



News Update (22nd October 2021)

Dear families

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter, that marks the end of this first half term and a very busy few weeks, especially in PE and Art. I'd like to start by thanking you for all the efforts that you have put in to support students in their learning and lives at home and outside of school, and also to our teachers and support staff for the work that they do with the students during the school day.

Before students return on Monday 1st November, we are asking all families to complete Lateral Flow Tests so that any students with a COVID infection do not return to school. This is a precaution while we know that COVID rates are increasing. Students should have test kits that were issued last week – if not they can be collected free of charge from local pharmacies – for more information please see [this government guidance](#).

As well as this, our Year 11 students have completed assessments in all their subjects that will enable teachers to evaluate their progress in what they have learned this half term, and also what they have remembered and understood from Year 10. These students now have a critical period in November to prepare for their GCSE mock exams which takes place before Christmas.

If you are a Year 11 parent and you did not attend the Parents' Information Evening this Monday, 18th October and you also didn't receive an information pack by email, please contact Mr Scott at scott@williamellis.camden.sch.uk so that you get all the information you need about the period preparing for exams.

Before going on to individual items, I'd like to highlight **some key dates coming up after half term**.

Monday and Tuesday, 1st & 2nd November: Year 13 assessments

Tuesday 2nd November: Year 10 Speak Out Challenge workshop

Thursday 11th November: Armistice Day 2-minute silence

Monday 15th November: Year 7 form group photos

On **Thursday 25th November** we will be hosting the LaSWAP Open Evening. **Students will be dismissed early on this day to allow for preparations for the event. Years 7-9 will finish at 2:05pm and years 10-13 at 1:10pm.** The following day, **Friday 26th November will be a Professional Development Day for staff as indicated on the website. The school will be closed on this day.**

Yours faithfully,

Izzy Jones,
Headteacher



News from the PE Department

Artur Szymanski, PE teacher

Last month Year 9 and 10 students played in a football tournament against other North London schools.

Goal scorer Joseph in 9W writes:

"On Wednesday 15th September we went to Market Road to play in a football tournament against City of London, Beacon High and Arts & Media. We were fortunate to win all 3 games and advance into the finals, which will take place on the 20th October.

I enjoyed the tournament and ended the day with 4 goals. I scored two against City of London, one against Beacon High and one against Arts & Media. The tournament finished at around 6pm, then I headed home."

Josh Levitt, Head of PE

Congratulations to the Year 7, 8 & 9 football teams who all made it through to the Camden and Islington Cup Semi-Finals earlier this month. All three teams made it out of the group stage in emphatic fashion.

Jack in 7F scored the only goal in a "winner takes all" game in their last group match.

Mohammed of 8L scored a nail-biting last minute penalty which took the Year 8 team through on goal difference in their last group game.

9Ws Joseph put on a show for the Year 9s as they won all their group with three wins from three.

The Semi-Final and Finals were played on Wednesday 20th October at the Market Road pitches.

Ultimately, huge congratulations go to the Year 9 football team who won the Camden & Islington Cup on Wednesday night in front of a packed crowd. With over 100 parents, students and teachers in support there was a great atmosphere at Market Road. The boys rose to the occasion and produced a some of the best football they have played so far at William Ellis. A big well done to:

Bailey
Sonny
Rubin
John (GK)
Jeremy
Adam
Joseph
Rron
Norik
Noah
Ahmed





WESPA 3k Challenge Fun Run

The last week of September saw the completion of the KS3 Fun Run, with over 350 boys making their way around the 3km course to raise money for new sporting equipment in school. There were some incredible acts of sportsmanship on show with Luca and Harvey (both in 7L) deciding to cross the line in joint first place in the Year 7 run. Zuheyb (9F) made sure he set the pace for everyone, completing the course in 11 minutes and 50 seconds. A seriously fast time.



Well done to everyone for all your efforts in raising money. Every student completed the course; a massive achievement!

A huge thank you must go to all the parents who came down to help with the course marshalling, time keeping and supplying the boys with oranges at the end of the run. Events like this could not be possible without your support.

We're looking forward to the next one already!

Cross-country success

A huge congratulations to the junior cross-country team who have made it through to the next round of the National Cross Country Cup. Gaspard (8K), Josh & Henry (both 8L) and Alex (7B) all ran an excellent race against tough competition. Well done boys!

The next round will be on Saturday 13th November in St. Albans.





Flora Wilson, Senior Assistant Headteacher:

Year 13 Applied Science students have been organising work experience placements in this first half term. Maya Norton-Clarke completed a work experience placement at the Royal Free Hospital last month.

Maya writes:

“Between the 6th - 17th of September I was lucky enough to secure an opportunity for work experience at the Royal Free Hospital in the Centre of Clinical Microbiology.

Amongst other things, I looked at COVID-19 SARS under the microscope and I observed the Tuberculosis trials, which included looking at methods to treat patients who are drug-resistant to conventional tuberculosis treatments. I also saw how sequencing works (this is used to find the function of genes).

Despite not being able to do any practical work, as I wasn't insured, it gave me a good insight into what a career in microbiology entails and how much it contributes towards the production of new medicines.

