

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well. As always, I am pleased to share with you a Friday update at the close of our third week. We opened the school up to prospective new Year 7 students on Wednesday evening for the annual open evening. It was a roaring success and a joy to see the fresh faces of the next year group of young people, finishing their final year of primary school. There were so many fun activities across the school I couldn't possibly name them all. I did manage to paint a greeting card, eat (a lot) of freshly baked shortbread biscuits, and was set on fire by Ms Mujahid in the science display!

A huge Thank you to all the students who helped out in the evening, as it would not have been possible without them. Pictures from science:



The school will be running a series of open morning tours for parents/ carers of prospective students who were unable to make the open evening or who want to have the opportunity to see the school operating as normal during the day. For more information, please direct people to see the school website/ social media feeds for booking.

Our commitment to our school's value of inclusion

In the aftermath of the events in central London on 13th September 2025, and mindful of the hostile material circulated widely across social media in the preceding weeks – content which has understandably left members of our community feeling unsettled and unsafe – I feel it is both timely and necessary to restate our values with clarity and conviction.

Connaught School for Girls remains steadfast in its unwavering commitment to unity, to mutual respect, and to the reciprocity that underpins genuine community. Each student, member of staff, and family associated with our school is an integral and irreplaceable part of a community that is not only diverse but enriched by that very diversity. Together, we form a tapestry of experiences, perspectives, and identities that enable us to cultivate social harmony, collective resilience, and shared happiness.

Our school is, above all, a place of sanctuary and aspiration – a safe space where young people can belong, flourish, and be unconditionally valued. We not only recognise but actively celebrate the distinctiveness of every individual, and we honour the countless ways in which their uniqueness strengthens our collective whole.

It is in this spirit that we reject fear and resist the corrosive forces of division, choosing instead to orient ourselves towards a future of confidence, trust, and hope for our students. Locally, we see the Leytonstone community standing firmly against the language of division and discrimination and showing a commitment to inclusion as well. Should you, or members of your family, feel anxious, distressed, or disquieted, I urge you to approach a member of the school's leadership team. We are here to listen, to support, and to ensure that no one faces these challenges alone.

Thank you for your continued trust, your resilience, and your shared belief in the values that make Connaught not just a school, but a community.

Opportunities and resources

I am pleased to share a [free resource](#) with quick, healthy after-school snack ideas, developed by nutritionists at [Beezee Families](#). They also run a free 12-week programme, delivered both in-person and online, supporting families to build healthy habits around food, physical activity and fun. The next programme starts this September, and sign-ups are open now. For more information, please see [here](#).

The Educational Psychology Service is offering confidential Parent Advice Sessions, where you can speak directly with an educational psychologist about your child. For more information, please see [here](#). You can also find this link by going to the Links icon in the EduLink One app.

A future opportunity that I would like to share, the Black British Book Festival takes place on Sunday, 19th October 2025, at the Barbican Centre, London. It is the UK's largest celebration of Black British writing, with a brilliant line-up of authors, talks and events. For more information, please see [here](#).

Next week's assemblies

The assemblies this week will be celebrating the European Day of Languages. Celebrating the wide diversity of mother tongues in our community, and the power of language to unite.



Year 11 Geography (windy!) visit to Walton-on-the-Naze

Our Year 11 Geography students recently visited Walton-on-the-Naze for their GCSE fieldwork, facing very windy weather conditions with resilience and determination. The focus of the trip was to investigate coastal processes, particularly the flows and cycles involved in longshore drift, while also developing important fieldwork skills. As part of their studies, students carried out a range of qualitative surveys, including questionnaires and Likert scales, which gave them the opportunity to collect first hand data and apply their classroom learning to a real-world environment. Despite the challenging weather, the students engaged fully with every task, working collaboratively and showing great maturity throughout the day. Their positive attitude and enthusiasm made the trip a real success and provided valuable experience to support their upcoming GCSE examinations.





Well done to all the year 11s on the field trip; they made it a really fun and productive day.

School Street Extension Consultation

Today the KS3 students will have come home with a school street extension consultation form as part of Waltham Forest Safer School programme, we would ask that you please read this and complete the form attached, which is to be returned via post to **Waltham Forest Council**, in a freepost envelope. If you would like a copy and your child is in Yr 10 or Yr 11, please ask at them to come to the office to collect it. If you have any questions, the borough has arranged a drop-in information session to be held at the school on **Tuesday 23rd September between 3.30pm and 6.00pm**. If you wish to attend, please note the current restrictions are in force until between 2.45pm and 3.30pm with parking restrictions in place on both Connaught Rd and Dyers Hall Road until 4.00pm

Extra-Curricular Provision

Please find the ECP schedule for the Autumn term so far below - there will be more clubs to follow:

	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 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

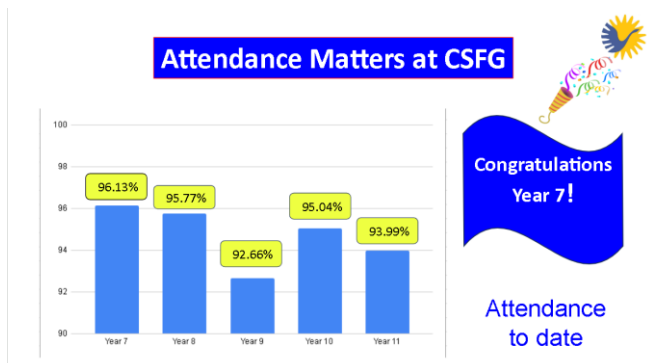
Lunch time	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office
	Year 11 Drama Intervention MAL Drama Studio	Year 11 Drama Intervention MAL Drama Studio	Year 11 Drama Intervention MAL Drama Studio	Year 11 Drama Intervention MAL Drama Studio	Year 11 Drama Intervention MAL Drama Studio
	Key Stage 4 Art and Photography Club ELB Room 9	Key Stage 3 Reading Club RAH Room 36	Key Stage 4 Art Club HCO Room 17	Key Stage 3 Computing and Coding Club ALK Room 33	Year 11 Biology and Chemistry Intervention AMR Mobile
	Year 11 General Revision PET Room 10	Year 7 Cooking Club WAL Room H1	Board games Club ELK Room 42	11x/Ma3 Maths Intervention PET Room 10	
		Year 11 Geography Intervention DES Room 7	Year 11 French Intervention FER Room 41		
			Year 11 Sociology Intervention KAD Room 5		
			Textiles Club RAN Room H2		
			Green Ambassadors DES Room 7 Week A Only		
			Duke Of Edinburgh Support DES Room 7 Week B Only		
	After school	11x/Ma4 Maths Intervention AUL Room 1		11x/Ma5 Maths Tuition LAB Library	Year 11 Textiles coursework Club RAN Room H2

					Lab 3
	11x/Ma5 Maths Tuition LAB Library				
	Key Stage 4 Art and Photography Club ELB Room 9				

Attendance and Achievement Points

Attendance is always a key focus of the school, and we will be sharing each child's attendance on reports each term, to help keep it high profile in every household. We know that attendance is vital for both academic progress and pastoral development, and we ask for your continued support in ensuring your children attend every day.

For your reference, I have also included information for parents and carers on Fixed Penalty Notices for Unauthorised Term-Time Leave. This outlines the legal framework and local procedures for dealing with unauthorised absences and the issuing of Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs).



Achievement Points

We have got off to a brilliant start this year, with all students across the school being awarded APs for excellent work and effort. Congratulations to Year 8 who are currently at the top of the leaderboard and particular congratulations to Romeesa A (8C) and Amrin R (10W) who achieved the most APs in KS3 and KS4 last week.

Uniform - reminder

A small number of students this week have been spoken to about false eyelashes, acrylic nails and earrings.

False eyelashes, nail varnish and/or acrylic nails are **not permitted** in school.

Students may wear up to two small studs in each ear and one nose stud (no hoops).

The reasons are practical: such items present health and safety issues in PE, technology and science, and they are not in keeping with our uniform policy. Thank you for your support in ensuring your child is properly equipped and presented for school.

Year 7 Talk the Talk - Talk about Transition Workshop

On Monday, 22nd September, we look forward to welcoming Talk the Talk into school to work with our year 7 cohort in a workshop reflecting on the transition to secondary school. This is part of the work the year 7 team are doing this term to smooth the transition from primary to secondary school. Funded by the Jack Petchey scheme, this will be an interactive workshop aimed at reflecting on the transition into secondary school so far, building confidence and self-esteem and help build relationships with their new peers. We look forward to seeing who will be the oracy champions at the end of the workshop!

Year 7 Parents'/Carer's and Tutor Evening

We look forward to welcoming parents and carers into school to meet the year 7 team on Wednesday, 1st October. This will be a chance to meet your daughter's tutor and Head of Year so see how they have settled in and discuss any positives or concerns you have. More information regarding the evening will be going out to year 7 parents and carers next week.

FRIENDS OF CONNAUGHT PTA - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On Wednesday 1st October, 6 - 7pm, the meeting will take place in RM 10, entrance via Come you all to come along and find out how you can be part of the PTA community and help us raise funds to enrich the students.

We will also be voting in key members for the PTA, so please come along and show your support.

Any questions and enquires please contact: **Connaughtschoolpta@gmail.com**

As always, have a great weekend,



Mr. Silk
Headteacher