

Years 7 and 8 NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 • 2018



IN THIS ISSUE

- Being a New Girl at Woodford House
- Boarding
- Grandparents' Day
- New Girls' Day
- Netball
- Hockey
- Winter Sport Quad Tournament
- Football
- Cross Country
- The Frimley Family
- Wonderful Wallingford
- Story Endings
- Trenches
- Home sweet home?
- Science
- Technology Challenge
- Shaduf Models
- Athletics
- Spanish
- Evita
- Kid's Sing
- Capital E Performance
- Student Council – Sparkle Selfie

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau

As Term 3 ends, the students have been reflecting on their achievements so far. It is hard to believe how much the girls have squeezed into this year! They have participated in a huge range of activities and learning experiences which reflect the four cornerstones of the school. As always, I have been very proud of the girls' efforts and enthusiasm towards being part of the Woodford House community.

This newsletter contains a snapshot of Terms 2 and 3. It is pleasing to see so many of the girls contributing their time towards producing such a wonderful publication. Some of the highlights include Grandparents' Day, winter sports as well as the variety of learning opportunities from the classroom.

We are looking forward to camp and various other activities which we have planned for Term 4.

Have a wonderful holiday.

Lynn McKenna

Intermediate Teacher



WOODFORD
HOUSE

Being a New Girl at Woodford House

I was excited about coming to Woodford House, but I was a little worried about having hearing loss and not being able to hear everyone clearly. When I arrived I realised that everyone was nice and helped me. My class are really kind and encourage me to step outside my comfort zone. My favourite part of the year was when my class all learned a sign language song called Paradise, which we performed at assembly. I really enjoyed it when the whole school tried to copy us. It was really funny to watch.

Millie Read



I am Lena Seifert, a new girl in Year 7 from Germany. I am not really the new girl anymore, but rather the old girl because in three weeks, after the holidays. I will be go back to Berlin.

In my time at Woodford House, I have done so many interesting activities, learned a lot of new things and made many new friends. I felt very welcome here. Everybody was so nice to me and I had so much fun!

Some things were different from back home in Germany. For example, we do not have the subjects of technology or drama in Germany. Also I have to speak English all the time at Woodford House, and this is a girls' school. After a week I better understood everything here. It is different, but also good and cool!

I'll miss this school - the girls and the funny moments I have had, but I could come back again. I would just need time and courage, but maybe instead somebody can visit me in Germany!

Lena Seifert

Boarding

Boarding at Woodford House is one big family. I have always wanted to board. This was because my Mum boarded and she told me stories of the friendships she made at Woodford House. She kept a possum as a pet with no one knowing!

My favourite two series of books when I was younger were Malory Towers and St. Clare's. So like anybody who was desperate, I pestered my Mum and Dad each night asking if I could go boarding. They were tough to convince. Finally, when I started at Woodford House I was at a school where I could board. I was so close, yet so far. They were not to be persuaded!

Finally, I wore them down and I became a flexi-boarder. I moved into my room and I now have two amazing roommates. These people always have my back and are willing to lend a hand. Mum and Dad are thrilled that I have this opportunity and I love it.

Harriet Douglas



Grandparents' Day

The cold breeze flew across our faces as we waited for our grandparents to arrive. Finally, after what felt like hours my Grandpa arrived. I escorted him to the Dame Kate Harcourt Performing Arts Centre with Ella's grandparents following close behind. My Gramps was amazed at how beautiful and functional the Dame was. He had some background with Woodford House, as he used to work on the grounds with the sheep. Sometimes they even escaped to the tennis court!



I led him around the rest of the school; each artefact we came across surprised him more than the last. After walking for just over half an hour we decided to go down and get afternoon tea. I hauled my bag on my back and rushed to catch up with my Gramps, who was slowly pacing towards the dining hall. I made him a coffee and grabbed a biscuit or two and went to join him at the dining table. He caught up with a few friendly faces and then we were on our way. We strode to the car and he drove me home.

