

# THE WALLINGTON WEEK

## Wallington High School for Girls

HEIRS OF THE PAST, MAKERS OF THE FUTURE



### Message from the Headteacher



Last week we invited a group of professionals from local schools and a lead reviewer (Ofsted trained), to come in and look at our school and our practices. Their overarching view was how wonderful our students are, hardworking, with excellent behaviour and manners, always being kind and polite – we are very proud of them all. We will be getting a detailed report in a few weeks, and I will

share the headlines with you soon.

The PFA are running a Year 10 disco and laser show – Monday 4th March – details have been sent home to Year 10 parents for this exciting event!

Our school production 'The Adams family' is running this week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday – I am looking forward to seeing many of you there.

Year 9 'Students to Work' day is on 22nd March. Please ensure you have filled in the form in this publication if your child is taking part in this worthwhile opportunity.

### NEW YORK TRIP OVER HALF-TERM

This February half term, 50 students were shipped off to the Big Apple – New York City. Arriving at JFK airport at 7pm, hungry, tired but nevertheless very excited for what was to come - our journey had just begun!...see page 6.

### CCF AND RAF CADETS GO TO CAMP

For the first time in recent history, the Army and RAF sections of the CCF ran independent Recruits' Camps over the half term break. With the RAF section spending two days at school and two at RAF Halton and the Army section, attending a four day camp in Beckingham...see page 8.

### UPCOMING ART COMPETITION: YASS DIGITAL

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a wonderful opportunity for UK-based artists and schools to engage creatively in the making and sharing of a piece of artwork that truly expresses their own voice. There is no theme and artists aged 4-19 can submit a wide range of works which may include drawing, painting, printing, photography, sculpture, textile, fashion, animation and video. Judges are looking for imagination, originality and skill. Although many great artists 'copy' in creative ways...see pg 4.

## Message from the Headteacher continued...

Friday was an extraordinary day showcasing the many and varied talents of our students. The day started with seven of our Year 10 girls presenting their Jack Petchey speeches to the rest of the year group. The speakers were articulate, confident and engaging, and the audience was fantastic, demonstrating great advocacy for each other. Year 11 drama students then performed in front of the GCSE examiner, they were accomplished and polished, and the examiner was very impressed. The day ended with Year 9 House Music event, which was great fun and an event which involved every single student in year 9 – what a great way to end the week!

Next week is our book fair, which runs all all week, and our Year 13 academic review week where staff will help students reflect on their mock examinations and discuss next steps.

Parent survey – I have shared all the survey comments with the senior team, and we are looking at each of them. Our work on assessment continues to be embedded and thank you to those of you who attended our parent focus group on this before half

term. One of the areas you said we need to communicate on much more is our careers education and what we offer and provide to our students. To address this, we will publish an article in next month's news item on our website.

Finally, I am very proud to announce that the Girls Learning Trust is the third 'best' Multi Academy Trust in the country, for progress. This means that as three schools, our girls make exceptional progress from when they join us in Year 7 to when they sit their GCSEs. What an achievement!



- Ms T O'Brien  
Headteacher

## Upcoming workshops

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

<p><b>WOULD YOU LIKE TO TALK ABOUT YOUR YOUNG PERSON AND GET SOME NEW IDEAS OR STRATEGIES?</b></p> <p>PENDING AVAILABILITY, YOU WILL BE ALLOCATED A 30 MINUTE SLOT BETWEEN THESE TIMES.</p> 	<p><b>AUTISM ADVICE SESSION</b></p> <p><b>FOR</b></p> <p><b>SUTTON FAMILIES</b></p> <p><del>9TH FEBRUARY 1PM-4PM</del></p> <p><b>13TH MARCH 10AM-1PM</b></p> <p><b>17TH APRIL 9.30AM-12.30PM</b></p> <p><b>9TH MAY 1PM-4PM</b></p> <p><b>BOOK BY EMAILING</b></p> <p><b>THEAUTISMSERVICE@COGNUS.ORG.UK</b></p>
---	--

## 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 B**

- Scholastic Book Fair
- Year 13 Academic Review Week
- Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Monday 26th February**

School Production rehearsals (All day—Main Hall)  
Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Tuesday 27th February**

School Production  
Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Wednesday 28th February**

School production  
Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Thursday 29th February**

School production

**Friday 1st March**

Y13 A-Level French Conference  
Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Next week: Week A****Monday 4th March**

