

15 January 2021 Week 'B' urch Hill, Walthamstow, London, E17 9R Telephone: 020 8509 9446 Email: <u>info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk</u> Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk Student Absence Line: 020 8509 9444



SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020-2021 SCHOOL IS CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER	<b>CONTENTS</b> Headteacher's Message On-line Resources Speakers for Schools Drama Online Workshop Challenge Opportunities		<b>CONTENTS</b> Maths Puzzle Year 11 College Information GCSEPod Information Parent Carer Information	PAGE 13 1415 16-17 19
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# Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents Carers and Students,

#### 'Courage calls to courage everywhere...'



As many of you will know, these are the famous words of the suffragist and feminist Millicent Fawcett, in response to the death of Emily Davison. This rallying cry speaks to us down the centuries, not only because of our own school's proud history, but also because many of us are compelled to be courageous in response to the pandemic. It says a great deal about the staff and students at WSFG that they are adapting valiantly to the circumstances and are showing what can be achieved, despite the many challenges we face currently.

A number of you have written to me directly, or to your child's SPL, to compliment our staff on the transition from face-to-face teaching to online

learning. You have commented on the high quality learning and support provided by teachers, SPLs and support staff.

So it is now my turn to thank you: for supporting me as a new Headteacher, through your kind words and emails, for ensuring that your children are committed to their learning and to our students for being resourceful in the face of adversity. Many staff have commented on how well students have taken to a completely new way of working and have shown great character in their willingness to adapt.

It will be important that we continue to support each other across our community and that the girls continue to develop their resilience. Although we are preparing for an uncertain future, particularly our Year 11s who do not yet know how their GCSE grades will be determined, we can be confident that the independence and resourcefulness which students are displaying will be beneficial for both their learning in school and their lifelong learning journey.

As ever, we are constantly reviewing our systems to ensure they provide students with the best possible offer of high quality learning and will notify you of any adaptations in response to feedback.

#### **Headteacher Challenge for Students**

I introduced myself to our school community in last week's Greensheet and this week I have spoken to students through a remote assembly via Loom. Clearly, it is difficult to get to know students under the current circumstances and so I would like them to introduce themselves to me as part of a competition. The winners will be rewarded with Love2shop vouchers. Entrants should try to ensure that they meet the following criteria:

- Introduce yourself to me, telling me something interesting and important about you
- Present yourself in the most original and imaginative way you can you could use writing, spoken word, photography or different forms of art or media

SPLs will be informing students of the competition next week. The deadline for submissions will be Wednesday, 27th January at 3p.m. Please send to the info@ email, using the subject 'Headteacher Challenge'.

# INSET Day: 29<sup>th</sup> January

We had previously notified you that we would have a staff INSET day on 25<sup>th</sup> January to allow staff to mark mock examinations. With the cancellation of these exams, we will now be holding the INSET on the afternoon of 29<sup>th</sup> January, which means that lessons will end at 12.30 p.m. on this day.

#### **WSFG Financial Audit**

We were informed this week that the outcome of our recent financial audit was 'Substantial Assurance', the highest possible 'grade' which can be awarded, and the equivalent of an Ofsted 'Outstanding' in financial terms. This means we can be confident about all aspects of the school's financial management. Many thanks to Romi Jalil, our School Business Manager, and his team for their efforts and expertise.

### Free School Meals

You will have seen some negative press recently surrounding Free School Meal (FSM) parcels which some school caterers are providing to families. We have taken the decision to issue FSM vouchers to all families who are entitled. We believe this is the easiest and safest means of ensuring the entitlement is accessed and believe it gives families greater choice and freedom in what they wish to provide their daughters. FSM vouchers of £15 will continue to be sent on a weekly basis during the lockdown period to the primary parental contact for each child. These vouchers will be issued via the local authority's provider Edenred for the time being and you should have already received vouchers for last week and this week. Please do check you are receiving these emails and contact the school on info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk if not. Please ensure that you state your daughter's name and tutor group within the email. The Government are hoping to reintroduce a national voucher scheme from next week which we hope will operate in a similar way. We will issue more details once the Government publishes its plans.

