



GREENSHEET



No. 15/16

Church Hill, Walthamstow, London, E17 9RZ

Telephone: 020 8509 9446

Email: info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

5th January 2017

Week 'B'

Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

Student Absence Line: 020 8509 9444

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE				
Wednesday 11th January Year 9 Options Evening 6-8pm	Dear Parents and Carers,			
	A very happy 2017 to you all!			
Monday 30th January 2017 INSET Day, School closed to students	On behalf of all our staff and students we wish you a healthy and peaceful new year. Everyone returned to school on Wednesday, bright and refreshed after the Christmas break.			
Thursday 2nd February Year 11 Parent/Carers Evening 4-7pm	Please note a few key dates for us this half term:			
	Wednesday 11th January		Year 9 Options Evening	6-8pm
	Monday 30th January 2017		INSET Day School closed to students	
	Thursday 2nd February		Year 11 Parent/Carers Evening	4-7pm
Half Term: Monday 13th-Friday 17th February 2017				
	Thursday 2nd March		Year 9 Parent/Carers Evening	4-7pm
	Thursday 16th March		Year 8 Parent/Carers Evening	4-7pm
Monday 13th-Friday 17th February 2017	Best wishes, Meryl Davies			

Year 9 Options Evening
Wednesday 11th January 2017 6-7:30pm

All parents and carers are invited to attend the Options Evening with their daughter on Wednesday 11th January. The evening will begin in the Hewett Hall with a talk that will explain the options choosing process and hopefully answer many of the questions that you may have. Following this introductory talk, there will be an opportunity to talk to teachers about the subjects on offer.

The Options Booklet is available on the school website and outlines each subject that we hope to be able to offer for study in 2017-19. This may be revised as the Department for Education updates its list of qualifications that they consider relevant for students to study. We are also waiting for Ofqual to approve many of the new courses due to be offered for study in 2017.

As previously, all students will study for nine GCSEs in total with four choices to be made. In order to facilitate the choice of option subjects, our careers education programme will be delivered through the year by taking students out of their timetabled lessons to run careers sessions.

As a result of recent and continuing government educational reform, it has been necessary to review and adapt the options offered each year. We will continue to review our offer to students in the years to come in the light of new changes being implemented nationally; however our commitment remains to offer as broad a range of subjects as possible in order to meet the needs and interests of all our students.

25th January 2017: deadline to hand in Options Choices form

Mr Shackson

Information for Parents/Carers Medical or Dental Appointments

Dear Parents/Carers

As you know the safety of the students is paramount at Walthamstow School for Girls. We have a concern about students signing out of school to attend medical or dental appointments during school time.

Our attendance policy states that unless unavoidable or in emergency circumstances, medical or dental appointments should be made out of school hours.

If your daughter has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment, the school requires that you send in the letter or appointment card as well as an accompanying letter from yourself requesting that your daughter be allowed to leave school.

The school needs to see evidence of the appointment before we allow the student to leave the premises. We will also be “spot checking” by telephoning parents of students who wish to leave the premises to ensure that the appointment is genuine.

I hope you understand that we require this further information to ensure the safety of your daughter at all times.

Thank you for your co-operation in this and all school matters.

Ms King
Student Attendance
Manager

Information for Parents, Carers of Year 9 Students

GCSE Combined Science and Single Sciences:

for study September 2017

Following a review of GCSE Science provision at WSFG and in light of the statutory changes to routes for students studying Science, there will, in future, be two routes for students to follow at GCSE level.

- All students will study a Combined Science GCSE (previously called Double Award) as a minimum requirement. Students are awarded 2 GCSEs and study 8 Units in Biology, 7 units in Physics and 10 units in Chemistry.
- Some students will be invited to study separate Science GCSEs (previously called Triple Science). Students will be awarded 3 GCSEs and study the same units as combined science however they will include further content within each unit.

The school has moved to this model following consultation with the Science Faculty, Subject and School Leaders and Governors. We have explored the models followed by other schools and this is in line with other schools nationally. We have also sought the views of current Year 11 students and Sixth Form Colleges.

Separate Sciences GCSEs: Criteria

Those students invited to study separate sciences will be expected to be working at Level 7 in order to be able to manage the demands and rigour of the course.

