



## End of Term Letter

### Headmaster

Dear parents, students and friends,

I have just received a wonderful book in the post from Mr Trevor Austin, an old boy, who has been good enough to record his memories of the School from the 1940s. I was reading it whilst supervising the Sixth Form in their Fashion and Talent Show rehearsals last night and it made me both laugh out loud and well up with tears. I'm not sure what the South Asian dance troop would have thought seeing the Headmaster sobbing in the corner but I think I managed to disguise it pretty well.

Trevor recalls some hilarious anecdotes, from the School's first and unsuccessful foray into delivering sex education, to an unlucky prefect who was removed from office for being caught arm in arm with a girl whilst still in his school blazer. He writes about how awful our air raid shelters were during the blitz, with boys passing the time singing '10 green bottles', rebelling en-masse against the stone cold sponge cake and custard, and passing around the awful toilet bucket for children to relieve themselves in. He describes arriving at school to find the whole front wall torn open by a 1000lb bomb and being sent home until the School could reopen safely. Most terribly of all, he describes the Headmaster, Mr Hutchins, notifying the students in assembly of the alumni that had been lost in the previous days, particularly Reg Highland, school captain, rugby captain, cricket captain and outstanding scholar, who died in a training accident in 1945. There was even an agonisingly sad story of a young man who returned to school after a period of absence with his leg amputated and who, after another bout of absence, was confirmed to have died from cancer which the amputation failed to stop. These stories are enough to put even the most significant challenges that we face as educational leaders into perspective and I would like to thank Trevor for the time and effort he put into this fascinating work.

In terms of the heights, we look forward to hearing the outcome of the trust merger discussions that are currently underway and look forward to continuing to promote our educational values and expertise with as wide a body of educationalists as possible. Year 11 and the Upper Sixth have had their mock results and are primed and ready for their examinations that start in May. We had a fantastic Raising and Giving Week in which £2,588.69 was raised for Crohn's and Colitis UK and it concluded with one of the best House Music events I have ever seen - although I do say that every year. The Peter Pan musical was a glorious success and it was a joy to watch students using our new cricket nets in their first practice session of the season. This is an unshakably wonderful school that it is an honour to lead. We have educated students in bunkers, rebuilt bombed out classrooms, and coped with unimaginable loss, and all whilst helping our inspirational students access the best universities and most prestigious jobs in the country. This work will continue next term and every term, helping students from every possible background fulfill our motto, *per ardua ad summa*.

Yours faithfully,  
Jamie Bean  
Headmaster



### **Department of English: Poems of the Decade Conference**

The English A-level students concluded our first term of the year by travelling to Friends House in Euston to attend the Poems of The Decade Conference. This conference allowed us to be able to understand the post-2000s poetry we study as part of our A-levels in greater depth. Many of the writers of the poems in the curriculum were actually in attendance so we were able to hear their angles and they were able to offer us ideas to use in our writing.

Some of us had the privilege to meet some of the poets such as Daljit Nagra and Poet Laureate Simon Armitage; we even had the opportunities to get our anthologies signed! We also were able to ask all the poets any questions we had as well as listen to other writers and poets assist us with poetry comparisons. We also got to hear from poets that weren't on the curriculum to hear their interpretations such as Raymond Antrobus - and considering we had looked at his poetry at the beginning of year 12, we were all quite pleased!

Overall, it was an insightful trip and one that we will definitely remember.

Zainab Haider, L6BR





**Department of English: Poet Sharing**

**Love to its roots**

'I love you', he utters.  
 But what does it mean?  
 Mere sound that oscillates as his lips move,  
 Then stills back to silence.  
 Or a seed that sprouts beliefs  
 That flower into further beliefs  
 And remain nothing more than beliefs.

He wants to love me tonight;  
 I want to love him forever.  
 He wants to pluck and display flowers;  
 I want to nurture them.

We cry we're 'incomplete without them'  
 Though we're born and die whole.  
 We seek for 'the one'  
 Like each soul has a predestined pair.  
 But every drop in the ocean  
 Is one and the same as the rest.

Something as infinite, celestial and sublime as love  
 Can't be reduced to an impermanent heap of conscious mass.  
 A drop is insignificant to the ocean.

