



NEGLECT NOT THE GIFT THAT IS IN THEE

Greensheet plus

SUMMER 2017



Flying High our
Business Manager
Mr Jalil
Full Report Inside

Headteacher's Message

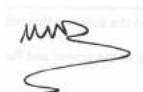
Dear Parents and Carers,

We are at the end of yet another intensive, action packed and successful year for WSFG. Our Year 10 students are back with us following their experience of the world of work and they have also now received their Year 10 mock GCSE examination results. These will have galvanised them into what will undoubtedly be a very focused final year with us when they return in September. Also in the past week, Year 9 students have had at least one work related event. These have ranged from visits to HSBC at Canary Wharf to spending time with managers, having brunch with female leaders at Citibank, attending a workshop in the Westfield Shopping Centre followed by a treasure hunt at the Olympic Park etc.

Our Step into Dance competition winners performed at the Royal Festival Hall on Monday, whilst other students managed to see Andy Murray play during the Wimbledon Tennis Tournament last week. All of Year 8 took part in an Outward Bound adventure day whilst Year 7 planned, organised, contributed to, created and fundraised for their own GREEN event which was attended by many families and friends. These are only some of the many reasons that we are so proud of our school, and confirms in me the sense of privilege I feel in leading a school with such great students, and such a committed and hard-working workforce and supportive community of parents and carers.

Please do enjoy the snapshot of a selection of our school events which we have captured in this issue. I am sure you will sense the spirit of optimism, joy and pride of the girls in all the photographs. This is certainly our experience as teachers. A visiting teacher to the school once told me that she could not believe the high number of activities and trips which are organised here. She added that the other schools she visited were starting to wind down, but at WSFG it appeared to be the total opposite!

I would like to thank you all for your unstinting support of your daughter's school this year and to thank our staff and our students for all their hard work. Finally, on behalf of the school governors, our staff and myself, I wish you all a safe and happy summer holiday.



Yours Sincerely
Meryl Davies
Headteacher

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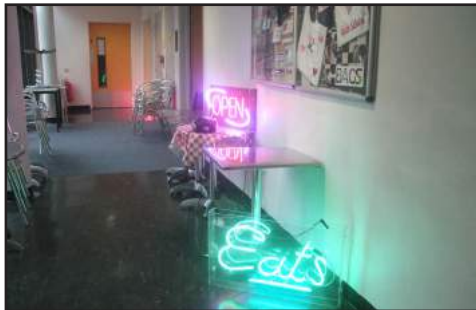
Year 9 Moody's Foundation

Alumnae News

GCSE Hospitality Afternoon Tea

This year the GCSE Hospitality event was able to go 'al fresco' due to the wonderful summer evening that graced us.

Our students planned, investigated and fund-raised in order for the event to happen.



They were also very fortunate in being supported by a local business, 'Gods Own Junk Yard' which loaned them lights for the event which added to the authenticity and ambiance on the day.

A huge thank you to 'Gods Own Junk Yard' for their kind and generous support.

Ms Dominique

Portuguese Polygon Project

Through the E Twinning website, we have linked up with a school in Portugal. Anisa gives more details below. The students in Portugal are impressed with the skills of Year 7 and are learning about polygons, in English, through a kinaesthetic /creative method.

May was International Month. My maths class is doing a project with a school in Portugal called the Polygon Project. We are making a series of videos to show how to make different polygons out of a sheet of A4 paper. These include the isosceles triangle, equilateral triangle, rhombus, kite, pentagon and hexagon. My group made a video of how to fold an isosceles triangle. I was the scriptwriter. I think the project is fun because we are teaching people in another country how to do maths. I really enjoyed the project and making our video.

Anisa 7H

Many thanks to Mr Manima and Ms Clarke for their ICT support in facilitating the project. We couldn't have done it without them!

Ms Robinson and 7MB2



Year 7 Netball

Earlier this term the Year 7 netball team took part in the borough-wide league. They played very well and finished in second place overall. The competition involved twelve secondary schools. This a fantastic achievement in the team's first year of playing together.

The team

<i>Molly</i>	<i>7G (captain)</i>
<i>Grace</i>	<i>7G</i>
<i>Sylvie</i>	<i>7F</i>
<i>Rebeca</i>	<i>7F</i>
<i>Jessica</i>	<i>7F</i>
<i>Bo</i>	<i>7F</i>
<i>Ornela</i>	<i>7W</i>
<i>Jessica</i>	<i>7W</i>
<i>Roya</i>	<i>7W</i>
<i>Sydney</i>	<i>7H</i>
<i>Deja</i>	<i>7H</i>
<i>Sophie</i>	<i>7S</i>

A huge thank you to Ms Askill for the time she has spent coaching the team, all the hard work and hours of training certainly paid off!

Ms Warren

Well done to the team and their coach!