- Students will be invited to sit a **separate science assessment test on 26th January (3:30pm)** and will need to achieve a Level 7 or above in this test. Students who have not achieved a Level 7 in their class assessments but who do achieve a level 7 in the assessment test will be considered to study the separate sciences course.

A letter explaining the content of the test will be given next week to all students who have achieved a Level 6 or above in their December Assessment so that they have an opportunity to sit the assessment test in January. For any student wishing to sit the separate science assessment test, the reply slip for this letter should be returned to Student Services by **Monday 9th January 2017**.

Course delivery

Both Combined Science and Separate Sciences will be delivered over 9 lessons a fortnight.

As Separate Sciences will be delivered in the same lesson time as Combined Science, the pace of teaching and learning will be very fast. Students who accept an invitation to study Separate Sciences will need to commit to this fast pace, to additional home-learning, high attendance and **an additional compulsory period 6 lesson on a Thursday (3:30-4:30pm)**.

Our decision to design two science paths is informed by a range of factors:

- Sixth Form Colleges do not require students to have studied the separate sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) to study those subjects at A-level.
- The Combined Award in Science provides a very good preparation for A-levels in Science.
- No Russell Group University requires a student to have studied separate sciences at GCSE level in order to study a Science-based degree.
- In order to pursue a career in medicine, dentistry or pharmacy, students will need to achieve outstanding results in either Combined Science or Separate Sciences to gain places at University for these competitive courses. Students would then need to choose 1 or 2 Sciences (Chemistry and Biology) at A-level to progress on to one of these courses at University.
- Students who are not working at Level 7 in Year 9 will find it very challenging to achieve the highest grades in Separate Sciences. It would be a much stronger position for a student to achieve two **6 or 7** grades in the Combined Award than **three 5** grades in a Separate Award.
- In order to progress to A level Science courses, the requirement is **two 6** grades at GCSE.
- A significant number of students in the past, who have taken the triple science course, have requested to move from it because they have found the content very demanding and this has resulted in high levels of anxiety and upset.
- A significant number of Year 11 students have fed back that they believe that there should be a criteria for students to study Separate Sciences because of the heavy demands of the course.
- Science teachers in WSFG feel strongly that many of our students will achieve higher grades studying the combined award than if they pursue separate sciences.

Ms Kennedy
Deputy Headteacher, KS4

**YEAR 11 2017 Summer
Written Examination timetable**

The Year 11 Summer written examinations begin on **Monday 15th May and finish on Monday 26th June 2017** a copy of the timetable can be found on the school's website under the Exams section.

Please be aware that all examinations are set externally by the examination boards and the school cannot make any changes and is not accountable for any changes made by the examination boards. It is also important to remember that these examinations **cannot be taken at another time** so attendance is vital to ensure grades are achieved.

Many thanks,

Mrs Brickett

Examinations and Assessment Manager

**Focus of the Fortnight
9th – 20th January 2017.
Lunchtime Behaviour**

Dear Parents / Carers,

The Focus of the Fortnight is about the lunchtime behaviour of the students. All students are allowed in their form rooms at lunchtime but to ensure that good behaviour is maintained there is a clear Lunchtime Code they have to follow. This is displayed on the wall of each form room and students are now familiar with its contents. All students are expected to follow the Code and form rooms are required to be clean, tidy and ready for learning and teaching at the end of break and lunchtime. Each form group has two “Room Reps” who have extra responsibility in ensuring that form rooms are used well and are ready for lessons.

Thank you for your support in this and all other school matters.

Ms. Pratt
Assistant Headteacher.



The Sanctions

If a student breaks the Lunchtime Code, she will be excluded from her Form Room for two lunchtimes. She will spend one of those lunchtimes in the Duty Room as arranged by her Student Progress Leader. The conduct card will be signed.

Remember

- The school has a clear Lunchtime Code for use of form rooms which is on the wall of every form room in the school. Doors must be open, lights on and students seated on chairs etc.
- Please respect the fact that you have the privilege of going into your form room and ensure that it is used following the code at all times.
- If the code is not followed individuals or the tutor group risk being locked out of the room by the SPL.

