



Wallington High School *For Girls*

HEIRS OF THE PAST, MAKERS OF THE FUTURE

FRIDAY 13TH
OCTOBER 2023

THE WALLINGTON WEEK

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER



Do we prepare students for medical school – yes, we do! We recently held a round of Mini Medical Interviews for all Year 13 applicants, 48 students in total who are applying for medicine, dentistry and veterinary science. Students had a series of 5-minute interviews, in which many skills were tested. This included their ability to think critically and ethically about scenarios as well as

activities to test their manual dexterity and ability to break bad news. This was invaluable practice for our students with interview season around the corner. A huge thanks to the 16 external volunteers we had from our parent body and alumni who gave up their time to facilitate this event. This was only one event of many that help prepare our students for the rigorous application and interview process. We are very proud of our careers offer that helps prepare all our students for their own individual chosen pathways. In fact, Year 9 students have already had their first assembly about option choices.

I know some of you, especially those of you with children in Year 7, are understandably concerned about your child's safety on their journeys to and from school, but I would like to reassure you that once they are here, we have very robust systems which ensure their attendance is monitored throughout the day. The reception team work very hard dealing with lots of parent phone calls and concerns, but please understand that they will contact you if any issues arise.

We are currently recruiting for our Parent Focus Group; a consultative group which plays a significant role in supporting the school in implementing and evaluating procedures and new initiatives. If you would like to be considered, please refer to the 'Parent Focus Group 2023-24' email sent out on Schoolcomms.

A reminder that we have a late start on Friday 20th October. The gates will be open at 9.30 for students – except for some Year 13 students who have University Admissions exams who will need to come into school via reception from 8am.

- MRS T O'BRIEN

REVISION TIPS - PARENT WORKSHOP

Date and time: Mon 16th Oct 2023, 18.00-19.00

Facilitator: Mr Donnelly – Assistant Headteacher
for Teaching and Learning at WHSG

Location: This event will be held at WHSG

Mr Donnelly will provide Year 11 parents with tips and techniques to support their child with revision and how to retain more information and knowledge. This workshop will be held at WHSG, in person.

MEASLES CASES ON THE RISE

According to DfE and NHS, measles cases are rising across the country, with over 102,000 children starting primary school in England being at risk of catching the disease. Measles is highly infectious and if left unvaccinated nine out of ten children in a classroom can catch the disease if just one child is infectious. Please share these resources with colleagues, parents, and where suitable, community organisations to increase awareness and encourage parents to get their children vaccinated. The [Back to school MMR Guidance](#) from the NHS includes more information.

YOUTUBE SUPERVISED ACCOUNTS

YouTube Supervised Experience is really easy to set up and gives parents much greater flexibility in managing the content their children are watching on YouTube. [Here](#) are 5 very simple videos showing parents how to set it up.

SNAPCHAT - MY AI CHATBOT

As technology continues to advance, AI chatbots have become increasingly popular in various industries, with applications ranging from customer service to entertainment. One chatbot gaining the top spot for attention in the last few weeks is Snapchat My AI. For more information and how to keep your children safe when using this technology please click [here](#) for article.



YEAR 13 INTERVIEW DAY

Event: Year 13 Interview Day

Date: Wednesday 22nd November 2023

Location: Wallington High School for Girls

Time: 9:30 – 15:00

We are organising a special event for our year 13 students and are looking for volunteers to join us to help them develop a crucial life skill: interviewing.

Interviewing is a crucial life skill that goes beyond just job applications. It's about effective communication, self-presentation, and confidence-building. For many of our Year 13 students, this will be their first opportunity to experience a formal interview setting and as you will appreciate, this is an important skill to learn to give our students the confidence and a competitive edge when applying for higher education, apprenticeships or other employment opportunities in the future.

We require volunteers from all sectors but we have a particular need for veterinarians, medical professionals, architects, and individuals with a background in foreign languages.

What to expect:

We are seeking volunteers to conduct multiple 30 minute face-to-face practice interviews. Your role will involve asking questions, providing feedback, and sharing your insights and experiences. Where possible we will match your specialism to an appropriate student but we may also ask you to conduct a generic interview or one broadly related to your field. We are happy for you to use your own questions but you will also be supplied with examples to assist you. We are hoping for volunteers to attend the whole day, however we would still welcome your participation if you are only available for part of the day. Lunch and refreshments will be provided, and for some this may also be a great opportunity to network with other professionals in the local area.

How to volunteer:

If you are willing to volunteer, please could you complete the form [here](#).

SCHOOL GOVERNOR VACANCY

You should have received a notification earlier in the week about a vacancy for a school governor.

