

No. 24/18

22March 2019 Week 'AB' Church Hill, Walthamstow, London, E17 9RZ Telephone: 020 8509 9446 Email: info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk Student Absence Line: 020 8509 9444



SCHOOL CALENDAR Spring Term 2019 Ends Friday 5th April 2019

Thursday 4th April 7th Annual Steel Pan Fundraising Concert 7 - 9.30 pm

Summer Term 2019 Tuesday 23rd April 2019 to Friday 19th July 2019

May Bank holiday Monday 6th May

Thursday 9th May Year 7 Parent/ Carer subject evening 4.30– 7pm

Monday 13th May -Tuesday 18th June GCSE Examinations Year 11 CONTENTS Headteacher's Message Parent/Carer information Student information Governor vacancy Faculty news Steel Pan concert Art competition

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HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers

What a terrible week this has been in world news. The grotesque act of terrorism in New Zealand plus the murders in Utrecht have shocked the world and reminded us all of the evil, intolerance and hatred that is in our midst. We have admired the humility and empathy demonstrated by the New Zealand Prime Minister as her people come to terms with the horrors in their midst. Humanity and kindness will ultimately always win out but the pain remains.

Also this week we see thousands homeless and starving in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi following Cyclone Idai. The charity Save the Children is asking schools to fundraise for urgent supplies so we will be organising a response.

Closer to home, this week has been Science Week and Mr Kerr, Head of Science and Ms Barham, Head Science Technician, have been demonstrating a number of exciting experiments in all the assemblies. Suffice to say, in 'rehearsals' two ceiling tiles changed colour, along with Mr Kerr's shirt, but after lots of practice, the experiments were all successful on the day. On Wednesday, Ms Mayes took a group of Year 9 students to the UKMT Maths Team Challenge and they did very well indeed, coming 10th out of 28 teams. We also had a large group of students, accompanied by Ms Robinson and former maths teachers Mr Fowler and Mr Courtney-as well as former pupil and current Cambridge student, Charlotte Gamble-visit Cambridge University on Friday. We are grateful that Charlotte volunteered to join us and show the girls around, even though she is on study leave, but she said she wanted also to pick up a couple of books from the Library to help with her work!

Earlier this week Year 10 Drama students enjoyed a workshop run by the Berberian Sound Studio in preparation for their visit to see a performance later this month. We also had the launch of the GREEN project for Year 7s. This exciting cross-curricular project will culminate in a wonderful exhibition of work by every student to which parents and carers are invited.

We had an excellent turn out of parents and carers at the Year 8 Parents Evening on Thursday. It is most rewarding for staff to meet and talk with you about the progress of your daughters. Parents also came into school on Tuesday to see their daughters perform their Drama examination pieces prior to the 'real thing'. GCSE Music ensemble performances have also been taking place this week-so the GCSEs are upon us already.

Finally, on Friday, Year 8 students took part in a MyBnk workshop in which the girls took part in different enterprise activities.

Walthamstow School for Girls has a vacancy for two parents or carers to serve as a school governor, I hope you will consider putting yourself forward. See page 3 for details.

Wishing you a peaceful weekend,

Meryl Davies Headteacher

Science week Assembly





NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

Headteecher: Ms M Davies BA (Hons) NPOH Church Hill Walthamstow London F17 987 Telechone: 020 8509 9446 Fax: 020 8509 9445 Email: info@wsfq.waitham.sch.uk Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

21st March, 2019

Walthamstow School for Girls has a vacancy for two parents or carers 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 Friday 5th April, 2019. 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 occasionally during the day and help in the oversight of an area of the curriculum 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, do please 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 AND

Meryl Davies Headteacher











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Please return this slip to the school before Friday 5th April, 2019

I wish to stand as a candidate for election as parent governor at (name) School.

First name:
Family Name (Mr/Mrs/Ms etc.):
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

Barge Haybay Weekend Friday 14 to Sunday 16 June 2019

In June we are travelling to Maldon in Essex for our annual weekend of outdoor adventures and activities, such as kayaking, climbing and high ropes. We stay on a moored houseboat and do all our own cooking and cleaning.

There is space for 24 students - all years are welcome - and the cost is £100.

If you are interested in coming, please sign up on the door to G68 for more information.

If you have any questions, please see Ms Famiglietti

Below are a few of the activities from last years' trip:







1 school 120 musicians 6 bands

Seventh annual fundraising steelband concert





Thursday 4th April 2019

7pm sharp Do

Doors open at 6.30pm

Tickets are limited, pre-booking is essential Adults £7 Students £4

Student and parent tickets MUST be purchased in advance via sQuid and collected from student services

For all other tickets please contact Ms Bradshaw via email: hbradshaw@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

Science week

Genetic Counselling

We began Science week with one of our ex-students: Leanne Barrett, who kindly agreed to come in and speak to Year 10 about genetic counselling, in which she is currently completing a Master Degree.





