

# AUTUMN TERM 2025 EDITION NO.9

## **HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE:**

As we come to the end of another busy and rewarding term, I would like to begin by reflecting on just how well our students have done. Our Year 7 students, who joined us in September, have settled into school life with confidence, enthusiasm and maturity, while our new Year 12 students have embraced the challenges of sixth form study and quickly become valued members of our community. We are incredibly proud of how positively all new students have approached this important transition.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to parents and carers for your continued support. Working in partnership is vital to our success, and your encouragement, communication and trust make a real difference. In particular, I would like to thank our amazing PFA (Parent and Friends Association) for their tireless work throughout the term. Their commitment to supporting school events and fundraising has been outstanding, and the funds raised directly benefit our students and wider school community.

This term has been full of achievements and successes. Many students have excelled academically, demonstrating determination, curiosity and a strong work ethic. Others have shown commitment through excellent attendance, daily effort in lessons, and enthusiastic participation in clubs, societies and enrichment activities. These successes reflect our core values of courage, curiosity and compassion, which our students demonstrate every day.

We are especially proud of the way our students contribute beyond the classroom. Their involvement in community projects, charity fundraising and awareness-raising activities shows a deep sense of compassion and social responsibility. We celebrate diversity, value inclusion, and recognise that success is about far more than exam grades alone.

I would also like to remind parents that our Ofsted inspection in March confirmed the exceptional quality of our provision, with the school judged Outstanding across all five areas. This is a testament to the hard work of students, staff and support from our families.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a restful and enjoyable holiday. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in January, ready for the term ahead.

-Ms T O'Brien Headteacher

## NEW TO WHSG LUNCH

To welcome our new Year 12 students, a special "New to WHSG" lunch was held, bringing together around 100 students. The event offered a relaxed opportunity for new joiners to mingle, chat, and get to know members of the sixth form community.

Our Head Girls and Prefects were on hand to greet students, answer questions, and share their experiences of sixth form life at Wallington. The afternoon was filled with friendly conversation and laughter, setting a welcoming tone for the year ahead.



# YEAR 12 SOCIAL

The Year 12 Social brought the whole year 12 group together for an afternoon of fun and socialising.

Students enjoyed a range of inflatable games, including giant hungry hippos, gladiator duel and the unclaimable ladder, alongside other games like giant Connect 4 and Jenga.

With music playing, plenty of pizza and juice, and a lively atmosphere, it was a great chance for everyone to form friendships and work on team building.



## EXTRA CURRICULAR FAIR

This term, students had the opportunity to explore the wide range of activities on offer at WHSG during our Extra-Curricular

Fair. The event showcased both

student-led and staff-run societies and clubs, each presenting what they do and encouraging new members to get involved.

From academic and creative clubs to sports and community initiatives, the fair highlighted the breadth of opportunities available and the enthusiasm within our school community.





#### LANGUAGES

#### <u>Visit from Humboldt Gymnasium, Solingen – 7th</u> October

We welcomed students and staff from Humboldt Gymnasium in Solingen, Germany. Each visiting student was paired with a Year 10 pupil and joined them in lessons, including History, PE theory, Computing, Product Design and Textiles—subjects that, apart from History, are not typically taught in German schools.

The visitors also teamed up with our Year 8 students for an interactive treasure hunt around the site.

Our students were excellent hosts throughout the day, and we are proud of the warm and positive impression they made on our guests.







# EQUALITY

On Thursday 16th October, 10 Pankhurst organised a

peaceful protest to raise awareness of the barriers women still face worldwide. Inspired by their form-time reading on feminism, the students aimed to highlight how far society still has to go to reach true gender equality.

They created striking placards featuring key statistics—such as the 130 million girls unable to access education and the 113 countries without equal pay laws—and then marched quietly around the school during form time. Their message was met with applause and encouragement from classes along the route.