Thinking of next Grandparents' Day a smile sprung onto my face. Until next time I thought.

Victoria Brougham



Grandparents' Day came around really quickly. I was so excited for my Grandad to see my amazing school, that I have spent the last year and a half at.

One of my highlights would have to be the Chapel Service, as I knew my Grandad used to be in his school choir and would like the singing. I can remember the moment that everyone turned around because Grandad was singing so loudly. After this we had a tour around the school and Grandad got to see my classes and also meet a few of my teachers. Overall, Grandparents' Day was a huge success and I can't wait for the next one.

Georgiana Absolom

New Girls' Day

I woke up on Monday morning knowing I had an important job to do - showing two young ladies around Woodford House to showcase the School, and having a special and memorable day. I sat in the hall waiting for my two young ladies to arrive. After waiting ten minutes they arrived as shy as little mice.

My voice crackled as I tried to ask them questions, I was nervous for them too. My buddies for the day were Sophie and Millie and I had never met them before. I was wondering what to say and I remembered how shy I had been the year before in 2017.

After all the tests were over we got changed into our PE gear and made our way down to the bottom field. They were no longer too shy to ask questions and got involved in all the games that were organised. Before long it was all over and we had afternoon sticky. I said goodbye and told them I was looking forward to seeing them next year.

Kyla Evans



New Girl's Day Filming

I was lucky enough to have been chosen to film the New Girl's Day. As a Year 7, I was super excited as this was going to be a fun experience. Using a Go-pro I began to mingle around all the Year 8's and their little buddies. It seemed like everyone was really enjoying themselves. While the Year 8's and the new girls were taking their tests I wandered off to class.

Back down for lunch, I joined my Year 8 buddy, Tamzin, and her two buddies. Tamzin's two buddies were named Claudia and Millie. As we took them on a school tour, we began wandering down to the top field. While we waited, everyone joined in for a game of seaweed. I took videos of girls running around and playing with friends. I think I can speak for everyone when I say it was a great day!

Tobie Faran



Netball

I stare up at the goal, a precious ball above my head. The defence on the opposing team is good - very good. Their arms wave around wackily trying to throw me off, but all I can think about is snatching a win for my team.

I hear muffled cries of encouragement, my confidence boosts. I release the ball and it whirls into the hoop. A vast grin spreads across my face, but quickly my 5 seconds of glory are up. Every player enthusiastically jogs back to the centre pass off. The whistle blows.

"Here I'm open!", I shout.

Players run around the court, back and forth, back and forth, like cats chasing mice. Minutes pass and legs get heavier. The final whistle blows. Another win for Woodford House! We cheer full of glee, ecstatic over our win. We merge into a line to shake hands with the opposing team. The game is over. I can't wait till next week!

Charlotte Wray

An Amazing Game

"10 seconds!", I hear booming out the speakers. I throw on my bib and sprint to my place. "Woodford House pass," the ref calls.

I nudge in front of my partner slightly so that I can get the ball first. I hear the whistle screech. I run and get the perfect chest pass. I then go on to pass the ball to Ashley. I lob over her partner and she jumps up and catches it. After a pass-pivot-catch, the ball glides through the hoop. Hoop after hoop, in it goes, each time everyone cheers with joy. We ended up winning this game 20 - 2, so I was ecstatic. This was an amazing game.

Nina Holden

One Step Closer to the Semi-finals

As the whistle blew, I knew that I had to never let my partner get the ball. I tried to dodge and intercept the ball to get it down to the shooter.

I passed the ball to Nina, who was playing centre, who then passed it onto Grace. I held my breath, waiting to see if we would get the winning goal. Anxiously, I looked at the shooters to see if we had scored. They had got it in!! Yay. We were all so thrilled. We had won this game, and were one step closer to the semi-finals.

Sophie McLay

Netball Black Team

One of the many sports that Woodford House has to offer is netball. I am in the Year 7 and 8 Netball Black Team. It is so much fun.

