

## GREENSHEET



No. 12/17

Church Hill, Walthamstow, London, E17 9RZ Telephone: 020 8509 9446 Email: info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

30th November 2017

Week 'B'

Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk Student Absence Line: 020 8509 9444

| SCHOOL      |  |  |  |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| CALENDAR    |  |  |  |
| Autumn Term |  |  |  |
| 2017 End:   |  |  |  |
| Wednesday   |  |  |  |
| 20th        |  |  |  |
| December    |  |  |  |
|             |  |  |  |

#### Tuesday 12th December Community Party school closed at 2,30pm

#### Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December full day's INSET for staff. School closed to students.

#### Thursday 14th December Carol Concert 7pm

#### Spring Term 2018 Start: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January End: Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March

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#### **HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE**

#### Dear Parents and Carers

In this very busy term, one focus this week has been on professional development. On Wednesday, I met with fellow Headteachers from across London and the South East to discuss the challenges our schools face. Amongst the key topics covered were the latest changes in the education system, examinations, primary assessment, funding, curriculum matters, safeguarding and teacher recruitment. Ms Kennedy, Deputy Headteacher, has been meeting colleagues in Manchester at the annual SSAT national conference whilst the other Deputy Headteacher, Mr Gunzi has been conducting an in-depth review at another secondary school. All networking of this kind helps to raise standards and provides a wealth of fresh ideas which we can adapt for use at WSFG. In school the entire staff spent an INSET evening receiving pastoral training on several aspects of safeguarding, to ensure they are all aware of, and understand some of the pressures our teenagers face in our changing society.

#### A reminder to you that the school closes on;

Tuesday 12th December at 2.30pm for the annual Community Party and is closed all day Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December for a full day's INSET for staff.

As the Year 11 Mock GCSE examinations draw to a close this week with Art examinations, I have been reminded how much artistic talent we have in the school. An example of this was the display of art work produced for a

competition to celebrate Black History. I was impressed by all the entrants' artwork, which was inspired by a variety of contemporary black artists. Well done to all of them.





A special "Headteacher's commendation" was given to pictures produced by Samira (7G) and the overall competition winner Gwen (7F).

Developing other talents, six of our Year 11 students were recently selected to be part of a Young Leaders' Programme run by the Change Foundation. On Wednesday evening, these students led a young people's community event "With Shared Values, there is HOPE" – a debate and seminar held in Leyton. The event included a panel debate on racism, extremism and gang violence and a presentation from Jahan Mahmood, a historian and university lecturer who delivers programmes across the country to tackle these issues. Congratulations to Aaliyah (11F), Ayesha, Bushra, Emily, Gulcan, and Saira (11H) for being selected as Young Leaders. I understand from Ms Warren who was at the event that our students were well supported by family and friends from WSFG. I hope they will grow in confidence from this experience and continue to take an interest and be involved in community issues.

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.

#### Student leave during term time

A student's absence during term time can seriously disrupt the continuity of her learning. Not only does she miss the teaching provided on the days she is away, she is also less prepared for the lessons building on that after her return. There is a consequent risk of underachievement which we and you must seek to avoid. Therefore, the school DOES NOT authorise absence during term time for family holidays or trips abroad.

Parents or carers do not have the right to take their daughter(s) out of school for holidays and the school will only grant leave of absence in truly exceptional circumstances.

A student who is absent longer than ten days after an agreed return date, or without authorisation, can legally be removed from the school roll.

Parents or carers who take their daughters out of school without the authorisation of the Headteacher face court action and a fine.

In considering whether or not to authorise leave of absence, the school will look at each case individually, taking into account a student's overall attendance, her stage of education, (e.g. examinations), and the reason for the absence. It is very rare that any student is granted leave of absence.

Leave of Absence forms can be obtained from the school office and all requests should be submitted to our Attendance Manager at least four weeks before the first day of requested absence.

Arrangements for trips should NEVER be made before permission has been sought from the Headteacher.

Ms King Student Attendance Manager



#### **Young Leaders Programme Community Event**

The Active Change Foundation (ACF) works with young people in Waltham Forest to discuss and tackle issues which affect children and teenagers. Earlier in the year six students in Year 11 were selected to be part of their Young Leaders Programme and on Wednesday evening four of them took part in a young people's debate and seminar at the ACF's Youth Centre. The debate included a panel discussion on racism, extremism and gang violence. The girls who spoke gave some very thoughtful and interesting opinions on these topics and asked some excellent questions.

Well done in particular to Emily, Saira, Gulcan and Bushra for their contributions. It was also lovely to see other members of the year group at the event supporting these four girls. There is another debate at the Active Change Foundation Centre on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January where different topics will be discussed and debated by the young people on the programme.

Ms Warren

# WSFG Christmas Jumper Day!



Wear a Christmas Jumper with your uniform for a donation of 50p.

