



# GREENSHEET



No. 21/15

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11th February 2016

Week 'A'

## SCHOOL CALENDAR

**Spring Term  
2016**

**End - Thursday  
24th March 2016**

**Half Term  
Monday 15th  
to Friday 19th  
February**

**Thursday 3rd  
March**  
Year 9  
Parent/Carer  
Consultation  
Evening

**Thursday 17th  
March**  
Year 8  
Parent/Carer  
Consultation  
Evening

**Easter Holiday  
Friday 25th  
March to  
Friday 8th  
April  
(inclusive)**

**Summer Term  
2016**  
**Start - Monday  
11th April 2016**  
**End - Friday  
15th July 2016**

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had some excellent news this yesterday as our **Year 9 Basketball team** became the **Waltham Forest Borough champions** after a hard fought match with Chingford Foundation School. When I was a spectator, there were no baskets scored but, after I left, our girls managed to net 24 points, against 11 to the opposing team. Certainly the play was an excellent example of WSFG skills: team work, resilience and perseverance.

Congratulations to all the players, the PE staff and all students and staff who supported them – plus well done, too, to the Chingford players, all of whom did well to make the finals. The WSFG team was: *Renae Steele, Anna Howles, Kezia Antubam, Jubilee Odeyemi, Jessica Darkwah, Mahnoor Ali, Annalie Cole, Kalila Hambloch.*

Thank you for your massive response to our **rebranding survey** – we have been bowled over by the number of respondents; we have had around three hundred and fifty replies from parents and carers, and over six hundred replies from students – all keen to win a Love2 Shop voucher I am certain! Just as our local council received so much feedback on the topic of Mini-Holland, we knew that you would all want to have some input into our thoughts about our logo, uniform etc. We have been delighted that the work done so far has stimulated such a huge response. We will be analysing this over the next few weeks, along with the student and staff contributions. Having just taken a look at your replies yesterday with our Chair of Governors, I was touched by the volume of really positive and constructive comments, from both our students and yourselves. It is heartening to hear from you, and read the close to universal endorsement about the work we do here at WSFG. We are also mindful of the parent who spoke about her need for some specific information, so we will be in touch.

Contd.

Also, we were pleased to learn that over 85% of respondents regularly read the Greensheet – so my weekly updates are not in vain! Thank you for that.

Also this week we heard that, due to our **2015 GCSE results**, we have, once more, won an award for the progress and achievement made by a particular group of our students for whom the school receives Pupil Premium funding. We have now been invited to submit a bid in order to be considered for a national prize. You will recall that, last year, we were one of the national finalists, and won one of the four High Aspiration national awards, as well as some additional funding for the school.

On Tuesday and Wednesday our Year 9 students visited the **Hindu Temple, the Mandir**, in Neasden as part of our RE curriculum in Humanities. The behaviour of the girls was, once more, described as excellent. Then, on Thursday all of Year 10 were off timetable for a '**Big Business Day**' event led by representatives of some of the largest companies in the City of London. There was certainly a great deal of enthusiasm generated in the Hewett Hall as each 'team' or 'company' vied for first place!

Finally, a reminder that school will be closed from **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February-19<sup>th</sup> February** for our half term holiday. Wishing you and your daughters an excellent break.

Best wishes  
Meryl Davies

### **Examinations Fortnight for Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 6<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

In order to help prepare students for a GCSE examination system that uses terminal examinations, students in Year 7, 8 and 9 will be sitting summer examinations in the following subject areas:

English  
Mathematics  
Science  
Humanities  
Modern Foreign Language

These examinations are internally produced and the results will be reported to Parents/carers in their daughter's final report at the end of the year. A booklet will be made available to students before the Easter holidays outlining the main focus of each examination in order that students can prepare for these examinations. This booklet will also be e-mailed to parents so that you can support your daughter in her preparations.

Ms Kennedy  
Deputy Headteacher

**Focus of the Fortnight**  
**Punctuality to School**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> February – 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

Dear Parents / Carers,

The school values good habits and being on time is an excellent habit to form. It is very clear (see page 3 of the Student Planner) that students need to be at their desks, ready for registration by 8.45am. If a student arrives any time after that they will be given a late mark. A student may be late for a legitimate reason, such as an early morning appointment, in which case, please indicate this by writing a note for your daughter to explain her lateness. Please note that getting caught in rush hour traffic is not a legitimate excuse for being late to school.

