

# Wallington High School for Girls

## THE WALLINGTON WEEK

HEIRS OF THE PAST, MAKERS OF THE FUTURE

TUESDAY 18TH JUNE 2024



### Message from the Headteacher



Dear Parents and Carers,

Our open evening is on July 4th, and we have over 400 students who have signed up to support us on the evening. This is a fabulous example of community spirit and service towards this important school event.

The Wallington Walk has now raised over £13K - this is phenomenal, well done to everyone. You can still contribute towards our science lab's refurbishment through [ParentPay](#).

Year 10 start their exams this week and we wish them well. If you feel your child is anxious or start feeling a bit overwhelmed do contact the school and speak to their tutor.

The Sixth Form environment prefects and I went to a local garden centre yesterday to collect plants in the 'House Colours' for all Year 7 students to nurture until our greenhouse arrives, and all year 8 have been given clay pots to decorate – seeds will follow!

The CCF Sixth Form team and I have been meeting to talk about Tuesdays next year. We will run CCF activity after our fortnightly Tuesday early finish and there will be planned activities for these afternoons before students travel to Wilson's. The exact schedules of all the other clubs that run on Tuesdays are being reviewed and details will follow.

Happy Pride Month. To coincide with this, we are opening the Pride Soc to students in Year 9 and above. Pride Soc is a relaxed LGBTQ+ friendly and supportive environment for students to spend time with their peers and share their thoughts. We also have Pride themed Art competition running and a Pride poetry competition – both of which close on 28th June, with prizes for the winners. Our Pride month celebrations are also being incorporated into the 'Cultural and Identity' non-uniform day on Thursday 27th June.

Parent Questionnaire – as promised I have analysed the results of the survey, and you can read my responses further down in this newsletter.

Thank you.

- Ms T O'Brien  
Headteacher

### 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.

### Upcoming events

**June 25th -**  
Sixth Form  
Induction

**July 9th -**  
Sports Day

**June 28th –**  
Y11 Prom

**July 11th -**  
Sports Awards  
Ceremony

**July 1st -**  
Year 13 Prizegiving

**14th - 19th July**  
CCF Longmoor

**July 3rd -**  
Year 7 Induction

**July 15th -**  
Makers of the  
Future Day

**July 4th -**  
Open Evening

Well Done  
Wallington Awards

**July 8th -**  
Year 9 Celebration  
Picnic

**July 16th - 18th**  
WHSG Summer  
Enrichment

## Parent Questionnaire Response - May 2024

Thank you for filling in the parent questionnaire that came out a few weeks ago. 525 of you completed the questionnaire, which is enough for us to get a real sense of your feelings towards the school. I thought it would be useful for me to comment on some of the questions.

83% agreed that 'the school curriculum encourages my child in learning'.

85% agreed that 'my child is becoming an independent learner'.

81% agreed that 'my child is making good progress'.

Interestingly for this last one, 13% of responses declared 'no opinion'. We are very proud of the results our students achieve. At GCSE we have a 'progress 8' measure of 0.93 which means that most of our students achieve a whole grade higher in their GCSEs, than their Key Stage 2 tests have predicted. Our latest data shows that 93% of students are achieving expected or higher progress in Year 7, in Year 8 the figure is 95% and in Year 9, it is 96%. This pattern shows our students make better progress year on year as they move through the school. At A Level we are predicting 81% A\*/B with 57% of those grades at A and above.

82% agreed that 'the school expects my child to work hard'. This is good to see, as we have very high expectations of our students ensuring they work hard in lessons and on their homework.

75% agreed that 'my child enjoys reading at home'. All the research into reading and academic success suggests a strong relationship between the two. Added to that, reading gives children a greater understanding of the world, exposes them to new places and cultures and equips them with a rich and varied vocabulary. Please continue to encourage your child to read at home, ask them regularly what they are reading and what they are enjoying about the books.

61% agree that 'the schools assessment system is helping my child to make progress'. We are currently embedding a new approach to assessment that

places greater emphasis on progress and moving learning forward, rather than grades. It will take time to embed fully and involve a shift in views about testing, but we are pleased that this change has been acknowledged by student surveys which have reported a significant increase in teachers checking for understanding in class. We will continue to discuss this topic with students and our parent focus group. Our assessment policy detailing our approach can be found [here](#).

