



NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

Greensheet Plus

Summer 2018



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are at the end of yet another intensive, action packed and successful year for WSFG. Our Year 10 students are back with us following their experience of the world of work and they have also now received their Year 10 mock GCSE examination results. These will have galvanised them into what will undoubtedly be a very focused final year with us when they return in September

Even into the last week of term, our trips and activities continue. At the weekend, our Duke of Edinburgh students successfully completed a qualifying residential camping expedition in the blazing sunshine. We are grateful to our staff, led by Ms Black, who gave up their own time to make this happen. Year 8 public speakers excelled on Monday and were confident enough to address the whole year group. Congratulations to all the form representatives and a special 'well done' to *Mominah*, 8G, who was the overall winner. On Monday we also had a KS3 trip to the Old Vic to see *A Monster Calls*. On Wednesday we held our annual Sports Day at the Feel Good Centre and, for once, we had excellent weather to enable the girls to break more school records. Meanwhile, our intrepid Year 10 travellers returned to the UK on Thursday evening after a trip of a lifetime to Zanzibar. We are grateful to Ms Phillippou and Ms Desbenoit for accompanying the group. This has been without doubt one of the most physically and emotionally challenging trips the school has undertaken (apart from being evacuated during the Second World War to Wellingborough).

These are only some of the many reasons that we are so proud of our school, and confirm in me the sense of privilege I feel in leading a school with such great students, and such a committed and hard-working workforce and supportive community of parents and carers. Indeed, it was very pleasing to have this confirmed recently by Ofsted.

Please do enjoy the snapshot of a selection of our school events which we have captured in this issue. I am sure you will sense the spirit of optimism, joy and pride of the girls in all the photographs. This is certainly our experience as teachers. A visiting teacher to the school once told me that she could not believe the high number of activities and trips which are organised here. She added that the other schools she visited were starting to wind down, but at WSFG it appeared to be the total opposite! The Ofsted inspectors made a similar observation about our extra-curricular provision:

The breadth of pupil's experience, supported by an extensive extra-curricular programme, prepares pupils very well for life in modern Britain.

I would like to thank you all for your unstinting support of your daughter's school this year and to thank our staff and our students for all their hard work. Finally, on behalf of the school governors, our staff and myself, I wish you all a safe and happy summer holiday.

Best Wishes
Meryl Davies
Headteacher

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40 Years of Steel Pans at WSFG

The evening to celebrate 40 years of steel pans at WSFG was a fantastic event.

It was organised by tutor Richard Murphy, with the help of the Alumnae Committee.



Richard has taught steel pans to students at WSFG for the past 34 years, including several generations of the same families.

The funds raised will be used to tune, repair and replace the school's steel pans, a popular musical instrument among our students. It also succeeded in raising in the region of £2800 to help maintain the pans.



Over the years, the school's steel bands have grown in size and reputation, performing locally, nationally at the Royal Albert Hall, NEC Birmingham and internationally in Prague, Paris and Barcelona.



The senior bands, made up of students in Years 10 and 11, have reached the finals of the National Music for Youth Festival several times. A number of girls have gone on to study music at university and some now teach the steel pans.

The concert's programme included performances of works by Paul McCartney, Burt Bacharach, Zack Laurence and Frederick Chopin. The last piece, Toco Band by Trinidadian Aldwyn Roberts, brought the entire audience to its feet in a spontaneous ovation.



Richard Murphy praised his students, past and present, and the audience and players cheered this very special teacher as he was presented with flowers and other gifts.



*Current and past Heads of Music
Michael Burstow, Anne Loveluck and
Helen Bradshaw, with Richard Murphy*



Richard Murphy with ex-players

London Mini Marathon

Two Year 8 students and a Year 7 student represented Waltham Forest at an event at the London Marathon last term.

After qualifying as three of the six fastest girls in the under 13 age group for the London Borough of Waltham Forest, *Aoife* and *Ruby* Year 8 and *Malaika* Year 7, competed against runners from all over the country in the London Mini Marathon. In record breaking temperatures they ran the 5km race from Blackfriars Bridge to The Mall along the River Thames and past the Houses of Parliament, Big Ben and Buckingham Palace and finished in front of thousands of spectators down the world famous last 200 metres of the Mall.



Aoife finished in a brilliant time of twenty one minutes and thirty four seconds, finishing 75th in the whole of the UK in her age group.

Ruby, who also ran the race last year, finished in twenty four minutes and fifty three seconds.



Malaika also achieved a personal best at the race.

All three girls received medals for their efforts and vowed to return for the 2019 race. Well done all!

Ms Wood
Head of Physical Education

Houses of Parliament Trip

During the Easter holidays, along with some other students I was lucky enough to go on a trip to Parliament. We were taken on a private tour and on that tour we all saw an array of things, from beautiful paintings to one of the oldest flushing toilets. We were also able to look at the Queen's changing room and it was huge. Overall it was a really fun day and a fantastic opportunity.

Ornela 8C

I really enjoyed the trip. It was fun to see all the places you see on TV and having the privilege to see historic places. My favourite place was the cupboard the suffragette hid in and the balcony view. It was a really nice day and I'm happy I had the chance to go.

Morenike 8H



The statue is the one that the suffragette Marjory Humes chained herself to on 27th April, 1909.

Ms Careless Pye
Student Progress Leader Year 10

KS3 Spanish Study Day

Thank you very much to Ms. Griffin and Ms. Bourboin for organising the Spanish KS3 Study Day at the British Film Institute. Many thanks also to Juan, Emily and Ms Landa who accompanied us on the trip. It was an enjoyable day out.

