



NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

Greensheet

SUMMER 2020 LOCKDOWN EDITION *plus*

NHS Supplement



Headteachers Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff,

Whilst you have been seeing the amazing work produced over this period of lockdown by our students, it is also the case that our current and former staff have made their own important contributions to support frontline NHS workers.

Throughout this unprecedented lockdown, Individuals and groups have been assisting frontline workers in a range of healthcare settings by making and providing them with much needed personal protective equipment.

So we have decided to gather together some of these stories in order to produce a special edition of our Greensheet in order to showcase our colleagues' voluntary work, both to show our gratitude, but also to serve as a legacy for our future school community to look back on.

On behalf of our school community, thank you to our staff for generously giving your time to support our keyworkers, alongside teaching and managing home life with families.

Thank you also to our NHS, health and care workers, and key workers from other sectors, who have worked tirelessly and courageously through this unprecedented time.

Stay safe all-as well as alert,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ms M Davies', with a stylized, wavy line extending from the end.

Ms M Davies
Headteacher

NHS Visors

There were a very busy few weeks in my house at the beginning of lockdown. My husband and I worked flat out to 3D print as many visors as possible for NHS staff. As you are aware, our frontline doctors and nurses were in desperate need of PPE and so we manufactured and delivered the visors to end users as soon as they were assembled.

We assembled and dispatched over 300 visors and these are in continual use by staff in main and maternity theatres, as well as Covid-19 wards at Whipps Cross hospital.

We also supplied visors to all the GP surgeries in Loughton and Buckhurst Hill as well as the newly established Covid-19 clinic. Not only have our amazing NHS benefited from these visors, but so have the invaluable staff at care homes in the local area too.

Here are just some of the many photographs we have received of staff showing their appreciation for these visors.



We continued to 3D print visors and our three 3D printers worked day and night to produce the quantity that were needed. All of this was happening in between managing our own school work!

Ms Healy ADT Faculty and Mr Furness

WSFG Supporting the NHS

Our Learning Resources Manager, Ms Kelly and her fellow craft group members set up the Highams Park Scrubbers group at the beginning of lockdown, making scrubs for nurses, among other creations for patients and relatives.

See the link for the full story in the Waltham Forest Echo:

<http://walthamforestecho.co.uk/scrubbing-up/>



Other items made for patients and relatives at a local hospice.



Waltham Forest NHS Sewers

I am one of a group of sewers in Waltham Forest who have been making 'scrubs' for NHS workers. We have been asked to make a panel for a quilt, to provide a record of the things that we have been doing during lockdown. The panel is 20cm by 20cm and although it is not up to the standards of the Bayeux Tapestry, it was fun to make. My theme was taken from the picture book, *'Guess How Much I Love You'* by Sam McBratney - you may recognise the rabbits from the book at the bottom of the panel.

Sewing for many people is a great way to relax and all you need is some fabric, scissors, a needle and thread. So, why not try one for yourself and start creating your own fabric record of how you are spending your time. Best wishes to you and all your family.

Mrs Kelly

Learning Resource Centre



WSFG Teachers Sewing for the NHS

Starting in the first week of lockdown 'The Redbridge and Chigwell FTLOS Seamstresses' quickly grew to over 40 ladies stitching scrubs, scrub bags and crocheting ear-savers for our NHS and frontline workers, with ladies from all sorts of backgrounds joining in. The group depended on the generosity of the community and it was heart-warming to see donations of materials needed pouring in.



It was lovely to be able to recruit our very own Ms Keserauskaite and Ms Shafiq to this very honourable cause, both of whom who have been an asset to the group. They have produced the highest quality of work in between teaching online and other essential school work and home chores.

Ms Keserauskaite produced some very unique scrub bags - each one more perfect than the previous one. Those of you who know her well know that Ms Keserauskaite puts her very best into everything she does, and this was no different.

Ms Shafiq plunged directly into stitching scrubs for doctors at The Royal London Hospital. As soon as she found out about the group, Ms Shafiq was quick to offer her help and did



not allow the idea of starting with scrubs to phase her in the least. It was wonderful that she was able to enlist the help of her mother and, between the two, the work produced was next to none.

Although we thought we were the only WSFG teachers on the group (with one other ex-colleague, Mrs Akhtar) it soon became apparent that we had yet another ex-colleague on the group Ms Cullen, a former English teacher and Head of department at WSFG. It wasn't until she wanted to write an article about the group did we realise the connection. And in fact, she used to be Ms Shafiq's English teacher!



In addition, we found out that there were at least two very active ladies on the group who used to be students at WSFG in the eighties!

At a time of uneasiness, it has been great to see so many ladies selflessly giving up their time to give back to the frontline workers. Starting with much needed scrub bags for the London Ambulance, they quickly moved onto scrubs and ear-savers for various hospitals including The Royal London and Homerton Hospital, as well as local GP practices such as St James Practice and The Jane Atkinson Wellbeing Centre in Waltham Forest.

We have now helped over 40 establishments and have made around 2000 ear-savers, 2000 scrub bags and over 200 scrubs for doctors and care workers. Although coordinating the group has been hard work and taken up much of my time (which I would have otherwise used to catch up on Netflix!), I am so glad that I started this initiative and persevered. As well as making a difference to keyworkers, I have had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful women, many of whom have been able to proudly use skills that they learnt so many years ago to play their part in these extraordinary times.

Ms Hafiz
Learning Development Faculty



Our next project: face coverings...





