eduqas Poetry Anthology and their studies of 'Macbeth' as this will be assessed in the final Summer Term. They have been focusing on the complex characters and diverse themes from the play to keep all of the hard work that they have done over the course of the year fresh in their memory.

We are excited to be offering Period 6 to pupils after half term.



# English

## Year 11

This half term has possibly been the most important few weeks our Year 11 pupils have spent in school so far in their lives. In English, having completed their Literature Centre Assessed Exams before Easter, Year 11 pupils have been focussed on their English Language GCSE grades. With two exams to complete, fiction and non-fiction reading and writing, pupils had a lot to revise and prepare for. In addition to answering questions on texts provided in these exams, pupils have had to write their own narrative in strict time conditions AND create either a speech or a guide, using their skills developed over the past 5 years at Woodchurch High School to adapt their language to the appropriate audience.

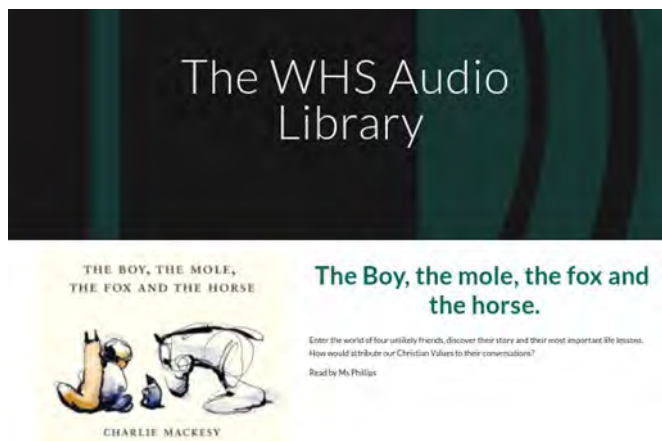
All staff in the English department have been extremely impressed with the way Year 11 have dealt with the changing conditions surrounding their final GCSE grades. Despite having nearly 6 months of their 2 year GCSE education disrupted by lockdowns, Year 11 have shown endurance, integrity and hope by continuing to attend lessons and revision sessions to prepare for their Centre Assessed Exams. Also, they have put their trust in their teachers to help them along the way.

With the departure of Year 11 from the school building at the end of this half term, it is important that pupils remember that their grasp of the English Language is still in development; as they enter the world of college, apprenticeships and jobs, they should demonstrate and develop the skills they have learnt in English lessons. Pupils should also remember that their teachers are still going to be available should they have any questions, queries or concerns about their work, grades or to seek any further advice - we are all at the end of an email or phone call when needed!

To those pupils who will not be returning to school: from the whole English Department, we wish you all the best of luck in your future endeavours and hope that you remember us fondly, as we will you!

## WHS Audio Library

Remember that the English Site is now home to our fantastic WHS Audio Library! Listen to books and short stories read to you by your favourite staff. We figured you get enough of being read to by your English teachers, so staff from across the school have volunteered to create this fantastic resource to support your reading. Remember that reading will support you across the whole curriculum!



<https://sites.google.com/woodchurchhigh.com/english/whs-audio-library>

# Drama

## Year 7

This half-term Year 7 have been exploring Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Pupils have absolutely loved bringing the prologue to life, experimenting with different drama techniques and learning all about the origins of different modern day insults that come from Shakespeare's time! We have been so impressed with the way Year 7 have approached this play, with maturity and endurance when it comes to reading the language, which can be tricky! We are looking forward to seeing more of their performances later this year. Well done, Year 7.



## Year 8

This half-term Year 8 have been exploring the play, *Blood Brothers*. Pupils are also studying this play in English and have very much enjoyed bringing the story to life practically. Pupils have developed their characterisation using accents in particular and the differences between our performers playing Mickey and Eddie are, as always, hilariously funny. Pupils have loved reminiscing about their primary school days, playing a young Mickey and they're perfecting their comic timing when it comes to delivering his monologue! We're really impressed with their efforts so far.