We have training on Tuesday and Thursday. The training sessions are so cool. We do conditioning, games and drills. In my team, we have 10 girls and three coaches; they make the training fun and exciting. I love playing netball because it is a great sport and after school, instead of going to the boarding house, I get to run around and play. Our netball games are on Wednesdays at 3.15pm and each game is full of enthusiasm.

Ashley Thornicroft

Hockey

Running onto the field, we take our positions. Adrenaline is racing through my body. This team looks good - really good.

I play low back. I know the defending team's low back; she is extremely good. The ball is passed off and quickly I start realising that this game is going to be challenging. It comes to half-time and Havelock North Intermediate is winning by two. It is time for us to step up the game. Woodford House huddle together with sweat pouring off our faces as we chew on the lollies.

The whistle blows and it is time to start again. One of the Havelock North Intermediate wings runs up in front of the goal. Carefully my eyes follow the ball and I whip it out to the side of the field, where one of my teammates takes it up and has a go at shooting a goal.

Sadly, the game finishes and we have lost 4-1. "Good game," I say, high fiving one of the people from the opposing team.

Ella-Michaela Good



A Hard Game

I feel the sweat dripping down my bright red forehead, splattering onto the watery turf. Can I get a good steal and help set up a goal?

These types of thoughts circle through my busy brain, giving me nothing but grit and determination to win this game. My legs kick into gear as they prepare for this big work out. My eyes are now focused and locked on the little white ball that everyone is after. Now, all I need to hear is the squeal of the whistle and I'll be off.

Today was a hard game. We fought off the opposition the best we could, but lost 1-0.

Molly Hartgill



My Hockey Season

"Here, here! I'm open!", I scream to my fellow team members.

So far, my hockey season has gone really well. I am in a team with mostly Year 9's and 10's, and a couple of other Year 8's, which really helps me to improve. We haven't won as many games as everyone would want, but we have all had lots of fun playing them.

We have really grown as a team and I can't believe that the season is almost over. I can't wait for next year. The practises are very handy and we have them with Sarah Kean, Olive Cornwall, and Mr Nixon helps us as well. We play our games at Park Island and sometimes we have them at Unison Sports Park - rain, snow or shine (especially shine!).

Tessa Bennett



Intermediate Winter Sport Quad Tournament

Today was the day! The 14th of June 2018 was the day many girls, who are competitive in sports, had been waiting for. This year the annual tournament was held at Iona. Girls from Woodford House, Iona, St Georges, and Huntley all hopped into their sports gear early in the morning. Hockey, netball, and football; we were all ready for a big day of meeting new people, playing hard and having fun.

Everybody gathered in the Iona gym. Our emotions were mixed, we were nervous and excited. We were all talking and having a great laugh with our billets who had enjoyed a night in Morea Boarding House. Suddenly, the Iona Sports Coordinator opened the tournament with a welcome and a plan for the day. The hockey girls quickly wished the Woodford House football and netball teams good luck and headed to the turf.

As we saw the hockey turf we got serious and focused, thinking about nothing apart from hockey, hockey, hockey, hockey! Luckily, we weren't playing first so we had time to practise and observe the other teams. Before long it was time, - our time to shine, to show each and every team that we were good, in fact amazing! We did our cheer and ran into our starting line-up positions. Goal after goal came our way. We played as a team and beat Huntley 17 - 0. Next up was St George's and it was another great win for us. The final game that we had all been waiting for was Woodford House v Iona! This opposition were tough and we fought hard and used our tactics well. In the end we won 6 - 1. We all jumped up in excitement - we had won the trophy!

We were now excited to know how our other teams had done. Football and Netball B had also played astonishingly well and were also champions. Netball A had come up against giants and sadly lost.

After prize giving, we wished our new friends safe travels home. We waved goodbye and carrying our trophies walked proudly back to Woodford House! It had been a great day for everyone!

