



# Woodbrook Vale News Sheet

21 December 2018



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## Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to our Christmas newsletter.

2018 has been another successful and enjoyable year. Students across all year groups continue to impress me by how well they represent the school. I am always pleased to hear visitors comment on how polite and courteous our students are and each year we seem to welcome a new cohort of young people who very quickly adapt to the 'Woodbrook Way'. Year 7 students who arrived at the school in August have made an excellent start to their Woodbrook Vale careers and have quickly settled into their larger school environment. Older students have been instrumental in facilitating this smooth transition, both informally and through established peer mentoring schemes.

Woodbrook Vale was delighted to be designated as a national support school earlier this year. This has ensured our school has remained outward-looking and has enabled us to form collaborative teaching and learning partnerships across the county. We have been working particularly closely with a number of our primary school colleagues this term, including shadowing groups of students as they were taught across a wide

range of Year 7 lessons.

The school's 2018 GCSE results were excellent and continue to surpass national expectations. Woodbrook Vale now has an established trend of positive outcomes and last summer's Progress 8 score of +0.24 enabled us to maintain our official DfE category of an "above average" school. Last year, the school received awards in recognition of being in the top 20% of schools nationally for student progress and for student attainment.

The school site continues to develop. We recently completed a project to replace all windows and doors throughout the school and have just submitted a capital bid for 2019-20, hoping to replace roof tiles and renovate the 'old gym' changing rooms. Woodbrook Vale became part of a Leicestershire Careers Hub in September and has made good progress in ensuring students of all ages make informed and appropriate choices regarding their chosen career pathways. We audit ourselves against the DfE's Gatsby Benchmarks and this has seen an improved offer in terms of our careers provision. Year 10 and 11 careers interviews have taken place this term and this opportunity will be extended to younger students in the new year.

We have a busy Spring term ahead of us. Year 9 students will be making their important GCSE option choices in January, supported by a specialised information evening at the school (Wednesday 23 January). Students across all year groups are also excitedly preparing for our School Production to be shown on 30 and 31 January, and 01 February. This year's production is a musical about "Madness", with an impressive selection of songs and dance routines planned.

We look forward to welcoming students back to school on Tuesday 8 January 2019. In the meantime, on behalf of all staff and students at Woodbrook Vale, I wish you a relaxing and enjoyable festive break.

Gary Peat  
Headteacher



## Uniform

We have very high expectations in terms of uniform and we ask that parents/carers read the guidance information about uniform carefully before making uniform purchases. This applies particularly to trousers and stretch skirts, both of which should be formal in style.

Examples are available on the school website. Click [here](#) for further information.

Please note:

- Only one pair of earring studs is allowed
- Nose piercings and bar style earrings are not acceptable
- No rings
- Coats should not be worn around school
- No rolled up sleeves
- No shirts out - all should be tucked in
- **Any 'Christmas' acrylic/gel nails must be removed before the start of the Spring term.**

Mrs Anderson, Deputy Headteacher

## Year 11 Parents' Evening

Parents/carers of Year 11 students are invited to our Parents' Evening on **Thursday 10 January 2019, 3:30pm - 7:00pm**. This evening will give you the opportunity to speak to subject teachers regarding your child's progress. Subject teachers will be discussing 'Next Steps' which will help your child achieve their target grades.

Please visit <https://woodbrookvale.parenteveningsystem.co.uk/> to book your appointments. Online booking will be available from **9.00am on Thursday 13 December 2018** and will close at **3.00pm on Wednesday 9 January 2019**. For a short guide on how to add appointments please visit our website: [http://www.wbvs.co.uk/Parents\\_Evening](http://www.wbvs.co.uk/Parents_Evening)

Any problems please contact Mrs Perry on 01509 557560 ext 144.

## Our House

Woodbrook Vale is looking forward to its next production, 'Our House' on Wednesday 30 January, Thursday 31 January and Friday 1 February.

Students are currently working hard in their rehearsals. The price of the tickets is £5 and they are currently available to purchase via ParentPay. The tickets will be distributed in the New Year.



## Carols at Carillon Court

Mr Parsons, Ms Gallagher and The Singing Club entertained shoppers at Carillon Court on Tuesday morning, singing carols. The students were superb ambassadors for Woodbrook Vale. Well done to all for raising £47.



## Christmas Concert

Woodbrook Vale held its annual Christmas Concert on Tuesday evening. Parents and friends of students were highly entertained. The festive evening included a range of Christmas songs and it was great to see some students performing for the first time.



## Personal Development Lessons

PD lessons scheduled for the week commencing **Tuesday 8 January 2019** are:  
Year 7: Rights & Responsibilities - Child Poverty & Education  
Year 8: Careers - Influences & Successes  
Year 9: Careers 4 - Employed or self-employed  
Year 11: Mock exam reflections  
Please discuss the topics we are covering in PD lessons with your child. If any issues are raised that you would like us to be aware of, please contact your child's form tutor.

## Attitude to Learning

ATL letters and certificates have been issued to Year 7, 8 and 9 students.  
ATL letters have been issued to Year 10 and 11 students.

## Progress Reports

Progress reports for all Year groups have been published on GO 4 Schools.

