



Connaught
School for Girls

Dyers Hall Road
Leytonstone
London E11 4AE

Headteacher — Alexander Silk, MA

seize the day

Friday 26th April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

Message from the Chair of Governors

Here we are at the start of another very busy term in school and I am pleased to tell you that we have appointed Alexander Silk to be the Headteacher of Connaught School going forward. We held a rigorous recruitment process involving several governors and an external adviser. We shortlisted and interviewed over a two-day period and all involved fully endorsed him as our new Headteacher.

Throughout last term, Mr Silk was Acting Headteacher and as such able to drive forward with the school improvements he and Ms Hand had worked on together previously. That can now continue. We are currently advertising for a new Deputy Headteacher to work alongside governors and the rest of the Leadership Team on future developments.

Governors have welcomed three new parent governors over the last few weeks and we are grateful to them for putting themselves forward. I believe it is an exciting time for Connaught School and we are all working together to ensure it is a school which lives up to its values of Excellence, Resilience and Inclusion.

Art exam/ Languages oral exams

The artwork from the students who undertook their exams this week was fantastic. As always there was an awesome display of work at the end of each exam. There was artwork done digitally using iPad and iPencil and a multi-layered artwork was created. Work done on many different materials, including hinge opening wood, canvas and card. It was inspiring to see the original plans from sketchbooks come to life in the exam.

The students undertake a 10-hour exam over 2 days and the Art team supports them throughout this time.

The languages department has also been undertaking a series of speaking exams in French, Spanish and community languages. There have been several lessons re-roomed while the class teachers undertake these exams and the students have been diligently arriving to exams fully prepared, revised and rehearsed.

Students going to the Mayoral Assembly

Connaught students went to the mayoral assembly on Thursday after school with 3 members of staff for the Citizens UK London Mayoral Assembly work. The students were a perfect exemplar of the values of Connaught School for Girls and they were confident and professional throughout their visit, fully engaging with all the opportunities. It was a late evening with the staff and students leaving at 9.30 pm, so many thanks to all the staff that accompanied the students on this visit.

Friday afternoon:

This Friday we had the first sessions in school for the apprentice challenge and we worked on the importance of branding! There was great energy in the library today with students looking at how branding has changed over the last 100+ years for various products. The teams for this half-term apprentice have been set and the groups chose their team names and branding.

Place	Team name	Points
1	Imperial	5
2	Venture Vibes	4
3	HIF	4
4	Juboski	2
5	Hayati	2

The winning team (via a split decision) was 'Imperial', with a very close second place going to 'Venture Vibes'. ALL the presentations were fantastic. I am going to run a league table so the winners each week will tally onto the table and I will continue to update it. I can this is going to be a very close-run competition, but Pola, Siana and Annalise were victors today.

They have a research task set for the week so they arrive at the next session ready for their first full commerce task. Next week the students will be designing and marketing a new toothpaste and so they are preparing and researching this week ready for it. Next week I will have a business executive coming along to judge the work and the presentations with me and to decide on the winner, so watch this space!



Wishing you all an enjoyable weekend,

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Silk

Headteacher