

Wallington High School for Girls

THE WALLINGTON WEEK

HEIRS OF THE PAST, MAKERS OF THE FUTURE

MONDAY 29TH APRIL 2024



Message from the Headteacher



Our Science fundraising campaign has gone live! Our first whole school event is our 'Wallington Walk' which is on – Friday 24th May 2024. Please look out for details nearer the time as this will mean an early finish to the school day. We are raising money to refurbish our Science labs – students will receive a sponsorship form and the House that raises the most money will be awarded the 'Fundraising Trophy'!

The 'Welcome to Wallington' event for potential external Year 12 students ran last week – it was very well attended, and the Year 12 prefects did a splendid job of sharing how warm and welcoming we are as a community.

I wish all Year 12 students' good luck for their exams next week, and to those in Year 11 and 13 who continue with the exams that have already started.

I was very excited by my first visit to the Environment group last week and cannot wait to get started with all things environmental.

Every pupil should have first-hand experiences of the workplace through work visits, work shadowing and/or work experience to help their exploration of career opportunities and expand their networks. Effective work experience can make a significant difference to the motivation, attainment and progression of students. However, finding a placement can often be a daunting task and so we would appreciate your support in helping your child to find a suitable experience. Please would you spend some time exploring any contacts which your child can use and help them to explore and research local companies who may be able to provide a placement. You may also be able to offer a work experience placement to another WHSG student; if this is the case, please contact Mrs L Parkinson on lparkinson@wallingtongirls.org.uk.

- Ms T O'Brien
Headteacher

Houston, We Have an Eclipse!



Year 10 student Nitya has written an article about the Y10 visit to Houston, Texas - NASA which took place over the Easter Break! Check out page 5 to read the full story.

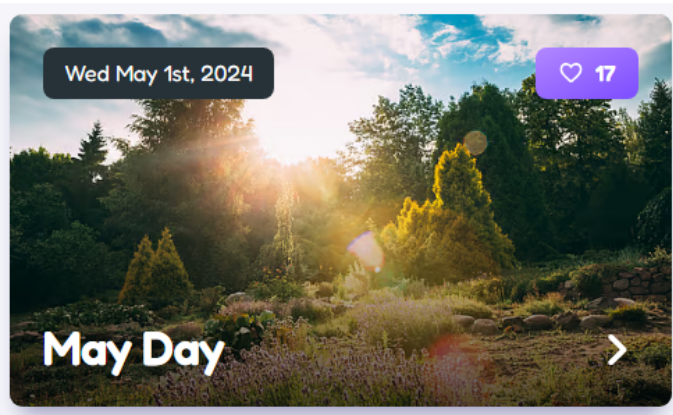
Makers of the Future Day - Call for Speakers

We're organising an event aimed at introducing our students to the multitude of career options available to them, and we'd love for you to be a part of it! More information on page 4.

Supporting young people with exam stress

For more information about this please visit page 4.

National Events



Upcoming workshops

Autism advice sessions can be booked by e-mailing theautismadvice@cognus.org.uk. Dates found below.

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>WOULD YOU LIKE TO TALK ABOUT YOUR YOUNG PERSON AND GET SOME NEW IDEAS OR STRATEGIES?</p> <p>PENDING AVAILABILITY, YOU WILL BE ALLOCATED A 30 MINUTE SLOT BETWEEN THESE TIMES.</p>  <p>Cognus No Limits on Learning</p> | <p>AUTISM ADVICE SESSION FOR SUTTON FAMILIES</p> <p>5TH FEBRUARY 1PM-4PM</p> <p>13TH MARCH 10AM-1PM</p> <p>17TH APRIL 9.30AM-12.30PM</p> <p>9TH MAY 1PM-4PM</p> <p>BOOK BY EMAILING THEAUTISMSERVICE@COGNUS.ORG.UK</p> |
|--|---|

Useful links

Co-Curricular Activities

[SOCs](#), the school's new online system for Co-Curricular activities, will allow your child to see all available activities but also allow you to view after school registers to see if your child is attending and in school.

Careers Noticeboard

For live updates on careers related opportunities please click [here](#).

Current Vacancies

Click [here](#) for a link to our vacancies page.

This week: Week B**Monday 29th April -**

Y11 MFL Orals continue (until Wednesday)

Year 12 Exams begin (finishing on the 10th May)

Y13 MFL Orals begin

Late detention (15:10-15:30 - E06)

Tuesday 30th April -

Y11 MFL Orals continue (until Wednesday)

Late detention (15:10-15:30 - E06)

Wednesday 1st May -

Y11 MFL Orals last day

A Level German Orals

Early dismissal for Y7 13:00

Early dismissal for the rest of the school 13:15

Year 7 Parents' Evening 14:30-17:00

Thursday 2nd May -

Late detention (15:10-15:30 - E06)

Friday 3rd May -

Year 11 Last Day

Y10 Geography Trip to the River Darent

Late detention (15:10-15:30 - E06)

Central detention (15:10 – 16:10 – E06)

Weekend (4th/5th) -

DofE Silver Practice Expedition (4th - 6th May)

15th July 2024 Makers of the Future Day – Speakers Required

We're organising an event aimed at introducing our students to the multitude of career options available to them, and we'd love for you to be a part of it!

