



“Neglect not the gift that is in thee”

Greensheet

Plus

SPRING 2015



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our biggest bumper Greensheet yet!

We have had a full term as you can see from this publication. And, as you will appreciate, all these activities go on in addition to the main focus of our work, the education of your daughters.

Whilst last year's GCSE results have brought the school recognition nationally, the work of our teachers is now directed at ensuring that every one of our students achieves their very best in their GCSE examinations and leaves us confident of success at their next place of learning.

There have been a number of new initiatives this term; our students demonstrated their reporting skills with the school's contribution to the BBC Schools' News Report, an event involving students at one thousand schools nationally all uploading their news items at the same time. For more insight into what issues are concerning the girls, see:

<http://www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk/bbc-school-news-report-2015>.

Our external work is also being consolidated via a number of new developments, for example our increasing involvement in volunteering has led to us joining with the pan-London organisation called Team London which aims to celebrate the extent of volunteering which is being undertaken by young people in the capital.

The girls have also experienced a different form of challenge and adventure through the Duke of Edinburgh award. Earlier in the term, a group of Year 10 students went on an Outward Bound trip to West Wales and spent five days doing different physically demanding tasks including spending the night in a log cabin high up on the snow-capped peaks, as well as diving into the February Irish Sea following a mile long jog! They have described the trip as memorable. We have no doubt it was, both for the girls and their teachers.

Wishing you all a wonderful holiday,

Meryl Davies
Headteacher

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Community Christmas Party

At the end of last term WSFG closed early so that we could welcome some of our elderly residents from the local area for our annual community party.

The event was a huge success with over sixty older people in attendance together with the Mayor of Walthamstow.

The party really was a whole school effort. The Year 10 Food Technology group catered the event. The Performing Arts Faculty organised a high calibre musical ensemble with appearances from the Steel Pans group, Jazz Band and Choir all performing some fantastic festive tunes. The Humanities Faculty were able to collect enough donated gifts so that every attendee at the party received a Christmas present from Father Christmas who made a special appearance towards the end of the party!

The elderly people particularly enjoyed chatting with our students and staff and all thoroughly enjoyed the event.

Thank you to everyone involved in making the afternoon such a huge success. In fact, it was such a success, we made full page coverage in



December's issue of Waltham Forest News!

Ms Bugden
Assistant Headteacher



Governors go back to school

Last month our school governors took up the opportunity to spend a day working together in the school and visiting their link faculties.



Their day was action-packed and began with breakfast in the dining hall with our Breakfast Club students. This was followed by a thought-provoking assembly on will power given by Ms Kennedy to all our students in Years 9 and 10.

Topics covered during the day included information about:

- the national curriculum changes and the new progress 8 measures
- the Green Project, a new project based learning initiative
- the school's involvement in volunteering and Team London
- the new online reading tracker scheme and
- child protection

Governors also visited a number of extracurricular clubs and groups at lunchtime, including the Latin club, steel pans, creative Design and Technology, MyBnk and an Equal Opportunities meeting.

Link visitors also spent time with the Challenge co-ordinator and our Finance team, and, at the end of the day, spent a productive session looking at a programme of review and priorities the governing body had set itself as part of the whole school self improvement plan.

Governors thoroughly enjoyed their day. Here are some of their comments: *"A very interesting and stimulating day. Great to see the school in full operational mode. The girls all looked very happy"*.

"Was very useful to see a range of activities and initiatives going on. It was a tight schedule in places and could have spent longer on many of the subjects but it was very informative and showed how much activity goes on".



Professional Interview Day

Earlier in the term our Year 11 cohort was transformed into one hundred and eighty professional women as they took part in our mock interview day. As part of our preparation and commitment to life after WSFG, we organise a day of mock interviews for Year 11. The activity helps prepare our girls for their college interviews and possible future employment.



Students are interviewed by a range of professionals (this year these included a BBC News production manager, a senior vet, the CEO of Age UK, lawyers, civil servants, teachers, bankers, business entrepreneurs and many more people from a wide range of professions). The girls applied for an imaginary job, were matched with a professional with experience in that field and had a mock interview. Following their interview, they were advised on any areas for development.

For successive years our students have commented on how useful they find the experience, especially in preparing for college interviews. In addition, the interviewers always praise our students for their professionalism, maturity and organisation. As one of the visitors commented, *"the students had all made a real effort to dress appropriately and, I think that I would have given everyone a job as a result of their interview"*.

The interviewers were incredibly impressed with the calibre of every student they interviewed. Student feedback has also stressed how important this experience was with their upcoming college interviews.



Well done Year 11!

Ms Bugden
Assistant headteacher

Practical...Prepared...and Poised

Afternoon tea at the London Elizabeth Hotel.

Twelve Year 9 students took part in a four week course which looked at etiquette and social skills in different situations, ranging from giving directions, to eating out and giving a speech.



As part of the course, the girls had an 'afternoon tea' to put their new found skills to the test.

The girls were absolutely fantastic. They were all so polite and confident when ordering their drinks and making enquiries about the food.

Two ladies who were also having afternoon tea at the restaurant commented on how mature and well behaved the girls were. They were highly impressed and told us they were a credit to our school.

After eating all those delicious sandwiches, cakes and scones, the girls took a walk in Hyde Park and saw the beautiful swans and fountains.



There is no more quintessential British ritual than the ceremony of serving afternoon tea. It is believed that credit for the custom goes to Anna, the 7th Duchess of Bedford, in the early 19th century. The usual habit of serving dinner between 8 and 9 pm left the Duchess hungry, with a 'sinking feeling' by late afternoon. To stave off the hunger, she would order tea, bread and butter and cakes to be served in her room. Later she began to invite friends to join her at her home and the light tea was such a success the habit caught on.



