

A message from the Executive Headteacher - Mr. Nelson

Dear parents and families

What an amazing first Parent Bulletin here with so many terrific updates on all the great work going on around the school. Huge congratulations go to Mr Raw and his team and all our students who are clearly making great progress here at WHS.

When I am in school during the week it is obvious to me that our students are doing so well across year groups and across the curriculum and in Enrichment, and rest assured we will continue to work hard to make sure that this continues throughout the year and onwards.

Parents will already know that we are very proud of our British Council accredited International School status and maintaining our reputation as being a coaching school but I can also now proudly share with you that we also have been formally approached to become the 10th school in the Big 10 group of schools from across England. This Big 10 group is made up from leading primary, secondary and Independent schools and have been selected as they lead on a key element of education or are renowned for innovation in learning or school leadership and are committed to sharing this best practice with other schools across the country. This is a significant honour for the school and I have welcomed this as an opportunity for us. I will tell you more about this as the year goes on but this is a time when we should all feel proud of the great work we do.

Finally, alongside all of the above, we are not directly responsible for our student admissions here at the school and it frustrates me that yet again this year's Year 7 cohort is smaller than we were told to expect. I therefore ask you all to tell people about us and share the good news with people in our community and beyond that as maintaining healthy pupil numbers is a key priority for all schools.

Best wishes

Gary Nelson

Executive Headteacher

A message from the Head of School - Mr. Raw

Dear parents and families,

As Mr. Nelson has said himself at the start of his message, it is brilliant to see all of the amazing opportunities that have been presented to our wonderful students so far this academic year. Believe me when I say that it has been a true pleasure to put this bulletin together with so many exciting initiatives and events going on within just a few short weeks.

Now that the new academic year is well underway, I feel that it is important that I use every opportunity available to me in order to connect with you, the parents, to hear first hand about what you feel is working for your child and how we can continue to improve our provision. Also, if you just want to come along and have a hot or cold drink and introduce yourself then you are more than welcome. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to invite the parents of Year 8 students along to the school in order to meet with myself on **Thursday 20th October between 9am and 9:30am**. In due course, I will be inviting parents of other year groups into school and I am mindful that we have already hosted two very successful open events for the families of Year 7 and 11 students. As these 'coffee mornings' continue, I will also invite key staff along for you to meet as well. If you are interested, please can I ask that you let me know in the way of an RSVP to tomraw@wappinghigh.org - this is so that, should there be significant demand, I can find a larger space in the school for us to meet. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

On the topic of Teaching and Learning which Ms. Sorba has written about, please do ensure that your child is fully equipped and prepared for the excellent climate for learning that our wonderful teachers have created. As well as having a bag of suitable size, students should ensure that they bring along their planner to every lesson and have it on their desk ready to make a note of any Home Learning opportunities that may be given to them.

For now though, I hope that you enjoy this bulletin as much as I did putting it together. There are some amazing things going on over here at Wapping High School, whether it be our new International School status - thank you to Ms. Ingram who worked very hard on this - to the return of the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge where one of our students will be going forward to the Regional Finals along with field trips to Epping Forest.

Until the next time, I wish you and your families the very best wishes.

Tom Raw
Head of School



British Council International School Award and Turing Scheme

We have been so proud to be formally accredited by the British Council with the highest level of their International School Award. Wapping High has been recognised for our commitment to international projects, promoting an inclusive community for our international learners through programmes like 'Young Interpreters' and our work on Global Citizenship.

We are also delighted to have successfully bid for £75,000 to fund our international residential this year, the first of which takes us to India this winter to work with Elpro International School on a social action project.

Following this visit, we will be travelling to South America in the spring with some of our Y9 and 10 learners - details of this opportunity to follow soon.

Furthermore, Year 7 and 8 students will have the chance to go to Barcelona in the summer to visit our partner school and see the sights of the city; applications are now open and have been shared via email.

We can't wait to get going with these brilliant trips and should your child be interested in taking part, please contact Ms Ingram for more information.



Ms. Ingram
Assistant Headteacher



Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

On Tuesday 4th October 2022, the English Department was delighted to host Louisa from the Speakers Trust to run the Speak Out Challenge with twenty-three of our wonderful year ten students. The students took part in a full day workshop that provided them with the opportunity to develop their communication skills in a fun and positive environment.

We had students transform everyday objects and ideas into riveting speeches. It was incredibly hard to choose three finalists but well done to: Aiyana , Mahadi and Odhora All three have propelled into the next stage of the competition: the assembly competition. The three finalists will present their speeches to every single year group in assembly. One of those three will be selected by teachers and students to represent WHS at the Regional Finals early next year.

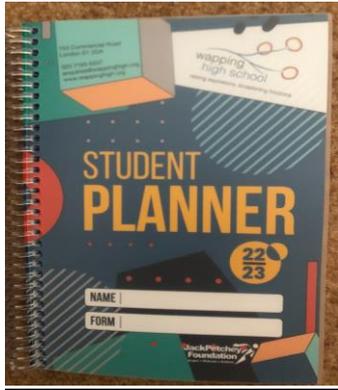
A shout out to all the participants, I am immensely proud of you all. Once again, our students were a credit to the school with their excellent manners, their presentation skills and their energy.



