



GREENSHEET



No. 19/19

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7 February 2020

Week 'B'

SCHOOL CALENDAR	CONTENTS	PAGE	CONTENTS	PAGE
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Half Term: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February	Focus of the Fortnight	3	School Calendar	16
Tuesday 3 March	Governor Election	4-5		
Friends of WSFG meeting 6-7pm LRC	HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE			
Thursday 5 March	Dear Parents and Carers,			
Year 8 Parents/Carer Subject Evening 4:30-7pm	This month we celebrate LGBT+ history. This year's theme, 'Poetry, Prose and Plays' will be interpreted in different ways across the school with a variety of events and activities. This will include an upcoming KS4 trip to see comedy drama, 'Time and Tide', at The Park Theatre which some of our lucky students have obtained tickets for, and there will be activities in lessons relating to the celebration and theme for this year.			
Thursday 26 March	Half of our Year 11 GCSE Art students visited the Whitechapel Gallery on Tuesday to see an exhibition by <i>Carlos Bunga</i> , with the remaining half being taken on Thursday. The trip gave students the opportunity to gather information and personal insights from the art work to develop ideas for their GCSE assignment. Not only was the trip artistically interesting to our students, it was also useful in preparing for their exam. My thanks to Ms Wills, Ms Dowling, Ms Hepworth and Ms West for accompanying students on the trip.			
Year 10 Parent Carer Subject Evening 4:30-7pm	On Wednesday, a group of Year 8 students were taken to the Unicorn Theatre to see <i>'The Bee in Me'</i> with Ms Desbenoit and Ms Pratt. This innovative play, written by contemporary playwright Roland Schimmelpfenning, shows a day in the life of a 10-year-old from their perspective as they imagine themselves as a bee completing levels in a computer game. It was certainly a different – but enjoyable experience for our students, as well as staff. My thanks to Ms Armitage for supporting students on the trip with our other two staff members.			

It was a busy evening in school on Thursday as we hosted our annual GCSE Options Evening for Year 9. Students were able to ask subject teachers what they can expect from the course and what the assessment requirements are. I hope that our Year 9s now feel more confident in making an informed decision. Time has also been spent in PSHE lessons preparing for these important choices. A reminder that the deadline for options choices is Friday 14th February 2020. Due to a number of planning limitations, it is not possible to accommodate changes so please ensure your child chooses the subject that is right for them.

The week concluded with a special day for Year 11 students after weeks of preparation, on Friday it was Professional Interview Day. Our Year 11s attend school in smart professional dress, as opposed to their school uniform. Each student had completed a job application and CV and was interviewed by a career professional unknown to them, who had reviewed their application. The interviewers came from a wide range of professional backgrounds to match with our students' various ambitions. After the interview, each student receives individual feedback and each year we have found this day to be extremely useful in preparing our students for their future career and educational paths.

Best wishes,

Ms M Davies
Headteacher

Attendance Figures for January 2020

Winners postcards for the month of January have been given to form groups. Classes will also receive a postcard from the Headteacher.



January winners are 7F, 8F, 9S, 10H and 11H.

Year to date winners are 7W, 8H, 9C, 10S and 11S.

100% certificates and pin badges for the autumn term have been given to the SPL's so please ask if you have not received them yet.

Students are allowed to pin the star badges onto their lanyards.

Ms King
Attendance & Pastoral Manager

Focus of the Fortnight
10th – 28th February 2020
Banned Items



Dear Parents/Carers,

Please see your child's planner for clarification of the items that are banned at WSFG (see list below). If a student is found to have a banned item in school, it will be confiscated and their conduct card will be signed. If and when appropriate parents/carers will be contacted and will be asked to collect the item.

Please note if your child has their mobile phone confiscated, they are **not** automatically entitled to have it back the next day. The school rule is that the phone will be returned to the parent/carer the week before the next school holiday. Parents/carers will receive a letter asking them to collect the mobile phone from the school office on a given date. If parents/carers wish to speak with the school about the confiscation of a mobile phone, please telephone the school and ask for Ms. Pratt. Please do **not** come to the school and ask for the phone to be returned, unless an arrangement has been made with Ms. Pratt for collection.

We have arrangements for mobile phones to be handed in at the office at 8.30am for safe-keeping during the school day as they are **not** allowed to be carried in school from 8.45 – 3.30pm.