"I really enjoyed going to the posh restaurant in Hyde Park. The food was really tasty especially the chocolate cake and scones. I had an amazing time!"

Hina Riaz

"I had a really good time at the afternoon tea, it was a great personal experience to have as I learnt a great deal about afternoon tea and the etiquette of drinking tea and eating scones. I really enjoyed the food they served."

Aamnah Naeem

Ms Mannan
EAL department



Year 10 Mathematics Trip to Bletchley Park

In March, a group of thirty Year 10 students were taken to Bletchley Park to find out more about code-breaking and the life of Alan Turing.



Here are some reviews from the girls who went;

“Enlightening. Inspirational. Mathematical. Bletchley Park is full of wall to wall historical wonders, glorifying the magical past of mathematics. I often find myself wondering when I am ever going to apply what I learn in maths lessons, out in the real world. This experience highlighted for me what we mathematicians can do with our knowledge. Alan Turing, a mathematician, ended the war two years early by breaking the Enigma code, saving lives with numbers and equations. A truly motivational visit.”

Charlotte Gamble 10G



“Bletchley Park was a truly thought-provoking visit and we all learnt a lot about the world of code breaking. The visit started with an entertaining and informative talk. After lunch we were given a tour of the stunning grounds and then we saw where some of “The Imitation Game” was filmed and saw costumes and props. Lastly we saw Alan Turing’s office. It was set up to look like he was still using it. For example, his mug was chained to the radiator as that is what he used to do. All in all, the trip was a magnificent experience and I recommend a visit to Bletchley Park to all.”

Yasmin Shakibi 10F

“Our trip to Bletchley Park was great fun and definitely a school day well spent. Our morning code breaking session was very interesting and enjoyable, mainly

as I solved the Caesar Cipher task before Ms Robinson! We had a great opportunity to use the original Enigma machine used in the filming of “The Imitation Game”. I loved the tour around the mansion and the exhibition of the film. Alan Turing’s office was also very interesting. I would have liked to sit at his desk! Overall, it was a great day and was a very insightful recreation of a real world war situation. It has made me intrigued to find out more about the real heroes behind the war effort.”

Phoebe Elliott 10S

“I really enjoyed our trip to Bletchley Park and learning about different types of codes. We also had a tour of the grounds and learnt about the interesting architecture of the mansion. One thing that made a great impression on me and made me want to cry, was seeing the quote from the film, “The Imitation Game”. It was said to Alan Turing by his best friend, Christopher” (reproduced below)

Thank you to Mr Courtenay and Ms Finamore who accompanied us on the trip.

Ms Robinson
Challenge Co-ordinator



“Sometimes it is the very people who no one imagines anything of who do the things that no one can imagine”
Christopher Morcom

Cenlig Film Making Project

This term, as part of the collaborative work with other Waltham Forest Schools (including Willowfield and Kelmscott), a number of our Year 9 students have been writing, acting, producing and directing a short film!



Straightcurve Film Company have been working with our students and commented on the creativity and expertise that our students demonstrated throughout the two day process.

The girls saw their final masterpiece last week in Waltham Forest's version of the Oscars!

And we won several awards!

Congratulations to the following girls for their hard work;

Mia Jeffriees, Malaika Mustaq, Sophia Hanna Khairul, Lucy Carter, Lily Down, Katie Krupnitskaya, Navin Yousouf, Joy Akintan Noemi Munt, Maheen Ali, Maiya Ward, Ola Chimczak, Hannah Ross, Patricia Williams Torres, Sandra Swiergolik, Ummi Hoque, Aarifah Amidu and Desy Koparimska.

Ms Robinson
Challenge Co-ordinator



LionHeart Challenge

Earlier this term, Year 10 came off timetable for the day to participate in the Lionheart Challenge.

Girls worked in groups of ten competing against each other alongside LionHeart Business Coaches who are entrepreneurs and executives from the business world. They undertook a Real-Time Enterprise Challenge.

This year's challenge involved the participants designing, marketing and presenting a product that would support crime prevention. Students were required to conceptualise a product, consider the marketing and finance and finally present their finished idea to over two hundred people.

Our students came up with some outstanding concepts, including a cocktail umbrella that people could take use to ensure that their drinks were not spiked and apps for your phone that would alert you when entering high crime areas! Ms Jean Baptiste, Mr Monksfield and I found it difficult to judge as all groups had original ideas and presented so confidently.

The members of the winning team, which will now go on to present WSFG at the London regional finals are: *Aisha Amanat, Ellie Flowerday, Wiktoria Grudzinska, Rebecca Huggins, Zara Karim, Marie Josee Mana Aboui, Rehab Musse, Aleena Shahzad and Iliana Woloshyn.* Monique Edwards was also awarded a special prize by the Lionheart Representative for her commitment, hard work and effort throughout the day.

Well done Year 10!

Ms Bugden
Assistant Headteacher



Drama Department News

We have had a busy year so far, with a packed schedule of curricular visits and enrichment projects.

Last term, Year 11 GCSE students visited the National Theatre Archive and the Royal Court Theatre as part of their research for Unit 3, whilst our Year 10 groups saw *The Scottsboro Boys* in the West End and *Golem* at Stratford Circus.

Both year groups will be busy with examination work over the next term and a half; Year 11 students have begun working on their text-based performance examination, whilst Year 10 students are embarking on Unit 1, in which they devise their own plays in the style of a practitioner or genre.

In order to consolidate and develop their learning in preparation for Unit 1, we have just been to see a production of Bertolt Brecht's *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* at the Unicorn Theatre and physical theatre company Frantic Assembly's interpretation of *Othello* at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith.

