



NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

Greensheet

plus

SPRING 2020



Headteachers Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the Spring 2020 issue of the Bumper Greensheet.

I hope that you all managed to have a happy Easter break and to those in our Jewish community who have recently celebrated Passover, Chag Sameach!

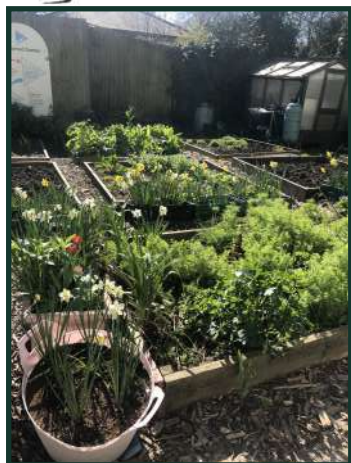
Inside this edition you will discover a range of activities and events students have participated in over the previous term, to enhance both their academic and personal development. I would like to thank all the members of staff at Walthamstow School for Girls for the efforts they make in ensuring that our students partake in a wide variety of extracurricular activities, which enhance their education, creativity and ambition, as well as ultimately broadening their horizons.

I am sure you will agree that at a time where many schools are unable to provide an extensive extracurricular programme, Walthamstow School for Girls remains committed to giving each child an opportunity to experience an activity, whether that be a drama performance, an educational/careers visit or a cultural event.

Finally, I once again hope that everyone is managing in this difficult time and is staying safe and healthy. I hope that this issue provides some much needed familiarity, comfort and positivity.

With kind regards and best wishes,


Ms. M. Davies



Pictures from
our school
allotment



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The English Faculty are pleased to announce that Zara 7H has been awarded second place in the Waltham Forest Borough of Culture's Creative Writing Competition.

The competition, titled "*I Want to Live in a World...*" invited students aged 11 - 16 to describe the future in which they would like to live.

Please take a moment to read her winning entry.

I Want to Live in a World...

I want to live in a world where peace and happiness exist where no crime consists.

I want to live in a world where opinions are important and taken into consideration.

I want to live in a world where respect is for everyone and everybody is a loved one.

I want to live in a world where everybody smiles at each other, one after another.

I want to live in a world where life is magical and nothing sadly tragical.

I want to live in a world where everybody is equal and there is no sequel.

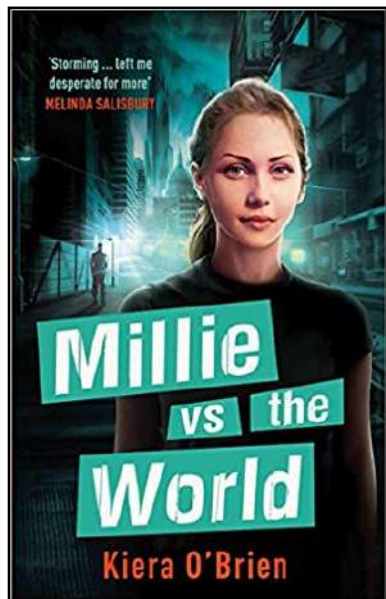
I want to live in a world where.....

Zara 7H

Ms Schaber
Head of English

Learning Resource Centre News

Millie vs the Machines by former pupil Kiera O'Brien.



Here is an extract from her latest book:

Millie knows she's not what they say she is. She's not a unit: she's a girl! It's all just a crazy misunderstanding. If she could just talk to her Company without the police shooting at her - they could sort this mess out.

But on the run and cut off from everyone she knew before, how can Millie get back to her friends when the only 'people' willing to talk to her are a bunch of outlawed machines?

One thing's for sure, surviving in the real world is proving to be a lot dirtier, stranger and more dangerous than she could have expected.

Keira was a pupil at our school from 1998 to 2003. Her first book in the series is set in a boarding school in the future and the main character thinks the robots that work there are plotting to take over the world.

Both copies are available in the LRC for students to read.

Congratulations well done Keira!

Ms Kelly LRC

Performing Arts/Diversity Trip Cyrano de Bergerac Review

Ms Cornford, Ms Simpson and I took twenty Year 10 students to see Cyrano de Bergerac at The Playhouse Theatre earlier this year. It is a modern adaptation of the classic French love story with amazing acting and integration of modern music! One of our ex-students was in the cast too!



Here are some students' reviews:

"Cyrano starring the one and only James McAvoy was absolutely amazing! The modern take of the play took me by surprise even though I had never seen it before it was easy to understand and follow the characters through the play. The actors and Jamie Lloyd managed to get around the difficulties a theatre production may face and created a romantic and emotional piece from beginning to end. If you have not already seen it, you are missing out on a great and new experience, with many laughs and the thrill of always being on the edge of your seat!"

Roya 10W.

"I was really impressed to get such an affordable ticket for such a great play. There was a joyous atmosphere in the theatre, and I loved the contrast between the humorous scenes and the more heavy-hearted scenes. I would definitely recommend going to see this play!"

Rosie 10G.

"What an amazing cast of talented actors who connected with the audience and created a lively atmosphere, which concluded in a standing ovation! It was a wonderful adaptation!"