Donations will be collected by Form Reps on the day.

Proceeds will go to charities of Year Group choice.

#### Wednesday 20th December 2017

Non-Uniform Day to support the WSFG Community Party





£1.00 payable to Form Representatives IN ADVANCE by Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

Wear non-uniform on the last day of this term to support the WSFG Community Party.

Jewellery rules apply and lanyards must be worn.









#### **Community Christmas Party**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Each year at WSFG we host a community Christmas party. This is a very special event which is really important to us when the whole school comes together to organise a celebration with food, gifts and entertainment for the elderly members of our community. We like to show them how much we appreciate and value them and to make sure they have a good time with some great company.

This year, our community party will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

If you have any unwanted (brand new) gifts that we could offer our guests, please send them to the humanities office via your daughter(s).

Last year was one of our best ever community parties and, with your support, we'd like to make sure this year is even more memorable.

Thank you.

Ms Philippou Assistant Headteacher





### Focus of the Fortnight 27<sup>th</sup> November - 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017. Student Planner

Dear Parents / Carers,

At the start of the Year, all students are issued with a planner that has been carefully designed to support them with their school work, homework and general organisational skills.

Students are required to have their planner in school with them at all times and if they do not, they will have an automatic one hour detention with a member of the Leadership Team.

If a student looses her planner she should purchase another from Student Services for the cost of £2.00.

In order to support your daughter with this Focus, please ensure that she has her planner with her every day for school and sign the planner as required.

#### Ms Pratt Assistant Headteacher





#### **Student Planner**

- A student is required to have her PLANNER with her in school at all times
- The PLANNER is an essential part of her school equipment.
- If a student does not have her PLANNER, she will receive an automatic one hour detention and will have her conduct card signed.

#### **Project Peru**

Looking for gifts for your friends or little brothers and sisters? Or perhaps a stocking filler?!

8G will be selling colourful, handmade friendship bracelets, finger puppets and Christmas cards every Thursday and Friday lunchtimes in the LRC. All crafts come from a women's co-operative in one of Peru's largest and poorest shanty towns.

All proceeds go to Project Peru, a small, totally voluntary UK based charity who support a refuge for children living in extreme poverty in the desert shanty towns of Lima. For more information on the charity visit <a href="http://www.projectperu.org.uk">http://www.projectperu.org.uk</a>

Ms Landon

Follow this link to Christmas cards

http://projectperu.org.uk/uk-activities/craft-sales/las-laderas-christmas-cards.htm





#### PROJECT PERU SALE!

86 are raising money for a charity called Project Peru who run a refuge for children living in extreme poverty in the desert shanty towns of Lima. We are going to be selling:

£2

Finger
Puppets
&
Friendship
bracelets







THURSDAY & FRIDAY

LUNCH

IN THE LRC

For more information contact Ms Landon or 86!



#### sQuid

#### The cashless, online payment system that provides safety and security for you and your children.









Did you know how many things can be paid for using sQuid? Lunches, trips, text books, revision programmes, music lessons and many other sundry items.

This simple process allows parents to keep a record of paid transactions by viewing them online – all through a secure online portal.

Parents and carers can make top-up payments 24hours/day, 7 days a week. Removing the need for pupils to bring cash into school; cash that can otherwise be easily lost.

No need to worry about your daughter forgetting her lunch money because with sQuid you can set an automatic top-up so she will never have this dilemma.

Parents can feel good about the safety and security sQuid affords and the benefits offered to you. One parent summed this up perfectly by saying:

"I think it's a good idea as the child can't lose any money. It's quite an easy way to find out if your child is eating proper meals."

#### Getting started is easy:

Request your personalised sQuid details from Student Services (020 8509 9430).

These are issued with simple to follow instructions.

Activate your account and you are ready to go.

Simply find the service you are looking for: school meals, trips, music lessons, etc. and allocate your money accordingly.

sQuid is an easy to use, safe and secure tool for making all payments.

sQuid – the perfect and essential monetary solution for every parent and student



#### **Our School History**

For the new Year 7's the transition to secondary school can sometimes produce quite terrifying results. In the case of the school bell, a widespread panic breaks out at the sound of the school bell and wide-eyed students can be seen hurrying towards various destinations.

In primary school the school bell would be heard in the playground to herald the end of play, or the beginning of the school day.

However, in our school, we have bells for lesson changeovers (beginning and end of), bells for the beginning of the school day and bells for lunchtime. We also have a bell for fire drills, which is a continuous bell. To add to this cacophony of noise, a warning bell is set off before the main bell at registration periods. (Apologies if I have missed any bells). It all adds to the dynamic of the school day which is split up into 'chunks' or I should say 'chimes' of time!