There's a deep void we share:  
 Subconsciously knowing a greater form of love exists  
 Waiting for us to discover it.  
 Perhaps it's like our earliest experience of love:  
 Unconditional  
 That once enraptured us in appreciation and protection,  
 That saw past our mistakes and imperfections,  
 That loved us without needing to tirelessly act.

Desperately spilling love outside,  
 I neglected my thirst within.  
 I'm worthy of the love I give to all but myself.  
 Like a half empty cup  
 I may painfully dream of someone to fill me.  
 Or I can be a cup overflowing  
 And live in bliss.

I gaze, entranced by the sun.  
 One radiant, full circle of golden energy  
 That colours all equally in it's healing glow:  
 The living and dead; the good and bad.  
 Her warmth penetrates through  
 Walls I put up to protect, but really encage ...  
 to my heart  
 That melts and mingles  
 As one light.

Love is the root of life.  
 Love is ever present and abundant.



Amrit Kaur  
 U6 Bridges



### **MFL Department: Recollections of our trip to Paris - U6 Art & French trip- Dec 2023**

After a year of begging our teachers to plan a trip abroad, the French students succeeded in convincing Mrs Mortreuil and Mrs Paradis to make it happen.

The days were full to the brim with activities, great food, and PLENTY of walking all around the city. From visiting the Eiffel Tower, to plenty of Christmas markets, to the Galerie Lafayette and the vast Père Lachaise cemetery, we immensely enjoyed this adventure and learnt a lot about French culture. However, the best part (at least in my opinion) was when we made it back to our hotel and stayed up until very late hours of the night (possibly not the best decision after walking around 15 km each day) just talking about anything in our bunk beds. The girls, consisting only of Amelia, Freya and Hema, were lucky enough to share a huge room with so much space to spare yet we can only leave the chaos of the boys' bedrooms up to the imagination. **Amelia**

For me, it is difficult to choose my favourite part of the Paris trip. So many things stood out to me: the great variety of cuisine, from traditional French dishes like sweet and savoury crepes and beef bourguignon at chic cafés, to more international offerings like lamb tajine we enjoyed at a homely Moroccan restaurant. However, my personal highlight of the trip was walking down the world-renowned Champs-Élysées. Being able to see the Arc de Triomphe, the Place de la Concorde, various world-renowned fashion brands and even a fancy McDonald's was very worthwhile. **Sam**



My favourite part of the Paris trip was definitely the restaurants that we went to. I love food but french food is especially delicious and it did not disappoint this December when our french class (and art class) went to Paris for 3 days. The desserts were what stood out for me the most. On the last day, we were able to have a creme brulée which is to this day the nicest desert I've ever had. **Nicolas**

My favourite out of each of the restaurants we went to, was the Moroccan restaurant, where I had couscous, chicken, chorbha soup and halwa. **Hema**

It was such a great experience and definitely one of our favourite memories at WCCGS. We grew a lot closer as a group and also learnt a lot about our beloved teachers whom we are incredibly grateful to for organising this unforgettable trip. **all students**

What a joy to read these students' testimonies; We could not have travelled with a nicer crew. Their enthusiasm and camaraderie made the trip a success. The MFL department will look forward to organising another such experience in December 2026

**C Mortreuil, MFL**



### **Olympic Games in Paris**

This summer, I will be lucky enough to go to France for the Olympic games, where I will spend 10 days with my grandparents. Due to my language skills in both Spanish and French, I decided to volunteer for the Olympic games in the hope of playing a role in one of the major global events. My parents have also managed to get some tickets for some of the events, so I can't wait! I am most looking forward to the atmosphere in Paris during the start of the games because it'll be a once in a lifetime opportunity. Overall, I believe that volunteering for the Olympic Games is a great way to experience some top sporting moments and will give you many fond memories for years to come.

You will meet people from different countries, cultures and you will be able to use a variety of languages to bond with them.

Languages take you places!