Your experiences and expertise are invaluable in guiding and inspiring our students as they navigate their own career paths. Therefore, we're seeking speakers who can provide an outline of their careers, information on the routes they took to achieve their current positions, and some ideas about the challenges involved in those roles and the skills needed to be successful.

The event is being held on 15th July and would involve up to four 30-minute talks to our year 7 and 10 students between 11am – 1:30pm.

If you're interested in participating, please complete this [Microsoft Form](#) or if you have any questions, please feel free to email me at lparkinson@wallingtongirls.org.uk.

- Mrs L Parkinson
Careers Coordinator



County lines

Grooming is often associated with sexual grooming, but as we all know the process of grooming can be used for a multitude of crimes where children and young people can be exploited, such as county lines. County lines is also a form of criminal exploitation that typically relies on older gang members grooming children from inner-city areas. However, research from The Commission on Young Lives found that criminals also groom children from “suburban and middle-class England.”

Internet Matters have put together a really useful [guide for parents](#) explaining county lines, how children are targeted, how children may be vulnerable and some resources/support.

- Miss M Gough
Assistant Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Supporting young people with exam stress

We are aware that exams have the potential to exacerbate feelings of anxiety and stress amongst young people. That is why it's important that whilst students should be encouraged to work hard, this should not be at the expense of their wellbeing.

There is a range of advice and guidance for students and parents to help alleviate or lessen the anxiety they have about sitting exams, including:

- NHS Help your child beat exam stress
- Anna Freud: How to identify the signs of academic stress, and ways to help
- Student Minds – resources, tips and blogs about exam stress
- Ofqual: Coping with exam pressure – a guide for students

Young Minds also have a series of support pages aimed to help young people with exam stress and anxiety. Follow this link for information on how you can support your child - [Parents' Guide To Supporting Children At Exam Time | YoungMinds](#)

- Miss M Gough
Assistant Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead

Early closure - Wednesday 1st May 2024

Please be aware that the school will be closing early on Wednesday 1st May 2024 due to the Year 7 Parents' Evening taking place between 2-5:30pm. Year 7 pupils will be dismissed at 1pm and the rest of the school will be dismissed at 1:15pm.

- Miss T Aldemir
Events and Communications Manager
CCF Coordinator

Year 11 Prom 2024

Tickets are now available for purchase via ParentPay for the Year 11 Prom. For more information about this event please refer to the communications sent on Friday 26th April 2024.

- Miss T Aldemir
Events and Communications Manager
CCF Coordinator



Houston, We Have an Eclipse!

Our trip to NASA was truly a remarkable experience. The week was full of a wide range of activities and fun excursions to take part in, making it a spectacular week. The flight to Houston and settling in was a great time with the warm weather, the fantastic hotel service and our first dinner. The next day was one of the best in my opinion as we travelled to Waco for the solar eclipse. The full eclipse felt truly ethereal and watching it there could never compare to watching a video. The whole transit was beautiful and despite it being the longest period of darkness, it felt way too short. We got amazing photos and videos and it's an experience I would love to relive. The number of things we did at NASA were fantastic and interesting including building rockets that we got to launch, scuba diving, cryogenics, a range of tours of rockets and galleries, talks with real astronauts, robot challenges including those that were underwater and habitat building. All the activities were a great learning experience for all of us. The evening excursions were also super fun including bowling, laser tag, the Kemah Boardwalk with thrilling roller coasters, shopping at malls and Target. Our meals at each restaurant were delicious and we saw so many amazing places of Texas to take breathtaking photos. The list of amazing things about this trip just goes on and on and it couldn't have been possible without all the teachers and people who organised and accompanied us throughout the week. Massive thanks to all of you for making this trip as fun possible and creating an unforgettable experience for all of us.

- Nitya 10 Bronte



Attendance

Requests for absence, including illness or appointments should be sent to:

attendance@wallingtongirls.org.uk

Please provide at least 2 full school days notice of a planned absence for the school to complete the required processes before the event.

Absences for longer than one day need to be confirmed at least 2 weeks prior to the event. Families should note that requests for holidays during term time will not be approved and penalty fines can be issued.

To notify WHSG of a leave of absence, please complete this [form](#) and return to the email above.

Changes in contact information

If you need to update your home address or contact telephone number, emergency contacts or any other information, please send the updates to:

KS3 and 4 – mandrews@wallingtongirls.org.uk

KS5 – jday@wallingtongirls.org.uk

Parking

Please note that parents are unable to park or drive into the school grounds between the hours of 7.30 -4.30 for safeguarding reasons. Families can contact our reception to ask for permission, where the needs arise for a pupil with mobility issues.

reception@wallingtongirls.org.uk

Please also ensure that when dropping your child at school each day, you are respectful of our local residents by not blocking drives and roads or impacting others safety by parking or dropping off your child(ren) irresponsibly.

Back-to-school advice

Click [here](#) for essential information provided by the GovUK website.

Punctuality

Good punctuality to both lessons and to school is expected of all students. We know that employers place great importance on punctuality and attendance, therefore it is important for our students to understand the value of being on time.

WHSG will issue same day, 20 min detentions for students that are late into school, without a valid reason or persistent lateness to classes. Parents and students will be notified as soon as possible of the detention and the reasoning by email.

We ask that parents support these actions as important processes for the school and understand that detentions cannot be moved for any after school clubs or enrichment events. Should a detention clash with a medical appointment, evidence will be requested for the school to show flexibility.