## Year 9

Year 9 have been exploring the adaptation of Victor Hugo's *Frankenstein* this half-term, considering the way in which this performance was staged at The National Theatre. Pupils have been learning about lighting, sound and costume and they're using this knowledge to further develop their understanding of theatre and how performances are made. Our Associate Teachers, Mr Adams and Miss Rimmer, are both teaching really exciting learning programmes and their groups have been exploring modern theatre and theatre in education. We're really excited to be taking some of our Year 9 cohort through to GCSE next year - we can't wait to see what they're capable of come September!



# Drama

## **Year 10**

Year 10 have made a great start with their Component 1 devising performances. This is worth 40% of their GCSE and we are really impressed with the focus and commitment of pupils so far. Pupils spent time exploring their stimulus of technology and ensuring that they had fully developed a range of ideas and skills to make their performances engaging for an audience. We can't wait to see their finished performances later this half-term! Keep up the hard-work, Year 10.

## **Year 11**

Both our Year 11 GCSE and Year 11 Performing Arts groups have been working their socks off this half-term to ensure everything is ready for their final examinations. From practical performances to written exams and coursework, we couldn't be prouder of Year 11 for their continued effort this year. We are really looking forward to celebrating their hard-earned results in the Summer and we wish them lots of luck for their future endeavours. We'll miss you, Year 11!



# Humanities



A big well done to Year 11 who have completed all their centre based assessments for Geography. They have worked incredibly hard to prepare for these exams and we look forward to seeing them get their results in August.

Year 10 have started the final GCSE unit on resources. They will look at food, water and energy and how vital these are for humans across the world. Pupils are reminded that all homeworks are set on google classroom and that these are important to deepen understanding of what has been covered in the lesson. Period 6 will start after half term and in Geography we will be looking at exam skills such as map reading, graph interpretation and photo analysis that will boost pupils' scores in the summer trial exams.

Year 9 students have completed the unit on Russia, and pupils have enjoyed learning about the different biomes, the Chernobly disaster, and the people of Russia. A number of pupils did very well on the exam:

9X1- Alexis Brigden, Brad Downey, Sarah Jones, Tom Jones, Evie Kelly, Danieal Pritchard, Evie-mai Darsfield, Lucas Smith (all 90% or more)

9X4 Isabel Wilmot, Charlotte Piercy (over 80%)

9Y4 Stephen Thomas Fin Whitehead, Jack Dean, Josh Banks, Charlie Rimmer, Adel Young (over 70%)

Year 8 are looking at China's treatment of workers in Iphone city, the One Child Policy, migration and how China has grown into an economic superpower. They must remember to use all of the resources on Google Classroom to prepare for their upcoming trial exam in Geography.

Year 7 have finished looking at Africa, with a case study on Kenya. In this unit pupils have looked at the negative perceptions of Africa, its varied climate zones, the impacts of tourism and how it is improving its level of development.

**Geography Club** is open to all KS3 pupils, Thursday after school until 4:20pm in Hum 5. Badges available for those who join. Activities are also posted on the google classroom page.

# Humanities

Well done to Year 11 who have worked really hard preparing for their final centre assessments. You have been a pleasure to teach these last five years!

Year 10 are currently completing studying their Judaism practices learning programme and are enjoying finding out about the different rites of passages and festivals that Jewish people celebrate. We are looking forward to our 'zoom interview' with a member of the Jewish community next half term where pupils can learn about the personal experiences of being Jewish and will be able to ask any questions they have about the Jewish faith.



Year 9 have also been studying Judaism, looking at the origins and history of the religion and finding out why key characters such as Abraham and Moses are so important.

We have been really impressed with the maturity Year 8 have shown this half term as we have been studying the Holocaust and in particular the impact of the Holocaust on the Jewish faith. Pupils have been studying the Holocaust with our Christian value forgiveness in mind, asking the important question, how we can show forgiveness in the light of such awful events.