If you would like to contribute to shaping the future of our school, the governors encourage you to consider nominating yourself to stand as a parent governor. They will welcome nominations from any interested parent/carer.

Nominations for the vacancy should be made by completing a response in the form below:

[Parent Governor Nominations](#)

The response must have a personal statement of no more than 200 words setting out why you want to be a governor and what you would bring to the role. This personal statement will be circulated to all parents /carers if a ballot has to be arranged. A ballot will be arranged if there are two or more applicants.

Nominees must also confirm that they are willing to undergo a DBS check (Disclosure and Barring Service, previously CRB) and that they are not prohibited from acting as a company director.

The closing date for applications is the 5th November 2023 by 12 noon.

If you would like an informal discussion with the Chair of Governors or a parent governor about the role of a governor, please email Mrs Kinchington at ckinchington@wallingtongirls.org.uk.



Careers Noticeboard

For the latest Careers news please visit the [WHSG Careers Noticeboard](#)

Here you will find:

- Apprenticeship and Higher Education guides, events and programs,
- Work experience and volunteering opportunities,
- Careers Events, workshops and courses,
- and much more!

Coulsdon Chess Federation



Well done to Rajvi in Year 8 who has been awarded 2nd place in the Coulsdon Chess Federation TMT finale!



Duke of Edinburgh Launch 2023

We are hosting a parents' information evening for any students in Y9, 10, 12 who would like more information regarding the Duke of Edinburgh award at any level (bronze, silver and gold).

Parents of students who have previously taken part in the D of E do not need to attend unless they wish to do so.

Details: **Tuesday 17th October 2023 @ 5-6 pm in the school hall.**

Please can we ask that only one parent/carer attends with their child on this evening so that we can manage numbers and avoid overcrowding. Please be assured that all information will be made available on our website should you not be able to attend.

What is the Duke of Edinburgh Award?

The Duke of Edinburgh scheme enables a young person to elevate their self-confidence, skills and aspirations in a non-competitive environment. Employers have named the Award as the highest non-academic accolade they look for in prospective employees.

Students who enrol on the scheme will undertake four sections: Volunteering, Physical, Skills and an Expedition. For those students who wish to take part in the Gold scheme, there is also an additional Residential section. Each section must be done for a minimum period of time, which increases between the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. The Bronze award is open to Year 9. The Silver and Gold awards are open to all students in Years 10 and 12 respectively, regardless of whether they have completed any previous levels.

WHSg is a directly licensed centre which is supported by the operations team at London DofE. This means that we will coordinate the Volunteering, Physical and Skills sections in school and using an online portal. Activ Adventures, who have worked with WHSG and Nonsuch for the past four years, run the expedition section with training sessions in school. Alternatively, students may choose to join an open expedition run by London DofE or use another provider.

Bronze: For students in Year 9 and above. Enrolment fee of £35.50 + expedition cost.

Silver: For students in Year 10 and above. Enrolment fee of £35.50 + expedition cost.

Gold: For students in Lower Sixth. Enrolment fee of £42.50 + expedition cost.





CAREERS NOTICEBOARD

For the latest careers news visit: **WHSG Careers Noticeboard**



Upcoming Events

For more information on the following events, visit the Careers Noticeboard

The Sutton Trust Pathway Programmes: Applications now open. Learn more about the world of either Banking and Finance, Consulting, Engineering, Medicine, Veterinary Medicine or Law. Gain insights into the sector, access work experience opportunities and attend a residential conference at their chosen university. For more information, including eligibility criteria click [here](#).



City Century

October Half Term Law Event - for Years 11-13.

- Wednesday 25 October QEII Centre, Westminster, London
- 40+ International Law Firms including Linklaters, Bird & Bird, CMS, DLA Piper, Allen & Overy + lots more!
- Round table event with legal workshops and panel discussions plus lots of networking at the event. For more information click [here](#).



Medic Mentor October Events - [Apply here](#)

- Insight into Medicine conference - 21st October
- Get into Medicine conference - 28th & 29th October. Covers all of the essential requirements for applying to medical school and provides invaluable tips on how to stand out from the crowd.



Pathways Careers Training & Mentoring Events - [Register here](#)

- Careers in the NHS & Employability Skills - 19th October In-person event.
- Royal Mail Virtual Work Experience Day - 26th October.

What Next? Meet the top employers & Universities at London Olympia. Listen to expert speakers cover everything you need to know including student life, choosing your career, working in a certain industry and access to support. 11th November.

[Register for your free ticket.](#)





9 out of 10

unvaccinated children
can catch measles
if someone in their
class has it

**Check your child is up
to date with their
MMR vaccinations**

