



GREENSHEET



No. 26/14

Church Hill, Walthamstow, London, E17 9RZ

Telephone: 020 8509 9446

Email: info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

Website: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk

Student Absence Line: 020 8509 9444

23th March 2015

Week 'B'

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Spring Term 2015:

Ends - Thursday
2nd April 2015

Early closure
12:45 pm

Summer Term 2014/15:

Starts - Monday
20th April 2015
Ends - Friday
17th July 2015

Spring Bank Holiday:

Monday
4th May 2015

Half Term:

Monday 25th to
Friday 29th May
2015

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE



Rt Hon David Laws MP
Minister of State for Schools

Sanctuary Buildings 20 Great Smith Street Westminster London SW1P 3BT
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Our ref:PPA 2015/3204072

Ms Meryl Davies
Walthamstow School for Girls
Church Hill
Walthamstow
London
E17 9RZ

19 March 2015

PUPIL PREMIUM AWARDS 2015 – FINALIST FOR THE KEY STAGE 4 AWARDS

Dear *Ms. Davies,*

I am delighted to tell you that your school has been selected as a finalist for the 2015 Pupil Premium Awards. This means that you have won one of the larger prizes and, if you are selected as the national winner on 25 March 2015, your school could win £250,000.

This is an extraordinary achievement. The judges, Sir John Dunford, Sir William Atkinson and Jane Lees tell me that your school excels in educating disadvantaged pupils and improving their outcomes. It is clear that you, your staff and governors are equipping your disadvantaged pupils with the skills for future success.

In celebration of your school's achievements, I hope that you can join me and the Deputy Prime Minister at the Awards ceremony at the Drapers Hall in London on 25 March 2015. Officials will send you more details shortly. If you have any further questions at this stage please do not hesitate to email Matthew.Simmonite@education.qsi.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely,

David Laws MP

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you can see from the front page of this issue we have once more been given reason to be immensely proud of our students and staff. You will recall from Greensheet No 21 that the Minister of State for Schools wrote in February congratulating the school on winning £5000 in the **Key Stage 4 category of the Pupil Premium Awards 2015**. This was because **we were identified as one of the most improved schools in the country in terms of attainment and the value added progress of our disadvantaged students since 2011**. We were then invited to submit an application to win one of the larger prizes, which we did during the half term break. **On Thursday last week we learned that we had become one of only twenty-seven schools nationally to be selected as a finalist.**

“This is an extraordinary achievement.... your school excels in educating disadvantaged pupils and improving their outcomes”

Rt Hon David Laws MP, Minister of State for Schools

At the time of writing, we do not know the details of the larger prize the school has won, but I will share this with you in next week's Greensheet. This award follows on from the recent news that the girls' results meant that the school is due to be awarded **three other prizes**, this time from the SSAT, **for being in the top 10% of non-selective schools nationally for high attainment for all students, for being in the top 10% for value – added progress for all and for our success in achieving high levels of performance for students eligible for the pupil premium.**

However, this was last summer and we have this year's Year 11 students to focus on. They are working diligently and are already in the throes of their GCSEs with the completion of practical work and the imminent GCSE Drama performances and Art practicals, for example. The school will be very busy during the Easter break when we run a full revision programme for our examination students. We know that they will continue to try their very best over the weeks to come.

Congratulations to the Year 10 girls who organised an enterprise event last week. Ms Kelly tells me that they made £314.50 in thirty minutes. This money will be donated to the girls' chosen charity *Just a Drop and Pencils of*

(Continued overleaf)

Promise. A special well done to Manon Davies and Ele Dimova whose cakes sold out within then minutes! Next Thursday they will be going to the Brandling Museum and then taking part in another 'apprentice style activity' to buy goods at the cheapest price to donate to the Food Bank in Walthamstow.

Well done also to all the competitors in Year 8 Public Speakers Competition organised by Ms Cato. The finalists from each tutor group took part in a 'speak-off' in front of the whole year group and staff on Friday afternoon, Congratulations to all finalists and especially to Lily Deason from 8C who was the winner, she entertained their peers to a speech on waste.

There will be many more articles and pictures in the next issue of our Bumper Greensheet due out next week.

Best wishes
Meryl Davies

IMPORTANT PARENT/CARER INFORMATION

Governor Elections

The ballot for the election of two new parent governors took place over the two week period from Monday 9th to Friday 20th March, 2015. Our thanks go to all the parents and carers who took the time to vote. The count was held on Monday 23rd March at 5pm and we are pleased to inform you that our new Parent Governors are:

Mr Daniel Phelps and Dr Aneela Shah.

