



Connaught
School for Girls

Newsletter

July 2023

2022-23 Issue: 48

Special points of interest:

- Creative work in the textiles department.
- Geography students learn about their local area.
- Another very successful year in the Drama Club.
- Class of 2023 enjoy their end of school prom.
- 10s raise caterpillars!

Inside this issue:

English	3
Duke of Edinburgh 2023	4
Visit to St John's Church	5
Junior Maths Challenge	6
Prom 2023	7
Drama	8
Geography	9

Message from the Headteacher

Dear all

I wanted to open up by thanking you for your patience whilst we navigate the current industrial action surrounding the proposal to join the multi academy trust, Star. The Governors will meet to discuss the feedback from the stakeholder engagement tomorrow and I would like to thank all our families who participated in the consultation.

As I reach the end of my first year at Connaught School for Girls, however, there is still much to celebrate. I am so proud of our Year 10 students and the feedback that we got from their employers during their Work Experience Placement. Thank you to families and friends who supported the students in this, as well as, Ms. El Khandari for organising the work experience.

When I last wrote to you, we were preparing for our culture day. This was a fantastic event with the fashion show being a particular highlight. Year 11 have also completed their examinations and had a wonderful celebration to mark the end of their time at Connaught with the school leavers' tea. We look forward to seeing them to collect their results on August 24th at 9.00 am. Collection point will be Connaught road entrance in the school canteen. Year 10 students who have sat external examinations will collect their results at 10.00 am, as well as any students who have sat examinations in our Community Languages.

Year 10 students also sat their first full set of mock examinations this term and will have received the results of these last week. We are pleased with their progress and hard work so far, but they should not rest on their laurels but instead see these results as a starting point for driving up improvement and further success throughout year 11. We are sure they are going to really push themselves to achieve their absolute best, as they enter their final and most crucial year at Connaught. There is lots of independent work posted for year 10 students to complete on the year 10 Google classroom; I would urge you to encourage your daughter to use some of the Summer holiday period to continue to revisit prior learning as well as, of course, having a well-earned rest.

Over the last couple of days, we have seen our Key Stage 3 students take part in interform activities in place of our planned sports day, which has been rescheduled for the Autumn term. I have been impressed by the strong spirit of competition which is alive and well at Connaught. Watch out for the results in the first newsletter of next year. We had a great time taking part in our "Connaught Goes Out" trips last week (although I have now decided I am definitely too old for roller coasters, having screamed my way through every minute of "The Rattlesnake" in front of a gleeful audience of Connaught Students!). Students have also been involved in numerous other enrichment activities,

Message from the Headteacher (continued)

some of which you will see featured in this newsletter, from cycling days to Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, English literature visits, MFL drama activities, "Speak out" oracy workshops, Year 10 Penguin Publishing workshop, Year 7 Spelling Bee and Geography and RS visits.

This term, we say goodbye to several long standing members of staff. Sian Quinn, our Head of Geography who has taught at Connaught for 11 years as well as Karen Warburton, our exams and data manager who is retiring after 18 years of service at Connaught School for Girls. We wish them both the very best in their next adventures.

I wanted to close by thanking all members of our school community for welcoming me so warmly to Connaught this year. It has been a real pleasure to meet with so many families this year and I look forward to working with you next academic year. Have a lovely Summer.

Ms Linsey Hand

Headteacher



Year 7 Spelling Bee

On Tuesday, 4th July, the English department organised a Spelling Bee for Year 7. This event showcased the outstanding literacy skills of the year group.

All five forms nominated spellers to compete in the inter-form contest. The five teams of five spellers each included: in 7C - Maliha, Zabiyah, Amina, Faariha and Marwah; in 7S - Surrayah, Hannah, Aaliya, Wissale and Tasnia; in 7W - Raadhiya, Hajera, Zoya A, Hafsa and Linnlatt; in 7G - Mehak, Maheen, Isra, Chiara and Nila.

All teams were brilliant in managing the extremely challenging task of spelling a range of difficult words - aloud and in front of an audience, waiting in anticipation. The competition included a play-off round (from which players were eliminated for an incorrectly spelt word) and a very tense and exciting quick-fire round. To demonstrate the level of difficulty and challenge, here are some of the words included in the Spelling Bee: rogue, pedestrian, possessive and murmuring.



