

Week 'B'

Telephone: 020 8509 9446 Email: <u>info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk</u> Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk Student Absence Line: 020 8509 9444

14th December 2017

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Autumn Term 2017 End: Wednesday 20th Decembe

Wednesday 20th December School closes at 12.30pm (see page 4 for

details)

Spring Term 2018 Start: Thursday 4th January End: Thursday 29th March

Thursday 25th January Year 11 Parents/Carers Subject Evening 4.30-7.30pm

Half Term Monday 12th February -Friday 16th February

Thursday 22nd February Year 9 Parents/ Carers subject Evening 4.30 –7.30pm

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

The snow at the weekend made the school look picturesque but fortunately it left in time for our Community Party on Tuesday as we were concerned that it would deter our elderly guests from joining us. We needn't have worried as the school hall was full of guests enjoying the festivities, along with our special guest, Cllr Yemi Osho, the Mayor of Waltham Forest, who came to join the party. The students entertained our visitors with carols, instrumental numbers and plenty of sandwiches, tea and cakes before Santa arrived with gifts for all. It was lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves. Thanks to Ms Philippou and the staff and students who helped by collecting gifts, decorating the hall, preparing food, providing the entertainment, serving food and clearing up afterwards. They worked very hard to ensure that a good time was had by all. See page 9

The choir and orchestra were back in action on Thursday evening at St Mary's Church for our carol concert. The church was full of students, former students, staff, parents and governors hearing poetry readings and performances from the orchestra, Glee club and voice, the wind band, the steel pans, the gospel choir, the sixth form band, with the whole congregation singing traditional Christmas carols. Congratulations to Ms Bradshaw who organised and directed the whole evening so wonderfully and to Mr Murphy and others involved in supporting the performances.

A uniform reminder that from January 2018 all students in Years 7-9 wearing a coat to school must wear a black coat and not a hoody. We would prefer students in Years 10 and 11 to wear a black coat also, however if they are still wearing a dark coat purchased before this rule was put in place, then they may continue to wear a plain dark coat or jacket, rather than a black one, until a new one is purchased. Thank you for your support with this. Please make sure all items of uniform are clearly labelled with your daughter's name.

It is just a few days now until the end of term. Students will be leaving school at 12.30pm on Wednesday 20th and return at the usual time on Thursday 4th January, 2018. It remains to wish you all a joyful and peaceful holiday, a Happy Christmas to those who are celebrating and a healthy and successful year to follow for everyone.

Meryl Davies Headteacher

EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURES OR SEVERE WEATHER

In the event of an emergency school closure the decision on whether the school stays open will be taken by the Headteacher after carrying out a risk assessment. In the event of severe weather, the school will remain open whenever possible.

Information about any closure will be available

on the school's website:

www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

by phone:

020 8509 9446

or via a text message

We aim to send text messages to parents and carers, although there are sometimes delays in getting these messages through promptly, so please check the school's website for up to date information. Please ensure that the School Office has on record up to date addresses and telephone numbers including a mobile number and the person to contact in the case of a student emergency. It is essential that the school has at least **one** land line and a mobile number.

Year 9 students: GCSE Separate Sciences

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be aware from the Year 9 Parent Information Evening and presentations in Year 9 assembly, there are 2 possible routes of study in GCSE Science. Students can follow a combined GCSE course which includes an equal balance of Chemistry, Physics and Biology units and results in a double award GCSE with an average grade for the three subjects or students can follow a Separate Sciences route which results in 3 separate GCSEs (Chemistry/ Biology/ Physics).

In order that each student pursues the best science GCSE route to ensure that she achieves the best GCSE grades in science, students who would like to be considered for the separate science GCSEs are invited to sit a separate sciences assessment test on **Thursday 7**th **February**. This will take place in the Hewett Hall after school from **3.30-4.30pm**.

Students will be able to collect a permission letter from their science teacher in January if they wish to attend this assessment. The criteria that we are using will allow girls that achieve an "extending" level in this test to study the separate sciences. It is recommended that students prepare for the test by revising the following:

- Plant growth
- Photosynthesis
- Rocks and fossils
- Particles
- Word and symbol equations
- Forces
- Speed
- Heat and insulation
- Light
- Generating electricity
- Science investigation: linked to carrying out experiments

Please note students who wish to study the Combined Award (double science) are not required to sit this test.

If you have any questions regarding the routes available for study in science please do not hesitate to contact me.