Priscilla 10G.

"Our seats were so close to the front that it really intensified the experience and made me enjoy it even more. The acting was amazing and the plot clear, despite it being an old play, they managed to juxtapose it with touches of modernity like wearing modern casual clothes."

Ellie 10G.

Our students were an absolute credit to our school, bravo!

Ms Desbenoit
Diversity Coordinator.

Humanities News

Meat Free Monday...

Earlier this year, we were excited to launch the introduction of **“Meat Free Mondays”** in conjunction with our caterers Olive Dining.

Martha 7S, has written a brief outline of why we are doing this:

Cutting our meat intake is an easy and effective way to help our environment by reducing our carbon footprint. Producing 100 grams of beef for example, releases up to 30 kilograms of greenhouse gasses including carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide and methane. These are key contributors to an enhanced greenhouse effect, itself a major driver of global climate change. By comparison, producing 100 grams of peas creates just 1 gram of greenhouse gasses.

Have a look at the menus in the canteen to see what exciting foods we have to look forward to in the coming weeks.

If you are interested in reading about the link between our diet and climate, have a look at the following article:

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/may/31/avoiding-meat-and-dairy-is-single-biggest-way-to-reduce-your-impact-on-earth>

Mr Sterlini
Head of Humanities
Specialist Leader of Education



MyBnk

Just before the Christmas holidays, we were delighted to welcome Guy Rigden (MyBnk CEO) and Yasmin Drakes (Young Trustee) to award *Mominah* Year 10 with a £250 Jack Petchey Award and a certificate for her outstanding contribution as a MyBnk Ambassador.

We are so proud of *Mominah* for her hard work, proactivity, positivity and generosity in all that she does, including her work as MyBnk Ambassador. Congratulations *Mominah*.

Picture by
courtesy of the
Waltham Forest
Guardian



Ms Philippou
Assistant Headteacher

P.E. News

SERVES Tennis Training

Following our tennis session with Judy Murray last year a small group of Year 9 students took part in a SERVES Tennis Activator Training course earlier this year.

Seven students were selected to complete the training which included a variety of fun tennis activities to improve their basic hand-eye coordination skills.

These students developed their leadership skills by running a Tennis Activator Club to our Year 7 students. The seven students involved worked incredibly hard during the training and the trainers were very impressed with their enthusiasm and energy.

The Year 9 students involved were
Maarya, Emily, Malaika, Maria, Frances, Maya and Yngie.

Ms Warren



Essex County Badminton Championships

Our Under 14 and Under 16 Borough Badminton Champions played at the Essex Championships earlier this year and both teams finished in 3rd place. This is a great achievement for the students as they were competing against some very high quality badminton players.

Under 16 Team

Aini 11W

Saniya 11W

Safa 11S

Maarya 11F

Under 14 Team

Hannah 8C

Tenzin 8C

Alishia 9S

Demmy 9C

Congratulations to both teams.

Ms Warren

Year 10 Trip to The University of Oxford

Earlier in the Spring term a group of ten students from Walthamstow School for Girls had the opportunity to visit St Peter's College, Oxford in collaboration with students from Kelmscott and Willowfield. We were hosted by Jacqui Dearden, the Schools Liaison Officer.



Here is some feedback from the students who participated:

I really enjoyed the trip to Oxford as it helped me put into perspective what it would be like to study at a top university. I have always wanted to study Maths at Oxford and now that dream seems more of a realistic and exciting prospect. If I continue to work hard, it is within my reach.

Sylvie 10F

I found the trip informative and insightful. Before going I thought it was full of privately educated kids, but visiting Oxford has opened my eyes and showed me that it's a normal university with normal people. It has inspired me to apply for a university like Oxford and showed me that it is a real possibility for any student who puts their mind to it and is not afraid of hard work. I enjoyed it so much that I did some research afterwards and I am going back during half term with my family to Lady Margaret Hall for another tour.

Mominah 10G

The trip dispelled a huge myth for me about how only privately educated white boys go to Oxford - I found it very multicultural and diverse. The two students who showed us around St Peter's were from an ethnic background and even some professors are BAME. Also, I learnt that not everyone at Oxford is rich. There is financial help in the form of non-repayable bursaries that are means tested. A quarter of students receive this help.

Amira 10F

The trip to Oxford put everything into perspective for me and not knowing much about it beforehand, it really helped me understand and develop an idea of what options there are in the future for me. I managed to have a conversation with a student who is currently studying the things that I am interested in. This really helped me develop my understanding of what A-levels I should do and how to get to a point where I could potentially study them at university. Being able to speak to students who are attending the university gave me a great insight into life at Oxford and what it's really like. It definitely dispelled a popular myth that Oxford students don't have any fun, and overall I found the trip extremely useful even if I don't decide to apply in the future.

Bo 10F

My personal highlight was visiting Lola Grieves an ex-student from Walthamstow School for Girls. We visited her college, St Catherine's. I really loved going into the library because it was absolutely huge and full of books. The day inspired me greatly to apply for a university like Oxford or maybe even Oxford itself. I always thought Oxford would be filled with posh white people but it turns out it was full of people with loads of interesting backgrounds. I'm going to be working extra hard in school now so that I can hopefully get a chance to go to Oxford university in the future.