Phoebe Maidens and Ashley Bradshaw



Football

Being a part of my football team is amazing; whether or not you lose.

I have the lovely Ms Sime as my manager, and Mr Nixon too. We have had at least three wins this season, but that's not the point. We all work hard in our team. We have fun slipping and sliding around the field and we also enjoy the occasional incentive of a chocolate bar from Mr Nixon to get a goal.

The best part of the game for me is half-time, not because we get a sweet treat, but rather because we can stop and understand what they are doing repeatedly and stop it.

Luckily, Alex Cave is joining our team so we will have a fair chance of winning a few more games.

Harriet Mackenzie



Cross Country

Heart pounding, legs aching, brain swirling, as I twist and turn through the muddy paths and difficult obstacles all in a race against time. As you can probably tell, this is Cross Country. My breathing is heavy and my mouth is begging for water, but in cross country there is no time to stop and take a break.

Today is the day we all trained for. Today is the day that all our work will pay off. The sun is glazing down on all of us leaving us only more tired, hot and sweaty. I manage to pick up the pace and pass a few people. My legs and arms are so tired and sore, but I know that the only way of getting out of this is to run faster. My shoes are getting muddier by the second but I can't let distractions slow me down. The leaves are crumbling and the mud is splashing as I run straight through it. I am beginning to faintly see the finishing line right out of the corner of my watery red eye. It is getting closer and closer, or is it me getting closer to the finishing line. I have no time to think about that stuff, I just run. I am almost at the end of the race so I sprint the last 400 meters with the very little energy that I have left. All I can hear is people cheering me on as I finally make it to the end.

I am so proud of myself when I run across the finish line. A lady draws a number on my sweaty hand and congratulates me. I then take a glance at the number and see that I came in fourth place! I feel a weird mixture of feelings, including relief, joy, and pride and of course a need for sleep. I lay down on the ground for a few moments to catch my breath. Then I go to get a well needed cold refreshing drink of water. I congratulate all of my friends and then run off to my mum to tell her the whole story.

Rosa Pike

I heard Mr Nixon say, "Year 7 and 8's down to the bottom field." We all raced down there. My heart started to race as we lined up at the start line. Everyone was trying to get into the front so they would get a better chance of getting in the lead. 3,2,1, the gun went off.

After about two minutes I got up to the top field and I heard everyone cheering people on. I was already tired, but I couldn't stop now. Once I reached the last part of the cross country course I saw Meg and I was determined to get in front of her. Meg and I raced down to the finish line. Everyone was shouting and cheering! We were both going our hardest. Meg's foot crossed the finish line first. I wasn't able to beat Meg, but what I do know is that I tried my best.

Jessie Watkins



The Frimley Family



Our points slowly add up,
To defend House Cup,
For another year in a row.
The Frimley Family is pretty
extraordinary,
I think we can all agree,
We form a close bond,
And of each other we're fond,
As we together are above and
beyond.
Up ahead in future events,
Clearly dominating is red.
And though sometimes we may not
be winning,
You'll see us grinning,
And also cheering
Because we are the Frimley Family.

Meghan Wuisan

Wonderful Wallingford



Wallingford House shines brighter
than stars
Brighter than the sun
And brighter than Mars
Together as one is lots of fun
There's always smiles and laughter
Through the rain and through the
sun
No matter the weather, we'll be
together
Winning that first place
And having fun forever!