The school sanctions for poor punctuality are detailed below. Punctuality is also commented upon in your daughter's report / data collection throughout the year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Ms. Pratt

Assistant Headteacher



**The Sanctions**

- If your daughter is late to school (without a good reason such as an appointment – traffic is NOT a good reason) she will be given a ten minute detention at the end of that day with her Tutor. (See page of the 3 Student Planner)
- If she is late twice in a week, she will be given a half hour detention with her SPL. You will be informed of this detention.
- If she is late three or more times in a week, she will be given an hour's detention with Ms. Pratt. You will be informed of this detention.
- Once she reaches eight late marks, she will be placed on a two week punctuality report by Ms. King. Her punctuality will be closely monitored and you as her Parents/ Carers will be informed of any improvements. She will also be rewarded if she improves her punctuality.

**Remember** - being on time is a good habit to form!

## Information for Parents/Carers

### Medical or dental appointments during school time.

Dear Parents/Carers

As you know the safety of the students is paramount at Walthamstow School for Girls. We have a concern about students signing out of school to attend medical or dental appointments during school time.

Our attendance policy states that unless unavoidable or in emergency circumstances, medical or dental appointments should be made out of school hours.

If your daughter has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment, the school requires that you send in the letter or appointment card as well as an accompanying letter from yourself requesting that your daughter be allowed to leave school.

The school needs to see evidence of the appointment before we allow the student to leave the premises. We will also be “spot checking” by telephoning parents and carers of students who wish to leave the premises to ensure that the appointment is genuine.

I hope you understand that we require this further information to ensure the safety of your daughter at all times.

Thank you for your co-operation in this and all school matters.

Ms King  
Student Attendance

### Lost Property

We have several unclaimed coats and pairs of trainers.

Students are reminded that they 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.



Ms Jolliffe  
Student Services

# SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2015/16

## Spring Term 2016

End - Thursday 24th March 2016

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

Thursday 3rd March

Year 9 Parent/Carer Consultation  
Evening

Thursday 17th March

Year 8 Parent/Carer Consultation  
Evening

### Easter Holiday

Friday 25th March to Friday 8th April

## Summer Term 2016

Start - Monday 11th April 2016

End - Friday 15th July 2016\*\*

\*\*Please note this change to the published date in the student planner

Monday 16th May

Year 11 Written Examinations begin

### Half Term - Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June

Monday 6th-

Examinations Fortnight for

Friday 17th June

Years 7, 8 and 9

Friday 24th June

Year 11 Leaver's Day

Monday 27th June

Year 11 Written Examinations end

Thursday 30th June

Year 7 Parent/Carer Consultation  
Evening

Monday 4th July-

Wednesday 13th July

Year 10 Work Experience

## Sainsbury's Active Kids School vouchers

WSFG are once again be collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids school vouchers.

Please bring them into school and deposit them in the box which will be located outside Norris Hall under the machine where you top up your one card.



P.E. Faculty

## Year 7 Drama Club

On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January, Year 7 Drama Club visited Edinburgh Primary School to perform their devised play on the Boudicca Warrior Story. Walthamstow School for Girls commissioned a thrilling performance based on the topic of The Romans, which Edinburgh students had recently enjoyed studying.

In groups, students were given different sections of the Warrior Queen's tale to develop into a scene. These were then fused together to create a stunning piece featuring scenes of battle, death, loyalty and bravery. Each act was interwoven with quality ensemble sequences, featuring mime, movement and still images. The girls worked tirelessly for three months, spending Wednesdays after school and Thursday lunchtimes crafting a show that was thoroughly enjoyed by the Year 4 audience. Feedback from the audience included that they really enjoyed the different scenes and found the play realistic. One young boy said he particularly enjoyed the battle scene and the way techniques, such as slow motion, were used to present it.



The students involved were:

*Tunmise Afolabi 7C, Robin Fitzgerald 7C, Khadijah Hamdan 7C, Anna Higgins 7C, Brianna Leslie 7C, Khara Osei 7F Samuela Blumel 7F, Keran Mosengo 7F, Amara Smith 7F, Abena Osei-Mensah 7F. Natalie Alves 7G, Janine Arce 7G, Rhianna Bivens 7G, Charlotte Hillman 7G, Evie Baxter 7H, Keralie Fernandez Bogle 7H, Kitty Giffin 7H, Tiko Janjgava 7H, Shanai Browne 7H, Destiny O'Kane 7H, Marianne Sedley 7H, Zainab Shah 7H, Emine Ulucay 7H, Hibah Budruddeen 7W, Ketsia Mosengo 7W, Bea Usher 7W,*

*Destiny O'Kane commented: that being involved in the project really helped bring different year 7 students together. Students were able to work with people they don't usually work with and make new friends.*

*Zainab Shah added: that it was an amazing experience and something really different. Khara Osei says she felt that she has learned a lot of performance techniques and many of the girls agreed that the overall experience helped develop their confidence.*

Ms Wallace

## Performing Arts News: Performing Arts For All

### Drama

“The theatre was created to tell people the truth about life and the social situation” Stella Adler



Our GCSE students are hard at work preparing for important practical exams. Year 11s are rehearsing scenes from plays for Unit 2, which will be marked by a visiting examiner (no date as yet). Year 10s are beginning to devise their Unit 1 piece, to be performed in May. This will be marked by us and externally moderated and is worth a whopping 40% of their total GCSE grade.

