



# Wallington High School *For Girls*

FRIDAY 18TH  
JUNE 2021

HEIRS OF THE PAST, MAKERS OF THE FUTURE

## THE WALLINGTON WEEK

### MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers

Last Friday we said farewell to our Year 13 students, who have now completed all of their summer assessments. They came into school for their farewell celebration and this was the first time that the year group have been all together since the beginning of the pandemic. They certainly made the most of it and they enjoyed an afternoon of sunshine, bouncy castles, an inflatable bungy run and ice creams on the top field, alongside signing each other's year books and taking photographs. Many of the staff were also able to join them and say their farewells. They have been a fantastic year group who have dealt with all of the challenges over the last year and a half with relative calm and resilience. We wish them all the very best for their futures. As AA Milne once said, 'How lucky we are to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard'.

How lucky am I  
to have something  
that makes saying  
goodbye so hard.

A.A. MILNE

The day before had seen Year 11 return to school for their book return and for an afternoon BBQ on the top field by way of celebrating the end to their final summer assessments. Many thanks to the PFA who provided the BBQ and also for helping to support the Year 13 celebrations as well.

Year 10 and 12 have been completing their end of year assessments over the last two weeks, so in some respect the school has felt relatively quiet. That said, staff have been working flat out over the last few weeks to mark all the GCSE and A level assessments and finalise the grades being submitted to exam boards this week, in place of the cancelled public exams. This is of course in addition to all the usual demands of this time of year. So it has been a tough term so far and I would like to take the opportunity to say a huge thank you all of the staff at Wallington for all their hard work and unfailing commitment to all of our students. I feel very privileged to be working alongside them.

Finally, given the delay to the final easing of lockdown, it is important that we continue to follow all the extra

safeguards put in place at school to help reduce transmission of Covid. Students still need to be regularly washing or sanitising their hands, wearing masks in corridors and communal areas as well as self-testing twice at home and reporting the result to school. If you could continue to reinforce the importance of this to your child, then that would be much appreciated as we are not quite out of the woods just yet.

Have a good weekend

**MR R BOOTH**  
**HEADTEACHER**

### Key Dates

Wednesday, 23rd June	Year 8 Faraday STEM competition Year 10 GCSE Geography London Docklands Field study
Thursday, 24th June	Sixth Form Induction Day
Thursday 1st July	Virtual Open Evening
Saturday 3rd July	PFA New Year 7 Summer Barbecue 12-3pm
Tuesday 6th July	Sports Day
Wednesday 7th July	Reserve Sports Day



# THE WALLINGTON WEEK

## Hayfever

As we are in the midst of the hayfever season, can we please remind you that if your daughter has a condition requiring antihistamines these are taken before school. If needed a spare supply should be brought to the first aid room for emergencies. We require all medication to be accompanied by a completed Parental Permission Form (available from the school website, school Life, Pastoral Care or by this link:

<http://wallingtonhighgirls.fluencycms.co.uk/Pastoral-Care>

The medication will be stored in the first aid room and given to your daughter as detailed on the Parental Permission Form. We would like to remind parents and carers that we do not keep pain relief e.g. paracetamol, throat lozenges, antihistamines or any medication in the first aid room other than that stored for individual students accompanied by a Parental Permission Form.

**First Aid Officer**

## Career Talks - Opportunity for Parents and Carers

We are hoping for some parents to give talks about their career journeys as part of our PSHCE day. The event will take place via MS Teams between 11.15 and 13.15 on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July. We are looking for a 20 minute presentation followed by a 5-10 minute Q and A session with the students. Ideally you would do this 4 times over the 2 hours but we can have flexibility on that. If you would like to offer your services please fill in the form [here](#) or email Mrs Boyle ([jboyle@wallingtongirls.org.uk](mailto:jboyle@wallingtongirls.org.uk))



### Did You Know?

First use of the rainbow flag, symbol of gay pride, made by Gilbert Baker at a march in San Francisco

On June 25, 1978



### Here's what's happening during PRIDE week:

**Throughout the Week** during registration you will enjoy a range of activities, including learning a brief history about the origins Pride and enjoy an interactive quiz. You will also be invited to share what Pride means to you by contributing to a rainbow collage that will be displayed in school.

