



SPRING TERM 2024

HEIRS & MAKERS

Year 12 Politics Conference



Message from the Headteacher

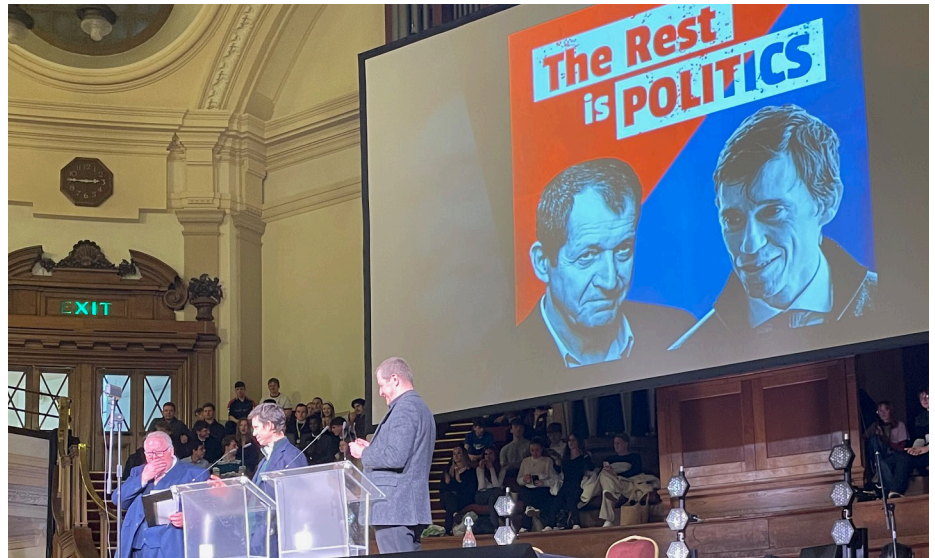
At Wallington, we offer an amazing range of co-curricular and extra-curricular

opportunities that enrich our students' experiences in a whole variety of ways. Some of our overarching school aims include...

To build within our students a strong sense of self-belief, dignity, service and social responsibility, equipping them with the ability to lead others and to have the desire to change society for the better.

To provide a wide range of opportunities, including enrichment and co-curricular opportunities, for students to nurture and develop their talents and creativity as well as further their social, moral, spiritual and cultural understanding.

Our school values of curiosity, compassion and courage underpin all we do, and when it comes to enrichment activities, these values play a significant role. Whether it is being part of the charity team, earning points for their houses, signing up to one of the Electives at sixth form, or going on one of our many visits and trips, we encourage our students to take advantage of all we offer, to join in and to show their support for each other, and have courage to try new things. This spring edition of Heirs and Makers is an enrichment special. It does not cover all we do, rather it gives a flavour of some of the activities and events our students engage with.



On Monday 11th March, fourteen Year 13 and four Year 12 students went to the POLECON conference held at Methodist Central Hall in Westminster.

During the conference we heard a range of opinions from across the political spectrum on a wide range of issues including the current conflict in Gaza, LGBT+ and Trans Rights, the environment and many more. The speakers included Wes Streeting (Shadow Health Secretary), Jacob Rys-Mogg, Richard Tice (head of Reform UK) and the headline act was an hour conference headed by Alistair Campbell and Rory Stewart from "The Rest is Politics Podcast". Our students asked some very interesting and insightful questions to the speakers and engaged in spirited debate with some of them. I hope they all enjoyed the experience!

Primary Outreach

With the support of many of our dedicated Y12 students we continue to work with local primary schools to provide exciting opportunities for their students. In School, we provide weekly English and Mathematics classes aimed at stretching their most able students. Outside of school, we visit different Primary Schools to support in a variety of ways ranging from general classroom support, specific programmes to help develop those falling behind in English and classes to generate enthusiasm for maths and develop problem solving skills and resilience. Our students have worked hard to build the confidence of these young people while giving them a fun experience. We have all enjoyed running these programs and found it incredibly rewarding.

The Addam's Family



Last month WHSG families saw our brilliant cast of The Addams Family perform to very appreciative houses. On Tuesday 27th February we welcomed local primary schools in for a matinee performance, then opened on Tuesday night to rave reviews!

Show week is the culmination of a rehearsal process that started back in September – and the hours of hard work that everyone put in certainly paid off this week.

Highlights included excellent portrayals of the famous Addams Family by our talented principal performers, an all singing and dancing, ghoulish chorus of ancestral ghosts and a superb live orchestra, made up largely of our school musicians.