**James Higham**



## MFL Department: Yr10 Barcelona Trip - March 2024

During March, 35 year 10 Spanish students were given the opportunity to visit Barcelona with the MFL department and develop their Spanish language skills in the process. The experience was unforgettable; the astonishing architecture is unlike anything found in London. Specifically, the largest unfinished Catholic church in the world, La Sagrada Familia, was the most memorable example of how talented historical Spanish architects such as Antoni Gaudí were. Not only was the architecture extremely impressive, but the ability to enjoy the famous Spanish sun whilst tasting Spanish treats such as Churros made the trip especially enjoyable. Developing our Spanish through lessons in the morning, I'm certain the trip was beneficial for our speaking skills, considering we were also able to converse with locals like market vendors as well. Finally, visiting our pen pals at La Farga (their very large school), was the perfect way to unwind near the end of our trip. We were able to experience school life in Barcelona whilst also developing our cultural friendships through a competitive game of football. Overall, it was a phenomenal experience!

By **Daniel Luck 10BR**





### **MFL Department: The UK Linguistics Olympiad 2024 comes to WCGS!**

This year the MFL department had 34 students participate in the UK Linguistics Olympiad at Intermediate and Advanced level. Set up in 2010, the Olympiad is a competition for school aged students that sets them three hours of language-based, code-breaking challenges. This is the first year that WCGS has taken part.

A special mention goes to Seth Estrada, Noah Findell, Senan McSweeney-Davis and Max Meade for achieving bronze certificates and to Mark Hanly for his silver certificate in the Advanced Exam.

Amongst the intermediate candidates, there were some excellent achievements, including Chuk Eze's top score of 104/114 in Y11 and Dhruv Tiwari, Adarsh Karthikeyan and Elliott Little in Y9 working as a phenomenal team to score 107/114.

Here is what the students had to say about the competition:

“There were four foreign languages used in total, less well-known ones for obvious reasons, including a language spoken by less than 1000 people globally. Each language had a range of challenges, where you had to use your pattern recognition and logical analysis skills to figure out what each symbol meant. It was challenging to break down the puzzles, and it made me really think about how different cultures express themselves. I didn't realise that some languages changed based on where you heard the information! It was a fun event, and I would definitely recommend it to students next year.” **Joseph Vallance 11RU**



“The challenge was difficult, but still interesting enough for us to have fun throughout. The questions tied languages to logical thinking and code-breaking, all while educating us on different languages and how people communicate around the world. I was surprised by the diversity of dialect between questions, but it was still really fun and satisfying to find links and investigate how words were the way they were. Overall, the competition was really good! It wasn't easy, but getting the answers was rewarding and each question really needed you to think outside the box. I'm definitely doing this challenge next year!” **Dhruv Tiwari 9WO**

“The Linguistics Olympiad was an eye-opening experience for me, exposing me to interesting quirks of languages I would never have thought possible. We were given a range of interesting challenges, from interpreting Adinkra's idiomatic symbols to doing maths in Georgian, and it was very rewarding to figure out how these languages work with very little information available. It taught me how to spot patterns in languages to explain why seemingly illogical things happen, and I now feel more confident tackling new ideas in Spanish. I really enjoyed the challenge and would definitely recommend it to anyone interested in languages.” **Mark Hanly U6MA**





### **MFL Department: Spanish Interpreting Workshop**

On Tuesday 12th March, the sixth form Spanish students entered their lesson to an exciting challenge; an interpretation workshop delivered by Señora Nuria de las Llanderas, a professional interpreter working in Spanish, English, Portuguese, and French, who has interpreted for such names as Theresa May and Mariano Rajoy, Cristiano Ronaldo, and JK Rowling and in international events such as the London 2012 Olympic Games or the England 2015 World Rugby Club.



The workshop began with some explanations and definitions, as the students were taken through the difference between consecutive (listening to and mentally recording speech, and then translating once the speaker finishes) and simultaneous interpretation (speaking over dialogue to translate in real-time). Before the students got a chance to try their hand at the newly discovered art, Nuria gave an effortless demonstration of both consecutive and simultaneous interpretation, after which they got their own practice underway. Interpreting to each other in pairs, each tried both types, completing one from English into Spanish and vice versa.

Starting with consecutive, the students, not permitted to take notes, became increasingly stressed as the speech they would have to recount - in another language - continued for several minutes. Moving then to the simultaneous, a different challenge was presented in having to speak and listen at the same time, whilst now also attempting to translate almost word for word.

