



# WOODSIDE VOICE

AUTUMN TERM 2021: ISSUE 18



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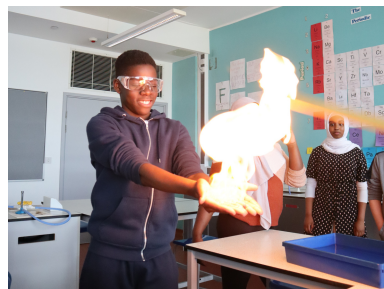
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  @woodsidehighsch

## IMPRESSIVE GCSE RESULTS

70% of students achieved 5 or more 9-4 grades. 69% of students achieved 5 GCSEs at 4+ including English and Maths.

*"This could not have happened without the endless support of the staff, parents, carers, and governors at Woodside who have worked tirelessly to support our phenomenal Year 11 students."* Ms A Wallace / **p4**



## SUMMER SCHOOL 2021

Over 150 students joined us in the summer for our first-ever Summer School. Scan the QR code to see the highlights on YouTube. / **p5**



## STUDENT DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Our Main School Council has committed to focusing on student motivation and student safety for this academic year. / **p8**



## BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATIONS

The Prefect team came up with the idea of a showcase for the community that included drama, dance, music and spoken poetry. / **p10**

## NEW STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

They endured a rigorous application process before being selected, find out who's in the team for 2021-22. / **p7**



## WINTER FESTIVAL @ WOODSIDE

The first Winter Festival kicks off with a food bank appeal, and bake sale by the Equalities Group for charities Solace and AKT. / **p16**



## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Bullying has no place here at Woodside. With this year's theme being 'One Kind Word', our prefect team created a personalised video to promote kindness. / **p12**

Scan the QR code below to watch the video.



# Head's Message

Welcome to this first edition of the new look Woodside Voice. Established community supporters will know of Woodside Voice as a vehicle to find out about the innovative things that are taking place at Woodside. The new look Woodside Voice, whilst having staff input will be more heavily driven and written by the students themselves. The objective is that it will be completely student run by the end of the academic year.



It is my absolute pleasure to write the editorial for this first edition of 2021-22. This time last year we were all out of the second lockdown, not knowing that another lockdown was looming where the daily existence for students would be completely disrupted. Woodside, like so many schools, has suffered a knock in its journey and we have busy work to do to move forward. You will see from this term's publication a focus on key events, which dip our toes in developing extraordinary experiences for our young people. This may be through performance, trips or student leadership opportunities. As the year progresses we are hoping to build up this portfolio of experiences for our young people.

My vision is for each student to have an exceptional academic experience, taught by teachers with excellent subject knowledge alongside enrichment opportunities which lead them to have curiosity, ambition and feel empowered to be agents of social change. Over this academic year, our tracking of the Woodside experience will be extended to develop the Woodside passport, a series of opportunities that all students should experience. It is hoped by September 2022 we will have an extended day which provides first class enrichment for all, and finally our house system will allow friendly competition as a means to bring students from different year groups together. I look forward to you reading all about it in Woodside Voice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Angela Wallace'.

Ms. Angela Wallace  
Headteacher



# GCSE Results

Woodside High School students have achieved strong results in this year's GCSE examinations with 69% of students achieving 5 GCSEs at grades 4+ including English and Maths and 43% at grades 5+ including English and Maths. Exceptional results include those by Patrica Ssonko (eleven grade 9s); Mohammad Hayen (six grade 9s and one grade 8), Ibtissam Ijouiher ( six grade 9s, three grade 8s, and two grade 7s); Natalia Antova (four grade 9s, four grade 7s and three grade 8s), Jabiah Murshida (four grade 9s and six grade 8s), Tahir Ibis (four grade 9s, one grade 8 and three grade 7s), and Jerome Iyamu, who achieved four grade 9s.

With 70% of students achieving 5 or more 9-4 grades and progress for all learners well above average; Woodside students have once again demonstrated why Woodside High School is a fantastic place for students to study and learn.