Amarah 10F

My personal highlight was exploring the facilities like the library and getting a personal insight into the daily life of a university student and hearing about the workload and their social lives etc. The day did dispel some myths and just made the idea of applying to Oxford feel like a real possibility. The university honestly seemed normal and not at all what I had imagined. The day inspired me, excited me and made me think more about my future.

Molly 10G

I was amazed at how professional and advanced the university standards were and how they are willing to help the students in any way they can. I was impressed about the vast amount of subjects available and the tour was well organised and helped me to understand what the university is really like. This trip has convinced me to apply to Oxford due to its excellent history and due to the excellent tour guides of the different colleges. I've also learnt through this trip that Oxford University is not just one building; the university is composed of several colleges.

Diana 10S

The highlight of my day was seeing St Peter's College library as I love books. The day dispelled several myths about studying at Oxford. I discovered that it is not just for 'smart white people'. There is a range of different cultures there which I found amazing. I think it is wonderful how people from different backgrounds can mix at such a great university. My passion is for computer science and I am now inspired to study it at Oxford.

Malaika 10W

Ms Robinson
Challenge Coordinator

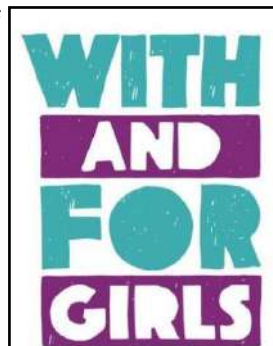


English News

Women of the World Festival

In March, Mr Caps and I had the immense pleasure of taking two of WSFG's budding diversity journalists to experience part of the 'Women of the World Festival' at the Southbank Centre. We were immersed in the experiences of the young women and girls who form the organisation 'With and For Girls'.

Syd and Rain were very diligent journalists, taking notes to help inform their magazine articles which will be published as soon as possible.



This is what Syd had to say about the experience:

At the beginning of March we went on a trip after school to The Southbank Centre to see the With And For Girls awards. In this award ceremony twenty five women from all over the world and from different feminist organisations came to collect their awards at the fourth, With And For Girls award ceremony.

With And For Girls is a part of WOW (Women Of The World) who have funded many of the winner's organisations with funds to help with their cause.

So far, they have donated close to two million dollars to different organisations since 2014. During the award ceremony two women came to teach us chants about women's rights and more. There were

many emotional speeches, which inspired most of us in the room. It was an upbeat and cheerful ceremony which I would definitely recommend going to another year especially if you are a strong believer in women's rights. All the winners have been nominated and chosen by adolescent girls around the world and are all very forward about their views on equality for all.



You can see pictures and find out more about this year's ceremony on Instagram or Twitter at @withandforgirls

Miss Simpson
English Faculty

Vodafone Digital Creators Challenge

At the beginning of the year, a group of Year 8 students took part in Vodafone's Digital Creators Challenge. They took part in a one-day workshop with Ms Shafiq where they worked in small groups to plan and develop an app that will help to solve a problem in the local community. The students worked through the activities to decide on an idea for their app and all of the groups came up with great ideas. They were able to plan their idea and create a simulation of the app using AppLab.



Some of the students continued to develop their ideas over the following weeks so that they could be submitted as competition entries. They created short videos to encourage the judges to choose their ideas. This is what they came up with:



- Good 'n' Green- an app to encourage local youngsters to pick up litter in the community.
- HRN- an app to encourage people into work and keep them away from crime.
- Serenity- an app to support mindfulness in young children.



Here is what the Year 8s had to say about the app workshop they took part in:

"We had a very fun and interesting time at the Vodafone challenge. It was a great learning experience and we all worked very hard for our end-result. We used programmes including AppLab, PowerPoint and paint. It was a great expression of creativity for everyone and we are so excited to continue with this challenge".



"We found this activity very enjoyable and we would like more sessions, as it was realistic and will help us in the future".

Ms Shafiq ICT Faculty



English News

Young Reporter

Election fever hits as students stage mock election by *Romayssa* Year 10, Walthamstow School For Girls

VOTE FOR ONE PARTY BY MARKING WITH AN X	
Getaway Friday	
Cool Kids	
Political Stars	
The Diversity Party	
TRISN	
The L.I.F.E. Party	
Walthamstow's Diverse Democracy WDD	
The situation	
Your Voice	

As the country went to the polls in a snap General Election earlier this year, students at Walthamstow School for Girls experienced democracy first hand by concurrently running a mock election on Thursday 12th December. However, students had to create their own political parties with policies on improving the school.

This caused great excitement and on 29th November, registration forms were sent out to apply for candidacy. In order to apply, you had to state your party's policies and attend a meeting the following day.

After careful consideration, the parties selected were Getaway Friday followed by Cool Kids, Political Stars, The Diversity Party, TRISN, The L.I.F.E Party, Walthamstow's Diverse Democracy (WDD), The Situation and Your Voice.

