

8 June 2020- Issue 21



## THE WALLINGTON WEEK

### *Message from the Head Teacher*

Dear Parents and Carers

I trust that you are all keeping well and had a good half term break.

Recently we have been reviewing our remote learning provision and how we can further support parents. As a result, we will be sending out a curriculum guide to all parents this week. The aim is to give parents a better understanding of what topics are being covered over the remainder of this term, how they will be delivered as well as links to additional resources that students can use as further support. I hope you find these useful.

We continue to develop our use of MS Teams to deliver remote learning, focusing on Year 10 and 12, as well as pastoral support and we are continuing to develop more interactive learning resources. To support this, we will be holding an INSET day for teaching staff this **Thursday 11 June**. Please be aware that some departments may still choose to set work for students on this day.

We also continue to send out our twice weekly student bulletin on Mondays and Fridays. Please can I ask parents that you encourage your daughter to look through these each week.

Finally, Mrs Yard, our Director of Music, along with Anna, one of our Year 12 students, were interviewed on BBC London radio last week about their win at the Jack Petchey Perfect Pitch competition for the second year running. More details regarding this as well as some of the things that our students have been up to during lockdown, can be found in this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support in these challenging times and I hope you have a good week.

Richard Booth  
Headteacher

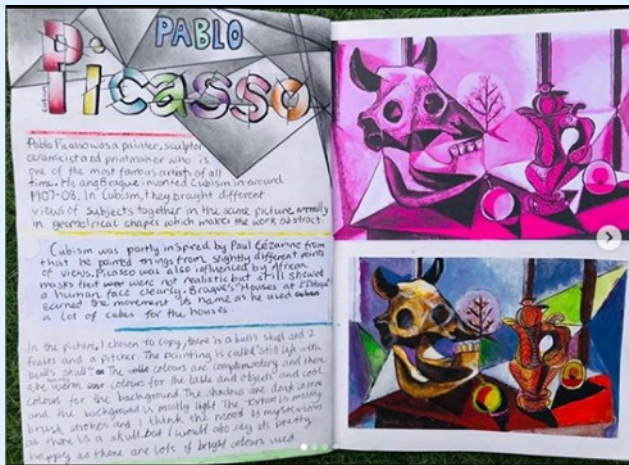
## Follow art\_at\_wallington\_girls on Instagram

The Art Department have been re-gaming lots of fun activities so have a look.

- Students—tag us so that we can see your artwork and photographs!
- Search for #wallygirls #doartatwallygirls or #dophotographyatwallygirls



Reminders about celebrity art clubs, programmes and challenges



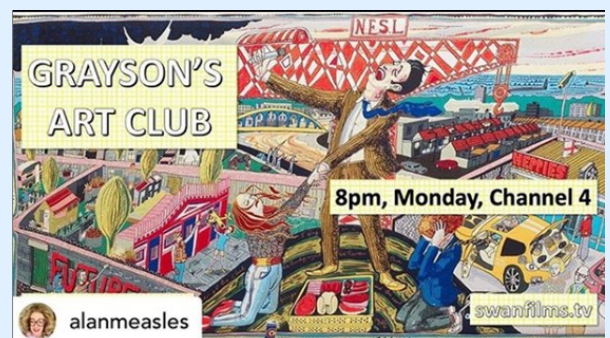
Celebrating your Artwork and Achievements



Viral Art and Photography challenges (#gettymuseumchallenge)



Help with your Art Projects



## *Celebrating our Students' Work in Lockdown*

### **Making a Dance Video—A Visual Representation of the Virus**

Adithya in 10 Sharman made a YouTube channel featuring a dance that spreads the essentials and safety measures of the corona virus with her friends in UK and her cousin in India.

Well done for your initiative in organising, choreographing and editing the video. Please click on the link below to view her video or copy and paste in into your browser.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYCTRG-mULs&feature=youtu.be>

### **Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show**

Well done to Photography student Marcie Docherty in 11 Seacole, whose photograph "Venice" has been chosen for the Royal Academy Young Artists' Summer Show. Not only will her work be shown as part of the online exhibition, it has also been chosen to be displayed in the Royal Academy itself, once galleries are back to normal.

A massive well done to Marcie and a huge thank you to everyone else who entered! The Art Department will be in touch about displaying student entries on Instagram.



### **Inspiration to be Creative at Home?**

Dena in 7 Pankhurst felt a bit 'arty' during the half term and decided to draw this spider. We hope this has inspired others to be creative and have a bit of fun.