# YEAR 13 MMI

Our Year 13 Medicine applicants took part in Mock Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI), designed to help them prepare for upcoming university interviews. Students rotated through a series of scenario-based stations, including ethical discussions, problem-solving tasks, and communication challenges. Some stations were even performed by our talented Drama students, helping to create realistic medical scenarios, while teachers and staff conducted mock interviews and provided valuable feedback.

The afternoon offered an excellent opportunity for students to refine their skills, build confidence, and gain insight into the interview process.

## YEAR 7 MEET THE TUTOR

This term, we welcomed Year 7 students and their parents into school for the Meet the Tutor Day. Held in the hall, the event gave families the opportunity to meet their child's form tutor and discuss how students have settled into life at WHSG. It was a lovely chance for parents to hear about their child's progress and for tutors to celebrate the positive start Year 7 have made to their time at Wallington.



SIXTHFORM OPEN EVENING

On Thursday 16th October, WHSG welcomed over 600 visitors to our Sixth Form Open Evening. The event gave prospective students and their families, including our current Year 11s, the opportunity to explore the wide range of A Level subjects and opportunities available in the Sixth Form.

Departments showcased their subjects with engaging displays and activities; visitors also heard from the Ms O'Brien during the Headteachers talk, who outlined the values, support, and academic excellence that define Sixth Form life at Wallington.

It was a vibrant and informative evening that highlighted the ambition and enthusiasm of our students and staff alike.







## EDI EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

This term, WHSG celebrated a wide range of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) events, bringing together students across year groups to learn, create, and reflect on the importance of community and identity.

Events included a Slam Poetry session led by Year 13 student Bonnie, where students shared original poems after some guidance one what makes a good 'slam poem'.

Creative expression continued with a keyring-making workshop, offering students the chance to design personalised pieces.

As part of Black History Month, the fashion show was a standout highlight — a celebration of cultural heritage and individuality through clothing, music, and performance.

The term also included a rich and interactive Yoruba workshop, introducing students to aspects of West African culture, language, and movement.

These events provided students with valuable opportunities to connect, celebrate diversity, and engage in meaningful conversations about identity and inclusion at WHSG.









## **ENRICHMENT DAY**

This term's Enrichment Day offered students across all year groups a range of engaging and educational experiences:

- Year 7 enjoyed a trip to see The Lion King in London.
- Year 8 split into two groups: one visited the Tower of London, while the other stayed in school for a Maths Scavenger Hunt Challenge.
- Year 9 attended a performance of The Devil Wears Prada, and 40 students spent two days at YPRES.
- Year 10 took part in a PSCHE day focused on the Just Give Project.
- Year 11 also split into two groups: half visited Pineapple Dance Studios, while the others explored HMS Belfast.
- Year 12 enjoyed a grand day out in London, exploring culture, history, and the city.
- Year 13 participated in mock interviews tailored to the fields they hope to study after school, gaining valuable preparation for their next steps.

The day provided students with opportunities to learn outside the classroom, explore new experiences, and build skills and confidence in a variety of contexts.



## **TRIPS**

This term has been full of exciting educational trips across all year groups:

- History and remembrance: Y9 students spent two days at YPRES, and Year 11 took part in the History in Action workshop.
- Sixth Form: Year 12 and Year 13 attended a Criminology Conference, while Year 12 also enjoyed a bowling trip as part of their PE programme.
- STEM and politics: Students visited CERN for a three-day scientific exploration and the Houses of Parliament.
- Languages and media: Several groups attended trips to the BFI in London for language and media studies, while media students also went to the Harry Potter Studio Tour.
- Nature and environment: Students enjoyed a trip to Wakehurst and to Osmington Bay
- Primary outreach: Our students engaged younger learners through numerous Maths and English outreach visits.

Each trip offered enriching experiences beyond the classroom, fostering learning, teamwork, and memorable adventures.







