# 3rd November 2023

## Walthamstow School for Girls - Greensheet



# **Headteacher Message**

#### Dear Parents, Carers and Students, Israel and Palestinian Territories Crisis

The news and images from Israel and Gaza continue to shock and sadden us and I know that many of you continue to feel compassion, not only for the victims of the crisis itself but also for people in this country who are victims of Islamophobia and anti-Semitism. I am proud we serve a broad community who will have different views, experiences and perspectives. We pride ourselves on being an inclusive and safe space, free from all forms of discrimination. We have endeavoured to provide a safe space for discussions in form time and in assemblies, as well as through Student SLT, ambassadors and presentations by students to SLT. It is vital that we all respect different viewpoints, even when we do not agree.

Students at WSFG have traditionally worn badges of support for various causes or flags to reflect their identity. As you will be aware, we cannot be seen to support political causes and we therefore ask that students do not wear badges with political slogans, draw them on posters or on their hands. This will ensure that school remains a safe space for everyone.

I know that our students are desperate to help the victims of the crisis and I am proud of their hard work and activism in planning events which will raise money for their chosen charities. The first event will be a **charity cake sale at lunchtime on Wednesday 8th November,** held in the covered patio area. The entrance will be by the G10 drama studio only. Please encourage students to attend and bring cakes – details in the student bulletin. Money will be donated to the Red Cross / Red Crescent. More details of their appeal can be found here: Israel and Occupied Palestinian Territory Appeal (redcross.org.uk)

Thank you to Ms Siddiqui and Ms Ahmed and all those who have organised Friday prayers on the **10th November to pray for peace.** This event is open to staff and students of all faiths or none who would like to support, pray or reflect.

### RAAC:

I wrote to you at the start of term to reassure you following Stella Creasy MP's statement about RAAC and WSFG in parliament. You might remember that her speech criticised the DfE for not having accurate information about the RAAC situation in schools. She went on to explain that despite RAAC being removed from WSFG in 2020, and the council repeatedly advising the DfE of this, we were still named on one of their lists.

I wanted to write to reassure you again that as a result of the Council's survey, any RAAC was removed in 2020 and works were undertaken to ensure that the building was safe.

Waltham Forest Council has been proactive in surveying the schools it holds responsibility for and paying for the necessary works, including at WSFG. Due to national incidents in regard to RAAC failure in 2018, the Council commissioned a programme of surveys for the schools within their estate. This highlighted that RAAC was present in the upper floor of the humanities block in Walthamstow School for Girls and was in poor condition. Some parents will remember that during the works we had temporary classrooms for our year 8 students whilst a contractor undertook the roof replacement. All RAAC was removed and works were completed by December, 2020.

Since my last letter, the DfE conducted an additional survey and wrote to us to confirm that no RAAC was identified in the building.

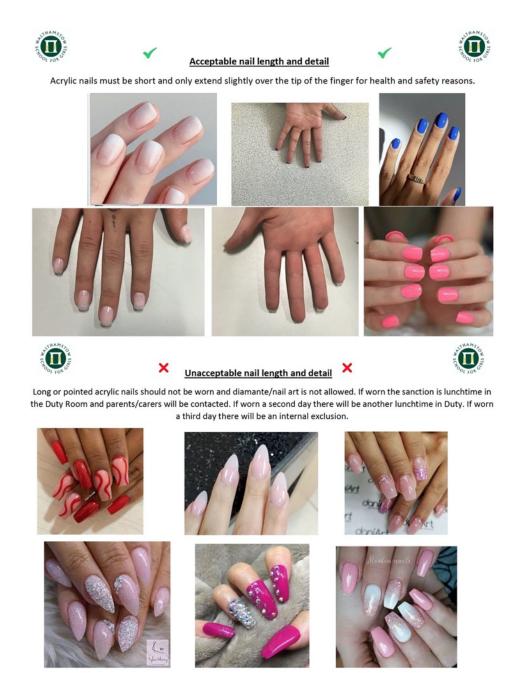
#### **Parking on Church Hill**

Please can we ask that parents do not park on Church Hill. Several of our neighbours are concerned about pollution from cars idling nearby and how dangerous this is for pedestrians, including our girls. Please respect our physical and social environment and do not collect students from near the school.

#### **Eyelashes and acrylic nails**

Thank you to parents for your fantastic support with uniform, especially blazers and lanyards. I would like to ask for your support on two other issues: eyelashes and acrylic nails. Could you please ensure that students do not wear false strip/ stick-on eyelashes and do not have lash extensions. Could you please also ensure that students do not have acrylic nail extensions as they will be asked to cut them down for health and safety reasons.

As a reminder, here are some infographics which explain what is and is not acceptable in terms of nail length:



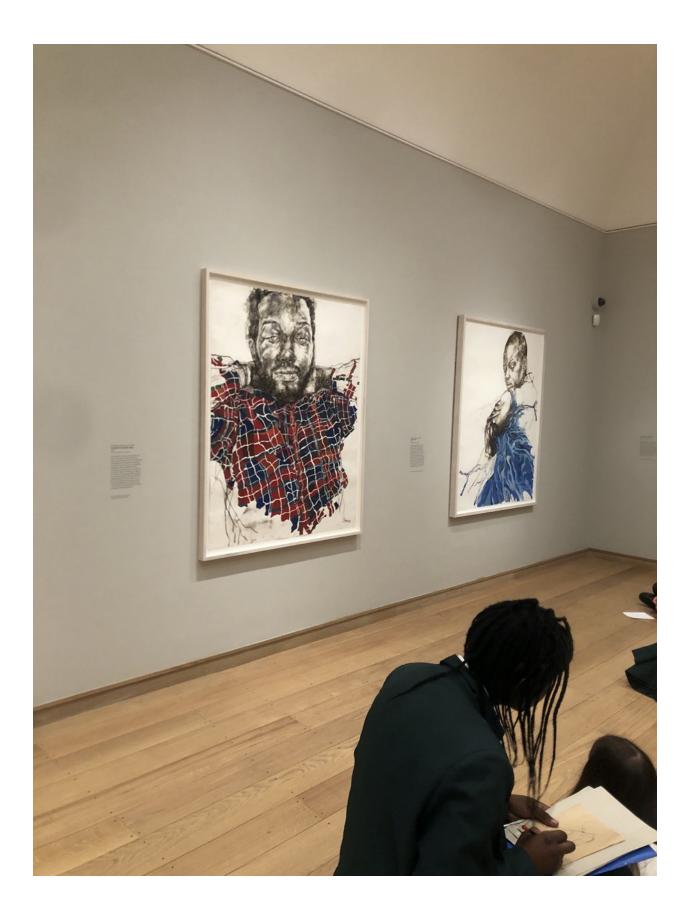
Thank you for your support. Wishing you all a relaxing weekend. Helen Marriott

