

28 February 2020 Week 'B' 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 Spring Term Ends Friday 3 April

Tuesday 3 March Friends of WSFG meeting 6-7pm LRC

Thursday 5 March Year 8 Parents/Carer Subject Evening 4:30–7pm

Thursday 26 March Year 10 Parent Carer

Subject Evening 4:30–7pm

Thursday 2 April Steel Pans Concert 7pm

Easter Holiday Monday 6 April to Friday 17 April

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## **HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope all members of our school community have had a restful and enjoyable half-term break.

Whilst the risk to individuals in the UK remains low, in light of the recent developments with COVID-19, the school will be sharing information to students (and the wider community) on a range of ways to reduce risk, such as hand hygiene and the use of tissues. SPLs will lead on assemblies on these matters and the school will continue to follow guidance published by the Department for Education. You may also want to provide your child with tissues and a hand sanitiser. To see the latest updates, advice and information on the virus from the government, please see the link below:

## https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus

On Tuesday evening a group of twenty KS4 students went to see the performance *Time and Tide* at the Park Theatre as part of our LGBT+ Month celebrations. Based on the playwright's own experiences growing up, the coming-of-age play explores the lives of a group of young adults and their sexuality, whilst residing in a rural Norfolk community. Students enjoyed the performance and the themes

explored. My thanks to Ms Desbenoit, Ms Cornford and Mr Ramlagan for taking students on this trip.

On Thursday, thirty Year 10 students visited Cambridge University together with our Challenge Co-Ordinator, Ms Robinson. Students were given a tour of the university and met with some of our students currently studying at the university. Students found the visit to be both informative and inspiring – their feedback from the trip will be included in the next edition of the Greensheet.

Our Year 10 and 11 Steel Pan players attended the Music for Youth Regional Finals on Friday in Camden. Not only did our fantastic bands perform in front of a range of finalists, they were able to listen to performances from other groups and gain expert advice from professional musicians and music educators. My thanks to Ms Bradshaw and Mr Murphy for supporting and coaching our talented students, as well as to Mr Jalil and Ms Cornford for accompanying students on the trip and cheering them on.

On another competing note, Ms Bradshaw and twenty-two students are attending the Jack Petchey Perfect Pitch Finals on Sunday at Cadogan Hall in West London. Students have been practicing their a cappella performance steadfastly and have built on their skills developed in the workshops which they completed as part of the programme. The group has done extremely well to be one of the final twelve



groups out of thirty-one who competed at the regional finals. Good luck to our students! Tickets are still available and can be purchased following the below link:

https://cadoganhall.com/whats-on/jack-petcheys-perfect-pitch/

Finally, we note that Lent began last Wednesday. Wishing all a good weekend,

Ms M Davies Headteacher





# Advice on the coronavirus for places of education

#### How serious is the coronavirus?

- it can cause flu-like symptoms, including fever, cough & difficulty breathing
- the infection is not serious for most people, including children
- there is currently no vaccine
- most people get better with enough rest, water to drink and medicine for pain

#### How likely are you to catch the virus?

- you can only catch it if you have been close to a person who has the virus
- the chance of being in contact with the virus is currently low in the UK
- if you have travelled to areas where many people are infected, your chance of catching the virus is higher, i.e. China and any affected areas

#### How can you stop coronaviruses spreading?



Stop germs spreading with our e-Bug resources on hand and respiratory hygiene lesson plans for KS1, 2 and 3: campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools

## What should you do if you feel unwell?

Keep away from others and stay at home to stop the infection spreading. Avoid public transport if you think you have symptoms of coronavirus. If you become unwell at a place of education, tell a member of staff and let them know if you have travelled to any other countries in the last 14 days.

If your staff member or parent thinks you have symptoms of coronavirus, they should call NHS 111 for advice. Follow the UK Government advice for childcare or educational settings gov.uk/government/publicationa/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19. Parents can visit NHS.UK to find out more information. Teachers and support staff should follow the UK Government advice.