Whether testing their memory or their capacity for linguistic quick thinking, all thoroughly enjoyed the challenge, and were somewhat impressed by their own abilities - Señora Gabriele was certainly pleased that students could "recognise how good they really are". The session felt almost to have been cut short after just an hour, such was the buzz by the end of the workshop, for which the A-Level Spanish classes would like to express their gratitude to Señora de las Llanderas for the engaging and informative session and Señora Gabriele for organising it.

**Maximus Meade**





### MFL Department: MFL Alumnus Visit

The A-Level Spanish students had yet another opportunity to enrich their studies on Friday 15th March in the form of a talk entirely in Spanish from A-Level Spanish and French alumnus Rhys Knipe.

Rhys left the school in 2016 and returned to discuss where he'd been and what he'd seen since. He studied Modern and Medieval Languages at Sidney Sussex College Cambridge, though, as explained, his preference and the focus of his degree was modern languages, having studied Spanish, French, and even some Dutch (ab initio). He delved into experiences from his year spent working in Gran Canaria (as a placement within his degree) at an adult education centre, such as appearing on radio and being spontaneously photographed with the local mayor, and how after graduating his language skills and creativity allowed him to move into a career in marketing. Having now worked in the sector for about four years, he is moving to a new role as a Content Author, and explained how, although foreign language skills aren't directly required, his fluency in other languages improves his understanding of English, bettering his writing and giving him an overall cognitive flexibility. And, thanks to the job being entirely remote, Rhys will be moving back to Gran Canaria upon beginning it. Yet another benefit of multilingualism - a greater plethora of potential locations across the globe in which to live.



Perhaps the greatest beneficiary of Rhys' knowledge was Will Frost of Year 12, who keenly interrogated him on his experience of applying to study languages at university; the two discussed poetry, short stories, and podcasts, as Will eagerly sought new resources to further his already rich understanding of the Spanish language

**by Maximus Meade**





### **MFL Department: The Chinese New Year Parade**

On the day of February 23rd, The MFL Department brilliantly orchestrated a joyous celebration for Chinese New Year, captivating the entire school community with its cultural richness and festive spirit.

Amidst the bustling playgrounds, fortune cookies were sold, enticing both students and teachers who eagerly indulged in this delightful treat. The rapid sell-out of these symbolic treats within minutes underscored their immense popularity and the infectious enthusiasm that permeated the atmosphere.

At lunchtime, the culmination of year 7's dedication and creativity unfolded in a mesmerizing parade featuring a magnificent dragon costume, gracefully maneuvered by enthusiastic students amidst a sea of colorful lanterns and rhythmic music. The spectacle left everyone enthralled and filled with awe, fostering a deep appreciation for the traditions of Chinese culture.

The day brimmed with unforgettable moments of unity and cultural immersion, and we extend heartfelt gratitude to the MFL Department for orchestrating such a remarkable event that brought the school community together in celebration and joy.

**Adam Craigen (Year 11 Prefect)**



**MFL Department:****Visit to the BFI: A Memorable Day exploring Spanish Historical Memory**

Yesterday, March 21st, 2024, Miss Colombo and I accompanied our Spanish 6th formers to a study day at the BFI titled "Trauma and Memory," which delved into the legacy of dictatorship in contemporary Spanish cinema. The focus was on the representation of political repression, concepts of the 'disappeared,' memory wars, and the ongoing struggle of victims seeking justice.

In the morning, there was an introductory screening of the film "The Silence of the Others" (2018), in Spanish with English subtitles. During the afternoon session, William Frost and Maximus Meade displayed remarkable courage by stepping onto the stage in front of a packed cinema hall filled with teenagers to pose questions (in Spanish) to a former victim of Franco's persecution and torture, who was connected live from Spain.

These memorable interactions filled us with incredible emotion and pride. Notably, William's ability to bring moments of levity to the discussion drew laughter from the audience, showcasing his natural talent as a performer.

Before their on-stage appearance, William, Maximus, and Mark Hanly had also made noteworthy contributions from their seats, which were praised by the Spanish university lecturer moderating the event.

The whole year group shared insightful ideas among themselves during the event. Their ability to discuss such sensitive and unsettling historical events in Spanish, and at such a high level, was truly remarkable. A really successful event indeed. Bravísimos, L6/U6!!!

- by Antonella Gabriele



**Drama Department: School Production 2024****Peter Pan**

We were incredibly excited once again to present a full-scale production at WCGS.

