

Seize the day

EXCELLENCE. RESILIENCE. INCLUSION.

Headteacher: Mr Alexander Silk, MA , NPQH**4th December 2025**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones well; a Friday update for you as always. It has been another full and positive week in school, so I wanted to share some key updates with you. We had our second incredible 'Talent Show' from the Peer Mentor Team and Mr Kajue (**much** more on this next week...) among other exciting events all detailed below.

It was fantastic to see families at Wednesday's Year 10 Parents' Evening. This was an important moment in the school year as we began early conversations about how they are progressing with their option subjects and core GCSEs. It is important to provide feedback early in the course and it was a helpful, informative and positive evening. Thank you to all the parents who attended and continue to support the school and to show a keen interest in their daughters' education.

The Local Authority has shared details of the Waltham Forest Winter Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme. Bookings open on 24th November 2025 and run from Saturday 20th December 2025- Friday 2nd January 2026. The programme provides holiday clubs for children who are in receipt of benefit-related Free School Meals across the borough. For more information, please see [here](#): Please do take a look if you think this may be helpful for your family.

A really lovely opportunity to highlight now, soprano Rebecca Lea, pianist Caroline Jaya-Ratnam, and composer Anita Datta are hosting a **free singing workshop** for young people **aged 12–18**, with the unique chance to perform at the launch of '**The New Winter Songbook**' in central London.

 **Workshop: Thursday 8th January | 6:00–8:00pm** **Location: Walthamstow School for Girls** **Follow-up Concert: Friday 16th January | St Giles Cripplegate**

For more information or to sign up, please see [here](#).

Achievement Points

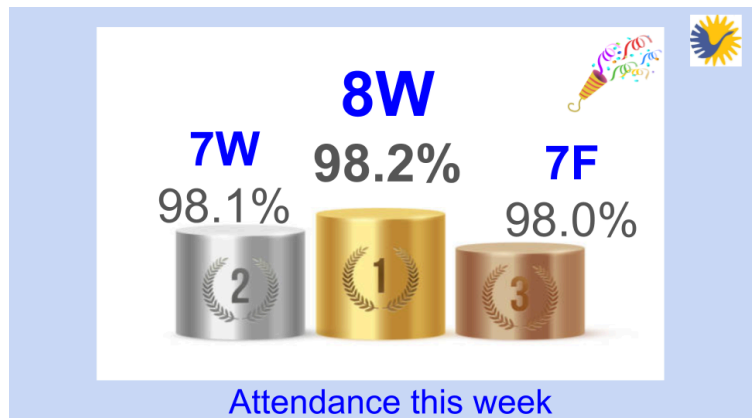
A big well done to 8S who are back at the top of the AP leaderboard. There were many achievement points given out this week and students keep working hard to receive the recognition they deserve.

Particular congratulations to Roxana G (11C) and Rosanna D (7S) who received the highest number of APs this week in KS3 and KS4.

Attendance Matters

Currently our whole school attendance is 94.8% (the national average is 92.3%). The breakdown by year group is:

- Year 7 - 95.94%
- Year 8 - 95.8%
- Year 9 - 93.93%
- Year 10 - 95.3%
- Year 11 - 92.39%



Year 9 have increased their attendance over the last two weeks, well done!

It is very close at the top of our Tutor Group Attendance Leaderboard this week:

Well done to all those who have met or exceeded our school target this week!

Next week's assemblies

Mr Silk will be leading KS3 and KS4 assemblies next week with the theme of Human Rights Day.

Scholastic Book Fair is back!

Cases of books, stationary and other goodies will be making their way to the Library. On Friday 5th December, students will be able to have a look at the books in stock. They may wish to fill in a wishlist. This can be used for parents to view which books are appropriate for the student, and can make payment in advance.

From Monday 8th December to Wednesday 10th December, Scholastic Book Fair will be up and running at lunch time. The fantastic thing about the Scholastic Book Fair is that the more books our students buy, the more rewards our school receives to get more books into our library!

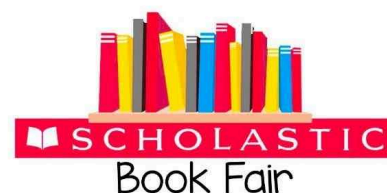
This is an amazing opportunity to get students to add a book to their home bookshelf. With Christmas around the corner, this may also be a great time to get your presents!

There are a number of other ways to pay for books at the Book Fair.

1. Students can pay with cash.
2. Students can pay with a debit card.
3. Parents/Carers can pay in advance online with the wishlist their child has filled in.
4. Parents/carers/students can buy vouchers online (if you do not want students to carry cash into school). Please visit: (<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers>) .

There is also an opportunity for your child to win £5 vouchers. We are running two competitions. There are 5 vouchers to win in total!

Thank you again for supporting the school in promoting reading for pleasure, and supporting the library in keeping up to date with new stock.



Bedrock

All students in KS3 are expected on a weekly basis to complete 20 points (2 lessons).

Parents and carers can also log on to their child's Bedrock platform with the special code given in a letter a few weeks ago. Once you have logged on, you will be able to see what vocabulary and grammar skills your child has learned, and needs to practice. If you require your code, please email the library, library@connaught-cloud.co.uk.

