

William Ellis School

Headteacher's letter to families

Summer Term - 21st June 2024

Dear families,

Welcome to this week's letter, full of information about upcoming celebration events in and outside school and activities during the summer including the first ever Camden Biennale Art Exhibition and the Camden Summer University.



On the note of celebrations, it was fantastic to see so many of you at the WESPA International Evening yesterday. Thank you to all those who participated, performed and organised. We are all looking forward to the next one already!

Attendance Update

As always, it is important throughout the summer term that students attend school every day, and on time. This is a critical factor in their academic success, because they cannot learn properly if they are not in school, and also their wellbeing - they need to maintain secure friendships and the confidence that comes with it.

Year 10 students have shown excellent attendance to their exams this week as well as being focused and calm in the exam hall - well done to them so far and thank you for the support you have provided. 9F and 7L had the best attendance in their year groups this week, with 8F, 8W and 8B also having equally good attendance.

As a reminder, requests for any holidays or other absence during term time will not be agreed, and holidays must be taken after the end of the summer term on 24th July.

Camden's Windrush Celebration 2024

Our borough is home to a generation of Windrush children - innovators, creatives, artists, musicians and disruptors who have influenced the face of modern and contemporary Britain. Families are invited to explore this important heritage at a one-day free event to celebrate the Windrush story and showcase Camden's Caribbean heritage, culture and communities.

The celebration event takes place at Talacre Town Green, on Saturday 22 June, 12noon to 7pm. There will be music, food, arts and crafts, sporting activities and much more!

For details of Camden's Windrush programme visit lovecamden.org/windrush.

Camden Summer University - Thursday 25 July to Friday 23 August 2024

A reminder that bookings are now open for the Camden Summer University; a holiday programme designed to keep young people safe during the Summer break while giving them the opportunity to have fun, learn something new, make new friends and have something useful to show when applying for university, apprenticeships or work. They can choose from nearly 70 free courses in arts, media, fashion, sport, cookery, work and life skills at prestigious venues including the British Museum, the British Library, Central School of Speech and Drama and London Zoo.

It's free to enrol for young people aged 13 to 19 who live or study in Camden. Visit [the website](#) to view courses.

LaSWAP Production of 'Chicago'



Tickets are now on sale for the LaSWAP production of 'Chicago'.

Chicago follows the story of two rivals, Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly, both accused of murder and vying for the spotlight in both the media and the Cook County jail. As the story unfolds, the lines between innocence and guilt blur, and the women's quest for fame takes unexpected turns...

Performances will be taking place on the 2nd July at 5pm and the 3rd July at 6pm in LaSainte Union's Hallion Hall.

To buy tickets please see: [La Sainte Union Catholic Secondary School Shop \(parentpay.com\)](https://parentpay.com).

Year 9 'Step To Feed' Event

Year 9 students are raising money for the Camden Foodbank, a local cause our school has supported with Non-Uniform Days and other events over the past two years. Students recently took part in a sponsored running event called 'Step To Feed'.

Families wishing to make a £1 donation can do so via ParentPay if you wish. All contributions are gratefully received and will make a difference to local families in need.

First-ever Camden Schools Art Biennale – an exhibition of artwork by hundreds of local pupils

This summer, a new Camden Schools Art Biennale hosted by Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London, with Camden Learning and Camden Council, is coming to **Granary Square, Kings Cross**. From **11 to 17 July**, visitors to the free exhibition will be able to explore hundreds of artworks by Camden schoolchildren, with creative work by every school and every key stage of learning – from primary and special schools to secondary schools, through to A-level.

Open from 11am to 6pm daily, the exhibition is set to become a highlight of the borough's cultural calendar as an ongoing sister-event to the much-loved Camden Schools Music Festival. [Find out more here.](#)

Yours faithfully,

Izzy Jones

Headteacher



This week's WESPA Round-Up

WESPA Round Up | International triumph, WESPA Run and our next social

Dear families,

Wow! What a lovely evening it was yesterday. It was such a pleasure to share the International Evening with so many families, friends and staff. Delicious food, some brilliant performances and some very happy prize winners too.

Thank you to all our local businesses who sponsored the prizes, your generosity is hugely appreciated. Thank you also to all the families who helped out, brought food and shared their talents, to everybody who came and joined in and of course to Mariana Danova-Balabhadra and all the WES staff who made this possible. I love our big William Ellis family.

WESPA Run - this Sunday 23rd...

The forecast is looking rosy for Sunday's run. If you haven't already signed up, please follow the links on the WhatsApp groups or message williamellispa@gmail.com. We're raising money for the [Staff Room fund and WESPA Awards](#) for our boys. There's a little more info for those wanting to take part [here](#).

Year 11 Leavers' Ceremony and Celebration - next Thursday 27th

For parents in Year 11, this is nearly upon us. School will share details about the event itself and as last year, WESPA will be laying on a BBQ after the ceremony for our boys and their teachers. It is a very lovely event and a great way to celebrate the end of exams - a must for all boys. Thank you to WESPA Trustee and parent Vicky for leading the team in organising this.

If you haven't already and would like to do so, we are also collecting blazers for our Black Blazer Amnesty. Blazers and other items of branded uniform can be dropped at the school office in advance or brought on the night. A spin through the washing machine would be much appreciated! All uniform donations are very welcome.

WESPA Social and next meeting - 16th July

The much requested WESPA Social is back and this term it will be held directly after the next WESPA Meeting on 16th July. The meeting is at 6.30pm at school and we have booked a table at the newly reopened Duke of St Albans, 15 Highgate Road from 7.30pm. As you can see from the timings, we will wizz through the meeting so why not give both a spin?

I look forward to seeing my fellow runners on Sunday and whatever you are doing, have a great weekend.

Best wishes,

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Coming Up:

<p>Year 10 Examinations</p> <p>ALL DAY From 19 Jun until 28 Jun</p>	19 June
<p>Year 10 DofE Bronze Expedition</p> <p>ALL DAY From 22 Jun until 23 Jun</p>	22 June
<p>Year 12 Physics 'Space to Learn' Day</p> <p>ALL DAY</p>	25 June
<p>Year 13 Prom</p> <p>6:00PM – 9:00PM</p>	26 June
<p>Year 11 Presentation Evening</p> <p>6:00PM – 9:00PM</p>	27 June
<p>LaSWAP Taster Day</p> <p>ALL DAY</p>	28 June
<p>Year 10 Work Experience</p> <p>ALL DAY From 01 Jul until 12 Jul</p>	01 July
<p>LaSWAP Futures Day</p> <p>ALL DAY</p>	01 July
<p>Year 9 'Cracking Crick' Science Trip</p> <p>1:00PM – 3:15PM</p>	01 July
<p>Year 8 Camp week 1</p> <p>ALL DAY From 02 Jul until 05 Jul</p>	02 July
<p>Year 9 Teenage Booster Vaccinations</p> <p>9:00AM – 1:00PM</p>	02 July
<p>Induction Day for New Year 7</p> <p>9:00AM – 3:00PM</p>	03 July