All teams and players demonstrated impressive spelling skills but the winning team - in a close run and hard fought contest - was 7F with team players - Izma, Zafrin, Khadija, Raabiah and Annaya. Special mention should also go to the two best individual spellers, Hajera in 7W and Annaya in 7F who were the two last standing contestants in the play-off round.

"This event showcased the outstanding literacy skills of the year group."

Lit in Colour student conference

The English department this year has included in both KS3 and KS4 a number of new texts which represent more fully the diversity and range of backgrounds that make up our Community.

With our exam board, Edexcel/Pearson, we have selected a new contemporary GCSE text called "The Empress" written by the playwright Tanika Gupta.

This year we were invited to take some students to a Lit in Colour student

conference to explore identity, diversity and belonging in the literature we study and read. A group of Year 9 students attended the conference where they received a tote bag with notebook, bookmarks and a new novel to read. Along with listening to an engaging presentation by keynote speaker, Jeffrey Boakye, they were able to enjoy a poetry slam from established and new poets and participate in a drama approach to exploring a Shakespeare monologue with actor, Akiya Henry.

Ms Caroto

Head of English



Duke of Edinburgh 2023

This term, ten Year 11 students were able to complete their Duke of Edinburgh bronze award! The Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award is a prestigious youth achievement program that encourages and recognizes the personal development and achievements of young people.

To earn the Bronze Award, participants must complete four sections:

Volunteering: Participants engage in community service or volunteer work to contribute positively to society. This could involve assisting in a charity organization, supporting local initiatives, or helping those in need.

Physical: Participants take part in regular physical activities and improve their fitness levels. This could include participating in sports, dance, fitness programs,

or any other form of physical exercise.

Skills: Participants choose a skill they are interested in and dedicate time to develop it. This could involve learning a musical instrument, improving artistic abilities, acquiring a new language, or any other skill they wish to acquire or enhance.

Expedition: Participants plan and undertake a two-day, one-night team expedition, which may involve hiking, camping, or other outdoor activities. The expedition encourages teamwork, navigation skills, resilience and self-sufficiency.

Here is what Amirah had to say:-

"Duke of Edinburgh was an amazing experience that opened up many opportunities for me. It enabled me to come out of my shell and pushed me to try many new things that I never



would have thought to try. Over the past year, I have developed so many skills, met so many new people and made so many memories. My favourite part about the whole experience was the camping. I really enjoyed spending a weekend away and working together as a team with my friends."

Amirah Hasan 11G

We're looking forward to continuing with the Duke of Edinburgh award next term, so please keep an eye out!

Ms Noakes

DofE coordinator

"Over the past year, I have developed so many skills, met so many new people and made so many memories."



Visit to St John's Church

2022-23 Issue: 48

Year 7 had an opportunity to visit the amazing St John's Church in Leytonstone.

They had an exciting treasure hunt looking for artefacts and significant objects in the church.

Working in pairs, the students had to work out what the different artefacts were used for in the church.

Students went up to the bell room to see how the bells work. Finally, they got to see an amazing view from the top of the tower.

Thank you St John's Church, from the Religious Education Department.



"They had an exciting treasure hunt looking for artefacts and significant objects in the church."



Raising caterpillars

10S have been doing their bit to help the environment this term by raising caterpillars into butterflies, then releasing them into the park by Dyers Hall Road. Students were astonished at how quickly the caterpillars grow in the heat! Special thanks to Danica Amankwah and

Haleema Hussain who helped to transfer the chrysalides into the net, feed and eventually release the butterflies.

Mrs El Khandari

Associate Assistant Headteacher / Tutor of 10S



Junior Maths Challenge

On Wednesday 26th April, the top 30 students in both years 7 and 8 were selected to participate in the renowned UKMT Junior Maths Challenge.

The Junior Mathematical

Challenge is a 60-minute, multiple-choice challenge. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency in using basic mathematical techniques to solve

interesting problems.

The problems on the Junior Mathematical Challenge are designed to make students think. Below are the first several problems of this year's challenge.

"The Junior Mathematical Challenge is a 60-minute, multiple-choice challenge."

1. What is the value of $3202 - 2023$?

A 821

B 1001

C 1179

D 1221

E 1279

2. How many of the following five options are factors of 30?

A 1

B 2

C 3

D 4

E 5

3. What is the value of $\frac{1+2+3+4+5}{6+7+8+9+10}$?

A $\frac{1}{2}$

B $\frac{3}{8}$

C $\frac{7}{16}$

D $\frac{9}{20}$

E $\frac{1}{3}$

4. One of these is the largest two-digit positive integer that is divisible by the product of its digits. Which is it?

A 12

B 24

C 36

D 72

E 96

5. The record for travelling 100m on a skateboard by a dog is 19.65 seconds. This was achieved by Jumpy in 2013. What was Jumpy's approximate average speed?