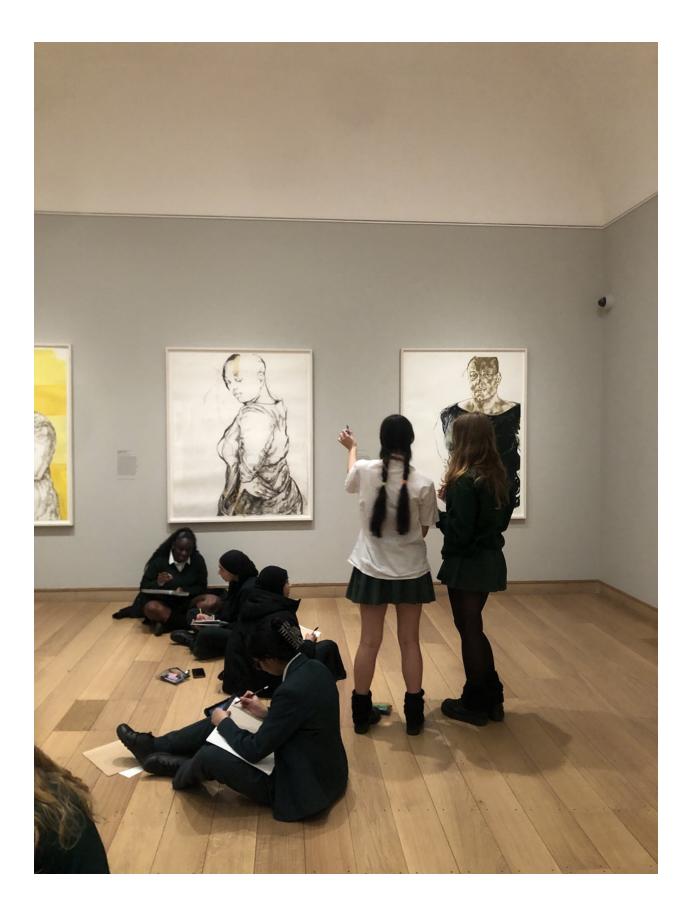
# Art Trip to The Courtauld Gallery

Just before half term, a group of year 11 Art students went on an evening trip to **The Courtauld Gallery** to see an exhibition of paintings by the black, British artist **Claudette Johnson**. We had the gallery almost to ourselves for over an hour and the students made some fantastic drawings. Claudette Johnson's work is inspiring in its scale, subject matter, confidence and use of mixed media. We hope to see some great responses in the GCSE coursework as a result. N Hepworth













## **Black History Month - Maths Game**



During the month of October, Year 7 students learnt how to play the African boardgame Oware. They also learnt the numbers in Swahili through algebra. Here are some quotes and photos from the students:

During my time learning how to play Oware, I have enjoyed my maths lessons so much! I enjoyed learning the game because the rules were quite simple where players move anticlockwise around the board and collect beans by capturing. You start with 4 beans in each hole and to capture you must land in a hole on the opposite side and there must be 2 or 3 beans in that hole. Playing this game has been such fun and I have won 3 times. I am very pleased with my progress.

#### Anniah G 7F

Oware is a fun African board game of strategy, where you aim to capture at least half of the seeds to win. There are many versions of this game and different African countries use different names and have slightly different rules, but they are all enjoyable. For Black History Month it was a great opportunity to learn the Ghanaian version, and we all look forward to having even more opportunities next year and for the years to come.

Aminah C 7F

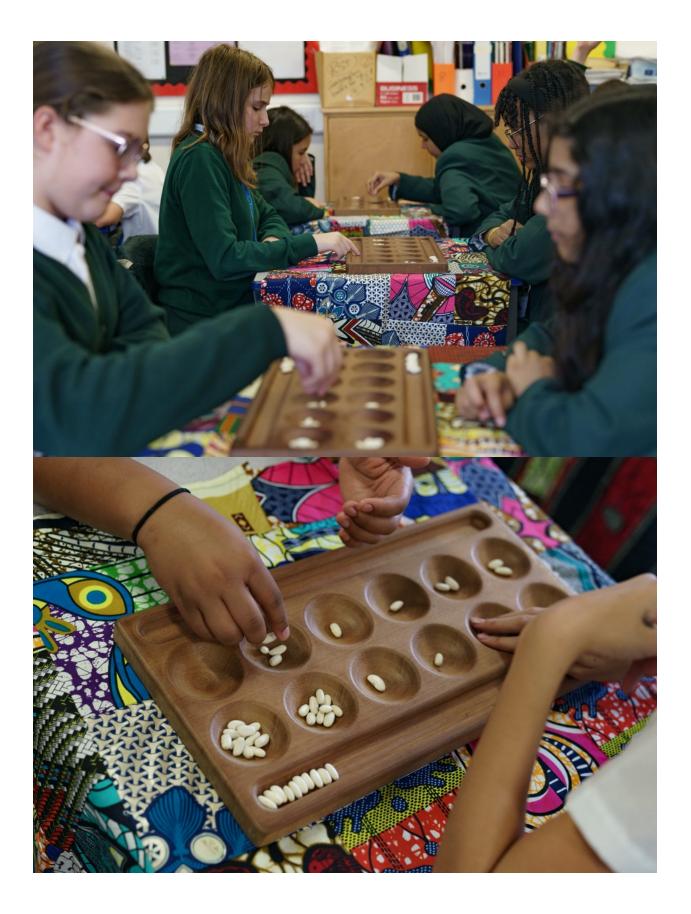
Oware is such a great game. I felt it was a great experience and made a change from doing our usual maths work for an hour or two. The rules were simple and easy to understand. We had an Oware tournament and it was LOTS of fun!

# Aya F 7F









## **Faculty News**

#### Art

#### **Artwork of Student**

Mixed media Artwork inspired by Nigerian-American artist Nijideka Akunyili Crosby by Year 9 student Sara Messaoudi.



#### Student's Work in The Courtauld Gallery Exhibition

**Rain Wolfe in Year 11** has been selected for a prestigious exhibition at **The Courtauld Gallery**, with her piece that responds to Eduard Manet's painting, *The Bar at The Folies Bergeres*. Rain made a mask and a powerful installation (which she photographed). Both the photograph and mask are displayed as part of *Reworking Manet*, at The Courtauld Gallery from now until Feb 18th 2024. Here is a picture of the mask and photograph Rain made, and an extract from the accompanying text that she wrote. Congratulations Rain , this is a fantastic acheivement!

Manet's barmaid was painted with an emotionless expression that frustrated critics of his time. I chose to represent this perceived indifference in the form of a physical mask. When I look at the painting, I see a way of interpreting Suzon's features not as indifferent, but a carefully arranged 'mask' she wears so as not to attract attention. Perhaps Suzon is not indifferent to the man in the reflection but on her guard against him. Such a 'mask' has long been worn by women in the service industry where friendliness can too often be mistaken for invitation. Her mask may be a measure of protection and also a resistance against her audience and painter.



Christmas Card Competition 2023





# LRC - Learning Resource Centre

Christmas Craft Fair 2023





Come along and buy hand crafted items designed and made by your fellow students. Be part of our crafting community. Students who want to sell their handmade items should come to the LRC to

book a space.

Ms Kelly, LRC.

Spread some Book Joy in this Christmas!



### 10 Benefits of Reading



1. Mental Stimulation - The brain is a muscle which needs exercise to keep it strong and healthy, so the phrase "use it or lose it" is apt when it comes to your mind.

2. Stress Reduction - <u>Stress</u> slips away when you lose yourself in a great story.

3. Knowledge - Everything you read fills your head with new bits of information. The more knowledge you have, the better-equipped you are to tackle any challenge you'll ever face.