The policies each party pitched varied, from environmental concerns to student welfare and mental health. The Walthamstow Diverse Democracy even considered how they would tackle wide-world issues. However, Getaway Friday won by a landslide due to their particularly appealing policy on reducing school hours on Friday.

The following week, hustings took place daily at different year group assemblies in which they had only two minutes to present and promote their party. Campaigning also took place in other forms such as posters -which plastered school walls- and flyers all in a frantic attempt to be heard. However, each party had a limited budget of twenty five A4 pages in order to enforce our "Green Vision".

Fatimah 12, a candidate of The L.I.F.E Party said: “Although we didn’t win, this was a great experience and was a great challenge that has helped me become more politically aware.”

Wendy 14, a candidate of Your voice said: “It was much harder than I thought and has definitely been unpredictable, much like the real elections, but it still was a great learning experience.”

Mock Elections actively engage pupils with the democratic process and help raise awareness of how politics affects our everyday lives. It has provided pupils with the opportunity to gain an insight into the election process; from creating manifestos to designing campaign posters. Meanwhile, students not participating also gained experience as they helped organise the election itself by registering voters, preparing the polling station and counting the ballot papers. Overall the turnout and feedback was incredible and could even be described as reaching “election fever”. It also allowed students to voice their opinions on improving our school.

Romayssa Year 10

Up for Debate Final

Well done to all the students involved in the Up for Debate final which took place before the 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

Elliot

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



Ms Cato
English Faculty

The Winners - The Proposition!

Year 9 Visit to Financial Information Technology Offices



A small group of Year 9 students had the opportunity to visit a software development company Financial Information Technology (F.I.T) located in the South Quays/ Canary Wharf area of London. When we arrived, we were greeted at the entrance by the Project Manager, Ilyas Rehman who took us up to their offices. The students visited the company's board room, where refreshments had been set up for the group.

In the board room the group met the Managing Director, Frank Ward who explained to the group what the company does and who their clients are. He also allowed the group to write on the walls as the entire boardroom had smart-paint walls, which are used by the company to write software requirements whilst in meetings with the clients. The Year 9s were told that the company created insurance and pensions software for businesses around the world such as Dubai, Nigeria and Malta, which meant that the team had travelled to many countries around the world to meet clients.



The group were then given a presentation by Aklima Bibi (Quality Assurance) and Deirdre Malone (Software Developer). They spoke to the group about their job roles and their career paths. They were also told of another member of the team who is able to work for the company over the internet as they had chosen to move abroad.

The group were able to take a short tour of the offices and enjoyed a walk along the old docks before heading back to school on the DLR.

Here is what the Year 9 students had to say bout the visit:



I found the trip very useful as I plan on taking a career path in computing. I enjoyed learning about what you can do in the computing industry. Knowing that there are good jobs in the subject has made me like computing even more.

Lena 9C

The trip was very helpful. The two ladies were very informative and patient as they answered every question we asked. Although I didn't ask any questions, most of what I was thinking (such as whether it was hard etc.) had already been answered. Overall, I enjoyed myself. It has led me to consider doing computing for GCSE because of how much technology is growing and will continue to grow in our upcoming generation.

Nihad 9F



The trip was fascinating as we got to talk to people who are actually involved in the computing job field and hear their stories and experiences of doing the job.

Mia 9F

Ms Shafiq
ICT Faculty

Year 8 Art Homework

A fantastic homework from one of our star Year 8 students *Alex*. This drawing would not be out of place in a GCSE sketchbook.

Well done *Alex*!

*Large Scale
Lollypop*

Ms Wills
Head of Art



P.E. News Year 8 Netball

The Year 8 netball team started their season with a win against South Chingford. The students played extremely well in their first game together and the final score was 15-6.

Congratulations to the following students:

Debra 8C (player of the match)

Hannah 8C

Iqra 8C

Aminah 8C

Tenzin 8C

Bolu 8C

Nell 8W

Alex 8W

Aishah 8F

Anna 8F

Betty 8G



Ms Warren

Year 8 Basketball

The Year 8s had a busy couple of nights of sport when they played their last borough league game against Buxton in January.

The students all worked very hard and beat Buxton 26-2!!

Congratulations to the following students:

<i>Debra</i>	8C (awarded joint player of the match)
<i>Fadwa</i>	8F
<i>Betty</i>	8G
<i>Jahmica</i>	8S
<i>Aminah</i>	8C
<i>Nell</i>	8W (awarded joint player of the match)
<i>Leigh</i>	8G
<i>Bolu</i>	8C
<i>Hannah</i>	8C
<i>Abida</i>	8G

Ms Warren

Year 8 Football

In the same week, the Year 8 football league started at the Peter May Center.

The team played three matches and the results were:

WSFG vs Highams Park

0 0

WSFG vs Kelmscott

1 0

WSFG vs Lammas

0 3

Congratulations to the following students:

<i>Betty</i>	8G
<i>Nell</i>	8W
<i>Hirah May</i>	8H
<i>Debra</i>	8C
<i>Hannah</i>	8C
<i>Net</i>	8H
<i>Niamh</i>	8H
<i>Leigh</i>	8G
<i>Sophie</i>	8S



Ms Wood



International Women's Day 2020

This Year's Theme

#EachforEqual

Winner of the School Logo Competition

My theme behind my logo is the rainbow background which means you can love who you want to love and speak how you feel and never be afraid to speak truly about who you are.