The girls were thrilled to get so far in the league and were very excited at the end of the game.



Our Year 7 sportswomen have made a very promising start.

Ms Davies

STEM Challenge Day

Sixty Year 9 students participated in busy and challenging STEM activity in school recently. They worked in teams and learnt about wind power and how it is used to generate electricity. The students had lots of fun designing, problem solving and collaborating on this task. They built a working model wind turbine which was tested with an electrical meter. They rose to the challenge enthusiastically, demonstrated excellent team work skills and did WSFG proud.

This is what the students had to say about the day:



It was so much fun! It was cool to see how a pile of material can become a working wind turbine. It was so satisfying when we finally got the blades to rotate. It involved lots of modifications but we got there eventually.

Kate 9G

It was fantastic! I worked with people I have never worked with before, it was a new and great experience. We had a good time making the wind turbines and it was definitely worth it.

Ramiya 9S



I loved it! It was really fun. I was very proud of our wind turbine and it was a challenge to complete it on time.

Ayjan 9F



Thank you for a fantastic day.

Ms Healy
STEM coordinator



Easter Ski Trip



Walthamstow School for Girls Ski Trip 2017 – Arosa, Switzerland At Easter this year, we ventured out once again on a beautiful, action-packed skiing trip to Arosa in Switzerland. This was the fourth year that the WSFG Ski Trip had visited Arosa, but the first year without Mr Fowler at our helm, and we did miss him. However, we still managed to have a great time!



The students, some of whom have been before and some for whom it was a completely new experience, were absolutely superb. Everyone embraced the challenges and new experiences with enthusiasm and determination and in true GREEN style! With the exception of a few sore throats and the odd sore knee, we all remained fit and healthy throughout.



During the day we enjoyed plenty of skiing in good snow conditions (in comparison to other resorts). In the evenings we ventured out to take part in curling and ice skating, and stayed in to enjoy a quiz night and disco dancing. Once again, the long journey to and from the resort by coach paled into insignificance as the week provided fantastic, happy memories for everyone.

A huge thank you to Ms Wood, Ms Eveleigh and Mr Salmon for all their help and support, without which the trip would not have been as successful. Here are a few photos showing us all having fun!!

Wendy Famiglietti – Ski trip organiser.



WSFG Students Perform With The London Symphony Orchestra

Recently, four of our students had the opportunity to perform in an open air concert with the London Symphony Orchestra. Congratulations to Ruby in Year 7, Pearl, Sergina and Assa in Year 10.



The concert is the result of a partnership between the LSO and BMW (car manufacturer) who share the belief that great music is for everyone, whatever their background or situation. Now highly-anticipated in London's musical calendar, BMW LSO Open Air Classics each year offers everyone who can be there, Londoners and visitors to the city alike, the opportunity to experience the LSO free and in the open air in Trafalgar Square. Large screens and state-of-the-art sound technology allow the whole crowd to witness the concert close-up, making the experience equally special at the back of the square as at the front. Here are some thoughts from our WSFG musicians. Thank you to Brigit Collins for taking the photographs.

On Sunday evening, I played my flute to an audience of 10,000 people at Trafalgar Square. I performed in an orchestra made up of young musicians, Guildhall students and members of the LSO. I really enjoyed the experience as it is a once in



a lifetime opportunity and I met many new people. Doing this was a great way to boost my confidence and that of other young musicians.

Ruby 7H

This was a wonderful experience as I learnt a lot more about ensemble playing and working in the brass section as a trumpet player. It was very exciting and I am so happy that I was involved. The experience has also inspired me to take up a new instrument, the tuba!

Pearl 10C

The concert showcased the work of the composer Rachmaninov and was conducted by the famous conductor, Valery Gergiev. We played an excerpt from The Symphonic Dances and a movement from his second symphony. I was offered this opportunity as I was chosen by the Waltham Forest Music Service. The event was great fun and really enjoyable for me. The atmosphere was electric and it was so satisfying to play in front of thousands of people. I play the bassoon and it was great to meet professional bassoon players and to play alongside them. It was a fantastic day and I would definitely love to do it again.

Assa 10F

For the last four Sundays I have been rehearsing at various venues which enabled me to explore different areas of London. I enjoyed the rehearsals as we learnt about the character of Rachmaninov and it helped me to understand my instrument better. I play the viola. On the day of the performance, it was an exceedingly hot day but a very exciting experience, especially given the fact that we were conducted by Valery Gergiev. I was very pleased to have the opportunity.

Sergina 10S



Ms Robinson
Challenge Coordinator

Learning and Language Development Challenge Activities

RECYCLING: Clock Making with recycled materials.

This was a tricky LLD Challenge Activity on Recycling, involving some of our Year 7 and Year 8 students, who upcycled unusable CDs into working vintage looking clocks.