#### Attendance (Message from Ms Pratt, Assistant Headteacher)

We are now almost two weeks into our new remote way of working with your children. The school appreciates that this is a new way of working and that we are all learning to manage the issues that this may present.

We would like to thank you for your support and messages regarding remote learning. We wanted to establish clear boundaries and expectations at the start of

term, in terms of student attendance at the lessons and we are very pleased that the vast majority of students are coping very well and that attendance is at a high level across the school.

We will continue to send daily emails home to families if your children are missing 3 or more sessions in a day and this will include registration with Tutors.

If you do receive an email and there is a reason for your child's absence from lesson, please send a return email so that we are aware of any issues and can provide any help or take action, where required.

Thank you for supporting your child's remote learning and if there is any way the school can further support you, please send an email to the school for the attention of your child's Progress Leader.

With all good wishes

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Ms H Marriott Headteacher



#### **Contact Information**

Dear Parents and Carers,



Please ensure that we hold your most up-to-date contact information in case of an emergency. Details can be updated via the SIMS Parent App. Please contact the front office if you require any help accessing the app.

If you need to contact a staff member, please contact our main switchboard number on **0208 509 9446**, which is open between **8am** and **4.15pm**. Emails can also be sent to info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk and the message will be passed onto the relevant staff member.

Please do not enter the school site unless you have been asked to, as we are currently limiting external visitors on the site.

Thank you.

The Front Office Walthamstow School for Girls

#### **Online Resources Reminder**

There are a number of resources online that are available to students. Oak National Academy offers comprehensive lessons for a range of subjects for Years 7-11.

If you have any younger children, there are also resources available for primary aged children. BBC Bitesize can also be accessed via the red button on the TV (and by the link below), which may also ease some pressure on all those families working from home. Joe Wickes has started his morning exercises again so you can join in everyday at 9am.

Oak National Academy<a href="https://www.thenational.academy/">https://www.thenational.academy/</a>BBC bitesize<a href="https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize">https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize</a>

Here is next week's full Live Broadcasts Schedule.

# HOW TO JOIN THE LIVE BROADCASTS

 Join 10 minutes before the broadcast to be ready You can join without needing an account – <u>Watch how here</u> For full speaker descriptions visit the <u>Broadcast Schedule here</u>

# LIVE BROADCASTS LIBRARY & MORE

Watch pre-recorded broadcasts from our library here

DATE	SPEAKER	INFO
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> January 5-6pm <u>LINK TO</u> <u>JOIN</u>	Anthony Salcito, Vice President of Microsoft Worldwide Education for KS4-5/S4-6	Anthony Salcito is the Vice President of Microsoft Worldwide Education and was previously the Vice President of the Public Sector & Government. Anthony's role involves empowering educators and in- spiring students to achieve more. He aims to transform the way we all learn, with the support of the best technology, to help build the skills needed for the 21st century workplace. In this SFS broadcast, tune in to hear Anthony's thoughts on how technology has impacted education, what skills are important for your future career and get the opportunity to ask your questions!
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> January 10-11am <u>LINK TO</u> JOIN	Sophie Darlington, Wildlife Cinematographer for KS3-5/S1-6	Join us to hear Sophie Darlington share insights into what it is like to be a Wildlife Cinematographer. Sophie will be inter- viewed by SFS on what it was like to work on "Our Planet" and "Perfect Planet", where she gains her inspiration from and will be sharing some top tips on filmmak- ing. A broadcast not to be missed for students interested in nature and filmmaking.

DATE	SPEAKER	INFO
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	Introduction to Animation & VFX	Join Industrial Light and Magic for this
January on	with Industrial Light & Magic for	ZOOM webinar about what it's like to
ZOOM	KS3/S1-3	have a career in VFX! There will be the
		opportunity to hear from people who
2-3pm		work for ILM and how they started in
		their careers and more about their work.
FORM TO		There will be the opportunity to ask the
SIGN UP		speakers questions too.

