



Connaught
School for Girls

Dyers Hall Road
Leytonstone
London E11 4AE

Headteacher — Alexander Silk, MA

seize the day

Dear Parents/Carers,

The end of this week brings us to the midpoint in this half term with many students (and staff) looking forward to a long weekend. The whole school was inside at lunchtime today meaning Year 11 students had even more of a send-off with their shirt signing! They begin their formal exams after this weekend so they should all be making the most of the opportunities to do any final studying and revision to help prepare. We wish them all the best with these exams and we know they will do themselves proud.

Water Bottles in School

There have been an increasing number of students who have been out of lessons and during breaks going to the school office to ask for cups of water. We have discouraged this and repeatedly reminded the students that the office/ medical room is not where they should be going to get water and that it is disruptive to them and the administrative staff. Unfortunately, the behaviour pattern has not changed, so a more formal measure is needed.

Aside from the obvious impact on learning time if students leave lessons to go to get water, it is incredibly disruptive to the staff working in the admin office and it is not environmentally friendly to keep using disposable cups. For all these reasons we have water fountains in the school for students to use and fill up bottles during their break times and these will be the only places students will be permitted to go to for filling up water bottles. There will continue to be lots of jugs of water and cups in the dining room during lunchtime. We have asked students to have a refillable/reusable water bottle with them daily to get water from the water coolers around the school. Of course, there will be times when students forget water bottles and on those rare occasions there will be water available to them. I appreciate your support in this measure to make the school more environmentally sustainable and to ensure students are in lessons making the most of their learning time.

Attendance and Punctuality

Excellent attendance and punctuality are vital to ensuring success for students. Every minute of every day counts and it is imperative that students are on time for school and attend every day. After half term students in Year 9 who are late to school will be attending the same day after school 15 minute late detention. Parents of all students late to school are notified by text message. Lateness to school and persistent absence are safeguarding issues.

Students should arrive via the playground gate in Connaught Road and be seated in their form rooms, ready for learning, by 8.30am. Any students arriving after 8.30am, or via the Dyers Hall entrance, are deemed late. Any student whose attendance falls below 95% is a concern.

Please see the attached information regarding attendance and the measures that are taken by the school and the local authority to ensure that your child has the best possible attendance.

Coffee Morning

I am always keen to meet parents and discuss with them how their child is getting on in school and any questions they may have. I will be hosting a Macmillan coffee morning here in the school 22nd May in the dining room from 9-10.30 where I will be available with members of my senior leadership team to meet and talk with parents. There will be tea/ coffee and cakes with money raised going to Macmillan Cancer Support Charity. I will send out a poster to all parents next week with more details on this.

Friday Activities

Today we started the “have a go” **archery** sessions with our first group of students in the main hall. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn and try out a new activity. It was a great session with the students really enjoying the experience and gaining new skills, knowledge and history of Eastern Archery. Students stated, **“It was really fun and enjoyable. A unique experience. Something I thought I would never be doing”**. **Great to have this opportunity”**.



The **apprentice** this week saw the students design a new tube of toothpaste and an advert to go alongside it. They had the choice to design electronically or on paper and they had to create the marketing strategy to go with the product. This week the victorious group was Juboski with one of the best adverts I have seen in ages! This has changed the standings on the league table as below:

League Table standings

Position	Team name	Points
1	Imperial	8
2	Venture Vibes	8
3	Juboski	6
4	HIF	7
5	Hayati	4

Wishing you all an enjoyable long weekend,
Yours faithfully,



Mr. Silk
Headteacher