They used CDs, clock mechanism parts, the manufacturer's instruction sheet and their own creativity to assemble these clocks and made them look interesting and unique.

They found it challenging and struggled a little bit, especially with the instructions, but with perseverance, resilience and collaboration they succeeded. The clocks are displayed in the main school entrance and everyone is invited to guess the time zone they belong to.

Mrs Gerdellja, Mrs Keserauskaite
LLD Challenge Reps



Year 10 PE News

The Year 10 Step into Dance group have progressed to the Step into Dance Live final at the Southbank Centre. This is an amazing achievement as we have never had a group make it this far in the competition before. The girls performed their dance to a panel of judges and were selected from all the schools in London that took part in the Step into Dance sessions. The event will have thousands of spectators and involves schools and dance groups across the whole of London this will be a truly fantastic opportunity for the girls.

The girls involved were:

Gabija 10W

Sultan 10S

Bushra 10S

Fayza 10S

Tajawna 10S

Sumayya 10F

Esther 10C



Ms Warren

Year 10 sports leaders visited Henry Maynard Primary School to lead sessions for their Sport Leaders Award.



Ms Wood

Year 9 Female Leaders In Finance Trip

Ms Philippou, Ms Winter and I took sixteen lucky students to an inspiring Female Leaders in Finance Brunch at the Citi Bank in Canary Wharf. This event was



aimed at raising the aspirations of the students participating, helping them to identify the key skills they will need and already possess when deciding on a career path. The session focused on women in the workplace, a theme that is key for the school and the girls that attend WSFG. The session looked at the challenges women can face and Citi staff contributed their career insights and advice on succeeding in the workplace.



The session was delivered as a brunch giving the students the experience of a networking event. It included some introductory workshop activities for participants such as identifying their transferable skills and interviewing volunteers about their career paths. It was a wonderful experience and all students behaved perfectly. Here are some of their reviews of the day:

The trip was a great opportunity for us to meet real life professionals, who talked about the hardships they have faced. This made me realise that women from different cultures can have professional roles. We interacted with different women and gave our views on many of our countries' problems and how we feel about where women stand in society. I found this a great experience that can impact on our future.

Sana 9C

Inspiring, empowering and helpful.

Grace 9W

I really enjoyed the trip, it was an amazing experience. I learnt about women in the workplace, and that there is still a pay gap between men and women workers. I learnt that most people do not know what career path to follow, until they have tried different jobs. The women we met were really inspiring and easy to talk too.

Amina 9W

I enjoyed the trip to the Citi Bank in Canary Wharf, it was a wonderful experience and educational. We interviewed women who had taken time out of their day to inspire us.

Mariyam 9S



It was good being able to talk to women in the work-place and to ask them questions in a friendly atmosphere.

Ayjan 9F

This trip was very useful in helping me decide my future career. The professional women we met inspired me to keep working hard so that I will be able to reach my dreams. We talked to a variety of women about their experiences in banking, hopefully this will help me in the future. I was happy to go on this trip and will definitely sign up for more opportunities like this.

Maja 9C

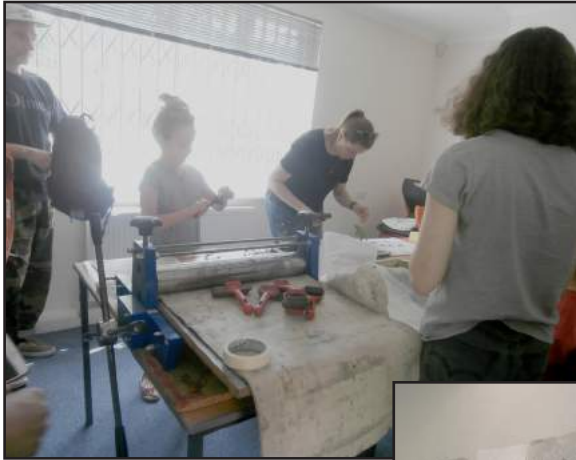


Ms Desbenoit
Year 9 SPL
Diversity Co-ordinator



E17 Art Trail: Print and Paper Making Workshop

Last month, The Art Department ran a paper and print making workshop as part of the E17 Art Trail.



Families and visitors of different ages came to explore different techniques and created a range of elegant prints that they took home with them. The workshop was led by Ms West and supported by a team of students.



We would like to say a big thank you to
Indigo, Lily, Assa, Diana and Jessica.

This was a great opportunity to develop these students' workshop skills and learn how to deal with the public in a professional capacity.

Ms West
Art Technician

Year 9 and 10 Rounders Rally

Congratulations to the Year 9 and Year 10 rounders teams who took part in the recent borough rounders rally. Year 10 came 3rd, Year 9 came 2nd overall.

Well done!