SFS has also designed an <u>activity sheet</u> for students to complete after the talk and send back to you, for you to measure student engagement. In every talk we will announce a colour which your student can fill in and this will show which students of yours have attended the talk.

Colour codes:

- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 5-6pm, Anthony Salcito, Vice President of Microsoft Worldwide Education – Red
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 10-11am, Sophie Darlington, Wildlife Cinematographer - Green
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2-3pm, Industrial Light and Magic Blue

From all of us at Speakers for Schools, we hope you enjoy the live broadcasts programme!



CBBC have launched <u>Blue Peter on YouTube</u> where you will get to see all the best bits from the show and more!

Blue Peter is the longest running children's TV show in the world and we are uploading videos to it that are suitable for 5-11 year olds. We have world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how to's, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. We also feature ways of getting a Blue Peter badge, behind the scenes footage and extra content about our incredible presenters Adam, Lindsey, Mwaksy, Richie and Henry the Blue Peter dog.

The YouTube channel is free to subscribe to: <u>https://www.youtube.com/</u> <u>bluepeter</u>.

Don't forget to watch the live programme on CBBC at 5.00pm every week, or on BBC iPlayer.

The Blue Peter Team

# OLD VIC: IN CAMERA

Applications are now open for The Old Vic's work experience programme; The Old Vic Takeover.

The Old Vic is offering a one-week, online, work experience programme for up to 20 participants aged 16–18 years old. This course will run during the half term, **15-19 Feb 2021, 10am– 4.30pm each day.** Due to the national lockdown this programme will take place over Zoom. If any of your students do not have access to a computer at home, we may be able to support them by lending them a laptop or tablet for the duration of the programme.

Over the course of one week, students will:

- Discover how a producing theatre operates
- Meet industry professionals and find out more about careers in the arts
- Develop key employability skills teamwork, communication, problem solving and public speaking

Students will take on a series of challenges set by different departments and industry professionals, such as producing, marketing and front of house. Through each workshop students will gain an insight into how a busy producing theatre operates and try their hand at a range of different roles. At the end of the week, students will work together as a team to curate, plan and run their own online event, putting to use all the knowledge they have gained over the course of the programme.

For more information on the programme or to apply students can visit our website:

www.oldvictheatre.com/join-in/for-young-people/work-experience-the-old-vic-takeover

**Applications close at 10am on 29 January.** If your students have any questions or require any support in applying, they can contact Work.Experience@oldvictheatre.com. Thank you very much for your help spreading the word.

Best wishes,

Euan Borland Education Manager The Old Vic The Cut, London SE1 8NB

W www.oldvictheatre.com

#### **Challenge News**

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## Challenge News - lots of exciting opportunities!

As you are aware, trips to universities are still on hold due to the pandemic. As an alternative, we are hearing about an increasing number of online opportunities that may be of interest.

Please see below and register accordingly:

# University of Cambridge Information Day: 16<sup>th</sup> February – Years 9 and 10

This day will provide the opportunity to hear general information about Cambridge; gain support in considering future A-level choices; attend engaging taster lectures as well as ask questions to our current students and admissions team. Please register your interest in attending by completing this short survey form: <u>https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_b8bh34oz6n9s901</u>

# **Theology & Literature Study Evening: 28th January - Year 11** *Deadline to apply: 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021*

'Voicing the Devil': A study evening exploring the relationship between theology and literature. The evening is aimed at students in Years 11 and 12 with an interest in literature, performance, theology, religion, and philosophy of religion especially those who are thinking about studying these subjects at University. The event will be held Online on 28th January 2021 from 6-7pm. More information and sign-up can be found here:

https://www.divinity.cam.ac.uk/study-here/open-days/study\_evening

# **Target Oxbridge for Year 10 students**

# Deadline to apply: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2021

We are delighted to announce that we have launched a pioneering new programme for Year 10 students in partnership with <u>Target Oxbridge</u>! This free online programme will provide Black African and Caribbean students, and mixed race students with Black heritage, the opportunity to gain an early insight into life at Cambridge and how to secure a Cambridge place. Students will be invited to attend **four monthly webinars** between April and July. These webinars will provide the chance to hear from current Black students at Cambridge and to ask questions about their experiences. The team at Trinity College, Cambridge will also provide



information on what admissions tutors are looking for in applicants, and how students can make the right A Level choices to improve their chances of securing a place on their preferred Cambridge courses. The webinars will also provide advice and insights into how degree subject choice impacts career options, as well as the chance to take part in a mini lecture run by a Cambridge academic.

Please register interest in attending by completing this short survey form: https://cambridge.eu.gualtrics.com/ife/form/SV 1B8cYcvPRWpZM8t

#### New Directions Composition Competition for Musicians of all ages *Deadline: 19th March 2021*

The New Directions competition is an opportunity for budding musicians to try their hand at composing a piece of music, and consider its role in bringing communication and creativity to life. The competition is open to anyone below the age of 18 and compositions can be from any style or genre: a song, an instrumental work, a piece on Logic – the more inventive, the better! Winning entrants for each age category will receive £50, and have the chance to attend a Music masterclass hosted by expert musicians at Robinson College, University of Cambridge (dates dependent on COVID guidelines). Further details and the competition brief can be found on the Robinson College Music Society website: https://robinsoncollegemusicsociety.co.uk/outreachprojects/

# The Litmus Creative Writing Project 2021 - Years 9 - 11

### Deadline for submissions: 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021

An opportunity for year 9-11 students to submit a **short piece of writing of under 500 words** in poetry, prose or any other format (including artwork) based around a theme for publication. Everyone who submits will receive personalised feedback and have their work published online, while favourites will appear in a **published anthology** in summer 2021. More information can be found here:

https://www.trin.cam.ac.uk/access/students/the-litmus-creative-writing-project/ As part of the project, students are also able to attend **free creative writing workshops** in the last two weeks of February during which students at participating schools will have the opportunity to try new things, learn techniques and gain confidence. To gain more details and to book one for your school, email project co-ordinator, Trinity alumna and published writer Lauren Brown at thelitmus@trin.cam.ac.uk with the session you would like delivered and your preferred date/time and she will get back to you to confirm arrangements. Applications for the Royal Veterinary College 2021 Year 10 and Year 11 Summer Schools are now open!

The RVC summer schools give young people a real taster of what life is like as a student at the RVC. As well as taking part in online lectures, virtual practical demonstrations and Q&A with our world-leading researchers, this year, we really hope to welcome every student to campus for hands-on experiences in our animal hospitals, Clinical Skills Centre, labs or farm.

To participate in any of our summer schools young people must attend a state school and meet a number of other <u>Widening Participation eligibility criteria</u> such as being the first in the family to go to university or being eligible for Free School Meals.

#### The Animal Academy - For those aged 13 and over

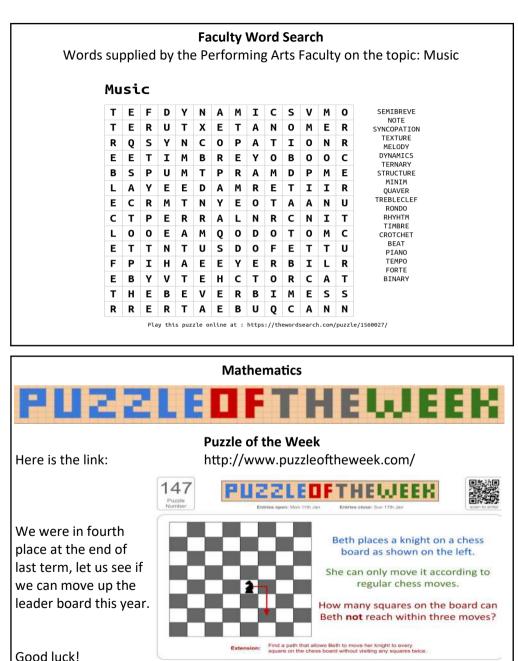
A free online programme to support young people from under-represented backgrounds to reach their goals of studying and working with animals. Members have access to exclusive support, advice and monthly events about animal careers, going to university, and of course learning from the RVC's student and animal experts!

