



GREENSHEET



No. 15/15

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

17th December 2015

Week 'A'

SCHOOL CALENDAR

**Autumn
Term 2015**

**Friday 18th
December**

Last day of term.
School closes at
12.45pm.

**Spring Term
2016**

**Start - Monday
4th January 2016**

**End - Friday
24th March 2016**

**The first day of
the Spring
Term for
students is
Monday 4th
January 2016
8.45am**

**Friday 29th
January**

Staff Training
Day. School
closed to
students.

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Our Bumper Greensheet will give you an overview of some of our school activities; this final issue of 2015 is simply to wish you an excellent holiday as well as a brief mention of some of this week's activities and a staffing update.

Recently our former Year 11 students, along with their families, attended our Presentation Evening to celebrate their success in the GCSE examinations in the summer and collect their awards. It was a pleasure to see them all again. Those students had very good reason to be pleased with their achievements; as our results are 17% above the national figures for 5+A*-C GCSEs and the school is now in the top 2% nationally for progress. This week our current Year 11 students received their mock examination results in a formal event in the Hewitt Hall. They have worked very hard indeed and whilst many were pleased, there were others who were extremely disappointed. The positive side to this is that we still have five months to work on the preparation for these examinations. With effort and perseverance on all sides, I am confident that there will be smiles all round next August. It was also a pleasure to see Year 11 parents and carers at our information evening last week demonstrating the strength of our partnership with our families at this important time.

At this time of year, we say farewell to a number of staff: Ms Mannan (EAL Co ordinator) who is moving to an inner London school, and Ms Heath (Art) who begins her maternity leave. These posts will be filled next term by Ms Csordas and Ms Amoakohene. Mr Cadette (temporary Cover Supervisor) and Ms Segilola (temporary Admin. Support) will be leaving us also as their contracts have ended. Also, Wayne Clarke our chef has gained promotion with olive dining, our catering company

Contd.

We thank all the colleagues for their service to the school and wish them every success in the future.

We had occasion to come together as a staff on Tuesday for our annual Community Party for senior citizens. It was a wonderful event and was attended by seventy local elderly residents. A thoroughly good time was had by all and there was even an appearance by Santa Claus! (our new chef Mike Kerfoot). We were also honoured to have another visit from the Mayor, Councillor Saima Mahmud and her Consort, former student, Arifa Nasim. A huge number of school staff were involved in the event, along with many, many students. Thank you all.

We have also had some recent sporting success. On Friday our KS3 and KS4 badminton teams became the Borough champions and are now through to the Regional Finals. Well done to the girls and to Ms Wood! We also have a number of visits this week; Year 7 competition winners saw *A Christmas Carol* at The Noel Coward Theatre on Wednesday, whilst a group of Latin students visited the Kallos Gallery in London. Meanwhile, Year 11s were preparing for an observational writing workshop by journal writing in central London.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff and students of WSFG, I would like to thank you for all your support this year and wish you and your families, near and far, health and happiness for 2016!

Best wishes
Meryl Davies

N.B. Please note school closes at 12.45pm on Friday 18th December, the last day of the Autumn term.

SUMMER 2016 EXAMINATION TIMETABLE

The Summer 2016 Examination Timetable will be available on the school's website from Monday 21st December 2015 under 'Exams'.

'Controlled Assessments' are in the Main Menu and students can also find this on Fronter.

Mrs Brickett
Examinations and Assessment Manager



Information for Parents / Carers and Students

The final day of the Autumn Term is Friday 18th December 2015

- ALL lessons 1 – 3 are as normal.
- At 12.25pm, 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, but NO lunch provision.
- Friday 18th December 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.
- All proceeds will go towards the school Community Party for the elderly.

The first day of the Spring Term for students is Monday 4th January 2016

- All students are expected in full school uniform and to be in school by 8.45am as normal.
- The Focus of the Fortnight from 4th January will be on Uniform and Lanyards
- This will be a Week B.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday!
Ms.K.H.Pratt / Assistant Headteacher.

Dear Year 7 Parents/Carers,

On Wednesday 6th January, all of Year 7 will be involved in the launch of our annual Year 7 GREEN project. They will be in school but not in their usual lessons for that morning. This is a cross curricular project combining Art, Maths, English and Drama on the theme of 'Identity'. The outcome of this project is a public exhibition in July where all 180 students in Year 7 display a portrait and poem on this theme. The project aims to encourage students to produce their absolute best work for this exhibition by using their GREEN values (Growth, Resilience, Energy, Empathy, Empathy) and by reflecting and redrafting their work with their teachers' support. Following on from the launch day, students will continue to work on elements of this project in English, Art and Drama. The exhibition is also a fundraising event and all money raised will go towards our link school in Pakistan, the Ambore Read Foundation School.