## Year 9 GCSE Options Evening

**Date for the Diary:**  
Year 9 GCSE Options Evening, **Wednesday 23 January 2019.**

## tellbytext

Woodbrook Vale offers a system for students to report bullying called tellbytext. If a student would like to report that they are being bullied, they may:

- text 21153 and their message to 07781474660
- leave a voice message at 0845 2258230
- report online at [www.tellbytext.com](http://www.tellbytext.com)



## Attendance Award

The highest attending registration group for last week was 10DA with an excellent weekly attendance of 97.31%.  
Congratulations to all members of 10DA.  
Mrs Moreton, Attendance Officer



## Staff Updates

### Farewell

At the end of this term we say 'goodbye' to:  
Miss Short, Head of Year 10 and Teacher of Maths  
Miss Heimes, Learning Support Assistant  
Miss Reid, Examinations Officer

### New roles

Mr Grundy: Head of Year 10  
Miss Limbachia: Head of Year 8  
Mr Khan: Assistant Head of Year  
Mrs Blythe: 7CL form tutor

### Welcome

We look forward to welcoming two new members of staff in January 2019:  
Mrs Moors: Assistant Headteacher, including SENDCo  
Mr Ronald: Second in Faculty-Maths

## Humanities Heroes

Callum Hawker, 7CL: '*Producing an excellent research project on Loughborough.*'  
Lewis Roscoe, 11JRI: '*Tried exceptionally hard this term in RE & Citizenship and Geography.*'  
Ella Mott, 7LK: '*Consistently producing work of a high standard.*'  
Cassie Hann, 7LK: '*Producing an excellent Castle project.*'  
Kate Peters, 11DD: '*Exceptional work this term in GCSE History.*'  
Rosa Mock, 10DB: '*Having a real desire to do well and always giving 100%.*'  
Aishah Bint-Musharaf, 10JP: '*Excellent attitude to GCSE Geography.*'  
Luke Sweeney, 10TG: '*Working hard in GCSE Geography.*'  
Saskia Smith, 10VE: '*Good approach and attitude in GCSE Geography.*'  
Caleb Marshall, 9KH: '*Always giving 100% to all that he approaches in Geography.*'

## Revision Superstars

This week's revision superstars have been nominated by the Year 11 students themselves. After considering multiple nominations, the winning students are Freya Large, Lauren Border, Erin Donnelly, Emma Thorpe, Amelie Buxton and Vinay Kana. These students received nominations due to their positive work ethic, dedication to their revision throughout the year and also for their resilience and perseverance. Well done to the revision superstars this week and to all students in Year 11 who have worked with ambition and dedication during this busy term. Enjoy a very well deserved Christmas break and I look forward to seeing you all in January.

Mrs Kell, Head of Year 11

## Year 7 Football

WBVS 3-3 St Paul's Catholic School with goals from Liam Foot, Freddie Hewitt and Alfie Allen. WBVS lost on penalties. What a game! What a performance! What a team! Never have I been so proud of a team in defeat. A brilliant first season came down to a penalty shootout but that doesn't tell the whole story....

The latter stages of the County Cup are always a little bit of a mystery as you have no idea about the teams you may face. I knew there was a team littered with academy stars but wasn't aware of their name. I now know - it's St Paul's Catholic School!! As the opposition walked around onto the pitch it was like a scene from a spaghetti Western as all my players froze in fear as the appearance of so many LCFC and DCFC players sent shivers down their spines. I am going to be honest. I turned to Mr Rowley and said "We are in trouble here!!". Not only did the opposition have 4 academy players but they were all 6 inches taller than us. It looked like we were playing up a year. Original team talk ripped up and new Rocky style underdog speech delivered.

We made the worst possible start after a mistake by Luke Martin in goal gifted them the opening goal inside a minute. You could hear the groans, the whispers, the fear!! Thoughts of floodgates opening, avalanches starting whirled through my head. I shouted to the lads to forget it, and go again. The response was immense. We were outpacing the opposition, playing through the phases and creating half chances. St Paul's were always dangerous

on the counter but we were holding our own. Then some neat interplay between Josh Moore and Alfie Molloy sent Freddie Hewitt the ball and he was crudely upended and a freekick was awarded about 22 yards out. Liam Foot was assigned the task of striking the freekick. Myself and Mr Rowley were right behind this and watched in awe as the ball flew like an arrow into the top corner!!! 1-1 and a brilliant response to going behind.

The celebrations themselves almost overshadowed the goal itself as the boys went wild. You could see the belief surging through their veins. They were not invincible. For the next ten minutes we looked like Barcelona - they have Suarez, we have Hewitt. They have Messi, we have Josh Crabtree. They have Pique, we have Liam Foot. They have...well you get the idea. We took the lead with another top bagger. More ingenious interplay in the middle of the park from Logan Sharman and Josh Moore sent Freddie Hewitt away again and his 20 yard effort flew into the top corner. A hammer blow!! Cue more wild celebrations. This was a game that we could actually win. Sadly, the lead lasted just 10 minutes as a lightning breakaway was too much for us and St Paul's scored a quality equaliser to send us in 2-2 at halftime.

Keep going! More of the same! Exactly as you were! Team talk was easy. Could we keep it up for another 30 minutes?

Second half started with a bang as we retook the lead with yet another top bagger. This time a great switch of play from Alfie Molloy sent the ball across to

Alfie Allen on the edge of the box. Instant control and then a shot and again it arrowed into the top corner. 3-2 to WBVS. Second time we had been in the lead and we fully deserved it. The second half whizzed by with chances at both ends. 5 minutes to go and a pinpoint Josh Moore pass sent Freddie Hewitt in on goal. Unfortunately Freddie dragged his shot wide and the best chance of the second half went begging. 4-2 and we would have been into the last 8! With the clock running down and less than a minute to go St Paul's won a corner. Brilliant delivery and a superb header and WBVS hearts were broken as they equalised with virtually the last kick of the game. 3-3 and desolation.

Extra time came and went with no real action or chances and the dreaded penalty shootout came around. 4-3 loss with Josh Moore and Alfie Molloy missing for WBVS.

We played the best team in the County and were 30 seconds away from knocking them out! This was an unreal performance. We only have a small pool of players to choose from but we played with heart, passion and desire. Congratulations to each and every one of the lads. So proud of all of them.

Mr Moore, Year 7 Football Coach & HLTA: English