Year 9

<i>Amie</i>	<i>9S</i>
<i>Melissa</i>	<i>9S</i>
<i>Maria</i>	<i>9F</i>
<i>Folashade</i>	<i>9F</i>
<i>Shula</i>	<i>9F</i>
<i>Hannah</i>	<i>9H</i>
<i>Eve</i>	<i>9H</i>
<i>Rebecca</i>	<i>9H</i>
<i>Erin</i>	<i>9G</i>



Year 10

<i>Annalie</i>	<i>10W</i>
<i>Kezia</i>	<i>10W</i>
<i>Kalila</i>	<i>10W</i>
<i>Jessica</i>	<i>10W</i>
<i>Mariam</i>	<i>10W</i>
<i>Reegan</i>	<i>10G</i>
<i>Eden</i>	<i>10G</i>
<i>Flora</i>	<i>10F</i>
<i>Reenae</i>	<i>10C</i>



Ms Wood

English Writing Competition Community Service At 16?

Last term the English Faculty had a writing competition for Year 8. The topic was "Working at 16"? and the girls were asked to make the case for or against.

Whether a 'child' should be working at such an important age?

Being 16 is one of the most important ages of a person's life. At such an age it is important to keep on revising so you don't forget, it is about being able to handle yourself and understanding different aspects of life, being able to feel you are ready for upcoming events. Being 16 is knowing the importance of life and being able to take care of yourself.

So many times in your life you will be put down and being 16 is being able to shut out unwanted people because you have lived life and you understand the importance and your worth in life. However, doing community service could stop a person from finding themselves and giving them the space and the break from life that they may urgently need as not everyone is comfortable talking about their problems. At 16, after your G.C.S.Es you take on so many responsibilities and even though community service could help you find out about yourself, many people around the age of 12 get to understand themselves because of our generation and inheritance. Doing community service is a great thing to so many people but they are most likely to enjoy what they are doing if they choose to do



it and volunteer themselves instead of being forced.

I understand the view of why people may agree to it being a good thing as it's a good way to learn responsibilities and take into account how becoming older works and what responsibilities they need to insure they have before leaving their teenage years. It also ensures the life skills they will need for taking on a

challenge that they may need to highly overcome. I also understand how important this opportunity could be to so many people because it could help them socialise, make friends and even just understand themselves a bit more and that's what one of the most important things are, to be happy with yourself and knowing your insecurities but being able to accept them.



I wonder how you would feel if you weren't there for a dying family member because you were too busy taking care of the community and the planet. While you knew they were ill but you left anyway to go take care of someone else that was basically a stranger. Community service is great IF a person agrees on doing it and making the world a better place. Some 16 year olds don't feel obligated to helping out the community and not getting paid. Not getting paid is understandable as it shows and gives you the raw responsibilities of giving and not getting anything in return, but doing it for the pure pleasure, but not everyone is able to live for a year doing work that means absolutely nothing to them.

Teenagers are always being told to do things such as community service but for a change we would love to see some adults taking time out of their day to go and help out with elderly, community gardens and picking up litter. For a change why don't they put themselves in the shoes of us teenagers and do something about the planet if they are REALLY worried about it! Even better, they shouldn't get a choice but should be forced to do it just like they force us to.

Sanaa 8H

Ms Cato



Drama Department News

At the end of June we bade a fond and emotional farewell to our fabulous Year 11s, including my own wonderful tutor group, 11W. This year the group has participated in many theatre trips, and thirty of the students comprised our first ever Old Vic Schools Club. The work we did over this year and beyond meant that those involved were able



to complete a Bronze Arts Award. Fifteen girls chose to work towards achieving this by creating portfolios which evidenced their Schools Club journey and some were interviewed by a moderator from Trinity College. I am very proud to say that all fifteen were successful in achieving this award, which is a Level 1 qualification on the National Qualifications and Credit Framework.

Congratulations and good luck to all of our Year 11s.



Year 10 GCSE Drama students recently performed their devised plays as part of Unit 1 of the course; an invited audience of family, friends and staff thoroughly enjoyed the occasion and were very

complimentary about the standard of the students' work. The group recently went to see *DNA*, performed by the National Youth Theatre. We will be studying the play in Year 11, so this was a great opportunity to see the text in performance. In May, the group also went to see the West End production of *Dreamgirls*. We all enjoyed this experience, in spite of being evacuated from the building during the interval when a fire alert was triggered; luckily it was a false alarm.

Some of the Year 10 drama students also took the opportunity to see Brecht's *The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui* at the Donmar Warehouse, preceded by a preparatory workshop delivered by a Donmar facilitator in school. Brecht is a key practitioner at GCSE, so this was an excellent opportunity for our students, and all provided free of charge as part of the theatre's Young and Free





programme. We had a fantastic evening seeing the production, which starred Lenny Henry, and was highly immersive, with lots of audience participation. I finally made it on to the West End stage in a non-speaking role!