Soon after we went into lockdown, I came across an invitation to join a 'Redbridge & Chigwell-For the Love of Scrubs' group on social media.

My colleague and dear friend Ms Hafiz had sent it, and this is when I found out about the amazing work Ms. Hafiz and her group were doing to provide scrubs, scrub

bags and ear savers to the NHS. Instantly, I knew I had to offer my support, even though I had my hands full at home.

My thoughts went straight to asking my mum for help, who during lockdown had found herself with not much to do. My mum had worked many years as a seamstress and so was able to offer valuable support to the group. So, my GCSE Textiles skills and my mum's much advanced sewing skills were put to action, and we started to make scrubs and scrub bags.



Scrubs for
St James
Surgery



Scrubs for
North
Middlesex
University
Hospital

Hello Kitty' Scrub Bags





Scrubs for
The Royal
London Hospital

It has been an absolute pleasure to support the group, improve my sewing skills and also to know that we have made a big difference to those working on the frontline. I have also been introduced to many wonderful people in the group that are all working tirelessly to meet orders from care homes, surgeries and health centres. I was surprised to find that my English teacher, Ms. Cullen from when I was a student at WSFG, was also a member of the group. It certainly is a small world, but it is wonderful to meet those people again who have taught and inspired you in the past. I look forward to providing continuous support to the group who have made a positive difference in such difficult times.

Ms Shafiq
ICT Faculty





It was a privilege to make scrub bags for NHS workers who have been working incredibly hard during these difficult times. I'm really happy that I could help out the NHS in a different way and although what we did was not a miracle, I was pleased that we could help the NHS workers through the little actions that we did.

Ms Hafiz, who is my colleague and close friend, did a tremendous job organising the group as it gradually grew with more and more sewers. I have always known Mrs Hafiz as someone who is a very helpful and kind, however she still managed to impress me with her wonderful organisation skills that she implemented perfectly in the group. The way Mrs Hafiz coordinated the group should be an inspiration to all of us. I also need to mention Ms Percil who kindly

donated and delivered some materials for the production of the bags. However, this was not surprise to me because I already knew how kind and generous she is, which is why she is liked by many students at WSfG.

Ms Keserauskaite
Science Faculty





A Selection of Pictures and Feedback

Salam Razwana hope you are keeping well.sorry for the late response -I wore the scrubs and they are a perfect fit ! Seems as made bespoke for my measurements .Can't thank you and the ladies who stitched them enough .thanks a lot .take care x

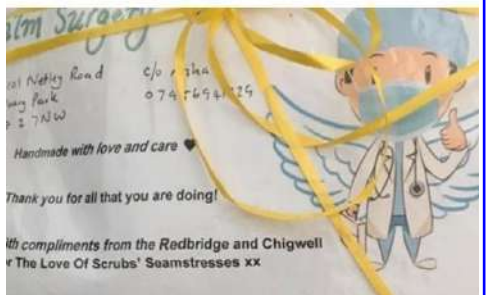
22:12



A HUGE thank you to Gemma and The Redbridge & Chigwell Covid 19: FTLOS seamstresses!! Today we received their gift of knitted ear protectors and the most beautiful collection of drawstring bags for all the team! These bags aid infection control by ensuring our staff can put their uniforms straight into them to be laundered at the end of a shift. The ear protectors are attached to the masks we wear to make them much more comfortable. You kindness, time and amazing sewing skills are really appreciated. And to Joana for her help organising this 🙏 Thank you so very much 🧡💛🌈 Team Muriel Street



🧡💛 Thank you to all the dedicated team at 'For the Love of Scrubs' for the donation of the scrubs today to The Palms Medical Centre 🙏💛 We are eternally grateful for your kind donation and will be used by the GP's and Clinical Team during these difficult times at the surgery - Thank you 🙏💛 Special thanks to Gemi Bear 🙏💛 for organising this to hap... See more



WSFG Teachers Sewing for the NHS



A few weeks ago, messages came flooding into my neighbourhood Whatsapp group: messages about sewing scrubs for health workers. A few more said, 'What's that all about?' And then more chimed in asking, 'How can I get involved?'

I knew this was going on; my friend Ms Kelly was sewing scrubs (from the start) in her Waltham Forest group.

We hear about the shortage of protective clothing; our local groups are receiving many requests. There's also a demand for laundry bags, so health carers can put dirty garments into drawstring bags and pop them straight into the washing machine, avoiding the risk of spreading the virus

We're doing something to help health workers and using lockdown time to make a difference. I have since found out that group was started by a group of women including Razwana Hafiz. My neighbour, another WSFG alumnus, told me we'd worked together at the "Green School." I was able to meet her and greet: "Ms Hafiz! My old colleague."



Since then, others in the sewing group have identified as Walthamstow Girls. Some remembered me as their teacher and commented kindly about this fact! I look forward to meeting them when this is all over.

I joined the army of helpers. As I've not done any sewing for years, it's taken a while, but I'm getting back into the stride of sewing and finishing. By Eithne Cullen

English teacher at WSFG 1992-1999

Head of English at WSFG 2002-2004



WSFG Provides PPE

At the beginning of lock down when medical practices, hospitals and care homes were in vital need of personal protective equipment, we organised the distribution of goggles and gloves from our Science faculty. The equipment was sent to University College hospital, Whipps Cross hospital, local care homes and GP practices - all of whom were grateful for our support.



The school also lent Ms Healy and her husband our 3D printer so that they could make even more shields for front line workers.





Thank you
NHS