During the spring term we will be electing twelve GREEN student reps to work on the organisation of the project with support from staff, so that this is truly an event that the Year 7s can take ownership of. This also helps students build resilience and independence and encourages creativity and events organisation.

Please do talk to your daughter about the launch and ask her about her work throughout the year.

We very much look forward to seeing you again in July for the Year 7 GREEN exhibition.

Ms Philippou
Interim Assistant Headteacher

Lost Property

Students are reminded that you can collect lost property at **3.30pm** every day. Parents and carers may also collect lost property any day after school.

A reminder to parents and carers that if your daughter's clothing has her name and form marked in it, it can be returned to you more easily.

Any items not collected before the end of term will be disposed of.



School Office

Our School History

Here is an extract that might be enjoyed by older readers of the Greensheet. It is from the 1959 edition of the Iris magazine and describes a visit to a popular television show at the time, known as 'Crackerjack'. The title of this article could have been 'Eamonn Andrews, Rinso and a Cabbage'. Please read the rest of the article to find out more.

O Kelly
LRC

WALTHAMSTOW HIGH SCHOOL ON TELEVISION (W.H.S.)

On October 22nd, six carefully chosen "non-nervous" Third Formers went with Miss Burnett and thirty supporters from their own year to the B.B.C. Television Studios at Shepherds Bush to take part in the Children's Hour programme "Crackerjack" with boys from Kilburn Grammar School. The performers, who had to arrive early, were admitted through a stage door where a notice asked "Are you wearing soft-soled shoes?" and had an hour to enjoy themselves looking round the cameras in the studio where they could read the cameramen's direction cards that had instructions like "Watch Tom" and referred to Jimmy Edwards' programme "Whacko" televised from that studio the night before.

When the rest of the audience came in, they found this studio unexpectedly small but beautifully decorated with a cream and grey ceiling, deep red walls and seats, and a large stage backed by a pale blue velvet curtain. There seemed to be a hundred spotlights over the stage, at least four cameras, two microphone beams, and technicians everywhere: some adjusting cameras, some in head-phones, some chalking out positions on the floor. Everyone was very busy but not one in a hurry. Monitors, little television sets, surrounded the theatre, to show both "Crackerjack" while in progress and other programmes being given at the same time. Anyone whose view of the stage was blocked at any time had only to turn to one of the TV screens.

Eamonn Andrews appeared to tell the audience not to wave, shout or whistle when they knew they were on the screen but to remember to act as friendly hosts to all the artists and to cheer every time they heard "Crackerjack." Then it was "Sound on!" "Vision on!" and W.H.S. was "on the air." The band struck up the signature tune, Eamonn Andrews awaited his cue, introduced "Crackerjack" Hurrah! from the audience, prompted by someone running on the stage in front, clapping with hands above his head.

The contestants were not immediately recognised when they appeared as they had in the meantime been to the Wardrobe Department. The girls were fitted out with gumboots, rain-coats, caps, glasses, false noses and whiskers; the boys with dresses and bonnets. For the first competition, each girl had to change clothes with a boy and the first three couples to

finish went on to the next round. The girls had a race in which they had to pile up and carry six cups and saucers; the boys, blindfolded and with hands behind them, had each to drink milk from a bottle with five straws of which four were punctured. The winning girl and boy went on to the "Double or Drop" quiz, each mounted on a wooden drum, where they received a prize for every correct answer, a cabbage for every wrong one, and must not drop anything. To the huge delight of W.H.S., a heroine from 3W won this final round ("Her questions were MUCH harder than the boy's!") embracing by the end of it such prizes as a large teddy bear and a packet of Rinso - also a cabbage, for she did not know who painted the Mona Lisa. She did know, thanks to one of that term's English books, the title of the Exmoor novel with John Ridd as its hero. Now she possesses a special "Crackerjack" pen and pencil presented to her by Eddie Calvert who was a guest artist in the same programme. He played "Mandy" on the famous golden trumpet which sparkled far more than it appears to do on the black and white screen. Some of the audience were intrigued to notice one of the bandsmen accompanying this by playing his drumsticks on the back of a chair.

It all finished too soon for the audience, and though the six performers felt that the professional acts which had alternated with their own must have been much more enjoyable to watch, everyone went home in great happiness and excitement to hear the reports of all their friends who had "seen them on television".



Double or Drop quiz

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/16

Autumn Term 2015

End - Friday 18th December 2015

Friday 18th December

Last day of term.

