



News Update (27th May 2022)

Dear families,

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter as we break up for half term. I have some important updates about arrangements for when we return to school and for later in June and July.

Term dates

Staff and students return to school on **Monday 6th June** and our final day of term is **Thursday 21st July**.

Arrangements for the timetable after half term

When students return to school on Monday 6th June they will continue with their normal timetable, although almost all Year 9 students will be at The Mill for their camp week. Any students not attending Year 9 camp must come to school as normal. The first week back will be a Week A.

On Monday 13th June, Year 9 students will start their GCSE courses for their option subjects and so will have some changes to their timetable – they will each be given their updated version individually. Year 9 students will also follow the Key Stage 4 times of the school day, with break after period 2 (10:50am) and lunch after period 4 (1:10pm).

Students in other year groups will have very similar timetables to the ones they have now. If there are minor changes to accommodate GCSE teaching for Year 9, these will be communicated to them by Friday 10th June.

Key dates for this half term can be found [here on our website](#). This includes dates for other Key Stage 3 camps, assessment weeks and Year 10 work experience.

Uniform

Students must continue to wear the [school uniform as listed here](#). Year 9 students who need to have a new blazer can now wear a black Key Stage 4 one – those whose blazers still fit can wear a blue one up to the end of the summer term. Students should continue to wear their blazers and ties to school for the moment – if we have a period of exceptionally hot weather and need to change this we will let you know.

In particular, students must not wear hoodies or jumpers that are not part of the school uniform. If they arrive to school wearing these they will be asked to put them away for the day, and students who persistently wear them at break and lunch may have these items confiscated. Students must also continue to wear correct school PE kit for those lessons.

We have had some students bring small water pistols into school during the hot weather. These are not allowed in school at all and any student who is seen with one or uses one will have it confiscated and may face a further sanction.



Attendance

It is critical that all students continue to attend school every day on time after so much disruption in the past few years. We have had an increase in families requesting special leave for holidays in term time. Unless there is a highly exceptional welfare reason, permission will not be granted. This is in line with the policy in all other Camden schools.

Students with 100% attendance next half term will be entered into a competition to win Sainsbury's and Amazon vouchers, provided with the support of Camden Council.

Finally, thank you for your input and support during our Ofsted inspection last week. We have not received any written report yet and this will not happen before mid-July at the earliest. Once it is published it will be available on our website.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Izzy Jones".

Izzy Jones,
Headteacher



Camden Half-term activities for children and young people

Families can find half-term activities for children and young people of all ages via these links below:

- [Sport and physical activities during half-term](#)
- [Half-term play schemes near you](#)
- [Youth schemes and other play projects](#)

Camden Summer University:

Are you aged 13 to 19? Do you live in Camden, go to a Camden state school or attend a Camden Council youth centre?

Then you can take part in an amazing range of free courses in arts, media, sport, cookery, work and life skills with [Camden Summer University](#).

- Courses available to view on [the website](#): Monday 6 June
- **Bookings open: Wednesday 15 June**
- Programme runs: 25 July to 26 August 2022

A message from our uniform supplier, Sportswear International:

As Summer half term draws close you may be starting to think about preparations for September. To help you get ready for the new school year, SWI have made sure our website is full of useful information which you can access [here](#).

The website contains key information including:

- School uniform and prices
- How to order online
- Offers and promotions on essential and accessory items
- Parent newsletter sign-up
- Extended free returns

SWI's main message is 'Don't Leave It Late' – we strongly encourage you to shop early for new blazers and PE kit. We know that our students take pride in their uniform and that feeling good about what they wear to school helps them be at their best.

Should you have any queries about your requirements please contact SWI's customer service team:

Tel: 01928 752 610 - Monday to Friday - 8.30AM to 5PM

Email: customerservice@swi.co.uk

We hope this information is useful and helps you prepare for a successful year ahead.



David Dreeben, City Year Team Lead



The National Gallery Project, ended at the end of Spring Term with a final celebration at the gallery on March 31st. The artwork of eight William Ellis students was featured in a gallery display modelled after the famous Hans Holbein painting, *The Ambassadors*.

Congratulations to Alex, James, Elijah, Jamie , Ashton, Phelan, Lukas, Pierre, and Jake for their hard work and the creativity they brought to the project.

Carnegie Reading Group

As we did last year, a group of students is shadowing the judges of the Yoto Carnegie Award for an outstanding book written in English for children / young people. We have already met a few times, and have decided to share some of our thoughts with you. We are all reading different books, and reporting back to each other about what we like about the books we have read. One of us has just finished *Cane Warriors* by Alex Wheatle. This is gripping tale about a slave escaping from a plantation. You can really feel and understand the impact of slavery on individual people. It's written in idiomatic language, so takes a bit of time to get used to, but it's well worth persisting with! One of us in the middle of *When the Sky Falls* by Phil Earle. The use of language to describe characters is excellent because it gives you a really strong mental picture of them. Another reader is currently enjoying *Punching the Air* by Ibi Zoboi and Yusef Salaam. This is a novel in poetry, and really gripping to read!



Vu Gawe, SENDCO:

PARENTS' FORUM

Early Help

Monthly groups that are open for all parents in Camden

In the Parents' Forum you can share ideas, reflect on parenting, and build new support networks!

THE GROUP WILL MEET AT SAINT PANCRAS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION ON A WEDNESDAY, BETWEEN 10-11:30AM . NEXT SESSIONS ARE ON THE 18TH OF MAY, 15TH OF JUNE & 13TH JULY.