I look forward to working with these parents as they join the Governing Body.

Our sincere thanks to all the candidates for supporting the school by standing for election and we do hope that the unsuccessful candidates will consider putting their names forward again should another vacancy arise for a parent governor in future.

Meryl Davies
Headteacher

Gillian Barker
Chair of Governors

Year 7 WSF Message for Parents and Carers

The deadline for the Year 7 WSF to pay for the Boulogne trip is **Wednesday 1st April**. Mrs Dowling will be collecting the slips and the money outside the front office from 8.30am to 8.45am from Monday 30th March to Wednesday 1st April.

Students also have the opportunity to pay online via sQuid, which the preferred method of payment.

There will be a prize for the first form to hand in all the slips and the money.

Ms Bourboin
MFL department



Create an account and register with sQuid

Simple to set up, simple to use

You would have received a Welcome Letter from the school with your own unique sQuid registration number (16 digits long) and a 3 digit security code when your daughter started at the school.

You need to **Register with sQuid**, create an account and enter these numbers. You will then be able to top-up your account and view your balance and transactions.

This account will allow you to top up your daughter's lunch payment as well as paying for events and trips.

Please contact the school office if you have not received your own unique sQuid registration number (16 digits long) and a 3 digit security code.

See the schools website for further details: www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk



The final day of Spring Term is Thursday 2nd April 2015

- ALL lessons 1 – 3 are as normal.
- At 12.25, students will go back to their form rooms to clear up and will be dismissed by SPLs and Leadership Team at approx 12.45pm.
- No student will be allowed to remain in school and the gates will be locked at 1.15pm
- There will be a normal break time offer in the canteen.
- If you are entitled to a free school meal and would like to order a take-away packed lunch, please see Ms Pratt **IN PERSON** by Tuesday 31st March.
- Thursday 2nd April will be a non-uniform day.
- The cost of wearing non-uniform will be **£1.00** and must be paid **IN ADVANCE** to Form Reps.
- The jewellery rules still apply on this day and Lanyards must be worn.

The first day of the Summer Term for students is Monday 20th April 2015

- All Students are expected in school on time for registration at 8.45am and in **FULL** uniform.
- The Focus of the Fortnight from 20th April will be on Uniform and Lanyards
- This will be a Week B.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday!

Ms Pratt

Assistant Head Teacher.

Year 10 Message to Parents and Carers

Your daughter will be taking part in work experience from Monday 6th July 2015 – 10th July 2015. All students will need to find their own placement for this period. The deadline for securing a placement and completing the placement form is Monday 20th April. Forms are required this far in advance so that the relevant health and safety checks can be made. If your daughter has not yet secured a placement, this is now an urgency. If you have any questions or concerns regarding work experience, do not hesitate to contact myself or Ms Ray (Careers Guidance and Work Experience Co-ordinator).

Ms Bugden
Assistant Headteacher

Focus of the Fortnight 23rd March – 3rd April 2015 Litter in the School Environment

All members of our school community deserve to learn and work in a clean, healthy, litter-free environment. We have litter bins all around the areas of the school buildings and grounds where students are allowed to eat and drink.

There are also bins with lids in each classroom. We want to keep our school environment clean and litter free. We expect staff and students to model positive litter management by picking up litter when it is seen. By working together, we can keep WSFG litter-free.

During the Focus Fortnight, there will be rewards for picking up litter, so check any litter picked up **BEFORE** putting it in the bin as you may have won a prize which will be written onto the piece of litter!

Ms Pratt
Assistant Headteacher

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers 2015

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers again. Please can parents and carers ask their daughters to bring any in to school.

The collection box is by the student entrance to the Norris Hall.

Thank you

Ms Warren

Head of PE



WSFG ICT Facilities - Extended Opening Hours

WSFG is delighted to offer your daughter the opportunity to study at school until 5pm every night for a trial period starting after the Easter holidays (April 20th) until the end of the Summer Term.

Students will be able to use the computer room S03 to complete educational related tasks such as home learning, school work and revision. The ICT room will be supervised by a member of staff.

If students wish to take up this opportunity, they must conduct themselves in accordance with the school's positive behaviour for learning policy or they may be asked to leave.