Year 7 have begun a new learning programme looking at the beliefs and practices of Muslims. Pupils have enjoyed studying the key beliefs of the Islamic faith and have been answering questions such as who is Allah, what do Muslims believe about creation and why is the Mosque important.



# Humanities

Firstly, we'd like to congratulate our Year 11s for their hard work in the lead up to their assessments - we're looking forward to results day in August.

Our Year 10s are completing the paper on Germany and will be moving on to the USA, 1929-2000. They will be getting stuck into the impacts of the Great Depression, Martin Luther King and the struggle for Civil Rights, and the impact that the Cold War had on the USA.



Our Year 9s are continuing to explore what life was like living in Nazi Germany. They have covered the ways in which Hitler consolidated his power, and will be learning about the education of young people and Nazi racial policies. There is an excellent documentary series on BBC iPlayer at the moment for students who want to deepen their knowledge - it is called 'Rise of the Nazis'.

Year 8 are preparing for their end of year History assessment which will be sat on Tuesday 8th June. They must revise the Stuart period (1603 - 1714), with a particular focus on the following questions:

- Why was there a Civil War in England?
- Was Oliver Cromwell a hero or a villain?

Year 8s will find a document to revise from on Google Classroom.

Year 7 are continuing to discover the woes of medieval kings, with a particular focus on whether they were as powerful as they would've liked to be. The short answer is no! We are covering the power of the Catholic Church, the Black Death of 1348 and the Peasants' Revolt which followed.



# Computing & Business

Cambridge Nationals Business pupils in year 10 have been designing hats for their coursework. The task has required them to do market research to discover what kind of hat people would want and then create that design. Below are a couple of the designs pupils have put together. Next they will be completing the finance section of the coursework where they will price up how much their hat will cost to make and begin to work out how much profit they will be able to make.



The Computing and Business department website has a wealth of information and resources to support pupils working on our courses. Included on the site are:

- Virtual lessons and videos for pupils who have missed lessons or who want to plug gaps in their knowledge.
- Lesson resources such as presentations, worksheets and knowledge homework for each year group.
- Information and videos on careers in our subjects and how they relate to the real world.
- Virtual tours of subject specific venues such as The Coca Cola Factory, Google Data Centre and National Museum of Computing.
- Esafety information for both parents and pupils about how to use the latest apps and games safely.

The address for the site is <https://sites.google.com/woodchurchhigh.com/computing-business/home> and is accessible with a Google account.

## GCSE Business Studies - Year 10

Mrs Hulse will be running GCSE Business Studies Revision sessions on Thursday lunchtimes, week A and Friday mornings 8am. All sessions will be in ICT 1.

# Maths

## Year 10 and 11 A Level Taster from The University of Liverpool Maths School

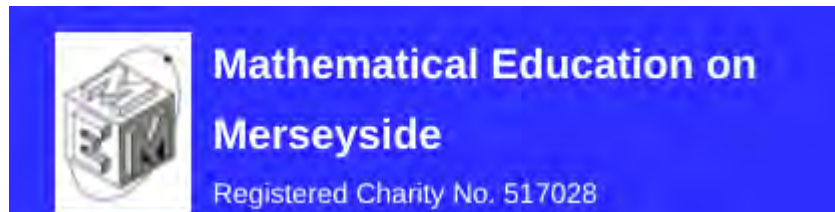


The University of Liverpool Maths School is unique in the North West of England and within England there are only a handful of similar schools that have the focus on Mathematics.

The University of Liverpool Maths School, a specialist provision for A Levels in Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Computer Science and Physics came to Woodchurch High School on Friday 15th May to give our aspirational Year 10 and Year 11 an introduction and insight into studying mathematics after Woodchurch High School.

The students who attended were challenged to consider the broad appeal and application of mathematics in many different job roles. We are pleased that a number of Woodchurch High School students are considering this provision to be their next step having attended the presentation.