Rosa Pike and Helena Lyons

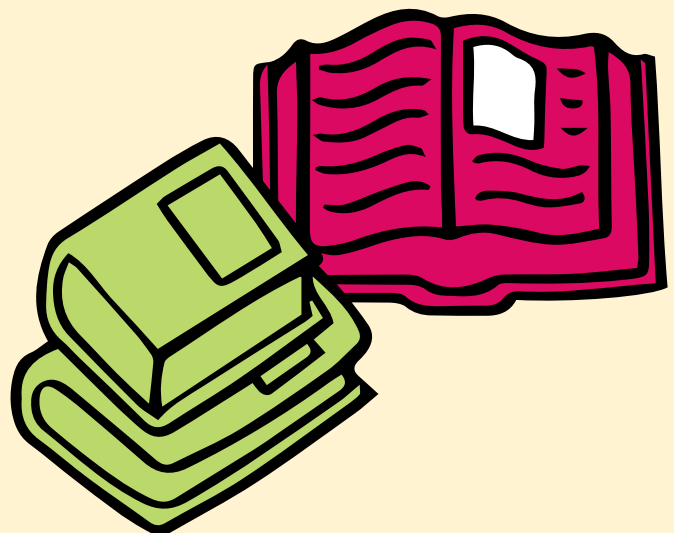
Story Endings

We have been reading a journal called The Moa and this is the ending I had to write. I used a 'voice to text' app on Google Docs to write this.

It was like the Moa and I were having a staring competition. After what felt like an infinity my Dad realised that I was missing. He looked over to the lake and saw the towering bird staring down at me, not even moving an inch. As soon as he realised what was happening he stopped, and started shouting and moving towards the bird.

I didn't know what he was going to do. I did not even know what I was going to do. Then all of a sudden crack went the branch under my father's foot. The bird moved so vigorously, so speedily, it felt like it was going to hurt me. What happened next is what I truly feared. It was the race to whom would get to me first - the bird or my Dad. I was terrified thinking about who was going to win, but with no warning the Moa ran straight into the bushes. I had to go through a few minutes of realising what had just happened. I burst into tears. My Dad ran to me putting his arm over my shoulder and said, 'It's ok, it's gone now, let's go home.'

Eryn Nairn



Trenches

Light beaming through the dusty grey sky
Rough gunky patches of mud surround me,
Bullets whizzing around while in the
trenches I lie.

Digging for days on end,
Hearts beating until I let out a sigh
This place will forever push us off the edge.

Through shut eyes I see fear that continues
to surround

The taste of dirt, horrid air drifting into
my mouth.

Watching bullets slice through friends,
like knives

Red rivers flowing with atrocious noises
This place will forever push us off the edge.

I feel nervous and sad for the loved ones
left behind

Feelings deep in my gut tell me I won't see
them again,

Shimmers of pain ride through my body
Groans of men hanging on for dear life,
This place will forever push us off the edge.

Disease is spreading like rats
Lice everywhere, scratching like crazy
Flies buzz through the air
Men lie on the ground, killed by the
sickness claiming so many lives
This place will forever push us off the edge.

Johannah Paterson

Home sweet home?

Bang! Blood! Men dropping
like dominos
Deafening sound pierces my ears
Blurry eyed. Crawling helplessly
Mud, smoke, bullet shells
Stone tearing at my flesh
Everything goes black

Colours reappear
Familiar men are dotted around
In the trench I lay
With aches and pains
From dawn to day

My eyes burst with light
I see a sunrise
Bright colours shining
Into the beautiful skies

I reach out
Pick up my jet black gun
"Fire!"
Our leader says
Bullets zoom through the air

I peel open the disgusting cans
Lumpy gravy
Rock solid meat
Wishing I was back home

Late at night
I wish I could sleep
But instead I weep
Fleas bite, men fight
When will I ever come home?

Phoebe Maidens



Science

It was an ordinary science lesson when Scarlett Nilsson was finishing her presentation with a video about orangutans. It had videos of orangutans getting burned and people taking them to hospital. This was because of people cutting down their habitat for palm oil; this is an oil we have in lots of our food every day.

So our 7/8 MA class decided to try and help these orangutans by making products that we have been learning about in order to sell and raise money to give to the Orangutan Fundraiser. Our 7/8 MA class were lucky enough to have 7/8 DA class join us, so we could raise more money. We held a market day to sell our products at school on 31 August, with all proceeds going to help the orangutans!