Meanwhile, thirty Year 9 students were successful in their applications to join the Old Vic Schools Club. Participants visit the Old Vic on four occasions during the academic year to see productions and take part in workshops beforehand run by facilitators from the theatre. After each theatre visit, the girls create their own dramatic response to the play. Last term, we went to see *Electra* starring Kristen Scott Thomas, which we all thoroughly enjoyed, in the weeks to follow, club members performed their *Electra*-inspired drama in an informal shared evening with family and friends.

At the end of January students went to see cult comedian Daniel Kitson's two-man play *Tree*. Students are keeping a portfolio record of their experiences as Schools Club members and this will help them towards their Bronze Arts Award.

This term, we have been busy rehearsing for the whole-school production of *The Wizard of Oz*, a collaborative effort from the Performing Arts Faculty involving students from across the year groups.

We are also involved with a project run by the Barbican in conjunction with distinguished physical theatre company Complicite called '*Barbican in a Box*'. Year 8 students have to devise an original piece of drama in response to items in a large box sent to us by the Barbican. The girls work with mentors from Complicite and will perform the finished piece at the Barbican in July.

Ms Wallace continues to run Drama club for Years 7 and 8; the group meets after school on Wednesdays and is currently working on improvisation.

We are taking steps to strengthen our cross-curricular links this year. Last term, PSHE and Drama took a group of Year 9 students, selected for their high level of contribution to PSHE lessons, to see *Girls Like That* at the Unicorn Theatre. This thought-provoking play tackled some of the issues arising from the prevalence of social media in the lives of young people. With the Humanities Faculty, we are planning a trip to the Donmar Warehouse later in the year and we are also hoping to collaborate with the Mathematics Faculty next term on using Drama as a learning tool in mathematics

Ms E Cornford
Drama Department





at WSFG

Our dedicated Eat or Heat team continues to inspire the whole school to support people in our community who are going through a difficult time. Winter is very tough for people who are struggling and who often have to choose between eating, or heating their homes.

There are currently 27% of children in Waltham Forest living in poverty – a shocking statistic, and one that motivates us to do our part to make sure families do not go hungry. Every time our school runs an event to raise money, to donate food or to volunteer time, we have come up trumps!

SEASONAL GOODWILL

On December 23rd Robarb Huissain, Lauren Evans, Ellie Duplock, Nina Athill, Sirah Ahmed, Aneesah Mukadam, Caristia Vileneuve, Ana Munt, Noemi Munt, Ms Dominique, Ms Finamore, Ms Rae and Ms Scott volunteered up to six hours of the day to hand out seasonal food and toys, donated by



Sainsburys, to families from the foodbank in Jewel Road. It was also great to have some of our original Eat or Heat team members there: *Sharmila Savatherajan (former student), Amysofia Harrington, Imani Morris and Sonam Kaur.* Kitty Ward had also arranged a donation from her Sixth Form at Forest School. A fantastic effort from everyone concerned!

In preparation for this, our junior Eat or Heat members

Irsa Haider, Beyonce Gyasi-Twum, Khadijah Khaliq, Ubah Ahmed, Mahnoor Ali, Najma Hassan, Areej Ahmed, Khadijah Abdul-Azeez, Cerine Djellouli, Nawal Mohamed had been shopping for food and treats to fill these food bags.



Prior to the event they also worked extremely hard with other members of the team to wrap presents for the children. Another great effort!

UPCYCLED FASHION

The whole staff of WSFG is exceptionally generous when it comes to supporting Eat or Heat, and our most recent venture was a sale of upcycled clothes. Staff brought in some very stylish and chic outfits – including several pairs of very high-heeled shoes – to sell at bargain prices to raise money for food. The event was so successful we tried it with the girls. Again, the team worked with enthusiasm, commitment and a sense of humour to raise as much money as possible. Overall we raised over £200, the initiative resulted in some very excited customers!



BOX OF LOVE

Our final fundraiser was one that went down a storm with the foodbank clients. This time we chose to focus on young people, often living alone, who needed a bit of love around Valentine's Day. We asked tutor groups to create a Box of Love, which would contain little luxuries like hot chocolate, delicious biscuits, fragrant toiletries and maybe a scented candle or two. There would be a prize of a huge Valentine's Day cake for the winning tutor group. What a fantastic response!

Many thanks to all parents and carers who supported their daughters in this. Without you we would not be making such an impact in our community.

Huge thanks must also go to Armine, of the Chelsea Cake Shop in Sloane Square. This is one of London's most exclusive cake shops, serving some of the capital's wealthiest residents. Armine has "adopted" our school because she was so impressed by Fiona Al Hamdan, who first approached her asking for donations of cakes. She was amazed that such a young person could be so confident and passionate about a cause. The cake she donated this time would sell for £250 in her Chelsea shop, yet she says she gets more satisfaction giving it to such a good cause than by selling it to a rich client!

Thank you Armine – and a big thank you to our whole school community for working so hard to tackle food poverty.



The hidden mathematics in The Simpsons

In February, our students from Years 7, 8 and 9 and Year 6 students from Henry Maynard and Greenleaf Primary Schools had a mathematics lesson with a difference, delivered by Stand-up Mathematician, Matt Parker.



Here is some feedback and photos from the sessions.