Staff, students and pupils who have returned from Wuhan and Hubei Province in China should self isolate, and NOT attend education or work for 14 days. See NHS,UK for advice on coronavirus.

If there is an emergency, call 999 immediately

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#### NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

Headteacher: Ms M Davies BA (Hons) NPQH Church Hill Walthamstow London E17 98Z Telephone: 020 8509 9446 Fax: 020 8509 9445 Email: info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

5<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

#### Parent/Carer Governor Vacancy

Walthamstow School for Girls has a vacancy for one parent or carer to serve as a school governor and I hope you will consider putting yourself forward. The Governing Body's role is the strategic and financial oversight of the school and ensuring that students receive a high quality education which prepares them for the next stage of their education. This includes planning for future development and improvements, but not the day-to-day management of the school. For more information, please see the Governing Body section of the school website.

If you would like to stand as a candidate, please complete the reply slip attached and return it to the school no later than 12 noon on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020. If there is more than one candidate for the vacancy, an election will need to be held, but this is a straightforward process. All you need to do is write a short paragraph (no more than one hundred words) saying why you want to become a Parent Governor; your statement will be sent to all parents and carers with a voting paper. Should only one parent or carer apply, then they will automatically become a Parent Governor. The term of office is four years.

The work of our governors is very important to the school in key areas such as oversight and development of the ethos and curriculum of the school; well-being of pupils; staff employment and use of resources, as well as ensuring that the school maintains its high standards in all areas. You will be expected to attend an evening meeting of the Governing Body once or twice a term and to join one of its committees which also meets once a term. Governors are also encouraged to visit the school during the day by arrangement, and help in the oversight of an area of the curriculum, or other important areas such as safeguarding, as a link governor. We are not looking for any particular expertise, but rather a strong commitment to the school and its students, the inquisitiveness to question, and a willingness to give some of your time to governance. However, if you have specialist knowledge or relevant experience, please do mention this in your statement. Induction training is provided for all new governors and governors are encouraged to attend further training on specific areas of school governance paid for by the school.

As a school, we are always mindful that the Governing Body should reflect the local community that the school serves, and members of ethnic minority groups are therefore particularly welcomed on the Governing Body and are encouraged to stand for election as parent governors.

Please note that for the purpose of safeguarding, school governors are subject to an enhanced DBS check, administered via the school, which requires disclosure of any previous criminal convictions. Anything disclosed will not necessarily bar you from holding office and will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the school.

> CulturalDiversity OutiltyStandard

Yours faithfully,

Meryl Davies Headteacher







Please return this slip to the school before Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

I wish to stand as a candidate for election as a Parent Governor at Walthamstow School for Girls.

First name:

Family name:\_\_\_\_\_

Signed:

Home address:

Remember to include your statement below (no more than 100 words) saying why you want to become a school governor and what skills/knowledge you feel that the board will benefit from.

## Focus of the Fortnight 2<sup>nd</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> March Noise and Movement in the School Corridors

Dear Parents / Carers,

In line with our Out of Lesson Positive Behaviour Code, all members of our school community are asked to move around the school calmly, safely and quietly. We also always walk on the left of school corridors and staircases. If students behave in a dangerous, noisy or inappropriate way in the school buildings or grounds, they will be spoken to by a member of staff and will have their conduct card signed. It is in the interest of all members of our community to move calmly, safely and quietly around the school at all times. Thank you for your support in this and all school matters.

Ms. K.H.Pratt Assistant Headteacher

- The Out of Lesson Positive Behaviour Code states that we move around the school calmly, safely and quietly, and that we walk on the left.
- The corridors are not for social gathering as they need to remain clear.

## The Sanctions

- The student breaking these expectations will be spoken to by a member of staff.
- The student conduct card will be signed if this expectation is not met by the student.

## Year 8 Parents/Carers Evening Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 4.30 to 7pm

Your child will be making appointments with their subject teachers for a discussion on their progress.