The cast was ably supported by a host of scenery painters and prop makers who made the stage look beautifully creepy; lighting and sound technicians whose added technical expertise; costume and make-up artists who added some sparkle and a considerable amount of ghoulish white face paint; a box office and publicity crew who promoted the event and ticket sales; and finally a very able back stage crew, who ran the show with absolute precision under the watchful eye of our excellent stage manager.

Thanks go to Mrs Borrageiro-Maier and Mrs Yard as Director and Musical Director, Mrs Gunn as Assistant MD and Mrs Broadbent for choreography. The pupils surpassed themselves, both in terms of showing their talents, and of being able to work together as part of a team.

The Tate Gallery



GCSE art students enjoyed exploring both the permanent collection at Tate Modern, as well as the exhibition 'Capturing the Moment'. The work they viewed and responded to will help inform ideas and techniques for their



current practical work. We were also delighted and intrigued to view a piece of work by Pauline Boty who was an ex Wally Girl back in the 1950's! Look her up on Wikipedia to find out about her work as a British painter and



co-founder of the 1960s' British Pop art movement, of which she was the only acknowledged female member.

New York, New York!



During the half-term holidays the Media Department took 40 students to New York! Let's hear what the students had to say about the trip:

Our first adventure: the Hardrock Café. Slap bang in the middle of Times Square, we were thrown into the New York city lifestyle. Hustle and bustle around us we ploughed through the stinky streets on our way to get our dinner. After enjoying a meal in the iconic Hardrock Café, we returned to the hotel for a much-needed rest. Up bright and early, we made our way to the Met Museum and indulged in the beauties of ancient history. As we stepped into the grand lobby of the Empire State Building, we couldn't help but be in awe of the towering structure that stood before us ready to reveal the amazing views of NYC. A highlight was the incredible performances of the empowering Six wives in the evening Broadway show, that left all our jaws dropped. From belting high notes to funny audience interactions,

"it was an unforgettable experience".

Our luck just kept on getting better as we had the opportunity to meet THE Catherine Howard from the night before in the flesh. During the workshop we were thrown into the "SIX" universe as we learnt the choreography and harmonies that created 'Get Down'. We were also given the opportunity to work alongside the renowned New York Film Academy and gain experience in the cinematography industry using professional (and very expensive) camera equipment.

Next stop: Brooklyn. Ice skating under the Brooklyn bridge was certainly one night to remember with picturesque views and laughter in the air. After a jam-packed day, this was a well-deserved meal with there being something for everyone. 6am - we opened the curtains. And there it was. Snow. All raring to go, we stepped out for the final time into the magical, whirlwind of Times Square. Wrapped up warm, we waddled to the famous Radio City Hall where we travelled back in time to 1930. The Rockettes, Grammy Awards, NBA and many more all occurred on the very stage we had the pleasure of standing on. Backstage, we were given a glimpse of the celebrity lifestyle as we stepped into the VIP lounge.

After a fulfilling 4 days, we can all agree that Mrs Bates playing the piano in the middle of the JFK airport was the perfect end to a perfect trip!

- Tori and Sicily, Year 13

Mouse Trap

Year 7 spent the morning exploring Detective Fiction - finding out how to create their own plots for a murder mystery story, solving our "murder mystery puzzle at Muchly Manor", then learning about the work of Agatha Christie and the history and theatrical staging of "The Mouse Trap." In the afternoon we visited the West End to St Martin's theatre to see a performance of "The Mouse Trap" - the world's longest running play. In keeping with theatrical tradition, we were asked never to reveal the ending of the play to others. And so our lips are sealed... but we may have some budding Agatha Christies amongst us.

Fork 'n' Film event

In March, the Year 7s and 8s had a fantastique time at the French Fork 'n' Film event, where we watched Ratatouille and tried various samples of different cheeses with bread, crepes, fruits and of course had Ratatouille! One of our favourite parts of the event was trying Camembert for the first time; it had quite a foul smell! However, we would not have had such an amazing time without our lovely French Prefects: Wendy, Inez and Jessica as well as our wonderful MFL teachers! We had a marvellous time with lots of fun and laughter and felt like we were very French indeed!

- Aashka and Aksharaa



**Wallington
High School For Girls**
HEIRS OF THE PAST, MAKERS OF THE FUTURE

Year 13 visit to the Church of Scientology



On Wednesday 21st February, the year 13 Sociology class went to the Church of Scientology in central London. Sandy - the volunteer at the Church taught us about the core beliefs in Scientology. We found out about the founder - L Ron Hubbard's belief in multiple lives, the emotional tone scale and the role of therapy which uses a process called auditing. We also had a tour of the church where we saw interview rooms, auditing machines, informative screens with multiple languages and a 'purification' room with exercise machines and a sauna. I found the experience very interesting and really enjoyed asking questions. My favourite part of the trip would be the Q&A session, because I was able to ask as many questions as I wanted, and the staff answered very openly. I think the religion of Scientology is very intriguing!