Ms. Prieto
Head of Modern Foreign Languages



Last term 9C and 9H went on a trip to the BFI to take part in a KS3 Spanish study day. This was an enjoyable experience. We took part in several activities that allowed us to interact with each other. We also got to learn a variety of new phrases that we can benefit from in the future. We were given a booklet that had all the activities including a word search, picture based activities, dialogue filling exercises etc. Also, we were able to watch a few short films in Spanish as well as a full length film in the afternoon. A microphone was passed around the audience of hundreds of student from many different schools and I was lucky enough to be able to answer two questions. It was a lot of fun and I would love to do it again.

Hafsa 9C



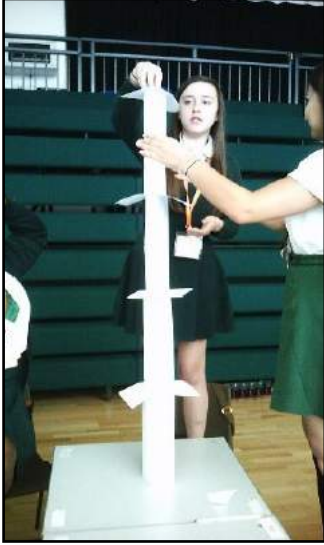
Year 9 Spanish students went to the BFI to take part in a KS3 Spanish study day and the experience was wonderful. It was really interactive and loads of people took part. They gave us a booklet to fill in and while we were there we learnt new words and we saw short clips of different genres of Spanish films. Also, after lunch we watched a full-length Spanish film which was really funny. I enjoyed this day because we sat in a cinema, we met with other schools, we learnt new things and it is a good experience for people to have.

Oluwatumise 9C



Year 9 and 10 STEM Challenge Days

We were delighted to welcome the Smallpeice Trust into school again this year to deliver their fun filled, action packed challenge days. On day one, Year 10 DT students challenged themselves by working on smart buildings and the following day Year 9 Students were creative and mastered electronics amongst other skills. This is what the students had to say about the experience:



I really enjoyed the STEM day as it was really fun and I learnt more about Engineering.

Ying Hang 9F

Today was very interesting as I learnt a lot of things that I did not know before. Engineering is a career I would consider in the future.

Aamira 9S

The day was fun, it really helped us to know what a job in engineering involves.

Crystal 9H

I really enjoyed the day and the positive energy throughout the day made it more enjoyable.

Jasia 9C

The STEM project was an eye opening and inspiring experience, I would love to do it again and enjoyed it very much.

Judah 9G

Engineering is an excellent career for women and I felt proud to be part of this project. I have learnt many different skills, which I hope will come in useful later on.

Iris 9G

Ms Healy
Stem Cordinator



Year 8 IET Challenge Day



WSFG welcomed Year 8 students from Highams Park School to participate in a busy and challenging STEM day. I was very proud of the students for their enthusiasm and work ethic throughout the day. This is what they had to say about the experience:

We took part in the IET Faraday Challenge Day in partnership with the Jack Petchey Foundation and Thorpe Park. Our task for the day was to design and develop an attraction for Thorpe Park. We designed a marine rollercoaster. We enjoyed the day and learnt a lot.

Eliza 8W, Keira 8F, Ruby 8C, Ladchumi 8S, Kasia 8C, Amanta 8S

We learnt many things for example: how to make a pressure pad with a sensor, how to work together to incorporate everyone's ideas. We have bonded and worked with new people. It was challenging but we were resilient and in the end we worked it out. We have really enjoyed the day and would definitely do it again.

Jessica 8W, Jai Ming 8F, Lulu 8C, Molly 8G, Emily 8S, Hannah 8G

Our team did really well, we struggled at times but all contributed lots of ideas. We learnt a lot throughout the day and were really proud of our finished project.

Amira 8W, Diana 8S, Layla 8C, Tabassoum 8H, Ornelda 8C, Emira 8F

We took part in the STEM project which was fun, interesting and challenging. We learnt how to work as a team, overcome challenges and solve engineering problems. We were very proud of our winning idea of an ice skating experience based on a maze.

Romayssa 8W, Maryam 8S, Mominah 8G, Sasha 8C, Sydney 8H, Rada 8W

The winning team was presented with their trophy and Amazon vouchers!

I am looking forward to next year's Challenge Day already.

Ms Healy
STEM Coordinator





Write2-a Life Poetry Competition

Write2-A-Life Poetry & Short Story competition was open to all young people (12-16 years) across Waltham Forest, in support of The Mayor's Charity, Diabetes UK, fundraising for local diabetes care services.

The competition is supported by the Mayor of Waltham Forest & Councillor Grace Williams, Lead Member for Children and Young People.

The themes were Hope, Health and Life (or any combination of these).

The following poem won third prize in the Write2-a Life, and was written by *Keira* in Year 8:

Courage

“Courage is being yourself in a world that tells you to be someone else”

We're here, we're queer and we want to shout
In a society that might hurt us if we come out.
Some of us are lucky— we can make it every day
Just being ourselves and knowing that's okay
Still, there are others living constantly in fear
If they let on who they are, they'll lose all they hold dear

You've got some privileges with you being straight
The least we're asking of you is that you don't hate
Because too many people have lost their voice
Being bullied for something that isn't their choice

Well done *Keira*

English Faculty

Cambridge Choral Experience



Recently, I took part in the Cambridge Choral Course. It was a lovely day to go and was a great taster of how it would feel to sing in a collegiate choir. We learnt three songs, taught by Choral Scholars, through the day and then sang them in King's College Chapel.

As well as singing, we were also given a tour around the town centre and I am now sure that I want to go to University at one of the Cambridge colleges. I would strongly recommend it to anyone who is interested in going on the course next year or to anyone who really enjoys singing.

Noura 7G



If you missed out this year, look out for more opportunities like this in the future.

The Universities of Oxford and Cambridge are both committed to encouraging students from state schools to consider Oxbridge as their university choice. Please see me for more information.