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June:** You will be invited to contribute to our rainbow mural.

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June:** Non-uniform day, the theme is 'Wear The Rainbow'. Please ensure clothes are appropriate for school, face masks and lanyards are still compulsory. We ask that you bring in a £1 donation if you wish to participate in the non-uniform day.

There will also be a charity bake sale for each year group on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June We hope to receive one contribution of baked goods from each form for students to buy at lunch. This will take place outside within bubbles and students should go to the stall that corresponds to their year group.

# THE WALLINGTON WEEK



## Year 11 Celebration

Now that the summer assessments have been completed, Year 11 enjoyed the sunshine and a BBQ to celebrate all their achievements this year.

## Year 13 Leavers' Afternoon

Last week also saw us saying a sad farewell to our 13 students who enjoyed a really memorable send off.



Thanks so much to the PFA, Heads of Year and sixth form for all the hard work organising this and for the great food. As you can see, everyone enjoyed themselves!

# THE WALLINGTON WEEK

## Enrichment Update

Next week sees a busy week for enrichment in terms of the 20/21 COVID impacted year; we see a second geography GCSE field trip to London and the Faraday Challenge being undertaken by 36 year 8 students (having originally been postponed since January!)

Please don't forget if you are participating in these events.



## Windrush day

This coming week on June 22nd, the UK will mark Windrush Day, the date the Empire Windrush ship arrived at Tilbury Docks, Essex in 1948, bringing with it more than 1,027 passengers from the West Indies who would transform British culture for the better.



The call for an official Windrush Day began with author Patrick Vernon, who wrote in the Guardian in 2010 that the date represents 'a powerful and iconic symbol of the rise of modern-day multicultural Britain'. Vernon began a petition to have June 22nd recognised as a national holiday in 2013 but it wasn't until 2019 that June 22nd was officially observed as "Windrush Day", giving us a chance to honour and commemorate the Windrush Generation and their legacy.

The passengers arriving on the Windrush that day were answering the UK's call for help. After World War II, the United Kingdom's economy needed to be repaired. In doing so, the British government recruited Afro-Caribbean migrants and offered them jobs. These jobs included the production of steel, coal, iron, and food, and also jobs in the service sector, such as running public transport and staffing the new National Health Service in the United Kingdom.

The first Afro-Caribbean immigrants in the United Kingdom were faced with extreme intolerance from the majority of the white population. Although Afro-Caribbean migrants were encouraged to settle in the United Kingdom and take up employment to relieve the labour market by the

authorities, many early immigrants were denied access to private employment and accommodation because of the colour of their skin. Black people were also banned from many pubs, clubs, and even churches.

The lack of housing in London following World War Two meant even temporary accommodation was in short supply.



So 236 migrants from the merchant vessel were bussed from Tilbury docks in Essex to Clapham, where for six shillings and sixpence a week they got food and a bed in a shelter underneath Clapham South Tube station.

The underground passages had been fitted with bunk beds and washing facilities when they were used as civilian shelters during the war.

Life in the windowless underworld was basic, cramped and noisy. One Windrush resident described the accommodation as "primitive and unwelcoming, like a sparsely furnished rabbit's warren".

They tried to sleep as trains rattled overhead. Now the London Transport Museum has opened up the deep -level site for tourists to explore on guided tours.

One of the subterranean suburbanites was John Richards, now 92. He lived underground for three weeks when he first arrived in London after the Windrush docked at Tilbury.

"The trains that ran overhead in the morning woke me up. There were beds all around with crisp white sheets.

"They had a tea cart at the station. We had pie in the evenings," said Mr Richards, who soon moved into a hostel and found work with British Rail.

Within four weeks of arriving, all the Windrush migrants had secured jobs and moved out of the site. One of the biggest employers was London Transport; leading to a legacy that still exists today. Many workers eventually settled in nearby Brixton, the site of the nearest labour exchange, beginning the area's association with Caribbean culture that can still be seen thriving today.

To find our more information about windrush day and any events taking place please visit: <https://www.windrushday.org.uk/>