Here is a piece from the July 1929 *Iris* describing the introduction of the new electric bell. The new building referred to would have been additions to the 'house'. I thought you might like to see our original school bell, which is now kept in our new archive.

Ms Kelly LRC



#### The Bell.

School life this term has been very hectic-I mean more hectic than usual, if that is possible. The chief feature has been the noise. Apart from the usual musical strains issuing from the Hall (and else-where!) there has been the incessant hammering of the workmen in the new building, and worst of all-the new electric bell. It may be thought, and rightly too, that the sound of the bell, foretelling the end of a lesson, is a welcome sound. It is. Quite an audible sigh of relief passes through the School, when the bell is rung. It is such a simple action, too-just pressing a button.

This bell, which is the means of the saving of many lives, has, this term, taken on a peculiarly dynamic ring. If one happens to be in the vicinity of the front hall or on the stairs, when the bell goes, one stops as though under an electric shock-it is a great strain on people with weak hearts. Of course, it has the effect of pricking into

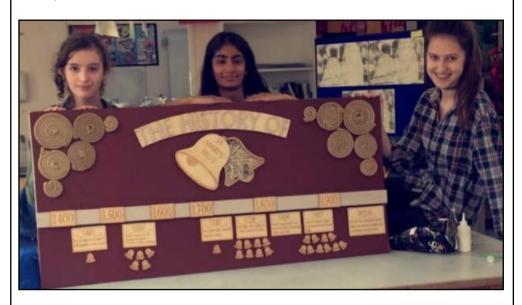
action even the most sleepy of consciences. For instance, if a girl is late for a lesson (I am not saying that this ever happens) but if she were hurrying downstairs, trying to look as though she had every right to be there, the sound of the bell would make her start guiltily, and she would break into a run and hurl herself in the nearest class-room, in the hope that it is the right one. This may be one of the reasons for its institution.

Marjorie I. Johnson (Form VI.).

#### St Mary's Bells Project

A group of last year's Year 10 students have been involved in a heritage display project with the help of the ADT Faculty and Mrs Finamore.

You can now see the finished project on permanent display in the porch of St Mary's Church.



WSFG Carol Concert Thursday 14th December at 7pm a great opportunity to see the students hard work.

Ms Philippou



#### **Alumnae News**

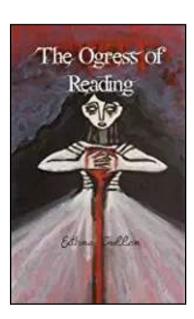
Traditionally, New Year is a time for reading ghost and horror stories and so here is one published by Eithne Cullen, a former Head of English at our school. The cover picture is "Bleeding Heart" by Joanna Bloor, who attended this school from 1998-2003.

The body of a baby found in a river, a young woman's sadness at giving up her child, one policeman's efforts to bring a killer to justice...

Everyone has heard of Jack the Ripper who killed five women. Amelia Dyer, the Ogress of Reading, confessed to taking more than three hundred lives. She was a baby farmer and murderer in a society where unmarried women were shamed by pregnancy and the lives of their babies were not valued. The book uses a mixture of fiction and fact to explore her crimes and the lives of those affected by them.

The novel called The Ogress of Reading, is available on Amazon at a cost of £6.99.

Ms Kelly, LRC





Interested in joining the
Waltham Forest Police Cadets?

Want to know more?

There will be a stall in the central foyer of the school **on Monday 4**<sup>Th</sup> **December** for you to find out more and ask any questions.

#### Lunchtime 12.30 - 1.15pm.

Thank you

Ms. Pratt





#### **Christmas Collection**



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 4<sup>th</sup> until Friday 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

#### E15 Light Show and Winter Wonderland Thursday 30 November Stratford's Theatre Square



On Thursday 30 November Stratford's Theatre Square is being transformed into a magical Winter Wonderland and playing host to a dramatic festive light projection show.

**From 4pm** everyone is invited to meet Santa and his elves, watch an exciting ice queen stilt-walking performance, enjoy some festive storytelling and feast on roasted chestnuts, popcorn and hot chocolate.

At 6pm the Stratford Illumination Show will be unveiled for the first time.

This dazzling light spectacular celebrates Stratford town centre as East London's cultural hub and will be projected onto the facade of Theatre Royal Stratford East and accompanied by music.

The show will then run every night from 1 December to 23 December between 5pm-10pm.





Eradicating Forced Marriage, FGM and Honour Abuse through Education



Raffles prizes!

Performances from talented musicians

WSFG Steel Pan Band

& an original play!

at

Walthamstow School for Girls Monday 18 December

6-8pm



Adults £6

U16s £5

WSFG Students £4



Write2-A-Life is supported by The Mayor of Waltham Forest, Councillor Grace
Williams and Organised by Forest Radio of Waltham Forest.