Ms Robinson
Challenge Coordinator



British Ceramics Biennial Award

We received some fantastic news regarding our Artist in Residence, Ms West. After being shortlisted and invited to display her work at the British Ceramics Biennial AWARD in the Midlands, she was announced as the winner of the British Ceramics Biennial AWARD 2017 for her monumental new work *(Un)Woven*.



Part of her prize is a commission for the 2019 British Ceramics Biennial award. The judging panel included the Senior Curator in the Sculpture, Metalwork, Ceramics and Glass Department at the Victoria and Albert Museum. Our students are very fortunate to have access to an artist of this calibre from whom to draw inspiration and learn. Our congratulations go to Ms West.



Ms West's award winning sculpture is now on display in school, outside on the staff roof terrace.

It is an amazing structure being made almost entirely from ceramic materials, alongside a series of bricks made from clay collected from all over Europe.



Ms Davies



Year 8 Netball Success

The Year 8 netball team played several matches this term. The girls had a double header, playing both Chingford A and Chingford B teams. They were fantastic, and we had some new members to the team who played incredibly well. Our girls won both games (match one 7-2 and match two 9-0) which means they are unbeaten in the league. We are still waiting to see who will be the Year 8 Waltham Forest Borough Netball Champions.

Our congratulations go to the following students on this fabulous achievement:

Jessica 8W

Roya 8W (captain of first game)

Molly 8G (captain of second game and awarded player of match one)

Grace 8G

Saffia 8G

Sylvie 8F (awarded player of match two)

Jessica 8F

Rebeca 8F

Jai-Ming 8F

Arani 8F

Deja 8H

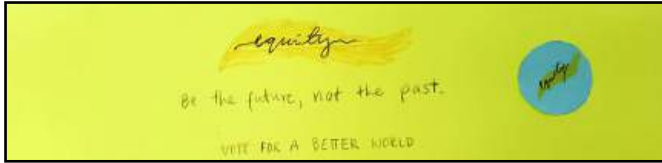
Morenike 8H

Ms Warren

Student Progress Leader Year 11 / P.E.



Academic Challenge Day



Earlier this term, *Erin, Leila, Lucy and Ruby* from Year 9 spent the day at Forest School. It was a Day of Politics, culminating in the students forming their own political party, with name, logo and strap line. They also made promotional resources and conducted their own hustings.

Here is feedback from two of the participants:

The Political Day was a great insight into how the political system works. We also learnt some excellent presentation skills. It was an interesting opportunity and I enjoyed the experience of spending a day at another school. We named our party Equity.

Erin 9W

The Forest Politics Day gave me a great insight into different political voting systems. We conducted our own election and then the votes were counted in the first past the post system, then by proportional representation.

Lucy 9G

The girls presented very well indeed, especially as they were a year younger than most of the other teams. Their presentation skills will be further developed next year through the TED Ed Club. Which will be launched in the Autmun term.

Ms Robinson
Challenge Coordinator



Mozettes on Tour

Last month, six students from Year 7, *Alba, Aoife, Cerika, Demmy, Romy and Vanessa* visited Henry Maynard Junior School and delivered an assembly about the benefits of listening to Mozart.

Feedback from their students was very positive and we were invited back to repeat the assembly to Years 3 and 4.

Here are some quotes from Year 5:

I enjoyed the paper plate dance - I am going to start to listen to this song more.

I thought it was really fun and it gave me an ecstatic feeling.

I really liked the Mozart because we all joined in and I didn't know that Mozart can be calmer than Rock music. Very good facts I didn't know.

My favourite part was the paper plates because it was really fun.

I really enjoyed Mozart because it was very entertaining and when I came back after going to class it looked amazing!

Here is a reminder of the benefits of listening to Mozart:

Research suggests that it can help us to become more creative, reduce our stress and anxiety, help us to concentrate and actually enhance the neural pathways in our brains.

It may even help to boost results. As well as helping humans, there have also been experiments that have shown that mice find cheese more quickly in a maze, cows produce more milk and chickens produce more eggs, when they listen to Mozart!

Ms Robinson
Challenge Coordinator



Pasta Master Class

We were offered a Cooking Workshop in return for taking part in the student exchange Shadowing Programme. This scheme invites local schools to host foreign pupils to follow their learning cycle for two or three weeks. Their Chef, Eleni, comes to the UK from Italy especially to run these workshops; she teaches amazing techniques for pasta making; pizza, risotto, gnocchi or whatever the school wishes to deliver.

Many thanks to 7G and Ms. Wilkinson's Year 9 class for attending the Pasta Master Class. The students were delightful. Many thanks also to Ms. Wilkinson and Ms. Tingling for the use of your room and your support on that day. I know our guest Eleni had a positive experience with us and would be willing to return next year for this wonderful opportunity for our girls.

Ms. Prieto
Head of Languages



Barge Haybay Trip

Last month, twenty four students from across the year groups spent a fabulous residential weekend at the Barge Haybay, which is part of an outdoor educational centre in Essex. Students were accommodated in a houseboat moored in the beautiful location of the Blackwater Estuary in the Heybridge Basin, Maldon, Essex.



Students were able to access the activities available at nearby Fairplay House and on the picturesque local lakes and rivers. They participated in a variety of outdoor activities, designed to build their team-working skills, help them to become more resilient and resourceful and to develop their confidence.

The activities they took part in included sailing, canoeing, caving, climbing the high ropes and 'falling' in the giant swing! In addition to enjoying a weekend in the countryside and undertaking these amazing activities, the students also took on the responsibility of cooking for each other.





Students from WSFG have been enjoying this weekend on the Barge for several years now and always return home with unforgettable memories of triumph and fun. This year's students were particularly complimented on their good behaviour and their positive attitude towards every challenge- well done!



A huge thank you to Ms Black, Ms Brunas and Mr Fowler who have led and supported this trip for many years and, once again, gave up their weekend to provide such a special experience for our students.