4. Vocabulary Expansion - The more words you read, will lead you to use them in your everyday speech. Being articulate and well-spoken helps you to speak with self-confidence and increase your self-esteem.

5. Memory Improvement - When reading a book, you have to remember characters, their backgrounds, ambitions, history and sub-plots. <u>Every new memory you create forges new</u> <u>synapses (brain pathways)</u> and strengthens existing ones, which assists in short-term <u>memory</u> recall.

6. Stronger Analytical Thinking Skills – Solving a mystery before finishing the book, means that you were using your critical and analytical thinking skills.

7. Improved Focus and Concentration - When you read a book, all your attention is focused on the story—the rest of the world just falls away and you become involved in the world of the story.

8. Better Writing Skills - Reading expands your vocabulary: published, well-written work has a positive effect on writing and writing styles of authors will influence your own work.

9. Tranquility - Relaxing with a book, creates a feeling of inner peace and tranquility.

10. Free Entertainment - You do not have to buy books, for low-budget entertainment, you can visit your **school or** <u>local library</u> and it is free.

There's a reading genre for every literate person on the planet and something to capture your curiosity and imagination. Step away from your computer for a little while, crack open a book, and replenish your soul for a little while.

Ms Kelly, LRC

TRY SOMETHING NEW AND JOIN YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

You can join your local library online. Books and activities are free and there are also computers for you to use.

Just click on to the following link - <u>https://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/libraries</u> Ms Kelly, LRC

# **Focus of the Fortnight**

### 30th October - 10th November

The Focus is

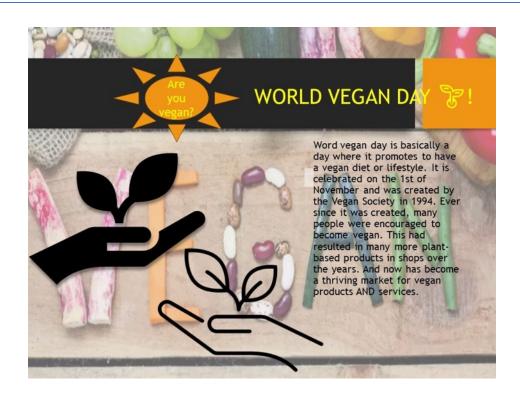
### Student Use of Toilets during Lessons

- Remember lessons are for learning.
- You will be allowed out of a lesson to go to the toilet in emergency circumstances only and at the discretion of your teacher.
- If your teacher allows you to go to the toilet, you will be given a bathroom lanyard as permission to leave the classroom.
- Do NOT ask to leave the lesson to get a drink of water or fill your water bottle etc. as this will not be allowed.

- If you have a toilet pass you need to show this to your teacher before leaving the classroom.
- Do not use an access toilet unless you have agreed and written permission to do so.

# **Global Alliance Calendar**







Circles day 🔘

Circle day is a day for children to look for circles in the world. It is a fun activity for kids and helps them to learn how a circle looks like or how it is used in a particular way. Also it helps creativity for the child to use in many different ways such as art, maths, projects and more. Celebrating this holiday can help your children of how there are different shapes and can make them understand the use of it. It is celebrated every year on the 2nd of November.



Celebrated on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November, Dominican's independence was declared in 1978. It's a day where festivals happen and where people explore Dominican's history and culture. Also the country's wealth and power. As many greedy nations tried to colonize and take control over the country, the people were determined to have independence and appreciate the country for its people and history.

Did you know that Dominica's flag is one of the two flags to have purple on them?

# NATIONAL NACHOS DAY.

• On 6<sup>th</sup> of November, you get to eat Nachos! Nachos is a traditional Mexican dish. And was first made by a person who wanted to make a dish named after her manager.

• They are easy to make all you need is nacho crisps, cheese, chilies and salsa.



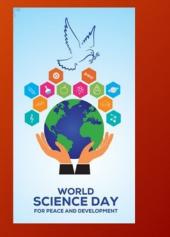
### recipe for nachos - Search (bing.com)



# World science day

#### 10th November

There are many scientists all over the world, but many of them aren't recognised for their amazing achievements. For instance Dorothy Johnson Vaughan. She was part of a team that did mathematical to help launch satellites - and later humans- into space.



# ETHIOPIAN SIGD FESTIVAL

#### 13 November 2023

Sigd is a holiday commemorating the acceptance of the Torah by the Ethiopian Jewish community. It is celebrated each year on the 29th of Cheshvan, and is recognized as a national holiday in Israel.



# World diabetes day :)

Every year, World Diabetes Day has been celebrated on November 14 since 2007, in honor of Frederick Banting, whose birthday it is. Frederick Banting is, with Charles Best, at the origin of the discovery of insulin. Thanks to them, since 1921, children with diabetes have been able to regulate their blood sugar levels, which allows them to survive.

Made by clara and aneesa





# World Philosophy Day

"When we revolt it's not for a particular culture. We revolt simply because, for many reasons, we can no longer breathe" Frantz Fanon

recognise your power – not because they don't see it, but because they see it and don't want it to exist. " bell hooks

thrive on ignorance.

To understand a

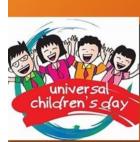
#### 16th November

By celebrating World Philosophy Day each year, on the third Thursday of November, UNESCO underlines the enduring value of philosophy for the development of human thought, for each culture and for each individual.

As the UNESCO director general says: "In order to build a better world, to move towards an ideal of peace, we know that we must adopt a philosophical approach - namely, we must question the flaws of our world, beyond the tumult of crises."

Too often when people think of philosophers, they think of white bearded men in robes. But philosophy has a rich history well beyond it's stereotypical Western roots.

Read the UNESCO Director General's Full Statement Here Message from Ms Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, on the occasion of World Philosophy Day, 17 November 2022 - UNESCO Digital Library





# World Children's day

hapay children's dort

World Children's Day is UNICEF's global day of action for children, by children, marking the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on November 20.

It highlights critical issues affecting children's lives, builds awareness of UNICEF's work, and supports the empowerment of children and young people as advocates for their own rights.



International Day Elimination of Via against Wom 25th November

### International Day for Violence Against Women

#### 25th November

The purpose of this day is to raise awareness of violence towards women. The day originated from the assassination of the three Mirabel sisters in 1960 in the Dominican Republic. They work towards ending violence against women, empowering women, and achieving gender equality. UN secretary-general ban kin-moon stated that it is estimated, one in every three women will experience violence towards them in their lifetime. This year the UN is using the day to launch their campaign UNiTE.



# International Solidarity Day with the Palestinian People



The International Solidarity day with the Palestinian people is celebrated every year on the 29th of November and was created traditionally to provide focus on the unique community.

"The International Day of Solidarity traditionally provides an opportunity for the international community to focus its attention on the fact that the question of Palestine remains unresolved and that the Palestinian people have yet to attain their inalienable rights as defined by the UN General Assembly, namely, the right to self-determination without external interference, the right to national independence and sovereignty, and the right to return to their homes and property, from which they have been displaced." https://www.unesco.org/en/days/internationalday-solidarity-palestinian-people

https://www.un.org/en/observances/International-day-of-solidarity-with-the-palestinian-people

# Activities -Exhibitions

Burma to Myanmar - British Museum:

From influential superpower to repressive regime, this major exhibition charts the history of Myanmar — also known as Burma — through the last 1,500 years. Using art and artefacts it tells the story of this country's important place in Asian trade routes, through to its annexation by the British in the 19th century. The country has made the headlines recently for the horrific treatment of minority ethnic groups; here's a chance to see the history of this country and how it evolved into what we see today.

