



Connaught
School for Girls

Dyers Hall Road
Leytonstone
London E11 4AE

Headteacher — Alexander Silk, MA

seize the day

Friday 8th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we had a lot of events in school, including multiple events in school and visits out of school during the day and in the evening- it has been a very busy week indeed! A gentle reminder that from next week we will have slightly different times for the school day as we have a reduced lunchtime and earlier finish during Ramadan. School will finish at **3.00pm on Monday - Wednesday** and at **2.50pm on Thursday and Friday**.

International Womens' Day assembly

The assembly to KS3 on Monday was delivered by an ex-student to mark International Womens' Day. Amara Sharif came in and delivered an outstanding presentation on her time in Connaught School, her path and career and her great successes. Amara is a published author of a children's book which she wrote to feature an ethnically diverse female lead character. She explained the significance of publishing this, as these types of characters are hugely under-represented. Amara also brought in her award from the 'Asian Women of Achievement Award' she received in 2023 and talked about this with the assembly. It is always great to see ex-students back in the school to show our current students what they can achieve if they put their mind to it.

Theatre visits

This week we had 2 separate theatre visits. Year 10 students went to see Romeo and Juliet in the Globe theatre and they got to go to this brilliant performance as they will be studying this key text as part of their English Literature GCSE. Another group of students, part of the Theatre Club group in school went to see Six the Musical in Central London. Both visits went late into Tuesday evening so many thanks to the staff that gave their time to make sure these visits were successful.

World Book Day Dress up

The array of fancy dress outfits this year was incredible! By far this was the best turnout for students (and staff) dressed up as their favourite book characters. Students had to declare in advance who they were going to represent from their favourite stories. The school encouraged 'thinking' about the character from a book and explaining why they thought they were important. See below for a selection of some of the great outfits this year. Thank you to Ms Khanom for organising this activity for students and staff.

Special Persons Gift Sale with the PTA

On Monday 4th March we raised £385 for the PTA through the Special Person Gift Shop. This was a fantastic opportunity for both students and staff to purchase a special present for a special person. It was great to see so many people attend this event. Practically all gifts were sold. Special thanks to one of our parents, Mr Ali for donating all the products. This was much appreciated. We have a thriving PTA committee that continues to raise money for the school and they are always on the lookout for more parents to join them. If you are interested in supporting us please contact them on PTA@connaught.waltham.sch.uk.

tel: 020 8539 3029

email: school@connaught.waltham.sch.uk

fax: 020 8558 3827

web: www.connaught-school.co.uk

'Bring a sibling' games in the hall

After school on Monday we had a games night where we saw families battling it out to win a big prize. Charades, riddles and bookish catchphrase were some of the games we played. Winners of the fable and twisted tale competition read aloud their work. The idea was to simply celebrate the enjoyment of stories and hearing them aloud. Families mentioned that they enjoyed spending their time together in this way. The PTA supported the event with a bake sale. The winner of the big prize was Mohsinah M. Thank you to Ms Khanom our librarian for organising the event.



Geography visits to Stratford, East Village

This week on Wednesday and Thursday the Year 11 students carried out their fieldwork expedition to East Village, centred around the critical themes of mitigating risk and observing change over time. This field trip provided students with an opportunity to explore the dynamic relationship between environmental factors, risk mitigation strategies, and the evolution of a community. The trip included a range of on-site investigations, as well as interviews with local residents to gather valuable insights into how East Village has adapted to mitigate risks over different time periods. Through this experience, students developed their ability to carry out data collection skills but also gain a deeper understanding of the practical applications of geographical concepts in sustainable urban development.

Ex-students win Medals at the World Indoor Championships in Glasgow

Two ex-students from the school won bronze medals in the 4x400m relay at the world indoor championships in Glasgow this week. Last year we had both Lina and Laviai Nielsen in school where they delivered an assembly and spoke about their incredible journey and their persistence and resilience as professional athletes. They are perfect examples of our school and the ethos of **excellence, resilience** and **inclusion**. Lina this week talked about their journey to get to the finals saying that *"People talk about having to travel a rocky road with lots of highs and lows but I feel like we've climbed mountains to be where we are"*. Their win was unique, as they have never been in the same event and won a medal. This was something they were very proud of and always hoped this would happen. Their dream became a reality. As part of their journey was here at Connaught, it was inspiring to see them and we are incredibly proud of them and all their achievements.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Silk
Acting Headteacher

Showing off some pictures from...World Book Day outfits.