“Did you know that The Simpsons has maths in it? You probably didn’t because it is hidden in the background. Matt explained that the reason for these mathematical references is because the people who write the script for the programme love maths and have degrees in maths or subjects like it. Maths has almost become an essential feature in the cartoons. He explained about Perfectionist numbers, Mersenne prime numbers and Narcissistic numbers which we don’t really need right now in our lives but it’s all very interesting because I never knew about them before and I’m glad I know about them now. He was very humorous with maths and never

<p>8191 Mersenne Prime</p> <p>A prime number of the form $2^n - 1$</p> <p>$2^{13} - 1 = 8191$</p>	
<p>8128 Perfect Number</p> <p>Factors of 8128: 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 127, 128, 254, 256, 508, 1016, 2032, and 4064</p> <p>$1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + 32 + 64 + 127 + 254 + 508 + 1016 + 2032 + 4064 = 8128$</p>	<p>8208 Narcissistic Number</p> <p>$8^4 + 2^4 + 0^4 + 8^4 = 8208$</p>

let us get bored with what he was showing and teaching us. We actually got to watch clips from episodes of the Simpsons and then he told us the maths behind it. I really enjoyed the session”.
 Samera Akram 8C

If anyone would like to learn more about the hidden maths in The Simpsons, there are books about it in the LRC by Simon Singh, as well as a signed copy of Matt’s new book, ‘Things to Make and Do in the Fourth Dimension’.

Ms Robinson
 Challenge Co-ordinator



Poetry from the Heart

At the beginning of February, our two intrepid Year 10 poetry reciters made their way to Romford Library for the East London round of the national poetry reciting competition: *Isabel Billington* and *Chloe Shepherd* (in the more relaxed role of runner-up).



One of the judges this year was last year's East London winner, Fey Popoola, who has been Ambassador of the Poetry by Heart competition this year, promoting the competition in schools and teacher training institutions.

Once again, there was great diversity in each student's approach, interpretation and delivery of their poem – the most distinguishing and important feature being that they had made the poem their own and were doing it their own way. Isabel did us proud. Her second poem in particular was very well done: a moving piece considering the nature of sleep – its power, how its call must be obeyed, and how (like life and death) we must enter it alone. Although Isabel was not placed in the top three, I believe her sincerity, insight and understated sense of drama served the poem well.

Written by a poet of WWI, Edward Thomas' *Lights Out* (1917) may be a poem that Year 9 would wish to look at to extend their experience of the WWI poetry we are currently studying in lessons. The Poetry by Heart website is open to all, of course – and again I would encourage all years to take a look and have a little read of anything that catches your eye, prompts your passions or sets your soul sailing.

Miss Sullivan.
English Department

Lights Out BY EDWARD THOMAS

*I have come to the borders of sleep,
The unfathomable deep
Forest where all must lose
Their way, however straight,
Or winding, soon or late;
They cannot choose.*

*Many a road and track
That, since the dawn's first crack,
Up to the forest brink,
Deceived the travellers,
Suddenly now blurs,
And in they sink.*

*Here love ends,
Despair, ambition ends;
All pleasure and all trouble,
Although most sweet or bitter,
Here ends in sleep that is sweeter
Than tasks most noble.*

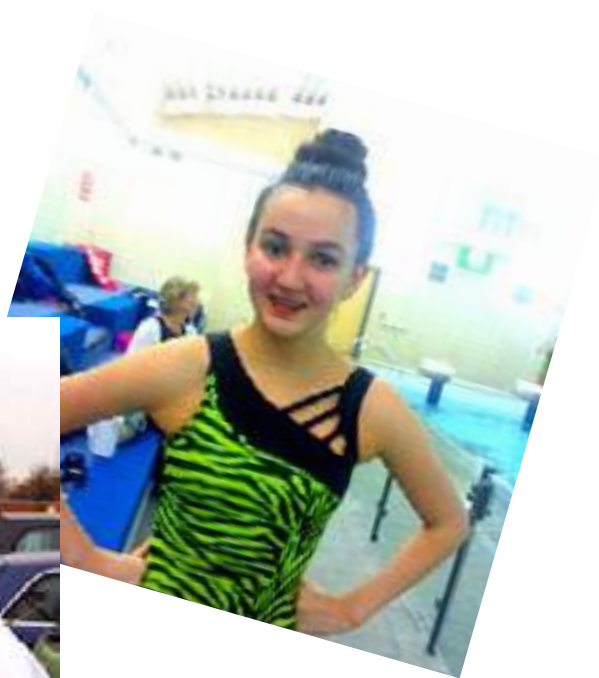
*There is not any book
Or face of dearest look
That I would not turn from now
To go into the unknown
I must enter, and leave, alone,
I know not how.*

*The tall forest towers;
Its cloudy foliage lowers
Ahead, shelf above shelf;
Its silence I hear and obey
That I may lose my way
And myself.*

Year 10 synchronised swimmer selected for England Talent Squad

Savannah Gracey in 10H has been selected for the England Talent Squad for synchronised swimming after two days of intense trials at Crystal Palace on 13th-14th December. Savannah was invited to the trials after an incredible performance at the British Championships where she finished 13th overall in the National Age Group Figure Competition. Savannah is now working towards selection for international competitions in 2015, attending a rigorous schedule of training sessions to develop her talent further. We wish her all the best with her synchronised swimming in the future.

Ms Warren
Head of PE



NEC Wheelchair Masters Tennis Ball Crew

Following on from the competition the girls who were involved have been given the opportunity to complete a Tennis Leaders Award to allow them to pass the skills they learnt onto other younger students.

Here are some of the professional photographs from the Wheelchair Masters Tennis Event where seven of our Year 8 and 9 students were ball girls.

Ms Warren
PE Department



Trip to the Apollo to watch Wicked

Two months ago twenty students from Key Stage 3 made their way to the Apollo Theatre in Victoria to watch the musical “Wicked”. These girls were winners of the writing competition in which they were given the words “Misjudged. Misfit. Misunderstood”. We received many creative responses and it was a tough competition to judge.



“I’ve been (sort of) nagging my parents to take me see Wicked for years and during my singing lessons we’ve been focusing on Wicked songs. My entry was kangaroos and how weird they are. I think that entering this competition was good for me because I normally shy away from competitions in case I don’t win (I know that’s really sad). Whilst on the trip I really enjoyed myself especially when in the souvenir area. The show itself was amazing! I felt slightly depressed in parts as it covers quite sad ideas, but the acting and costumes were tremendous!”