Author Visit - Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé 11:10am-2pm  
Year 10 Disco by WHSG PFA 4:30pm-6:30pm  
Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Tuesday 5th March**

Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Wednesday 6th March**

Y10 visit to Barcelona (6th/7th/8th)  
Central detention 3:10-4:10pm  
Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Thursday 7th March**

Enrichment Day  
Y12 Domestic Abuse Training 10:30am-4:30pm  
Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**Friday 8th March**

Year 9 Final Options  
Year 12 Domestic Abuse Training 10:30am-4:30pm  
Central detention 3:10-4:10pm  
Late detention 3:10-3:30pm

**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)).

**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



## Dangers of Vaping

Please find attached a letter from Sarah Tynan, Sutton Schools and Youth Sergeant, updating parents/carers on the use of vapes by young people in Sutton. As a precautionary measure, we have installed vape detectors in all of the toilets and we are due to install them in the PE changing rooms. We will continue to educate our young people on the dangers of vaping, including an assembly which happened last term for Year 8 led by the Daniel Spargo-Mabbs Foundation.

- Miss M Gough  
Assistant Headteacher  
Designated Safeguarding Lead

## Badges on Class Charts

We have now introduced badges on Class Charts as another way of recognising students' achievements. Students and parents will be notified via Class Charts once they have met the thresholds below:

Number of Positive Points	Recognition
25 (in one year)	Bronze Badge
50 (in one year)	Silver Badge
75 (in one year)	Gold Badge

Positive Points (House Points) can be awarded by all staff for positive reasons above and beyond the normal expectations of a student at this school. Some examples may include:

- Outstanding classwork/ homework = 1 positive point
- Excellent contribution to class discussion = 1 positive point
- Picking up litter = 1 positive point
- Helping a member of staff = 1 positive point
- Supporting with a house assembly = 3 positive points
- Helping with open evening = 3 positive points
- Representing the school at an event = 6 positive points
- Outstanding contribution to the wider community on behalf of the school, e.g. volunteering = 6 positive points

- Miss M Gough  
Assistant Headteacher  
Designated Safeguarding Lead

## Update on Detentions for Secondary

**60 minute** detentions will now take place on a Friday in E6

**30 minute** detentions will still happen on a Wednesday in the Sixth Form Common Room

**20 minute** late detentions will still happen everyday in E6

- Miss M Gough  
Assistant Headteacher  
Designated Safeguarding Lead

## Eating Disorders Awareness Week (EDAW)



Every year, during Eating Disorders Awareness Week Team (26 February – 3 March 2024) Beat shine a light on a key theme and ask the community to get involved. This year, they're talking about Avoidant/ Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID). ARFID is often a misunderstood condition that can have serious consequences for health if left untreated. People with ARFID avoid certain foods or types of food, restrict the amount of food they eat, or both. For more information about ARFID and to sign up to some of the webinars available from Beat please visit their website [here](https://www.beat-eatingdisorders.org.uk/).

- Miss M Gough  
Assistant Headteacher  
Designated Safeguarding Lead



**Wallington**  
High School For Girls



## Year 10 Parents' Evening

Please be reminded that Year 10 Parents' Evening will take place on Wednesday 13th March between 4-7pm via the [SchoolCloud](#) platform.

Appointments will be going live on Saturday 2nd March at 12pm. Please note, initially you will be able to book 5 appointments however on Saturday 8th March, 12pm, we will release any remaining available slots.

For full details about this event please refer to the communications sent on Wednesday 21st February.

- Mr J Parkinson  
Assistant Headteacher  
Academic Support and Co-Curricular



## Young Artist's Summer Show

The Young Artists' Summer Show is a wonderful opportunity for UK-based artists and schools to engage creatively in the making and sharing of a piece of artwork that truly expresses their own voice. There is no theme and artists aged 4-19 can submit a wide range of works which may include drawing, painting, printing, photography, sculpture, textile, fashion, animation and video. Judges are looking for imagination, originality and skill. Although many great artists 'copy' in creative ways, artworks that closely or identically reproduce another artist's work or ideas won't be selected. Please avoid making art with known comic, book illustration or animated characters; we also do not accept AI-generated works.