Bedrock Points Leaderboard

Aoife Rae 8W → 509 points
Hafsa Abdul Khaliq 8S → 455 points
Gabrielle Djemili-Arnold 8S → 246 points
Novreen Aryubi 7C → 216 points
Haleemah Parkar 8W → 215 points
Maryam Rizwan 8W → 210 points
Maryam Ali 8C → 189 points
Tasneem Patel 8F → 184 points
Ozelle Villier 8W → 176 points
Soundos Benziane 7C → 165 points

Words We Are Learning

Here is the vocabulary list we are focusing on this half term:

Apprehensive, cordial, dwell, prosper, tangible, apparel, blunder, conspicuous, objective

Reading Matters

Students are also expected to log the number of minutes they are reading on Reading Tracker. The form with the most points are:

Our top reader from each form, and receiving a postcard, are:

Mahnour Ali 7C, Abigail Marshall 7F,
Rosanna Drew Rennie 7S, Imaan
Mohammed 7W

Zairah Ahmed 8C, Kirsten Lakha 8F,
Aaisha Ahmed 8S, Aleyah Alah 8W

Dixie Donohoe 9C, Asma Waheed 9F,
Khadija Noor 9S, Sakeenah Parkar
9W



KS4 English visit 'A Christmas Carol'

KS4 Students were given the opportunity to attend a performance of their Literature text 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens on the evening of the 4th December at the wonderful Alexandra Palace theatre. This was a fantastic show by Mark Gatiss and the brilliant minds behind 'The League of Gentlemen'. The production, known for its 'eerie Victorian special effects and spine-tingling storytelling, starred Neil Morrissey as Jacob Marley and Matthew Cottle as Scrooge. It was a thought-provoking show with outstanding performances from all the cast and slick production. The Year 11 and Year 10 students who came along are feeling empowered about analysing this text in future exams. The trip was organised by Ms Burton and supported by Ms Caroto and Ms Verdonkschot, who all ensured the students had a thoroughly enjoyable and educational experience despite the longer journey planning to North London! Thank you to our staff.

Secondary School Athletics Competition

Last Tuesday, sixteen of our students proudly represented the school at the **inter-borough Secondary School Athletics Competition**. The team was made up of eight Year 7 pupils and eight Year 8 pupils, all eager to compete, challenge themselves, and show what they could do. Despite facing tough competition from schools across the borough, our athletes **demonstrated dedication, teamwork, and determination throughout the event.**

The **Year 8 team** delivered a particularly strong performance, finishing **5th** out of 9 schools in the borough and they showed excellent skill across a range of events.



Our **Year 7 team** gave their all in every event, finishing 8th out of 9 schools. For many of them, it was their first major athletics competition, and they approached it with great enthusiasm and resilience. Their effort and positive attitude were fantastic to see, and they gained valuable experience that will serve them well in future competitions.

Both teams demonstrated commendable sportsmanship and supported one another throughout the day. Their commitment to representing the school was inspiring, and we are incredibly proud of every student who took part.

Congratulations to all our athletes on their achievements !

Extra-Curricular Provision

Please find the ECP schedule for the second half of the Autumn term:

	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
	LEGO Club CJ/DF Room 20	Homework Club NA Room 20	Homework Club DL Room 20	Homework Club RIC Room 20	Year 11 Biology and Chemistry Intervention AMR Mobile
	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	11x/Ma6 Maths Intervention RGN Room 3
	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	Rollerskating Club DIA/GAG Gym
		Year 11 Geography Intervention DES Room 7	Year 11 Sociology Intervention KAD Room 5	Badminton Club GAG Gym Week B	Crochet Club HUS Room 17
		Key Stage 4 English 19th Century Fiction Club CAR Room	Textiles Club RAN Room H2	Year 9 and 10 Performance and Poetry Club BUR Room 35	Year 8 Connections Club ALI Room 38

		34			
		Year 11 History Intervention KLE Room 6	Green Ambassadors DES Room 7 Week A Only	Year 11 French Intervention FER Room 41	
		Year 8 Attend Club ALI Room 38	Duke Of Edinburgh Support DES Room 7 Week B Only		
		Drama Club MAL Hall	History Film Club KLE Room 6		
			11x/Ma2 Maths Intervention ADO Room 4 Week B Only		
			Year 11 Spanish Intervention Room 40 MAV		
			Dodgeball Club GAG Gym Week B		
			Year 7-10 Let's Celebrate KHL Room 39		
			Year 9 Teen Tech Awards KHN Library		
After school	11x/Ma4 Maths Intervention AUL Room 1	Year 10 Maths Action Tutoring ADO Room 4	11x/Ma5 Maths Tuition LAB Library	Year 11 Textiles coursework Club RAN Room H2	Year 11 Physics and Chemistry Intervention MUJ Lab 3
	11x/Ma5 Maths Tuition LAB Library	Year 9 and 10 Debate Club KHN Library	Year 10 English Action Tutoring CAR Room 4		11x/Sc3 Science Intervention Lab 4 IQB Week B
	Key Stage 4 Art and Photography Club ELB Room 9	Leyton Orient Football Club GAG Gym			

Finally some personal recognition to Joylyn, one of our Yr11 students. Joylyn is an Air Cadet and has been recognised for outstanding achievement and a promotion. As one of our dedicated hard working students, Joylyn has grown in confidence and is a great example of

resilience and commitment to all at Connaught. The certificate is because the squadron won 1st place for wing and regional field day. Joylyn got the flight lieutenant Keen award for her drive, determination and enthusiasm exceeding the squadrons expectations. The last one is from my promotion from cadet to cadet corporal. A highly impressive feat to receive promotion within 7 months. Well done Joylyn, we are remarkably proud of you.



As always, thank you for your continued support and patience; it makes such a positive difference to the climate and culture of the school.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'A. Silk'.

Mr. Silk
Headteacher