A 0.2 m/s

B 0.5 m/s

C 2 m/s

D 2.5 m/s

E 5 m/s

6. When this prime number square is completed, the eight circles contain eight different primes, and each of the four sides has total 43. What is the sum of the five missing primes?

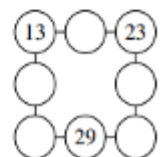
A 51

B 53

C 55

D 57

E 59



Every student will receive a certificate of participation. Below are the students who achieved Bronze, Silver or Gold Award. Congratulations to the following students:

Year 7 Bronze Award

7G: Nicole Dai

7G: Hafsa Khan

7G: Mariam Mohamed Kaleel

7S: Tasnia Islam Bronze Award and Best in Year

Year 8 Bronze Award

8S: Zannat Al-Rahman

8G: Amna Baig

8G: Hafsa Hussain

8S: Hana Mannan

8G: Elizaveta Litvinova

8C: Lucy Long

Year 8 Silver Award

8W: Khalisa Ali

8G: Arwa Alloune

8C: Isbah Amir

8F: Eimaan Mahmood

8S: Safiyah Patel

8W: Maryam Zafar

8F: Mayeda Jillani

8W: Mia Bondzie Gold Award and Best in School

I am immensely proud of all the students who took part. A great achievement. Well done.

Miss Aullibux

Maths department

Prom 2023

2022-23 Issue: 48

This year, Ms Noakes was awarded the Jack Petchy award where she was given £1000 to spend however she wanted for the school. She chose to spend the money on the leavers' tea event!

This year, the staff set up the hall and each form gave a speech to the year group, their form tutors and teachers. The students then spent the evening eating pizza, using the chocolate fountain, (thanks Ms Izobo!), the slushy machine, and most importantly dancing the evening away on the stage!

Ms Noakes would like to say a huge thank you to all teachers who helped set up the hall for the event and Safiya Rajab - Ali's Mum who made the leavers' tea cake!

We wish the year 11 cohort every success in the future and look forward to seeing them on results day in August.

Ms Noakes HOY 11



Drama

Drama Club

It has been another very successful year in Drama Club. I have had the absolute pleasure of sitting back, relaxing and letting Saarah & Kallisto our two Year 10 Drama Leaders run the club. They have taken complete ownership of the club. Each week they delivered fun & engaging games & Drama performances, demonstrating sensitivity, creativity & the utmost professionalism! Thank you for all the laughter on Monday afternoons!



"I have had the absolute pleasure of sitting back, relaxing and letting Saarah & Kallisto our two Year 10 Drama Leaders run the club."



Drama Club Production

Following on from the success of 'Juliet Re-imagined' we are looking forward to announcing the Drama Club Production next term! Whether you want to perform or help out backstage (set design & costume) or front of house (lighting & sound

design) we look forward to welcoming you to the cast and crew!

Ms Jemal

Head of Drama



Year 8

Within Geography this term we have been extremely busy. There have been many opportunities for the students to put their knowledge from the classroom into practical experiences. The Year 8's had the chance to speak to the Local Council and help become a stakeholder within the potential development of Leytonstone High Street, designing what they would like to see added to the High Street. The students then designed their own images and included their details onto a picture. This fed really nicely into their own fieldwork looking into 15-minute



communities identifying 4 different locations within Leytonstone and evaluating their effectiveness on whether or not the area was a successful 15-minute community.

The fieldwork gave the students their first experience within Geography of collecting and analysing primary data

sources. The fieldwork was an excellent opportunity for the students to go outside from the main building of the school and learn about their local area. This is important background knowledge in which they can then feed into their own experiences when back at school.

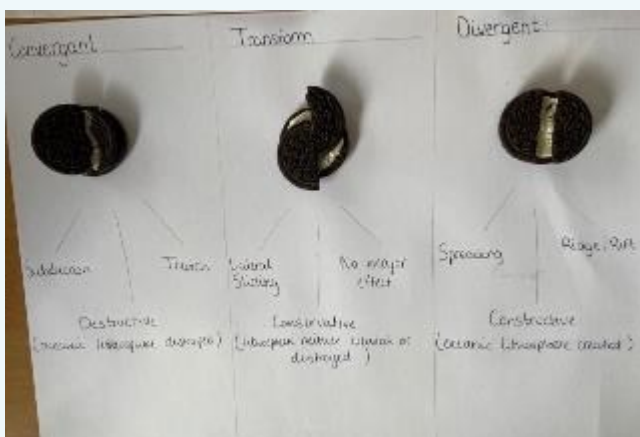
"The fieldwork was an excellent opportunity for the students to go outside from the main building of the school and learn about their local area."