Students should email a copy of their drawings and paintings to the Art Department.



## Celebrating our Students' Work in Lockdown

### Lockdown Boat Challenge

This was lots of fun and my boat managed to float 2250g plus a load of my sisters toys before it started to get a bit wobbly.

Estelle 7 Johnson



### Gold Crest Award

We have just had the amazing news that some of our Year 12 students have gained a Gold CREST award for their work on a project for Flood Alleviation in the Isle of Wight. They completed this project as part of the Inspiring Engineers Scheme Elective in collaboration with their mentors from Mott MacDonald.

Well done to:

Keya, Glenda, Swarna, Raffat, Rajashree, Madelaine and Divya, we are extremely proud of their achievement!

Mrs Caspary

This is part of the feedback from the British Science Association who assess and reward the CREST applications:

Wow - nothing like "go big or go home" is there? Flooding is a really big issue right now, well done for picking a big challenge. And....

another huge Well done for completing your project during the UK's covid19 adventure. Completing your project while a Global pandemic is taking place is just amazing. So many businesses large and small have failed...and yet your group have completed your project - that's great to see, really demonstrates resilience.

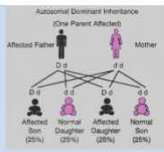


# Noonan's Syndrome

By Amy

## Overview

Noonan's syndrome is an autosomal-dominant genetic disorder that prevents normal development in certain areas of the body. It was first described as a specific condition in 1963 by Ehmke and Noonan when they presented a paper titled Associated non-cardiac malformations in children with congenital heart disease (Noonan JA, Ehmke DA, 1963, *Midwest Soc Pediatr Res*). There are currently more than 20,000 new cases of the syndrome in the UK each year. It is caused by a genetic mutation and 30-75% of the cases are acquired through dominant inheritance. This is when a child inherits a copy of an affected gene from a parent. Moreover, only one parent needs to be carrying a faulty gene and each child they have will have a 50% chance of acquiring the condition. In addition, it can also occur as a spontaneous mutation. Faults in at least 5 genes have been detected by scientists to link to this disorder. The most common genes are: PTPN11, SOS1, RIT1, RAF1, KRAS (21.06.18, *Noonan's Syndrome Overview, NHS*)



## What are the symptoms?

Noonan's Syndrome can cause a number of physical abnormalities and internal problems.

The most common symptoms are:

- **Proportionate short stature (PSS)** commonly a general lack of growth in the body, arms and legs. If left untreated, the average height for a male with this condition is 5ft 3 and women are typically around 5ft.
- **Craniofacial Dysmorphism** - such as; a broad forehead, ptosis, a wider distance between the eyes, small jaw, broad nose, short neck with excess skin fold.
- **Congenital Heart Diseases/Cardiac Abnormalities** - such as; pulmonary valve stenosis (unusually narrow pulmonary valve), hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (larger heart muscles), septal defects (a hole between the two chambers of the heart).
- **Less common characteristics include;** undescended testicles, learning disabilities, feeding problems, behavioural issues, infertility, motor incoordination and eye conditions such as a squint or a lazy eye. (21.06.18, *Noonan's Syndrome Characteristics, NHS*)



## Treatments

There is no known way to completely cure Noonan's Syndrome, however, many treatments can be used to greatly improve the problems that it can cause.

### Surgical Treatments

For males, a common surgical treatment is treating undescended testicles by an Orchiopexy. This procedure takes about an hour and involves making an incision in the groin, locating the testicles and moving them to their correct position. Usually this procedure is simple and the patient will go home on the same day. In addition, it is performed under general anaesthetic so the child doesn't feel any pain during the surgery. The procedure ideally needs to be carried out before the boy is 12 months old, any later and it could cause fertility issues. The success rate of this treatment is estimated higher than 90% and the risks increase the further away from the scrotum the testicles are. (27.08.18, *Undescended Testicles Treatment, NHS*)

### Other Surgical Treatments

As heart defects are commonly one of the most severe implications of the condition, surgery on the heart is a key treatment for people with Noonan's Syndrome. For example, to treat serious cases of Pulmonary Valve Stenosis, the main treatment is a Valvuloplasty. This is when a catheter with an inflatable balloon at its tip is put through a blood vessel in the groin and threaded up to the pulmonary valve. Then, the balloon is inflated; this stretches the valve and pushes up its leaflets to allow blood to flow smoothly through the valve without causing any blockages.