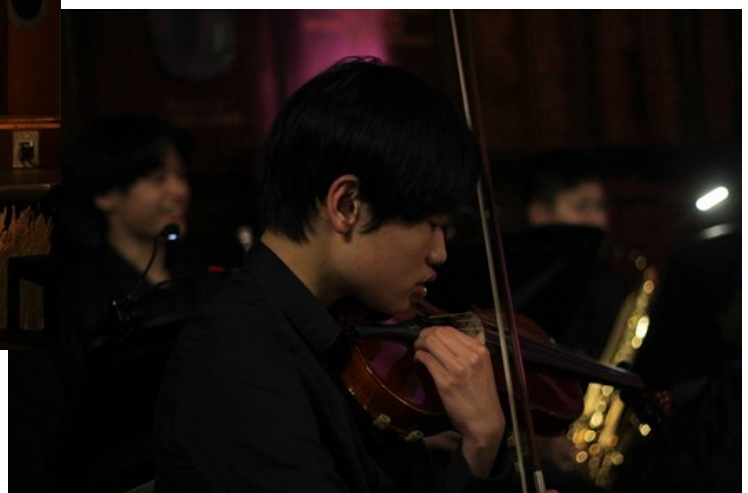
The students and staff worked incredibly hard to juggle their workload and rehearsals. The cast became like a family and it was a privilege to see them support each other as they went from strength to strength to develop their skills. We were also thrilled to have more than double the number of students participate in this year's production than last year's. The band demonstrated absolute professionalism

and musical talent throughout the past months, and it was like watching a jigsaw puzzle click together when they started working with the actors. The sound and lighting crew were our wonderful student tech team, and we were so grateful for their time and support. This production was also extremely special due to the overwhelming generosity of the PFTA, Danny and Agnes, from Footprint Scenery, and Becci, from Art in Transit.



Thanks so much to everyone who worked so hard behind the scenes...what a show!

**Mrs Shears, Mrs Tanner, Mrs Martin, Mrs Spendlove.**





**Drama Department: School Production 2024**

**Peter Pan**

Being in the Peter Pan production was an amazing experience. I think that being on stage and performing in front of an audience has developed my confidence a lot. By the time of the performance there was also a real community spirit in the cast and everyone was supporting each other. I'm so grateful to the Drama and Music department, set designers and all the people who made this possible.

**Jacob Lidsey Year 10**



Being a part of the production was a great experience as I got to work with many new people and act on a professional set. It has also helped improve my knowledge and practical skills on some of the fundamentals of drama and the process behind the scenes. The production has served as a great means of experience for me.

**Araiz Bukhari Year 10**

Peter Pan , also like The Addams Family , is something I will never regret putting my time and effort into . It was an experience no other school could have given me , and it was an opportunity to learn how to speak in front of huge crowds and to communicate with people much older and much younger than me . I want to thank Mrs Tanner and Mrs Shears for letting me be part of this cast , or what they called a " family " .

**Aayan Mudassir Year 10**





Drama Department: School Production 2024

Peter Pan





## Drama Department: Soaring High in Matilda the Musical

### The Cambridge Theatre

Mrs Tanner and I were lucky enough to go to The Cambridge Theatre to see Joshua Wahab play Tommy in Roald Dahl's Matilda. Joshua Wahab of 8WO was phenomenal in his West End debut as Tommy, after performing in 69 shows (and at Buckingham Palace).

I can honestly say it was one of the most joyful moments of my career. Joshua was on stage for nearly the whole production, he was a lead character and you could see he was so valued by all the members of the cast.

We could see him in the wings chatting to the older cast members, on stage he guided the younger actors and when acting he was simply amazing. The highlight for me was watching him soar above the audience on a swing, a beaming smile, singing a song and living his dream! WELL DONE JOSHUA!!!

Joshua said, "I had the time of my life for the past 9 months making my West End debut in Matilda the Musical. I feel honoured to have had the opportunity to play Tommy Rhu-barb for 69 shows at the Cambridge Theatre, London (and at Buckingham Place for one special performance). I met the most talented people and learned a lot. This one was special!"

Thank you to all my family, friends and teachers who came to watch me, it has meant a lot!