Mrs Z Ahmed
Head of English

Teaching and Learning News

I am delighted to say that this term our students have made an excellent start to the year. In my role as a senior leader in the school, I often pop into lessons to see for myself if students are working hard and are motivated. I have been very impressed with the level of concentration and focus from all of our students and for this bulletin I thought I would pick out two year groups in particular.



I also wanted to mention that you will have seen that this year we have launched a new student planner to help with personal organisation. Do please take time to look through the planner with your child and encourage them to look after it and use it to plan their time. You will see there are also lots of extra pages to inspire them and guide them, with top tips for subjects such as science, geography, spelling and even public speaking.

Year 7





As our new 7 students have made such a brilliant start, I wanted to start the term by congratulating them here on their super attitude to learning. We were really pleased that many of them joined us for the Summer School where they not only got to develop lots of academic skills, but also got to go on lots of trips. These included a visit to Kew Gardens, picnics in the park to develop their art skills and taster lessons in new subjects like Mandarin. Sports and a dance class also proved very popular and as you can see from the photos, every student was given a novel as a gift for taking part in the Summer School and my goodness do they like to read! They have continued to be keen and curious since their arrival in September and they have also been very quick to make friends whether they joined the Summer School or not.

Year 11

We also need to congratulate our Year 11 students on really stepping up this term to take over as our senior students. This term we have launched after school revision sessions in every subject and we have been incredibly impressed with the turn out at these optional classes. Three of our recent leavers came back to talk to Year 11 to give their top tips on how to manage the year ahead and it is clear that this year group are determined to take their future into their own hands as they prepare for the challenges ahead. Of course, we have continued to make sure there are still some fun and enriching opportunities for Year 11 to take part in. Theatre trips, workshops with outside visitors and geography field trips have all taken place this term, which I know Year 11 have greatly appreciated and found useful. We will continue to have a busy year ahead and be making sure all our Year 11 students are feeling both challenged and supported so they can have a great final year with us.





Ms N Sorba
Deputy Headteacher

Year 11 Update

We are delighted to share with you that our fabulous Year 11 students have made an excellent start to their final 10 months at Wapping High School. Students are continually showing both determination and passion with their learning as they step closer towards their GCSE and BTEC examinations.

Following on from our electric Year 11 Information event where over 90% of families absorbed crucial shares from leaders and former students, our Year 11 students have been busy preparing themselves for their mock examination week which starts on the 31st of October.

We wish our Year 11 mega-stars all the very best for this important part of their journey!

Mr. J Palmer
Deputy Headteacher

Welcome back from the Performing Arts Department!

Music

We have truly hit the ground running this term with the introduction of our Music BTECH course offered to our Year 9 students who are well on their way to learning new and exciting skills in the playing of instruments and understanding of music culture. We have also begun our FREE instrumental lessons for Year 7 and 8 students. If your child is interested in learning either the keyboard or guitar, please get in contact with Miss Harvey for more information. We look forward to opening up the sessions to Year 9 students after the October half term.



Drama

A massive thank you to Jon at the Enterprise Company Ltd for the installation of our brand new professional theatre curtains for our Drama students! They look amazing and will bring so much more to Floor 2 in creating a professional theatre working space.

Year 9 have already performed their first assessment task, an energetic monologue 'Calvin' - a huge congratulations to our star performer, Tilly Moye. Tilly is a new starter here at Wapping High and has truly dived in head first achieving her first star award in her GCSE journey - well done Tilly!

Year 10 are starting their Component 1 journey and explored their stimuli earlier last week.



Year 11 have been working hard on their Component 2 performances and are now jumping into revision in preparation for their mocks.

We have been fortunate enough to have The Yard Theatre Company visit Years 10 and 11 to deliver an in-depth workshop linking to their performance of the 'The Cherry Orchard', which students will be seeing next week. This performance will be used as part of the GCSE written exam that happens next year. This was a great afternoon and we thank you Nico and Holly for delivering such great material!



A busy yet rewarding start to our Autumn term and hopefully many more exciting ventures in the future.

All the best.

Ms. D. Harvey
Head of Performing Arts

Year 11 Geography Field Trip - Epping Forest

I was delighted to take our fantastic Year 11 geographers to Epping Forest to complete their final piece of GCSE fieldwork on Tuesday. They completed an investigation into how different processes affect the river and landscape along the course from the totally underwhelming source to the much more exciting meanders down stream.

The day started with one of our geographers ankle deep in the stickiest mud I've ever seen as he marked the spring at the head of our river. And we continued with Year 11 (clad in what they described as 'stylish' wellies) getting in the river as much as nature would allow. Students were able to witness first hand the impacts of our recent drought on the flow, or entire lack, of the Brook. Revising key terms and collecting measurements in groups the students worked fantastically. They walked all day and we received lovely feedback from the staff at Epping Forest FSC; Year 11 you made me so proud! They were particularly impressed with our groups sometimes working in a variety of languages and the way all our students supported each other.