Esther Dear



Technology Challenge

“Ready. Go!”, said the organiser, and with that the competition started. We looked over our supplies - string, scissors, tape and plenty of straws. Harriet and I started to plan our item. It needed to be something to suspend a marble. The winner is the one who sends the marble the highest and farthest away from a base. Bouncing ideas between us, we settled on a triangle idea and swiftly started building.

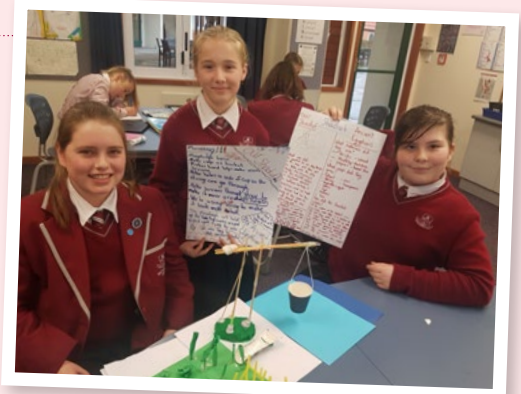
Time went by quickly, and our building steadily increased. We encountered a few problems, such as the base being unable to stand, but they were quickly resolved. With a raspberry twister to fuel us, we were surprised when the organiser said, “10 minutes left.” I was attempting to get the marble off the ground and Harriet was stabilizing the base. Suddenly, it was over! “Put everything down and please go to the side of the room,” he said in a loud voice. I looked at our marble touching the floor. While we would be disqualified, we still gave our best effort. It was a really fun event and hope I may be able to do it again next year.

Sonja Harris

Shaduf Models

In Mrs Morice’s class we have been learning about the Ancient Egyptians. She set a fun task for us. We had to make a Shaduf. A Shaduf is an irrigation tool that the Ancient Egyptians used, and it is still used today. It was their main way of watering the dry land in Egypt. The Shaduf helped to water their crops in an efficient and easy way to move and carry water. We had many supplies to use such as playdough, straws, tape, string and cardboard cups. We also had to write about how the Shaduf works and what materials they used back then. We also had to plan before we started on our project. It was loads of fun and now we are Shaduf experts.

Meg Berry



Mathletics

They walked into the hall with butterflies fluttering in their stomachs. Anna, Harriet, and Jaimee were about to participate in the annual 2018 Hawke's Bay Mathletics night, hosted at Hastings Intermediate.

There were at least 15 schools with an average of two to three teams each. The girls scurried over to find their desk, while wishing Emily, Charlotte B and Charlotte W a quick good luck! One little desk between three nervous girls ready to do two and a half hours of tricky maths - surely that wouldn't end well. Before the girls could have a chance to look around to see who they were facing, the marker in charge handed out the individual tests. On the first glance, they seemed slightly easier than the girls had practised at school, but they were wrong.

Time went fast and after a short amount of time the marker sternly said, "Time up, pens down." The sighs of the students around showed the girls that they weren't the only nervous ones. It was then time for the group challenge. The group challenge was a variety of ten questions, with points that lowered the longer that one took to answer, starting at 15. Anna, Harriet and Jaimee flew through the first few getting them right on the first or second time, but as the questions went by they got harder and harder.

Just as the girls thought that they were finished and their brains were going to sleep, they were handed a thick stack of 30 questions. "Wow, this is a lot of thinking!", whispered Anna to Harriet. The time had started and the girls ripped the first question off the staple. They were off to a fabulous start and were getting a lot of 5 pointers, which was great. Time flew by, the girls were all tired with headaches and ruby red faces from the high temperatures inside the hall. "Time!", the man said again.

After sitting through a long prize giving and celebrating the lucky teams that came in the top three places, it was finally time to go home. Overall, it was a very enjoyable night and the girls are excited for next year.