To support their GCSE studies, Year 11 students travelled by coach to Guildford last month to see a production of their set text: *Confusions* by Alan Ayckbourn. Year 10s went to see *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* in the West End in order to see the work of Frantic Assembly, who choreographed the show and whose work we study as part of our Unit 1 preparation. This trip was jointly organised with Ms Robinson and we were joined by Year 10 Mathematicians.

This week, the senior members of our Key Stage 3 Theatre Company have been rehearsing for the National Theatre Connections Festival. We are working on the play *Take Away* by Jackie Kay, an ensemble piece inspired by the Pied Piper about a town in the grip of an addiction to onions! You will be able to see the play in performance on **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March** at school, or on **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April** at the Soho Theatre. Watch this space for further details.

Meanwhile, our Year 7 Key Stage 3 Theatre Company members, led by Ms Wallace, devised and performed a bespoke theatre-in-education piece on Boudicca at Edinburgh Primary School.

After half term, Ms Wallace will be running the Barbican Box project with Year 8 students. This exciting opportunity involves working with a professional practitioner to devise an original piece from a box of stimuli and performed at the Barbican in July. We participated last year for the first time and it was a hugely positive experience, providing real challenge to a very motivated, creative group of students. We are delighted to continue our working relationship with the Barbican.

Similarly, we are in our third year as members of the Old Vic Schools Club. This year, a mixed group of Year 9 and 10 students are taking part; this involves seeing four plays at the Old Vic during the course of the year, with each visit preceded by a two hour preparatory workshop delivered by professionals in school. So far, we have seen two new shows: *Future Conditional* by Tamsin Oglesby and *The Lorax* adapted from Dr Seuss by David Greig. Our next visit is a classic: Ibsen's *The Master Builder*, starring Ralph Fiennes, on 8<sup>th</sup> March.

Key Stage 4 students, including former members of the Old Vic Schools Club, are continuing to broaden their experience of theatre by taking advantage of our Bronze partnership with the Almeida in Islington. This means that we have access to subsidised tickets to the shows in the Almeida's season. Our next visit is coming up on 1<sup>st</sup> March; we will be seeing Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* in a new version by Robert Icke.

Finally, Year 7 students are preparing to see *My Father, Odysseus* at the Unicorn Theatre as part of our three year Explore partnership. This is the second of their two visits this year, the first being to see *Baddies: the Musical* in November. We are exploring Greek Theatre and the themes of this new play in Drama lessons and facilitators from the Unicorn will run workshops for the students the week before we see the show on 15<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> March. Parents of Year 7 students should receive a letter about this by the end of the week.

Ms. Cornford

## Music

*"Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent."* Victor Hugo



## Instrumental Lessons

There are currently opportunities to learn the following instruments:

**Cello** £46 per term and Music Service instrument hire fee of £20 per term (£10 per term if receiving Free School Meals)

**Saxophone** £46 per term and Music Service instrument hire fee of £20 per term (£10 per term if receiving Free School Meals)

**Trumpet or Trombone** Free for one academic year

Interested students should see Mr. Burstow or Mr. Hitchman for an application letter. If parents/carers are unable to afford the cost of lessons then they should write to Mr. Straker (Deputy Headteacher) explaining their circumstances and the school will determine whether the cost of lessons can be covered for their daughter.

Learning a musical instrument is an excellent way of developing skills in discipline, independent learning, creativity, teamwork and listening. Students learning an instrument also have the opportunity to take grade exams in their instrument.

**The higher grades carry UCAS points that can be used for university entry.**



## Practice tips: top tips for students practicing a musical instrument

Always warm up at the beginning of your practice time. A musical warm up prepares you mentally and physically for the demands of practice. A simple scale, played from memory is a good way to warm up. Aim to play the scale four times. Start very slowly, then speed it up on each repetition. Really listen to the sound you are making on your instrument.