We ask all Year 8 students and **their parents/carers or an adult family member** to attend this consultation evening to discuss their progress and strategies to help them achieve their full potential at Walthamstow School for Girls.

It is **a crucial event** as it is your child's only consultation evening this year and is an opportunity to discuss their progress with subject teachers. They need to make appointments with their subject teachers in advance, between 4.30pm and 7pm. We look forward to seeing you.

Ms Desbenoit Student Progress Leader, Year 8.

## **Faculty News**

## **English News**

## Up for Debate final

Well done to the students involved in the Up for Debate final before half term and to all the students of Year 9 who watched and listened intently.

## The motion was This house would put a tax on all junk food.

Opposition Speakers:

Romy Alba Freda

Proposition Speakers: Isabel Mia Sophia

Both debating teams were excellent, demonstrating credible arguments, as well as poise and confidence.



The Winners - The Proposition!

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Ms Cato

# "Here is the Earth – Don't spend it all at once"



We are living at a time of unprecedented environmental concerns. Widespread habitat destruction, worrying levels of pollution, outdated and unsustainable methods of waste management and climate change are key issues which dominate our media, and many in our school community are clearly worried about.

The past six months has seen the launch of WSFG green club, a drop-down day on climate change, the launch of 'Meat free Mondays,' changes to packaging in our canteen, improvements to schoolwide recycling practices and many students independently getting involved in climate change student demonstrations.

To further raise awareness of environmental issues, we are excited to announce the launch of a new school award focused on environment. Thanks to funding from a member of our alumni Dawn Smith, we hope to make this an annual award with a trophy and prize going to the winner as well as runners up prizes for second and third place.

Students are invited to submit a creative piece of poetry, artwork, music or prose of between 250 – 500 words to Mr Sterlini in the Humanities office by Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

The best entries will then be forwarded to Dawn Smith, the awards sponsor, to select the winner and runners up.

The theme of the work is "Here is the Earth - Don't spend it all at once."

We hope to announce the winners shortly before Easter with prizes being awarded as follows:

- First place Trophy for young environmentalist of the year and £30 gift voucher.
- Second place £15 gift voucher.
- Third place £5 gift voucher.

If you have any further questions, please speak to Mr Sterlini, Head of Humanities.



## **Cycling Course for Year 7 Students**

## Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 4.00pm – 5.30pm

Places are limited - only 8 students can participate.

## **Dates and Times**

Monday  $16^{th}$  March16:00-17:30pmTuesday  $17^{th}$  March16:00-17:30pmWednesday  $18^{th}$  March16:00-17:30pmThursday  $19^{th}$  March16:00-17:30pmFriday  $20^{th}$  March16:00-17:30pm

You must be able to stay on a bicycle with a level of control to be able to participate in this course.

You must wear comfortable clothing such as jogging pants, flat shoes or trainers.

The group will meet at Muga at 3.45pm until 5.30pm each day. You must not be late.

The school has bikes and helmets for use so there is no need to own your own bike. If you are interested please collect a letter form G38

Mrs Dominique Key Stage 3 Learning Mentor

## WSFG Diversity Calendar for the Month of March



March	-	Monday	Township	Hadnasdity	Thunday	Résay	Saturday	Sunday	Special Days
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## **College Information**

**Clapton Girls' Academy Sixth Form Reminder** 

Application deadline - 28<sup>th</sup> February



The link to our online application form is

https://www.cgasixthform.com/apply

If any students missed the opportunity to meet us last term at our Open Evening they would be very welcome to come for a personalised tour of our campus and facilities, please email us at

sixthform@clapton.hackney.sch.uk.

We welcome groups of students as well as individuals and families.

Jenny Gladman Head of Marketing & Communications



Imperial College London

# Y9 Girls Engineering Summer School at Imperial

## ABOUT THE PROGRAMME



## 11-15 AUGUST 2020

Come explore the breadth of engineering disciplines available at Imperial College London on this non-residential summer school. HOW TO APPLY Applications will close at 23.59 on 18 March 2020



For more information on eligibility and to apply: www.imperial.ac.uk/schools/summer-schools

Programme is free to attend – eligibility criteria apply

## "Will Robots Replace Surgeons?" 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 6pm-7:30pm

Dear Year 10 and 11 Students, Parents and Carers,

Please see below an opportunity for students aged 14+ who are interested in a career in medicine or those who may be interested in science/technology or robotics.

