



No. 17/18

Week 'A'

18 January 2019

Church Hill, Walthamstow, London, E17 9RZ Telephone: 020 8509 9446

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



SCHOOL CALENDAR Spring Term 2019 Monday 7th January 2019 to Friday 5th April 2019

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Thursday 31st January

Year 11 Parent/ Carer subject evening 4.30–7pm

Half Term: Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February 2019

Thursday 7th March Year 9 Parent/

Carer subject evening 4.30–7pm

Thursday 21st March Year 8 Parent/

Carer subject evening 4.30–7pm

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

Our students are now settling back into their daily school routine in their second week back since the holiday break. Staff, students and parents alike attended and thoroughly enjoyed the opening ceremony of the Waltham Forest Borough of Culture. It is great to see our borough recognised, as well as championed in regards to its diversity, which of course, extends through our schools, and supports the social and cultural development of our students.

Our Year 11 students (who were joined by some students from lower years) had a particularly exciting start to the school week, as they went on a trip on Monday evening to the Barbican Centre to see the new production of *Romeo and Juliet* by the Royal Shakespeare Company.

In other Drama related news, students attended a Glee Bootcamp at the Broadway Theatre in Barking at the weekend, which was filled with performance, choreography and vocal workshops. The bootcamp was in preparation for the Jack Petchey Regional Finals of the Glee Club Challenge taking place on Sunday 10th February 2019 which our students have already won a place at. We wish the best of luck to our students, both in their preparation, and for the regional final itself!

In school, we have seen the launch of free breakfast bagels for all of our students, which has been advertised in previous issues of the Greensheet. The first free breakfast bagel morning was on Monday, with the bagels soon disappearing! We encourage all students to take advantage of this provision, and given the importance of a good breakfast for young adults in regards to their learning and wellbeing, I am very pleased we are able to offer this in our school.

We have had some excellent news on the sporting front this week. The Year 9 Basketball Team won 8-5 against Lammas, whilst the Year 8 team played a close game against Leytonstone last night. The score was 10-10 at the final whistle so the game went into extra time. Both teams scored a basket in the first half of extra time then *Emily* 8S scored in the final fifteen seconds of the game to make that a win for WSFG.

As a final note, I would like to remind Year 9 parents and students that the deadline for students to return their letters detailing their chosen options is Friday 25th January 2019. Please return the letters to Student Services. If you have any queries during this process, Please contact Mr Shackson, Assistant Headteacher, who will be happy to advise.

Meryl Davies Headteacher



Focus of the Fortnight 21st January – 1st February 2019 Student Planners

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 1 hour detention with a member of the Leadership Team.

If a student loses 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 she has her PLANNER with her every day for school and sign the planner as required.

Ms. K.H.Pratt Assistant Headteacher



The Sanctions

- Students are required to have their PLANNER with them in school at all times
- The PLANNER is an essential part of their school equipment.
 If a student does not have her PLANNER, she will receive an automatic 1 hour detention and will have her conduct card signed

Year 11 Parents/ Carer Subject Evening Thursday 31st January 4.30–7pm

As usual, your child will have made appointments with her subject teachers for a discussion on her progress from 4.30 to 7pm.

We ask all Year 11 students and **their parents / carers or a family member** to attend this consultation evening to discuss their progress and strategies to help them achieve their full potential at Walthamstow School for Girls.

It is a **crucial event** as it is your child's only consultation evening this year and an opportunity to discuss her mock GCSE results with subject teachers. We look forward to seeing you.

Ms Desbenoit Student Progress Leader, Year 11.

Faculty News

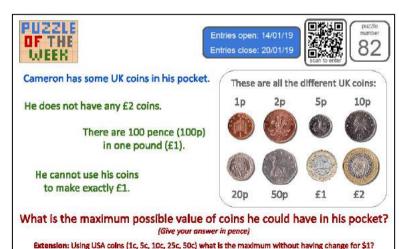
Puzzle of the week

Each week we encouraging students to enter puzzle of the week.

This is the first puzzle.

Good luck.

Ms Robinson Challenge Coordinator



Extension²: Find another currency where the answer is different.

Puzzle edited by Andrew Sharpe, original source unknown.

Trip to Auschwitz

The Holocaust Educational Trust provides teachers from a range of schools and subjects to visit Poland and number of sites related to the Holocaust. The course included a day of discussion and preparation in Birmingham, a day visit to Poland and a final day of reflection.