WSFG Diversity Calendar for the month of January



January
2017



HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 1							1
Week 2	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Week 3	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Week 4	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Week 5	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Week 6	30	31					

January is National Ovarian Awareness Month | Cervical Health Awareness Month
National Menstrual Month | National Blood Cancer Month | Celebration of Life Month

Special Days

- 1st Mary, Mother of God - Catholic
Christian
Feast of Saint Basil - Orthodox
Christian
- 1st/2nd Carols (New Years) - Hindu
- New Year's Day/Hogmanay - Secular
Bank Holiday - England, Wales,
Scotland, Northern Ireland and NI
Temple Day - Buddhist
- 4th Bank Holiday - Scotland
World Inequality Day
- 5th Twelfth Night - Christian
Birthday of Guru Gobind Singh - Sikh
- 4th Epiphany - Christian
Feast of the Theophany - Orthodox
Christian
- 5th Dia de los Reyes - Christian
- 7th Christmas Day - Orthodox Christian
Christmas Day - Ethiopian (Nesabot)
- 8th Baptism of the Lord Jesus - Christian
- 11th Seijin no Hi (Coming of Age Day)
- Shinto
Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- 13th Saint Hilary's Day - Christian
Maghi - Sikh
- 14th New Year's Day - Orthodox Christian
- 15th Makar Sankranti - Hindu
- 17th World Religion Day - Baha'i
- 16th 10-25 Weeks of Prayer for Christian Unity
- Christian
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 20th Tinkai - Ethiopian Orthodox Christian
- 21st Saint Agnes Day - Christian
- 24th 24-27 Malaysian New Year - Buddhist
Tu B'Shvat begins at sundown - Jewish
- 25th Robert Burns Night (Burns Night)
Saint Paul's Day - Christian
- 26th Australia Day
- 27th Holocaust Memorial Day
- 28th Saint Thomas Aquinas Day - Christian
Dada Festival Day
- 31st Birthday of Guru Nanak - Sikh

Year 7 Trip to the Royal Veterinary College

On 14th December, a group of twenty four students from Year 7, Ms Gocool, Ms Kelly and Ms Robinson, had the opportunity to spend the day at the RVC. The college began 250 years ago and back then, all of their trainee vets were men. By 1995, approximately half of their students were female and now, 85 - 90% are female! It was a particularly interesting day as the girls learnt about different courses and careers relating to animals and how to prepare to apply, which GCSEs and A levels to study, and the importance of getting some work experience. They were also invited to participate in a research project of a final year student. Here is some feedback from the girls:

I had a great opportunity to represent the school by going to the Royal Veterinary College. It was a wonderful day and I met two beautiful calves called Coco and Maisie. We had the opportunity to test their heart rate using a stethoscope and to listen to their tummy. Urrgh! It sounded like a washing machine. Fortunately we did all this before they went to the toilet everywhere!

I really enjoyed the day and it has inspired me to meet more animals and maybe to work with animals one day.

Jemima Maidment 7W

The most interesting part of the day for me was taking part in a research project. First we completed a questionnaire. That was the easy part! The hard part was providing a saliva sample as we had to suck a 'stick' of cotton for 60 seconds. It was horrible but we knew it would help Emily with her research. She was measuring our cortisol levels, before and after meeting the animals. The whole point of Emily's research is to find out whether it is better to learn about animals by meeting them or if it is just as good to read about them in a classroom. I was also one of the lucky two students to wear a GO-PRO. This was for filming our learning experience. After learning about the body and bones of a cow we had to give another saliva sample to compare with the one before. It was a great day, lots of fun, and we are participating in further research on 5th January when Emily visits us at school.



Ornela Laci 7C

I had a very jolly trip to the RVC. It has made me fall in love with animals even more than I did before. I really loved the day because I was able to get very close to big animals that I would never usually think of stroking. Furthermore, the trainee vets helped me to remember the names of human bones and to learn what each one does. The day helped me to think about what I would like to do in the future. A vet is in my top 5!

