

No. 15/18

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21 December 2018

Week 'A'

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

As the autumn term and 2018 draw to a close, on behalf of all our staff and governors, I wish all our students and their families a wonderful break from school and to those who celebrate the festival, a happy and peaceful Christmas.

The school Christmas e-card is now on the website and accompanied by the WSFG steel pans group. Congratulations to Siwan (9H) who won our competition to design this year's card and to runners up Jenny (7H), Charlie (8G), Ahlam (9W) and Ava (9H). The standard of entries this year was very high; a selection of the cards have been on display outside the Hewett Hall for a couple of weeks and have been greatly admired by our many visitors to the school.



Siwan (9H)



Charlie (8G),



Ahlam (9W)



Ava (9H)

Jenny (7H)



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

Wednesday 9th January
Year 9 options evening

Thursday 31st January
Year 11 Parent/Carer subject evening
4.30- 6pm

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

Thursday 7th March
Year 9 Parent/Carer subject evening
4.30- 6pm

Thursday 21st March
Year 8 Parent/Carer subject evening
4.30- 6pm

The annual Christmas carol concert took place at St Mary's Church on Tuesday evening. This is one of the highlights of the school year, with talented singers and musicians performing in the church setting and was a spectacular event again this year. My thanks to Ms Bradshaw, Mr Hitchman and all the staff in the Performing Arts faculty for all their hard work in organising the event, to the students that performed and everyone that supported them - the staff, students past and present, parents, Governors and members of the public who attended.

On Tuesday afternoon all our Year 7 students were treated to a performance of Dicken's "A Christmas Carol" from the Quantum Theatre Company, which they thoroughly enjoyed.



On Wednesday Olive Dining offered students and staff a Christmas lunch in the Dining Hall, together with a complimentary Christmas cracker. My thanks to our chef, Christopher Skipper, and his hard-working team for the effort they



put into preparing and serving this meal for us all and for everything they do each day of the school year. He and his team prepared 1100 meals and our service continued for over two hours.

On Thursday we had a mock exam results event when our Year 11 students received envelopes containing their mock results in much the same way they will receive their GCSE results in the summer. This was either a joyful or a concerning occasion, depending on what news the envelope brought.

We have been raising funds all week to send to the food bank, Eat or Heat, in addition to the donations of food that we have collected. My thanks to everyone who has made a donation to this very worthy cause which benefits the more needy members of the local community. Over £165 has been raised so far.

School resumes on **Monday 7th January, 2019 with a prompt start at the usual time of 8.45am.** This will be a week B.

Finally, a reminder that there is an important meeting for parents/carers with students in **Year 9** on the evening of **Wednesday 9th January at 6pm** to discuss their **GCSE options**, which is an important one for them to attend with their daughters.

With my best wishes to all for a happy and peaceful holiday.

Meryl Davies
Headteacher

Free Breakfast Bagels

As you know, breakfast is the most important meal of the day. It helps students to have the right mind-set, focus and energy for their learning.

We are really pleased to be able to offer **all students** in all year groups a **free breakfast bagel** with a spread of their choice any morning of the day.



This is part of a new initiative called The National Breakfast Programme and is delivered by Family Action and Magic Breakfast.

Of course, the usual breakfast service will be running and so students will be able to purchase more items if they wish.

Breakfasts will be served as usual from 8am until 8.40 in the dining hall and will be available from **Monday 14th January 2019**.

We really hope to see lots of students there.

Ms Philippou
Assistant Headteacher

WSFG Art Teacher Exhibition

Our Art teacher Nicola Hepworth is having an exhibition of paintings she has been working on over the last couple of years based on the school environment and featuring some of the students.



The exhibition will take place on the **3rd-31st of January 2019 at the Omnibus Theatre, Clapham North Side.**

Some of the paintings and prints will shortly be available to see on the School's website.

Ms Hepworth



Faculty News

Science Tips from the Chief Examiner

As Head of the Science Faculty, I recently went to a Science Conference in Central London.