Annie Brown 7F

“The trip to see Wicked was one of the best trips I’ve been on at WSFG. I’ve seen a few musicals, but Wicked was by far the best. I really enjoyed the show itself as it had a very engaging story and the singing was fantastic! All in all, the trip was extremely enjoyable.”

Aisha Ali 9F

“The Wicked trip was a great experience. I am very appreciative of the school for letting me go on this amazing journey. I enjoyed the play it was very exciting as I thought it was great people acting out the play, putting all their hard work into it to make a wonderful performance.”

Zaynah Bhatti 9F

Ms Soobany
English Department



MyBnk

My Honey, our future.

WSFG MyBnk receives Jack Petchey Award

Congratulations to the WSFG MyBnk Mentor Remsha Jamil who was awarded a Jack Petchey foundation prize for her hard work, commitment and dedication to the school bank.



She was awarded £200 to spend as her prize and on Tuesday 24th February the MyBnk mentors used this money for a reward trip to the Cinema and a Pizza Party.

Our school bank is still currently the most successful bank that MyBnk runs, with the most regular savers. Remember that the school bank is in the Norris Hall every Thursday when students can deposit their savings. This money can then be withdrawn on the final Thursday of every term.

MyBnk is a charity that aims to raise financial and economic awareness amongst young people. It runs in accordance with all religious laws.

Ms Bugden
Assisitant Headteacher

Year 7 Spelling Bee Competition

A big thank you to all Year 7 tutors and staff who took part in the recent spelling bee competition which concluded in an enthusiastic and nail biting finish.



Emily Jeffrey from 7W was announced the winner from the whole of Year 7, with *Tenzin Lobsang from 7C* a close runner up. Trophies were awarded to both girls.

Medals were also given to the other finalists:-

Uswa Shaid, Ramiya Pratheepan, Salma Shekh-Abdi, Areeba Ramzan, Safa Ahmed, Kate Lucas, Maddy Hilton, Zoya Parvez, Stephanie Himfen and Faiza Igbal.

After collecting the scores from each tutor group, (following a preliminary round of class testing), 7S were awarded the form with the highest collective score.

Well done to all who have taken part - keep up the good work!

We would also like to say a special thanks to all parents and carers who supported us by encouraging students to learn their key subject words over the last half term break.

Ms Chai and Ms Scott.
Language and Learning Department.



WSFG Saturday School



Whilst the majority of staff and pupils have been enjoying lazy and relaxing Saturday mornings, forty-five of our Year 7 students have been hard at work since January participating in the WSFG Saturday School. The activities have included:

Literacy: speaking and listening activities, reading and writing, poetry about friendship,

vocabulary work with adjectives, storytelling and project work.

Numeracy: Mathematical reading comprehension, Numeracy Passport (learning through ICT), Maths Bingo (learning through play), percentages, decimals and fractions, measures, place value, multiplication and division easy or hard, money, what's the time? and mental maths.

Enrichment: Tag rugby, photo frame making, card making, woolly doll making, cookery, floristry and Bollywood dance. A daily prize-giving session recognised and rewarded the positive behaviour for learning. The Saturday School encouraged the core values of friendship, support of others, honesty and pride in our achievement.



Feedback from the Saturday school included:

"I liked working in small groups and having Year 10 mentors to help us. I have

made a lot more friends and feel much more confident in school."

"This is the first time that I have read an entire book from start to finish and enjoyed it!"

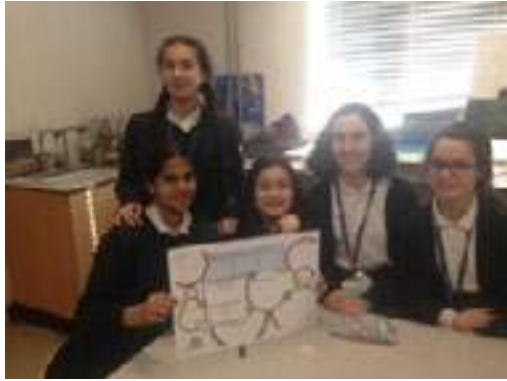
Well done to all of you who came to the WSFG Saturday School 2014.

A big thank you to the Year 10 mentors who gave up their Saturday mornings since January to help support our Year 7s. But most importantly, thank you to Ms Kallon, Mr Salmon, Ms Finamore Ms Chaudary, Ms Dominique, Miss Bugden and the site team.

Ms Bugden
Assistant Headteacher



Year 8 Back My Business



In March, Year 8 participated in a “Back My Business” workshop run by MyBnk.

Our Year 8 students were challenged to create real enterprise and business ideas that they could make and sell at a marketplace. Teams were competing for 0% interest loans of up to £40 and were

supported by MyBnk business gurus on their entrepreneurial journey.

After two gruelling hours, the teams finished with comprehensive business plans and budgets, which have now been submitted to a loans panel comprised of our Year 9 MyBnk mentors, who will consider a shortlist of applications before selecting the successful groups. During the selection process in March our Year 9 MyBnkers worked with two representatives from the Institute of Chartered Accountants to help them analyse the loan applications. The winning Year 8 teams then receive two further sessions to work on their products or service ahead of ‘market day’ which was held on the final week of the Spring Term.

The ideas that our Year 8 girls generated highlighted their creativity and ingenuity! I was astounded by the vast range of unique and interesting products that they were pitching. The Year 9 MyBnkers had a tough job at selecting the winning teams. As always, the representatives from MyBnk were incredibly impressed by our students. Well done Year 8 and I look forward to hearing who has won!