Feminist Art: Women in Revolt at Tate Britain

Works by over 100 women artists have been brought together to showcase the full breadth of works created in Britain between 1970 and 1990. It covers the likes of the women's liberation movement, domesticity, punk, and visibility of Black and South Asian Women Artists. Given representation of women in art collections across the world still lags behind those of men, it's a welcome exhibition that's a celebration of British women artists.



# Activities

#### Celebrate Diwali:

Diwali, or the Festival of Lights, is a five-day Hindu, Jain, and Sikh festival that honours the story from Hindu mythology, where good triumphs over evil, and light over darkness. This year it runs from November 10-14. The celebration also celebrates the goddess of wealth, Lakshmi, and the god of good fortune and wisdom, Ganesh. And London has plenty of Diwali celebrations to participate in:

Head to Trafalgar Square on October 29, where Diwali On The Square will kick things off with an early Diwali celebration. The free celebration will feature live entertainment, activities to try out, market stalls, street food, and much more.

A The National Maritime Museum will host their own Diwali celebrations on November 11, with a family-friendly roster of performances, workshops, talks, and a lantern parade. Stretch out with some yoga, learn about modern sari drape and styling, try out some Rajasthani dance moves, and more.



### Diwali on the Square 2023 | London City Hall Diwali 2023 London | Event at the National Maritime Museum (rmg.co.uk)

# Pakistani Truck Art Creative Workshop

Thursday 16 November 6.00pm Forest Gate Library Trucks in Pakistan have long been decorated with bold colours and patterns. When the nation gained independence in 1947 the art became even more important, showing images of the country and telling its stories. From nature and politics to celebrities, truck art was a way to convey messages while making driving long distances much more fun. In this creative art workshop led by Newham Author, Crafts and Colour Expert Momtaz Begum-Hossain, you'll design your own colourful truck art inspired motifs using traditional techniques

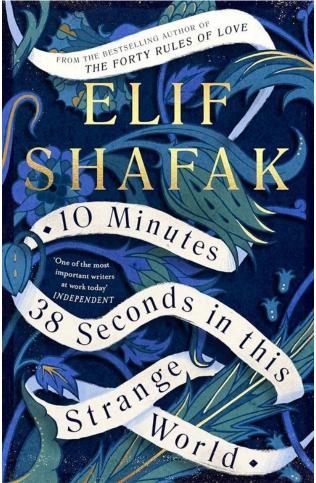


Pakistani Truck Art - Craft Workshop | Newham Libraries (mylibrary.digital)

# **Global Book Club**

Parents - if you have a spare copy of the Book Club book and are willing to lend it to the school, please pass it to your child to pass to Mr Caps. This will help to support more students in reading and joining the club. Please make sure to clearly label the book so that it can be returned to you after the Book Club has had its meeting. Thanks very much. Mr Caps

The School's Global Book Club Autumn read 2023: **10 minutes 38 seconds in this strange world – Elif Shafak** 



'In the first minute following her death, Tequila Leila's consciousness began to ebb, slowly and steadily, like a tide receding from the shore...'

For Leila, each minute after her death recalls a sensuous memory: spiced goat stew, sacrificed by her father to celebrate the birth of a yearned-for son; bubbling vats of lemon and sugar to wax women's legs while men are at prayer; the cardamom coffee she shares with a handsome

student in the brothel where she works. Each fading memory brings back the friends she made in her bittersweet life - friends who are now desperately trying to find her . . . Copies are now available from Mr Caps in S10. Meeting to discuss the book: Tuesday 7th Nov 2023. Mr Caps

# **WSfG PE Extra- Curricular Timetable**

	WSfG PE Extra- Curricular Timetable						
DAY	LUNCHTIME 12:30pm-1:00pm	AFTERSCHOOL 3:30pm-4:30pm					
Monday	Football club Year 9, 10 and 11 only Sports hall LWO	Football fixtures Year 9, 10 and 11 LWO					
Tuesday	Netball club Year 9 only Sports hall FCA	Netball fixtures Year 9 FCA					
Wednesday	Netball club Year 10 and 11 only Sports hall LCH	Netball Fixtures Year 10 and 11 LCH					
Thursday	Football club Year 7 and 8 only Sports hall	Tottenham football coaching (qualified coaches) Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 Sports hall					

# **Enrichment Programme Autumn Term 2023-2024**

THAMSTON E	Enrichment Programme Autumn Term 2023- 2024 Here are some of our clubs and support sessions to enjoy this term, a big thank you to the staff and students who							
SCHOOL FOR	volunteer to organise and run these activities. Please encourage the students to participate and display this list at home.							
Activity	When it runs	Room	Ms Philippou The activity is run by Year Groups					
		-	Monday					
Figure Drawing club	12.30pm-1.30pm	F35	Ms N Hepworth	Year 9-11				
Football Club	12.30pm -1pm	Sports Hall	Miss L Wood	Year 9-11				
Key Stage 3 French Club	1pm-1.30pm	F24	Ms Guechoul	Year 7-9				
Football Fixtures	3.30pm-4.30pm	Sports Hall/Various	Miss L Wood	Year 9-11				
Voice	1.00pm - 1.30pm	W33	Ms Bradshaw	All years welcome				
Manga club	3.30pm - 4.30pm	LRC	Ms O Kelly	All years welcome				
			Tuesday					
Netball Club	12.30pm - 1pm	Sports Hall	Ms Careless-Pye	Year 9				
Q-Vees Movie & Art Club	12.45pm - 1.25pm	F18	Mr G Quest	All Years welcome (Starts 17th October)				
Netball fixtures	3.30pm - 4.30pm	Sports Hall/Various	Ms Careless-Pye	Year 9				
Glee Club	3.45pm - 4.45pm	W33	Miss H Bradshaw	Audition only - show choir				
Debate Club	3.45pm - 4.45pm	G14	Dr Rose	Year 9 - 11 (Starts on 3rd October)				
			Wednesday					
Netball club	12.30pm - 1pm	Sports Hall	Miss L Childs	Year 10 & 11				
Netbal Fixtures	3.30pm-4.30pm	Sports Hall/Various	Miss L Childs	Year 10 & 11				
Year 7 Drama dub	12.40pm - 1.20pm	G10	Ms C Wallace	Year 7				
All Sewn Up (knitting, crochet, sewing & textiles)	3.30pm - 4.30pm	LRC	Ms O Kelly	All Years welcome				
Key Stage 4 French Club	1pm - 1.30pm	F24	Ms Guechoul	Year 10 & 11				
Key Stage 3 Spanish Club	1pm - 1.30pm	F25	Mr Polo	Years 7-9				
			Thursday					
Football Club	12.30pm-1.30pm	Sports Hall		Year 7 & 8				
History of Art Club	12.30pm - 1.30pm	F35	Ms Hepworth	Years 9-11				
Key Stage 4 Spanish Club	1pm - 1.30pm	F25	Mr Polo	Years 10 & 11				
Q-Vees Movie & Art Club	12.45pm - 1.25pm	F18	Mr G Quest	All Years welcome (Starts 19th October)				
Sparx Club	12.30pm-1.30pm	502	Ms T Cassango	All Year welcome (Week A and B) (Starts 2nd October)				
Tottenham football coaching	3.30pm - 4.30pm	Sports Hall	Qualified coaches	All Years welcome				
Orchestra	3.30pm - 4.45pm	W33	Miss H Bradshaw & Mr N Hitchman	All Years welcome who play an orchestral instrument				
Papercrafts	3.30pm - 4.30pm	LRC	Ms O Kelly	All Years welcome				
			Friday					
How to get a 9 Club	12.30pm - 1.15pm	F36	Miss A Wills	Year 11 (Week A)				
Allotment Club	12.30-1.15pm	Allotments	Miss A Wills	All years welcome (Week B)				
Badminton Club	12.30pm-1.00pm	Sports Hall	Miss L Childs	All Years welcome				
Sparx Club	12.30pm-1.30pm	S02	Ms T Cassango	All Year welcome (Only Week A ) (starts 2nd October)				

