

News Update (1st December 2023)



Dear families,

Welcome to this week's newsletter, with the definite beginnings of a festive flavour. We hope to give students the opportunity to look forward to the winter break and whatever gatherings or events you might have planned, within the routines of school and the focus needed for a successful end of term.

Attendance update

As is becoming routine, I'd like to congratulate the following forms on their attendance this week: **11K, 10K, 10W, 8K, 7L and 7K. These forms all had 95% attendance or better this week. Year 10 have the best attendance overall, at 94%.** You can check an individual student's attendance using the MCAS app.

Thank you for your ongoing support with routines at home that help students come in every day and on time. It continues to be important for students to attend every lesson every day right up to the end of term so that they can keep up to date with their learning and participate in the extra-curricular and enrichment experiences that are on offer.

We will be celebrating the students with excellent attendance at the end of term in assemblies and presentations.

Year 11 preparations for mock exams

Year 11 students will be starting their mock exams this coming week with French and Spanish speaking exams, and then will start written exams on Monday 11th December. It is important that they are working to a revision timetable at home or wherever they are studying – all their homework should now be revision and this can be seen on the SatchelOne app. It is essential that students come to the exams with all necessary equipment, in full correct uniform and on time. When they are in the exams they must follow all regulations, particularly around not having their mobile phone or a smart watch on them – these will result in disqualification from one or more exams in the summer. Therefore, these expectations must also be met for the mocks.

Students have been given a personalised timetable in registration this week and this has also been shared with Year 11 parents. It is important that they are working to a revision timetable at home or wherever they are studying – all their homework should now be revision, and this can be seen on the SatchelOne app. Students have intervention sessions after school most days and are encouraged to stay and work in the library each day up to 5pm. This facility will continue to be available after the exams in January.

Year 13 in-class assessments

Year 13 students will be completing in class assessments between 15th and 21st December, during their timetabled lessons at all four LaSWAP schools. Like Year 11s, they should be revising based on a timetable and make use of study spaces including the LaSWAP centre and the William Ellis library. If they have any questions about the assessments they should contact their subject teachers. It is equally important that students respect the conditions of the assessments – for those applying for university or an apprenticeship these assessments may contribute to their predicted grades and provide an important opportunity to prepare for sitting exams in the summer.

Looking ahead to camps in the summer term

A film about the history of The Mill has been made available to view on our website this week. To watch the film and learn more about the Mill past and present, please visit www.williamellis.camden.sch.uk/mill . Thank you to Year 10 parent Stephen Bolinger who created this film. If you are a Year 9 parent who came to the information evening on Tuesday, or your son went to the Mill at the start of September with Year 7, this will give you an insight into the environment and what The Mill is about.

Community Christmas Projects

Year 7 and 8 Form Groups will be collecting items for a local community project in the lead up to the Christmas break. A list of desired items for donation to Queen's Crescent Community Association's Elderly Services can be found overleaf. These can be dropped off at the school office from Monday 4th December.

Yours faithfully,



Izzy Jones, Headteacher

Year 7 & 8 Community Project



Movember Fundraising



The PE Team have again had a successful month fundraising for Movember in support of men's mental health. The combined follicular achievements of Mr Levitt, Mr Keeshan, Mr Court and Mr Szymanski, along with Mr Edwards and Mr Dennis, have raised over £800 for this cause!

Festive Baking

Laura Madsen, Head of Art, Craft & Design

Last week Year 10 Food Technology students completed making their festive cakes in their lessons.

They made fruit cakes and then used icing and marzipan to make decorations on a winter theme. The penguins and the snowman are very cute – we were very impressed with the boys' artistic creations and I am assured that the cakes also taste delicious!



Well done to Joshua M., Aoues, Josh, Joshua C., Ben, Maaz and Ishmael for their brilliant bakes.

Year 8s are also creating festive cakes for this time of year and thoroughly enjoying the results.



Trees for Schools Campaign – Discount for WES Families Pines and Needles

William Ellis has kindly been donated a Christmas tree by Pines and Needles and we would love to offer families a discount on Christmas trees in our pop up stores. Our local pop up store is located at St John The Evangelist Church in Upper Holloway.

DISCOUNT CODE: ELLIS10

Keep an eye out on Pines and Needles social channels @pinesandneedles for fun activities at our local stores.

Please visit www.pinesandneedles.com for more details and other store locations all around London.

Sixth Form Economics Trip Lily Mallick, Economics Teacher

Year 12 and 13 economists attended the 'Discover Economics- Empowering Women' conference at QMUL recently.

It was an opportunity for the girls to hear from women working in the field of economics and network with other female economists.