I was fortunate enough to attend a presentation

by a Chief Examiner for Science who is responsible for writing the final exam questions. Some of the more interesting points for thought were based around how students tackle exam questions. His key tips focussed on:

- how students often overlook the words in bold such as tick **two** boxes, and how students need to really focus on these.
- often students do not read what the actual question is asking and start to lose marks by giving irrelevant details as opposed to focussing on what the question is after.
- It was also suggested that students should always use rulers when extrapolating information from a graph, for example, for half-lives, as students often draw these free-hand leading to inaccuracies and ultimately loss of marks.
- Whilst also discussing graphs he went on to say when completing graph questions requiring students to draw graphs they only really have one chance to get it right and should always draw it in pencil, as once students start crossing parts of the graph out examiners find it increasingly difficult to mark it and award marks.

There is actually a lot of reading to be done in Science exams, and students are encouraged to read quickly. Often questions worth two marks, where only two minutes should be spent on them, can have a further two minutes of reading involved leading to a rush to complete other questions.

The Chief Examiner went on to discuss the maths aspect linked to the Science papers. He highlighted:

- that all students should understand what the mean, median and range are and apply this to questions.
- There are a large number of questions linked to calculating percentages so it should be made sure that students are able to calculate these.
- Equally, care must be taken with some calculations as some of the numbers given in the calculations are not needed and there is the false assumption that all numbers should be used.

- There was also a big emphasis on students knowing all of their units as these often pick up marks in calculation questions.

There was a lot of discussion about required practicals and it was suggested that students look over these on YouTube so they are familiar with them.

The questions may involve:

- writing a step-by-step practical or commenting on results.
- It was noted for risk assessment questions, students often answer about wearing goggles and tying hair back where a much more tailored response is needed, for example care with using a Bunsen burner as you could burn yourself, or care with acids as they are corrosive and could harm your skin.

One of the key messages coming across was that 17% of all questions used the word **'explain'** which many students overlooked and they often responded by stating things. For example, there is a significant difference between stating the colour of the sky as opposed to explaining the colour of the sky. When the word 'explain' is used in a question students should be using the word **'because'** in their answer. Equally, when answering more extended questions students need to get straight to answering the questions as opposed to reiterating part of the question in the answer which gains no marks!

The final tip offered by the Chief Examiner was that students should practise exam questions from all exam boards not just AQA (our exam board). As examiners often "borrow" questions from other exam boards and just change some of the numbers and slightly re-word them.

I hope our students will find these tips useful. They were invaluable to me as Head of Science and I have shared all of this with all science teachers at Walthamstow School for Girls who suggested that they be shared with you, and especially for our Year 11 students who will soon sit their Science GCSE exams.

Best of luck (and hard work) to all our students!

Mr Kerr
Head of Science



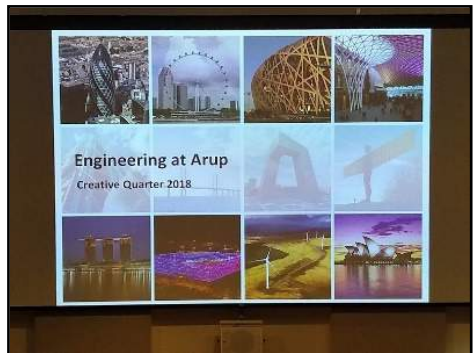
Science, Technology Engineering and Maths (STEM) Update.

It has been a busy few weeks with lots of students participating in a variety of STEM activities.

Creative Quarter

A group of Year 9 students had a very informative and enjoyable day at the Creative Quarter event at the V&A Museum. They attended lectures and had the opportunity to ask questions from professionals working in creative industries. They learnt about careers in Video Games Design, Architecture and Engineering. This is what *Saahirah* in 9F had to say about the day:

I found the trip to the V&A to be very informative. I always believed that to pursue a specific career you had to do very specific subjects at GCSE and get excellent grades. I learnt that the journey to your dream career is not always easy and there are lots of different routes into a job. I did learn that you do need passion and dedication to excel. This trip really inspired me and I will definitely think about pursuing a STEM career.



Year 8 Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET) Challenge Day

WSFG welcomed year 8 students from Norlington 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.