Ms. R. Harvey
Head of Geography

Mandarin Achievement

After learning the nationality and language chapter last week, our Y8 Mandarin students used their understanding and prior knowledge to write a message in Chinese to a new friend. This included their name, age, nationality, languages they speak, favourite subjects and foods, as well as where they hope to travel in the future.

The Languages Department is incredibly proud of these achievements, as the work produced by some of our students is working towards GCSE level!

A special shout out to Erol, Ethan, Alex, Lena, Daniel, Helena, Ayden, Lutfullah and Maya who used a wide range of GCSE characters and complex sentences!

Mrs. Wong
Teacher of Mandarin

Aspire Day 1

On Monday we hosted our first Aspire Day of this term. Students once again engaged with the very important PSHE curriculum. The ASPIRE programme delivers the important and statutory aspects of the PSHE curriculum. PSHE education helps pupils prepare for all the opportunities, challenges, life decisions and responsibilities they'll face (*PSHE Association*). So it feels great to say we had an excellent start to the programme this year.

Mrs. Sanders
Assistant Headteacher

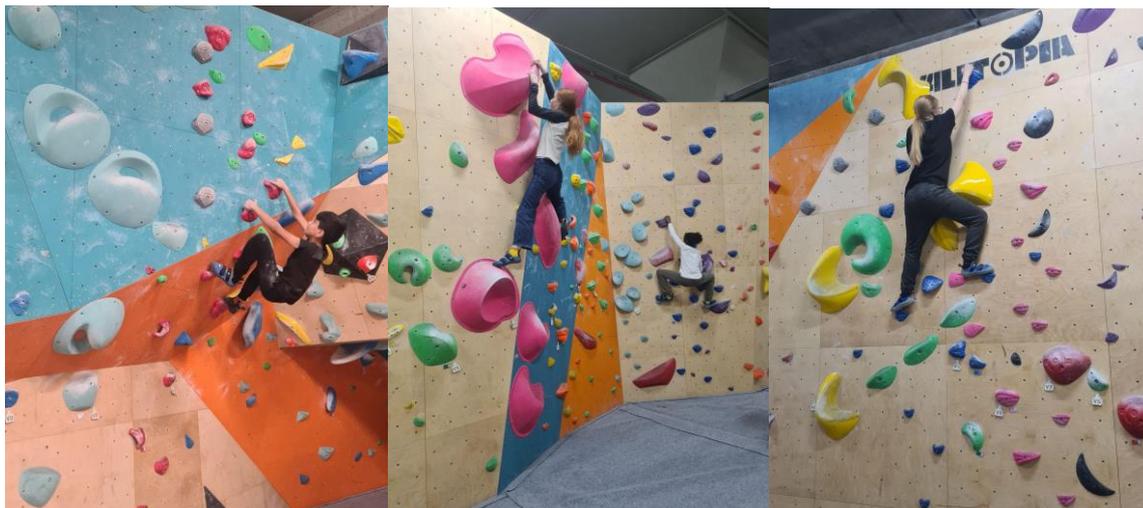
Bouldering Enrichment

Our Bouldering Enrichment has started off brilliantly and we have been so impressed at how skilled our climbers are becoming. This activity has been fantastic for building up resilience and confidence, as well as encouraging students to support each other through challenging situations. Our Head Trainer Freddie (who has coached the Olympic climbing team), has been really pleased with all the progress Wapping High students have made.

Well done to all!

Ms Ingram
Assistant Headteacher





Upcoming sporting fixtures

This academic year there are many exciting opportunities to represent the school in sporting events. As a school we hope to replicate the success of last year, where many of our sports teams and pupils achieved fantastic results.

First of all, on Wednesday 12th October, the year 7's will be competing at the Tower Hamlets Football competition at Victoria Park. This will be the first of many sporting events for our new year 7 pupils!

Secondly, on Thursday 13th October Years 7-9 will be giving it their all at the Tower Hamlets Cross Country competition. Students will be running 2000 metres around Victoria Park, where I'm sure we will see some amazing results.

Good luck to all pupils involved, I'm sure they will do Wapping High proud!

Mr. Hutton
Teacher of PE



Reading For Pleasure!

Welcome to the first edition of Wapping High's termly reading newsletter! Each half term, we will recommend books from a range of genres, styles and teachers in order to encourage #readingforpleasure

Don't forget to remind your children to take note of the Book of the Week during tutor time!

Mr. Raw's recommendation, 'The Midnight Club' by Christopher Pike

Five terminally ill teenagers meet every night, at midnight, in a hospice in order to tell strange and exciting stories...and to look for signs of life from beyond the grave.

The English Department

Tea Cake Challenge

This term has kicked off with the Year 9 Tea Cake Challenge. The aim was to create a beautiful presentation suitable for a restaurant using the Tunnocks tea cake. I am proud to say all students produced this to a high standard and the food department wants to share this excellent work with the wapping high community.

Miss Wright
Food Technology



Attendance

Please can all parents ensure absences are communicated to school before 8:30am. This can be through ParentMail, or emailing studentabsence@wappinghigh.org. Alternatively please call 02035973691 and leave a voicemail stating the name of the child, the tutor group and the reason for the absence in that order.

Miss Amaning
Attendance Officer