Year 9

The Year 9s have also been very busy this term, focusing on how the earth works and the physical processes involved. This term they were looking into plate

tectonics. This became very relevant due to the Turkey earthquake earlier in the year where the students wanted to know how and why this happened. This was

then fed into the lessons giving the students some background knowledge of the reasons why. We also carried out more practical activities that included the students creating the plate tectonic boundaries using Oreo biscuits. This both engaged the students to the content of the work but also gave them a visualisation of a macro scale process which can be difficult to visualise.



Geography (continued)

The students were also tasked with a project to create a model volcano, this again fed really nicely into the students putting their theoretical knowledge into practice. As you can see from the images the students worked well together as a team creating these models. We then went outside to re-enact a volcanic eruption using coca cola and mentos sweets. This helps to create a reaction fizzing up the coca cola imitating a volcanic eruption. In addition to

the volcanos erupting, two groups baked a volcano cake. As you can also see in the image, this was shared out to the class and when cut into gave an excellent representation of a magma chamber. The students had put sweets in the centre, so when cut, these spilt out imitating the lava flowing out of the Volcano.



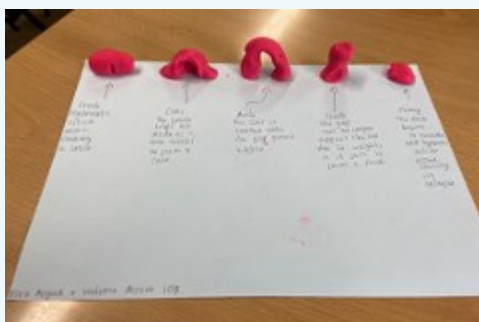
Year 10

On a very similar theme to Year 9, the Year 10's have also been putting their practical model making skills to the test. Within this term the students have been looking into the GCSE coastal processes content and how these processes shape the natural landscape. This looked into beach profiles

and the differences between constructive and destructive waves. The students learnt in advance of the fieldwork to Walton on the Naze next year the types of Erosion and how these impact our coastal areas. The students created models using playdough to show the process of

the formation of cracks, caves, arches, stacks and stumps. This has helped the students to visualise this process afterwards the students labelled what erosional process were occurring at each stage.

Mr Desborough
Geography department



Textiles

2022-23 Issue: 48

Year 7

This term the Year 7s have been learning to use the sewing machine and make tie-dyed eco bags.

For their second project they were looking at how textiles are constructed and decorated.

We made finger knitted snakes, Kente paper weaving, Japanese braiding and Dye sublimation printed collages.

They made booklets or bunting to display their work.



"We made finger knitted snakes, Kente paper weaving, Japanese braiding and Dye sublimation printed collages."

Year 8

The Year 8s have been working with fleece fabric to make soft toy dice and build their machining skills. For their second project they learnt how to sew in a zip and create an applique design on a pencil case.



Textiles (continued)

This term the year 9s have been making lanterns with an electronic circuit inside and a LED light. They look great in the dark!

They created their own patterns to print on the fabric and created the cut out design on the laser cutter.



"We hope you carry on the creativity over the summer holidays and maybe learn a new skill like crochet or knitting."



For their second project they learnt how to create a repeat pattern by hand. This was printed on felt fabric, which they sewn up into pouches.

We hope you carry on the creativity over the summer holidays and maybe learn a new skill like crochet or knitting.

Mrs Rain Ms Sahans Textiles Department





PLACES WHERE KIDS EAT FREE (OR FOR £1) DURING THE 6 WEEKS SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2023



COURTESY OF MONEY SAVING CENTRAL

ASDA

Kids eat for £1 All Day, Every Day at Asda cafes, with no adult spend required.

TESCO

Kids eat free with a purchase of 60p+ from Mon 24th July - Fri 1st September 2023

SAINSBURYS CAFES

Kids eat for £1 with the purchase of an adult hot main. From 11:30am every day.