Each submission can include a short artist statement or description, preferably written by the artist themselves. Rather than solely focussing on the artmaking process, we encourage artists to describe why an artwork was created and what it means to them. Descriptions must be no more than 80 words and, if your work is selected, will be subject to editing by the RA for spelling, grammar, comprehensibility and length. If you're 12 or

under, a parent/guardian will need to enter for you; if you're 13 or over you can submit artwork yourself. [YASS-Permissions-Form.pdf](#)

A good image of the artwork is very important and could influence the way that the artwork is viewed by the judges. Read through our 'How to photograph your artwork' document for some helpful tips and tricks. We only accept one artwork per applicant and will not accept late submissions under any circumstances. [YASS-How-to-photograph-your-artwork.pdf](#)

If you're submitting as a GCSE or A level student, please do not submit artwork that is being assessed for exams. This means "live" work cannot be used for this competition. 6th formers can submit previous GCSE work though, as it is no longer live. Yr 12 can also submit experimental project work, but think carefully if you might need the work for portfolios. If you are chosen you don't get the work back for quite a while.

- Mrs C O'Connell  
Teacher of Art and Photography

## Year 10 Disco

On Monday 4th March between 4:30-6:30pm we will be holding a Year 10 Disco. For more information and link to purchase tickets please click [here](#).

- WHSG PFA

Enquiries: [pfa@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto:pfa@wallingtongirls.org.uk)



## Co-Curricular



# UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

## Cambridge Masterclasses

**You hear the term 'masterclass' thrown around a lot. But what actually is it?**

Generally, a university Masterclass is a lecture held by a professor or an expert in a certain field regarding a course that the university offers.

Last week, I had the amazing opportunity to complete the Modern and Medieval Languages Masterclass held by the University of Cambridge. I learnt about how the rhythm of words varies with different European languages by studying well known poems. Then, we looked at how artist's paintings during the Spanish Civil War changed over time, with a focus on Picasso's work. Finally, we had Q&A session where we talked about studying this course at university.

Before this masterclass, I completed preparatory work regarding these topics. Something I found quite interesting was to do with one of the articles that talked about Child Psychology. The article spoke about parents of young children, who subconsciously use infant directed speech (IDS) which includes specific pitches, intonation of words and exaggeration of the rhythm of these

words, all which develop their child's speech and is part of the reason why they are able to learn a language so quickly (babies generally learn over 10 words per day).

So, how are masterclasses useful?

Yes, you can put this on your UCAS. But, it's especially useful if you are unsure of what you would like to study at university. Masterclasses can be a very beneficial way to narrow this down. You may attend a masterclass and decide you love the course, or the way the university teaches the course. And the opposite, too. You may realise that that particular course is not for you. For example, this masterclass helped me to understand more about what Modern and Medieval Languages at Cambridge involves, thereby helping me gain a broader perspective in order for me to make a more informed decision when I apply for university.

- Jan  
12SBE

## New York Film Studies Trip 2024

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. Before watching "SIX" on Broadway, we were given free time to explore the city ourselves.

"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 definitely an unforgettable experience. Our meal at Bubba Gump Shrimp Co. inspired by the movie Forest Gump, was an encounter we could never forget. The waiter gave us a taste of true American service - "Damn girl, you hungry as hell".

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'. After a long voyage to South Ferry, we were 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. Despite a few injuries along the way, we managed to enjoy a delicious meal at a Food Market nearby. 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







### CCF Recruit's Camp:

Here's what Eni, Lucy and Hareshni had to say:

When we first arrived at camp and were marching toward the cookhouse, I was thinking about how the food was not going to be the best. However, after we had lunch, I could not complain at all! It was way better than I expected it to be, and they made a good variety for you to pick. They also had many options of desserts (such as cake or doughnuts!) and the drinks were kept at a cool temperature, which was quite refreshing. I genuinely quite enjoyed the food there as it exceeded my expectations!

Throughout camp we completed a couple tests so we could become proper cadets and earn our berets. We were tested on weapon handling, first aid, military knowledge and drill and turnout. Before camp I was so worried that I wasn't able to do everything but as I was doing the tests I was surprised at how much I could do. I had learnt a lot since we started CCF earlier this school year. The constant practice at camp was helpful and I'm grateful for all the feedback NCOs gave whilst helping us prepare. I genuinely enjoyed doing the tests which is something I never thought I would say!

