



# GREENSHEET



No. 26/20

Church Hill, Walthamstow, London, E17 9RZ

Telephone: 020 8509 9446

7 May 2021  
Week 'A'

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<b>Tuesday 1</b> <b>June to Friday</b> <b>4 June:</b> Half Term				
<b>Tuesday 8 -</b> <b>Friday</b> <b>18 June:</b> Key Stage 3 Examinations Fortnight				

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

### Mental Health Awareness Week: 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> of May

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week and our students will be taking part in activities in PSHE to raise awareness of the importance of good mental health. We know that one in four people in England suffer from some kind of mental health problem each year and it is really important that we remove any kind of stigma attached to mental health issues. Given the legacy of COVID and the pressures of modern life, it is really important that we all practise good mental health and the '5 Ways to Wellbeing' are a good place to start: Connect / Take Notice / Be Active / Keep Learning / Give. I want to urge you all to discuss these really practical ways to improve wellbeing with your child. Here are some links below:

<https://mentalhealth-uk.org/get-involved/mental-health-awareness-days/mental-health-awareness-week/>

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>

This year's theme is 'nature' and I was reflecting yesterday, spending an hour with our year 8s on duty, on how lucky we are to have such beautiful grounds where our students can take a break from lessons and enjoy time in a green space. It's just a shame that the weather wasn't better!

### **Eid-al-Fitr**

To all of our staff, students and families who are celebrating Eid next week, I wanted to wish you 'Eid Mubarak!' After the disappointments of last year, it is so lovely that families can celebrate together once more, now that restrictions are easing. We have so much for which we can be grateful.

The Muslim Council of Britain has issued guidance on how we can all stay safe during Eid celebrations:

<https://mcb.org.uk/press-releases/eid-al-adha-guidance-for-muslim-communities/>

### **Uniform**

Thank you again for your support as parents and carers in ensuring that the girls are equipped for school and in full uniform. We have seen a real improvement in standards and I am really proud of everyone as they line up in the morning, looking professional and ready to learn. Now that the weather is (generally) better, there should be no need for students to wear coats in the classroom, so please remind your child about this.

### **Exams in 2022**

There has been a lot of speculation in the media about arrangements for examinations in 2022 both in terms of whether exams will go ahead, and what grading standard will be reintroduced.

Exam boards and Ofqual appear to be adopting a "wait and see" approach for 2022, at least until the 2021 results are in. Students and teachers are all anxious to plan and prepare effectively and we will inform you as soon as we know what is happening. Please see below for a link to a recent TES article on the subject:

<https://www.tes.com/news/gcses-2022-ofqual-undecided-full-fat-exams-return>

### **Year 7 Parents/Carers' Evening**

Thank you to staff, students and parents/carers who attended our year 7 parents/carers evening last night: 92% of parents and carers attended the evening. We look forward to discussing your feedback.

## Olive Dining

I know that some of you will have been dismayed by the report that our 5-star hygiene rating has been removed. Olive Dining have issued a statement which is printed on page 4. Once you read this, I hope you will be reassured that the inspection findings did not suggest that our catering team are adopting unhygienic food practices. Olive Dining have immediately rectified the identified issues and have requested a reinspection of the premises by the Local Authority (LA). We know how important it is that parents are able to trust the quality of our school food service. We believe the remedial actions which have been put in place will secure us a grading of 5 once again.

Wishing you a restful weekend



Ms Marriott  
Headteacher





NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

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Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Walthamstow School for Girls - Environmental Health Officer Visit

#### Removal of our 5-star rating

Olive Dining work at the school to provide exciting menus using ingredients freshly prepared daily to meet the individual requirements of the students and staff. In the provision of this service and the management of the production of food, we take our Food Hygiene Ratings very seriously.

Olive Dining audit the kitchens where we operate using an external Food Safety Officer every year. This is to ensure that we comply with all relevant legislation, methods of food production and address any changes that maybe required by government. In addition, the kitchen at WSG is audited on an annual basis by the Local Authority (LA). Olive Dining at WSG have consistently achieved a 4/5-star rating on an annual basis.

The most recent visit at the end of the spring term identified some points that required to be addressed because of prolonged closure / reduced services during Covid which impacted some of our training and administration duties. I wish to reassure parents and carers that the inspection findings did not highlight anything to suggest that our catering team are adopting unhygienic food handling practices. In the meantime, we have implemented an in-depth action plan and the retraining of the catering team at the school.

Working with the school, Olive Dining have immediately rectified the identified issues and have requested an immediate reinspection of the premises by the LA. We are informed that in accordance with standard practice, the LA will not re-rate with a number grading until three months have passed, even though we believe the remedial actions we have put in place would secure us a grading of 5 once again.