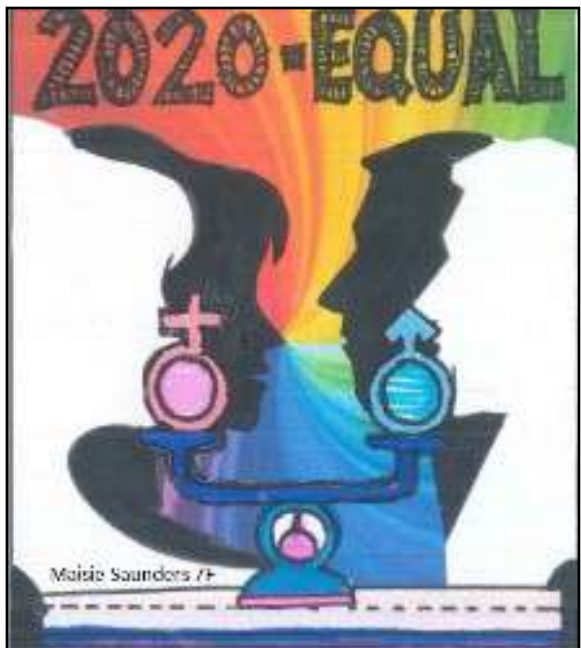
The meaning behind the two women and the two men means it does not matter what gender you are or what skin colour you are, we should all have equal treatment and equal rights and never be judged about how we look on the outside. It always matters what is on the inside.

This also links with the scales because like I said it does not matter what we look like we should all be EQUAL!

Maisie 7F

Congratulations to Masie.

Ms Desbenoit
Year 8 Student
Progress Leader



International Women's Day Poetry 2020



My French Poem -

Inspired by Simone Beauvoir

Nous avons besoin d'avoir la liberté.
Nous devons nous battre pour l'égalité.
J'espère que nous pourrons vivre dans une société de
Fraternité.

We need to have freedom/liberty.
We have to fight for equality.
I hope we will be able to live in a society of brotherhood.

Ma sœur que nous avons lue, nous avons appris de vous.
Nous avons besoin de gagner notre victoire,
Parce que vous avez souffert pour nous.

My sister we have read, from whom we have learned.
We have to win our victory,
Because you have suffered for us.

Où nous pouvons tous vivre dans un endroit.
Où nous ne serons pas jugés par notre sexe.
Que nos enfants et petits-enfants ne vivent pas dans un monde où les
hommes ont plus de privilèges
Nous avons la clé pour tout
Mais c'est seulement si nous voulons l'avoir
Et maintenant nous devons faire un changement dans ce monde pour le
bien et pour le mieux.

Where we can all live in a place.
Where we won't be judged by our gender.
So that our children and grand children don't live in a world
where men have more privileges
We have the key to everything
But it is only if we want it
And now we have to make a change in this world for the
good and for the best.

Zahra 10F.
March 2020.



I believe during International Women's Day we should look back on the many brave women that paved the way for an equal society. Without women like the suffragettes and Frida Kahlo, we would not have the freedom to achieve and succeed in life. We still need to keep pushing our message of equality and take inspiration from these female icons.

I chose the play on words "*Her Story*" because I believe that women are not appreciated and recognized throughout history.

In my history lessons we learn of strong, tyrant-like men that lead wars and political stand offs.

When do we learn about women?

It's their lives as mothers and wives that is most focused on .

Where are the recounts of strong, tyrant-like women in the history curriculum?

I know there are some but where is their recognition?

It is important not to forget these women. Male dominance shadows all over history but at least for IWD let us focus on the women who have broken the barriers on injustice to lead us to the equality we have now.

Let us learn about her story.

Eloise 10W

Here are a selection of activities which took place on International Women's Day which WSFG celebrated on Friday 6th March.

Year 9 'What's My Line'



Year 7 Inspirational Women



Careers Week 2020

At this very exciting time when the options for possible careers are endless, it is vital that we encourage our students to be well informed and curious.



We held a different careers talk each day at lunch time covering a range of careers from journalism to medicine to visual effects. Our speakers gave great advice on taking opportunities, being curious and following your passions. We'd like to thank all of our visitors for taking the time out of their busy schedules to come and speak to us.

The week ended with a very exciting International Women's Day with lots of celebrations and more career related activities.

Thank you also to the students who attended the talks and well done to all of them for being interested, curious and for asking such good questions.

We had students from Year 7 all the way to Year 11 and the feedback from them showed how keen our students are to explore and to learn.

Well done WSFG!

Ms Philippou
Assistant Headteacher



Year 8

The Bee in Me Project Reviews

Following on from three successful preparatory workshops, Ms Pratt, Ms Dominique and I took thirty students on a trip to the Unicorn Theatre to see *The Bee in Me*.

The play was fantastic and here are some student reviews:

It was a really interesting play with three people acting the same character, they moved at the same time and must have practiced a lot. I liked how they interpreted these stages as levels from a video game.

