



Connaught
School for Girls

Dyers Hall Road
Leytonstone
London E11 4AE

Headteacher — Alexander Silk, MA

seize the day

Friday 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well; a Friday update as always. This week there has been a lot going on in school and we have begun to collect information from the students about their experience in school through a student voice feedback survey they will all be doing in their pastoral time. I am also very keen to hear from parents and the school has a parent feedback form which I have attached to this letter [HERE](#), or you can use the link below. The more parents/ carers that do the survey the more informed we are about your views. The survey should only take approximately 5-10 minutes to complete and we would really value your feedback.

Link: <https://forms.gle/TBzxaNiHF5iLnPAY7>

Rewards

Year 10 remain in the lead with an impressive 6219 Achievement Points so far. Congratulations to Anjum (11F) who is helping Year 11 to catch up with the most Achievement Points awarded this week - 24!

We will soon be adding up all the Credits awarded to individual students and tutor groups in KS3 - the results will be revealed and rewarded in our end of term celebration assemblies.

Attendance

We have maintained our whole school attendance of over 95% this week with Year 9 being very close to our whole school target - their attendance is at 96.6%! Year 10 have significantly increased their attendance week; well done Year 10. 8F and 10F have had fantastic attendance last week with both achieving 98.6%.

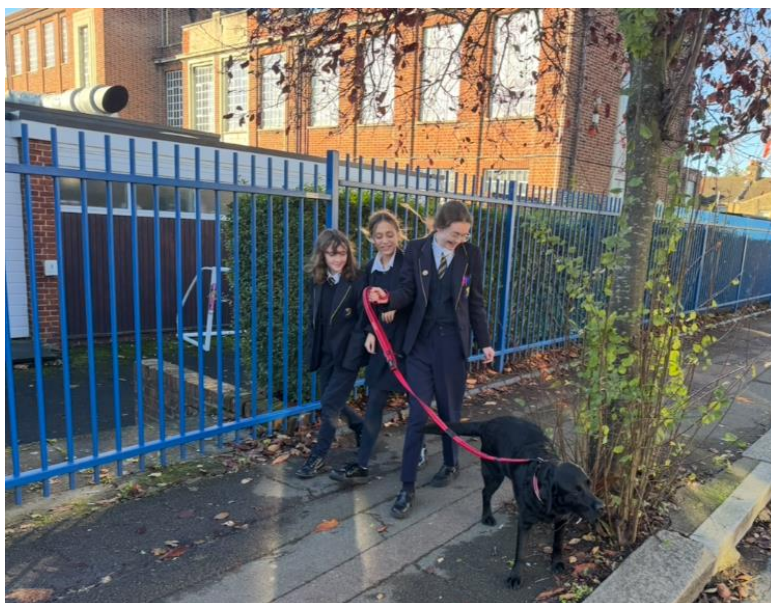
Behaviour across the school

I was pleased to welcome an ex-headteacher and governor into the school this week for the third link governor visit this academic year. By inviting governors into school we can demonstrate to governors what is happening in school, have our critical friends report on progress and next steps, and it is an important opportunity for staff and students in school to see governors, and for governors to see them without the headteacher.

Good behaviour in and around school is one of the highest priorities to me as Headteacher. Ensuring that students feel safe and happy and that teachers can teach their well-planned lessons is imperative. By sending your child to our school you are, of course, agreeing to support our policies and practices, including behaviour, attendance and punctuality. I would urge you periodically to talk through the behaviour processes, to ensure that your child is fully aware of our expectations and, critically, that you support us. We will be doing work in pastoral time with the students next week looking at reminders on the behaviour policy again, and level 1, level 2, level 3 and level 4 behaviours; the differences and the escalation in sanctions between them. As ever, I am very grateful for your ongoing support.

Monty, Therapy dog session 1

'Monty the therapy dog was in school on Wednesday and we had a series of sessions with students over the course of the day and then some sessions with students at lunchtime for a 'club' where the group of students could even take the dog for a short walk. The sessions we have offered have been massively oversubscribed so an enormous 'thank you' to parents for getting the forms and reply slips back for all the students that have shown an interest in the sessions. The feedback forms from the session on Wednesday are all incredibly positive and show a significant positive impact from the very first session. Our learning mentor Ms Massella has been instrumental in supporting this initiative and helping identify students and supporting students with the sessions. In addition to this, we are so grateful to Gavin and the dog 'Monty' for committing time out of a hectic schedule (helping others) to come in and help us with this trial. Session 2 is on Tuesday next week. Below is a picture of the students in the lunchtime club "Moments with Monty" where I went out with the 3 students and the owner to take the dog for a short 'wellbeing walk'!



Connaught PTA Winter Fair

The Friends of Connaught PTA are gearing up to host a Winter Fair on Wednesday 18th December from 3.30 - 5pm at the school. It will be a great event to close out the final week of the school term. It will be a fun filled afternoon for all to enjoy and is open to students as well as the parents. There will be an array of stalls from our ever-popular bake stall and we are hoping to incorporate a celebration bake-off for students to take part in, there will be prizes for the winning entries and once judged all will be sold at the bake sale. Details will be sent to all students via Google Classroom in the coming weeks.

We will be having a gift/craft stall for any last-minute gifts and if you are a crafter and would like to donate some items for us to sell please get in touch with the PTA, using the email address below.

We are also having a raffle and have already secured some fantastic prizes from local businesses, our top prize of an iPad kindly donated by Trading Places estate agents along with many more prizes being added. If you work for or know a business who would like to donate or if you have any unwanted new gifts we would love to hear from you. We will be sending weekly updates via school but feel free to contact us on connaughtschoolpta@gmail.com with any help you can give or if you have any questions.

