



WALLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

# The Wallington Week

HIERS OF THE PAST, MAKERS OF THE FUTURE

Monday 23rd September 2024

## Message from the Headteacher

We have planned to have our Whole School Photograph this week on Wednesday, 25th September. However, the weather doesn't look promising, so we will confirm this with students before the day.



We have now had three Parent Information Evenings – all of which were very well attended, and I would like to thank you for your engagement with us.

Following our excellent examination results, we are continually working to improve our school so that we can ensure we offer the very best to our students and the entire school community. This year, as a school, we are focusing on several key areas. These include supporting students and families to improve attendance, particularly when it drops below 95%; identifying student underperformance as early as possible and communicating this with families; continuing to embed our assessment policy through teacher professional development on Responsive Teaching; and reducing any in-school variation in results.

We warmly invite you to our GCSE Music Recital on Tuesday, 1st October, at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be provided.

-Ms T O'Brien  
Headteacher

## 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](#)

## Upcoming Events

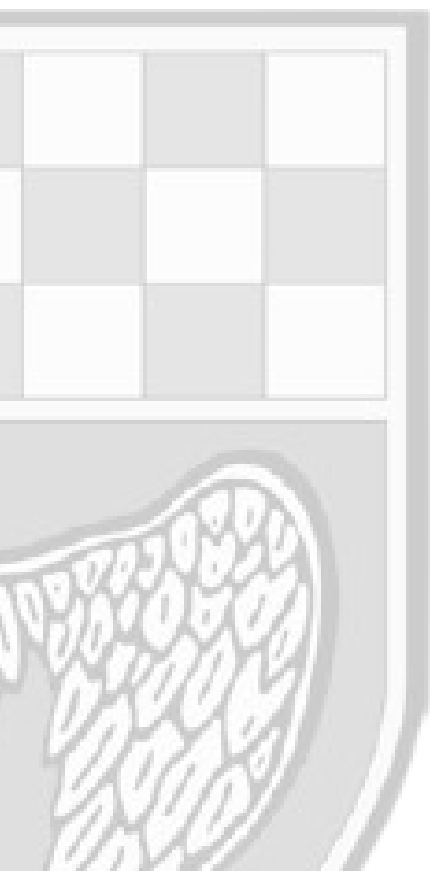
Sept 25th- Whole School Photo

Sept 28th- Second Stage SET test

Oct 1st- GCSE Music Recital

Oct 14th- Y7 Meet the Tutor

Oct 17th- Sixth Form Open Evening



## Notice

**Wednesday 25th Sept:**

**The Whole School Photo  
could be postponed due  
to bad weather.**

## Calendar

### Monday 23rd September

**School Production Rehearsals Main hall (3-4.40pm)  
Late Detention (3.10-3.30pm E06)**

### Tuesday 24th September

**Late Detention (3.10-3.30pm E06)**

### Wednesday 25th September

**Whole School Photo  
Mathematical Olympiad  
Late Detention (3.10-3.30pm E06)**

### Thursday 26th September

**Late Detention (3.10-3.30pm E06)**

### Friday 27th September

**Late Detention (3:10PM-3:30PM E06)  
Central Detention (3:10-4:10pm E06)**

# Messages from DSL

## Gaming Tips for Parents of Neurodivergent Children

Internet Matters have released another really useful guide, this time it's all about online gaming safety tips for parents and carers of neurodivergent children. It's a simple 5-page guide covering the research, example games, some of the challenges which parents face and the all-important benefits.

It's a great little guide which you can download [HERE](#)

## Instagram boosts privacy and parental control on teen accounts

Please read this article here for more information - [Instagram gives parents more control over teen accounts - BBC News](#)

## The ABC Online Safety Checklist

it can be overwhelming trying to figure out where to start when it comes to keeping your children safe online. So, to help you get started, Internet Matters have created the ABC online safety checklist - [Use the ABC online safety checklist for parents | Internet Matters](#)

## Mini Whiteboard Pens

Every student should have a mini whiteboard pen. If your child doesn't have one, please purchase one for them.

## Parent Workshop: Understanding ADHD

Date : Wed 25th Sep 2024

Time: 18.00-19.00pm

Facilitator: Dr Jo Suchy - Senior Educational Psychologist from Cognus

Location: This is a virtual event - Teams

Jo Suchy from the Educational Psychology team will be running a workshop to help parents to better understand ADHD. The workshop will look at how you can support a young person with ADHD and understanding their anxiety and anger triggers, as well as developing positive behaviour strategies at home and in school.

Please see the meeting details below:

Microsoft Teams Meeting  
Meeting ID: 347 854 695 861  
Passcode: xbNwe5

## Mini Whiteboard Pens

Mini box cutters are not allowed in school. If your child has one of these please ask them to leave it at home.



# Staff Announcements

## Year 13 Lectures

We are currently looking for people in our local community that would be willing to come into school and deliver a lecture to Year 13 students as part of their fortnightly lecture series. Lectures run from 12.15-1pm on alternate Wednesday's (Week B).

Lectures aim to stretch students minds and enrich them beyond the school curriculum giving them insight, knowledge and understanding of a topic, theme, concept. Examples from last year include, politics and journalism, corruption, conspiracy theories, the human mind, holocaust.

If you feel you would be able to contribute to our lecture programme by delivering a 25-40minute lecture I would love to hear from you, please email Mrs S Collins at: [scollins@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto:scollins@wallingtongirls.org.uk)

-Mrs S Collins  
Acting Assistant Headteacher – Director of Sixth Form

## Year 7 House X-Country – Tuesday 8th October – PERIOD 5

All 210 students in Year 7 will be taking part in our annual inter-house X-country competition on Tuesday 8th October during their period 5 lesson.