## 70% 5 OR MORE 9-4 GRADES



*"After what has been an incredibly challenging year for students across the country, these results are a testament to the hard work and resilience of our amazing Year 11 students. Despite setbacks and having to change learning environments, they have been relentless in their focus to do the very best they can. I am humbled by their attitude and so proud of what they have achieved. This could not have happened without the endless support from staff, parents, carers, and governors at Woodside High School who have worked to support our phenomenal Year 11 students."*

**Ms A Wallace**

# Summer School

This summer, Woodside ran its first summer school for over 40% of its new Year 7 students. The current Year 8s were also invited with a large cohort of these students participating in a separate programme. So why the summer school? This year more than any, Woodside wanted to address some of those gaps that COVID has produced both academically and socially. The Government has actively encouraged schools to host such events in an effort to address a particularly challenging year in relation to transition. The research is overwhelmingly positive about the impact of summer schools. The NFER (the National Federation for Educational Research) found that most young people were worried about transferring to secondary school, 90% welcome the idea of being invited to summer schools, stating they found anxieties about starting secondary school were hugely reduced as a result of summer school. Attending a summer school has led to more positive attitudes (for confidence, socialisation and school readiness). Furthermore, the EFF (Educational Endowment Fund) who perform research into what makes an impact in schools, stated that summer schools can contribute to a +2 months of accelerated progress for students who attend.

The Woodside Summer School aimed to get the balance of academic and socialisation along with making memorable moments. For the most part, the teaching was delivered by our own staff to enable the students to have familiar faces when they arrived. Whilst there was a focus on Maths and English, other subjects such as History and languages were taught. Even simple things like using the canteen and navigating around buildings was aided by the students being in before other peers arrived. The creative subjects were also emphasised with students creating original pieces of work and participating in guitar and drumming workshops.

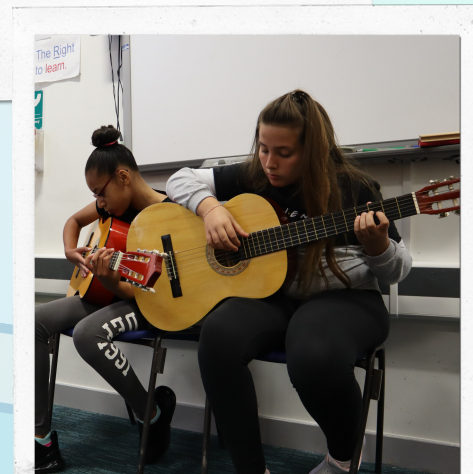
The week ended with a concert showcasing students' music, dance, drama, poetry and art. For many students this was the first public concert they appeared in or were part of in 18 months. Moving forward, the summer school will form part of the objective to aid transition in the most productive way possible, with the input of students in relation to what aspects they found to be of most use.

## Ruben's Summer School Experience

In summer school, we did lots of fun lessons preparing us for what it will be like in the year ahead. A few of the things we did was drama, creative writing, dancing, music and so much more.

There were 8 classes in total, four Year 6 classes and four Year 7 classes. The Year 6 and 7 classes battled it out to see who could get the most Praise Points in the week.

The trips made the week extra special. We got to go bowling and cinema.



# My First Week @ Woodside

My first week was a bit rocky because there are lots of older students at Woodside, but this year's summer school boosted my confidence and because some of my primary school friends were coming to Woodside too, I knew I would have friends to talk to.

We had early break so we could get food quicker so we can enjoy it in the Year 7 area. The Year 7 area is a very good place to go during breaktime and lunchtime because we can make new friends with students our age and they might like what we like too.

The food is really good and they give good portions especially compared to my primary school.

The lessons are extremely good and there are two periods before break (each period is an hour long). The mixed classes are a good way to collaborate with people in different forms.

## Noah (Y7)



## Tolmers Trip



**Tolmers**  
ACTIVITY CENTRE



As part of our secondary transition for Year 7, we took the year group to Tolmers Activity Centre to participate in a range of team building and outdoor activities whilst getting to know their tutor groups. The aim of this trip is to help them develop their communication and cooperation skills, whilst developing self-awareness and building on their social skills. This is what two of our students thought of the trip:

### Grace's Tolmers experience

The Tolmers trip brought classes together and built more connections between our year group. The Tolmers trip was fun and very exciting.

### Loretta's Tolmers experience

When we went on the Tolmers trip it was a great opportunity to make friends. It was very fun, it was also a chance to connect with more of my classmates.

# My first term as Head Prefect

This first term as a Head Prefect has been a busy one - but an exciting introduction to Year 11 nonetheless, full of surprises and events all which we got to be a part of as prefects. It's only been one term, and we've already done so much! Speaking at open days, in assemblies and videos, it really is just as busy as advertised, but being able to help out with things like the Black History Month Celebration event have also been fun and worthwhile. I've really enjoyed this term, as a Head Prefect, and I hope that the rest of the year continues to be just as enjoyable.