In order to support your daughter and the school with this focus, please ensure she is clear about the banned items at WSFG.

Ms. K.H.Pratt
 Assistant Headteacher

Sanctions

- If a student is found to have a banned item in school, it will be confiscated and their conduct card will be signed. If and when appropriate, parents/carers will be contacted and will be asked to collect the item.
- If the item is dangerous, further sanctions will be taken according to the school's Positive Behaviour for Learning Policy.
- Banned items are as follows:- Illegal items, dangerous items, mobile phones, all electrical items, chewing gum, aerosols, liquid paper, glass bottles and non-uniform items, such as hoodies (see student planner).



NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

Headteacher: Ms M Davies BA (Hons) NPOH
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5th 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 2nd 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.

Yours faithfully,

Meryl Davies
 Headteacher





Please return this slip to the school before Monday 2nd 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.

Faculty News

Year 9 Visit to Financial Information Technology Offices



A small group of Year 9 students had the opportunity to visit a software development company (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 about 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 10 Trip to The University of Oxford

Last Friday 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.

Malaiika 10W

The next university trip for Year 10 is to Cambridge in February, where a different group of thirty students will be given the opportunity to be inspired.

Ms Robinson
Challenge Coordinator



Vodafone Digital Creators Challenge

A group of Year 8 students have taken 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 last few 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

If any of our school entries are chosen as finalists, they will have the opportunity to visit Vodafone's headquarters. Here is what the Year 8s had to say about the app workshop they took part in:

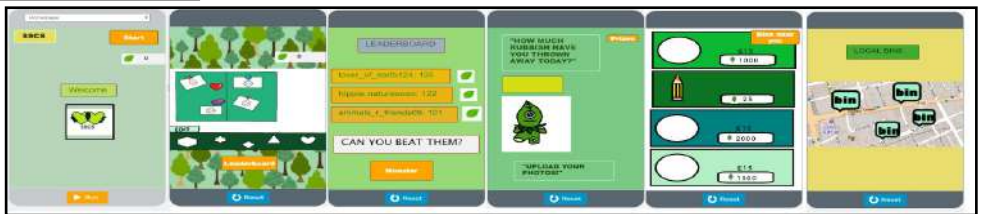


"We had a very fun and interesting time at the Vodafone challenge. It was a great learning experience and we all worked very hard for our end-result. We used programmes including AppLab, powerpoint and paint. It was a great expression of creativity for everyone and we are so excited to continue with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

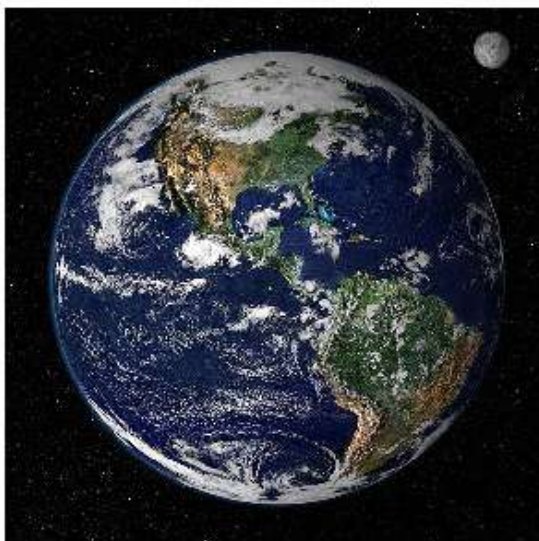


"We found this activity very enjoyable and we would like more sessions, as it was realistic and will help us in the future".

Ms Shafiq
ICT Faculty



“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 28th 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.

Year 9 Globe Theatre Trip

The English Faculty are pleased to announce that all Year 9 students have the opportunity to see a live performance of '*Macbeth*' at the Globe Theatre on **Friday 20th March**.

This is an excellent opportunity for all Year 9 students to see the play they have studied live on stage at Shakespeare's Globe.



Prior to the performance, WSWG will also host a series of workshops lead by Globe actors. Year 9 students who wish to participate in these workshops may apply for a place by submitting a piece of work (creative, analytical or artistic) linking to a theme, character or event in the play.

Information letters about the trip to the Globe Theatre will be sent home with students. Parents are reminded to log in to the sQuid online payment system to complete the permissions for this trip.

