

# Wallington High School for Girls

## THE WALLINGTON WEEK

HEIRS OF THE PAST, MAKERS OF THE FUTURE

MONDAY 11TH MARCH 2024



### Message from the Headteacher



I am delighted to inform you that we have created a partnership with Croydon Cricket Club to support the development of our hard ball cricket at Wallington Girls. Part of this partnership offers students in Years 7-9 the opportunity to have cricket training sessions with Croydon Cricket club at our school as part of a satellite hub.

Wallys Got Talent showcased last week with over 30 acts including performances of song, dance and even a bit of comedy – well done to all those who took part.

Enrichment activities last Thursday saw a whole host of adventurous, entertaining, academic and enriching events for all our students. Year 7 went to see Mousetrap, Year 8 visited the Wetlands Centre, Year 9 went to RHS Wisley, some of Year 10 were lucky enough to take a trip to Barcelona while the rest of the year group... Church visit or Art Gallery, Year 11 - Art Gallery or Hamilton, Year 12 had a full PSHE day of workshops focused on student Wellbeing and Year 13 participated in 'Life Beyond Wallington' workshops. We are proud of the enrichment activities we put on for our students, and they all get a lot out of these events.

This week marks the start of Ramadan, and we would like to wish all those in our school community who are participating a happy and peaceful Ramadan. A letter went out last week asking parents to inform us if their child is fasting and requires any additional support during this time. For the rest of this term, the Hall has been put aside every lunchtime for students who wish to use the space for prayer or for silent, individual reflection.

*T O'Brien*

- Ms T O'Brien  
Headteacher

### STUDENT SUCCESS - SOPHIA Y10

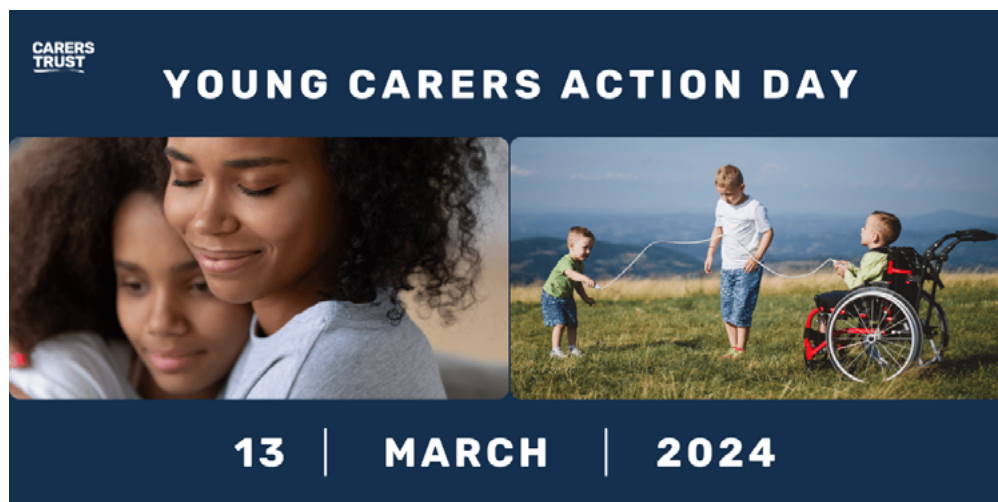


Sophia McCart, a student at Wallington High School for Girls, recently emerged as the winner at the Sutton Regional Final of Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge... see page 5.

### CHESS COMPETITION LAST WEEK



Last Tuesday Chess Club students participated in their first Inter-School Chess Competition...see page 5.



## Upcoming workshops

Autism advice sessions can be booked by e-mailing [theautismadvice@cognus.org.uk](mailto:theautismadvice@cognus.org.uk). Dates found below.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO TALK ABOUT YOUR YOUNG PERSON AND GET SOME NEW IDEAS OR STRATEGIES?**

PENDING AVAILABILITY, YOU WILL BE ALLOCATED A 30 MINUTE SLOT BETWEEN THESE TIMES.