Harriet Douglas, Anna Wilson and Jaimee Whittaker



Spanish

We scramble to pull the crepe paper out of the plastic bag, throwing it at the table. I start cutting, immediately ripping the fragile paper in half. Glue sticks to Ella's and my fingers making it hard to stick and cut the thin paper.

Our piñata is coming together. All we have to do is stick the edges of our speech bubble with black crepe paper and cut and glue on the hola. Finally, with that done, we stuff a bit of scrap crepe paper into the piñata as confetti! We then walk outside and watch the other groups attempt to smash their own piñatas!

Victoria Brougham



Evita

Huddled together, our smiles illuminated the theatre. The night had arrived, and the butterflies in our stomachs were sure to remind us every second. Evita would be a production that was going to be hard to forget.

Voices flew around and delivered a sweet heavenly sound to proud parents. Vibrant flying costumes were catching everyone's eye as they waved across the stage yet another time. The stage was cleared; all eyes were abruptly cast onto our Year 7/8 Choir. Our candles radiated our faces as pure sounds emerged from our mouths. Palms sweating, feet tapping, those butterflies were back again. I sung through the nervousness, and as a blinding spotlight was cast on my face. I embraced it and managed to show a half decent smile. We took our final bow and the audience congratulated the hard working cast with a raging applause. Evita 2018 was a blast.

Charlotte Wray

Kid's Sing

As we take our places on the stage at Havelock North Intermediate, I feel the butterflies in my stomach start to race.

I nervously clutch my Mabel doll to my chest and look into the audience where I can see family and friends. I can also see our competitors looking at us with curiosity, yet excited as to what we will be doing. I glance back to where Ms Tobin is standing and notice her starting to conduct. Amelia begins to play the first piece on the piano, so I open my mouth and get ready to sing. We definitely didn't disappoint.

Caetlyn Greenwood-Beard



Capital E Performance

On Friday the 7th of September we headed off to Iona College to watch a performance by Capital E. Capital E is a company that records sound and performs fun little plays and performances. It was an entertaining play and they got us to record some sound as an audience. Later on they even used this sound in the play.

Lots of things happened in the hour that Capital E performed; they made some recordings and did two little skits. We all had a great time watching this performance and would like to come back to Iona College to watch more performances.

Lauren Ainsworth



Running into Iona College's new drama area from the pouring rain, no one was exactly sure what to expect from the Capital E performance we were going to. All of the Year 7 and 8's from Woodford House and Year 7-9's from Iona College were going to be watching the performance. We hustled into the Blyth quickly; a small excited chatter came from the crowd gathering.



The performance began and it was a bit confusing at first, but as the story progressed I understood more. At the start, the performers recorded some noises from us. They were a sound company, which recorded sound for shows and movies. The three actors started to act out the scripts. Some of the noises recorded from the start were then included creatively.

The two small plays held an important message in them and were written by a 12-year old and 15-year old. The show was very interesting and I probably would like to see something like this again.

Sonja Harris

Student Council – Sparkle Selfie

On the Student Council, I represent the best year group (in my opinion!) - Year 7. This is the photo that we took before our 7 and 8 Choir performance in assembly for my sparkle selfie.

We practise each Tuesday and Thursday lunchtime, with Ella Mischefski-Gray and Ms Tobin, who have been really great in helping us learn all our songs. We are also given lollies and chocolate, but only after we've sung because dairy is bad for your voice.

The reason why we took this photo is that we are very grateful for all the opportunities Woodford House has given us, including the sporting, academic and cultural groups. And, of course, because we know the Choir will become famous one day.

Our Choir received a Silver Award in Kid's Sing, but we received so many compliments saying we should have been the overall winners!

Thank you so much Ms Tobin for all you have done for our Choir.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the teachers for taking part and providing us with all these amazing opportunities at Woodford House. We are very lucky to be at this school and we hope you like our selfie of our amazing Choir. We can't wait to perform for you all again.

Victoria Brougham and Ella Good



**WOODFORD
HOUSE**