Kaia, a year 13 student based at William Ellis said the following:

“Our trip to Queen Mary University, where we attended lectures regarding experiences of women in economic fields, enabled us to better educate ourselves as economic students regarding the different opportunities available to us. Not only was the trip informative as it allowed us as students to hear from a range of economists in different jobs speak on the transferable skills and information we can learn from economics as an A-Level and take on to later life, the trip was also empowering for us all as female students in a predominantly male dominated field to better understand how we are able to utilise our differences to excel in a variety of areas rather than viewing our gender as an obstacle or a setback”.



Y12 Medical Careers talk from Great Ormond Street Hospital Laura Madsen, Assistant Director of Sixth Form

On 20th November the Year 12 Applied Science and Biology students were visited by two of Camden STEAM hub's ambassadors. They gave a talk about their career pathways and how they got roles working in the medical field. Neither of our guest speakers studied a traditional medical degree, but instead studied sciences as their routes to roles in medicine working at Great Ormond Street Hospital. This hospital deals mainly with babies and children.

Kip is Deputy Trust Lead Healthcare Scientist, who is also a Lead Assessor for Health Science apprenticeships and a microbiologist by background, and Ansel is Practice Educator for Healthcare Science, who is a patient facing scientist and a physiologist by background.

Ansel told us that although he had a degree in medicine he found it hard to get his first job, and to help he volunteered at the London Olympics to build his experience of working with the public. Then he started off working with patients in intensive care before going on to work on designing training for how to use ventilators, during the pandemic in 2020, that was eventually used globally and saved many lives.



Kip said she had no idea what to do when she left school and that she hated school! She ended up getting a work-based placement in microbiology and then gaining a place on the scientist training program. She has worked in many roles and most recently had a show at the Edinburgh fringe in comedy, which she believes has helped her develop her role in health education for the NHS; when she is training NHS professionals she can use her presentation skills to teach.

During the talk it was clear that both Kip and Ansel have been successful, and although they had not taken a very traditional route they had gained skills from lots of different roles which allowed them to develop and meet the demands of new roles that are being offered in the NHS and medicine. Some tips they gave were: consider your own personal brand, say yes to as much as you can, network, and remember that there is not one set pathway.

Thank you to Kip and Ansel for their inspiring talk!

Store Project's After School Clubs

These opportunities for 14-18 year olds have been shared with us by Store Store Hackney. To find out more please visit www.storeprojects.org



Moving Models

Join us for a free after school club run by Thomas Smith and UnitLab.

In this workshop, students will design and make a scale model of a neighbourhood in the city, and learn how to design and make moving electronic elements in order to tell a story of a place. The final model will be displayed in the STORE STORE window over the winter break.



This is an opportunity for 15 state school students (age 14-18). This after school club is part of STORE STORE BUILD, a small scale building project run as a series of free after school clubs in architecture, engineering, urban ecology and construction.

SIGN UP VIA
school@storeprojects.org
www.storeprojects.org

TUES & THURS
5.12+7.12
5-7.30 PM


STORE STORE HACKNEY



Food Meets Design: Bread Joinery

This is an opportunity for 10 state school students (age 15-18). The objects designed in the After School Club will be sold in STORE STORE, with royalties going to the students.

SIGN UP VIA
school@storeprojects.org
www.storeprojects.org



Join us for a free After School Club in December with Francesca Sarti of Arabeschi di Latte. Students will be working with bread as a material to adorn a festive table. Through hacking techniques like waxing, painting, knotting and more, students will give new life to stale bread, transforming it into functional and decorative objects.

TUES + THURS
12TH + 14TH DEC
5 - 7:30 PM

STORE STORE CAMDEN

WESPA Round Up | Easyfundraising, Winter Entertainment and band workshops

Dear families,

I sit down to write this week's update having just returned from leading band workshops in advance of Winter Entertainment next week. It is such a great pleasure to be in the building and work with the students at WES. They are so vibrant and full of life, inquisitive and keen to push themselves to make great things. Thank you to our Head of Music, Oliver Singleton for setting this up.

Easyfundraising

Easyfundraising is one of the easiest, most free ways to make money for our school. All you have to do is do your regular shopping through Easyfundraising and the shops you use give us a proportion of what you spend. We have raised over £2500 so far! It's incredibly simple and easy to do - just sign up here.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/williamellispa/>

I have been speaking with the lovely people at EasyFundraising and they have granted us an extra special week this week coming where, for all new sign ups, they will donate an extra £1. There are about 900 students throughout WES - just imagine if every student was represented. December is a month where many families will get together so let's try and raise a bit of extra money the easy way.

Winter Entertainment

I have been chatting with Oliver Singleton and we are in for such a treat at Winter Entertainment this year - music galore and another outing for the WESPA Choir too. Team WESPA will be manning the bar so come and join us on Wednesday at 6pm before the concert starts at 6.30pm.

Have a lovely weekend and see you on Wednesday.

Al
Chair WESPA