Ms Famiglietti (Trip Leader)
Student Progress leader Year 7 /Latin

Diversity workshops review:



Year 8 students were invited to participate in a one hour Diversity workshop in June. The aim of the workshop was to give our students an opportunity to engage with issues around sexual orientation and gender identity in a safe and open environment. The key messages were ones of kindness, respect and equality. In our school we want students to feel free to express themselves and feel valued for their uniqueness.

We listened to LGBT volunteer role models whose powerful stories gave an insight in to the experiences of LGBT people. A Q&A followed which helped develop students' empathy, understanding and acceptance and challenge stereotypes and prejudice. Here are some of their views:

I really enjoyed this workshop because of how everyone came together and expressed their feelings on LGBT+. It's really wonderful that the charity is spreading more awareness on the subject. I felt like it was a very safe and accepting atmosphere and overall believe everyone should receive a chance to speak to them also.

Aliyah 8S

I thought this session was very good to help inform people about different people's stories and how you never know what people go through in life

Bo 8F

I liked how open the role models were and how open we could be with them. It was nice learning about LGBT+ because it opened my eyes more to this community.

Rachel 8F

The atmosphere was really inviting and Tanya and Alex's stories were very inspirational and made me realise that anyone can be who they want to be and we should accept anyone who is part of LGBT+ and never judge them if we don't know their full stories. Katie was also really helpful with the meanings of terms.

Amber 8W

I think all schools should get to have this workshop because it would be really beneficial to people wanting to come out as it would make them feel safe and secure.

Aoife 8S

What I liked about the workshop is that it educates people to be more open minded and confident to discuss LGBT+ topics, which helps us become kinder and more accepting.

Amanta 8S

I really enjoyed this workshop because their stories were really relatable and it was really educational. No one felt awkward or uncomfortable.

Jay Ming 8F

You should accept people for who they are and not treat anyone any differently.

Jessica 8F

I liked the fact that the two role models had the courage and confidence to tell their stories and their message. It was a phenomenal activity and very inspiring.

Destiny 8C

I really enjoyed all of the session and all of the honesty. During the session, we were able to hear both stories and how they felt when they came out. They told us how to be supportive and that was really helpful.

Ornalda 8C

I liked that I learnt new things about the LGBT+ community and how to understand people better, really enjoyed it.

Tatiana 8H

I enjoyed how they told their own stories to inspire us and convey messages such as you should try to be a supportive friend to anyone you know comes out to you because it's a privilege they trust you.

Anisa 8H.

I have now a bigger understanding of the LGBT+ community. The role models were really brave and I think everybody should see this workshop.

Deja 8H.

I really enjoyed this session as it showed me and others that you shouldn't be afraid to be yourself. It's wonderful how Tanya and Alex shared their personal stories to all of us. I found them so inspirational and brave

Ilgin 8G.

I was very proud of how well our students behaved and how respectful and open minded they were.

Ms Desbenoit.

Diversity Coordinator.



Mathé, the Pop Up Café



The Year 7 Pop Up Café has popped up twice this term, firstly during a lunchtime in May with a Bee theme and secondly at the Year 11 Art Exhibition.

The new Year 7 Committee has worked hard to organise the events and a proportion of the money raised will be donated to a charity to help save bees. Here is some feedback from the students who were involved:

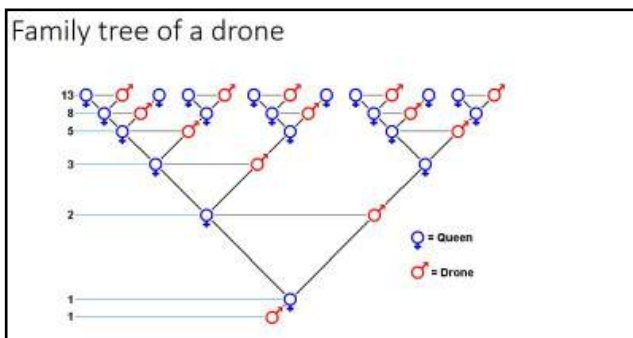
I have the privilege of being on the Committee, which we also call The Honey Bunch! My role is Head of Marketing, which means that my job is to spread news about the café in our school community. On the actual day of the Bee Talk, we sold vegan brownies, which were a real hit. The vegan option was added following feedback from a previous opening. A huge thank you to everyone who made cakes. Also, thank you to Eric, the Beeman. The most interesting thing that we learnt was that the driving force of a hive are the female worker bees!

Amal 7H



My role is Charity Manager. I came up with the idea of giving a proportion of the profits to a Bee Charity, together with my friend Romy. The most fascinating thing for me is the way that maths and bees are related. The Fibonacci numbers actually appear when you study the family tree of a drone! I have heard lots of feedback from people who came to our opening for the Bee Talk. They all enjoyed the talk and the cakes.

Aoife 7H



My role is Catering Manager. My responsibility was to encourage others to make and bring in cakes to sell. Most of the cakes were donated by Year 7, although we did have a Year 9 student who very kindly donated too. The cake sale went very well and I learnt a lot at the talk. Humans are killing off pollinating insects as we are destroying wildflower meadows, which is their natural habitat.

I am the Artistic Director and designed the poster and the thank you card for Eric. I was introduced to him at the beginning and helped him to carry his props. I enjoyed every single bit of the experience and I am learning a lot by being on the Committee.

Lena 7C



I was the Head of Advertising. My job was to inform people in the school about what was going on. I also made some biscuits using a recipe from my grandmother who is Dutch. They looked ordinary but people were surprised when they tried them due to their crumbly texture and zesty flavour.

Alba 7H

I sold cupcakes at the Pop Up Café. The Bee Talk was very interesting and informative. Bees are very important for the environment and it is sad that they could die out if we keep destroying their homes. So, everyone – don't destroy nature!