School closes approx. **12.45pm**

Christmas Holiday - Friday 18th December 2015 to Friday 1st January 2016

Spring Term 2016

End - Friday 24th March 2016

Start - Monday 4th January 2016

Monday 4th January 2016

Frist day of term for all students normal time

Friday 29th January

Staff Training Day: School closed to students

Thursday 4th February

Year 11 Parent, Carer Consultation Evening

Thursday 3rd March

Year 9 Parent, Carer Consultation Evening

Thursday 17th March

Year 8 Parent, Carer Consultation Evening

Holidays

Half Term - Monday 15th to Friday 19th February 2016

Easter Holiday

Friday - 25th March 2016-

Friday 8th April 2016

WHAT'S ON THIS CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY IN WALTHAMSTOW AND BEYOND

WALTHAMSTOW

SATURDAY 19TH DECEMBER: CAROLS IN THE MARKET, TOWN SQUARE, HIGH STREET, E17, 12-1PM, FREE- BUT DONATIONS WELCOME. Enjoy some lunchtime carol singing and festive refreshments and help to raise funds for the Night Shelter for Homeless People, operated by Walthamstow Churches over the winter months. See www.walthamstowchurch.org.uk for details how you can help this Christmas, when the homeless are in greatest need.

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER: WINTER FESTIVAL WORKSHOP, LLOYD PARK, FOREST ROAD, E17 4PP, 11AM- 2PM, DROP IN, FREE. Learn about different winter traditions and make recycled and natural decorations at this family workshop with conservationist Vicky Peet. Ring 07870678571 or email: v.peet@tcv.org.uk

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER: WINTER WARMER FAMILY EVENT, WILLIAM MORRIS GALLERY AND LLOYD PARK, FOREST ROAD, E17 4PP, 2-5PM, FREE. Live music and other performances, craft activities, refreshments and more in the Gallery and the Park. Please note: performances in the Park will finish at 4pm. Ring 0208 496 4390 or visit: www.wmgallery.org.uk

PLEASE NOTE: WALTHAM FOREST LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS, GALLERIES AND LEISURE CENTRES WILL BE CLOSED ONCHRISTMAS DAY, BOXING DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY- AND SOME OTHER DAYS, DEPENDING ON THE VENUE. Please check the borough website before you arrange a visit: www.walthamforest.gov.uk and search for Christmas opening times.

BEYOND

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER: HIGHHAMS PARK CHRISTMAS FAYRE, VENUES AROUND HIGHAMS PARK, 10AM- 5PM, FREE. Highlights of this event include a Farmers Market from 10am-3pm in the station car park, an arts and craft market 10am-5pm, a torchlit cycle parade 3-5pm and carol singing from 4pm to late. See: www.highamsparkplan.org

SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER: HITCHCOCK'S HOME DOES CHRISTMAS: MISSION HALL, 10-11 AYLMER ROAD, LEYTONSTONE, E11 3AD, 11.30AM-10.30PM, TICKETS FROM £9 (CHILDREN). How would local filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock have enjoyed Christmas if he'd been at home in 2015? Probably with films, food and fun with friends and family! Films including The Muppets Christmas Carol will be screened throughout the day; see: www.hitchcockshome.co.uk/tickets for full programme of events and booking details or ring 0208 989 5049. Nearest tube: Leytonstone.

FRIDAY 25TH DECEMBER: THE PETER PAN CUP SWIMMING RACE, THE BOAT HOUSE, SERPENTINE SWIMMING LAKE, SERPENTINE ROAD, HYDE PARK, W2 2UK, 9AM- 11AM, FREE. Every Christmas Day since 1864, members of the Serpentine Swimming Club have raced in this (unheated!) famous swimming lake, whatever the weather- so why not cheer them on? Nearest tube: Knightsbridge.

UNTIL 10TH JANUARY: THE FABRICS OF INDIA , VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, EXHIBITION ROAD, SW7 2RF, 10am-5.45pm DAILY (EXCEPT 24TH- 26TH DECEMBER AND 1ST JANUARY- CLOSED), £14, adults, £9 12- 17 YEAR OLDS AND STUDENTS. This colourful exhibition illustrates the history of India's hand-made textiles from the 3rd century to the present day, with royal tents, high fashion and general textiles. Ring 0800 912 6961 to book, or visit www.vam.ac.uk
Also on until 31st January: Shoes- Pleasure and Pain- an exhibition of 2000 years of extreme shoes from around the world. Tickets are £12/£9 children and students, booking advisable. Nearest tube: South Kensington. NB the general galleries are free.

DO YOU LOVE READING, AND HELPING YOUNGER SIBLINGS WITH THEIR READING? If so, why not look at: <http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/christmas> 2015 for suggestions of good books to read yourself or to read to younger children, plus activities and games.

Enjoy your holiday!
Mrs Finamore