87% agree 'my child feels safe at school', but 4% disagree. I hope that if you are one of the respondents who disagreed, you have spoken with us at school, particularly the form tutor who knows your child the best.

80% agree 'my child is happy at school'. Again, if your child is unhappy, please let us know and we can try and work together to help address this.



82% agree 'the school teaches my child to recognise risks to their wellbeing – both online and offline'. 14% have no opinion which suggests that some parents/carers are not aware of the things we do to teach students to recognise the risks in this area. This is covered in PSHCE, workshops, assemblies, displays and items included in the Student Bulletin.

68% agree 'behaviour in the school is excellent', with no opinion at 21%. This year we have sent out surveys to staff and students asking for their opinions on behaviour in school and 81% of staff said that behaviour has improved in comparison to last academic year and 62% of students agreed with this.

87% agree 'my child has a positive attitude to learning'.

Though this is high, we continue to encourage our students to want to work hard, not just because they want good grades, but also because they enjoy their learning and their subjects, and that they want to really master the curriculums they are studying.



Finally, 71% agreed 'the school is well led and managed'. I would hope to see this increase year on year and am always available to listen to feedback on what we could do even better to serve our students and the community.

Thank you to all of you who responded to the questionnaire. I plan to run this annually, and by responding in this much detail, and addressing your responses each year, we continue to improve.

- Ms T O'Brien  
Headteacher

72% agreed 'my child is being prepared for the next stage of their learning', though 14% said they had no opinion. We pride ourselves on our transition work from year 6 to 7, from year 9 to 10, from 11 to 12 and post 16 with our excellent careers programme. Please do look at our website [here](#) for further details. 35% have no opinion on whether the 'school provides an effective careers programme that offers advice, experience and contact with employers', again please do look at our offer and careers provision on our website. Benchmarking against other schools nationally we are significantly above other schools for the provision for our students in terms of careers and next steps.

Many of you said you had no strong opinion about knowing our Special needs Coordinator (SENDCo), or what support is available to you. Our SENDCo is Mrs. Bates, who works with our dedicated SEND team. We also have an Assistant SENDCo, a Learning Support Assistant and an Inclusion Officer. We work hard to ensure our curriculum is inclusive for all students. More details about the work we do and who to contact if you have concerns can be found [here](#).



## This week: Week B

### Monday 17th June –

INSET Day

No late detention due to INSET day

### Tuesday 18th June -

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

CCF at Wilson's (15:30-18:00)

KS3 Music Recital (18:30-20:30)

### Wednesday 19th June -

Primary Outreach Science –  
St Elphreges

Late detention (15:10-15:30 )

Central detention (15:10 – 15:40)

Berlin Parent Information Evening  
(18:00-19:00 – Main Hall)

### Thursday 20th June -

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

### Friday 21st June -

Central detention (15:10 – 16:10)

Late detention (15:10 – 15:30 – E06)

Headteacher's detention (15:10 –  
17:10 – TOB Office)

### Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd –

DofE Qualifying Expedition

## Managing anxiety in children and young people - Young Minds

As we come towards the end of the academic year, many children will be moving on, some within the school and others to new places. Almost all young people will feel anxious to some extent and for some this anxiety can become overwhelming. Young Minds, a mental health charity, has really helpful information and advice for understanding and supporting a young person with anxiety, including resources to signpost them to - [Supporting a young person struggling with anxiety | Young Minds](#)

- Miss M Gough  
Assistant Headteacher  
Designated Safeguarding Lead

## KS3 Music Recital



The last KS3 recital of the year will be taking place in the main hall on Tuesday 18th June starting at 6:30. Entrance is free and it will be a wonderful opportunity to hear the talented musicians we have in the school perform. Poster can be found on the next page of this bulletin.

- Mrs J Yard  
Head of Music

## Pre-loved Uniform Sale



Following on from the success of our previous uniform sale, we will be running a second pre-loved uniform sale on Friday 21st June between 3 and 4:30pm in Main Hall.

**We will be accepting both cash and card payments.**

Should families have any additional uniform they would like to donate, WHSG PFA will gratefully accept the donations via our reception.

If you have any further questions regarding pre-loved uniform, please contact the school via [pfa@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto:pfa@wallingtongirls.org.uk).