The winning team won Amazon Vouchers and have been invited to a summer tea party at the Institute of Engineering and Technology headquarters on the Strand in London. They will celebrate their success with all this year's winning teams from all over the UK.

This is what they had to say about the experience:

We were split into teams and had to create a product to be used in the James Webb Telescope project that will be launched into space. I learnt about engineers and what they actually do and how they help us in our everyday lives.

Martha 8C



This workshop was amazing! I learnt so much about engineering. The experience has really inspired me to possibly look into a career in Engineering. If I could I would participate in this workshop every year!

Alishia 8S



Really enjoyed the STEM workshop because it made me realise how much I could do on my own, I never thought I could be an engineer. I was proud with my contribution to help produce our prototype.

Alina 8W

Today has been really fun, I loved working with other students from my year group. I learnt a lot more about electronics and engineering and I really enjoyed it.

Katy 8S

Before today I didn't really think about becoming an engineer. Today I learnt about what it actually takes to become an engineer- you need to think creatively and persevere. Although there were difficult points in the day I had fun and would possibly consider engineering in the future.

Yngie 8H

Year 9 Smallpeice Trust STEM Day.

We were delighted to welcome the Smallpeice Trust into school again this year to deliver their fun filled, action packed challenge day. Sixty Year 9 students challenged themselves by working on designing smart buildings. They worked in teams to develop their problem solving, electronics, marketing and presentation skills. All students who participated competed a Crest passport throughout the day to obtain a Discovery Crest Award.

This is what the students had to say about the day:

This STEM day has developed our GREEN skills, it made us work together as a team. We used Growth, Resilience, Energy and Newness throughout the day.

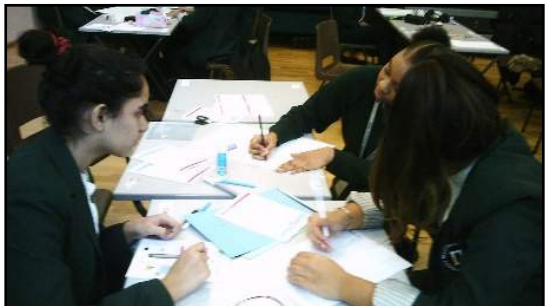
Alina, Sasha, Amaal and Laxy.

This STEM day has opened my mind more and made me think in different ways. It was also lots of fun and I have learnt lots.

Amanta 9S

This has taught me a lot about engineering careers and how there are many opportunities in engineering.

Alishba 9G



Ms Healy
STEM Coordinator

Debating in the City

Last week, seven Year 10 students were given the opportunity to spend the day at a prestigious international law firm in the City called Pinsent Masons. We took part in a debate arguing against the motion that tighter regulations of drones should be enforced. Two lawyers from Pinsent Masons and one person from Tesco (Pinsent Mason's client) came into our school ahead of the event and led a debating workshop, giving us tips on how best to prepare for the debate.



As a debating team we were assigned roles: two of us opened the debate (*Leila and Izzy*), two questioned the opposition team (*V and I*), and one person closed our argument (*Shanai*). We also had two members of our team who researched the motion (*Imaan and Tulin*). Our debate was against another London school called Valentines High School. It was a really tough debate but we won our round!

The event was chaired by the Right Honorable Lord Justice Floyd and the judges included Pinsent Masons' Senior Partner Richard Foley.



We were the first to debate so once we'd finished, we watched the debates of other students representing their schools in London and learned various techniques and approaches to their debating motions, such as: 'Single use plastic should be banned' and 'Humans should fear artificial intelligence'.

Ms Jean-Baptiste and Mr Streader accompanied and supported us. As part of the visit we were also given a tour of the building itself. Together we found this experience to be a real eye-opener, exposing us to the work life of lawyers which was interesting. As a result of this trip many of us are considering taking up a career in law. It was an amazing and enriching experience and if given the chance to partake in a debate again we would accept whole-heartedly.

Christmas Jumper Day

Here are a few pictures of Key Stage 3 students in their Christmas jumpers.

Thank you for your support with the event, we raised £278.23 for Save the Children.



A special well done to 7S who raised an impressive £34.61!