At first waking up early was the hardest thing for me but after going to recruits camp i can never complain about having to wake up early for school! It was so well organised and there was always something to do. Working with rifles and learning how to move and shoot with it was so fun. The group tasks such as bringing the "toxic chemical balls" to the other end of the sewage line was really entertaining and I even made new friends while working as a team, finding weaknesses and strengths across the whole group.



More photos from this camp can be found in our gallery on page 8.



## Article by Lt Col Burton

Sixty two Recruits from A Company with a supporting cast of Cadet Force Adult Volunteers and cadet NCOs taking our total number a hundred made an early start from the unit buildings at Wilson's School in a variety of coaches vans and minibuses heading to Beckingham Training Camp in Lincolnshire. This was a departure from our traditional camps in the home counties and was made necessary by the lack of availability of accommodation at any of these. For the more senior amongst those travelling, the change of scenery after many years at one of three camps was welcome and worth the additional journey.

On arrival cadets were allocated to billets and training and testing began in earnest.

The first afternoon and evening were allocated to revising, and then testing skill at arms on the Cadet General Purpose Rifle. By lights out that evening, all the Recruits were passed safe to use the rifle, their first qualification of the week and one that would come in handy in the days to come.

Day two saw the cadets taking part in Exercise Tangiers. this whole day, carousel of training consisted of a half-day of first aid training, with all of A Company adding a second string to their CCF bow, passing their basic first aid qualification. Many thanks, are due to left Lt Newing who travelled up specifically to deliver this course. The rest of the carousel consisted of a command task stand, a types and rates of fire lesson and demonstrations and practice of moving with and without the rifle. More excellent preparation for the following day. The evening allowed time for the recruits to sit their only written test of the week, the military knowledge test, with only one recruit requiring a retest. These first two days had allowed A Company to progress to the point that they are now halfway through their Basic Army Proficiency Certificate.

Day three was dedicated to Exercise Plumer. Basing ourselves at Top Covert Farm on the Beckingham Training Area, The Officers and Cadet Senior NCOs established a carousel of four fieldcraft training stands.

The culmination of the previous two days, training and testing allowed the recruits of A Company to

fire with blank ammunition on the pairs, fire movement stand, headed up by Capt Goldhawk and Lt Hou. Elsewhere Major Grant instructed the recruits in camouflage and concealment, while Lt Col Burton taught the two man shelter and 2Lt Riser demonstrated cooking in the field. Once the rotation was complete, senior Cadets and NCOs gave a perfect demonstration of a section attack, the next Stage of A Company's training when they return to school.

That evening, the essential business of weapon cleaning was turned into a lesson for the recruits.

Before embarking the coaches bound for Wallington on the final day, it remained for the recruits to pass one more test, basic foot drill. This doubled as a passing out parade and all were presented with their berets and cap badges, and Cadet Bartram was announced as best recruit, having been unanimously nominated by the officers and the most senior NCOs in the previous evenings orders group.

Those unable to attend camp, will be given the opportunity to complete all of the testing, conducted on camp as they join Queen's Platoon, while the rest of A Company will dispense with their woollen hats and proudly wear the beret and cap badge of the princess of Wales Royal Regiment, no longer referred to as recruits, they become junior cadets in Wilson's School CCF Army Section.

Thanks, must go to the Cadet Force Adult Volunteers who gave up their time and worked so hard to deliver the training along the non-commissioned officers of the corps, and congratulations to those members of the Cadre Platoon who attended as section 2nd in commands who had their field promotions confirmed at the end of the week and were promoted to Lance Corporal.

More photos can be found on The CCFs Facebook page, on Instagram ([@wsccf](#)) and TikTok ([wilsonscf](#)).



### RAF Camp at Halton

This year the RAF section decided to take flight and organise recruits' camp without the usual umbrella of the Army section. Forty Year 9 cadets along with some dedicated NCO's spent two days on the school site studying hard to ensure that their air recognition and military knowledge would be good enough to pass the Part 1 test at the end of the week. There was quite a bit of drill practice as well to ensure we were going to be up to scratch for a visit to RAF Halton.

For day 3 and 4 of camp we travelled to leafy Aylesbury, staying on the base for a packed couple of days of activity. Cadets enjoyed navigation in Wendover woods, drone flying, first aid and high and low ropes. The cadet's enthusiasm and hard work in all the activities was a credit to the CCF and themselves.





## 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 WHSG 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 needs arise 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.

WHSG 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.





# 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.