### Drama Department: Metamorphosis Trip

Watching Metamorphosis in London's Lyric Hammersmith Theatre was a dramatic experience unlike any I have ever seen before. The acting in it was consistently formidable, and the physicality was absolutely incredible, especially during the transformation scene. This, combined with the key themes of family and acceptance, allowed the team behind Metamorphosis to create a piece of theatre which was truly memorable, and truly special.

**Barney Downer, Year 12**



### Music Department: House Music - Report

House Music 2024 showcased the top musical talent and hard work from across the school, resulting in a thoroughly enjoyable evening for all who attended. The standard was incredibly high this year, and it was clear that performers really gave it their all in a bid to secure the win for their house. Musicians were professional and well-organised, and every house had standout moments. Mrs Martin would like to thank all the Sixth Form students, who were leading their Houses with outstanding leadership skills and all the students who were involved. House Music 2024 was easily the best in recent memory.

The Music Department would especially like to recognise the following people for their work:

**George Bailey** L6MA, **Noah Findell** L6MA, **Kushaal Singh** U6MA, **Nathaniel Wright** U6MA, and **Corban Yawson** L6MA, for Best Ensemble Performance

**Timothy Chu** 8RU, for Best Solo Performance

**Barney Downer** L6WO, for Best Overall Performer

The scores were as follows:

**First Place, with 58 Points - Woodcote**  
 Second Place, with 56 Points - Radcliffe  
 Third Place, with 54 Points - Ruskin  
 Fourth Place, with 50 Points - Carew  
 Fifth Place, with 44 Points - Mandeville  
 Sixth Place, with 40 Points - Bridges



Thanks to all the musicians who took part, and congratulations to Woodcote on a well-deserved win.

Mr Garrido



### **Geography Department: Geography beyond the classroom** **Careers in Geography**

We have had the great opportunity to be visited by old boy David Figuera-Bourton who talked to us about his experience studying Geography at UCL and how it led him to a career at Crown Agent Bank. He gave a fascinating talk on how he uses his Geographical knowledge and skills in his work in the dynamic field of banking providing a risk based function, concentrating on the operational capabilities of global partners enabling global payments in emerging markets.

### **Y11 Geography Fieldwork**

Y11 Geographers have taken part in two great days of fieldwork this term. The first was their urban fieldwork study in Guildford. We started with an introductory session at the Juniper Hall field centre and then headed to Guildford. It was a wet and windy day but that did not deter the students from putting their knowledge into practice and it was great to see them speaking Geographically and making links between theory and the real world. They did a great job collecting data and interviewing locals. We had another very wet day of fieldwork at the River Tillingbourne collecting data to show changes along the course of a river. The students thought hard about the data they wanted to collect and how they could use the available equipment to do so.





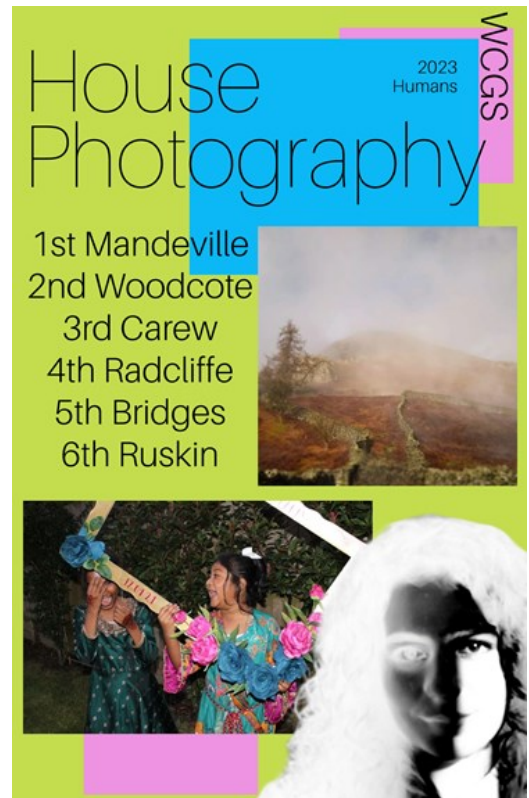
### **Art Department: Articulation Competition**

On 18th January, Suzan Mozak represented WCGS at the regional heat of the National Articulation Public Speaking Competition. Articulation is run by the National Gallery and the heats take place in gallery spaces around the country; this Year Dulwich Picture Gallery hosted the event. Suzan was engaging and informative in her presentation of Picasso's painting of Dora Maar (1937) and expertly incorporated a number of other female portraits in her talk. Suzan was an excellent ambassador for WCGS and impressed the judge - accomplished photographer Dave Lewis - and organisers with her confident delivery. The afternoon is always enlightening and those students who came along to support Suzan were introduced to a number of different perspectives and new artworks.