## Boglarka, Head Prefect



Boglarka  
Head Prefect



Ronnie  
Head Prefect



Aayah  
Deputy Prefect



Junaid  
Deputy Prefect



Dinavi  
Deputy Prefect



Michael  
Deputy Prefect

# Prefects



Ana Riya Dicle Corey Junaid Michael Nicholas Alessia Charlize Carmelia Javine Aziza Marsilda Marwan  
Dinavi Petko Holly Ronnie Boglarka Eva Charles Aayah

# School Council

It's been a really busy term for us as your student council. We scrutinised the School Development Plan and committed to focusing on student motivation and student safety for this academic year. This term the following improvements have been made:

## Student Safety:

Student safety is of the utmost importance and we have been looking at introducing some new ways to make students feel safe in school and as they travel to and from school. We have launched a new email address for this: [here2help@woodsidehighschool.co.uk](mailto:here2help@woodsidehighschool.co.uk)

If you have any worries or concerns about you or another student's personal safety, need some advice or to raise a concern you can send an email to this address for help. Of course you can always speak to your form tutor or a trusted member of staff but if you feel nervous or worried and do not know how to start then this is the perfect way to get started and to be a part of making our school community a safe place to be.

- A new staff duty point has been added in the toilets.
- Staff patrols are done down to Perth Road and Dunbar Road.
- We have arranged for some first aid classes for students with the Red Cross.



**Rewards Trip to Crouch End Picture House and Sophie leading the way with questions for Mr David Lammy.**



## Student Motivation:

Student motivation links nicely to the school's commitment to offering a challenging curriculum and having high expectations of students. We want to feel motivated and we know that exciting incentives help with this. We also believe that equality of opportunity is important so we will be looking at some educational, exciting and inspirational trip opportunities for students this year. We will be making sure that a broad range of students get the chance to experience new things, especially where they have been working hard. We want to make sure that students with learning needs are not left out and that by setting appropriate targets; Woodsiders will be given a chance to shine and be rewarded through learning and experiencing new things!

A range of exciting rewards trips have been taken this term to motivate students. By moving from one annual rewards trip to termly rewards, more students than ever are going to be recognised for their hard work and positive attitude to learning this academic year. Remember that if you have not yet been on a rewards trip this term, you have next term to do your best and get the opportunity to be recognised for it.

As we said, it's been a very exciting and action-packed term for us. A huge highlight was our meeting with David Lammy a few weeks ago.

We are wishing you a safe and happy break. Please remember to look after yourselves and your loved ones and take the time to reflect on how your term has been. Come back with resolutions and targets that you have set for yourselves. If you think of anything that you would like us to work on in the new year, remember that you can also send your ideas straight to us at: [haveyoursay@woodsidehighschool.co.uk](mailto:haveyoursay@woodsidehighschool.co.uk)

## Your Student Council





# S.M.I.L.E-ing Boys Project

Back in September, some of our Year 9 and 10 boys attended the celebration event for the S.M.I.L.E-ing Boys Project at The RecordShop in The Mall.

The project was created by internationally acclaimed artist Kay Rufai and is supported by the Mayor of London, and is rooted in the 8 pillars of happiness; the impact of the happiness levels of a person, which in turn impact the ability to engage positively in relationships with self, others, and wider society.

Ms Wallace, Mr Barnes and Ms Boothman attended the event and were extremely proud to see the boys' images in the mall as well as to hear them talk about what they had learned about themselves during the programme.

Challenging limiting stereotypes is a priority at Woodside and as we work to support our students into carving out their own identities and being proud of who they are. It was an absolute pleasure to see our boys take up space with smiles on their faces.



# European Day of Languages

On Monday 27th September, the Modern Languages Department celebrated the annual European Day of Languages. (The official day - 26th September). This year was particularly special because it was the 20th anniversary of the event. Activities were organised across the school to promote the importance of language learning, celebrate the languages spoken by Woodsiders and stimulate the students' love of languages.

During the day all teachers were encouraged to meet and greet pupils in any language they knew other than English to celebrate the diversity within Woodside. In tutor time pupils in each year group took part in their year group language quiz, competing against their peer tutor groups. In language lessons teachers delivered a series of games, including "guess the greeting", and engaged pupils in activities to broaden their knowledge of European languages and develop their awareness of the importance of languages. They even understood the pitfalls of google translate! Finally, they were set the challenge of learning to sign as a homework assignment.