Mr Kerr Head of Science

Information for Parents / Carers and Students

The final day of Autumn Term is Wednesday 20th December 2017

- x ALL lessons 1 3 are as normal.
- No student will be allowed to remain in school and the gates will be locked at 1.15pm
- There will be a normal breaktime but no lunchtime offer in the canteen.
- Wednesday 20th December will be a non-uniform day with proceeds going towards the Community Party for the elderly.
- ☆ The cost of wearing non-uniform will be £1.00 and must be paid IN ADVANCE to Form Reps.
- The jewellery rules still apply on this day and lanyards must be worn.

The first day of the Spring Term for students is Thursday 4th January 2018

- All Students are expected in FULL school uniform and to be in school at the normal time of 8.45am.
- Further details will be in the Greensheet and on the school website.
- The Focus of the Fortnight will be on correct uniform and lanyards.
- This will be a Week B.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday! Ms Pratt Assistant Headteacher.



NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

Headteacher: Ms M Davies BA(Hons) NPQH Church Hill Walthamstow London E17 9RZ Telephone: 020 8509 9446 Fax: 020 8509 9445 Email: info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

7th December, 2017

Uniform Reminder for January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware, the school changed the uniform requirement regarding the colour of outdoor coats last term from plain dark to black, to take effect from the start of this autumn term.

This was communicated to you via our weekly Greensheets from the beginning of June and your daughter was told about this change in assemblies. It was also made clear on the uniform section of our website, where parents are asked to ensure when purchasing new items of uniform, that they are of the permitted styles. The majority of students returned to school with black coats or jackets and look very smart indeed.

It has been brought to my attention that a number of parents and carers had not seen this message in the Greensheet, nor had they been given the information by their daughters, and they have purchased new non-black coats during the holidays.

I have heeded your communication with the school and fully appreciate your concern on this matter.

As a result we have delayed the introduction of these changes, with the exception of Year 7 students.

Please note the revised uniform requirement regarding coats:

Year 7	Plain black outer coat	(compulsory)
Year 8	Plain black outer coat	(compulsory from January 2018)
Year 9	Plain black outer coat	(compulsory from January 2018)
Year 10	Plain dark outer coat	(as previously required)
Year 11	Plain dark outer coat	(as previously required).

If any parent or carer experiences financial hardship as a result of these changes, please contact your daughter's SPL directly.

Please also make sure that your daughter's coat and blazer are both clearly labelled with her name and form.

Yours sincerely

Meryl Davies Headteacher





Dear Parents/Carers, students and staff

This year we will be collecting donations to support our local foodbank, "Eat or Heat", for Christmas. They are really busy this year with a high rate of referrals and need our help more than ever. Items urgently needed include ...

Tinned meat – including Halal

Tinned vegetables

Tinned fruit/desserts

Tinned vegetarian meals



Plus, especially for the festive season, the following treats ... Christmas puddings Christmas crackers Mince pies Sweets/chocolates Biscuits

There will be collection points in the following places in school, from Monday 4th until Friday 15th December ...

Downstairs in the House Staff Room G43 – Ms Philippou's office G05 – Ms Desbenoit's office

Thank you in advance for all your kind donations.

Ms Dowling, Ms Phillippou.



The Focus of the Fortnight 11th – 20th December 2017 Student use of toilets during lessons.

Dear Parents / Carers,

All student toilets are open for use before school, at break, lunchtime and after school. During lessons there will be two sets of toilets open for student use in the centre of the school. The remainder of the students toilets will not be in use during lessons.

The expectation is that students do not leave a lesson to go to the toilet unless in an emergency. In such cases the member of staff will sign the student planner to give permission for the student to use the nearest open set of toilets. Students will not be allowed out of lessons to fill water bottles etc as they need to do this at break or lunchtime. If a student is found to be using an access toilet without permission, a leadership detention of one hour will be applied. Lessons are for learning and we wish to minimise the disruption to this for all students.

Thank you for your continued support. Ms. K.H.Pratt Assistant Headteacher

The Sanctions

Remember – lessons are for learning.

- You will be allowed out of a lesson to go to the toilet in emergency circumstances only, at the discretion of your teacher.
- Your planner must be signed to give you permission to leave the classroom.
- Do NOT ask to leave the lesson to get a drink of water or fill your water bottle etc. as this will not be allowed.
- Do not use an access toilet unless you have written permission to do so.

Year 7 Mini Garden Project

Last week a group of year 7 students worked as a team to design and plant a mini garden in a fish bowl, which was kindly donated by David Allard. They also made decorations for the community party.

The girls were so excited they could not wait for each other's turn to put materials and plants in the bowl.

Their terrarium is now displayed by Norris Hall entrance.