Vanessa 7H



Although not part of the Committee, I still got the opportunity to be involved as I made cakes! Many varieties sold out quickly. I would love to help with this again.

Zayna 7G

I was one of the first people to meet the Bee Man and I helped him carry all of his equipment and props. I also spoke to him about bee charities. We are still researching which is the best charity for us to support.

Romy 7H



The next Pop Up is likely to be in September as part of the **GREEN** celebration. More details to follow soon.

Ms Robinson
Challenge Coordinator

Year 11 Art Exhibition

What a fantastic event the Art Exhibition was with such a large variety of work on display from digital Art to collage, painting and installation. One parent mentioned that it 'felt more like an A Level show' which was a great compliment. Students worked hard and independently to produce work based on landscapes, identity and fragments titles.

Many thanks to Tana West, Ms Hepworth, Ms Robinson, Mr Allard, Mr Higgins, Mr Tutton and Ms Bradshaw for helping make the event such a great success.

Ms Wills
Head of Art



The Performing Arts Faculty: our year

It hardly seems possible that it is almost a year since we bade a fond and sad farewell to Mr Burstow. We have missed him, as we knew we would, but we have soldiered on and Ms Bradshaw has been a wonderful addition to the faculty. Looking back on the last year makes me realise how busy we have been as we strive to fulfil our aim to provide our students with as broad and rich an experience of Drama, Music, Dance and Sport as we possibly can.

Drama

Autumn Term

We began the year with a visit to Regent's Park Open Air Theatre to see *Jesus Christ, Superstar*. The production was excellent, but the curse of the British weather struck again, and we were caught in a downpour. This made for a long and damp evening!

Meanwhile, back at school, we were rehearsing for our production of *The Tempest* as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival. A cast of Year 8s and 9s took to the Stratford Circus stage in what was described as a 'dramatic, dream-like and dazzling' performance.



Ms Wallace and I co-directed the production, and we were very proud of our company. Happily, we were successful again in our application to be part of Old Vic Schools Club. Twenty four theatre enthusiasts in Year 9 embarked on their first experience of the club by participating in a workshop and going to see *Girl from the North Country*. This was a fantastic start, and the show went on to win Olivier awards. As a Bob Dylan fan, I was thrilled to hear some of his more ropy material rendered exquisitely beautiful by the amazing cast of actor-musicians.

We also entered the final year of our three year Explore partnership with the Unicorn Theatre. The current Year 9 have been to see two productions a year, each one accompanied by a workshop, for each year of Key Stage 3. Our first production of the year was *Beowulf*, a one-woman version of the epic poem.

As a result of the experience with the Explore Partnership, we decided that it was important to ensure that all WSFG students have the opportunity to go the theatre during their time with us. In November, we took Year 8 to see *The Lorax* at the Old Vic, an exuberant, colourful production that was enjoyed by staff and students alike. It was such a success that the Year 8 theatre trip is something we intend to run every year.

For our Year 10 Drama students, we ran two trips. One was to see *Girls* at the pop-up theatre in the Town Square as part of the Hightide Festival in Walthamstow. The other was to see Ibsen's *The Lady from the Sea* at the Donmar Warehouse. Both plays explored serious issues in very different ways and provided much food for thought.

Our final theatre trip of the term was the second Old Vic Schools Club visit, when we saw *A Christmas Carol*, a splendid festive treat.

Spring Term

Our focus was on our GCSE students, as both Year 10s and Year 11s prepared for important practical exams. However, we still ran a number of trips. In January, a group of staff and students went to see Cirque de Soleil's spectacular show *Ovo* at the Royal Albert Hall. We returned to the Donmar Warehouse, again with Year 10 students, to see the searing relationship drama *Belleville*. The Old Vic Schools Club students went to see *Fanny and Alexander* and Year 10 Drama GCSE students saw *Beginners* at the Unicorn.

Our final Unicorn Explore visit was to see a modern version of Othello. Sadly, 9G, C and H were unable to see the production because of snow. Happily, the theatre has given us tickets to another show instead, and the students will be visiting the Unicorn for their final trip in November.

Summer Term

With our Year 11 students completing the practical Unit 2 exam: performing from a text. To prepare for this, we invited parents in to see the work. The standard of the performances was very high. Many of the students had worked incredibly hard during the rehearsal process, and it showed. Meanwhile, Year 10s were busy rehearsing and polishing their Unit 1 devised pieces. Again, Ms Wallace and I were very pleased with the standard of the work when the plays were performed to an audience of parents and friends.

Our final Old Vic Schools Club workshop and theatre visit to see new play *Mood Music* took place and Year 10 Drama students went to Southwark Playhouse to see their set text *DNA* in performance. Later in May, the Year 11 students sat the Drama GCSE written exam. The questions were not quite what we had expected but the students seemed to cope admirably with this. We will all be nervous come August 23rd!

With the departure of Year 11s and Year 10s sitting mock exams and on work experience, we have been preparing our Year 9 students for the GCSE they are about to embark on. We have had record uptake, with 50 students opting to study Drama at GCSE. We have been to see the Kneehigh production of *Brief Encounter* and students have been split into two groups to see either *A New and Better You at the Yard* Theatre in Hackney or *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie* at the Donmar Warehouse. Both shows are preceded by a two-hour workshop with facilitators from the theatres.

Meanwhile, local all-female company Flock Ensemble came to school to perform their devised piece *This is a Blizzard* to the whole of Year 9. Unfortunately, it was the

hottest day of the year so far and the Norris Hall was like a sauna! The play was created in response to the #Metoo movement, it stimulated some very interesting discussions. We found the Q&A session afterwards with the director and cast very helpful. Our Year 9s are very experienced theatre-goers now!