### **House Photography**

Submissions for house photography were impressive with students responding to the theme of 'humans' through a variety of perspectives, exhibiting both creativity and technical skill. Special mention goes out to Necasius Cadilas (Y13 Radcliff) for his playful documentary-style snapshots. Rian Shah (7 Bridges) captured attention with a striking wide-angle shot featuring vivid pink flamingos gathered against a serene blue backdrop. Sulaymaan Malik (Y9 Ruskin) poignantly explored the concept of human kindness and generosity through a sensitive portrait of a stranger during a visit to Saudi Arabia. Additionally, Suzan Mozak (Y13 Mandeville) demonstrated artistic depth with a self-portrait inspired by Man Ray's solarisation technique, inviting viewers to question the intricacies of human nature through juxtapositions of light and dark, order and chaos. As Suzan eloquently states, "My intention with this photograph was to explore the dichotomy of human nature - the light and dark, the yin and yang, order and chaos; indeed, as the eye strays away from the photo's focal point, it enters a dream-like atmosphere that subverts reality."

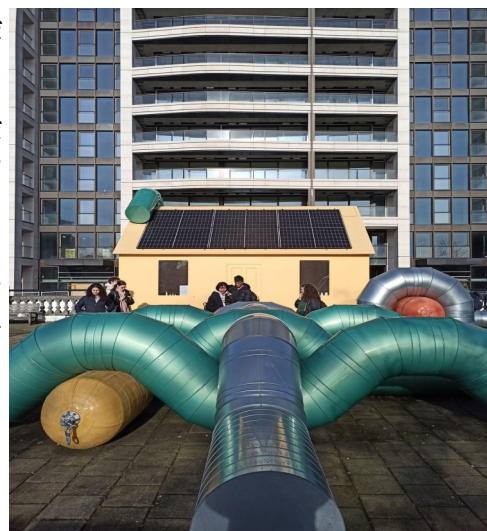




**Art Department: Trip to The Courtauld Gallery & The National Portrait Gallery**

In February, Year 11, 12 and 13 artists visited the Courtauld and the National Portrait Gallery to research artists and ideas for the start of their Externally Set Tasks and Personal Portfolio projects. We managed to fit in a quick visit to the Artists' Garden, which sits above Temple tube station, to see the interconnecting installation work of artist Holly Hendry that aims to emulate the ebb and flow of the River Thames.

The Courtauld houses a number of world famous pieces by artists such as Cezanne, Seurat and Van Gogh. The National Portrait Gallery has recently reopened after an extensive refurbishment and both spaces provided plenty of inspiration to develop ideas. As always, WCGS students were insightful in their research and made some excellent drawings in the gallery space. We are looking forward to seeing how their projects progress over the course of the next term.



**House Art**

The Theme of this year's House Art Competition was 'Truth' and artists were challenged to find innovative ways of meeting the brief after seeing such engaging responses to the same theme at House Drama. The students did not disappoint. Mikolaj Radosz (10 Bridges) presented one of his trademark models with incredible levels of detail and precision along with an interactive feature. Sulaayman Malik (9 Ruskin) impressed the judges with a sensitive portrait in mixed media, whilst Denny He (L6 Bridges) produced a highly realistic triptych of three portraits in acrylic. Joshkun Mozak (10 Mandeville) had already produced a conversation piece with his interactive painting of Barbie and Ken, reminiscent of a traditional seaside photo prop, after students had seen him working on the piece in the Art Department. The exhibition was very well attended on Friday 23rd February, with many students taking the opportunity to pose as Barbie or Ken.

The results were as follows:

- 6th - Woodcote
- 5th - Radcliffe
- 4th - Carew
- 3rd - Ruskin
- 2nd - Bridges
- 1st - Mandeville



Congratulations to Mandeville on their second win in a row.