# **Parent and Carer Information**

Term Dates 2023 - 2024

	SCHOOL DAY						
	BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSURE INSET						
	Y8-II Students collect timetables: Y7 in school						
	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri		
Sept 2023	4	5	6	7	8		
	11	12	13	14	15		
	18	19	20	21	22		
	25	26	27	28	29		
Oct	2	3	4	5	6		
	9	10	11	12	13		
	16	17	18	19 26	20		
-	30	31	23	20	27		
Nov		51	1	2	3		
INUY	6	7	8	9	10		
ŀ	13	14	15	16	10		
ŀ	20	21	22	23	24		
	27	28	29	30			
Dec					1		
	4	5	6	7	8		
	П	12	13	14	15		
	18	19	20	21	22		
	25	26	27	28	29		
Jan 2024	1	2	3	4	5		
	8	9	10	11	12		
	15	16	17	18	19		
	22 29	23 30	24 31	25	26		
Feb	27	50	51		2		
Feb	5	6	7	8	9		
	12	13	14	15	16		
-	19	20	21	22	23		
ľ	26	27	28	29			
March					1		
	4	5	6	7	8		
	II	12	13	14	15		
	18	19	20	21	22		
	25	26	27	28	29		
April		2	3	4	5		
	8	9	10	11	12		
ļ	15 22	16 23	17 24	18 25	19 26		
-	22	30	27	23	20		
May	27	50	1	2	3		
may	6	7	8	9	10		
-	13	14	15	16	17		
	20	21	22	23	24		
	27	28	29	30	31		
June	3	4	5	6	7		
	10	-ii	12	13	14		
ľ	17	18	19	20	21		
	24	25	26	27	28		
July	I	2	3	4	5		
	8	9	10	11	12		
	15	16	17	18	19		

### **School Calendar**

#### Key Dates of the Autumn Term:

Monday 13th November – Friday 1st December – Year 11 mock examinations Thursday 30th November - Year 10 Parents evening Thursday 7th December - Presentation Evening Wednesday 20th December - Student Christmas Lunch Friday 22nd December – last day of winter term

Viewing Homework Tasks through Go4schools

Dear Parents and Carers,

We will be starting from this week setting homework tasks for students through our Go4Schools system. We have decided to move to this new system in response to parental feedback on being able to track and monitor homework set more easily. Those parents and carers with children in Years 8-11 should already have access to Go4schools, as we were using it as our system for sending out student assessment reports. Once you login into the system the Homework section of main homepage should start to display the various homework tasks being set by the various subject teachers.

Parents and carers of Year 7 students should have received login information on how to access Go4Schools via our Data Team this week. If you have any problems registering your login details, accessing the system or general feedback about the Go4Schools system, please do let us know by contacting the school via info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk Many Thanks,

Mr Jalil Business Manager

Parental support required for misuse of Social Media Apps

Dear year 7 parents and carers,

Year 7 students have had a fantastic start as a whole to secondary life and I am really proud of them. However, there are issues stemming from **misuse of social media at home cascading into school life.** Mean and unkind words exchanged in group chats creating unnecessary arguments at break and lunch times.

**Please we need your help and support!** Although I understand how challenging it can be for parents and carers to support their children when it comes to using social media, a year 7 child is 11 or 12 and therefore should **NOT be on social media**.

Please read the **age restrictions for social media apps document** I shared with you in our transition evening meeting (attached to this message).

Please monitor your child's use of social media and **delete all age restricted apps from their devices.** They are too young and vulnerable to handle the dangers of social media. I have included an **online safety document,** which includes tips that can assist you in this endeavour (read attached online safety tips document).

Please **protect them and keep them safe** from existing and yet to be revealed online dangers. In addition, to support you and your child the school will:

- Continue, through PSHE and assemblies, to educate students of the dangers of inappropriate use of the internet
- Continue to monitor the use of any form of ICT in normal school hours and the use of the school email system at all times, and will deal with anything deemed inappropriate
- Refer anything that we believe could be defined as, or could potentially lead to, a Child Protection issue to the appropriate external agencies
- Continue to support parents with advice on how to tackle inappropriate use either by their own child or others

However, if you choose to let them use age-inappropriate apps outside of school hours, the school will not be held responsible for any fallouts resulting from such activities.

Please do not hesitate to contact us using the emails below if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

Thank you so much for your crucial support on this matter.

Ms Desbenoit (Head of Year 7)

#### **ONLINE Safety Tips for Parents**

1. If you are a parent of a Year 7 or Year 8 child under the age of 13 it is illegal for them to have a Facebook profile or be on Instagram as the minimum age is 13. The profiles must be deleted.

2. Make sure your child uses their online privacy settings at all times to keep their personal information private.

3. Make sure your child regularly changes their password and does not share this with friends.

4. Make sure your child knows not to share personal information like their name, address, mobile number, email address online.

5.Inform your child that they should not post anything online that they wouldn't want you to see. The Golden Rule is that if they wouldn't want their parents to see it, don't post it.

6. Monitor their selfies. Ask them to show you what they are posting.

7. Make your child aware that whatever they post online may come back to haunt them at a later date, whether it's college or university leaders checking them out before offering a place or employers checking them out before a job interview. Once it is posted, there is no going back.

8. Make sure your child only talks to real life friends or family on social media sites and in chatrooms.

9. If your child talks to a stranger online or games with them online, please make them aware that they could be talking to or playing with anyone pretending to be something else, such as pretending to be a member of the opposite sex, pretending to be younger or older than they say they are, pretending to have a different job to the one they have.

10.Ensure your child knows not to make arrangements to meet up with complete strangers online.

11.Make sure that your child is not sharing their geo-location when they are online. Ensure they have geo-location disabled to keep their whereabouts private. 12. Make sure your child knows that any messages and photos shared on Snap Chat no longer disappear but can now be saved. The sender is then informed that the recipient is saving what they have posted.

13. Monitor that your child uses secure and legal sites to download music and games.

14. Monitor that your child only uses online games, apps, films and social networks that are appropriate for their age. Age ratings come with all online games, apps, films and social networks.