Four of the Old Vic Schools Club members will be going to a Behind the Scenes day at the theatre's workrooms in Bermondsey. This involves workshops in puppetry, design and directing and should be an excellent experience.

Our final trip of the year will be to see *A Monster Calls* at the Young Vic. Ms Mayes, Mr Capps and I will be taking 30 Year 7s to see this production by the superb director Sally Cookson. I can't wait!

Ms Wallace has been running Drama Club for Year 7s, and I have been running one for 8s and 9s. We are planning to hold a performance next term to celebrate the centenary of some women being given the vote for the first time. Year 7s are devising a piece, whilst 8s and 9s are rehearsing two suffrage plays written for the Actresses' Franchise League between 1908 and 1914.

Also lined up for next term is a project with Box Clever Theatre Company and their production of *The Hate Play* about bullying. Year 9s will be seeing this, and a focus group will be helping to develop a sequel.

We will be continuing our association with the Unicorn theatre, and have joined their Schools' Club scheme. This will give our school community access to discounted tickets, extra free tickets for accompanying staff and parents and even free coffee for teachers! Ms Desbenoit and I will be taking a Year 11 Diversity trip to see *The End of Eddy* in September. The Year 8 theatre trip will take place in early December; the whole year group will go to see *Grimm Tales*, as will 9 G,C,H to make up for missing *Othello*. In November, we will return to the Donmar Warehouse to see a gender fluid production of *Measure for Measure*; this will be open to all interested KS4 students and not just Drama GCSE students.

In a welcome development for East London theatre-goers, Nadia Fall, the new artistic director of Theatre Royal, Stratford East, has announced an exciting new season. We have already booked tickets to see *Ballet Black* in October for Black History Month, and for *The Unreturning* for our Year 10 Drama GCSE students in January. And the biggest news of all is that our biennial whole-school musical will be performed in February. I can confirm the show will be *Mary Poppins*, and we are hoping to involve students across the year groups on stage and behind the scenes and to see many of you at the performances.

Thank you to all those staff who have helped on our various events. They have come from all parts of the school: we couldn't run our trips without their help.

A special thank you to Mr Monkfield, who is retiring. He has been a true friend to the Performing Arts Faculty, making props for many productions, including Prospero's staff.



Music

Autumn Term

Primary Proms- Royal Albert Hall

Our Year 11 Steel Band was invited to perform at the Royal Albert Hall as part of the Music for Youth Primary Proms. This was an incredible experience for our players who performed twice to an audience of 1500.



Stratford – Newham College.

Our Year 9 Steel Band was invited to perform at Newham College in Stratford as part of a range of activities to celebrate Black History Month.

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The Year 9 Steel Band performed at Henry Maynard Primary School's Multi-Cultural Evening.

Steel Pan Workshop for Primary School

Two classes from Henry Maynard visited us at Walthamstow School for Girls to take part in a steel pan workshop led by Mr Murphy and our students.

The Community Party

Voice, Glee Club and Wind band performed at the Community Party to a number of local residents. Our students thoroughly enjoyed meeting members of our community.

Christmas Carol Concert – St Mary's Church

Our annual Carol Concert, held at St Mary's Church was a great success featuring a wide range of performances across the age range.

Spring Term

Music for Youth – Regional Festival

Our Year 11 and Year 10 Steel Bands performed at the Music for Youth Regional Festival in Camden. They received excellent feedback from the judges and their performances were testament to the hard work and dedication of the players and their teacher, Mr Murphy.

The Best of Broadway Trip

In March, we took a number of Year 11 GCSE Music students to watch *'The Best of Broadway'*. It was a fantastic evening which allowed our students to watch the London Philharmonic Orchestra live and listen to a number of show tunes. This really helped to bring their Music curriculum to life.

Steel Pan Concert

This year marked the 40th Anniversary of Pans at Walthamstow School for Girls and Mr Murphy organised a fundraising concert. The concert was a huge success raising nearly £3000 for the Steel Pan Fund. It provided a showcase for the brilliant work of the Steel Bands at Walthamstow School for Girls. The students were the picture of professionalism as they wowed the audience with an extremely broad repertoire.

Summer Term

Church Hill Nursery

In June, our Year 8 Steel Band performed at Church Hill Nursery for their Summer Fete. It was a very hot day, but the Year 8s did not let this affect their playing or enthusiasm. The performances were very well received by the audience, who were shouting for more as we were packing instruments away.

Battle of the Bands

Two Year 9 bands competed in Battle of

the Bands 2018 which was held at Leyton Sixth Form College. In the Night Garden: *Zia, Gabriela, Leila, Estelle and Izzy*, secured third place with their cover of 'Brazil' by Declan McKenna and Fortunately/Unfortunately, comprising *Charlotte, Robin and Evan*, impressed the audience and judges with a beautiful performance of their own composition 'Saltwater Sky'.

Secondary Showcase

In July, 50 of our students performed at the Secondary Showcase which was held at Walthamstow Assembly Rooms. The Glee club learnt three songs which they performed as part of a massed choir made up of four schools from the Borough.

The evening also featured exciting performances from our Year 11 and Year 10 Steel Bands and a debut performance of her own composition by *Olivia* in 9C.

Music for Youth National Festival

Our Year 11 Steel Band has made it through to the Music for Youth National Festival in Birmingham on Friday 6th July. We are extremely excited about this event and students have been rehearsing hard, despite their exams and study leave.



Big Creative Trip

In July, 21 year 9 students attended a workshop day at Big Creative Education on Blackhorse Lane. The first session showed students how to produce a remix as they improvised over the top of a track by Drake and Lauryn Hill. Students added vocals, piano, guitar and percussion to the track as well as managing to work in some Amy Winehouse lyrics. In the afternoon, we participated in a DJ class where students learnt how to beat match, mix and scratch. It was a great day and all students enjoyed the freedom to be creative and experiment.