Amber Terry O'Neill 7W



It was a crazy day. We entered a room full of bones! We learnt about the difference between human and cow bones. We also learnt that they have four stomachs and eat lots. By meeting cows I found out that they are very cool and friendly and like being stroked. It was lovely to meet Maisie and Coco. The whole day was a great experience.

Lulu Ahmad 7C

The trip was so much fun! In the first activity we learnt lots about a cow. The room was full of skeletons and the insides of some animals! I saw the head of a fox, the insides of a rat and a buffalo skeleton. It was really fascinating. I would love the opportunity to visit again.

Monika Martinonyte 7C

It was a great day and I learnt so many new things. One new fact is that cows have fur balls like cats. They spit them out and we held one.

Ebony Njau 7H

In the Anatomy Room we learnt how the RVC has helped to create animals for films like Harry Potter. The skeletons were studied and used to help create the monsters in the film.

Jasmin Kypri 7G



Overall, it was a very inspiring, interesting and educational day. There will be information for Year 10 about an Easter Workshop at the RVC, coming soon.

Ms Robinson

Our School History

As you can see from this cartoon, some things never change. If we swapped the wireless for a computer, the cartoon would essentially be the same today. This cartoon was taken from the December 1937 edition of *Iris*, our school magazine.

Ms O Kelly
LRC Manager

WALTHAMSTOW HIGH SCHOOL MAGAZINE

HOW DO YOU DO YOUR
HOMEWORK?



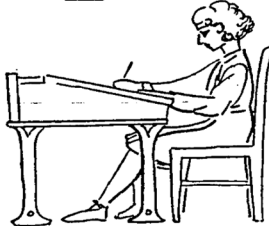
very studiously?



with the aid of the wireless?



with a little parental help?



before school?



on the way to school?

OR,



NOT AT ALL?

KATHLEEN ROBERTS V.B.

Alumnae News

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Miss Lois Loynes music teacher at the school in the 1960/early 70s, who died peacefully on Boxing Day at the age of ninety.

There will be a Thanksgiving Service at 2pm on 11th January at Salway Church, Top of Forest Approach, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9BW.

Miss Loynes had no family but plenty of friends.



Some comments from ex-students:

I have fond memories of Miss Loynes as she was my first form mistress (1S) in 1966 and I also played the cello in the orchestra. I remember during one rehearsal we must have either been playing very badly and/or mucking about! Anyway, she got very cross and started reading us the riot act. Unfortunately, she leaned rather too heavily on her lectern which promptly collapsed under her! We did try to suppress our giggles, without much success, and thankfully, she saw the funny side too and joined in!

Elaine Light n e Webster student 1966-1971

Quotes from our Facebook page:

Remember her so well. R.I.P. Can't believe she was in late thirties when I joined the school, she seemed old to me.

I remember her as well. May she rest in peace. I didn't do music but she always played in Assembly. How strange is our perception of age when we are young

I remember her too and am grateful for the musical foundations she laid in us.

Miss Loynes was our form mistress for the first two years at the school. Met her again for a reunion twenty years ago and she hadn't changed. Rip x

I don't remember her. She may have left by 1974/6 when I was there. But I think it is so commendable that the school remembers the teachers in this way. Many don't. What an institution!

School Calendar for 2016-17

Spring Term 2017

Start: Wednesday 4th January 2017 End: Friday 31st March

Wednesday 11th January 2017

Year 9 Options Evening 6-7:30pm

Monday 30th January 2017

INSET Day School closed to students

Thursday 2nd February

Year 11 Parent/Carers Evening

4-7pm

Half Term: Monday 13th-Friday 17th February 2017

Thursday 2nd March

Year 9 Parent/Carers Evening 4-7pm

Thursday 16th March

Year 8 Parent/Carers Evening 4-7pm

Easter Holiday

Easter Holiday: Monday 3rd April 2017-Monday 17th April

Good Friday Bank Holiday:

Friday 14th April

Easter Monday Bank Holiday:

Monday 17th April

Summer Term 2017

Start: Tuesday 18th April

End: Wednesday 19th July

Holidays

May Day Bank Holiday: Monday 1st May

Thursday 11th May

Year 7 Parent/Carers Evening 4-7pm

Half Term: Monday 29th May-Friday 2nd June