This procedure can cause: abnormal heart rhythms, excess bleeding, stroke, tearing of the heart, pulmonary artery rupture, infection and blood clotting (Congenital Pulmonary Stenosis, Johns Hopkins Medicine). However, an advantage of a Valvuloplasty is that it doesn't need open heart surgery. (12.06.18, *Congenital Heart Disease Treatment, NHS*) This reduces the chances of death and makes the procedure less invasive. If this treatment isn't suitable, the valve may need to be replaced by another human or animal valve, and a valvotomy may need to be carried out. This usually involves open heart surgery where a 6 to 8 incision is made in the sternotomy. (MacGill M, 29.08.19, *What should I expect from open heart surgery?*) This is a more dangerous treatment as the average hospital mortality rate for open heart surgery is 2.94%. (07.03.13, *European Journal of Cardio-Thoracic Surgery, volume 44*) Having said this, with technology and equipment constantly improving it has decreased massively over the years already. Donor valves can also have their own implications. Even once the surgery is completed without any setbacks, the body may reject them and try to kill the foreign cells. In addition, replacements don't always last forever and aren't common so a patient may have to go through multiple surgeries and have constant monitoring.

### Medical Treatments

Some patients are given a growth hormone to help with their PSS. This medication is called Somatropin and is given to the child as a single, daily injection. Somatropin works similarly to the naturally occurring human growth hormone in the body. It stimulates the production of insulin from the liver. This insulin encourages multiplication of muscle cells and especially targets the growth of long bones to increase a person's height. (Does Somatropin Work, Hgh.org) The side effects are uncommon but may cause; itching, temporary soreness and redness at the site of the injection. The use of Somatropin usually is stopped when the child stops growing, however, in rare cases it is used into adult life. (20.02.18, *Restricted Growth Treatment, NHS*)

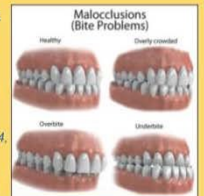


## Physical and Psychological Treatments

Many children have speech and feeding problems as a result of acquiring Noonan's Syndrome. This is often because the condition can cause them to have articulation errors due to malocclusion or a cognitive impairment which may affect expressive language. (Warburton M, 5.07.04, *Noonan's Syndrome, Speech Pathology*)

Speech therapists help to develop and strengthen the muscles in a patient's mouth and teach them how to effectively use their muscles. The need for speech therapy and its success rate depends on the severity of the condition. In addition, sometimes individuals with Noonan's Syndrome can have issues with scoliosis or poor coordination of limbs. To help improve this, physiotherapy can be used in the form of play therapy for children to help them to have correct posture and learn to make links between limbs. As well as this, a small percentage of people with this condition have special educational needs. This may mean that they develop more slowly and have a lower level of intelligence to others their age.

Therefore, some children have one to one help in class or go to a school primarily for special needs children. However, most individuals with this syndrome have an average level of educational intelligence and so they develop, in this sense, similar to their peers.



## Issues with Treatments

In terms of the severe problems that this syndrome brings (such as heart defects, eye problems and growth issues) there are little economical and environmental arguments against them being treated. This is because the individual needs these problems to be fixed in order to survive and cope with the day to day struggles of life and so, it is believed by many, that it is worth using the NHS funds to save their lives. Having said this, from an ethical point of view, certain beliefs (such as Jehovah's Witnesses) disagree with replacing organs with ones that aren't your own and being given other people's blood during major surgery. In addition, some people believe that issues that don't cause as many life threatening complications shouldn't be treated because a person can still live a relatively normal life without them being fixed. On the other hand, some people believe that everyone should have the chance to improve the small things such as minor coordination issues or a slight speech impairment because they may have a huge mental effect on an individual. Overall, it is difficult to determine the importance and value of the different treatments as every individual case is unique and different people may think that different treatments help their quality of life to improve.

## MUSIC NEWS!

Last night, 4 June, Anna (12HCI) and I were interviewed on BBC London Radio about our win at the Jack Petchey Perfect Pitch competition at Cadogan Hall on 1 March 1, there is a clip of one of our songs towards the end.

<https://soundcloud.com/jenyard/bbc-london-radio-4620>



### BBC London Radio 4.6.20

BBC London Radio interview about Jack Petchey Perfect Pitch winners, Noteworthy on 4.6.20 with Eddie Nester. Song; Empowerment arranged by Jennifer Yard.

soundcloud.com

I have created a virtual video of some singers from the Gospel Choir singing 'Rain Down' for The Fighting Temptations. Please have a listen and share!