Art Exhibition

A number of students volunteered to perform at this year's Art Exhibition held at Walthamstow School for Girls. We had acoustic performances from Year 9 and Year 10 students as well as from Voice – our junior choir- who performed a version of Cat Steven's 'The Wind'.

Summer Concert

The Music Department has worked hard for the Summer Concert which took place on July 12th in the Hewett Hall. Themed 'A Night at the Movies', it featured a range of repertoire that has appeared on screen.

PE:

Summer term

Year 7 Netball

The Year 7s started the netball season last half term. We have played a number of games and the girls are playing extremely well, winning all but one of their games. We have beaten: Buxton 4-2; Lammas 7 – 1; George Mitchell 17-0; Holy Family B 5-0; Willowfield 6-2 and Frederick Bremer 9-2. Our only loss was the first game of the season against Holy Family 3-4.

We have now made it through to the semi-finals, when the team will be playing Chingford Foundation. Good luck to:

<i>Yngie</i> (vice-captain)	7H
<i>Joni</i>	7W
<i>Esther</i>	7W
<i>Phoenix</i>	7W
<i>Maria</i> (captain)	7F
<i>Seryiah</i>	7F
<i>Khadijatou</i>	7G
<i>Emily</i>	7S
<i>Malaika</i>	7S

Cricket team

Five Year 7 students took part in the Essex Cricket tournament, joining up with five boys from Norlington. The team had to play seven other schools. Our team won all of their games and were crowned champions. The participating students were:

<i>Aicha</i>	7F
<i>Aisha</i>	7W

<i>Phoenix</i>	7W
<i>Ramisa</i>	7W
<i>Yngie</i>	7H

Athletics

Students have been attending the Feel Good Centre on Tuesdays after school to compete against other schools in the borough. This was practise for the Borough Championships, which took place on Friday 29th June. There were some excellent results from the Year 7 athletes.

<i>Demmy</i>	7C	2nd in Discus
<i>Malaika</i>	7H	3rd in 1500m

Year 8, 9 and 10 Athletics

Year 8, 9 and 10 athletes also went to the Feel Good Centre on Tuesdays for practice and there were more notable achievements. These included:

<i>Molly</i>	8G	2nd in 1500m
<i>Aoife</i>	9F	1st in 1500m
<i>Becci</i>	10W	1st in 1500m
<i>Deeptionigaa</i>	9H	3rd in Javelin
<i>Angel</i>	8C	2nd in 300m
<i>Sasha</i>	8C	2nd in 100m
<i>Jessica</i>	8F	2nd in 800m
<i>Evie</i>	9H	2nd in 800m

Summer Interform

Our Summer Interform sporting competition took place over a week in April. All students from Years 7-10 competed against each other in rounders, cricket and badminton. The students were all extremely supportive of one another, with plenty of loud cheering throughout the four days! There were some fantastic performances and very close games, but in the end the winning forms were:

7W
8F
9S
10G

Well done to all of those involved.

Ms Wood
Head of Physical Education

Some farewell words to our Year 11s

Ms Wood, Mr Murphy and I have been reflecting on our Year 11s. As we discussed our sadness at their departure, we realised what an exceptional year group they have been for the Performing Arts Faculty. Ms Wood described them as 'awesome', and listed their myriad achievements in the sporting arena. Mr Murphy wrote these words about the Year 11 Steel Pans band:

A group of strongly characterised individuals who knew how to work together and have produced astonishing performances since Year 9, and are in reach of being the band with the highest number of awards this school has seen. They have, uniquely, initiated chamber and busking groups, the latter raising £500. Emphatically, I will miss them hugely.

In Drama, this year group had within in it some of the best young performers, and Drama students, I have ever known. The group who formed the first Barbican Box company, and the next year, performed Take Away at the Soho Theatre as part of the National Theatre Connections festival, provided me with the proudest moments of my career. I doubt that I will ever have another group of students so committed to the drama that they eat raw onions live on stage, completely of their own volition: a true coup de theatre! Those who then went on to study Drama at GCSE became even better practitioners.

Of course, we wish them every success and happiness as they leave the mothership and venture forth. As their teachers, we hope that they will carry their love of Drama, Music, Dance and Sport with them wherever they go, and that this passion will be a source of comfort, strength and joy, as it is for us.

Ms Cornford
Head of Performing Arts



Year 8 MFL Festival

A huge thank you all the Year 8 Languages teachers; Ms. Griffin, Ms. Bourboin, Ms. Jean-Baptiste, Ms. Desbenoit and Ms. Yasin for their outstanding hard work in the run up to Festival. All the performances were fabulous.

Thank you also to Mr. Shackson, Ms. Hallas and Ms. Dominique for giving up their time to judge the event. Thanks also to Ms. Clarke for filming it and providing us with microphones and many thanks to Juan for taking photographs.

CONGRATULATIONS to *Las Chicas Cintura* for winning and to *Cliché* and *Les Gimettes* for being runners-up.

Ms. Prieto
Head of Languages



Year 7 GREEN Trip

In the week commencing on Monday 25th June 2018 we arranged the first ever **GREEN** trip for our Year 7 students, which was an afternoon of activities at the Waltham Forest Feel Good Centre. Two tutor groups at a time visited the centre, during Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon of that week.

The students enjoyed a very hot but fun and active afternoon, which involved them working together to learn and develop their **GREEN** skills in the Extreme Play area of the Centre. They jumped in the Trampolining Park, played together in the Soft Play Area and faced the challenges in the Ninja Run. It was fabulous to see the girls play, and to hear them having a lot of fun together. Their tutors also took the opportunity to join in! Everyone behaved impeccably and were a credit to the school.

A huge thank you to all Year 7 tutors who accompanied us and Ms Fearon. Well done Year 7.