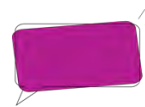
## Year 8



Max Harwood continued the success in mathematics competitions for Woodchurch High School and achieved a Best in School Performance as well as a Merit in the Mathematical Education on Merseyside Challenge. As a result of his Merit, Max has been invited to a celebration evening on 07th July 2021. This competition had over 540 entries from 93 different schools in the Merseyside Region, so Max's achievement is applauded and celebrated! Well done Max!

# MFL

The MFL department would like to say a big thank you to pupils studying French and Spanish. Pupils have shown outstanding endurance this half term in their commitment to learning and to getting back on track with routines. ¡Gracias! Merci!



## **Year 11 Continuous Assessment**

Year 11 pupils have shown outstanding endurance in their centre assessments this half term which they should be very proud of. To support this, Year 11 continue to gather evidence in lessons. MFL lessons continue to be an opportunity for pupils to let their lights shine and achieve their best potential in speaking, reading, writing and listening.

## **Google Classroom: Homework**



The MFL department is now using Google Classroom as the main hub for setting homeworks. While vocabulary and homework materials will be uploaded to Classroom, students should still continue to bring their vocabulary books to lessons as they will still need these for certain resources. Homework should also continue to be logged in planners as usual so that parents remain aware of any engagement with independent learning.

## **Year 8 assessments**

Year 8 will be completing reading and writing assessments after the half term break. This is an excellent opportunity for year 8 to show the progress they have made over the year. To prepare for their assessments, Year 8 pupils are encouraged to engage with any set learning or revision activities set by their class teachers and to use the knowledge organisers to revise key verbs and vocabulary. This will ensure that pupils achieve the best grade possible which will reflect all of their hard work throughout the year.

## **Year 10 assessments**

Year 10 will be completing assessments in MFL next half term. Students should engage with work set by their class teacher to prepare for these tests. These assessments will highlight the progress that Year 10 have made since September and will showcase the best of their abilities with regards to grammar and vocabulary knowledge.

To support their progress, pupils can access a range of key grammar and topic resources via our MFL Google Site. One way Year 10 can challenge themselves at home would be by continuing to revise the 'Hub Phrases', 'Booster Verbs' and the key tenses. Revision materials such as 'Knowledge Organisers' are also available on the MFL Google Site. Pupils are encouraged to use the condensed knowledge organisers provided for each GCSE 'Theme' and to use these to support their ongoing revision.

Pupils can also use online websites such as DuoLingo, Memrise and Quizlet to revise vocabulary. Practice exam questions are also available on BBC Bitesize which has been updated, and any other support needed pupils should ask their MFL teacher. Revision guides are still available to order from the MFL staff base.





## Home Learning and Revision

There are lots that parents and carers can do to support our pupils completing home learning for French and Spanish, using a range of online resources.



We would recommend:

- Visit our new Google Site for an expanding range of MFL resources, especially for GCSE revision including knowledge organisers and grammar activities.
- On our school's VLE you will find MFL resources for each year group. These include reading activities, translations and writing tasks.
- Seneca is an online platform that is great for revising your language skills.

## Modern Languages Google Website

The MFL Google Site is now up and running and is a space where pupils can access a range of materials to support their studies. The site is continually being updated, so if pupils have any suggestions of what would be a useful addition, or some creative ideas, please speak to a member of the MFL team.