In addition, the department ran a competition which involved students finding key information about celebrities, language roots and tongue twisters from information posted around the school.

For the avid linguists there was also the chance to enter the National Bake Off competition!



# Black History Month Celebrations

This year, Woodside wanted to recognise and celebrate Black History Month as a community.

The prefect team wanted to encourage all students, teachers, parents and carers to get involved with celebrations in line with the theme of 'Proud To Be'. We wanted to take the opportunity to showcase some of the amazing work our students were completing both in lessons and in extracurricular clubs.

The prefects devised a plan to create a showcase for the community to attend that would include drama, dance, music and spoken poetry. Fortunately, we were able to invite the local primary schools to attend and see the amazing afternoon show which they greatly enjoyed. The atmosphere was amazing with students clapping, cheering and waving their flags. When planning the showcase, the prefects wanted the event to be surrounded by cultural food, pictures and flags which they were able to make happen. Attendees were able to taste Caribbean cakes like carrot cake and coconut sponge, chin chin and plantain chips, as well as exotic fruits and traditional drinks. The showcase was both inspiring and amazing to watch. All the dedication and time students put into rehearsing paid off and those who attended had nothing but positive comments and praise for all those involved.

In addition to the showcase, various departments across the school were able to embed the theme throughout their lessons and activities. Alongside this, we were able to run an amazing African drumming workshop in which students across different year groups attended.



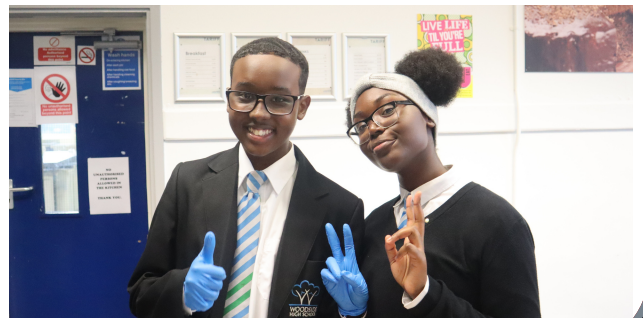
The drumming workshop with Alex Dayo was a huge success. He taught the students how to play traditional instruments such as the Djembe and Talking Drum and learn new techniques as an ensemble. It was a fun day as both GCSE/BTEC students developed their rhythmic awareness together and a Year 7 music class also demonstrated a rhythmic performance to the primary schools during the afternoon showcase. It was certainly a great experience sharing storytelling and celebrating African culture through music.



# BLACK IN MY SKIN

I'd love to be rich  
 And I hate to be poor  
 But Black in my skin  
 Is the most I adore  
 It's a part of my race  
 And it's what I embrace  
 I love it so much  
 'Cause it puts me in place  
 Each skin is a story  
 For rights we've earned  
 The freedom we fight for  
 The paths that we've learnt  
 So Black is my story  
 Black is my life  
 But most importantly  
 Black is my right.

By Olivia (Y7)



# Anti-Bullying Week



For this year's Anti-Bullying Week the theme was 'One Kind Word'. Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration to support one another can brighten the lives of the people around us. The week began with Odd Socks Day which we promoted and asked staff and students to take part in to celebrate individuality.

Kindness cards were introduced for all year groups to earn Praise Points and drive acts of kindness around school.

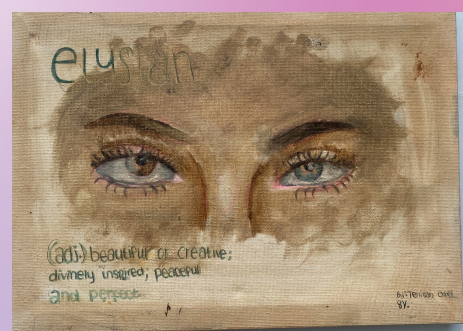
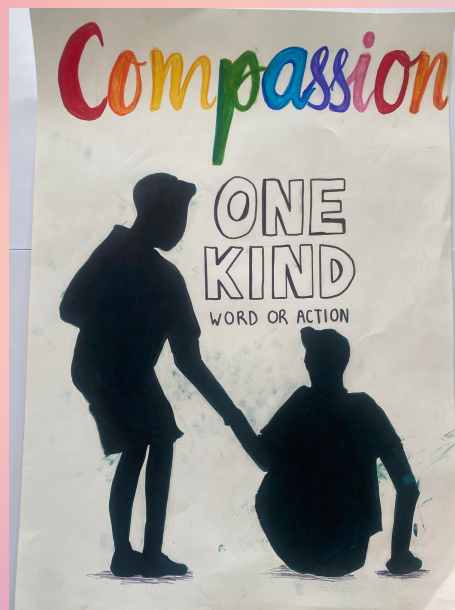
We wanted to recognise positive gestures of goodwill to those who do the right thing by others within the school community. These cards were signed by different staff members within the school. Any fully completed cards were entered into a raffle. Both staff and students loved the activity and we look to introduce something like this throughout the school year.