Because we want to give maximum assurance to students and their families that food served at Walthamstow School for Girls is safe and follows strict hygiene standards, we are unhappy about the time delay imposed upon us. We believe that it is essential that parents are able to trust the quality of the provision.

We believe that Waltham Forest should be prepared to re-rate without delay; not for our benefit but for that of those we serve. We are currently in dialogue with the LA to facilitate this.

We are confident that we are complying with all the obligations on us and look forward to the reinspection by Waltham Forest and expect to regain our rating of 5 once this is completed.

In the meantime, if I can provide any further information and reassurances or if you have any specific questions about the management of the catering service at Walthamstow School for Girls, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Stephanie Spratt  
 Managing Director  
 Olive Dining (07584247450)



## Year 7 iPad Initiative

We would like to thank all those parents and carers of students in Year 7 who have signed up for the iPad scheme and who have their child's iPad ready and waiting for use. We would also like to thank these families for their patience.

As we are all more than aware, this year has been challenging in many ways for so many members of our community with the pandemic and its impact upon health, work and finances, as well as the lack of certainty many families have faced. Within this context many families have understandably struggled to commit to the iPad scheme, which in turn has caused delays in establishing the use of the iPad in the classrooms.

We are looking at a solution to this which should mean all of our Year 7 students have access to an iPad for their learning after half term. We will notify our Year 7 families when this is the case, and your child will then need to ensure they have their iPad in school every day, fully charged, ready for their learning.

Best wishes

Ms Snowsill

Deputy Headteacher



## Authorised Absence for Religious Observance

We would like to advise our families of the procedure for authorising time off from school for religious observance.

If you wish your child to be absent from school for the celebration of a religious festival, please notify our attendance manager, Ms Julie King on: [j.king@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:j.king@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk) **in advance** of the absence.

Please make sure this information is put in writing. If you have not notified the school in advance, you will receive an absence enquiry text, following our usual procedure.

The Department for Education Guidance on School Attendance can be found on the link below. Page 13 outlines Code R: Religious observance: "Schools must treat absence as authorised when it is due to religious observance. The day must be exclusively set apart for religious observance by the religious body to which the parents belong. Where necessary, schools should seek advice from the parents' religious body about whether it has set the day apart for religious observance." [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/907535/School\\_attendance\\_guidance\\_for\\_2020\\_to\\_2021\\_academic\\_year.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907535/School_attendance_guidance_for_2020_to_2021_academic_year.pdf)

## Fasting During Ramadan and the School Day

Dear Parents and Carers

Please discuss with your daughter about managing her fast in the best way that is possible. Do encourage her to wake up for Suhoor (sehri) and even if she does not have much of an appetite, please ask her to at least have something to eat such as dates, banana, or even snacks such as cakes/biscuits, and of course some water or juice. This way she will be able to have some energy to get through her school day more effectively.

Please also discuss with your daughter the permissibility to break one's fast if they become ill or feel overly weak, such that they are unable to continue the school day. We are unable to send students home on grounds that they are fasting and unable to cope with the fast.

Thank you,  
Ms Siddiqui and Ms Ahmed



Faculty News  
Mathematics

# PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

## Puzzle of the Week

158

Puzzle  
Number

# PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

Entries open: Mon 3rd May

Entries close: Sun 9th May



Scan to enter

Sophia has 52 identical isosceles right angled triangles.  
She wants to make a square using some of them.

The triangles look  
like this



Here's an example of one of  
the squares she can make.



**How many different sized squares can she make?**

**Extension:** How many different parallelograms can Sophia make with these 52 triangles?

www.puzzleoftheweek.com  
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Puzzle of the Week

Puzzle of the Week  
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Here is the link to this week's puzzle: <http://www.puzzleoftheweek.com/>



**IN A HURRY, PLEASE  
RETURN YOUR BOOKS  
TO THE BOX IN THE  
STUDENT RECEPTION.**

**MRS KELLY, LRC.**

## Faculty Word Search

English—Romeo and Juliet

### Romeo and Juliet

O	I	T	U	C	R	E	M	I	A	I	S	S	R
C	S	E	G	G	C	A	P	U	L	E	T	L	B
I	N	D	I	G	N	I	T	Y	R	A	C	P	A
S	R	E	E	C	G	Y	D	E	G	A	R	T	L
M	B	C	L	M	O	N	T	A	G	U	E	A	T
I	E	E	I	I	E	U	S	I	R	A	P	E	H
R	N	S	N	G	F	A	U	T	N	A	M	E	A
G	V	A	U	I	A	E	R	S	I	L	S	S	S
L	O	M	R	T	A	R	D	A	R	H	T	F	A
I	L	P	S	A	R	U	T	L	A	B	Y	T	R
P	I	S	E	S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	R
A	O	O	O	E	C	I	A	S	O	R	R	O	W
E	K	N	S	H	A	K	E	S	P	E	A	R	E
S	S	Y	V	I	A	L	E	O	R	O	S	E	T