Leanne began by talking about the pioneers of genetics, taking time to pay particular homage to Rosalind Franklin whose famous image of DNA was used by Watson and Crick to identify its shape and won them the Nobel prize. Franklin received no recognition for her pioneering work, which has been an ongoing controversy to this day.

Leanne spent time outlining the ethical dilemmas linked to genetic counselling as it is her role to advise people on possible genetic outcomes, having already trained in a pregnancy unit and currently working in a cancer unit. She outlined some examples of the difficult conversations she has had with patients, outlining possible genetic conditions that may arise and affect them or their future children.

Leanne then went on to tell the students her own story of how she got to where she is. It was particularly inspiring to hear how her route into her profession was not as straight forward as she would have hoped, and the important things she had learned on her journey. Leanne spent time emphasising the importance of having outside interests, such as extra-



curricular clubs or volunteering work, as it is important that students have more to say about themselves than just their exam results, and can show how they stand out and are different from everyone else.

The Year 10 girls finished by asking Leanne a lot of questions ranging from what colour was her lanyard to how she coped herself with delivering difficult news to people. A big thank you from us to Leanne for an inspiring talk on her journey into genetics.

Science assemblies

This week I have been leading the Leadership assemblies and, with the help of Ms Barham shown all of our girls some of the more exciting experiments that exist in Science. As we approach the examinations, I am keen that our students do not lose the spark which Science is about and remember its core purpose: asking why things happen in nature and then exploring to find the answers.

Our assembly began with setting cellulose nitrate on fire. This chemical was found by accident (as has often been the case in Science). It is a highly flammable chemical with a low flash point and burns quickly with a big flame, much to the students' joy!



Ms Barham then demonstrated the test for Hydrogen. This involved bubbling the pure Hydrogen gas in washing up liquid. Then putting a lit splint to it. The girls are used to a squeaky pop, but in this case had to cover their ears for what sounds like a gun going off.

For our next demonstration, I got to set Ms Barham on fire! Here propane was bubbled into washing up liquid with a little glycerol added to make the bubbles stronger.

With propane being so highly flammable, the bubbles are placed on Ms Barham's hand and make a large flame as the propane quickly combusts using up all of the fuel.

Our final demonstration was catalysing the decomposition of hydrogen peroxide using iodide ions. This speeds up the breakdown of the peroxide to water and oxygen. This is famously known as the 'elephant toothpaste



Reaction'. It produces a highly energetic reaction with a lot of foam and gas that vigorously spits out of its container, much to the students' entertainment. At this point I must apologise to Ms Atchia as I practised this in her room on Tuesday and got the compositions a little wrong: this resulted in her ceiling tiles getting a little stained as the mixture exploded onto them. Sorry Ms Atchia!

Chemistry in Space

Some Year 8 and 9 classes were lucky enough to have a short workshop with Mr Mobbs from the National Space Academy who leads workshops on Chemistry and Physics particularly linked to space. Mr Mobbs is passionate about space and has met many astronauts and spent some time with our students outlining many of their stories.

As well as this, the girls were able to do an experiment with thermochromic paints examining which colours and materials respond the most effectively to paint. Here the girls had access to infra-red light sources as well as the thermochromic paints themselves, and they enjoyed this very much.

The girls particularly enjoyed

looking at the varied space artefacts Mr Mobbs brought along with him, including part of a satellite that had orbited the Earth, rocks from the moon and Mars, as well as a variety of odd space food, both tinned and dehydrated, which we all agreed did not seem too appealing.

Mr Mobbs spent time talking about the difficulties of going to space, outlining that it cost £50,000 to send a 1kg bag of sugar to space, giving an appreciation of just how expensive it is to send people and satellites into space.

It was also fascinating to examine how water acted in space, gathering together in large globules, very different to properties observed on Earth of how liquids act. It





turns out it is actually very dangerous to cry in space as you could literally drown in your own tears!

Conclusion

The Science Faculty hopes that our students have enjoyed Science week and have had the opportunity to see some of the fascinating things that are going on in Science, and ultimately that we have been able to inspire more girls to seriously consider a career in Science and keep asking the big questions.

Mr Kerr Head of Science

ADT



Challenge Year 10 trip to the University of Oxford

Last week, ten students from Year 10 had the opportunity to spend the day at the University of Oxford. The day was hosted by our school Liaison contact, Dan Pugh-Bevan, from St Peter's College, assisted by one of our ex-WSFG students, Lola Grieve. Lola is now in her second year studying music.

Here is some feedback from the students:

Going to Oxford was an amazing opportunity. It gave me a chance to compare Oxford with Cambridge. I also learnt a lot about the skills and knowledge that I will need to get in. Overall it was a fun and interesting trip.