- Year 7 students will need to come to school in their PE kit (Games kit, purple socks and trainers or football boots). Please ensure they have their water bottles and inhalers.
- Students will register with their period 5 teacher at 2pm, they will then be brought out to the school field to begin the race.
- Students will be dismissed at 3pm as usual.
- The cross country course will be approximately 3km long and the aim for student's is to do their best and try to finish as quickly as possible to score maximum points for their tutor group. Positions will be collected and go towards their house final score. The top 8 students across the year group will be picked to go on and represent Wallington Girls at the Sutton schools Borough Cross-Country competition!

Good luck Year 7!

-Mrs K Wadsworth  
Head of PE and Dance

# Staff Announcements

## Attendance Email Guidance

Kindly email [attendance@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto:attendance@wallingtongirls.org.uk) mailbox for all appointment, absence and lateness updates.

To help us process attendance faster, please use the email subject line to highlight the following:

- Student Full Name
- Year and Tutor Group
- Reason for email e.g. Appointment, Absence or Lateness.

E.g.:

To: [attendance@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto:attendance@wallingtongirls.org.uk)

Subject: Jo Bloggs, 7COL Appointment

Email: Dear Attendance, this is to notify that Jo has a hospital appointment next week Friday at 2:00pm, I will collect her at 1:30pm. Please see appointment letter attached. Kind regards,  
Parent/Carer

## Medical appointment?

To avoid your child missing education, we request you book any non-emergency appointments outside school hours. Where an appointment is necessary, to avoid delay in collecting/releasing your child please ensure to let us know at least 48hours in advance.

## Absence/Lateness Reporting?

Please ensure to email attendance by 8:45am to inform of your child's absence/lateness.

-Ms S Sulaiman-Nadeem

## Lost Property and Locker Clear Out

We have a huge amount of lost property, some which students may have simply left and forgotten about and some following the locker clear out for the yearly transition that took place over the summer holidays. We request that students who have any items they did not clear out from their lockers or may have missing items to check the large black lost property boxes and claim their items.

Any unclaimed items will be given to a local charity shop after 1st October 2024.

-Ms S Sulaiman-Nadeem





# Staff Announcements

## Is University right for me?

We are excited to invite you, your students and their parents to a unique and informative event hosted by the Psychology Department at Royal Holloway University of London.

**Event: Is University Right for Me?**

**Date: Thursday 17th October 2024**

**Time: 18:00 – 20:00**

**Signup Link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/is-university-right-for-me-tickets-1014445723467?aff=oddtcreator>**

**Location: Royal Holloway University of London Shilling Building. For Directions, see attached map and instructions**

The Psychology department at Royal Holloway recognises the intense pressure A-level students have to make important decisions at such a young age. We know that given this pressure, many will be asking themselves 'Is University right for me?'. This event is specifically designed for students aged 16-18 who are contemplating their future educational paths. Our aim is to provide a comprehensive understanding of what university life entails and to help students make informed decisions about their next steps. The event will have a focus on psychology undergraduate degrees, but we encourage all students to attend, as the advice will be transferable. **Tickets are free and you can sign up following the Eventbrite link above. If you have any questions, please email [Matt.Talbot@rhul.ac.uk](mailto:Matt.Talbot@rhul.ac.uk)**

### Highlights of the Event:

- **Main Talk by Dr. Matthew Talbot:** Dr. Talbot, a Forensic Psychology researcher and Teaching Fellow at Royal Holloway, will offer a thought-provoking presentation on the realities of university life. He will tackle prevalent misconceptions, explore the genuine nature of the university experience, and emphasize the importance of early career planning. Dr. Talbot will provide a nuanced perspective on how university differs from school and will provide an honest and reflective discussion on the pitfalls that can arise whilst future planning in your late teens/early 20s. Additionally, he will address when university might not be the best fit, helping students to make well-informed decisions about their future.
- **Roundtable Discussion:** Hear directly from current university psychology undergraduates as they share their experiences around adjusting to university life, gaining work experience and any benefits/ regrets that have arisen from their choices. This session will include an opportunity for the audience to ask questions.
- **Snacks and Socialising:** Join us for a relaxed socialising session after the talks, with non-alcoholic refreshments and snacks. This is a great chance for students and their families to speak informally with current students and university staff, gaining personalized advice and answers to any questions about university life.

For a map/directions please contact Ms Clayton ([hclayton@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto:hclayton@wallingtongirls.org.uk))

# Staff Announcements

## NRICH Mathematical Challenges



NRICH Mathematical Challenges



The NRICH Project is a scheme run by Cambridge University which aims to enrich the mathematical experiences of all learners by offering them rich tasks to explore. They hope to nurture curiosity and help students develop their problem-solving skills and their ability to logically justify their thinking. When you visit the NRICH website there are some activities which are “live”. This means that students are invited to submit their own solutions to these problems and if these are very good they may be published and celebrated on the website.

Recently, Mugdha in 9 Bronte had her solution to the “Wipeout” problem published. This is the problem she solved...



### Wipeout

Take the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and choose one to wipe out.

For example, you might wipe out 5, leaving you with 1, 2, 3, 4, 6.

The mean of what is left is 3.2

**I wonder whether I can wipe out one number from 1 to 6, and leave behind an average which is a whole number...**

What about starting with other sets of numbers from 1 to  $N$ , where  $N$  is even, **wiping out just one number**, and finding the mean?

**Which numbers can be wiped out, so that the mean of what is left is a whole number? Can you explain why?**

**What happens when  $N$  is odd?**

Mugdha's solution was elegant and very well explained. We were so proud to see her excellent efforts were recognised!

Well done Mugdha! We hope this will encourage more students to take a look at the NRICH website and consider submitting a solution to one of the live problems.

## Parking

**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 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

## 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)



## 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

## Punctuality

**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.