## **HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT**

Year 12 students recently enjoyed an engaging and informative visit to the Houses of Parliament. Their guided tour took them through some of the most historic and significant parts of the estate, including Westminster Hall, the Central Lobby, the House of Lords Select Committee Rooms, and the House of Lords chamber itself. Although the group was unable to enter the House of Commons due to Prime Minister's Questions taking place, students gained a vivid sense of how Parliament operates and the traditions that shape it.

The trip continued with a visit to the Supreme Court, where students observed live cases in progress. This provided a rare opportunity to see the UK's highest court in action and to better understand how legal decisions are made at the national level. Overall, the day offered a valuable insight into the workings of the country's political and judicial systems, enriching the students' understanding of government and law.



# **BFI-GEMAN TRIP**

Our A-Level German students took part in a study day at the BFI in London on "Exploring Peaceful Revolution and the Legacy of East Germany in Film."

In the morning, students attended a lecture delivered entirely in German, where they learned about film analysis as well as key themes and styles in contemporary German cinema. They also explored the events, figures, and narratives that shaped the end of

the Cold War and ushered in a new era in German and European history. In the afternoon, students enjoyed a screening of Good Bye, Lenin!, the film they are studying as part of their A Level course.

It was a fantastic day, and wonderful to see the BFI filled with young people from across the country who are learning German.

# WINTER CONCERT

On 2nd of December, WHSG's Winter Concert brought together musicians and singers from across the school for a festive evening of performances. Highlights included the Chamber Choir, Whole School Choir, Year 10 Band, as well as piano, violin, and signing performances.

The concert showcased the incredible talent and dedication of our students, with music ranging from classical pieces to contemporary favourites. The orchestra provided a beautiful backdrop, bringing the whole evening together.

Visitors were treated to refreshments kindly provided by the PFA, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere. It was a delightful celebration of music and community to mark the start of the festive season.









# GCSE PRIZEGIVING

On 4th December, WHSG celebrated the achievements of last years' Y11 students at the GCSE Prize Giving, held in the school hall and gym from 2–4pm. The event welcomed students from last year's cohort, current Sixth Formers, parents, and families.

The ceremony featured a keynote speech by Hannah Harazawa, along with speeches from the Headteacher, Ms O'Brien, and Sixth Form prefects and Head Girls.

Awards were presented for subject excellence and special achievements, recognising the dedication and accomplishments of our students.

Afterwards, everyone enjoyed refreshments, photos, and mingling in the gym, making it a memorable celebration of success and community.

## PFA CHRISTMAS FAIR

The festive season continued at WHSG with the PFA Christmas Fair, featuring a wide range of stalls from both external providers and student-led ventures.

Visitors enjoyed an array of gifts, food, drinks, and fun activities, including raffle stalls and festive treats.

The fair was a wonderful celebration of community spirit, bringing together students, staff, and families for a joyful afternoon of shopping, socialising, and holiday cheer.



# **NEW LIBRARY OPENING**

On the 5th December we celebrated the grand opening of our new library, joined by members of the GLT Trust and special guest author Onjali Q. Raúf, who spoke inspiringly about the power of books, learning, and strong female voices in literature. The event also showcased contributions from our school community, including a heartfelt speech by Year 12 student librarian Delali and a moving library-themed poem performed by Year 9 student Corrina. Mrs Reilly, Ms O'Brien and GLT CEO Tom Flynn each shared words to mark this important milestone. The celebration ended with refreshments and plenty of conversation, as students, staff and visitors came together to welcome an exciting new chapter for our school library.



# JUST GIVE FINAL

On Tuesday 9th December Year 10 took part in the Final for First Give.

First Give is a social action project which all Year 10 students have been participating in during PSHCE lessons. Students pick a social issue they feel strongly about and engage with a charity that seeks to address it. This year students supported the charities Children's Hospital Pyjamas, Jigsaw 4U, Sutton Women's Trust, Sutton Foodbank, The Cassandra Centre, Lives Not Knives and Love Me Love My Mind. Year 10 then organised activities to raise awareness including an indoor picnic, information boards and a self defence workshop.