**If you feel that you would like to refresh your language skills in small chunks, you may want to try some of these suggested activities. Just 5-10 minutes a day of practicing language skills will make recalling vocabulary a lot easier!**

1. Download the free (and simple to use) language learning app **Duolingo**.
2. **BBC.co.uk/languages** - select '**Spanish**' in the '**Choose your language box**' then click on '**Mi Vida Loca**' to watch the 22 episodes of the interactive video drama.
3. **Quizlet.com** - search for **mflwoodchurch**. Scroll down the list of activities to find topic areas to revise. The 'gravity' game is particularly addictive.
4. **Teachvid.com** - sign up for a free account watch the language videos and try some of the interactive activities.
5. **bbc.co.uk/bitesize** – select secondary then KS3 or GCSE, Modern Foreign Languages then either French or Spanish. Quizzes, videos and interactive exercises on a range of topics, including all those at GCSE (we follow the **AQA specification**).
6. '**Easy Languages**' channel on YouTube – select either **Easy French** or **Easy Spanish**. Subtitles available in the foreign language and English. Good way to develop listening skills and build a wider range of vocabulary.
7. '**Comme une Française**' channel on YouTube – practise pronunciation, learn phrases on a wide range of topics and improve your knowledge of French culture.
8. '**Agencia ELE**' channel on YouTube – Spanish videos on a range of GCSE topics. Subtitles can be turned off and on through the settings button at the bottom of the video screen.
9. **1 jour 1 actu.com** – current affairs website aimed at young, native speakers of French.
10. **Lyricstraining.com** – no need to set up a free account. Practise listening skills by completing gap fill exercises on French or Spanish songs. (Start with 'Beginner' and 'Choice mode'.

# MFL

## Linguist of the Month

The following pupils have been nominated by their class teacher for 'Linguist of the Month' for excellent commitment to their studies this half term in French and Spanish. Thank you for your effort and endurance. Well done, and keep up the good work!

### Year 7

- ★ Ellie Davies
- ★ Jack Keenan
- ★ Lily-Mae Martin
- ★ Amelia McLaughlin
- ★ Lily Porschke
- ★ Jake Williams
- ★ Lewis Hawkins
- ★ Evie Smith

### Year 8

- ★ Samantha Bennett
- ★ Tara Clerkin
- ★ Jonathan McAdams
- ★ Chloe McGrory
- ★ Daniel Robinson
- ★ Chloe Easterbrook
- ★ Oscar Bowden
- ★ Finley Rutter
- ★ Morgan Swan
- ★ Bradley Halloran

### Year 9

- ★ Chloe Doyle
- ★ Freya Earl
- ★ Isabella Griffiths
- ★ Harry Jackson
- ★ Katelyn Simmons
- ★ Larissa Yates
- ★ Melissa-Jo Amis
- ★ Zoe Arnold
- ★ Jude Rowley
- ★ Matthew Rylance

### Year 10

- ★ Rachel Batchelor
- ★ Lexie Caulfield
- ★ Daniel Davies Cairns
- ★ Phoebe O'Sullivan
- ★ Oliver Pryce
- ★ Ben Stanton
- ★ Alfie Chesters
- ★ Jacob Bell

### Year 11

- ★ Jessica Ellis
- ★ Olivia Forrester
- ★ James Roberts
- ★ Liberty Woods
- ★ Maisie Tsoi
- ★ Aislinn Saunders
- ★ Adam Johnson
- ★ Jake Harding
- ★ Ellena Corker
- ★ Rhiannon Jones