Thank you

Ms Warren
SPL Year 8

Key Stage 3 TV Opportunity

A London based TV Production Company called Lion TV, creators of popular shows like *Horrible Histories*, *Homes under the Hammer* and *Inside the Tower of London*, is looking to cast talented young chefs and aspiring restaurant bosses.

See the website for further details ;

restaurantdreamteam@liontv.co.uk

Closing date for applications is Friday 8th February 2019.



Lion TV is now casting talented young chefs and aspiring restaurant bosses in school years 5-9 to compete in a BRAND NEW CBBC series:

THE RESTAURANT DREAM TEAM (w/T)

Fred Sirieix and Allegra McEvedy are on the hunt to find a **DREAM TEAM** of six kids who will be able to run their very own restaurant.

We are looking for a group of six friends. Three of the group members will be working on the restaurant floor, coming up with a restaurant theme, welcoming and serving guests, as well as dealing with customer complaints. The other three members will be creating their own menu and cooking to a high standard, under pressure, whilst remaining calm.

Does your child/teen have the charisma and confidence to charm a whole host of hungry diners and run a team? Are they bursting with foodie ideas? Or do you think they can cook better than most adults?

If you think your child and their friends have the skills to become the next service industry prodigies we want to hear from you! Please email us for an application form:

restaurantdreamteam@liontv.co.uk

APPLY ASAP

Application Deadline: Friday 8th Feb 2019

Alumna wins Kenyon Medal

Alumnae Joyce Reynolds celebrated her 100th birthday earlier this week; the following article appeared in the Alumnae News, Spring 2018:

A Newnham academic and former WSFG pupil is still breaking ground at 98 as she is awarded the Kenyon Medal for her research – the first time a woman has received the honour, September 28th, 2017.



*Classicist **Joyce Reynolds** has been awarded the Kenyon Medal 2017 for her lifetime's contribution to the research and study of Roman epigraphy. She is the first woman to receive this award.*

Joyce was born in Highams Park on 18th December 1918 and was a pupil at our school, before winning a scholarship to St Paul's Girls School. She studied Classics at Somerville College, Oxford and graduated with a first class degree in 1944. She directed studies at Newnham from 1951-1979, was Lecturer in Classics from 1957-1983 and Reader in the Epigraphy of the Roman World at Cambridge from 1983-1984. Now age 98, she is working on what people scribbled on the walls at Pompeii.

She can be seen here, alongside one of her former pupils, Professor Mary Beard, and Professor Pat Easterling. Mary commented on both of them: "Joyce and Pat are two of the greatest classicists and classical teachers in the world.

I was unbelievably privileged to be taught by them. They taught me what it is to learn, there's nothing more important than that."

As part of our celebrations for International Women's Day, it is wonderful to think that some of our former pupils have made such an impact on the lives of others.

An inspiration to us all!

*Ms Kelly,
LRC Manager*

Follow these links for more details

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/a-life-in-the-day-joyce-reynolds-mary-beards-former-tutor-on-her-war-work-adventurous-digs-and-turning-100-this-week-2zf9vnztc>

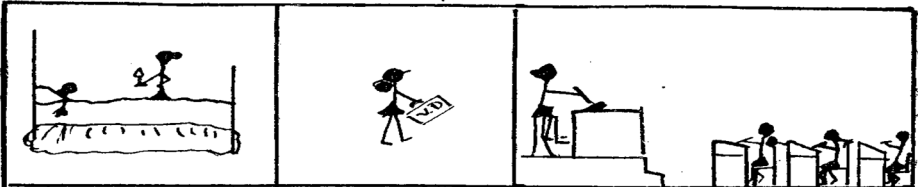
<https://www.newn.cam.ac.uk/newnham-news/a-century-of-excellence-classicist-joyce-reynolds-receives-an-honorary-doctorate-6-months-before-her-100th-birthday/>

Our School History

Here is a cartoon from the December 1929 edition of the *Iris* magazine. School life is much the same but life is somewhat easier when ink spots do not have to be sanded off the wooden tables!