DIGNITY  
SAMPSON  
SORROW  
BENVOLIO  
DEFILE  
MANTUA  
SACRIFICE  
ROSE  
TYBALT  
CAPULET  
PILGRIMS  
PARIS  
NURSE  
MERCUTIO  
TRAGEDY  
SHAKESPEARE  
BALTHASAR  
MONTAGUE  
TRAGIC  
VIAL

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/1515/>





## Diversity Calendar for May



**MAY**  
2021



Action on Stroke Month | Mental Health Awareness Month | Hepatitis Awareness Month | UK National Walking Month | Colic Awareness Month



KEY: Diversity (Red), Health (Orange), Pain (Yellow), Environment (Green), International (Blue), Bank Holiday (Purple)

**SPECIAL DAYS**

- 01 International Workers' Day
- 02 Pascha (Orthodox Christian)
- 03 Orthodox Sunday (Orthodox Christian)
- 03 World Press Freedom Day (UN)
- 04 World Asthma Day
- 05 Cinco de Mayo
- 05 International Midwives Day
- 06 Laylat al Qadr (Islam)
- 09 Women's Health Week (9th - 15th)
- 09 Yom Veasutasayim (9th - 10th) (Judaism)
- 12 International Nurses Day
- 13 Ascension (Christian)
- 13 Eid al-Fitr (Islam)
- 15 International Day of Families (UN)
- 16 Shavuot (16th - 18th) (Judaism)
- 17 International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia
- 20 World Bee Day (UN)
- 22 16th Eurovision Song Contest Final (International)
- 23 Declaration of the Bab (Bahar'i)
- 25 Pentecost (Christian)
- 25 Vaisakha Purn (Sikhism)
- 25 Ascension of Bahá'í's Báb (Bahar'i)
- 25 Ascension of Bahá'í's Baha'í
- 31 World No-Tobacco Day (WHO)
- Spring Bank Holiday (UK)

## School History

Here is a poem from the December 1927 Iris magazine, which many of our current students taking exams and tests will be able to relate to.

The title is ironic, as you will see when you read the poem.

Ms Kelly,  
LRC Manager

### "Our Carefree Youth."

LAST night we decided to get up at five  
And 'swot-up' some words that from Latin derive,  
Prepare last week's history, an essay to write,  
To translate some French at the very first sight,  
To juggle with x's, with y's and with z's,  
And generally cudgel our sleepy young heads.  
Alas! though at eight the alarm clock went off,  
We shiver and growl as our nightdress we doff.  
Five minutes for breakfast, no more can we stay,  
We put on our hats and then run all the way.  
We think of the test we've been promised to do  
In Latin, and English and Arithmetic too.  
We shudder and groan as we enter the room,  
"Rough note-books and pencils" – those words full of doom;  
Well-known and expected they fall on our ears,  
As hopeless and helpless we burst into tears.

G. McFarlane (Va)

### **School Calendar Dates for 2020-2021**

#### **Summer Term 2021**

- Monday 19 April 2021 to Thursday 22 July 2021
- **Half Term:** Tuesday 1 June 2021 to Friday 4 June

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June: Key Stage 3 Examinations Fortnight

### **School Calendar Dates for 2021-2022**

#### **REVISED**

#### **Autumn Term 2021**

- Wednesday 1 September 2021 to Friday 17 December 2021

Wednesday 1 September: Staff INSET/School Closure

Thursday 2 September: Term starts for ALL years (Y7/8/9/10/11)

- Half Term: Monday 25 October 2021 to Friday 29 October 2021
- Winter Holiday: Monday 20 December 2021 to Friday 3 January 2022

#### **Spring Term 2022**

- Tuesday 4 January 2022 to Friday 1 April 2022
- Half Term: Monday 14 February 2022 to Friday 18 February 2022
- Spring Holiday: Monday 4 April 2022 to Monday 18 April 2022

#### **Summer Term 2022**

- Tuesday 19 April 2022 to Tuesday 19 July 2022
- Half Term: Monday 30 May 2022 to Friday 3 June 2022.