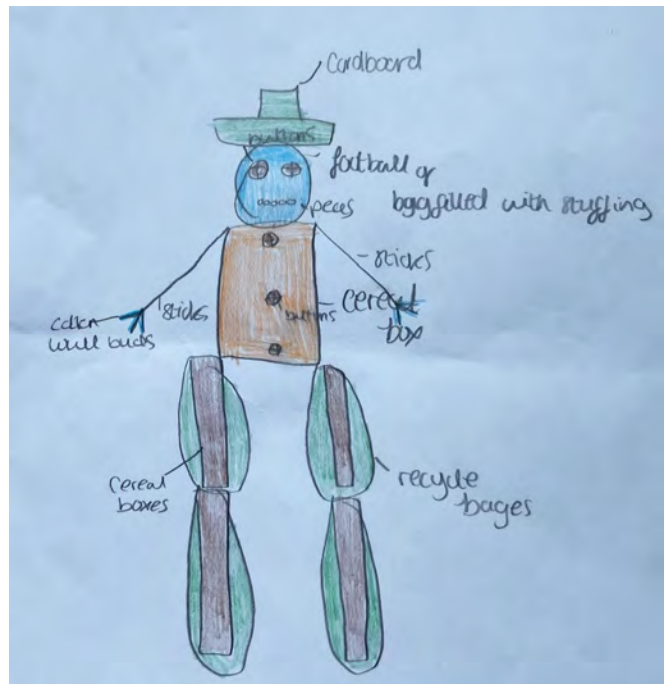


# Eco



## Eco Scarecrow

We asked our pupils to consider some recyclable objects in their own house and create a design for an Eco inspired Scarecrow that our Committee will help the Farm Staff to build. Tilly in Year 8 produced the winning design, her knowledge of visualising recyclable objects to form body structures our Scarecrow highly impressed the judges, well done!



## Celebrating & learning about our Forests

Upon last year's success of our Young Environmental Journalist Award winning film, our Year 7 Eco Committee are currently producing an exciting new documentary to educate our community on the importance of how our forests/green eco systems impact our everyday lives. Our aim is to raise awareness and understanding about the role forests play for sustainable life on our planet.

Please can you spare your time to complete this survey (designed by a member of our Eco Committee) to support our action plan to achieve our aim and celebrate our creativity as we set our film production into action.

<https://s.surveymonkey.com/s/fotg0KvL>

Your support is greatly appreciated as we strive to make a difference in our community for future generations.

# Eco

## Woodchurch is a Fairaware School

Woodchurch High School has recently become a Fairaware School. The Fairaware Award is the first stage in becoming a Fairtrade School by finding out our School's understanding of Fairtrade & the use of Fairtrade products in our daily lives.

The members of Year 9 Eco Committee met remotely during the enforced School to put together an engaging plan of activities for Fairtrade Fortnight and conducted whole school surveys & audits upon returning to School full time. Miss L Hughes (Eco Coordinator) is delighted with the pupils for working together and helping us achieve this award regardless of the challenging time we have faced this year.



We are developing a plan of action to not only accomplish the second Fairtrade Award (Fairactive) but create opportunities for our pupils to contribute to and volunteer for local campaigns/charities to emphasise how much the actions of an individual can make on global issues, it all starts with our Community and the one thing we all have in common is our Earth!

84 pupils participated in a survey to create a clear picture of our School's understanding of Fairtrade. 83.3% of participants confirmed that they have used ethical products in their daily routine and 78.7% have raised money for & donated to charity of their own accord.

During the enforced closure, a Tuckshop was organised and facilitated by some members of the Year 7 Eco Committee who attended School during Fairtrade Fortnight. The pupils ended the week feeling inspired by their actions and contribution and insist that it becomes a regular role to support charities close to their heart.

All of the members of the Year 7 Eco Committee participated in a role playing activity to recognise the tough choices that many workers living in poverty have to face on a daily basis. In teams, they were tasked with budgeting their everyday living costs against a low income that was affected by gender discrimination additionally. They were presented with wildcards that provided light on their circumstances but with consequences.

It was delightful to witness our aspiring Eco Warriors making mature decisions in these tough choices and have no doubt that increasing Eco awareness in our pupils is in the hands of caring children as we strive to make a difference in our community.



# Reaseheath Project

Spring has sprung into action and pupils have taken notes on the changes around the landscape at Westlake. Blossom on the trees, frogs in the pond and we have been waiting patiently for the 7 young Canada geese to hatch.

Land management has continued with the planting of new hedges around the orchard dodging showers as we planted. I am sure the wildlife will benefit from the Hawthorn, Goat Willow and Downy Birch. Pupils have also repaired fencing around one of the paddocks for the alpacas.