The preparation day was an opportunity to meet other teachers and discuss ideas around the significance of the Holocaust in education and its continued relevance and significance in the world today. Mr Morrow and I completed a few activities using the Holocaust Educational Trust's resources and reflected on how these might be effectively used when introducing this sensitive and emotive topic to students. This was followed by an account from Eva Clarke, a Holocaust survivor who was born at Mauthausen Concentration Camp in April 1945. Eva told the incredible story of her mother's fight to survive; a story that was both shocking in the details of the horrific hardship Anna Bergman faced, and the unbelievable



endurance she showed in fighting to survive. Eva spoke brilliantly and the tale she told was truly harrowing and yet, ultimately, a touching and moving story of humanity's ability to endure the greatest atrocities.

Then came the day to visit Poland. The flight left Birmingham in the early hours of the morning as there were three areas to visit in a very busy day. The first point was Oświęcim a small town in Poland, close to Aushwitz. The town itself was eerily quiet, very few non-visitors were seen. It must be strange for the locals to live in this place that has become so infamous – that is visited for people to reflect upon the worst aspects of human history. Unsurprisingly, the Jewish community is non-existent in Oświęcim. All that is left is a synagogue, which has been converted into a museum. Here we sat and reflected upon what it must have been like to live here as a Jewish person – at one point a recognised (if maybe never fully embraced) part of the local town, only to later become mocked, abused and, most likely, sent to their death.

The second area we visited was Auschwitz 1, with its foreboding entrance declaring that 'Arbeit Macht Frei' (work sets you free). Visiting the site was a deeply surreal and unnerving experience. The extent to which the site has been maintained gives the area an unnatural quality. Auschwitz 1 feels like a ghost town or a film set (perhaps because the area is so familiar from photos and documentaries). It certainly does not give the impression of a place of great evil but the atmosphere is heavy with its dark past. We were given a guided tour and were told many of the facts about how the Jews were treated, as well as the Polish experience of being occupied and compelled to carry out the NAZI vision. The points raised by the guide



really helped to highlight the complexities of differentiating between persecutors, bystanders and resisters. While outside Auschwitz appeared almost like a residential area, inside the buildings there were almost museum-like installations about the horrors that took place during the Holocaust. This included relics from the Jewish people that had arrived at the camp – Jewish crockery, eye-glasses, shoes and suitcases. Other buildings included photos, pictures and stories.



One of the most affecting pieces was the Book of Names, located in Block 27. This simple concept effectively illustrated the incomprehensibly vast number of Jewish victims during the Holocaust. The book is huge – perhaps the height of a child, with enough pages to cover maybe 15 feet. On each page, written in a small typeface, are the names of the victims, their date of birth, where they were from and the

location of where they were killed. To open to any page is overwhelming in its list of victims, the endless names. To think that this book is page after page (tens of thousands of pages) of the names of those slaughtered in genocide, creates an impact that one will never forget.

From there, we reached the last site of the day, Auschwitz 2-Birkenau. While Auschwitz 1 was a concentration camp where the Jews were worked to death, Aushwitz 2 was constructed as an extermination camp – a place where the NAZIs aimed to implement their Final Solution. This site was far more like a ruin – the NAZIs had attempted to destroy the area to hide their abominable crimes. The site was also plundered by local people, desperate to rebuild their homes and their lives after the occupation. However, there was still plenty to see.





The train track that led right through the front gate raised questions about complicity again (could the train drivers have declined? what would have been the consequence for those that did refuse? would it have made any difference?). We saw the lodgings where the captives slept and lived. These large sheds were cramped, uncomfortable and unhygienic, emphasising the elimination of the Jewish people's dignity before their physical elimination. We also saw the gas chambers and the ovens where the bodies were burned. This really drove home the idea of the

execution of the Holocaust as a well-oiled machine. This was a factory of death, created to be ruthlessly, mercilessly efficient. It created both a discomforting and numbing sensation, unlike anything else.

We then began to roam the site. It was strange to see people taking selfies by the train carriage – unclear whether this was a way to immortalise and remember this visit or whether this was the desensitised nature of humanity and an expression of dark tourism at its most crass. As we walked further away from the cabins and the ovens, we moved more and more towards woodlands and nature. As the sun began to set, with the horrors literally behind us, the scene became oddly serene

and beautiful, it was almost possible to forget where we were. We gathered back together by some concrete steps for the closing remarks of the day. The Rabbi, who had accompanied us throughout our day, gave an impassioned and energetic speech. A message about the power to overcome, the importance of never forgetting and to always be mindful of current and potential dangers. Most importantly, he reminded us that it was important to take stock and learn lessons from the day, to use our understanding of all the wrong that was experienced here to make things better. It was an incredibly uplifting sentiment to close an extremely bleak day. After the speech it was time to return to the coaches and go home.