Isabelle 8F



I liked how the play captured the daily struggles of teenage life and turned it into a metaphor of wanting to fly away by depicting scenes of the character turning into a bee. I also enjoyed how it was told in the second person and how the character took every challenge they were facing in life as a level in a game.

Jenny 8H

I thought the view of Tower Bridge and central London was beautiful and I loved walking around and I hope we can have more experiences like this in the future because I loved this one!

Melisa 8C

I enjoyed the part when the characters were really expressive and exaggerated. I was ecstatic when I saw the Shard, the Tower Bridge and the HMS Belfast Ship. The view was spectacular!

Sedra 8W

I enjoyed the message of the play that sometimes life can be hard but you should always have a positive mindset to things.

Nuriyah 8C

The students behaved impeccably and were a credit to our school!

Ms D Desbenoit

Year 8 Student Progress Leader / Diversity Coordinator

Year 10 Trip to the University of Cambridge

In March, thirty Year 10 students were taken to Gonville and Caius College. We were hosted by the Schools Liaison Officer, Katy Lewis, and shown around the college by ex-student, Charlotte Gamble. Charlotte is currently in her second year, studying history.

It was a hugely inspirational day. One of the aspects that was highlighted was the importance of participating in Super-Curricular activities. These are activities that go beyond what is taught in the classroom and demonstrate a passion for a subject. For example, reading books, magazines, attending lectures, listening to podcasts, visiting museums and art galleries, listening to TED talks etc. The idea is that students are then able to talk about these experiences at interview. Here is some feedback from the students:

I feel so privileged to have been able to go on such an amazing trip which has truly been an eye-opening experience and has showed me that the doors of opportunity really are endless. For example, whether you choose to study medicine, history or art, that doesn't necessarily mean that you can only become a doctor, historian or artist! Choosing one course to study can stem out to a number of exciting careers, for instance, studying a course on History can lead to careers like being a Civil Service Administrator, Solicitor or Marketing Executive-which perhaps you didn't expect!

Personally, what I've taken from this experience is that, to be able to achieve your most desired goals and end up with your dream career in the FUTURE, you really have to push yourself outside your comfort zone and take on as many opportunities as possible TODAY. You'll be surprised at how time flies...

Think of it like this: You've been given all the tools you need-but what you build with them is your choice entirely. And whether your building collapses or stands steadily from the very start-there's always space to improve and make changes! The key is to be flexible and inquisitive, and then you know you can't go wrong!

Bianca 10W



The trip was very informative and allowed me to experience student life. It was fascinating to see what a university of such a high calibre had to offer in terms of accommodation, courses and societies. Furthermore, the day provided many opportunities to ask questions and take pictures of the beautiful architecture. I was also pleasantly surprised by the strong sense of community and diversity. It was particularly inspiring to see a former student attend such a prestigious university and it has motivated me to work hard in order to be a successful candidate in future.

Romayssa 10W

My experience at the University of Cambridge was truly inspiring. The tour at Gonville and Caius was an eye-opener for each and every one of us. To have met a student whom once attended Walthamstow School for Girls and now attends a renowned University was motivational as well as influential. I am very appreciative of this outstanding opportunity and thankful to receive an understanding of what higher education beholds.

Banin 10H

We had a lecture about how the university works and how to apply. We also learnt about the activities there are to do in Cambridge and what the university looks for in an application form. Then we had a debate on the contentious topic of whether or not mobile phones should be allowed in the classroom. There were many good points such as that they would help students as they could use the internet to help them if a teacher is busy helping another student. However, a good counter-argument to that point was that many students would be distracted by the phones and would not be able to focus. After the lecture we met Charlotte. She took us on a tour around Gonville and Caius and spoke to us about the main parts of the university. This really inspired me. To know that a student from our school got accepted into Cambridge University motivates me to work harder in all of my lessons to get the best grades that I can and to achieve my full potential.

Amira 10W.

Finally, a big thank you to Mrs Finamore and Mr Grinbergs who volunteered to accompany us on the trip. It was a long day involving over 15,000 steps!

Ms Robinson
Challenge Coordinator



The mathematical bridge as seen during
LGBT History Month

English News BBC Young Reporter

For the second week running one of our Year 10 students has won 'article of the week' through the Young Reporters scheme.



Ms Durham

GCSEs are one of the most stressful and tiring things that most teenagers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland have to go through. As a teenager in secondary school, you don't know what you want to be or do in the future, and you're told that if you don't pass your GCSEs, you'll fail your life and will never get a job. That may be true for some jobs, but I don't think I need to get grade 9s to become a professional sleeper- yes, that is a job, you get to lay and test bed mattresses by sleeping on them.

Most students go through two years of frustration, pressure and high expectations from teachers, parents/carers or from themselves. GCSE stands for 'General Certification of Secondary Education', but personally, I think it stands for:

God
Can't even
Save us from this
Epidemic of modern day and normalised torture for students

There's no doubt that GCSE years are exhausting and mentally tiring. Being able to have the motivation to revise and study for tests is difficult, because most of us would rather watch an episode of Love Island, or binge watch a whole manga or anime series.