Students must also only use computers for educational purposes and be completing school related work. If they do otherwise, they will again be asked to leave.

This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to make use of the school's ICT facilities out of our usual hours and I look forward to welcoming them.

Ms Bugden

Assistant Headteacher

Would you like to use IT to enhance your life and work skills, save time, money and energy? If so come to the drop in IT support session.



Walthamstow School for Girls is offering FREE afternoon and evening IT training



12 spaces - book early for one or all session times, by calling Mrs Finamore, Community Liaison Co-ordinator 0208 509 4494 or email: r.finamore@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk or the school office on info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk office phone number 0208 509 9446

**IT support offered each week in a friendly relaxed environment.
Do come along and ask for what YOU need.**

Skills taught during sessions include
resources to help you improve your typing,
including learning to touch type
help to use your computer to produce
documents in word, excel and email

use the web to buy and sell goods, save
money and seek advice
use the computer to find jobs and know
where they are advertised (*free interview
coaching)

CV writing and updating
* free CV feedback session

*booked separately at session

Session dates and times

Spring Term

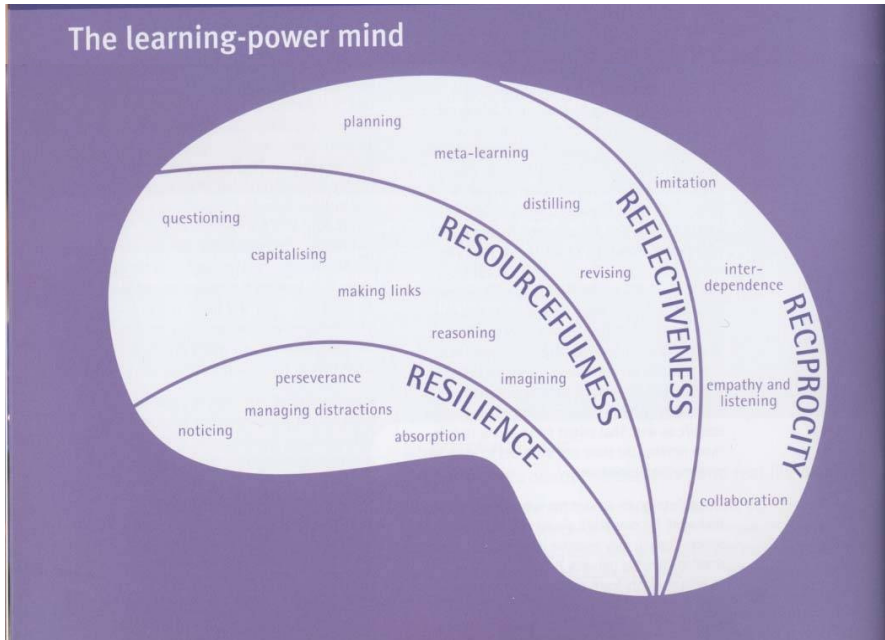
Session 3: Tues 17th March
4.30 – 5.30 & Thurs 19th March
7.00 – 8.00 pm

Session 4: Tues 24th March
4.30 – 5.30 & Thurs 26th March
7.00 – 8.00 pm

Session 5: Tues 31st March
4.30 – 5.30 & Wed 1st April
7.00 – 8.00 pm

Building Learning Power

.....is about helping young people to become better learners, both in school and out of school.



Top Tips for Parents and Carers

The BLP Muscle is Scavenging

Resourcefulness

“means being on the lookout for materials, resources and forms of support in the environment that can help you in your current learning or problem-solving” Guy Claxton

1. Do a difficult task such as planning a family day out. List all the different sources you will need to use to help you.
2. Discuss with someone how you use different resources in your work or at home.
3. If you need help with homework during this fortnight think about where you might find help yourself (library, newspapers etc.)

Look round the house and see how many potential resources to help your learning you can find.

Ms Fearon

BLP co-ordinator

STUDENT LEAVE DURING TERM TIME

A student's absence during term time can seriously disrupt her continuity of learning. Not only does she miss the teaching provided on the days she is away, she is also less prepared for the lessons building on that after her return. There is a consequent risk of underachievement which we and you must seek to avoid. Therefore, the school **DOES NOT** authorise absence during term time for family holidays or trips abroad.

Parents or carers do not have the right to take their daughter(s) out of school for holidays and the school will only grant leave of absence in truly exceptional circumstances.