The day was exhausting – physically, mentally and emotionally. It is odd to describe the experience in positive terms but the day did feel worthwhile, invaluable even. As the events of the Holocaust move further into history and further away from us, it becomes increasingly difficult for people to keep its lessons in mind. However, the visits to Auschwitz, organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust, help to assure that the tragic legacy stays in our collective memories so that, hopefully, humanity can begin to escape the repetition of prejudice and violent persecution of others. There is no denying that we still need to heed the important message of the Holocaust of 'never again'. It is this message that we took away with us and that we will try our utmost to impress onto our students when it is their turn to learn about and reflect upon this awful moment in history.

Mr Caps Humanities Faculty

Holocaust Memorial Day is marked each year on 27th January, the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. The theme for 2019 is Torn from Home.



Community News

Remembering The Kindertransport 8 November 2018 — 10 February 2019

In 1938-39 the British government allowed 10,000 mostly Jewish children from occupied Europe to come to Britain. These efforts from charitable organisations led to a remarkable rescue operation which became known as the Kindertransport.

Now in their 80s and 90s, the Kinder (child refugees) give their testimony through the medium of film. You can also see personal objects and artefacts that they brought with them from their homelands.

This exhibition marks the 80th anniversary of the Kindertransport.

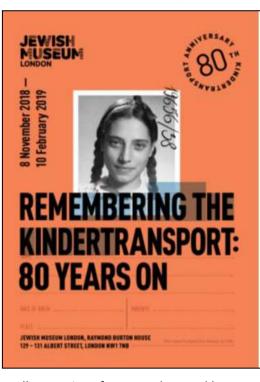
As told in their own words, hear the story of six Kinder - stories of rescue as well as stories of rupture, loss and hope.

jewishmuseum.org.uk/kindertransport #kindertransport80

Free admission. Open daily 10am – 5pm (Fridays 10am – 2pm)

Jewish Museum London, Raymond Burton House 129 – 131 Albert Street, London NW1 7NB

https://jewishmuseum.org.uk/





ALL PHOTOS ARE FROM REAL MEDIC MENTOR EVENTS

19TH & **20TH JANUARY EXETER**

26TH & **27TH JANUARY** LONDON



DAY 1 INSIGHT CONFERENCE

This is an essential event for any aspiring doctor, dentist or vet. It will help you to make an informed career decision and develop a greater insight into your chosen profession, which is a scored component of the UCAS application.

DAY 2 UCAS LECTURES

Day 2 offers optional UCAS lectures for Medicine. These are the most comprehensive UCAS lectures available, for students who want to take the next step and make a competitive application to medical school.

DAY 1 £25/STUDENT OR FREE FOR STUDENTS FROM LOW-INCOME

THE MENTORING ORGANISATION FOR ASPIRING DOCTORS, VETS AND DENTISTS

Suitable for students in year 10-12. Parents and teachers are also welcome.

Proceeds from these events are reinvested to support the next generation of healthcare professionals with scholarships and free educational initiatives.

FIND OUT WHY **OVER 8000** PEOPLE HAVE JOINED MEDIC MENTOR REGISTER YOUR PLACES AT MEDICMENTOR.CO.UK



Examination Invigilators

Required for May 2019

Scale 3, Point 14

Rate of pay: £10.66 per hour (plus holiday entitlement)

We are looking for Examination Invigilators to join our team.

Previous experience is not essential, but you must enjoy working with young people. You will be required to work as part of a team and deal sensitively and intelligently with issues that may arise in the exam room.

These posts are subject to enhanced D.B.S. checks. You will be required to attend a training session prior to taking up your duties.

Hours: Morning session start at 8.30am Afternoon session start at 1.00pm

Finishing time: Depends on the length of the exam, which varies between 1 hour to 3 hours.

An application form and further details are available to download from the school website www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk.

Completed application forms should be returned to the school by email to Mandy Madhani, m.madhani@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk. Please note CVs will not be accepted.

Closing date: Tuesday 29th January 2019 (Noon)

Interview date: Week commencing Monday 4th February 2019

Walthamstow School for Girls is committed to Safer Recruitment practices and procedures.

School Calendar Dates 2018-2019

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January 2019 to Friday 5th April 2019

Thursday 31st January Year 11 Parent/Carer subject evening

4.30-7pm

Half Term: Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February 2019

Thursday 7th March Year 9 Parent/Carer subject evening

4.30-7pm

Thursday 21st March Year 8 Parent/Carer subject evening

4.30-7pm

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April 2019 to Friday 19th July 2019

May Bank holiday Monday 6th May

Thursday 9th May Year 7 Parent/Carer subject evening

4.30– 7pm

Monday 13th May—Tuesday 18th June—GCSE Examinations Year 11

Half Term: Monday 27th May 2019 to Friday 31st May 2019

Monday 3rd June—Friday 28th June Year 10 mock examinations