Students will need to sign up and attend the event independently of the school.

Kind regards, Ms Philippou Assistant Headteacher



One of Barts Health NHS Trust's very own consultants, Professor Shafi Ahmed, will be delivering a 1.5 hour lecture titled **"Will robots replace surgeons?"** on **10<sup>th</sup> March 2020 from 6pm-7:30pm** at the Blizard Institute in Whitechapel. Spaces are filling up fast!

Students will need to individually sign up through the following link: <u>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/will-robots-replace-surgeons-tickets-90641588431?</u> <u>aff=eand&fbclid=lwAR1C51CCZDdkzqU1WLm-</u> tqZxqzt5klhe1qaMDCWUOTN YPYMwDukECXvO0k

Enquiries about the event: Charlotte Morgan, who can be contacted on 02078823639





## FRESH FROM THEIR SUCCESS RECORDING #STAYANOTHERDAY WITH EAST 17'S TONY MORTIMER



## **OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS AGED 11-18 YEARS**

TUESDAYS | 5-6.30pm At Frederick Bremer School, Siddeley Road E17 4EY

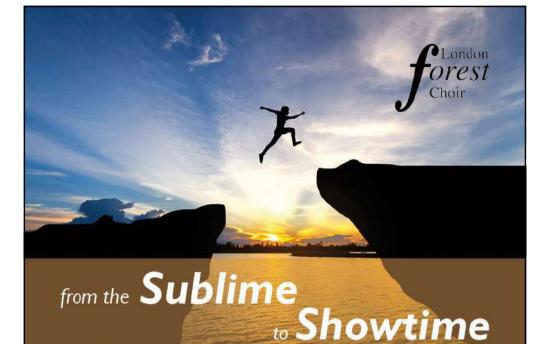
## Register online at https://wfyouthchoir.eventbrite.co.uk







020 8496 1584 Follow us @musicservicewf music.service@walthamforest.gov.uk



# A choral concert for Leap Year

## Saturday 29 February 2020 7.30pm

St Mary's Church, Walthamstow E17 9RJ

London Forest Choir

Leo Nicholson piano

Jonathan Rathbone conductor

Tickets £14 on the door or £12 in advance from www.londonforestchoir.org or call 07845 156494 Students and benefit recipients half price; children £3

## www.londonforestchoir.org

Registered charity no. 272799

#### School Calendar Dates 2019-2020

## Spring Term Monday 6 January to Friday 3 April

Tuesday 3 March	Friends of WSFG meeting 6-7pm LRC
Thursday 5 March	Year 8 Parents/Carer Subject Evening 4:30–7pm
Thursday 26 March	Year 10 Parent Carer Subject Evening 4:30–7pm
Thursday 2 April	Steel Pans Concert 7pm

## Easter Holiday Monday 6 April to Friday 17 April

## Summer Term Monday 20 April 2020 to Friday 17 July

Thursday 23rd April	Intercultural Evening
Thursday 7 May	Year 7 Parent Carer Subject Evening 4:30–7pm
Friday 8 May	Exceptional Bank Holiday
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May—	
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 11 GCSE Examinations
Monday 11 - Friday 22 May	KS3 Examination Years 7, 8 and 9
Wednesday 13 May	Early Closure (except those students with exams)
	Staff INSET

## Half Term: Tuesday 26 May to Friday 29 May

Monday 1 - Friday 26 June	Year 10 End of Year Examinations
Wednesday 10 June	Early Closure (except those students with exams)
	Staff INSET



WSFG Friends Group Meeting Tuesday 3 March 6.00 p.m. in the LRC (Library) All Welcome