Ms Kelly
LRC Manager

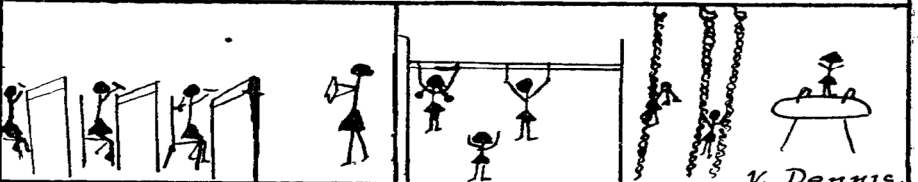
EPISODES IN SCHOOL LIFE.



Time to get up Obooh! I walk to school Latin - 'Oh, why did the Romans?



Break is the very best part of the morning and then



Comes Art

Now we have drill! Gorgeous!

V. DENNIS

END OF TERM



Confusion reigns!

Inkspots must be cleaned Books collected

H. GARDON

Year 11 information



Merchandising for Fashion



Level 4 Merchandising

Level 4 Merchandising is a one-year course which will equip students with all the commercial and analytical skills and knowledge they'll need to succeed in a career in merchandising. The course is taught by industry specialists and combines theoretical learning with hands-on placements, workshops and masterclasses.

A Fashion Merchandising Career...

Merchandisers are key to every life cycle of a garment, and this field is a varied, pivotal and exciting one to be in. They'll be sitting right at the heart of the action, at the intersection of business and creativity, deciding how to sell products to customers.

There is currently a huge industry demand for merchandisers, with salaries of up to 65k.

Next Open Day: Saturday 12th January 2019

The day starts with an interactive workshop on a chosen subject and is followed with a presentation which includes an overview of all courses and the benefits of our exclusive relationship with the fashion industry.

Students will also have a chance apply on the day. They will need to provide details of current/predicted grades.

We also offer workshops on careers in fashion, this can be personalised to your needs.

Our most popular format is a 45 minute workshop for up to 40 students.

This includes a presentation on wider career options in the fashion industry, a fun interactive game for the students to match the skills needed for fashion roles, and a personality quiz to find the right role for them!

For more information please reply to this email or email events@fra.ac.uk.

Please Note: these workshops must NOT be taken during the school day

Fashion Retail Academy, 15 Grasse Street, London, W1T 1QL, United Kingdom
Email events@fra.ac.uk or call 0300 247 4000

Welcome to the Forest

Friday 11-Sunday 13 January
2019

Waltham Forest Town Hall,
Lloyd Park, Forest Road

Free to attend, just turn up



The countdown is on ...

There is now just **21 days** to go until the opening event, ***Welcome to the Forest***, celebrating the launch of our most magnificent year as the first Mayor's London Borough of Culture.

Get ready for the biggest party Waltham Forest has ever seen!

Welcome to the Forest will be a three night FREE extravaganza of music, light, dance, street theatre and awe-inspiring art that will transform Lloyd Park, Forest Road and Waltham Forest Town Hall.

From concerts performed in the canopies of Epping Forest to a mass cycling procession to mark May Day, London Borough of Culture 2019 will be an unforgettable year.

Watch the trailer for Waltham Forest's year of culture here.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?fea-)

[fea-](https://www.youtube.com/watch?fea-)

[ture=youtu.be&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=&v=a4jvOkwBcj4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?fea-ture=youtu.be&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=&v=a4jvOkwBcj4)

Local road closures

Please be advised that during this event there will be the following road closures around the Bell Corner, Forest Road, Hoe Street junction, 5.30-10pm , 11-13 January 2019.



WALTHAM FOREST
LONDON BOROUGH
OF CULTURE 2019

#wfculture19 wfculture19.co.uk @wfculture19

School Calendar Dates 2018-2019

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January 2019 to Friday 5th April 2019

Wednesday 9th January Year 9 Options evening Norris Hall 6-8pm

Thursday 31st January Year 11 Parent/Carer subject evening
4.30- 6pm

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

Thursday 7th March Year 9 Parent/Carer subject evening
4.30- 6pm

Thursday 21st March Year 8 Parent/Carer subject evening
4.30- 6pm

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- 6pm

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 mocks