To join the Animal Academy students must be aged 13 or above, and attend a state school in the UK. They will also need to meet some additional criteria such as being the first in the family to go to university. They can find out more and apply to be part of the <u>Animal Academy here!</u>

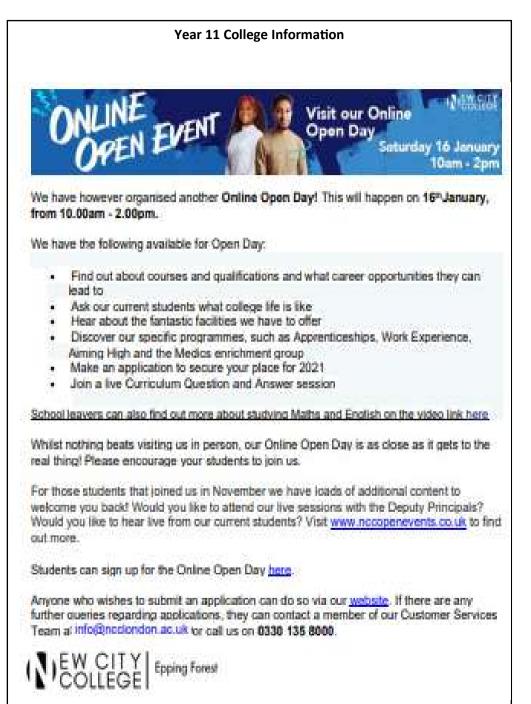
Dawndinos 'Zoom Dino Club' for Schools - For anyone interested in dinosaurs A new online programme for schools lead by Professor Hutchinson and his team of researchers from the RVC. The programme will look at life in the Triassic period, mass extinctions and ecosystems. Students will have the opportunity to learn about evolutionary diversification and adaptation, species that are under threat of extinction and climate change. To make a booking email Louise Kermode at Ikermode@rvc.ac.uk

Any questions, please get in touch!

Ms Robinson Challenge Coordinator



Maths Faculty



# ada sixth form virtual open morning

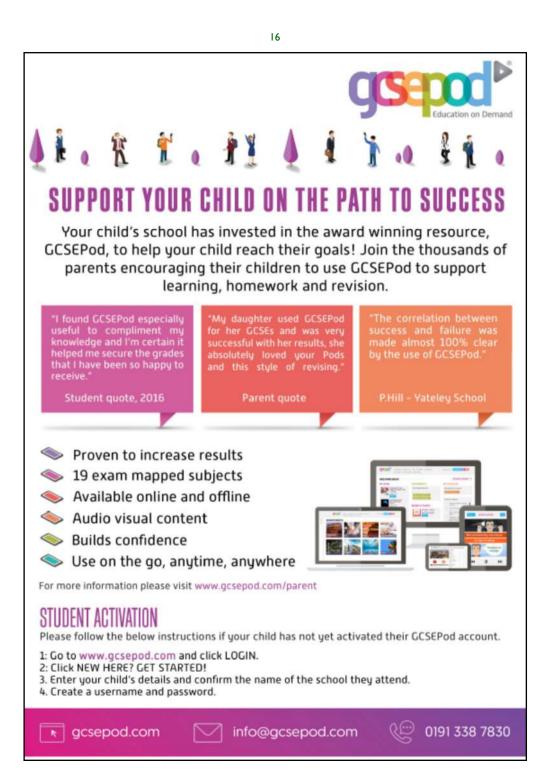
- ♦ Join us on January 23rd, 10am
- Meet our staff and students
- See student projects
- Hear about our industry connections
- Find out about Ada apprenticeships
- Register at bit.ly/384hun











# Why use GCSEPod?

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#### What is it?