Not everyone knows how to revise or study efficiently, most people are bad at certain things, but good at other things, and for some people, they are "bad" at revising, because no one really tells you how to revise. Teachers will just suddenly tell you that you're doing a test on plant organisation, but you thought you've been studying about bacteria this whole time. Then you realise you have a week to revise and think that it will be fine, but then procrastination comes along; and then, you realise that the next period is the test, and you have done absolutely nothing, sounds familiar?

I am not here to say that I have mastered the art of revising, but I want to share some tips when revising to help you or give you suggestions, and my test results have gotten a bit better after I started doing some of these things.

Tips

- **Don't leave revision 'till the last one or two days** before the test! I'm guilty of doing this, procrastination really is a demon. It makes you think that everything will be fine and that you have a lot of time left, but then it tricks you, and leave you with stress and anxiety.
- **Use study guides!** I love using the CGP study guides. However, study guides can be expensive they can cost around five to fifteen pounds each; and so, if you buy a study guide for each of your subjects and topics, it could add up to more than a hundred pound! Therefore, I like to borrow them from the library, it's free at most places for students to make a library card, and most libraries will have a section for revision guides. Sometimes it's hard to find the section, so you may need to ask a librarian. This is can be helpful, since you will not only save money, but you can also study in the library for free! Moreover, there are free study guides online that are made by other people, and so you'll just have to do some digging and researching.
- **Make cue cards/flash cards!** Personally, I like to make my own cue cards, because it's fun to make and I can personalise them; and because it's cheaper. Cue cards are small therefore, I can bring them wherever I want. But if you don't want to carry cue cards you can download cue card apps, such as Quizlet. Even though I don't like using those apps as phones easily distract me, but it may work for you! Cue cards are useful as you can test yourself, or get others to test you. However, if using cue cards isn't your thing you can always do other things, obviously.
- **Find a good revision environment or place!** One of my favourite study spots is this café in Walthamstow, because I can eat, drink and relax there, plus, there is Wi-fi. Sometimes I go to the library, since its free and quiet. However, you don't need to go outside to study, you can study in your room, but sometimes you can get bothered by your parents or siblings. I prefer to study outside, as I like to go to outside and because I don't have a table in my room.
- **Find things that helps you study!** Using my laptop helps me study more effectively, because I like the feeling of typing and I sometimes like to organise

my notes online; plus, I get easily distracted when using my phone to search for information. Another reason is that laptops have a bigger screen than a phone, so it's easier to see things. Also, I like to use my pastel highlighters, this is because it keeps my notes neat and aesthetically pleasing. Furthermore, I like to have a drink near me, such as water or tea, to keep me hydrated. Certain objects may help you study better, for example, a blanket, stress ball, snacks etc.

- **Take breaks!** I take short breaks whenever I feel like it, during those breaks I sometimes watch this youtuber who does make-up whilst talking about true crimes. It's important to take breaks, so that you don't stress out yourself. You can watch your favourite youtuber, listen to songs or scroll through social media. Taking short breaks will help avoid becoming stressed and unmotivated.

- **Do practice exam questions!** It's important to do practice exam questions, so that you can know what it's like to under exam pressure . You can also time yourself to give you that exam feeling. For some people they can revise perfectly, but when it comes to the exam they may panic and not know what to do, so it's vital to practice putting yourself under that exam pressure. But don't stress yourself out.

Sites and resources

Here are some useful sites that I have used and found

- **Free Science Lessons** (Youtube) This man is a legend; he explains things very well and clearly in only just a couple of minutes. Good for last minute revision lol.

- **Math Made Easy** (Google/Online) It has loads of exam style questions and comes with answers.

- Majority of the time there are **online copies** of books that you study in English, like An Inspector Calls, Jane Eyre, Romeo and Juliet. Sometimes you can even find labelled and annotated ones.

As I mentioned before you can find study guides online made by other people. There are also people who make videos online about subjects, and so you'll just have to do a bit of research and googling.

LGBTQ+ Poem

She tells herself
"You're into boys."
But deep down
She knows that
They make too much noise
She tells herself
"You like their taste."
But deep down
She finds it ugly
When they do a race
She tells herself
"I like boys."

She can't like anyone else
She knows she's not like the rest
Like the rest of the girls
She was never the ones
The ones to adore pearls
So what was so wrong?
She knows that she's different
Left out
She thinks
That maybe to find boys
She'd apply for scouts

But that didn't work
She felt so lost
"You're into boys"
Then why has she been tossed?
"You're into boys."
But deep down
Her picture of a lover
Is long hair
Rosy lips
And curvy hips
She knows it's wrong
But maybe
Being gay
Maybe that's;
That's okay.



P.E.

Waltham Forest Year 8 Netball Rally

In mid March, the Year 8 netball team attended the Waltham Forest Rally at Redbridge Leisure Centre. The students played a number of teams from within the borough including Forest, Holy Family and Chingford who are all very strong netball schools.

All students worked extremely hard throughout the afternoon and we finished in 4th place overall.