Ms Bugden
Assistant Headteacher



Trip to ‘Othello’ at the Globe Theatre

“Thirty WSFG students gathered apprehensively in the dining hall and awaited the signal to leave the building! The procession of girls marched to Walthamstow Central station, where they boarded a train to Euston. On the train was the rustling of crisp packets and the occasional munch of a chocolate bar. So where was this motley (and possibly food obsessed) group heading? To The Globe Theatre on Bankside of course, to see... Othello.

Thirty students had been chosen after a competition in which they were requested to produce a project on Othello without using ICT (Gasp! The horror!) which proved difficult for many people!

Once we arrived at the theatre, we were all given programmes and the performance began. This production of Othello was set against a First World War backdrop, and included the actors using zip wires and ropes to cross the theatre! The language was a lot easier to understand once we were watching the play, which was good as we had never studied the play before.

Although we were sitting outside the weather was surprisingly warm, although many of us over prepared for sub-zero temperatures! The performance was amazing, and I know that I would love to go to the Globe again!”

Lucy Carter 9F

Well done to the girls who researched ‘Othello’ totally independently, produced a project, and won a place on this trip to The Globe to watch Othello in performance. Their behaviour was impeccable.

Ms Cato.
English Department



Learning science outside the classroom - Explorer Dome Workshops

In January, all our Year 7 students attended science workshops in the Explorer Dome, an inflatable planetarium dome that is used to deliver interactive, lively, hands-on science shows for KS2-4 pupils.



"It was really interesting and I learnt some new things – not just science but some history. I would like to attend something similar again".
Amie Burgess, 7S

"I really, really enjoyed going to the Dome Workshops. You learn a lot of interesting facts, but you also get a chance to be out of the classroom (which was nice!). I think if we had more opportunities like this, it would be amazing."
Amara Iqbal, 7W

"I think it was the best lesson ever I've had. It was fun but at the same time we learnt a lot."
Kadeejah Imran, 7F

"I absolutely enjoyed the workshop! It was very useful and it helped me a lot because I had some questions based on the human body. I would love to thank you! I learnt about alien cells, body cells, dead cells etc. Overall I give it 10/10!"
Ramiya Pratheepan, 7S

"It was an original, unique idea and helped me to have an idea about cells. It is quite a wonderful and fun experience and I think they should show us more."
Zahrah Vahidy, 7G

"I thought it was really, really good. I wish we could do it every science lesson. I really learnt a lot and I really struggle with science. I think because it was fun it made me learn more. THANK YOU"
Sophie Borley-Holden, 7G

Feedback from Explorer Dome was very positive too -

"Thank you for the wonderful hospitality we received at your school, Matina and I enjoyed our brief trip to Walthamstow. I felt that the girls were really engaged, and I was genuinely impressed by their ability to debate and discuss what were fairly weighty issues in science. They were polite, inquisitive and also good fun!"
Josh, Explorer Dome presenter.

Ms Oshodo
Science Department



UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge 2015

In early February, girls from Years 9, 10 and 11 took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge where they excelled, achieving our best ever results.



- 2 Kangaroo qualifiers
- 4 Gold winners
- 10 Silver winners
- 38 Bronze winners

Every year around 600,000 students in over 4000 schools take part in the

UK Mathematics Challenges and of those taking part less than one per cent (5500) qualify to proceed to the Kangaroo stages. We have been fortunate to have two girls proceed before on two separate occasions which makes this success even more special.

I would like to congratulate all of our winners and wish a special 'good luck' to *Edagul Ulcay* in Year 11 and *Sreja Thiruchelvam* in Year 10 who will now contest the Pink Kangaroo Challenge later this month.



CONGRATULATIONS!
Mr Salmon
Mathematics Challenge Representative

Year 11 writing workshop

In February, twenty students from Year 11 took part in a writing workshop to help get them from a B grade to an A grade in the writing paper they will be taking this summer.

The day started off with an intensive revision lesson at school in which the students studied the techniques required to give them the A grade edge on their writing.

We then made our way to the British Museum for a morning of sight-seeing and people-watching before returning to school to sit a one hour GCSE style paper with tasks linked to the British Museum, to test how well the writing skills learnt had been applied.



The student whose test showed the most progress from the day was *Zeenat Khan* in 11G and she will be receiving her prize soon!

Ms Soobany
English Department



STEM – Girls Engineering the Future Project

In February, twenty Year 10 students attended a five-day residential visit at the Outward Bound Centre in Aberdovey, Wales. The students worked with girls from other schools around the country on activities such as raft building, jog and dip, pier jumping and high ropes to name a few.



They were busy from early morning until late at night participating in a variety of challenges that encouraged team work and problem solving. One of the highlights was a two-day hike in the snow-capped Welsh mountains. After an eight-hour, tough, uphill hike carrying all their kit, they then had to collect wood and cook their dinner. The students stayed overnight in a basic wooden cabin and had to cope with cold temperatures as they tried to sleep in sleeping bags on hard wooden benches.

We were extremely proud of the girls as they participated in all activities with good grace and humour; it was an incredibly challenging and rewarding experience. They supported each other when pushed out of their comfort zones and they made new friends.



The instructors were so impressed with the students from WSFG that four of them were awarded scholarships to attend a part-funded, three-week, Outward Bound course to extend their leadership skills further.

Thank you to all the participants who made it such a memorable experience.

“As one of the twenty girls who came back alive, I can honestly say that the feelings I felt were the strangest and hardest I’ve ever had and yet the most amazing as well. From the lack of movement during the 6 hour coach journey there, to the excess of it from the 8 hour trek. I was rewarded with moments of pure exhilaration and joy. Strangely my favourite bit of the trip was, in my opinion, the most painful event of all: the infamous JOG-AND-DIP. After the ice-breaking challenges set up by Jen (one of the instructors) we changed in to the thinnest clothes that we could afford to get wet and jogged one mile. As we arrived at the shoreline, panic started to set in. However we went into the freezing cold sea, and, as we were adrenalin crazed teenagers, we did it twice. Of course there were a lot more events but overall, it was a wonderful experience and I would definitely recommend it to those who wish to live life to the fullest!”