Parents can self-refer to the Parents Forum by contacting: Amit.Nelinger@candi.nhs.uk /07929 709729, Imogen.Kearns@camden.gov.uk or Carol.Moy@camden.gov.uk

Parents can also ask their mental health, social services professional or GP to refer them.



Horace Parry, Head of Careers and Year 10

Last week for the first time, WES staged a Year 10 mock careers interview day. With preparation underway for Year 10 work experience in July, all students in the year group selected a job description of their choice and prepared answers to a set of questions, which were posed to them by volunteers from various industries outside of education, during a 15-minute interview.

To provide an even better understanding of how a job interview works they were also asked additional questions for which they had not prepared.

The students turned up dressed smartly and on time. They all performed in a mature manner and were a credit to themselves, their forms and the school. All of the industry volunteers stated that they had enjoyed the day here working with our students.

We're grateful to the Year 10 form tutors and our careers advisor, Diana Lane, for the work they have done in the lead up to this event to prepare the students,

We look forward to repeating this event with next year's Year 10.





Laura Madsen, Head of Art, Craft & Design

On Thursday 12th May, Year 10 Art students accompanied by myself and Ms Ozkaya were able to enjoy the sun and visit the Courtauld Institute of Art, situated in Somerset House in central London.

The gallery houses many well know artworks and students took part in a workshop with gallery staff that allowed them to consider five artworks and how they relate to the GCSE coursework theme of 'identity'. Students then went to the gallery's education centre to create their own self portraits influenced by Van Gogh's *'Self Portrait'* and Oskar Kokoschka's *'The Myth of Prometheus'*. Afterwards we walked along embankment and ate our lunch outside the Tate Modern gallery before returning to school. Year 10 made some excellent work and this visit will help them achieve the critical and contextual requirements of their GCSE course.



Josh Levitt, Head of PE

On Sunday 15th May a group of students had the chance to go to the British Basketball Play Offs Final to see both the men's and women's London Lions against Leicester Riders and Sevenoaks Suns respectively.



Despite the results not all going London's way, the boys got to experience some top-class basketball and got to experience live sport at the O2 Arena.

Basketball club is on every day before school from 7.45 – 8.25am and after school on Monday until 5pm.



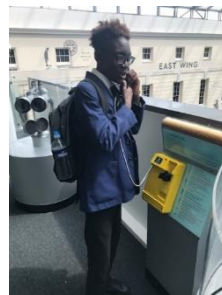
Mariana Balabhadra, EAL and Humanities teacher

Year 8 T&L class trip to Greenwich

After a long period of disruptions, we had the opportunity to take learning outside the classroom again and add to the students' experience of their city. The class were enthralled by the rich collection of artefacts and exhibits in the galleries of the National Maritime museum in Greenwich; hundreds of incredible objects told the stories of exploration and endeavour that have shaped our world today. Students gathered interesting information about the race for Atlantic empires and learned how raw materials like sugar, coffee, cotton and tobacco turned into very desirable resources. The multi-sensory interactions in the *Atlantic Worlds* and the *Traders* galleries helped us understand how people's life was impacted by discoveries. A walk to the Royal Observatory in Greenwich park to see the Prime Meridian and to marvel at the amazing views of the river Thames and the City made the trip a truly memorable experience. The day out concluded with a treat at the Greenwich market.



This is what some students said about their trip:
 Zakariya: 'My favourite part of the trip was the *Ship Simulator* which felt like you are actually navigating the ship. We were presented with a situation and a problem and we had to use the information on the board and the four screens to decide where to steer the ship. I had to use my geographical knowledge of latitude and longitude to understand the data appearing on the board. The trip was so fun I would do it again. We found interesting facts about how people traded since 1600s. From the hill where the London Observatory is, we got to see beautiful views of London.'



Samuel: 'I enjoyed the trip as we got to learn about the slave trade, how slaves were treated on the ships and in the plantations. I also saw the spices that East India Company traded like pepper, cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg.'

Bobby: 'The trip we went on, Miss showed us a lot of Greenwich and we got breath-taking views from the top in Greenwich park. We also bought stuff for our families in the museum shop and spent some time on the Great Map in the middle of the museum. I had a great time in the museum. We were meant to play football in the park but the weather was terrible, however we still had a lovely time together.'





Nariece Sanderson, Librarian

A reminder as we approach the half term break that William Ellis students can borrow eBooks and Audiobooks for free without subscriptions or overdue fees.

We have signed up for ePlatform. Browse the catalogue here: <https://williamellis.eplatform.co/>

Students can log in using their Microsoft Teams username and the password Library1 (passwords can be changed once you're logged in).

An ePlatform app is also available on Google Play, Apple and Windows.

Please visit the library and let me know what you think of this resource!

FREE E-BOOKS AND AUDIOBOOKS
GET THROUGH YOUR READING LIST AS YOU EXERCISE/GAME/DO CHORES!

HARRY POTTER and the GOBLET of FIRE
J.K. ROWLING
BOOK CLUB

ALEX RIDER
NEVER SAY DIE
ANTHONY HOROWITZ

BRAM STOKER
DRACULA
read by Simon Vance

DEREK LANDY
Skulduggery Pleasant
APOCALYPSE KIN

DIARY of a Wimpy Kid
CABIN FEVER
Read by Tom Chatterton

NICOLA MORGAN
BLAME MY BRAIN
THE AMAZING TEENAGE BRAIN REVEALED
NEW UPDATED EDITION

MULTI-TASK TO THE NEXT LEVEL

HEAD TO:
[HTTPS://WILLIAMELLIS.EPLATFORM.CO/](https://williamellis.eplatform.co/)

Login with your microsoft teams username.
Password: Library1

ePlatform