The experience provided the clarity I sought in deciding what degree and career path I would like to pursue, and I encourage others to look for work experience in anything which you may be considering as a career.”

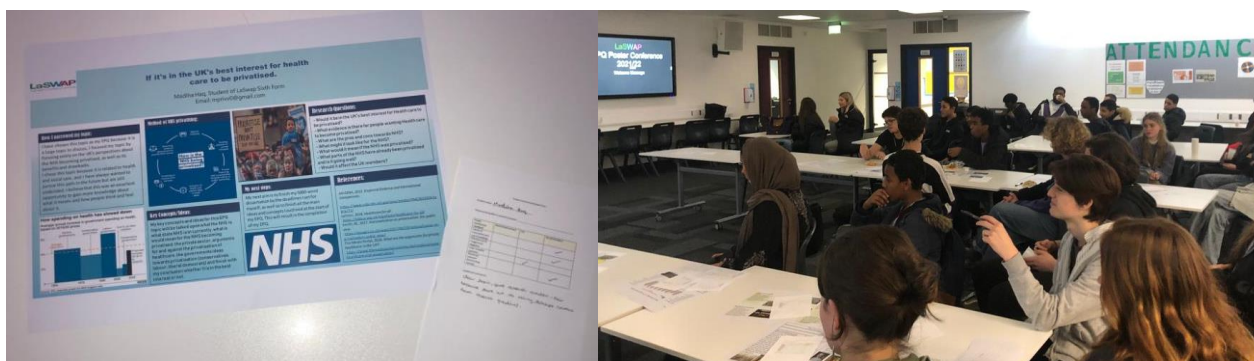
Saatchi Gallery trip

Year 12 students went on a really stimulating trip earlier this term, attending an evening viewing of a wonderful exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery. The exhibition was of work by JR – a photographer and multimedia artist originally from Paris, who now works globally and is engaged in disadvantaged communities, exploring and documenting the lives of the people within them. I was very impressed with the level of engagement shown by the students. You can see their contributions to JR's work below – how many of the images can you recognise as our staff and students?



EPQ Conference

Our very keenest students, who are engaged in independent research on a whole host of topics, presented their initial research to staff and to each other, on Wednesday, 20th October. We are so looking forward to seeing the end products: we know that there are essays on various subjects planned, as well as some very interesting artefacts being designed – watch this space, and maybe even come along to the next EPQ Poster Conference in March!



Ann Conway, History Teacher

Some students from year 9 have completed a research project on significant figures and role models from Black History. There are 2 noticeboards displaying the work in the Humanities corridor. Well done Year 9!





Laura Madsen, Head of Art, Craft & Design



Open Evening at the end of September was a chance for our young chefs to show their skills to visitors to the school. Eduardo in Year 11 baked a welcome biscuit with Year 7. He insisted that the Year 7 students referred to him as Chef Eddy - maybe we have a Gordon Ramsey in the making in our midst!



Year 7 have been busy working on their first project called 'Me Myself and Eye'. In this project they learn about the formal elements of art and apply them to portraits. They also learn about a range of different portrait artists. Here are some outstanding homework's from Vincent, Philip, Humphrey, Leo, Alex, Leon, Jake and Jack. Great job Year 7!





Horace Parry, Head of Year 10 and Careers

Parents and carers are invited to register for FREE events hosted by InvestIN, specifically designed to help you enhance students' career potential and to give parents the essential tools needed to support their children on their career journeys.

Events are run by leading experts and are free to attend. Their programme of events includes sessions on how to break into medicine, learning leadership skills, launching a career, fighting climate change and much more.

Please see the Careers page of the school website for further detail of how to register for forthcoming events:
<https://www.williamellis.camden.sch.uk/careers>

Christine Mercier Peart, Head of Year 11

How quickly this first half term has passed by and you still can feel the energy in the school! Thank you to the Year 11 students who helped and participated in our Open Evening last month. It was very successful!

It was great seeing so many families on Monday at the parents' Information Evening. It was a good turn out and I think we were able to address the main worries we all share: How is the year going to be and how do we get our boys to start to put the work in!

So, In the words of Mr Scott, a little-but-often approach and regular work is key. This includes taking on the opportunities that the school provides. We appreciate you working with us to support the boys as much as we can.

Half term will be their first holiday where Year 11 will need to start revising. They can go on Teams and look at online support resources in any subject folder. If not sure where to start they can begin by re-doing work they have in their exercise books, as well as work put on Satchel One.

I wish you all a good half term.



New Year 7 Science Book Club:

Science Demonstrations!

Check out the best new science books!

ROYAL SOCIETY
YOUNG PEOPLE'S
BOOK PRIZE 2021

**YEAR 7! DO YOU
LOVE SCIENCE?
OR LIKE READING?**

JOIN OUR NEW WEEKLY GROUP TO JUDGE THE BEST SCIENCE BOOK!

**Room 36, Tuesdays
3.15pm-4pm
Starts 2nd November**

Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/WESSCIENCEBOOK>
or in the library!