Key Stage 4 students have also been able to take advantage of

our partnership with the Almeida Theatre. This year, we have been to see *Oil* starring Anne-Marie Duff and Mary Stuart with Juliet Stevenson and Lia Williams. The high point for many of us, however, was seeing Andrew Scott in *Hamlet*. For its almost four hour duration, all thirty five of us in the WSFG party were enraptured.

Meanwhile, our Old Vic Schools Club members in Year 9 have seen Glenda Jackson in *King Lear*, Rufus Sewell and Tim Key in *Art* and Daniel Radcliffe in *Rosencrantz And Guildenstern Are Dead*. It's fair to say that the plays have been particularly challenging this year. In fact, *Woyzeck*, which was to be our fourth



show, was deemed too adult for the students. Instead, we are going to see *Girl from the North Country* in July, a new play by Conor McPherson inspired by the songs of Bob Dylan. We also have a Year 9 party going to see *An American in Paris* later in the term and Year 8 students have been to the Unicorn twice

this year as part of our Explore Partnership. The whole year group saw two new plays, *My Mother Medea* and *The Hunting Lodge*. Both of these divided the crowd, and we had some heated debates after the trips! Most of our theatre trips have had accompanying workshops to help students access and engage with the shows.

We have also been busy with performing projects. After our production of *Annie* came to an end, Ms Wallace and I embarked upon our third Barbican Box project. After a teacher training weekend with Toneelgroep Amsterdam, the distinguished

Dutch theatre company, the group of twenty Year 8s set about devising their own piece of drama using a box full of different items curated by Toneelgroep Amsterdam as our starting point. The students were very interested in the text from *Angels in America* that was in the box, and this became the focal point for our piece. In it, the students explore issues of identity, feeling different from others, and the isolation that can come with this feeling. The group performed their piece at Rich Mix Arts Centre.

We are looking forward now to the new academic year. Ms Wallace and I will be collaborating again on a production of *The Tempest* as part of Shakespeare Schools Festival. We hope to cast a company of Year 7s and 8s by the end of term, and will start rehearsing in earnest in September. This will be performed in November at Stratford Circus. Please keep an eye on the Greensheet for further details. We also plan to continue our Year 7 Drama Club TIE project, which involves devising a play to perform at one of our feeder primary schools and if we can find the funding, to continue our involvement in Barbican Box.

The new Year 9 will be entering into the final year of our Unicorn Explore partnership and will participate in two lots of workshops and productions. This year group has been unusually lucky to have this unprecedented opportunity. Although we won't be able to give another year group the same experience, we would like to take each year group to the theatre once during Key Stage 3. I will communicate more about this idea next term.

Ms Cornford



Year 8 Modern Foreign Languages Festival

A huge thank you to all the MFL teachers for their hard work in the run up to the annual festival. As ever, it was a fantastic multicultural event with performances from all Year 8 Language groups. Many thanks also to Ms. Clarke for recording the event.

Thank you very much to the judges; Ms Davies, Ms Hallas and Ms Dominique for giving up their time on the day even though they struggled to come to an agreement regarding the winner.

Many congratulations to Las Manzanas Rojas (Ms. Prieto's Spanish group) for their winning performance of *DESPACITO*!

Thanks again to all involved and well done to all the participants! Another great display of WSFG MFL talent.

Ms. Prieto
Head of MFL

Here are some photos of the winning performance.



Design And Technology News

In the Art Department we have been exceptionally busy this term with workshops being delivered by the Drawing Shed, trips to the Paolozzi exhibition and Tate Britain, and delivering workshops as part of the E17 Art Trail and the Art GCSE too. Here is a little insight into each:

The Drawing Shed Workshops

The Drawing Shed came into the school and delivered workshops for the Year 10 students on performance art. The workshops managed to push everyone out of their comfort zone in terms of challenging their perceptions of what art actually is. The students were dared to create art using their bodies around the theme of their identity as teenage girls and the



specific problems encountered at this stage of life. The girls had to work as teams to produce thought-provoking and personal work.

Paolozzi at the Whitechapel Gallery with Year 9

Year 9 students went to see the jazz infused Paolozzi at the Whitechapel Gallery in preparation for their Year 10 project on Collections. Paolozzi has produced a vast range of sculpture, prints and conceptual work. This was a wonderful opportunity for the students to extend their perception of what is possible within the GCSE course and also understand how an artist's work can explore similar themes with different mediums. The students produced a variety of powerful drawings for their portfolios next year and we have included some here.



Year 10 trip to Tate Britain

Also this term Year 10 art students went to the Tate Britain and to the David Hockney exhibition. The students are developing their ideas for their identity project. They were able to experience a vast variety of work throughout the ages, ranging from the video piece made up of YouTube clips by Mark Decker, the cut out figures of Lubaina Himid,

the mind-map of Jeremy Deller and the sculptures and drawings of Henry Moore. And all of this on top of the vast array of paintings, collages and videos of David Hockney.