Elif



The trip to Oxford was very useful and informative. I didn't know much about daily university matters before or the application process. It was extremely enjoyable and I had a chance to look around the university as well as a near by museum. Overall, I felt this was a once in a lifetime opportunity. It was also really cool that afterwards,

Dan sent us all a postcard to remind us of the day. I will always cherish it.

I thoroughly enjoyed the day at Oxford and found meeting an ex-WSFG student to be really inspiring. The university is really beautiful and so was the area that we walked through to get to the museum.

Leila

I've always wanted to go to Oxford so having the first hand opportunity was really helpful. I never thought that going to Oxford University was possible as I don't go to a private school, but now I truly believe that it is a real possibility if I continue to work hard and achieve the grades.

Crystal

Recently, I had the privilege of visiting the University of Oxford on a school trip. It really encouraged me to think about my future. We learnt about possible career paths and A level choices. I personally had a great experience and will definitely now consider applying to Oxford.

Imaan

Going to Oxford was a truly fun and informative experience. Not only did I get to see Oxford's beautiful architecture, but also had a taste of student life. It was a very inspiring and enjoyable day.

Ying Hang

Thirty more students will have the opportunity to spend the day at the University of Cambridge later on in the month.

Ms Robinson Challenge Coordinator





London Tech Week: Schools Competition For Year 9 and Year 10 Students

How can technology improve London Life?

Join the festival's schools competition to design a tech-based solution to help improve life in the capital.

London is one of the most exciting and busy cities in the world, and with this comes challenges.

- How can tech improve areas such as your safety, transport travel, health, parks and public spaces?
- Think about the tech you use in everyday life how can this be applied to social problems to create solutions?

Submissions can be in any creative form, including PowerPoint, poster or video. The competition is open to year 9 and 10 students in groups of no more than four.

Competition key dates:March:Competition Launched!May 10th:Submissions closed & reviewedMay:Shortlisted finalists announcedJune 13th:Schools Final Pitch Off & Winners Ceremony

Submission and more information:

https://tmt.knect365.com/london-tech-week/schools-competition E: https://tmt.knect365.com/london-tech-week/schools-competition E: https://tmt.knect365.com/london-tech-week/schools-competition E: https://tmt.knect365.com/london-tech-week/schools-competition

T: +44 (20) 7551 9495

Mr Bryant Head of ICT

WALTHAMSTOW SCHOOL FOR GIRLS ALUMAE FUNDRAISING QUIZ NIGHT

Thursday 2nd May 2019

7.00 p.m. (doors open at 6.30)

Tickets £5.00 per person in advance Tickets £7.00 on the door

Adults only - open to staff, parents, alumnae and friends over 18 Bring YOUR own food and drink Tables of eight **Booking essential** To book a place please contact

Lesley Winter on: 020 8509 9410

Or email: lwinter@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk





Waltham Forest Music Service at WSFG

Waltham Forest Music Service now hosts its Music School at Walthamstow School for Girls after school from 4pm Mon-Thurs and on Saturday mornings.

The service offer a wide range of groups and ensembles for instrumentalists of all abilities to join, regular performances and opportunities to perform and learn from professional musicians. The service also offers one-to-one tuition on a range of instruments including flute, saxophone, piano, trumpet, violin, guitar and drum kit.

The Service also runs one-off low cost or free courses, workshops and performance opportunities in the school.

New courses for the summer term include 'Songwriter's Circle' on Mondays at 4.30pm and 'Beats and Bass Music Production' on Tuesdays at 4.30pm.

Any pupil aged 11+ who is interested in music can attend. For info/booking go to:

https://songwriterwfms.eventbrite.co.uk / https://beatsandbass.eventbrite.co.uk.

To find out more about tuition, groups and upcoming opportunities visit <u>www.walthamforest.gov.uk/music-service</u>, email <u>music.service@walthamforest.gov.uk</u>



or follow on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram @musicservicewf.







Location: Walthamstow School for Girls, Church Hill, Walthamstow E17 9RZ Dates: Thursday 28th March 2019 Time: 4pm-5pm

Contact to reserve your place: https://waithamstow.school.for.girls.lbg.eventbrite.co.uk

AWARDS 2019 WINNER INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR



School Calendar Dates 2018-2019

Spring Term 2019 Monday 7th January 2019 to Friday 5th April 2019

Thursday 4th April	7th Annual Steel Pan Fundraising Concert
	7 - 9.30pm
Thursday 2nd May	WSFG Alumnae fundraising quiz night
	7 - 9.30pm

Summer Term 2019 Tuesday 23rd April 2019 to Friday 19th July 2019

May Bank holiday Monday 6th May Thursday 9th May Year 7 Parent/Carer subject evening 4.30-7pm

Monday 13th May—Tuesday 18th June—GCSE Examinations Year 11

Half Term: Monday 27th May 2019 to Friday 31st May 2019

Monday 3rd June—Friday 28th June Year 10 mock examinations