**AUTISM ADVICE SESSION FOR SUTTON FAMILIES**

~~9TH FEBRUARY 1PM-4PM~~

**13TH MARCH 10AM-1PM**

**17TH APRIL 9.30AM-12.30PM**

**9TH MAY 1PM-4PM**

**BOOK BY EMAILING**  
**THEAUTISMSERVICE@COGNUS.ORG.UK**

## 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 A****Monday 11th March**

Start of Ramadan

Year 13 Politics Conference

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Tuesday 12th March**

NASA Parents' Meeting 5-7pm Main Hall

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Wednesday 13th March**

Year 10 Parents' Evening 4-7pm Online

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

Central detention 3:10-3:40pm

**Thursday 14th March**

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Friday 15th March**

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

Central detention 3:10-4:10pm

**Next week: Week B****Monday 18th March**

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Tuesday 19th March**

GCSE Music Recording rehearsal

Y12 Mott MacDonald: Inspiring

Engineers Scheme

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Wednesday 20th March**

Y9 Bereavement Assembly

Central detention 3:10-3:40pm

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

Gym and Dance Showcase 6:30-8:30pm

**Thursday 21st March**

Intermediate Maths Olympiad

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

Gym and Dance Showcase 6:30-8:30pm

**Friday 22nd March**

INSET Day

Y9 Student to Work Day

**Work Experience:**

**Year 11 8th - 12th July 2024/**

**Year 12 15th - 19th July 2024**

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 year 11 and 12 parents and carers 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.

If anyone is able to offer a work experience placement to a WHSG student for the above dates, please contact Mrs Lisa Parkinson ([lparkinson@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto:lparkinson@wallingtongirls.org.uk)).





## Young Carers Action Day - Wednesday 13th March 2024



Wednesday 13th March – a day to raise awareness of the UK's young carers. Young Carers are children and young people under the age of 18, who care for a family member with a long-term physical or mental illness or disability, misuse substance or have an additional need.

This year's focus is on ensuring Fair Futures for young carers. Carers Trusts' 2023 Young Carers' Survey showed ONE in THREE young carers struggle to balance caring with education, this can have a big impact on whether they can get on at school, go to university, or get a job or an apprenticeship.

The Sutton Carers Centre will be leading assemblies for all year groups w/c 11th March.

- Miss M Gough

Assistant Headteacher  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



## Gym and Dance Showcase 2024

Tickets for the Gym and Dance Showcase taking place on both Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st March between 6:30-8:30pm are available via Parent Pay. This event is highly anticipated and one that showcases a fantastic range of sporting arts.

We look forward to seeing you there!

- Mrs S Collins

Higher Education Coordinator



## Year 12 Makers of the Future Day

On Wednesday 27th March we will be hosting our annual Makers of the Future Day for Year 12 students. This will be an exciting day for students and will include talks from universities, industry experts and WHSG Careers Fair.

Parents have also been invited to a Parent Information Meeting taking place at 6pm. To register parent/carer attendance please click [here](#).

More information can be found on the letter sent separately dated 4/03/24.

- Mrs S Collins

Higher Education Co-ordinator

## Year 9 Student to Work Day: 22nd March 2024

On Friday, 22nd March 2024, students in Year 9 are encouraged to accompany a parent, carer, or other adult to their workplace with the purpose of observing and gaining valuable insights into various professions, inspiring career exploration and promoting a better understanding of the working world. If you would like to participate in this opportunity we kindly ask that you complete this online [form](#) by Monday, 18th March 2024.

- Mrs L Parkinson

Careers Coordinator

## Wally's Got Talent

On Wednesday 6th March the school hosted the annual talent show. This event is a fantastic way to showcase a diverse range of talents. Organising an event like this takes weeks of planning and organisation therefore we'd like to send a big thank you to all of the Senior Prefects who were involved in curating such a special showcase.