We look forward to seeing you at the event.

Thank you

Friends of Connaught PTA

Sustainability and recycling in school

Over the past 10 months, the school has been looking at how we can improve our sustainability, how much we cycle and reduce our carbon footprint. We had considerable investment in 2019 for upgrading the heating systems in the school to make them more efficient, and changed our contract with our waste disposal to upgrade the number of recycling bins and reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste we produce. This term we introduced specific food waste recycling bins in the dining room. These bins are collected and turned into biofuel to make the waste from lunchtime into another product. Even the bin lorry is run from biofuel! Encouraging students to look after their environment and to think about a more sustainable future is part of their personal development, geography and science education.

Extra-Curricular Provision Timetable

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before school	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET
	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall DIA/PET	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall DIA/PET	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall DIA/PET	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall DIA/PET	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall DIA/PET
Break				Year 11 Maths revision 7:30-8:20 Room 2 HUS (Week B only)	
				Guitar and Bass Club Room 28 MOR	Keyboard Club Room 28 MOR (Week A only)
Lunch time	Homework Support Room 20 RIC	Homework Support Room 20	Homework Support Room 20	Homework Support Room 20	Homework Support Room 20
	GCSE Art and Photography Club Room 17 ELB	GCSE Art and Photography Club Room 17 GIL	KS3 Badminton AGI (Week A only)	Board Game Club Room 42 ELK (Week A only)	KS3 Royal Academy Young Artists Club Room 17 ELB
	Citizens UK Club Room 8 PHI	Year 11 Maths revision Room 3 RGN (Week A only)	Geography Video Club Room 7 DES	Year 11 Maths revision Room 3 RGN (Week B only)	KS3 History Club (The Malcolm Doolin Memorial Award for Local History Research) Room 6 KLE
	KS4 Textiles Club Room H2 RAN	KS3 Multi skills sports AGI (Week A only)	KS3 Crochet Club Room H2 RAN	Year 11 French intervention (by invitation) Room 41 FER	Year 11 Biology Intervention (by invitation) Lab 1 AMR
	Computing Club Room 33 LAK	KS3 Textiles Club Room H2 RAN	Computing Club Room 33 LAK	KS3 Dodgeball AGI (Week A only)	Year 11 Chemistry Intervention (by invitation) Lab 4 IQB
	Year 11 Biology Intervention (by invitation) Lab 2 SIQ	Year 11 Geography Drop In Club Room 7 DES	Year 11 Sociology intervention (by invitation) Room 5 KAD	Green Ambassadors Room 7 DES	Year 11 Physics Intervention (by invitation) Lab 3 MUJ
	Year 11 Drama Club Hall JEM	Year 11 History intervention (by invitation) Room 6 KLE	Drama Rehearsals Hall JEM	KS3 Humanities Homework Catch Up Room 7 DES	Year 11 Science Revision Lab 5 ALI
		Year 11 Drama Club Hall JEM	Dog Club SIL	Drama Rehearsals Hall JEM	Peer mentoring (by invitation) Room 5 KAD
		Year 8 and 9 Science Cinema Club Room 8 AMR		Mindfulness Club Room 10 GAH	Year 7 and 8 Maths Club Room 4 SW 11C and PET
		Drum Club Room 28 MOR		Props Club Room 17 GIL	Keyboard Club Room 28 MOR
		Year 11 Study Space Room 32 WAL			

After school	Year 11 Maths revision 15:30-16:30 Room 1 AUL	Football 15:30-16:30 Playground Leyton Orient/AGI	Basketball Club 15:30-16:30 Sports Hall AGI	Archery 14:20-15:20
	Year 10 English Action Tutoring (by invitation) Room 4 CAR	Year 10 Maths Action Tutoring (by invitation) Room 4 LAB		Drama Rehearsals Hall JEM 14:00-15:30
	Boxing 15:30-16:30 Main Hall DIA			

Archery

Due to anticipated high demand, we will be starting a rolling programme of archery classes. The sessions will initially be the “have a go” sessions from Archery GB. The sessions will be on a Friday from 2.20-4.00pm and we will do a series of these so all students that are interested can try this out. Once we have a list of students interested we will allocate a week for them to attend a trial session. Normally the sessions are £18.50 each’ but the school will subsidise the cost of all the “have a go” sessions so that they are freely available for every student who wishes to do it. Once we have finished the list of students wanting to take the taster archery classes, there is a series of beginner courses which are 10 hours (taught over six weeks). We will send out more information on this at a later date. These sessions are beginner classes and the course will work on different techniques to develop the students into competent archers. At the end of the course, students will receive Archery GB certificates. If you wish to sign up for a “have a go” session, please fill in the following form: [Archery "have a go" sessions sign up](#)



College Roadshow

On Monday afternoon, Connaught School for Girls held a college and sixth form road show for our year 11 students. Fifteen different colleges and sixth forms attended the event to advertise their institutions and the courses that they offer. The event was a fantastic opportunity for year 11 students to think about their next steps, ask relevant questions about their potential future pathways and receive post-16 advice, and a fitting end to their mock exam series. Following the event, students reported that they felt even more motivated in their studies to achieve the grades they need to meet their chosen college and sixth form requirements.



Connaught School for Girls Gets Social



Last Friday, students enjoyed watching a film with pizza for refreshment; whilst on Saturday, students participated in drama activities by immersing themselves in their characters. The students are looking forward to showcasing their play on Sunday 15th December to the local community.

Wise Youth Trust Space 4 All Programme started successfully last weekend - the sessions were highly attended and the students were both enthusiastic and excellently behaved. The programme gives students the opportunity to engage with others from the borough in a safe space at Leytonstone Library.



As always, I wish you all a happy weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Silk
Headteacher