Here is one student's comment:

The Tate Britain visit was immensely inspiring and though provoking. There is something very magical about seeing the original artworks in the flesh, as opposed to online. After attending a gallery, you'd be surprised how many new ideas and opinions your mind will explore because there is so much more to art galleries than simply paintings.

Kalila 10W

The Black Flamingo Zine Installation

On our trip to the Tate Britain our Artist in residence bumped into a fellow artist, Ben Connors, delivering workshops at the Tate Britain. Some of the Year 10 students were then invited to participate in a workshop with the poet Dean Atta and artist Ben Connors to create their own work. One of our student's submission was then included into the Zine created by the artists. Well done to *Lily 10C*.



Art GCSE

Year 11 students worked exceptionally hard this year to produce an amazing variety of portraits, landscapes, sculpture, video installation and prints. Inspired by the trip to the Tate Modern students have taken their ideas from the starting point of 'Beginning and/or End' into so many different directions to produce original and exciting work.



ADT Exhibition

The annual ADT exhibition took place at the end of the year. Students, parents, governors and teachers from local schools all came to see what students had produced. There was a vast array of inspiring and original ideas and many commented on the high standard of all of the art and products created. Here is some of the work produced.

Ms Heath
ADT faculty





Barge Haybay Outdoor Pursuits Weekend

WOW! What a weekend - Perfect weather, activities and company!

We spent the first night on a trek along the Blackwater Estuary, near Maldon. We took a break to have toasted marshmallows over an open fire which was already made up on the beach by the instructors from Fairplay House. Much to the astonishment of the students, we found some sand crabs who had made a hasty retreat when the fire was lit. After this break we had another walk before 'settling down' for the rest of the night. There must be something in the sea air as no one got much sleep but everyone seemed refreshed in the morning.



The next day we split into groups to do rock climbing and canoeing. The canoeing was great fun, nobody capsized but some groups had difficulty travelling in a straight line and ended up either crashing into the banks or going round in circles. There was a lot of screaming but also a lot of laughter.







The students were responsible for making meals and keeping the barge clean. They also managed to keep themselves amused in the evening by playing card games and hangman.

The last morning was spent by being dropped from a great height (the Giant Swing) and then climbing up a huge pole and leaping onto a trapeze suspended in the mid-air, before being lowered to the ground.

I was very impressed by the teamwork shown by all the students, as some activities were very challenging and they needed loads of encouragement from each other to conquer their fears. The staff also participated in the activities and thoroughly enjoyed themselves too.



I would say if anyone gets a chance to go on this trip, they should grab it with both hands (particularly useful when you are suspended in mid-air by a length of rope).

All our thanks should also go to Ms Famiglietti, who was responsible for organising the trip.

Ms Kelly, Mr Jalil, and Ms Black.

English News

Over the course of this current academic year, the English faculty has been involved in a number of exciting things. This year we have had a strong focus on ensuring our students have every academic opportunity available to them to improve their GCSE grade. Further to this, we also wanted to run a series of competitions and extra-curricular events for the girls to understand how relevant and important the subject is.

News Project

As in other years, Ms Wilkins ran the BBC News Project with a group of Year 9 students. Pupils were off timetable for the day to complete a number of news reports about



issues they felt passionately about. Topics included: the rise of the state pension age, how social media benefits our society and fake news. Please take a look at our new website to read those articles.

Public Speaking Competition

Every year we run a public speaking competition for Year 8 pupils. Pupils write a speech in their English class and perform it front of their class and teacher. The teacher and class then decide who wins from their group. The winners of each group perform in front of their whole year group in the Norris Hall. Judges then decide the final winner. This year, we have had a number of inspiring and passionate speeches about xenophobia, environmental issues and the importance of disability rights.

University College London Trip

Ms Cato and a group of Year 10 students attended a day of lectures and workshops aimed at encouraging university attendance. The English faculty feels passionately about further education and wants our students to be exposed to life at university and feel inspired.

Cinderella competition and trip

During the autumn term, Ms Wilkins ran a competition for KS3 pupils giving them the opportunity to win a trip to see Cinderella performed at the London Palladium. Students had to rewrite and modernise the end of Cinderella to bring it into the 21st century. Fifteen of the best entries were chosen, they were by:

Keira, Jemima, Maliha, Sylvie, Amber, Romayssa, Sophie, Amarah, Brianna, Kazia, Tulin, Keralie, Emily, Amaras, Aaisha.



They all expressed how much they enjoyed the trip and were looking forward to entering another competition in the future.

Hamlet trip

In collaboration with the Performing Arts faculty, we attended the Almeida Theatre in Islington to watch the critically acclaimed performance of *Hamlet* played by Andrew Scott. We took thirty girls who enjoyed the performance, one even commented that “it was the best performance we’ve ever seen”.