To further promote kindness, our students wanted to create a personalised video to promote One Kind Word. Students volunteered their time and kind words which were collated to create a positive and informative video. Throughout this week, our award-winning Equalities Group ran assemblies across each year group, educating everyone on the importance of kindness and the negative effects of bullying. In line with the RSHE curriculum, the pastoral teams planned tutor time events that linked to sharing kind messages with students promoting and supporting positive relationships.

Woodside also ran a poster design competition in which the best posters will feature in a display board that will remain on show in the canteen all year. We look forward to continuing to promote anti-bullying throughout the school year.



Scan the QR code to watch the video our prefects made on YouTube.



# Music @ Woodside

Professional musicians from the London Sinfonietta Academy visited us for a composition workshop on Thursday 7th October. Woodside musicians had an opportunity to work alongside Rebecca Dinning (violinist), Sirius Chau (flutist), Joely Koos (cellist), Hannah Conway the workshop leader and Alex Paxton who is a well-known composer worldwide. The students demonstrated excellent conduct and creative flair – the final composition was fantastic! It was inspiring listening to them devise and develop new skills and experiences collectively. A special thanks to Sarah Ainslie for the professional pictures and Rhuti Carr for organising the fantastic workshop. It was a memorable day!



## One student said:

"I enjoyed the workshop a lot. Everyone listened to a genre of music that we haven't heard off and we enjoyed it. We then split off into two groups and improvised a song out of one of Alex Paxton's tracks from his album Music for Bosch People. We put our pieces together and it was very fun to set up and help put together. They should come back again soon."

Our second highlight was the Black History Month showcase. It was great to see our students performing to a public audience again, they demonstrated excellent conduct and performance skills to the wider community.

I would like to thank Ms. Frost and the instrumental staff for their hard work this term. They have helped nurture our students to develop new and continued skills on an instrument. We have really expanded on the instrumental programme thanks to Restore the Music funding and the new instruments have been greatly received.

What is next? We are looking for talented and gifted singers to join us at the Royal Albert Hall in April. This will be an amazing event that is run by Haringey Music Service! Watch this space!





# Equality & Diversity Group



The Equality and Diversity Group started meeting this term, and so far we have been working on events and raising awareness for many different events, including Black History Month, Anti-Bullying Week, and Christmas bake sale.

### Anti-Bullying Week

For Anti-Bullying Week, we gave assemblies to Year 7, 8, and 9 students on the effects of bullying and to encourage students to speak up and tackle bullying.

### Bake Sale

We have also chosen two charities to raise money for this term. We will be raising money for Solace and AKT, and we have been organising bake sales to raise money for them! We baked cupcakes, brownies, and other treats, and we have been selling them at lunchtime to raise money.

### Future Events

For the rest of the year, we have events planned for LGBTQ+ History Month, and we are working with other schools to organise a pride picnic in the summer!

### What we love about it?

We help to make Woodside a happier, safer, and more inclusive place, and we want to help people feel safe and welcome!

We enjoy it because you get to be part of a community, to help run events and work with different people, and to help people feel included at Woodside.

**Loretta and Jennifer (Y7)**  
**Tristan W and Ahmed (Y8)**

# Careers @ Woodside

It's been a busy Autumn term for the careers department here at Woodside. We've been running various workshops and events to give our pupils the opportunity to explore the different paths they can take once they complete their journey with us.

We started off the year with assemblies led by senior leaders from Haringey Sixth Form, LAE Tottenham and Woodhouse College.

In October, our annual Careers Fair welcomed a variety of colleges, sixth forms and apprenticeship providers to help our Year 10 and 11 students figure out what options are available after Woodside.