15.Is your child an internet gaming addict? Do they play for hours at a time? Do they talk about online gaming non-stop? Do they get defensive or angry when asked to stop? Are their sleep and meal times disrupted because of online gaming? Do they have red eyes, headaches, sore fingers, back or neck? Discuss with your child how long they play for. Set rules on how long they play for. Ban tech in their rooms after lights out or remove all tech from their rooms so they can't play all night long when you think they are asleep. Arrange offline activities such as sports or clubs to get your child out of the house and away from the online games.

16. The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to talk to them about it and to ask them to tell you and show you what they do, what sites they access, what things they post online.

17.Ask your child how many followers do they have? Their followers should be only family and friends. Explain that some followers may not be who they say they are.

18.Ask your child if they are taking part in online streaming. Online streaming is the process of delivering continuous multimedia forms, such as music and films. Paedophiles can use this to contact your child and abuse them by asking them to do a variety of things.

19.Ask your child if they are being cyberbullied. Make sure they know how to block abusive comments and report content that worries them. This can be done on the CEOP website Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP): www.thinkuknow.co.uk

20.Parents can gain a greater control of online safety at home by ensuring that parental controls are set on home broadband and any internet devices, including your child's mobile phone. Parents can find out how to do this at your broadband

provider's website. Additionally, Google provide information and advice on how to set up online safety at home on : <u>https://www.google.co.uk/safetycenter/</u>

21. Talk to your child about the benefits and risks of social networking before they join any sites. Let them know that anything they upload, email or message could stay around forever.

22.Make your child aware that using public Wifi might not filter inappropriate content, so they should look for friendly Wifi symbols when they are out and about.

23. Inform your child that they should check attachments and pop ups for viruses before they click or download anything.

24. Have a family agreement about where your child accesses the internet. If they are accessing it in their bedroom, do you really know what they are doing? Would it be better to place devices in the living room only so you can monitor your child's online activity? Can your child use their mobile phone in your living room only?

25. Have a family agreement about how much time your child spends on the internet and stick to it or reduce it, especially if they are not completing all their school work.

26. Have a family agreement about the sites they can visit. Ask them to show you.

27. Have a family agreement about the type of information they can share online. Ask them to show you information before they post it. Ask them to show you recently posted information.

28. Make sure they know that they can come to you if they are upset by something they have seen online.

29.Talk to your child by explaining that if they are talked into bullying someone on line or send inappropriate images it may get reported to us at school and even to the police.

30.As we would say to our children in life, treat others as you would like to be treated, it is the same principle online. Talk to your child about not sharing anything online that can hurt others. Tell thin to THINK BEFORE THEY POST.

31.Parents can download free online safety resources at: Child Exploitation Online Protection Centre (CEOP): www.thinkuknow.co.uk

32.Internet Matters: www.internetmatters.org

33.Childnet: www.childnet.com

34.Parentzone: www.parentzone.org.uk

35. NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk

36.Talk Talk: https://help2.talktalk.co.uk/top-tips-staying-safe-online

37.Sky: https://www.sky.com/help/articles/safety-and-security-on-your-skyproducts

38.Virgin Media: https://my.virginmedia.com/customer-news/articles/onlinesafety.html

39.BT: <u>bt.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a\_id/50602</u>

40.Vodafone:

https://www.vodafone.com/content/sustainabilityreport/2014/index/operating\_

responsibly/child\_safety\_online.html

InternetMatters.org are a not-for-profit organisation with the aim of empowering parents and carers to keep children safe in the digital world.

## Online Safety – WSFG

	App Name	Age Rating		
<b>○</b> →	Instagram	13+		
©−	What's app	16+		
<u></u> }→	Snapchat	13+		
<b>₩</b>	Discord	17+		
0-	Tik Tok	13+		
	Roblox	13+		
✓ →	Yubo	13+		
▶→	You Tube	13+ but some videos are 18+		

## Information about Personal, Social and Health Education

Dear Parents and Carers,

In term two of PSHE students will study a scheme of learning that focuses on the importance of respectful, healthy and caring relationships. This curriculum follows Government statutory guidance. We hope we share with you the view that being taught about relationships by adults

who value respectful and healthy relationships is preferable than learning from the internet and peers.

We hope you find this quote from the <u>Government RSE guidance</u> reassuring:

The aim of RSE is to give young people the information they need to help them develop healthy, nurturing relationships of all kinds, not just intimate relationships. It should enable them to know what a healthy relationship looks like and what makes a good friend, a good colleague and a successful marriage or other type of committed relationship. It should also cover contraception, developing intimate relationships and resisting pressure to have sex (and not applying pressure). It should teach what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in relationships.

This will help pupils understand the positive effects that good relationships have on their mental wellbeing, identify when relationships are not right and understand how such situations can be managed.

Effective RSE does not encourage early sexual experimentation. It should teach young people to understand human sexuality and to respect themselves and others. It enables young people to mature, build their confidence and self-esteem and understand the reasons for delaying sexual activity. Effective RSE also supports people, throughout life, to develop safe, fulfilling and healthy sexual relationships, at the appropriate time.

The Government guidance is also clear about the rights of parents and carers to withdraw their child. These are outlined below:

## Can parents withdraw their children from school Healthy Relationships and Sexual Education?

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 brought about some important changes in relation to parental rights to withdraw children from school RSE:

- Parents are not able to withdraw their child from Relationships Education in primary school or secondary school.
- Maintained primary schools are required to teach National Curriculum science, which includes some elements of sex education. Parents do not have a right to withdraw from this.
- At secondary school level parents will be able to withdraw their child from sex education (other than the sex education which sits in the National Curriculum as part of science in maintained schools).
- However, a child will also have a right to opt into sex education from their 15th birthday (specifically three academic terms before they turn 16).
- Schools will continue to be required to publish policies on these subjects for parents, and statutory guidance will continue to set out that schools should consult parents on those policies to ensure they are feeding in their views.

# We are not able therefore to withdraw your child from all PSHE lessons but only those specifically related to sex education, and, if this is the case, we will let you know specifically which lessons these are and on which dates.

If you wish to withdraw your daughter specifically from the lessons on sex education, you will need to complete the request form in the policy, <u>on this link</u> and to address this to the headteacher, Ms Helen Marriott.

We will then contact you to discuss which lessons this applies to for your daughter this academic year.

Please note that these dates are subject to change

Parent Governor at Walthamstow School for Girls

I am honoured to serve as a Parent Governor at Walthamstow School for Girls, and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Kelly Broderick, and I am not only a parent of a year 7 student here but also, I have roots here as my younger sister attended this school over 20 years ago. I am also a deeply committed to the school's vision and the success of our children.

As a Parent Governor, my goal is to ensure that our school continues to provide the best possible education for our children. I am passionate about fostering a positive learning environment, maintaining open lines of communication, and working strategically with the school's leadership to drive improvements.