- WHSG PFA

## Year 10 Trip to Nantes, France



Just before half term thirty students and four teachers headed to France by Easyjet to enjoy the sights of Nantes in the Loire valley. We enjoyed a tour around the historic city of Nantes, a cruise down the river Erdre to see the chateaux, a visit to the former shipyards in Nantes to see the fantastical, mechanical creatures inspired by the writer Jules Verne and some French speaking lessons at a local languages school. Everybody had to buy their own lunch at the market and we all enjoyed the local cakes, croissants and fresh fruit and vegetables, some of our number even bringing fresh asparagus home to England! We had a day at Futuroscope, a theme park where the dance with the robots proved very popular. We finished with a tour of one of the oldest botanical gardens in France. A great time was had by all.

- Dr S Wallis  
Director of MFL

## FACE Summer Programme



JUNE 2024  
**Newsletter**

Thursday 20 June 19:00 - 21:00 £24		<b>Supporting a Child with ADHD</b> Challenging the stereo types and explaining how this condition impacts on the child and giving ideas on how we can support them.
Thursday 27 June 19:00 - 21:00 FREE		<b>Supporting Healthy Sleep</b> Coping with insomnia, screen damage, neurodiversity dysregulation.

facefamilyadvice.co.uk. info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

- Miss M Gough  
Assistant Headteacher  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



## GCSE and A Level Art and Photography Exhibition 2024



Well done to our talented GCSE and A Level Art & Photography students. We enjoyed a fantastic exhibition with such a high standard of work, and received so much positive feedback from all those who got to see the show. What a brilliant way to share and celebrate all the hard work over the last 2 years. Both the students and the Art Department should all be so proud of their achievements.

- Mrs V Moore  
Head of Art and Photography

## Spellian winner



Spanish students take part each year in an online penpal exchange with their equivalent student in a Spanish Secondary school. This gives each of them a greater understanding of each other's culture while at the time improving their languages. Patricia Cordeiro, founder of the company came to Wallington to award Anaiya from Y10 her winning certificate and prizes. Anaiya was nominated by her Spanish penpal and by Spellian for the values of commitment and kindness.

- Mr C Bermudez Caro  
Head of Spanish

## Student gets the Athena Bell Prize Certificate for French

The Athena Bell Prize for Young Translators is organised by Queen's College of Oxford University. Open to all years, from Y7 to Y13, students translate a short passage from Spanish, French or German into English. Each year thousands of students take part in the competition from all over the UK. In 2024, over 16,000 students participated in the prize and over 3,600 entries were judged. Wallington students have done well in the past and this year was no exception with Onyema as the Greater London winner for French and Shrudha achieving a commendation for Spanish.

- Mr C Bermudez Caro  
Head of Spanish



# General notices

## Attendance

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

[attendance@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:mandrews@wallingtongirls.org.uk)

KS5 – [jday@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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.





## CAREERS NOTICEBOARD



### ALUMNI TALKS



Mrs Moore has organised for 4 WHSG alumni to share their experiences of completing their Art Foundation courses at:

- **CCW** (Camberwell/Chelsea/Wimbledon school of Art (now amalgamating to become UAL (University of the Arts London))
- **Ravensbourne college**
- **The Kings Foundation** - Foundation Diploma Year – Fine and Applied Art).

They will talk all about their courses and give you the chance to ask questions. It is strongly recommend that any Year 10, 11 and 12 students who 'are considering applying for art college or an art related degree course to come along and find out more. To attend, sign-up [here](#). Further details to follow.

### CODE CAMP



At Code Camp they inspire and empower young minds to become creators with technology during after-school and school holiday camps.

Code Camp are now offering 2 weeks of work experience to year 12 & 13 students who are looking to gain hands on experience in the tech space, working with children and/ or running events. They have opportunities within the operations team helping to prepare and run our holiday camps, as well as teaching opportunities within the classroom. Apply [here](#).

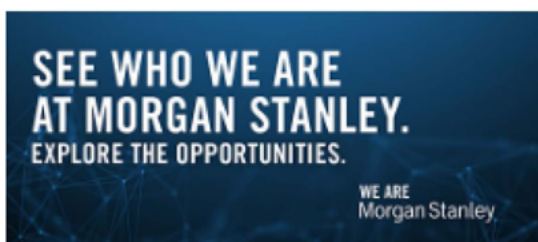
### UNIFROG WEBINARS



Please find all upcoming webinars [here](#).