- Sakina, Year 13

French Conference

On 1st March, armed with our pens and a notebook, the linguists of year 13 French embarked on a visit to Regent's University in London. Throughout the day we dove headfirst into a range of activities designed to help our literary and cinematographic writing skills. To start it all off, we were introduced to different exam techniques needed to engage the examiner. Via watching various clips, we gained an understanding of what examiners are looking for as well as strengthening our knowledge of analysis. We were also given the chance to debate and discuss different francophone films which allowed us to practise our essay skills and quickly assemble ideas to form an essay plan – similar to that of an exam. Interacting with various other schools further helped us to develop our understanding of the texts and add to our existing ideas. Overall, we found it informative and an enriching experience that will help us with our upcoming A-levels. Vive la France!!

- Tori, Year 13

Maths News from this Spring Term!

This term has been full of mathematical fun with students taking part in a wide range of activities. It started with Julia in Year 12 qualifying for the second round of the British Mathematical Olympiad and being selected as one of only twenty students in the UK to take part in a mathematical training camp in Hungary. Then we had the Intermediate Mathematical Challenge, a competition entered by a selection of students across years 9, 10 and 11, in which many students were awarded Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates and we had a record number of 86 entries for the Kangaroo follow-on rounds. The top performances in each year were achieved by Shriya (11Ath), Amelia (10Ath) and Mira (9Sea). We have also had students across years 7-10 producing impressive entries for the Southampton University Maths Challenge and we are awaiting results from that. Our sixth form students have been invited to attend maths-based lectures at Wilson's School with topics ranging from Galois Theory to differential equations. We have also sent a number of our Y12 Further Mathematicians on different problem-solving courses, including programmes run at Cambridge University to help with competitive university entrance. On 14th March we celebrated "Pi Day" with some in-class fun and competitions, including a mathematical treasure hunt in the E-Block. Students across year groups are still enjoying the online maths enrichment club, solving weekly "Parallelograms" with some taking part in the Axiom maths circles program. Many keen students continue to submit answers to the puzzles we put into the student bulletins and we have been awarding many achievement points for your excellent contributions. We are very proud of everyone's achievement and enthusiasm and hope you have enjoyed the experiences.

Barcelona



Firstly, we'd like to say a huge thank you to all the staff who made it possible to attend the trip to Barcelona it was truly a wonderful experience!

For the duration of our trip, we managed to explore lots of different cultural places such as the town hall on day one with some historical buildings after touching down. Las ramblas, La Boquería (an amazingly vivid food market) and the Maremagnum shopping centre all on day two. To finish on day three, we visited some more architectural sites, such as Parc Güell constructed by Gaudi as well as La Sagrada Família which has been under construction for about the last 140 years! While visiting all of



these wonderful places, we were also provided with many opportunities to go shopping for souvenirs and gifts for our families.

We stayed in Hotel Adía, a beautiful hotel in Cunit. Every evening, we were served amazing three course meals as well as a buffet style breakfast.

Every morning, we had Spanish lessons at the hotel. The combination of the weather and the hotel was perfect as we explored topics such as likes, dislikes, directions, introductions and more. We were taught by Alex and Jasmine, and our lessons consisted of well thought out worksheets, and vocabulary



games that we hope will be integrated into our Spanish lessons very soon. The skills we learned in the lessons were used over the course of the day. We gave directions using the vocabulary and spoke to cashiers and staff in Spanish.

Overall, the plane journeys were fabulous and smooth, and in our opinion the most exciting part of the journey was arriving in Spain: the change in weather was so uplifting. We have made bonds and learned new things we will never forget!

- Evanam, Gracie and Anaiya,
Year 10

CCF/RAF Cadets Recruits Camp & Trophy Competition Highlights



Cadets were pleasantly surprised by the quality of food and their performance during the recruits' camp (Feb half-term). Despite initial doubts, the cadets excelled in various tests and enjoyed team challenges. Meanwhile, the RAF section organised an independent camp which focused on air recognition and military knowledge, followed by intensive activities at RAF Halton. Additionally, this term Wilson's RAF Section performed admirably at The Royal Air Squadron Trophy Competition, achieving commendable results in various disciplines.