A student who is absent longer than ten days after an agreed return date, or without authorisation, can legally be removed from the school roll.

Parents or carers who take their daughters out of school without the authorisation of the Headteacher face court action and a fine.

In considering whether or not to authorise leave of absence, the school will look at each case individually, taking into account a student's overall attendance, her stage of education, (e.g. examinations), and the reason for the absence. It is very rare that any student is granted leave of absence.

Leave of Absence forms can be obtained from the school office and all requests should be submitted to our Attendance Manager **at least four weeks before the first day of requested absence.**

Arrangements for trips should **NEVER** be made before permission has been sought from the Headteacher.

Ms King
Student Attendance Manager

There may be occasions when you would like to contact a member of staff at school. You might want to ask a question of a specific teacher or contact your daughter's form tutor.

Whatever the reason, the best way to make contact is either by telephoning the Front Office on 0208 509 9446 or by emailing info@wsfg.waltham.sch.uk.

Your request will be passed on immediately to the member of staff concerned and they will respond to your enquiry as soon as possible. Please be aware that this will not always be on the same day.

It is very unlikely that teaching staff will be available to speak with you if you arrive at school without a prior appointment, due to their teaching commitments both during the school day and after school sessions.

Thank you

Ms Janes

Administrative Manager

STUDENT ABSENCE

We would like to remind you that if your daughter is absent from school, including the day following an illness/incident which has led her to be collected from school, you should notify the school office by **9.30am**.

Please note the telephone number for student absence is: **020 8509 9444**

Ms King

Student Attendance Manager

Polite reminder to Parents and Carers

Please do not stop or wait on the road markings outside the school.

This endangers the lives of our students and the local community.

Thank you



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK IN WALTHAMSTOW AND BEYOND

WALTHAMSTOW

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH: TASTER DAY FOR KHYAL ARTS NEW INDIAN DANCE AND MUSIC PROJECT FOR GIRLS, UPPER DRAMA STUDIO, WALTHAMSTOW SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, 10AM -1PM, FREE.

Learn something new this spring - Bollywood fusion, kathak dance and Indian singing, plus inspirational talks from influential local women. Limited places, booking essential: contact info@khyalarts.org.uk All girls aged 12-19 welcome.

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR WALTHAMSTOW VILLAGE ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN, MEET AT THE VILLAGE SQUARE, CORNER OF EDEN AND ORFORD ROADS, E17 AT 10.30AM, FREE, ALL WELCOME.

Help collect litter, paint benches and generally spruce things up as part of the Borough's Spring Clean campaign. Wear old clothes and boots; tools and lunch will be provided. Organised by the Village Residents' Association.

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH: TABLE TOP SALE, HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL, 1 SHERNHALL STREET, E17 3EA, 10AM- 1PM, 50P ADULTS, CHILDREN FREE. Wide range of stalls , refreshments and more. To book a stall to sell your own items, contact 0208 520 0482.

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH: URBAN HERBAL STREET PARTY, HORNBEAM CENTRE, 458 HOE STREET, E17 9AH, 12—3PM, £1 ENTRY. Workshops and demonstrations on growing and using herbs - all ages welcome. Part of the Cultivate Urban Food Growing Festival which runs across Walthamstow until 29th March. Ring 0208 558 6880 for more information.

BEYOND E17

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH: NORTH CHINGFORD VILLAGE MARKET, STATION ROAD, NORTH CHINGFORD, E4, 10AM- 5PM, FREE.

Celebrate spring at this new event, with stalls selling vintage clothes, crafts, fresh produce and more. All welcome.

SATURDAY 28TH MARCH: KING'S CROSS FETE TO OPEN 2 NEW OUTDOOR SPACES, KINGS CROSS STATION AND ENVIRONS, 11AM- 4PM, FREE. Live music, art activities, croquet and other lawn games, pop up photo parlour, stalls and refreshments to celebrate the opening of Lewis Cubitt Park and Square. See www.kingscross.co.uk for details. Nearest tube: Kings Cross.

SUNDAY 29TH MARCH: ORGANICLEA OPEN DAY, HAWKWOOD PLANT NURSERY, 115 HAWKWOOD CRESCENT, CHINGFORD E4, 12-4PM, FREE. Individuals, families and groups can get help and advice on starting to grow food, with practical demonstrations- all welcome. Part of the Cultivate Festival Ring 0208 524 4994 or email: info@organiclea.org.uk

Enjoy your free time!

Mrs Finamore