# Competition for Young People

(11 to 16 years old)

Doing something memorable for self & charity

Young Writer's Themes:

- Hope
- Health
- Life

Inspire young writers

Promote literary excellence

**Encourage brighter futures** 

'Write2-A-Life' poetry & short story competition is open to all young people across Waltham Forest, in support of The Mayor's Charity, Diabetes UK fundraising for local diabetes care services.

Winners will be published in a book, and the books auctioned to high bidders across London and the proceeds given in support of The Mayors Charity Appeal, Diabetes UK to help local care services.

Email your entries to wayne@forestradio.co.uk

Deadline for the Write2-A-Life competition is 7th January 2018



Players from Leyton Orient Football Club team players will read the work of the competition winners on Forest Radio. There will be a book launch in the New Year. You can listen to details of the Write2-A-Life Poetry and Short Story

Competition for young people, please visit Forest Radio at www.forestradio.co.uk/programmes

#### Write2-A-Life:

# Poetry and Short Story Competition for Young People

#### How to enter:

#### 1. Who can enter:

The competition is free to enter and open to young people between 11 and 16 years old living or attending a place of education, youth provision or youth services in the Borough of Waltham Forest.

#### 2. Email your entry only

- Please email your poem(s) or short stories as an attachment only (eg Word or .txt document) and include your name on each poem or short-story.
- In your main email please include your name, age, contact mobile number, email
  address and your postal address. You are can use the address of your school, youth
  provision or service instead of your postal address as long as you are known and can
  be contacted at that postal address in Waltham Forest.
- Email your entry to wayne@forestradio.co.uk
- · Entries will not be accepted by post
- Include your full name on each entry

#### 3. Sorry we can't accept:

- Any previously published poems or short-stories
- More than two items (poems, short-stories or one of each) per entrant
- Poems exceeding 25 lines in length.
- Short-Stories exceeding 1,500 words in length.
- Any entries arriving after the closing date (7th January 2018 at 12 midnight)
- Any correspondence once a decision has been taken

#### 4. Enquiries:

By email only to <u>wayne@forestradio.co.uk</u>
 There is a spoken version of the competition rules at:

www.forestradio.co.uk



ABOUT

DONATE



FUNDRAISING

CONTACT

#### CHRISTMAS MEAL APPEAL



#### WIN A LUXURY CHRISTMAS HAMPER!

#### African Adventures Foundation is delighted to launch its annual Christmas Meal Appeal.

We want to hold Christmas parties at our partner projects in Ghana, Kenya and Zanzibar, providing each child with a special meal and celebration.

Over the last three years, thanks to our generous donors, African Adventures Foundation has raised over £10,000 to provide a festive meal and party to the 20,000 children we work with across our partner projects.

#### This year, we would like to raise another £3,000.

This year, we are raffling off a luxury Christmas hamper full of festive treats and African goodies, which African Adventures is donating, to our fantastic supporters to help raise the funds we need to make these parties happen.

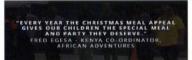
£5 is enough for a project to provide a festive meal for ten children, so buying a few strips of tickets can make a massive difference. Plus, you'll have a greater chance of winning the hamper!

Can you help us reach our target?

DONATE NOW

To donate follow this link;

https://aaf.african-adventures.co.uk/christmas-meal-appeal



The draw will be on Friday 22nd December



This message was sent to mphilippou@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk frem:

African Adventures | foundation@african-adventures.co.uk | African Adventures, Unit 4, Crescent House | Eastleigh, Hampshire SO509SX United Kingdom



With the success of the quiz night last month, please put this date in your diary for May 2018

# ALTHANSTON SCHOOL FOR GRLS FUNDRAISING QUIZ NIGHT

Thursday 3rd May 2018 7.00 p.m.

Tickets £5.00 per person

Adults only - open to staff, parents, alumnae and friends over 18 Bring YOUR own food and drink Tables of up to ten

**Booking** essential

To book a place please contact

Lesley Winter on:

020 8509 9410

Or email

lwinter@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

#### School Calendar for 2017-18

**Autumn Term 2017** 

Start: Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September End: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December Community Party closes at 2.30pm Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December Full day's INSET for staff

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December Carol Concert 7pm

Spring Term 2018

Start: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January End: Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March

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

**Half Term** 

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February Year 9 Parents/Carers subject Evening 4.30 –7.30pm Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March Year 8 Parents/Carers Subject Evening 4.30 -7.30pm

Good Friday Bank Holiday 30th March -Easter Monday Bank Holiday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April Year 7 Parents/Carers Subject Evening 4.30 –7.30pm

**Summer Term** 

Start: Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April End: Friday 20th July

May Bank Holiday Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Monday 14th May -Year 11 GCSE Examinations

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June

**Half Term** 

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 1st June