### Music Groups

**String Group:** Monday 11.00am-11.30am W25 All string players

**Flute Group:** Monday 11.00am-11.30am W26 All flute players

**Wind Group:** Tuesday 11.00am-11.30am W33 All wind players

### Musical Achievements

Congratulations to *Maddy Hilton* 8G who recently passed her ABRSM Grade 2 clarinet exam with a merit and *Mia Jeffries* 10C who also recently passed her ABRSM Grade 2 clarinet exam.



### Forthcoming Events

#### Steel Pan Concert Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2016 7.00pm

Featuring performances from all the Steel Bands currently at WSFG this promises to be an exciting evening full of wonderful music. Tickets will be on sale after half term. Mr. Burstow

## PE

*“Do you know what my favourite part of the game is? The opportunity to play.”*

Mike Singletary

Well done to the following girls in the Year 9 and 10 Volleyball team who came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Borough Volleyball competition:



<i>Annalie Cole</i>	9W
<i>Jessica Darkwah</i>	9W
<i>Flora Jones</i>	9F
<i>Elin Edwards</i>	10H
<i>Amanah Ibrahim</i>	10G
<i>Ruweyda Mohamed</i>	10H

Well done to the following girls in the Year 9 Basketball team who have made it through to the Borough final which will be taking place this Thursday:

<i>Kezia Antubam</i>	9W
<i>Annalie Cole</i>	9W
<i>Jessica Darkwah</i>	9W
<i>Kalila Hambloch</i>	9W
<i>Anna Howles</i>	9G
<i>Jubilee Odeyemi</i>	9C
<i>Renaee Steele</i>	9C

Good luck!  
Miss Wood



## WHAT'S ON THIS HALF TERM IN WALTHAMSTOW AND BEYOND

### WALTHAMSTOW

**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY: LONDON CHILDREN'S BOOK SWAP, WILLIAM MORRIS GALLERY, FOREST ROAD, E17 4PP, 2-4PM, FREE.**

Take your old books along anytime and swap them for someone else's favourite books. See [www.wmgallery.org.uk](http://www.wmgallery.org.uk) for details.

**SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY: LOVE ACTUALLY- A CONCERT OF ROMANTIC MUSIC, ST BARNABAS CHURCH, ST BARNABAS ROAD, E17, 4PM, FREE, BUT DONATIONS WELCOME.** Enjoy romantic music from stage and screen for Valentine's Day with Gillian Keith and Tom Randle. Contact: [gilliankeithsoprano@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:gilliankeithsoprano@yahoo.co.uk) for more information about this and other concerts.

**MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY AND EVERY MONDAY: GIRLS ONLY FOOTBALL TRAINING, PETER MAY SPORTS CENTRE, WADHAM ROAD, E17, 5.30-7PM, FREE.** If you are keen to develop your football skills, and aged 11-16, then go along to these girls only sessions for some expert coaching. Just drop in- no need to book.

**MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup>- FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY: WINTER DAZE HALF TERM ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE- SEE [www.walthamforest.gov.uk/cypd](http://www.walthamforest.gov.uk/cypd) for full listings.** Highlights include free swimming sessions for under 16s, animal handling at Brooks Farm, and free basketball coaching and a Youth Drop In at the YMCA, Forest Road.

### BEYOND WALTHAMSTOW

**EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: ICE HOCKEY TASTER SESSIONS WITH THE LEE VALLEY LIONS JUNIOR ICE HOCKEY CLUB, 7.15-8.15PM, LEE VALLEY ICE CENTRE, LEA BRIDGE ROAD, E10 7QL, FREE.** Try this exciting sport in 4 free taster sessions- contact Eddie Joseph on 07958 743 680 to book or visit: [www.leevalleylions.org.uk](http://www.leevalleylions.org.uk). All equipment provided. **Most museums, galleries and visitor attractions across London have special half term activities for all age groups, so don't miss out! See : [www.londontown.com](http://www.londontown.com) for ideas**

Enjoy your half term!  
Mrs Finamore

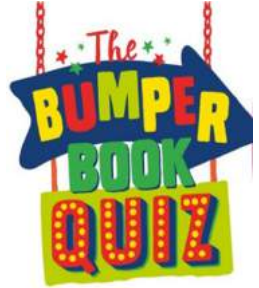
# GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS® title on MONDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2016!

The following Year7 students will be taking part in the Guinness World Records Book Quiz on

**Monday 22nd February periods 4-5.**

Please wish them all the best of luck.

