



NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

Headteacher: Ms H Marriott MA, NPQH
Church Hill Walthamstow London E17 9RZ
Telephone: 020 8509 9446
Email: info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk
Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers

As part of our literacy strategy in the lower school, year 8 students have been allocated one period per fortnight where they follow either an academic literacy programme of study or an online programme of support and study, called Bedrock Learning. The students have had their reading ages assessed and have been grouped based on their reading levels. Those students whose reading levels are below their chronological age will follow the Bedrock Learning programme of study. Those reading at or above their chronological age will follow the academic literacy programme. An overview of the two programmes is below:

Literacy

Literacy classes are split into three units of work, focusing on reading, writing and oracy. This ensures that students have developed and extended the skills they need as they progress through the school's KS3 curriculum. The units focus on developing critical thinking skills, active listening and debating skills.

Bedrock Learning

Bedrock Learning is an online programme for students up to GCSE level, which teaches students the language and grammar they need to succeed at school. It is designed for all abilities and includes audio narration to support their knowledge of new words. Students can use the programme at home as well as school and parents can sign up to regular updates about their child's progress.

You will find a helpful parent guide via this link:

<https://cdn.sanity.io/files/91r6pltg/production/767972d531bcbc06c6fe27c134581d05401c6e01.pdf>

What if my child studied Latin last year?

We want all students to benefit from a Literacy period, appropriate to their level of reading and communication and have therefore extended this across the year. We are committed to rolling out Latin at KS3 and this will therefore be delivered as an optional period 6 lesson in year 8 and during curriculum time in year 9 so that students are prepared for GCSE Latin, should they wish to take this as an option.

What if my child seems to be in the 'wrong' group?



We organise the groups based on outcomes from reading age tests and feedback from teachers. However, we understand that this does not necessarily provide a full picture of a student's abilities. We will therefore review the groups based on our observations during the first month of teaching. Should you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me via info@wsg.waltham.sch.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr Jalil

Business Manager