Featuring; Yimika (13AGE) and Mani (13DLE) as soloists, Beatrice (11 Seacole), Ashvina (10 Pankhurst), Grace (9 Curie), Annie-Faith (9 Curie) Jessica (11 Seacole), Anna (12HCI), Tochi (13KHD) and Lelana (9 Bronte)

<https://youtu.be/sMgXWV6TG10>



### Rain Down, Wallington Girls Gospel Choir

This is a small selection of singers from Wallington High School for Girls in South London, <https://www.wallingtongirls.sutton.sch.uk> 'Rain Down' is a regula...

youtu.be

Finally, the Year 7's did a virtual recital in May and sent in their audio and video recordings of performances that they recorded at home. Here is the first half.

[https://youtu.be/Wn\\_8oXkpmT4](https://youtu.be/Wn_8oXkpmT4)

**Well done everyone!**

**Mrs J Yard**

**Head of Music**

## Duke of Edinburgh

Please see below the certificate of social value for 2019-20 which we have received from Duke of Edinburgh scheme. It details the total hours DofE participants at Wallington High School for Girls donated to their local community. Across London, DofE participants contributed an incredible 356,616 hours volunteering to help others, which equates to a social value of over £1.5 million.

They would like to thank our organisers and our incredible participants who have made such a positive impact on their local community.

If you would like to share this on social media, please tag us on Twitter @DofELondon so that we can celebrate your DofE participants' success with you!

Thank you to all those involved and a huge well done.



**Thank you**

to the  
Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants  
from

**Wallington High School  
for Girls**

who donated

**2,756 hours**

of voluntary service to the local community\*  
The social value of these hours is

**£11,989**

\* Number of hours of volunteer service  
is based on participants who have achieved their  
Volunteering section between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020

May 2020

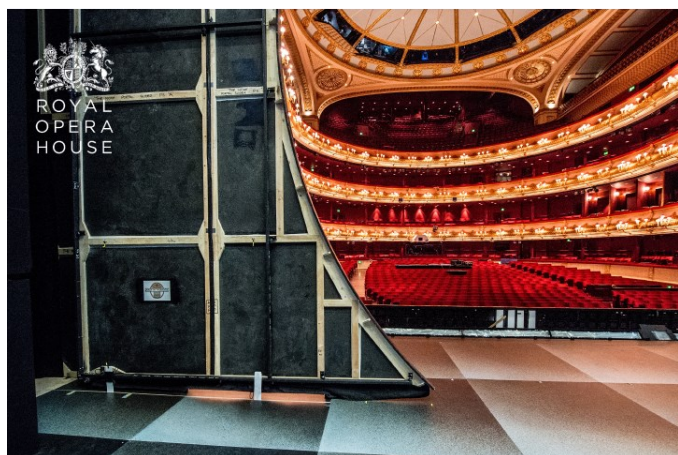
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Clare Argar'.

CLARE ARGAR, DIRECTOR - LONDON

## Do you Like Ballet, Classical Music or Opera? If so Read on ...

If you like live entertainment, some concerts are going live and it's good to know that live entertainment is finding ways to show their performances..

First live concert since the beginning of lockdown.



### [Live from Covent Garden](#)

We are pleased to announce our new programme of performances, coming to you live from the Royal Opera House! *Live from Covent Garden* will be the first concert to be held live at our theatre since we closed our doors in March.

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Get ready for 13 June...

The *Live from Covent Garden* series commences on **Saturday 13 June at 7.30pm** with a free live concert streamed on [YouTube](#) and [Facebook](#). It will be hosted by the BBC's Anita Rani and the Royal Opera House's very own Director of Music, Antonio Pappano.

### **Highlights include:**

An intimate new ballet created by Royal Ballet Resident Choreographer Wayne McGregor.

World-class singers including Louise Alder, Toby Spence and Gerald Finley performing a range of repertory by composers from Handel to Turnage.

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The following two performances on **Saturday 20 June** and **Saturday 27 June** will be available to view live and on demand for just £4.99 each and will include a host of ballet and opera highlights.

We can't wait to share these exciting performances with you. For the latest updates, please see [our website](#) or follow [#OurHouseToYourHouse](#) on our social media channels.

[Find out more](#)