Ms Kelly and Mrs Guest  
LRC



**7W** *Hannah Billington, Alexandra Yau, Amaarah Qasim*

**7S** *Ruby Goodall, Safa Tariq, Nabia Fatima*

**7F** *Ying Hang Zeng, Silhouette Bushay-Olarewaju, Aoife Pearson, Brianna Gittens, Florence Williamson, Selma Khelifi*

**7G** *Lucy Mikolajczyk, Charlotte Hillman*

**7C** *Jade Danaswamy-Santiz, Eva Anderson, Hafsa Naeem, Jasia Macmeikan, Eva Bianchi-Burgos*

**7H** *Cindy Chen, Niamh O'Grady, Chikara Mbakwe, Aasiyah Abdul-Azeez, Kitty Giffin, Tiko Janjgava, Evie Baxter*



**OFFICIAL ATTEMPT**

## Book Judges Needed!

Book Review Competition for 10-14 year olds to win the chance to be a judge on the Independent Bookshop Week Book awards.

All five judges will receive a £50 Book Token, plus the ten children's books to judge.

Ten runners up will receive a £10 Book Token.

To enter, young bookworms will need to write a 100 to 200-word review of the best book they read in 2015.

Please put your typed book review in the Student Central Resources folder - Student Resources / Book Judge **by Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016.**



For more information contact Ms Kelly in the LRC

# **GIVE THE GIFT OF READING TO THE CHILDREN OF NEPAL**



**Thank you to everyone who has brought in  
books for Barpak which was destroyed by  
the 2015 earthquake**

**The LRC has already collected  
600 children's books**

**Our aim is to collect 1,000 books  
by the end of March 2016**

**So please keep bringing your books  
to the LRC  
Ms Kelly**

## Our School History

As you enter the school you will see a delightful collection of spring bulbs. Our school has always taken an active interest in gardening and we have many beautiful areas within the school which demonstrate this. I have found these articles in the 1965 edition of the Iris, our school magazine, about students planting bulbs in the front lawn. The bulbs were donated by the Headteacher, Miss Burnett and planted under the supervision of Mr Hilton, the school gardener.

Ms Kelly LRC

### Gifts to the School

*We acknowledge with many thanks the following gifts: From Miss M. M. Burnett-Crocus Bulbs, planted in front of the school by representatives of each form.*

### Operation Bulb 1964

*Our first formers launched the first attack, it was one sunny lunch hour in October when the lawn was so hard that even after a day of sprinkling no ordinary garden tool would make an impression - Mr. Hilton, who was officer in charge, attacked the lawn with a pointed steel rod and managed to make the holes.*

*But when the Upper School ventured out to finish the attack it had been pouring with rain; the sky was grey and our shoes squelched across the lawn. The scene of the attack had been carefully marked out with white semi-circles and inside these we were to plant the croci. With muddy frozen fingers and much to the amusement of passers by, we planted a seemingly ever-increasing supply of bulbs.*

*Then when there was only one more bulb left, cunningly kept in Mr. Hilton's pocket, we stood in a semi-circle: and cheered as Marjorie, our Head-girl, duly sank it into the ground, and Denise, our Deputy Head-girl, covered it with mud.*

*Operation-Bulb was successfully completed. Now it is early February and the croci are beginning to peep above the ground and we are being rewarded for our efforts and by Miss Burnett's kindly thoughts.*

Margaret Davies, 5W.



The tradition  
still continues  
to this day



**Community Orchard  
Launch  
Saturday  
27th February**

**Walthamstow School for Girls  
Church Hill Walthamstow  
London E17 9RZ**

**11am-1pm**

Come and join students who  
have been hard at work  
designing building and planting  
an orchard  
for the local community to enjoy.  
Celebrate their success at our family  
friendly event in the school allotment.

**organicLea**

<http://www.organiclea.org.uk>



HALF TERM  
**LIFESKILLS  
WORKSHOPS**  
FOR TEENAGERS

17th – 18th February

**How To Write a CV - 2pm**

**Employability & The Workplace - 3pm**

**KEY TOPICS**

Employability  
CV Writing Tips  
Interview Etiquette  
(DOs & DON'Ts)  
Communication Skills  
Right Subject – Right Career  
Social Media  
Sell Yourself

**VENUE**

Goals Chingford  
Morrison Avenue  
Chingford, London  
E4 8SN

**TICKET COST**

£16 per workshop  
£30 for 2 workshops

WRITE A  
**CV**  
THAT GETS  
**YOU**  
NOTICED

PRESENTED BY: Mentor & Life Coach,  
TV Producer and former **MUSIC**  
**INDUSTRY** Studio Manager. Sharon  
has worked for **CHANNEL 4** as an  
executive for **HOLLYOAKS**, a Script  
Editor for **BBC TELEVISION** on  
**EASTENDERS** and Producer for the  
Discovery Channels.

**BOOK NOW**

t: 07958 356 856 e: cheerleaderofchampions@gmail.com