The final was the culmination of the project took place on the 9th, with representatives from each group presented to a panel of judges; they explained their learning and how they'd shared it with others. Every form group delivered amazing presentations in a confident, knowledgeable and creative way. Particular mention to Hafsa from 10 Johnson who earned a special commendation for her recital of a beautiful poem, penned by herself.

The winning team was 10 Pankhurst for their outstanding presentation on behalf of Sutton Foodbank. The judges were particularly impressed by the way the students had collected food, visited the warehouse and helped organise food parcels ready for distribution, gaining real insight into the whole operation.

We would like to thank representatives from Jigsaw4U and Sutton Foodbank who came into school to support the students and to Sutton's Deputy Mayor - Councillor Cumar Sahathevan, our CEO Dr Flynn and Princess (Head Girl) for judging the competition.







# SCHOOL PRODUCTION

Our talented students brought Moana Jr to life this December, with a primary school matinee on 15th December and evening performances from 15th-17th December.

For months, students worked tirelessly to create all the props and scenery, as well as rehearse the songs, choreography, and performances. Their hard work and dedication shone through in a brilliant series of shows, delighting the audiences with their wonderful acting and amazing singing. The tech and behind the scenes team did a fantastic job at keeping the show running smoothly- It was a fantastic celebration of the performing arts and a memorable end to the term for all involved.



## MATHEMATICAL SUCCESSES

This term saw many amazing mathematical achievements by our students. Some of the highlights included:

Isha (9Pan) sat the SMC (normally reserved for just sixth form students) and achieved an incredibly impressive score of 117 meaning she got the highest result in the school and took part in round 1 of the British Mathematical Olympiad.

Over the summer, we received the Bronze Medal and book prize for Emisha (9Cur), celebrating her exceptional performance in the Junior Mathematical Olympiad, this was the highest result in the School and a huge achievement! To qualify to sit the Junior Mathematical Olympiad you need to have a very high score on the Junior Mathematical Challenge – only 1200 students qualify for the Olympiad each year and to receive a Bronze Medal puts Emisha in the top 200 students in the country!

#### **Mathematical Competition for Girls**

This was the first year that we had the opportunity to enter a new competition – the Mathematical Competition for Girls and we are very proud of our results. We had Distinctions from Amelia, Maja, Shaili, Mathuraa, Palak and Xinyan in Year 12 and Jade, Macy, Maheli, Abbinaya, Diana, Zoha, Diya, Diya, Ania, Esther, Meera and Aarabi from Year 13. We also had Merits awarded to Melissa, Esther, Anqi, Joanne, Anishka, Annabel, Lyra, Aarthisha, Disha, Lakshmi, Vidushee, Nicole, Emily, Piyasha, Jashmin, Nillasha, Josephine, Zaynab, Cassandra, Raya and Rachel in Year 12 and Merits awarded to Ashviya, Nilasha, Ria, Varsha, Thulasika, Abenaya, Saanvi, Sinyi, Mae-Ling, Shruddha, Anika and Sanvi in Year 13.

Amelia in Year 12 achieved the highest result in the School – with a very impressive score of 40 and Jade achieved the highest result in Year 13 with 33.

The Mathematical Olympiad for Girls has been running for twelve years and involves writing some formal answers to longer questions. We had four Year 12 students, Lauri, Louisa, Pranavi and Nithusiga take part. We are delighted to announce that all of those students did very well, Lauri and Nithusiga being awarded a Merit certificate and Louisa achieving the highest result of the school, gaining a Distinction.

#### Senior Mathematical Challenge

Earlier this term, all Year 12 and 13 Mathematicians and Further Mathematicians took park in the Senior Mathematical Challenge. It is a great achievement to have been awarded a certificate and we would like to congratulate and celebrate the success of the following students...