The land based studies continue to inspire our pupils and although tree and wildflower identification can be tricky to remember our knowledge is improving. The recent challenge pupils faced was to find out how old two of the oak trees on site were without having to cut them down. Not quite tree hugging but armed with tape measure, string and clip boards. Emma, Sam and Fletcher worked as a team to DBH, measuring and comparing both trees on site. DBH stands for diameter at breast height. Pupils worked out that one of the trees aged around 270 years old. Our homework for the following week was to research what was happening on Wirral/Cheshire when the tree was planted. If you are looking to do something different at the weekend the following guide will help you to measure your own trees.

## Measuring Single Trunk Trees on Level Ground

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) can be measured quickly with a specially calibrated diameter tape, often referred to as a d-tape, that displays the diameter measurement when wrapped around the circumference of a tree. If you don't have access to a d-tape, you can find the diameter of the tree using a string, a measuring tape, a thumbtack, and a calculator.

1. With the measuring tape, measure 4.5 feet up the trunk of the tree from the ground. Use a thumbtack to mark the height on the tree.
2. Wrap your string around the tree trunk at 4.5 feet. Make sure the string is straight and tight around the trunk, and mark or cut the circumference on the string.
3. Measure the length of string to get the circumference of the tree.

Convert the circumference measurement to diameter by dividing the circumference by pi (3.14).

Pupils also took part in dissecting owl pellets which had been collected when we were on our walk around the site. Pupils carefully soaked the pellets and then gently removed the waste to reveal tiny bone structures of skulls, bones. Pupils used a classification guide to identify the tiny specimens which the owl had eaten and regurgitated. It was quite surprising to see how small and delicate the leg bones were as Emma gently placed them onto a sheet of paper. The small rodents were field mice giving pupils an idea of what lived in the area and also what the owls had fed on.





# Citizenship



## Archbishop of York Award

Year 8 continue to work well towards their Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award. By the end of this half term, all form groups will have had the chance to complete their form sponsored walk. Pupils have walked approximately 3 miles along the North Wirral Peninsula. Some form groups have shown great endurance while walking through the wind, rain and at one point hail.

The intention has been to raise funds for our chosen charities (see below) and we have had a wonderful response from the pupils. The final amount is yet to be counted, however it is predicted that Year 8 will have raised over a thousand pound during their sponsored walk events. Well done Year 8 and I look forward to hearing the final total.

- Interact (Charity Team) Choice – Dementia Together Wirral
- St Mary's Choice – A Rosha
- Birkenhead Rotary Choice - The Wirral Fund For Children With Special Needs
- Mayor's Choice – Open Door Centre





# Farm News



For the past 10 years Woodchurch High School Farm has been lambing rare breed North Ronaldsay sheep and every year our lambs count toward the RBST national conservation figures for the breed. This year we have seven lambs to register!

During April two sets of twins and three single lambs were born. All were healthy and very cute. In the above photo you can see the Farm School class providing a supplement milk feed to one of the twin lambs. The reason we have to do this is due to the ewe not producing enough milk to nourish two lambs. As you can imagine there is no shortage of volunteers to feed the little lamb!



Other news on the farm includes the Eco workshops and Eco activities that have been funded by Liverpool Community Environment Fund @lpoolcityregion. The Year 7 pupils have worked with Year 10 mentors on an Eco Safari activity to find out the causes, effects and response to Global Warming. In a 'Say No to Single Use Plastic Workshop' pupils learnt how to make paper planting pots and how to reuse smoothie cups to create a mini propagator - so we never have to buy a plastic pot to plant seeds and seedlings again.

# Diary Dates

**Monday 31st May 2021**  
**Friday 4th June 2021**

**May Half Term**

Monday 7th June 2021

All pupils return to school

**Friday 16th July 2021**

**School Closes for Summer**

**Wednesday 1st September 2021**  
**(Staff Development Day)**

**2021/22 Academic Year Starts**

Tuesday 2nd September 2021

All pupils return to school