- One website, 3 apps and over 5,000 Pods
- Content produced specifically for mobile devices, tablets and PCs
- Designed to squeeze exactly the right knowledge needed for exam success into short 3-5 minute chunks
- Helps with learning, homework and revision

#### It will help you get organised

You can create personal Pod playlists to listen to in the run-up to an exam, to help with homework or to even listen to on the go to help consolidate learning.

The viewing history feature enables you to return to Pods you found useful. There's also a 'favourite playlist' – which helps to go over topic areas you may be finding difficult.

Pre-set exam playlists, available in the 'My Courses' area are neatly organised meaning you can manage revision quickly and easily whilst prioritising your time.

#### It's convenient and effective

The Pods are designed especially for mobile devices but can be watched on any device. Even better, they can be downloaded so you can watch them online or offline. Where ever they go, GCSEPod goes with them, It's like you're carrying a whole world of knowledge and revision in your pockets.

An expert reads and explains everything clearly and precisely with all the right facts, quotes, keywords, dates and annotated diagrams on screen.

You won't need to use GCSEPod for long before you feel the impact. Consistent use in just 10 minute chunks is proven to support achievement right up to A\*.

# It can be as discreet [or loud] as you want

You can listen to GCSEPod anywhere and everywhere and because it looks like you're listening to music, no one needs to know you're actually swotting up.

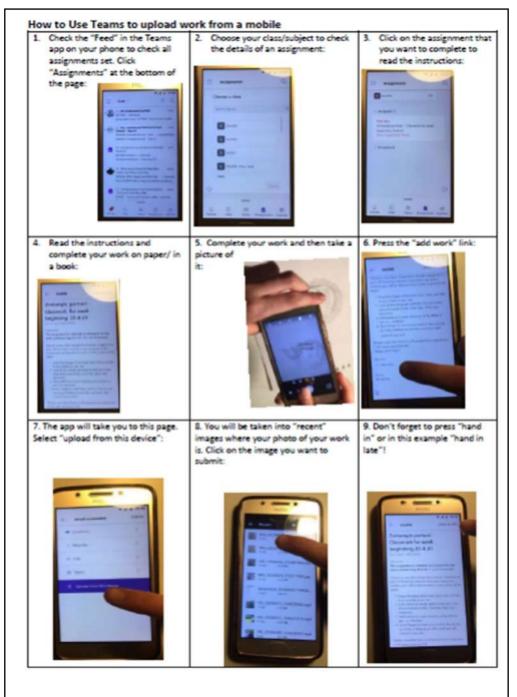
You may want to show off just how much work you've been doing or even recommend a Pod to a friend, to do this, you can use the social networking links on the site to connect with others.

0191 338 7830





# 🖂 INFO@GCSEPOD.COM



### Free Food Services for Local Families

With the announcement of a new lockdown and schools being directed to close, we want to let you know that we continue to run the following food schemes listed below in the Hilltop/Village/The Drive area. Our provision has been running since early May and we will continue to provide food for the local community for the foreseeable future.

Unlike the food banks, you do not need to prove need: all are welcome, no questions asked.

# FOOD STALL

**Every Thursday 12 noon till 2pm** – free surplus food stall, including fresh fruit and veg, tinned and packaged goods, bread etc. We also sometimes have books, toys and clothes. The stall is located outside Gaitskell House by the red post box, halfway down The Drive.

We also deliver bags of food to people who are unable to collect from our food stall.

#### CHILLED MEALS

**Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in the early evening,** cooked meals are delivered by volunteers to houses.

The meals on Mondays and Wednesdays are vegetarian and are cooked in Leytonstone by volunteers who hold a food safety qualification.

The meals on Friday meals are meat/fish or vegetarian and are cooked by the Worshipful Companies of Drapers and Fishmongers.

We currently deliver around 40 meals each day.

Contact by phone or email: 07566 767950 or hoestreetmutualaid@gmail.com

Martin Spafford (on behalf of Hoe Street Ward Mutual Aid).