- History Taster Lecture - Historical perspectives
- Sociology and Criminology - Prisons and society
- Exploring Mathematics
- The landscape of creativity in the face pf AI development
- The future of medicine and technology
- Law, ethics and mortality

### MORGAN STANLEY SUMMER PROGRAMME



The Summer Academy is Morgan Stanley's webinar series designed for students in Year 11-13. They are looking for inquisitive minds who are interested in gaining an understanding of Morgan Stanley, the industry and key topics through a series of tailored modules e.g. How Money Works, Using Critical Thinking to Add Value; Starting a Career at Morgan Stanley. Apply [here](#) by 23rd June.

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## CAREERS NOTICEBOARD



PreMed have announced a series of in-person hospital work experience days taking place at **Kings College Hospital** in London during the summer, designed for students aged 14-18 who are considering careers in medicine. These events offer a unique opportunity for students to gain hands-on experience and insights into various medical fields.

- Ward Round & Radiology Day
- Inside The Dissection Room Day
- A&E & GP Surgery Day
- On Call Doctor For A Day



Each session is tailored to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of what a career in medicine entails, through engaging and interactive experiences. Register [here](#) to attend. Fees apply.

For those students that can't travel they also have an **online work experience week** taking place from July 15th - July 19th 2024 where students can spend 5 evenings gaining some work experience from the comfort of their own home.

### EVENTS

## THE GREAT EXHIBITION ROAD FESTIVAL

**The Great Exhibition Road Festival** - sponsored by Imperial College London Visit SOUTH KENSINGTON on 15 - 16 JUNE 2024 to celebrate science and the arts with free events for all ages.

FREE EVENT

### SUMMER SCIENCE EXHIBITION

2 - 7 JULY 2024

EXPLORE THE LATEST SCIENCE

#SUMMERSCIENCE

#### Summer Science Exhibition

Discover an extravaganza of free interactive exhibitions where you can touch, see and interact with science shaping our future. Details [here](#).

### Step Up expo - The Expo for Teens



OLYMPIA, IN LONDON, FROM FRIDAY 28 - SATURDAY 29 JUNE, 9.30AM - 4PM. REGISTER [HERE](#)

**Step Up Expo** - A FREE two-day Step Up Expo features three main content zones life skills, education choices, careers choices.

**FORMA**, the creative arts fair gives a unique overview of the routes into creative careers. The fair brings together universities, colleges and employers. Look at all routes into your chosen creative career from prestigious degrees, to apprenticeships, to entry level courses. **FORMA encourages students to bring their creative portfolio for 1-1 reviews by creative art school tutors.**

**FOR THE LATEST CAREERS NEWS VISIT: WHSG CAREERS NOTICEBOARD**



## CAREERS NOTICEBOARD



### LATEST ESSAY COMPETITIONS

#### King's Entrepreneurship Lab Essay Competition

- The purpose of the competition is to encourage students in Years 11 and 12 to pursue entrepreneurial aspirations and understand better how to launch a business. Full details [here](#). Deadline for entries 12 July 2024

#### Queens' College Estelle Prize for Y12 English students

- Queens' College invites submissions for the Estelle Prize for English 2024, which will be awarded to the best essay submitted by a Year 12 (Lower Sixth Form) student. The winner will receive a £500 prize. Details [here](#). Deadline for entries Friday 19 July 2024.

#### Woolf Essay Prize 2024 - Y12

- This competition is designed to give students the opportunity to think and write about women in literature, history, society and culture, while developing independent study and writing skills. Full details [here](#). Deadline for entries Monday 8 July 2024.

#### The Oxford Scientist School Science Writing Competition 2024 - Y10 - Y13

- This is an essay competition based on 2 themes that students research and choose a specific area or topic to discuss in their essay. Details [here](#). Submissions need to be made via a teacher, by 10 July 2024.

#### Young Economist of the Year 2024

- The Royal Economic Society Young Economist of the Year competition 2024 aims to encourage Year 10 – Year 13 students to produce their own ideas in analysing contemporary economic problems facing the UK and the world. Students can choose from a list of topics and do not need to be studying economics. The RES welcomes entries from any students who are interested in economic issues and would like to share original ideas or perspectives on these issues. Full details [here](#). Deadline for entries 12 July 2024.



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