A big thank you to the team:

Adan 7G Anaya 7G Demmy 7C Moressa 7C Esther 7W Hafsa 7W Isabel 7W Nusaifa 7H

We are looking forward to other activities in the new year.

Ms Gerdellja, Ms Keserauskaite-Ratti LLD Challenge Reps



WSFG Community Party 2017

The WSFFG Community Party 2017 was another huge success. We welcomed 80 elderly guests which was a great turnout, especially considering the cold and icy weather.





Thank you to everyone who contributed to and supported the event – whether you helped us to invite a guest, donated gifts and prizes or were able to help us prepare for and take part in the event. This is truly a community event and couldn't take place without everybody's input.





We had another magical time this year with Santa and his elves, great food, fantastic music and all of the setting up and clearing away that goes on behind the scenes. Our elderly guests really do appreciate and enjoy this event and they look forward to it each year.

I feel so proud of our school community and so proud to be part of something like this that does something meaningful for some of the most valued members of our community.

Thank you, Ms Philippou Assistant Headteacher





Lost Property

We have had a large amount of lost property since returning at the beginning of the term.

Any unnamed items not claimed by Wednesday 20th December may be disposed of.

Please make sure all clothing, including P.E. kit, is clearly labelled.

Students are reminded that you can collect lost property at **3.30pm** every day.

Parents and carers may also collect lost property any day after school.







Ms Jolliffe Student Services



CHRISTMAS concert

Carols for choir, orchestra and audience plus Jonathan Rathbone's *Christmas Truce*

Thursday 21 December 2017

St Mary's Church, Walthamstow E17 9RJ

London Forest Choir Jonathan Rathbone conductor Mark Williams baritone Sylvan Ensemble

www.londonforestchoir.org

7.30pm

Tickets £14/£12. Book online and reserve numbered seats at www.londonforestchoir.org (or telephone 020 8281 6090) Students and benefit recipients half price; children £3/£2

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Choir

Registered charity no. 272799



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Have you booked your free visit to the National Career Guidance Show?

The National Career Guidance Shows are the only UK-wide series of conventions for careers advisers, coaches, teachers, practitioners and other professionals working across all sectors.

Events are in London, Leeds, Coventry and Bristol this spring, and visitors will benefit from free CPD and networking opportunities with employers, universities and other organisations who can support the work of career professionals.

With the government launching their new careers strategy at last week's annual CDI conference, now is the perfect time to book your space to ensure you are up-to-date with all the latest developments in the world of careers.



Visit for free - book now

According to a recent report from Teach First, by 2022 9 million people with low skills are expected to be competing for 4 million low-skilled jobs, with a shortage of 3 million workers to fill 15 million high-skilled jobs. With these figures in mind, along with the ever changing digital landscape and an aging workforce, the theme of the National Career Guidance Shows is "The Future of Work."

The events will offer visitors the chance to meet and network with a whole host of exhibitors, from public and private sector employers and career resource suppliers to training and learning providers and awarding bodies.

There will also be a full programme of engaging seminars and informative industry insight talks, which contribute to your CPD. The seminar schedule will be announced in the new year.

Take a look at what our visitors have said about the event by clicking the buttons below.

Alan Bullock Case Study

Visitor Testimonials

To find out more about the National Career Guidance Shows visit prospectsevents.co.uk or follow us on Twitter, Facebook and Linkedin.

If you have any questions about visiting the shows please contact emily worthington@prospects.co.uk

If you would like to find out more about exhibiting at the event please contact jane.osborneprice@prospects.co.uk

Alternatively, call 01823 362800.

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School Calendar for 2017-18					
Autumn Term 2017					
End: Wednesday 20 th December					
Wednesday 20 th Decembe	er School closes at 12.30pm See page 4 for details				
Spring Term 2018 Start: Thursday 4 th January	End: Thursday 29 th March				
Thursday 25 th January	Year 11 Parents/Carers Subject Evening 4.30-7.30pm				
Half Term Monday 12 th February - Friday 16 th February					
Thursday 22 nd February Thursday 15 th March	Year 9 Parents/Carers subject Evening 4.30–7.30pm Year 8 Parents/Carers Subject Evening 4.30–7.30pm				
Good Friday Bank Holiday 30 th March - Easter Monday Bank Holiday 2 nd April					
Thursday 26 th April	Year 7 Parents/Carers Subject Evening 4.30 –7.30pm				
Summer Term Start: Monday 16 th April May Bank Holiday Monday 7 th	End: Friday 20th July May				
Monday 14 th May - Friday 22 nd June	Year 11 GCSE Examinations				
Half Term Monday 28 th May - Friday 1st June					