**Behaviour Flowchart** 



Le	evel 1				
Off task	Lack of equipment     Lateness				
Failure to complete homework					
Low level disruption	Disrespectful comments or behaviour				
· .					
Classroom T	eacher Actions				
Verbal warning	30 minute teacher detention				
Move student	Change of seating plan				
10 minute class teacher detention	Contact parents/carers				
Faculty parking	Faculty Report				
	Inform HOF, Tutor and SPL				
Once = ve	rbal warning				
Twice = be	haviour point				
Three times =	= Faculty Parking				
	evel 2				
Persistent low level disruption	Repeated disrespectful comments				
Defiance/refusal to follow instructions at Level 1	Banned item				
Swearing	• Vandalism				
Refusal to engage in the work	<ul> <li>Truancy, long acrylic nails, false eyelashes,</li> </ul>				
	additional piercings (see Detention System grid)				
	-				
HOF/SPL	/SLT Actions				
On Call used	SPL detention				
Faculty parking	• 60 minute faculty detention				
Inform parents/carers	• SLT detention - lunchtime in Duty (truancy, nails,				
Tutor of SPL report	lashes, piercings)				
Faculty report	SENCO informed				

		Level 3			
Extreme defiance     Harmful or     Harmful and abusive behaviour			:hreatening <u>behaviour</u> Iol/smoking/vaping school into disrepute		
	S	LT Actions			
Meeting with parents/ <u>carers</u> PSP     Excluded from social events or     Internal suspension	representing scho	• Fixed term e • Completion o • SENDCO info	of risk assessn		
Detentions System SPL Detentions Wednesday 12:30pm	SLT Detentions Friday 3:30pm		Confiscated items		
<ul> <li>3 x forgotten blazer, shoes, lanyard, planner in a half term = 30 minute detention</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Missed SPL detention = <u>60 minute</u> detention</li> <li>5+ behaviour points in a week = 60</li> </ul>		Item	Give to	Collected by
<ul> <li>Chewing gum = <u>30 minute</u> detention</li> <li>2 lates in a week = <u>30 minute</u> detention</li> <li>3 + <u>lates</u> in a week = <u>60 minute</u> detention</li> </ul>	<u>minute</u> detentio	Mobile	FO	Parents (48 <u>hrs</u> )	
			Jewellery	FO	Parents (48 hrs)
			iPad (misuse)	SPL	Student (48 <u>hrs</u> )
HOF Detentions	SLT Lunch Detention - Duty Room		Hoodie x 1	Tutor	Student (on day)
Heads of Faculty will     implement their own Faculty	Truancy from a lesson	1 hour in Duty Room	Hoodie x 2	SPL	Student (48 hours)
Detention, Faculty Report and Faculty Parking System. • HOFs will inform tutors and SPLs when a student has been given a faculty detention or is on Faculty Report.	Long acrylic nails False eyelashes Additional piercings	$1^{st}$ day = lunch in Duty $2^{nd}$ day = lunch in Duty $3^{rd}$ day = Suspension	Hoodie x 3	SPL	Parents (48 <u>hrs</u> )

#### **Student Absences**

When reporting a student absence, please call the school absence line or text message in before 9am on the day of the absence. **Kindly do not email the school to report this.** Due to the high volume emails received, we cannot guarantee your notification will be seen and actioned before absence text messages are sent.

Thank you for your cooperation

**Emergency School Closures or Severe Weather** 

In the event of an emergency school closure, the decision on whether the school stays open will be taken by the Headteacher after carrying out a risk assessment.

In the event of severe weather, the school will remain open when possible. Information about any closure will be available on the school's website:

## www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

by phone:

## 020 8509 9446

## or via a text message

We aim to send text messages to parents and carers, although there are sometimes delays in getting these messages through promptly, so please check the school's website for up to date information.

Please ensure that the School Office has on record up to date addresses and telephone numbers, including a mobile number and the person to contact in the case of a student emergency.

It is essential that the school has at least **one** land line and a mobile number.

### Blazers

All students need to wear blazers at all times. You must come through the school gates at the start of the day wearing your blazer. If you are not wearing it you will be asked to put it on by the member of SLT on gate duty or the Head of Faculty on late gate.

Blazers must always be worn whilst moving around the building. If you are hot in a classroom and would like to remove your blazer you should ask permission from the member of staff delivering the lesson before doing so. If you are leaving the classroom for any reason you need to put your blazer on.

At the end of each lesson your teacher will check everyone has their blazer on before dismissing you.

If you are not wearing your blazer around the building you will receive a behaviour point. If you forget your blazer and leave it at home you will also receive a behaviour point.

## **Mobile Phones**

Dear Parent/Carers,

At WSfG we are aware that a number of you require your children to carry a mobile phone when on the journey to and from school for safety. To this end the school makes provision for your child to secure her mobile phone in the school office at the start of the day and collect it at the end of the day.

Children are NOT allowed to carry their phones with them during the school day and if they do, they run the risk of it being confiscated if it is seen or heard.

The confiscation period lasts for 48 hours and during that time you will be contacted by the school office to make arrangements to collect the phone from school.

Please make it clear to your child that they cannot keep their phone on their person during the school day and that if it is confiscated it inconveniences you as the famIly in a number of ways. Thank you for your support Ms Pratt

Assistant Headteacher Designated Safeguarding Lead

#### *iPads*

It has come to our attention that some students are bringing their own iPads into school. This is a potential safeguarding concern. Please be aware that if we find students using their own iPads, they will be confiscated for 48 hours and parents will be asked to collect, as we do with mobile phones.

#### **Student Detentions**

This year the late detentions and uniform/chewing gum detentions will take place during a Wednesday lunchtime. Tutors will read out the detention list during registration on Monday or Tuesday morning. Students will also receive a reminder note on Wednesday morning. Students should report directly to their allocated room at 12:30pm. If students do not attend their detention they will be set an extended SLT detention after school that week and parents/carers will be contacted. Here is a reminder of the detention categories this year: Late twice in one week = 30 minutes detention Late three + times in one week = 60 minute detention Chewing gum = 30 minute detention 3 x no lanyard = 30 minute detention 3 x no blazer = 30 minute detention 3 x no school shoes = 30 minute detention 3 x no planner = 30 minute detention Ms Warren Assistant Headteacher Pastoral and Well Being

**Pupil Premium and Free School Meals** 

Dear parents/carers Pupil Premium and Free School Meals If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this, our school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school.

## What is pupil premium funding?

Pupil premium funding from the government is given to schools to help students reach their full potential, regardless of their background or financial situation. It's provided for students who:

- are registered for free school meals; or
- have been registered for free school meals at any point in the past 6 years; or
- are, or have been, in care; or
- have parents in the armed forces.

At Walthamstow School for Girls we get an extra £985 for every eligible pupil who is registered for free school meals. This extra money could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer.

For example, we've previously used pupil premium funding for:

- Educational provision/resources
- Academic interventions
- Wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions

## Is my child eligible for free school meals?

Your child might be eligible if you access:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on
- Universal Credit, provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400 (£616.67 per month)

Your child might also be eligible if you're in a household with no recourse to public funds (NRPF), subject to a maximum income threshold. This is for children of:

Zambrano and Chen carers (non-EEA nationals caring for a British citizen residing in the UK)

- British National (Overseas) passport holders
- Spousal visa, work visa, or student visa holders
- Those with no immigration status
- Families with a right to remain in the UK under Article 8 of the European Convention of Human Rights
- Families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- Certain failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

## Does my child have to eat the free school meals?

No. Students who are registered for free school meals don't have to eat them. If you're eligible but you want your child to have packed lunches you should still register because the school will receive the funding which can support your child in other ways.

## How do I register?

You only need to register once at the school.

To register, please visit Free school meals | London Borough of Waltham Forest

## More information

For more information about pupil premium go to our website, which contains details of how the pupil premium has been spent in the past academic year and how it will be spent this year.