- Miss T Aldemir  
Events and Communications Manager



## Book Signing for World Book Day

Last Monday for World Book Day we had a visit from Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé, author of “Ace of Spades,” who came to talk to us about how her writing experiences as well as her personal experiences which influenced the stories she has written. A recently published novel by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé, “Where Sleeping Girls Lie”, explores the importance of friendships through loveable characters, such as Muffin the guinea pig, whilst simultaneously discussing serious topics like sexual abuse. As a Black woman, she places a high value on seeing herself and others represented in her stories to ensure that others like her feel as if they are a protagonist in their own life. By tackling themes such as institutional racism, she highlights the importance of speaking up and drawing attention to these issues as they arise. Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé wrote “Ace of Spades” while she was studying at the University of Aberdeen, where she first faced microaggressions. She describes the writing experience as a “therapy for herself”, a means of processing her bad experiences. Studying in Aberdeen had influenced her writing for several reasons; previously having gone to a very diverse all-girls school in Croydon, moving to a predominantly white institution for university made her feel marginalised, causing her to use her writing as an outlet for the emotions she had felt due to the discrimination. Furthermore, as a Muslim, she did find herself aligning with the drinking culture at the university – this served as the beginning for her friendship with author Adiba Jaigirdar and resulted in them writing the upcoming novel “Four Eids And A Funeral” together. They wanted to show the Muslim community in a positive light and as a very diverse group, accurate to the real world. Faridah shared tips from her journey, as a well-accomplished author, that enabled her to achieve a successful book deal. It was amazing to hear how she was able to land an agent at the age of 19! Her story was truly inspiring for the budding readers and writers in the room.

- Oliwia, Y12

## Chess Inter-School Competition

This was the debut of the very first Chess Team from Wallington High School for Girls! Well done to Diora (13AGE/Ath); Chloe (13KHD.Ath); Isabella (10Bro); Sofia FORD (8Sea); Rajvi (8Bro); Zara (10Sha); Ashwika (10Sea) for being part of the evolution of chess club over the last two years and/or competing in the very first event. You all did wonderfully and you competed well, scoring points against opposition who were more used to competitive chess. Wilson's hosted an inter-school competition and we were delighted to take part. Congratulations again to you! Who knows? Maybe we could host an event in the near future...Either way, the future is looking exciting for chess at Wallington!

- Mr D McCausland  
Teacher of Biology



## Student Success -

### Sophia McCart for the Sutton Final of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

Sophia McCart, a student at Wallington High School for Girls, recently emerged as the winner at the Sutton Regional Final of Jack Petchey's Speak Out Challenge. This event is the largest public speaking programme in England, managed and delivered by Speakers Trust, the UK's leading public speaking charity. The programme is supported and funded by the Jack Petchey Foundation, with the aim of amplifying young people's voices by building confidence, developing skills, and creating platforms for them to share their stories and ideas.

Sophia McCart's winning speech, titled "Take Care of Today", encouraged her audience to live in the present, embrace change, and pursue their passions. McCart emphasised that it's okay to alter life goals as they evolve, and that the best decisions are those made in the moment for the individual's current well-being.

The Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge provides free communication skills training to Year 10 students in every state school in London and Essex. Through these workshops, over 30,000 young people are empowered each year.

Following her win, McCart expressed gratitude and admiration for her fellow competitors. "I'm just so

grateful that I won," she said. "I think everyone else there did such an amazing job. Everyone was just so strong and deserves this so much. Their speeches were amazing."

Sophia McCart's victory at the Sutton Regional Final is a testament to the power of effective, positive communication in education, employability, and social change. It also highlights the importance of programmes like the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge in nurturing the voices of the next generation.

We are incredibly proud of Sophia's achievement and look forward to seeing her continue to use her voice to effect positive change in society. Congratulations, Sophia!

- Konstantina  
Events and Communications Manager  
at Speakers Trust



## 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 WHSB 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 need arises 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.

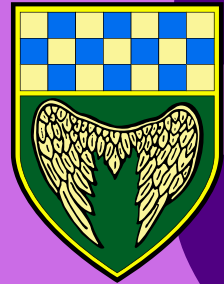
WHSB will issue same day, 20 min detentions for students that are late into school, without a valid reason or persistent lateness to classes. Parents and students will be notified as soon as possible of the detention and the reasoning by email.

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.



WALLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

# Y12 MAKERS OF THE FUTURE DAY 2024



Unlocking

Your

Potential

**Student Event:**

Wednesday 27th March, 8:15am-3pm.

**Parent Information Meeting:**

Wednesday 27th March, 6pm.

Parent attendance form via letter.