#### **Year 13 - Gold Certificates**

Abbinaya, Sinyi, Abenaya, Jade, Chloe, Diya and Sandra

#### **Year 13 - Silver Certificates**

Hannah, Ania, Taqwa, Macy, Dilani, Nila, Sherine, Emmanuella, Sarah, Safiyyah, Emily, Corrie, Sujaanie, Charlotte, Pavithra, Yasmine, Ashviya, Emily, Smriti, Victoria, Siya, Amy, Miracleleen, Amaya, Annette, Risha, Hasini, Roma and Thulasika

#### **Year 13 - Bronze Certificates**

Satwat, Rosie, Sophie, Radchaya, Nissi, Shruddha, Rohiny, Princess, Anvesha, Huda, Vrisha, Nithoojaah, Divjot, Zainab, Chloe, Inaaya, Harriet, Orla, Salvia, Phoebe, Mehreen, Pavishana, Sanjana, Sophie, Maia, Olivia, Prisha, Sarah, Najira, Corrie, Ayla, Kavisha, Lauren, Xiaoqi, Sreeranjini, Hafsah, Shiya, Calista, Natale, Alexa, Sarina, Rakshana, Mili, Varunika, Anika, Ella, Madeline, Hindara, Hannah, Amia-Grace, Iniya, Anna, Emily, Zaina, Amarachi, Shorna and Fatimah

#### Year 12 - Gold Certificates

Amelia, Melissa, Lauri, Beth, Raya, Coco, and Shaili

#### **Year 12 - Silver Certificates**

Louisa, Annabel, Inaayah, Saani, Florence, Palak, Josie, Niamh, Damilola, Emma, Tilly, Gloria, Esther, Kavisha, Zara, Joanne, Haashini, Aabisha, Tooba, Angelina, Yusra, Emily, Anaa, Elaine, Simarpreet, Nicole, Anna, Jessica Sanjana, Lora, Saaliha, Grace, Millee, Zaynab and Lucila

#### **Year 12 - Bronze Certificates**

Saee, Malaika, Alicja, Simran, Nillasha, Asjhvini, Abirami, Pranavi, Ava, Harriet, Alice, Cassandra, Hailey, Harshini, Sofia, Piyasha, Ishika, Suree, Kajaniga, Maya, Si, Chelsa, Megha, Anishka, Haniya, Smriti, Isabella, Amy, Zainab, Suwetha, Aleeza, Aaiza, Shruthi, Maja, Rachel, Fatima, Mathuraa, Aswathy, Charlie, Katrina, Abinesha, Vidushee, Khalthoom, Mahnoor, Tia, Trista, Anqi, Ruhma, Asha, Lakshmi, Deepika, Jashmin, Baruni, Vani Byju, Kanisha, Refa, Amtul, Pranneeta, Abinaya, Humda, Angelica, Emmie, Luara, Megan and Zarina

All of the students in Year 12 or 13 who achieved a Gold certificate qualified for the next round and will sit the Senior Kangaroo.

Particular congratulations go to Abbinaya (13PRL) and Amelia (12SBE) for achieving the highest result in their years.

#### **Hans Woyda Mathematics Competition**

The following students have been preparing for and taking part in the Hans Woyda Mathematics Competition in which they had to work as a team to answer tricky questions under great time pressure...

Alice (Y9), Isha (9Pan), Jessica (9Sha), Aarna (11Bro), Grace (11Bro), Harshitha (Y11), Amelia (12SBE), Joanne (Y12), Louisa (12LRL), Ashviya (13MNI), Diya (13SLE) and Sinyi (Y13).

Our students have also been busy taking part in many online enrichment programmes; including the Southampton University Cipher Challenge, Integral's Ritangle competition, Parallel Academy, Axiom Maths and the excellent online maths club for Y7-Y11, Parallelogram.

Congratulations to everyone who has taken part in any of these competitions!

Looking ahead to this term, we have even more competitions and events to look out for, including the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge and the University of Southampton Maths Challenge – which has just opened. There continues to be opportunities for enrichment with the Parallelograms, mentioned above, and online maths circles. More details about these will follow in your maths lessons and the student bulletin.