We're looking forward to a great event at Shakespeare's Globe!

The English Faculty

Chess Club coming soon

This club will be created by students for students.

If you are interested please see Charlotte 7G or Ms Kelly and Mrs Dominique.



Gardening Club

This month there are signs of the approaching spring, with bulbs appearing and wildlife waking up as it gets lighter and temperatures increase. There's plenty to do indoors this month 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.

This week we will be sowing seeds in our greenhouse in preparation for spring. This will include: peas, chillies, celery, potato chitting and Goji berries. Next week we will be making Mediterranean spinach pastries using spinach which is currently 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

Mrs Dominique
KS3 Learning Mentor



Our Chef,
Mr Skippers
with home
grown
produce

Students
preparing dishes



WSFG Diversity Calendar for the Month of February



February 2020



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 5						1	2
Week 6	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Week 7	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Week 8	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Week 9	24	25	26	27	28	29	

Last Quarter
 New Moon
 First Quarter
 Full Moon

Special Days

- 1st World Hijab Day
Imbolc - Lughnassadh - Wicca/Pagan
Northern and Southern Hemispheres
- 2nd Candlemas (Presentation of Christ in the Temple) - Christian
Four Chaplains Sunday - Interfaith
Dachauers Sunday - Orthodox Christian
- 3rd Saint Blasie Day - Christian
Sabbath - all - Jewish
- 4th World Cancer Day
- 7th Ashkenazi Sabbath - Orthodox Christian
Tu B'Shvat - Jewish
- 10th Our Lady of Lourdes - Christian
International Day of Women and Girls in Science
World Day of the Sick
Sabbath - Israel Day
- 12th Red Hand Day for Child Soldiers
- 14th Saint Valentine's Day
- 13th International Childhood Cancer Day
Nevrose Day - Buddhist
- 17th World Human Spirit Day
- 20th World Day of Social Justice
- 21st Maha Navami - Hindu
- 23rd Mealfare Sunday - Orthodox Christian
- 25th Shrove Tuesday - Christian
- 26th Infernal Day (Bangle - Baha'i)
Ash Wednesday - Christian
- 28th International STAND UP to Bullying Day
- 29th Infernal Day (Jedi) - Baha'i

All Jewish holidays begin at sundown on the evening before.

February is UK National Heart Month | Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans History Month |
Raymond's Awareness Month | Raymond's and Edelweiss Awareness Month

Matrix Challenge

Cyber security competition and events exclusively for young people across the UK



What is Matrix Challenge?

The **Matrix Challenge** is an innovative cyber competition designed and lead by the Yorkshire and Humber Regional Cyber Crime Unit. The Matrix Challenge is delivered in partnership with the regional organised crime units across the UK.

What does Matrix Challenge deliver to students?



Cyber security skills



Fun & interactive activities



Network of friends & contacts



Curiosity



Communication



Creativity



Problem Solving

What skills do you need to play?

How is the programme structured?

Learn



Officers and staff will be visiting schools across the UK to give an online safety input and guide students as they play the Matrix Challenge game. Roadshows start in January 2020.

Play



Play an online game designed to test your cyber knowledge. The game takes around 30 minutes to complete and can be done at home or in school.

Final



The highest scoring entrants from all the regions will be invited to an exciting day of cyber activities at the Matrix Challenge final. Parents and teachers, we have activities for you too!

Do I qualify to take part?



You must either live or go to school/college or be in elective home education within the UK.



Players must be aged 11-17 years old

Matrix Challenge is brought to you by:



For more information about how to take part in the **Matrix Challenge** please visit the website below.



www.matrix-challenge.uk

matrix@yhrocu.pnn.police.uk #matrixchallenge @YH_CyberProtect



School Calendar Dates 2019-2020

Spring Term

Monday 6 January to Friday 3 April

Half Term: Monday 17 February to Friday 21 February

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

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

Lost Property

Reminder to Parents/Carers

Please make sure all clothing, including P.E. kit, is clearly labelled. Blazers should be named with labels or in indelible pen.

Students are reminded that you can collect lost property at **3.30pm** every day. Parents and carers may also collect lost property **any day after school**.

All lost property will be removed from the box on the last day of term.

Ms Jolliffe
Student Services