House Art  
2024 TRUTH

1st Mandeville  
2nd Bridges  
3rd Ruskin  
4th Carew  
5th Radcliffe  
6th Woodcote

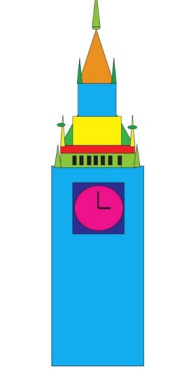
WCGS





### Art Department: Digital Art Club

Students have been busy exploring and learning new digital skills using Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop and Adobe Express. Member's of both Monday and Friday's group have delved into the works of iconic pop artists such as Roy Lichtenstein, Peter Blake and James Rosenquist to inspire their own outcomes. The results continue to pack a punch; full of vibrant colour, dynamic shapes and patterns!



### Anti Sexism Taskforce

The taskforce continues to meet fortnightly and it is great to have a mix of year groups with Year 10 students working alongside 6th formers to share ideas for positive change. The beginning of March has seen two important events that have been planned by the taskforce following on from well received assemblies on our work so far and marking White Ribbon Day earlier on in the year.

On Tuesday 5th March female students in the 6th form participated in a day of self defence training run by Gidae Taekwondo academy. The instructors were incredibly impressed with the skills and engagement from WCGS students and I hope the session provided the students with increased confidence regarding their personal safety. The day concluded a session of board breaking and some impressive punches, kicks and elbow strikes meant that students were able to break the most difficult black board, demonstrating excellent strength and discipline.

Friday 8th March marked International Women's Day and the taskforce planned a few fundraising events to raise money for Sutton Women's Centre and to mark the day. Students and staff were invited to wear purple clothing and the film Wadjda was screened during Clubs and Societies. The screening and a breaktime bake sale raised £75. Sutton Women's Centre has worked hard to build a local community where all women can reach their full potential regardless of their circumstances.

The money raised by WCGS will contribute to the provision of a creche and support counselling sessions for women who are supported by the centre.

The taskforce are pleased and honoured to represent WCGS at Wilsons School on 8th May where a symposium is taking place to share how pupil voice is contributing to student wellbeing at schools in the borough. We are looking forward to meeting with other pupils and seeing how we can work together.



Ms L Musselbrook



### Physics Department: British Physics Olympiad

In November, seven U6th physics students took part in the British Physics Olympiad (BPhO) Round 1 competition. It is a challenging 3 hour exam designed to stretch the very best physics students in the country.

**Fabio De Assuncao Godinho**, **Victor Lobato Garcia**, **Naren Muruganantham** and **Neil Mendes** all achieved bronze awards. **Edward Key** and **Edward Cheung** were awarded silver..

**Imran Mohammed** was awarded a 'top gold' award placing him in the top 180 students in the country. This is a remarkable achievement and is the first student ever to achieve this at WCCGS. This gained him an invitation to round 2, in which he achieved a silver award. This huge achievement is testament to the dedication he has put into developing his problem solving skills and hard work. Well done!

### Photos from the Astronomy Club





Massive congratulations to **Kyrill Huang 7BR** (u30kg) and **Ismael Mirza 7MA** (u38kg) who both won silver medals for judo in the **Southern Area Regional Schools Championships** in January. It is fantastic to have these two representing WCGS, and we wish them all the best for the British School Championships in March!

**Transform Sutton Domestic Abuse Services** Transform is a partnership led by Cranstoun which brings together local organisations, each with unique skills and experience in domestic abuse, allowing them to deliver the best support possible for anyone affected by domestic abuse within Sutton. The Transform partnership comprises Cranstoun, Sutton Women’s Centre, Home-Start Sutton, Jigsaw4u, Limes College, Men and Masculinity programme, and Caring Dads.

There are two regular support groups:

**Female-only One Stop Shop**

Sutton Baptist Church, 21 Cheam Road, Sutton SM1 1SN.

Open: Any Wednesday, 9.30am - 11.30pm drop-in, or by appointment.

**Male-only One Stop Shop**

Masonic Hall 9 Grove Road, Sutton SM1 1BT.

Open: Every 3rd Thursday of the month, 10am -1pm



If you have been affected by domestic abuse, please call 020 8092 7569. To make a referral please visit the Cranstoun website.