Blogging – International links

As a whole school we are establishing international links with other institutions. The English faculty has decided to create a blog. It is our intention to set up a group that creates articles for the blog and our international links will be able to read and comment on the articles and publish their own. We feel that this is a fantastic opportunity for our students to be more connected to people of different nationalities.

Year 11 support

This year has been particularly tough with Year 11 students who have been the first to sit the new GCSE in English and Maths. To ensure the girls felt confident for this new challenge, we put in place a number of sessions to support them.

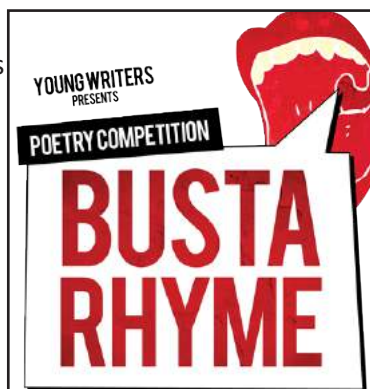
These included:

- Poetry Lectures – every week we ran through two poems in the Norris Hall in a 'lecture' style. The girls enjoyed this independent learning.
- Walking, talking mock – our students changed teachers for three weeks to run through each question on the language exam.
- Holiday revision sessions – over Easter and the June half-term, we ran a number of sessions for language and literature.

We hope that this support made our students feel well-prepared and that they get the best possible outcomes in the summer. Well done and good luck Year 11!

Busta Rhyme competition

Ms Cato ran this national competition for all pupils at WSFG. It was a poetry competition where students could write a poem about any subject. Many of our students who entered had their work published in an anthology of the best poems across the country. We are incredibly proud of them and we hope to see all competition entrants keep on writing and enjoying poetry.



100 word story competition

Ms Skidalski ran a competition where pupils had to complete a story in just 100 words! Several Year 7 and 8 pupils entered with some action packed adventures all crammed into 100 words. We would like to thank Ms Skidalski for all her hard work.

So, we hope you have enjoyed reading about our year we would like to encourage students, to make the most of every opportunity we offer next year too.

The English Faculty

Humanities Visits

Rochester

Earlier this term all Year 7 students visited the historical town of Rochester as a part of their Humanities studies.

Students had a guided walk around Rochester Cathedral as part of a study into a significant place of worship. They visited Rochester Castle, one of the best preserved Norman Keeps in Europe and devised a plan to attack the castle. Finally, they had a chance to explore the High Street, famous for its independent book shops, and completed a comparison between Rochester High Street and Walthamstow town centre.

Despite the rain, students maintained a positive attitude and enjoyed the experience of having a wander around historic Rochester.

Mr Truan



Kew Gardens trip 2017

The whole of Year 8 embarked on a geography trip to Kew Gardens to gain an understanding of different ecosystems from around the world. After a short journey around the North Circular, each form was led around the famous botanical grounds. Starting off at the Treetop Walkway, each group explored the treetop canopy 18 metres above the woodland floor.

They also visited the Hive, a unique, multi-sensory experience designed to highlight the extraordinary life of bees. A feat of British engineering, it stands 17 metres tall, set in a wildflower meadow. After enjoying lunch in the wonderful weather the final destination was the Princess of Wales conservatory, a public glasshouse that contains ten different environments covering a range of tropical conditions and climatic zones.

Mr Mace



Women in Science



I was very fortunate to recently hear an inspirational speech by Dr Maggie Adenipocock who is one of the presenters of Sky at Night, taking over from Sir Patrick Moore. She gave an interesting talk outlining her journey into Science and how it had shaped her life and quite literally saved her. Dr Maggie had attended 13 schools and was from quite a deprived background. She began life in secondary school in a low set for Science. She recalled the day she plucked up the courage to answer a tricky question as a penny dropping moment which sent her on her way to pursue a lifelong devotion to Science.

Dr Maggie went on to gain a BSc in Physics followed by a PhD in Mechanical engineering. Following this she had a number of fascinating roles including missile testing, producing parts for space telescopes as well as her work on television. Dr Maggie highlighted how few women enter the world of Science particularly Physics. This resonated with me from own undergraduate days when I studied Chemistry with there being only two women in the whole institute who researched and lectured. This still seems to be the case today with there still being fewer women studying Science and one that Dr Maggie is trying to overcome.

Dr Maggie talked about how she was inspired by the popular television show The Clangers, as well as citing Lieutenant Uhura from the original Star Trek as an all-time hero. Dr Maggie highlighted how one of the greatest Scientists of all time was a woman referring to Marie Curie, having been awarded the Nobel prize twice once for Chemistry and the other for Physics. This is unheard of in scientific fields and is the only time this prestigious prize has been won in two different fields. She is one of only four people to have won this. Another thing I did learn was that there was somewhat of a Curie legacy with Marie's daughter: Irene also receiving a Noble prize for her work in Chemistry.