Career Information Sessions for Parents and Carers

As a parent or carer, you undoubtedly want the best for your child, and that includes their education and future career. So why not join one of our career information sessions and find out the educational and career opportunities available for your children.

With so many options and pathways available, it can be overwhelming to navigate the many decisions that come with helping your child prepare for their future. That's why we're excited to invite you to our online information sessions about education and career pathways.

These sessions are designed to provide parents with valuable information and resources to help guide their child's post-16 education and career journey.

Additional dates and sectors will be added over the coming months so please check regularly for updates.

To book your place please visit our website: <u>www.capitalccg.ac.uk/events/careers-events</u>

## **Bedrock Learning**





## Dear parent/carer,

We're absolutely delighted that your child's school has chosen to partner with Bedrock Learning. In doing so, they have placed literacy at the heart of your child's learning journey.

We know that a child's education is not just about school, and that support from people at home can make a huge difference to their progress. We'd love to invite you to our first online Bedrock Parents' Information Evening at;

#### 7pm, Tuesday 21st November

to give you the chance to find out;

- What Bedrock is
- Why it's important for your child to use Bedrock
- How you can support them in their learning

To sign up for our Parents' Information Evening, please scan (or click) the QR code to the right or go to <u>app.getcontrast.io/register/bedrock-learning-bedrock-</u> <u>parents-information-evening-secondary</u>.

Can't make the live session? Register anyway and a recording will be sent for you to watch on demand.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Warmest wishes,

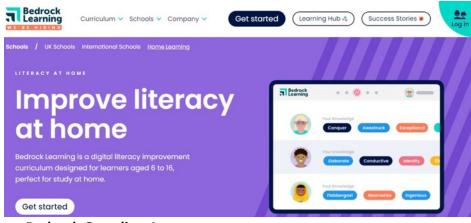
Team Bedrock



Scan me to register!



Creating a Bedrock Guardian Account



## To create your Bedrock Guardian Account:

- 1: Visit app.bedrocklearning.org
- 2: Click on 'Guardian/Teacher' tab.
- 3: Complete the form and enter: 2f7eb288
- 4: Check your email for your password, and log in.

Your child's username is:

Your child's password is:

You will find a parent guide via: <u>bedrocklearning.org</u>

### Year 9 Bedrock Learners

For Year 9 students who have access to Bedrock, it is important to log in regularly at home. As you are preparing for your GCSE's you will have access to learning that will support you before you enter Year 10.

### What is the Bedrock Library?

All learners can access this section, no matter which Block of content they are working on. It is suitable for all readers and abilities and is designed to stretch and challenge your vocabulary knowledge.

Go to "My Content" and then from the LIBRARY button of the vocabulary curriculum area you will find the activities.

## The whole family can join in to support your learning.

Your guardians can support you when they create an account. You can use the activities and words on Bedrock around the home and share your knowledge with other family members. If you would like to know more about Bedrock and how it can support you, log on to To prepare for next year, you can log on to this section of Bedrock. This will give you access to the GCSE Jekyll & Hyde unit and the vocabulary used within a variety of different literacy texts - giving you the opportunity to prepare for the unseen element of future exams. You can still use Bedrock over the summer holidays, giving you a head start on your next year's learning.

## Supporting your child at home - Bedrock Learning

Bedrock students attend a lesson once every two weeks. Students should also be logging on regularly at home, ideally 'little and often' having the greatest impact. Bedrock is designed to support students up to G.C.S.E. level and give them the language they need to support their learning.

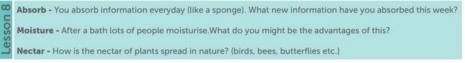
Students have been given letters to take home with passwords for creating a Bedrock Parent account. Once you have signed on, you will then be sent weekly updates on how well your child is doing and be able to view the topic that they are working on.

Log in to your Bedrock parent account.

Use your dashboard to see which Block and Topic your child child is currently working through on Bedrock.

We recommend starting with the prompts for the Block your child is currently working through.

Here is an example of words used in a lesson;



Please contact the school if you have problems with logging on at home or would like to know more about how you can support your child with literacy and reading. **Ms Kelly, LRC.** 



## **Community Events**

Latest news from Capital City College Group (CCCG)

### **Coffee Mornings**

Capital City College Group (CCCG) is excited to host a series of informative and engaging coffee mornings exclusively designed for careers advisors and careers leads working with young people.

These coffee mornings present a wonderful opportunity for you to broaden your professional network, gain valuable insights into our wide array of courses, and experience a firsthand tour of our state-of-the-art Centres.

During these sessions, you will have the chance to connect with fellow advisors, fostering connections that can lead to collaborative opportunities and the sharing of best practices. We believe that by bringing together like-minded professionals, we can collectively enhance our ability to guide and support students in their career journeys.

The coffee mornings also serves as a platform to showcase the impressive range of courses offered by CCCG. By attending, you will gain valuable insights into the unique opportunities available to your students and how our courses can help them achieve their academic and professional goals.

To ensure that as many professionals as possible benefit from this event, we kindly encourage you to share the details with colleagues in your network who might also be interested in attending. Together, we can create a vibrant community of careers advisors committed to fostering educational success and facilitating students' seamless transition into their desired professions.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at <u>schoolliaison@capitalccg.ac.uk</u>.

We look forward to seeing you at this exciting event!

## Tuesday 14th November 9-11am

- City and Islington College Sixth Form Centre, Angel
- Register Here: <u>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/careers-advisor-coffee-morning-angel-</u> <u>centre-tickets-744092900897?aff=oddtdtcreator</u>

## Tuesday 21st November 9-11am

- Westminster Kingsway College Kings Cross Centre
- Register Here: <u>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/careers-advisor-coffee-morning-kings-</u> <u>cross-centre-tickets-746054377727?aff=oddtdtcreator</u>

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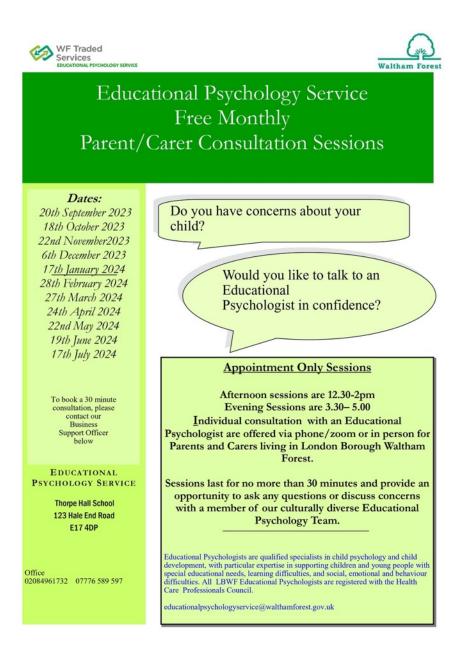
Additional dates and sectors will be added over the coming months so please check regularly for updates.

To book your place please visit our website: <u>www.capitalccg.ac.uk/events/careers-events</u>

**Neurodiversity Social Club** 



Parent/Carer Educational Psychology Consultant Service



## **Contact Us**

Church Hill, Walthamstow, London, E17 9RZ Telephone: 020 8509 9446 Email: <u>info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk</u> Website: <u>www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk</u> Student Absence Line: 020 8509 9446