Ms Famiglietti (Trip Leader)



Year 8 GREEN Trip

Earlier this month we arranged a day of outdoor adventurous activities for all of our Year 8 students at Herts Young Mariners Base in Cheshunt.

This was a fabulous opportunity for students to enjoy a fun and active enrichment day, which involved them working together to learn and develop their **GREEN** skills in canoeing, climbing and stand up paddle boarding. Without doubt, in the very hot weather, this proved to be the most popular activity as a dip in the water was guaranteed. Trained centre staff delivered all the activities and Year 8 tutors and Ms Careless-Pye, joined in at every opportunity. Every day was extremely hot, but extremely fabulous. All of the students were great ambassadors for the school and embraced the day's challenges with enthusiasm and positivity. Some students successfully overcame their fears and boosted their self-confidence tremendously. Well done to you all!

A huge thank you to Ms Careless-Pye for her continuous support and energy throughout the week and all the Year 8 tutors who accompanied us.

Ms Famiglietti (Trip Leader)



English Faculty News

Year 7-9

The Poetry Games – Voices from London

Many of our students entered a national poetry competition earlier on this year run by the Young Writers group – twenty three of our students were selected and their poems published in the Poetry Games – Voices from London Anthology. Well done to all of those who had work published and all who took part. Writing for pleasure is a great way to stimulate the imagination.

Explore Learning's National Young Writers' Awards 2018

A phenomenal number of WSFG students from across Year 7 to Year 9 entered this national competition! They had to write a story about a hero in no more than 500 words.

Olivia 9C was selected as being in the top 100 of all entries in the country. She won a one to one workshop with a writer and had her story read by David Walliams. A great achievement!

Up for Debate Competition – Year 9

On March 26th 2018, three Year 9 students; *Georgia 9W, Evan 9W and Amina 9S*, took part in the regional competition 'Up for Debate', an initiative promoting learning through oracy at Harrow School.

The students worked hard at lunchtimes and after school preparing their arguments against the first motion; junk food should be taxed, and in favour of the second motion; cultural treasures should be returned to their countries of origin.

They did the school and themselves proud, winning the second motion and the impromptu debate where they only had 15 minutes to prepare their arguments.

On June 26th *Tulin 9S, Amina 9S, Michaela 9S and Alexandra 9W* took part in another debating competition at Forest School. We did not win, but the experience was thoroughly enjoyable and worthwhile. Our students were confident and represented our school with such pride. We look forward to the competition next year!

The English Faculty would like to encourage students to keep writing creatively and look out for the competitions next academic year.

ZANZIBAR PHOTOS

Some snapshots of the life changing Year 10 trip
to Zanzibar 7th- 19th July 2018



Mosaic Workshop

At the beginning of last term, Cllr Grace Williams, Portfolio Lead for Children and Young People at LBWF, visited the school to officially open the mosaic wall on Church Hill. Cllr Williams was joined by Maud Milton, the artist who led on the project and representatives from Groundworks, one of the sponsors. I attended the celebration with our Head of Art, Ms Wills and several of the students from Years 8, 9 and 10 who worked on the mosaics with Maud.

Ms Davies
Headteacher



The first phase of the mosaics went up over the Easter holidays on the outside of the school wall in Church Hill, and will sparkle for generations to come.





Alumnae News Quiz Night May

At the beginning of this term the Alumnae Committee held their second Quiz Night. The night was well attended by a wide range of people from the local community, who had hurried back from casting their votes at the local council elections. Ms Davies, our Headteacher, had spent the day in Cambridge and still stayed on for the event and Richard Murphy came after teaching Steel Pans. We welcomed back Alumnae members, school support staff, Henry Maynard Primary School staff and a host of other friends, including all in Orford Road.

We had a few technical hiccups- no microphone, so we had two “Quiz Mistresses”, myself and Rhiannon Finamore (I had lost my voice by the 3rd round of questions). I was also concerned about my ‘voice projection’, as there was a table of Greek Theatre Players in the room, who would have undertaken the task with ease. I also didn’t realise that when I dimmed the lights for the ‘Celeb Kids’ round that the eco settings on the lights would plunge the hall into darkness for half of the next round! Ms Jolliffe and her family devised the questions and also asked local businesses for prizes. Debbie Bliss,



Froth and Rind, Spar and Nisa, all of Orford Road, kindly donated items for the raffle and Mrs Barham cooked flapjacks to sell on the night. The questions from the Famous Quotes round had a favourite of mine by Salvador Dali, "The only difference between me and a madman is that I'm not mad." I know the feeling!

We managed to raise £427.50, which will go towards funding extra-curricular events at the school. I would like to thank Ms Jolliffe and the Alumnae Committee and everyone who helped towards making this event so successful and such fun, and hope to see them (and others) at our Xmas Quiz on **Thursday 15th November, 2018.**

Ms Kelly,
LRC Manager



School Calendar Dates 2018-2019

Autumn Term 2018

Monday 3rd September to Friday 21st December 2018

Monday 3rd September 2018 Staff Training Day - School closed for students

Tuesday 4th September 2018 Lessons begin for students - Week A

All Students are expected in FULL school uniform and to be in school at the correct time for their new Year Group.

New Year 7 to arrive from 9.10am for 9.30am

Year 8 – Year 11 to arrive at school from 1.10pm for registration at 1.25pm.

The Focus of the Fortnight will be on correct Uniform and Lanyards.

This will be a Week A.

Thursday 11th October 2018 Early school closure at 2.30pm for Open Evening

Half Term: Monday 22nd - Friday 26th October

Thursday 6th December

Presentation Evening

Tuesday 11th December

**Early school closure at 2.30pm for
Community Party**

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January 2019 to Friday 5th April 2019

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

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April 2019 to Friday 19th July 2019

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

*** Please note there will be three INSET days to be confirmed**