Congratulations to the following students:

Betty 8G

Debra 8C

Aminah 8C

Hannah 8C

Tenzin 8C

Alex 8W

Nell 8W

Aishah 8F

Anna 8F



Ms Warren

Gardening Club

February and March are busy months for many gardeners.

In February there were signs of the approaching spring, with bulbs appearing and wildlife waking up as it gets lighter and temperatures increase. There was plenty to do indoors to prepare for the season ahead. Outdoors, as the garden comes to life again it's time to start sowing seeds under cover.

At this time it is important to prepare vegetable seed beds and sow some vegetables under cover.

We have been so fortunate to have Mr Grinbergs who has been volunteering his time to help us with this preparation, as well as his trusted advice. This has given us time to enjoy the fruits of our last season growing.

We sowed seeds in our greenhouse in preparation for spring. These included: peas, chilies, celery, potato chitting and Goji berries.

We also made Mediterranean spinach pastries using spinach which was still flourishing in our garden.

I enjoy attending Gardening Club. In Gardening Club we plant seeds and cook things using ingredients we have grown. For example, we have made muffins, bird cakes, pumpkin and potatoes, carrot soup and soaps. We also gave some pumpkins to our school kitchen.

Nayab 7F



Students preparing dishes

Our Chef, Mr Skippers with home grown produce.

As well as pruning, cleaning and planning, it is a perfect time for sowing seeds. With this in mind, we purchased an additional greenhouse to maximize our seed sowing and growing potential.

Our school office staff have also become involved through propagating and nurturing seedlings on windowsills in the school's front office.

Thank you Year 7s and office staff for your continued support and interest in gardening club.

Ms Dominique
KS3 Learning Mentor



STEM -Year 8

Institute of Engineering and Technology Challenge Day

WSFG welcomed students from Highams Park School and Holy Family Catholic School to participate in a busy and challenging STEM day. The students had to come up with innovative solutions and prototypes for transporting aid to disaster zones. I was very proud of all the students for their enthusiasm and work ethic throughout the day.

This is what the students had to say about the experience.

This problem solving day was informative and fun! I got to learn all about engineering and valuable skills I can use later in life. We used resilience and creativity plus we got to work with new people and make new friends. I would love to do something like this again.

Evie 8F

Throughout the course of the day I learnt valuable skills including resilience, teamwork and communication. I discovered that there are many different types of careers within engineering. It was a fun and informative day.

Stefania 8S



This was a great opportunity to work on problem solving skills and teamwork. The staff were very supportive and made sure we all contributed and felt included. I am glad we have these workshops.

Matylda 8S

The activity today was a great experience for us to build on our teamwork skills and learn about the role of an engineer. I discovered that being an engineer is so much more than making things as there are lots of branches of engineering.

Mya 8H



This was a fun and exciting opportunity and I learnt a lot about engineering. I learnt the importance of STEM and how engineering can be applied to everything. I really enjoyed this amazing day and I hope to do something like this again.

Carys 8W

Ms Healy
STEM Coordinator



Pi Day 2020

Despite Pi Day being on a Saturday this year, it was still celebrated by the Maths Faculty, in the week leading up to March 14th.

Year 7 developed their memory techniques, using colour coding of the digits, chanting and singing to help memorise Pi. Classes had Pi recitation competitions, students made human Pi formations and some made Pi shaped biscuits.

Here is a selection of Pi themed photos from our activities.



The Winner of 7M1 was *Faith*, who memorised pi to 107 dp



The class standing in Pi formation is 11M1



The biscuits and stitching were both done by Eliza.



The colourful grid is Pi, colour coded to 100dp, made out of origami paper



Ms Robinson
Challenge Coordinator

Music for Youth
CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Music for Youth are continually monitoring the situation regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19)

[More Information](#)

Event Calendar
MARCH

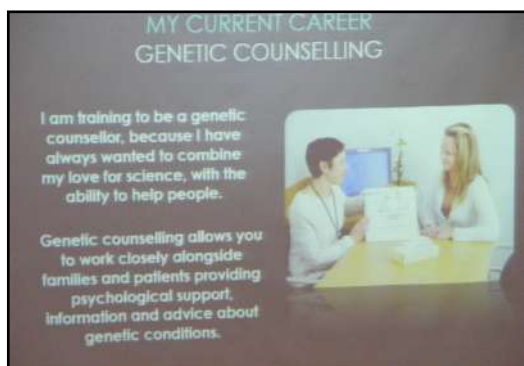
International Women's Day Celebrations and Science Week

As a follow on to International Women's Day celebrations and Science Week, we were delighted to have Leanne Barrett, a former student of WSFG, return to the school to share with our Year 9 students her journey so far since leaving us.

Leanne is a fantastic role model for our students, having studied Biology, Chemistry and Psychology at A-Level before gaining a 2:1 at Oxford Brookes University. She is currently finishing her Masters and is set to become a Genetic Counsellor.



Leanne explained this role, linking it to the GCSE Science curriculum and gave students a real insight into a whole host of STEM related careers whilst advising that set-backs along the way should be seen as 'new doors opening'.



The Q&A session rounded off the talk with many Year 9 students asking interesting follow-up questions.

Mr Kerr and Ms Brunas
Science Faculty