BEEFEATER & BREWERS FAYRE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

THE REAL GREEK

Kids under 12 eat FREE every Sunday for every £10 spent by an adult

TABLE TABLE

Two children under 16 can get a free breakfast every day with one paying adult!

TRAVELODGE

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

HUNGRY HORSE

Kids eat for £1 on Mondays & up to 2 Kids get free breakfast with 1 adult breakfast

PREMIER INN

Buy 1 Adult Breakfast from just £8.99 & up to two kids eat breakfast for free

SIZZLING PUBS

Every Monday to Friday, 3 - 7pm, kids' mains are £1 with every adult meal.

IKEA

Kids get a meal from 95p daily from 11am

MORRISONS

Spend £4.49 & get one free kids meal all day, every day.

GORDON RAMSEY RESTAURANTS

Kids under 8 eat FREE all day, every day at selected Gordon Ramsay restaurants

PRETO

Kids up to age 10 eat free all day, every day with paying adults at Preto in Half Terms

BILLS

2 kids eat FREE all day, every day from Monday 24th July - Friday 1st Sept 2023

BELLA ITALIA

Children eat for £1 with any adult main. The offer is valid 4-6pm Mon to Thurs.

WHITBREAD INNS

Two kids under 16 eat for FREE with every adult breakfast purchased

SA BRAINS PUBS

Children can eat for £1 with any adult main. Valid All Day Wednesdays

FUTURE INNS

Under 12's eat for free with any adult meal. During the school holidays

PAUSA CAFE @ DUNELM

Kids get 1 mini main, 2 snacks & a drink FREE with every £4 spend after 3pm

YO! SUSHI

From Mon 17th of July until Fri 11th of Aug kids eat free with every £10 adult spend

TO BE CONFIRMED...

M&S and Farmhouse Inns

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Connaught School for Girls Term and Holiday Dates for Academic Year 2023-2024



September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							December 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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							30	31																			
January 2024							February 2024							March 2024							April 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
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29	30	31					26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
May 2024							June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

 = Student Days	 = Staff Training Days	 = Sch Holidays/Weekends	 = Bank Holidays
4 th Sept	- School closed to all students		
29 th Sept	- School closed to all students		
14 th Mar	- School closed to all students		
Day 4	- Disaggregated twilight hours		
Day 5	- Disaggregated twilight hours		

Autumn Term:	Monday 4th September 2023 – Thursday 21st December 2023	73 days
	Less 6 days Half Term 23 rd – 30 th October 2023	
Spring Term:	Monday 8th January 2024 – Friday 29th March 2024	55 days
	Less 5 days Half Term 12 th – 16 th February 2024	
	Less 1 day for Bank Holiday on 29 th March 2024	
Summer Term:	Monday 15th April 2024 – Friday 19th July 2024	65 days
	Less 5 days Half Term 28 th May – 1 st June 2024	
	Less 1 day for Bank Holiday on 6 th May 2024	
	Add 2 days for additional twilight sessions worked by staff	2 days
(Autumn Term 2024 commences on Monday 2nd September 2024 for staff and Tuesday 3rd September 2024 for students)		195 days

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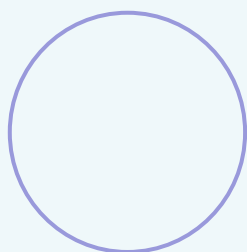
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seize the day

HEADTEACHER

MS LINSEY HAND



Published and
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Media Resources

Dates for your Diary

Last Day of Summer Term

- Wednesday 19th July 2023

(school closes at 1pm for Year 7)

Staff Training Day 1

- Monday 4th September 2023

Students start 2023-2024

- Tuesday 5th September 2023

8:20am - 8:30am Year 7 arrive to school

2:00pm - Years 8 to 11 arrive to school

3:20pm - End of school day

Staff Training Day 2

- Friday 29th September 2023

Half Term Holiday

- Monday 23rd - Monday 30th October 2023

Last Day of Autumn Term

- Thursday 21st December 2023

Start of Spring Term for all

- Monday 8th January 2024

Half Term Holiday

- Monday 12th - Friday 16th February 2024

Staff Training Day 3

- Thursday 14th March 2024

Last Day of Spring Term

- Thursday 28th March 2024

First Day of Summer Term (all)

- Monday 15th April 2024

May Bank Holiday

- Monday 6th May 2024

Half Term Holiday

- Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May 2024

Last Day of Summer Term

- Friday 19th July 2024

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