We do need more women in Science and this is a barrier that needs to be broken down. With the recent announcement of the first female Dr Who it is clearly time for more young women to remove this dated view and follow in the footsteps of the Curie's.

Mr Kerr

Year 9 Visit to Moody's Foundation

A group of Year 9 students visited Moody's Corporation's sophisticated London office in Canary Wharf as part of their careers education. Moody's is a credit rating organisation founded by American John Moody in 1909.



The day started with a quiz to see how much the students knew about the organisation and then a presentation which revealed the answers as it went along. This included information about the number of countries globally where Moody's have a presence, the annual turnover, as well as an explanation of credit, risk and risk management and the importance and use of credit ratings in the business world. Students went on to meet with members of Moody's staff in small groups and,



following an ice-breaker game of human bingo, they had small fact finding exercises where students had to identify facts about the member of staff and share it with all the groups before moving on to another table and another member of staff. These volunteers worked in all areas of Moody's and included: a Technical Accountant,

a Collections Manager, an Applications Manager, an IT Teams Manager and staff working for Moody's Foundation, their philanthropic arm. Students enjoyed the experience and the views of Canary Wharf from the office which is on the fourteenth floor.

Alisha said "It was interesting to visit Moody's and to learn lots of different things about the work they do. From our discussions with the staff I have learnt that it is important to choose a job that will be something you enjoy because you are going to be doing it for a long time and it is important to like the people you are working with."

Sara had learned that "Moody's is a multicultural place to work and there are people from lots of different backgrounds collaborating together".

Before returning to school the group visited the new roof garden on top of Canary Wharf Station that has been built as part of the Crossrail engineering project. Our gratitude goes to the staff at Moody's for making us so welcome and their clear explanation of the service they provide to investors, borrowers and the Government. As well as an informative day, they even provided lunch!





**Alumnae News
Open House London
16th September 2017**



Open House is a London wide event where buildings are open to the public. The emphasis of the event is architectural. For the third time, our school will participate in this event and open its doors to the general public to showcase its beautiful architecture and history.

It would be great to see more past students and staff at the event, as your memories and stories will be of great interest to the general public and other alumnae.

Guided tours will be available from 10am – 1pm by members of our Alumnae Committee and volunteer staff and students. Given the success of last year's AGM, we will be hosting the AGM on the same day, 1.30pm arrival for a 2pm start. It will finish no later than 3.30pm.

Whilst it is free to attend, we will be providing light refreshments therefore donations are welcome. We will discuss what we achieved in 2016-17 and what our plans are for 2017-18 and we would love to hear your ideas.

Please RSVP to Lesley Winter (WSFG Alumnae) at the school address no later than Friday 8 September 2017:

Email: lwinter@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

Telephone: 020 8509 9410

It is important that we know in advance the numbers attending for catering purposes. Therefore please confirm your attendance and encourage former school friends and teachers to come along to the Open House and the annual Alumnae AGM.

We look forward to building an even stronger alumnae community and supporting the school– let's do it together as fellow ex-students and staff of the school!

Kind regards,

Danielle Ferguson
WSFG Alumnae Chair

**Walthamstow School
for Girls
Alumnae
FUNDRAISING
QUIZ NIGHT**

**Thursday 19th October 2017
7.00 p.m.**

Tickets £5.00 per person

Adults only - open to staff, parents,
alumnae and friends over 18

Bring YOUR own food and drink

Tables of ten

Booking essential

To book a place please contact

Lesley Winter on: 020 8509 9410

Or email

lwinter@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

School Calendar for 2017-18

Autumn Term 2017

Start: Monday 4th September

End: Wednesday 20th December

Monday 4th September

Staff Inset Day

Tuesday 5th September 2017

The first day of the Autumn Term for all students

School starts for the new Year 7 at 9.30am and they will be with their Tutors all day until dismissal at 3.30pm.

School starts for Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 at 1.30pm and they will be with their tutors all afternoon until dismissal at 3.30pm.

- All students are expected in FULL uniform.
- Normal lessons resume Wednesday 6th September
- All students are expected in FULL school uniform and to be in school at the correct time for their year group.

**The Focus of the Fortnight will be on correct uniform and lanyards.
This will be a Week A.**

Friday 13th October

Staff Inset Day

Half Term

Monday 23rd October - Friday 27th October

Spring Term 2018

Start: Thursday 4th January

End: Thursday 29th March

Half Term

Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February

**Good Friday Bank Holiday 30th March -
Easter Monday Bank holiday 2nd April**

School Address: Church Hill, Walthamstow, London, E17 9RZ

Telephone: 020 8509 9446

Fax number: 020 8509 9445

Email: info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

Student Absence Line: 020 8509 9444

WSFG's Fronter MLE: www.fronter.com/waltham-forest