Lillian Ngo 10S



“Before leaving had I no idea what to expect, STEM really pushed me way past my limits and showed me exactly how much I am capable of. After hours of recovery, I am thankful for the experience.”

Aishah Luchmun 10S

Ms Healy
STEM Co-ordinator



TEAM LONDON

Volunteering at WSFG

The fantastic work of our school in developing a strong ethos of volunteering to support those who live in challenging circumstances has been officially recognised by the Mayor of London's office.

WSFG is now a part of Team London, a movement which has taken the spirit of the 2012 Olympics and promotes volunteering as an inspirational and empowering force.



Look at all the amazing volunteering activities our students are involved in!

Ms Rae is leading on this, and she was recently given fourteen tickets for WE Day, a massive event at Wembley with inspirational speakers like Nelson Mandela's grandson and Richard Branson.

WE Day is run by the charity, *Free the Children*, and tickets cannot be bought but have to be earned. Our fantastic volunteers are:

Ellie Duplock 11G, Lauren Evans 11G, Rabarb Hussain 11G, Anneesah Mukadam 11G, Ana Munt 11G, Carista Vilanueva 11G, Alina Khan 11G, Nina Athill 11S, Sirah Ahmed 11H, Zahra Archer 11C, Nisa Nawaz 11C, Tilly Douglas 10H and Noemi Munt 9S.

They are doing amazing work for the foodbank, and have also supported our link with the Ambore School.

The theme of the day was EMPOWERMENT and how we can turn actions from ME to WE by working together in our communities and across the world.

Richard Branson's message was that one is never too young to be a social activist and entrepreneur, (he was 16 when he started Virgin).

We heard from three young women high school students from Ireland who, inspired by their geography studies, had created a new strain of wheat with an increased yield.

Two other young inventors from London are turning old red telephone boxes in solar powered mobile phone charging stations!

What are you passionate about?

If you want to get involved in volunteering, speak to Ms Rae or Ms Scott.

Team London



Year 8 Public Speaking Competition

This year was WSFG's fifth year of running this competition. Every single Year 8 student was given the opportunity to write a persuasive speech about something important to them.

They then delivered the speech to their class mates who had to pick a winning candidate to represent each of the tutor groups in the Grand Finale!



Our final six competitors took part in the final on Friday 20th March in front of all of Year 8 (180 students) plus members of staff.

Our four judges, Ms Kennedy, Ms Warren, Ms Kelly and Ms Deardon had a most difficult job in selecting a winner, but in the end the Public Speaking Winner of 2015 was *Lily Deason of 8C* whose speech focused on wastage!

Well done Lily and well done to all of our finalists; *Areej Ahmed 8W*, *Iyeenah Jawad-Udin 8S*, *Alice Rainbow 8F*, *Amisha Viswanathan 8G* and *Fajar Sohail 8H*.

Ms Cato
English Department



BBC School News Report 2015

March 19th was the annual BBC School News Report Day. This event involves around one thousand schools around the country. The purpose is for students to have their say on news issues that concern them; they get to have a voice. It also teaches them essential skills for any type of work, such as managing deadlines, researching facts on a subject and evaluating whether sources are reliable. I picked fifteen Year 9 pupils and two Year 11 pupils to take part. The day was a huge success and was thoroughly enjoyable.



We started with an editor's breakfast of croissants and fruit to help our creativity. We read and discussed the day's news and decided what stories we would like to cover. The burning issues were the solar eclipse and the recently announced budget. Some of these stories were included in a sixty second news video report. Others

began to work on stories and videos that had been filmed prior to the day. These included stories on national changes to the GCSE qualification and on the general public's attitude and opinions on society. They were given a 1pm deadline, so they had to prioritise their workload in order to finish on time.

Three girls were chosen to go to the BBC to take part in a radio debate for the BBC Asian Network.

The students selected were *Malika, Salwa and Ishwa* from Year 9 on the Nihal show to discuss three issues: "have mobile phones and social media taken over the world?", "should 16 year olds have the vote?" and "do young people have good role models?".

They introduced the topic and debated it with other young people from schools in



Birmingham, Bradford and Luton. The topics were hotly debated and there were some disagreements between the students about to what extent parents are meant to be friends with their children.



Producers commented on how articulate and well-informed the girls were; they represented the school and local community brilliantly. After this, the girls got to spend the day at the BBC studios meeting Radio 1 DJs and produced more news stories about teens and their attitudes towards their teeth!



Whilst our girls were live on air, back at school, we listened to and joined in on some of the debates and worked through our stories. The tension was mounting as the deadline loomed, but hearing the girls live provided some relief to the pressures of the day. Once lunchtime began we had to carry out some filming for a story on MyBnk.

With MyBnk being such a huge success at WSFG, the BBC were particularly interested in seeing how it ran and why pupils used the service so regularly.

Once lunchtime was over the pressure was really on, but the girls managed to stay cool and collected and were putting the finishing touches to their work. Now it was time to upload all our hard work onto the school website, which went without a technological hitch!

I am extremely proud of the dedication and hard work of the pupils.

Please share my appreciation of their work by reading and watching what we produced, please go to:
<http://www.wsfg.waltham.sch.uk/bbc-school-news-report-2015>.

Ms Wilkins
English Department



Year 10 and 11 Art trips

In March, Year 10 Art students attended the Grayson Perry exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery. The exhibition showcases the work that the artist completed under the theme of “Who Are You?” and explores the concept of Identity.

The exhibition formed the initial research for the students who began their own “Identity” project at the end of March.