Don't miss

this opportunity

# 27TH MARCH





Sign up Code:  
WHSGPARENTS

## How to... use the Webinars tool

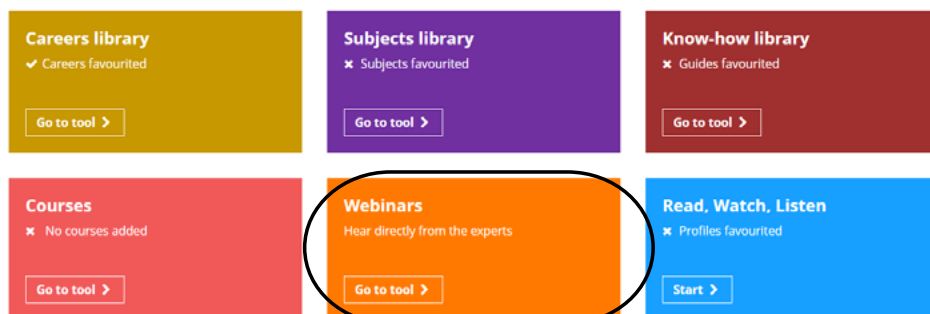
The Webinars tool lets you view discussions and tutorials from universities, employers, and subject experts, all hosted by and exclusive to Unifrog.

- You can sign up to upcoming webinars.
- You can search for and view past webinars.
- You can make a list of your favourite past webinars so you can easily find them again.

## Finding the tool

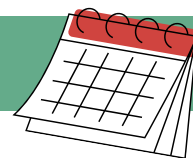
To get started, log into your account and look for the 'Exploring pathways' section. Find and select the orange Webinars tool.

Exploring pathways



There you will find the 'Upcoming Webinars' and 'Past Webinars'.

## Upcoming Webinars - March 2024



- Soft skills to succeed (Webinar Series):
  - Communication, Critical Thinking, Adaptability, Commercial Awareness
- Unifrog UK University Fair 2024
- Explore engineering in healthcare: Medical and biomedical engineering
- Kick-start your creative career with a winning portfolio
- Get work ready with a computing degree
- How to revise effectively
- Addressing global challenges with engineering: Why study bacteria?

For further details, log-in at <https://www.unifrog.org/sign-in> or scan the QR code above.

# GYM & DANCE 2024

20TH & 21ST  
MARCH

6:30 PM



*Night at the Movies*

## Education Wellbeing Service Webinar

### Parenting Teenagers With Characteristics of ADHD

Parenting a young person with characteristics of ADHD, with or without a diagnosis, is often a journey filled with highs and lows. This session offers parents a chance to explore the challenges and the joys with lots of practical tips to make your ADHD parenting journey as smooth as it can be.



**NHS**  
South West London and  
St George's Mental Health  
NHS Trust

Education  
Wellbeing  
Service



#### DATE / TIME

Monday 11th March 7.30-8.30pm

Wednesday 13th March 12.30-1.30pm

#### LOCATION

Online - Hosted on Teams

Sign up to this event for free on Eventbrite (and check out our others!) by scanning the QR Code or following the link below:

[CLICK HERE to book](#)



wellbeinginschoolsevents@swlstg.nhs.uk





# THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO PLAY SQUASH AT THE LONDON YOUTH GAMES



**ARE YOU UNDER 17?**

**DO YOU PLAY A RACKET SPORT?**

Why not try out for your place on Sutton's squash team at the London Youth Games?

**INTERESTED? SCAN THE QR CODE:  
OR EMAIL: [samuelhodgkins@yahoo.uk](mailto:samuelhodgkins@yahoo.uk)**



# EASTER

## HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES & FOOD PROGRAMME

THU 28 MARCH – FRI 12 APRIL



**FREE\***  
FOR  
RECEPTION  
– YEAR 11



### Inclusive activities:

- > Arts & craft
- > Sports
- > Performing arts
- > Tailored workshops for 13+ year olds
- > New experiences
- > Day trips
- Plus much more!

### Book your child's place today!

Enjoy a holiday filled with exciting activities,  
engaging workshops, trips and more.  
Nutritious food included.

### Let's 'HAF' FUN this Easter!

\*Eligible children entitled to benefits-related free school meals can book a free place with their unique vouchers. Limited free places are available for children outside this cohort.



Scan the QR code or visit  
[suttoninformationhub.org.uk/HAF](https://suttoninformationhub.org.uk/HAF)  
to find out more.