## Charlize's Careers Fair Experience

I thought it was really good because it wasn't limited to just one genre of college, there were a range of post-16 options available, such as Army Careers, BTEC Colleges and Universities.

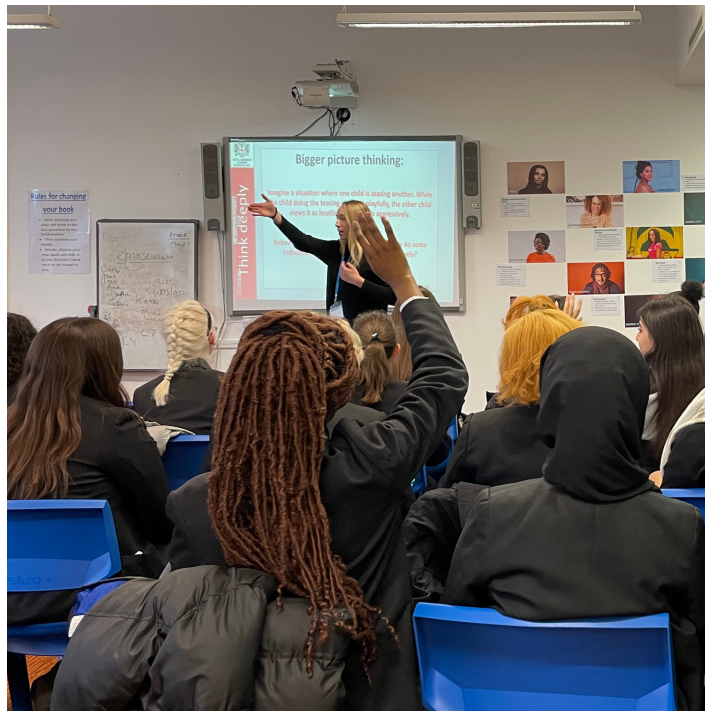
I feel I am able to make an informed decision on what I want to do once I leave Woodside.

Our Discovery Series started with an A-level Psychology taster session with Ms Zambon from City of London Academy Highgate Hill.

## Boglarka's thoughts on the session

We Year 11 students were offered a wonderful chance to delve deeper into the post-16 curriculum. This time it was with City of London Academy Highgate Hill's brilliant Ms Zambon, exploring the country's second most popular subject: Psychology.

Being one of the most interesting subjects, it's easy to see why so many people turned up, eager to have a go at answering the biggest question there is, why are humans the way we are? It was an amazing opportunity, run as a real lesson to give us a flavour of sixth form style study and acting as an introduction to a whole new area of interest to all who attended. Fun and enabling, full of friendly people and interesting ideas this taster session has, I'm sure, introduced a whole new generation of aspiring psychologists to the world.



# Winter Festival

This year, Woodside has begun its first Winter Festival. Running over the last two weeks of term, the objective is to come together to celebrate and learn in different ways. Underpinning the programme has been a focus on social justice and community.

The Equalities Group have chosen two charities which they feel reflect the concerns of our students in Woodside, and they are running a pop up bakery and snack stall at lunchtime.

**solace**

supports women and children facing domestic violence in London.

**akt**

supports young LGBTQ+ homeless people.

Further support for homelessness was also achieved through our staff Christmas jumper day, raising funds for charity, Shelter.

Across the school, students in all year groups collected for Haringey Food Bank. Haringey is in the top ten for the highest rates of child poverty in the UK and food banks are increasingly relied upon by many Haringey families. Between 1st April 2020 and 31st March 2021, food banks in the Trussell Trust's UK wide network distributed 2.5 million emergency food parcels to people in crisis, a 33% increase on the previous year. 980,000 of these went to children. Compared to this time five years ago, need for food banks in the Trussell Trust network has increased by 128%. With each form contributing where they can, students are not only making a far reaching impact in relation to their donations, but they can also learn the impact they can make to the community they live in.



COVID restrictions has meant a large concert wasn't able to take place so the compromise was the Winter Fete after school. The main objective was to have some light-hearted events towards the end of term whilst raising money for the Woodside experience. The money raised will help reduce the cost of trips and experiences at Woodside.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**



Underpinning all winter festivities is about coming together to unite in shared values. The school Christmas dinner allows for students to take part in the tradition of a Christmas meal with crackers. We hope to come back next year bigger and further reaching.