“The exhibition was a great experience, it was really interesting to compare the photo-realistic portraits in the NPG with the stylised identity work by Grayson Perry”

Violeta Lazareva 10S.



Year 11 Art students spent a day at the Tate Modern gallery to gather research and ideas for the start of their externally set assignment. The assignment this year has the theme of “Apart and/or together”. Students were asked to find artworks in the gallery that linked in some way to this theme.

Part of the task was to make sketches and drawings of the work they saw which would then inform the start of their projects.

“I found the trip very inspiring and it was great to see the varied artworks on display. I particularly enjoyed the work of Louise Bourgeois and I have since completed a research page in my sketchbook on this artist”

Hannah Azlin 11F.

Mr Streader
ADT Department



Judo Gold Winner

Year 9 student Rochelle Talbot, 9S, competed in the British Schools Judo Championships at the beginning of March and won gold in the over 63kg Year 8/9 category.

Rochelle trains three times a week for Hackney Judo Club, Equinox and Kelmscott Judo Club and has worked incredibly hard to achieve this level of success. Her next competition will be the London Youth Games in June and we wish her all the best for this.

Ms Warren
PE Department



Year 8 Waltham Forest Borough Basketball Finals

In February our Year 8 basketball team played Chingford Foundation School in the final of the Borough League at the Copper Box Arena in Stratford. This was a fantastic experience for the girls and they had the privilege of playing in one of the 2012 Olympic venues. The girls played exceptionally well and tried their very best until the last minute of the game but unfortunately they were narrowly defeated by a very strong team from Chingford.

Well done to all the students involved.

Ms Warren
PE Department

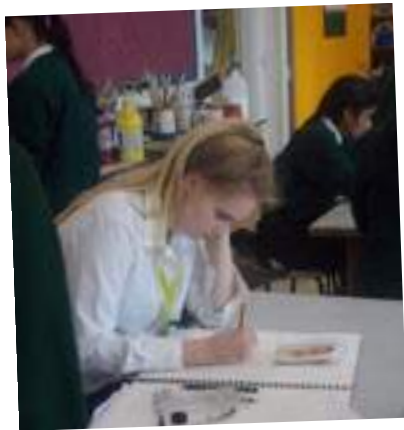


Year 11 ADT Controlled Assessments

This time of year is a stressful but ultimately rewarding time for Year 11 studying ADT courses. The controlled assessment part of the GCSE is worth 60% of the final grade so all our students know how important it is to complete their projects to the highest possible standard.

In order to help them along, all staff in the faculty have run extra sessions after school and on Saturday mornings. Attendance at these sessions has been excellent with our students really making every effort to complete some very complex tasks.

Catering students have planned and prepared some fantastic three course meals in a set time. The food produced was a credit to them it looked and smelled incredible and I am reliably told that there were some outstanding tastes as well.



In Art, students have used gallery visits to help prepare for their two-day examination and have put the finishing touches to their controlled assessment. We look forward to seeing the Art work on display in the summer.

The Textiles students have been creating a wide range of fashion garments all ready for the photo shoot this month.

In Product Design, our students have been making the most of our Computer Aided Design and Manufacture facilities and have been busy applying the finishing touches to all sorts of products.

We look forward to displaying these later in the year in our annual exhibition of student work.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff in the faculty, Ms Healy, Ms Howie, Ms Wilkinson and Ms Powell, for their hours of dedicated help and assistance, not forgetting the invaluable support from our technicians, Ms Tingling, Mrs Hussain, Ms West and Mr Monksfield (John) who have gone over and above expectations to enable our students to do their very best.

Mr Streader
Head of Faculty Art, Design & Technology



Ultimate Pi Day – 14th March 2015

In celebration of Ultimate Pi Day, we drank freshly squeezed pineapple juice, wore Pi badges, used Pi pencils, ate Pi cake, calculated an approximation for Pi by counting footsteps of the circumference and diameter of the Greek theatre and recited Pi to as many decimal places as we could remember.

Special congratulations to *Aisha Amanat* who correctly recited Pi to a phenomenal **190 places** and to my ex-student, Katie Milligan, who gave birth to a baby boy on this date!

Thank you to Mr Monksfield for designing and making the Pi Day trophies.

Ms Robinson
Challenge Co-ordinator



Question Time for International Women's Day



In March, the school hosted one of the main events of Waltham Forest's week long celebrations for International Women's day - a Question Time panel open to girls and women from the local community.

Organised by *Councillor Saima Mahmud*, the panel included *Jaqueline Sebire* (Police Borough Commander), *Jenette Arnold* (London Assembly member for North-East London), *Hibo Wardere* (anti-FGM campaigner) and *Joan Murphy* (Head of

LBWF Strategic Housing); along with two former WSFG students, *Rickisha and Kamila*, representing the borough's Young Advisers.

The event was attended by the Headteacher, members of staff and current students, and members of the local community,

Topics discussed included FGM, breaking through the glass ceiling and how schools can prepare young women for the world outside school. Members

of the panel spoke passionately about their work and experiences, Councillor Mahmud chaired questions from the floor.

It was great to see such a variety of careers represented, Kamila and Rickisha, who left WSFG in 2013, impressed everyone with their maturity and conviction.

Many thanks to Councillor Mahmud for organising such a stimulating event!

Mrs Finamore
Community Liaison Co-ordinator



**SCHOOL CALENDAR
FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2014/15**

Summer Term 2015

Start - Monday 20th April 2015 End - Friday 17th July 2015
May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 4th May 2015

Half Term:

Monday 25th May 2015 - Friday 29th May 2015
Spring Bank Holiday - Monday 25th May 2015

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



If you would like a paper copy of this Bumper Greensheet, please contact the school via e-mail, with details of your daughter's name and form.