

Seize the day

EXCELLENCE. RESILIENCE. INCLUSION.

Headteacher: Mr Alexander Silk, MA , NPQH

1st May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. It has been another purposeful and resilient week at Connaught as we continue through a demanding period for the school community. I would like to begin by recognising the maturity and focus shown by our students, alongside the exceptional professionalism of the staff who have ensured that the school has remained **fully open throughout** and operating with consistency and purpose. Maintaining this level of provision during a period of industrial action is not without challenge, and I am extremely grateful to all colleagues who have gone above and beyond to support our students and uphold the high standards we expect.

This is also a significant time in the academic year, particularly for our Year 11 students, who will next week begin their formal written GCSE examinations. It has been a pleasure to see the positive attitude and approach to learning in school, demonstrating commitment, creativity and determination in their lessons this week as they approach this important milestone.

Year 8 Parents evening

Parents' Evening did take place on Wednesday, 29th April 4.30 - 7pm. We welcomed parents in, and appointments were made with all the teachers who are in school. I apologise again that several teachers are not in school currently due to the ongoing strike action.

Year 11 shirt signing

The annual event of Year 11 shirt signing went ahead today, and we had Year 11 in the Hall and playground during lunchtime to sign shirts and write messages of support to each other ahead of the exams.

Paris visit

This week, from Monday to Wednesday, 33 students and 4 accompanying staff visited Paris. We were fortunate to be able to visit a plethora of sightseeing spots including the Louvre, Notre Dame, the Eiffel Tower, the Musée de l'Illusion, Montmartre, Jardin de Luxembourg and the Arc de Triomphe and a boat trip along the Seine. Staff and students had the best time! There will be a full update in next week's letter after we have had some rest from clocking up almost 60,000 steps over the three days...



'Connaught goes out'- going ahead as planned!

Connaught Goes Out information letters have been sent via Arbor. The **whole school** will be out on visits on **Wednesday 24th June**. All students have the opportunity to take part in a visit:

- Years 7 and 8 - Chessington World of Adventure (£42)
- Years 9 and 10 - Thorpe Park (£47)
- Years 7 - 10 - London Walk and picnic (no cost)

Places on visits can be secured on a first come, first served basis by paying a non-refundable deposit and completing consent via Arbor. These visits are a staple in the school calendar every year and students look forward to these reward visits and they are a great bonding opportunity for students and a valuable part of their school experience. We are pleased to offer these again this year and these visits will go ahead.

Peer Mentoring Visit to Emirates Stadium

On Sunday, our Peer Mentoring students enjoyed a fantastic trip to Arsenal Stadium to watch Arsenal Women play Olympique Lyonnais, in the Women's Champions League Semi Final! It was a great occasion and a special bonding experience for the girls, who have really put so much effort into providing events and activities for their fellow pupils!

A full write up will be shared next week!



Local activities

We have been asked to share information about a community event taking place on Saturday 9th May at Waltham Forest Leisure Centre. The police will be hosting a Bike Marking Event from 1:00pm to 3:00pm. This is a great opportunity for families to have bicycles security-marked and receive advice on keeping them safe.

Art and Photography GCSE exams

Year 11 students have made an excellent start to the GCSE exam season by successfully completing their Art and Photography practical exams, the first GCSE assessments to be finished. It has been fantastic to see such creativity, dedication and focus from the students this week.

We wish them the very best of luck as they continue with their language speaking exams this week, and as they prepare for the written exam series beginning on 6th May.

Year 10 Theatre Visit

Year 10 GCSE Drama students visited the theatre to see the hit, West End show *Inter Alia* at London's Wyndham Theatre. The production not only showcased excellent acting and technical elements, but also explored challenging themes surrounding the legal system, consent, and modern parenting. The students thoroughly enjoyed the performance and have returned to the drama studio with fresh ideas for their own devised pieces.



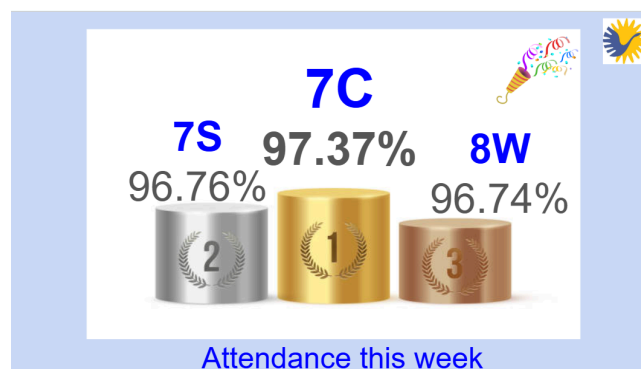
Assembly next week

Next week's assemblies are about democracy and local elections.

Attendance Matters

Attendance to school remains a key focus. All students should attend as usual every day and be on time, arriving at school by 8.20am.

We are pleased to introduce our new Educational Welfare Officer (EWO), Nathalie Bennett who works as part of Waltham Forest BACME (Behaviour, Attendance and Children Missing from Education Service). We will be working together to support families in ensuring excellent attendance.



Achievement Points

Date	Tutor Group	Points
13.04.26	8F	211
20.04.26	8F	518
27.04.26	8F	589
04.05.26		
11.05.26		
18.05.26		

Highest number of APs in KS3 this week: Haleemah P 8W (14!)

Highest number of APs in KS4 this week: Daniela G 10S (10!)

Bedrock Leaderboard

The following students have gained the most points this week and are in the top 10! Postcards will be coming your way.

- Ozelle Villiers 8W → 226
- Rosanna Drew Rennie 7S → 16
- Gabrielle Djemili-Arnold 8S → 102
- Leila Siraz 8C → 94
- Aoife Rae 8W → 71



- Leila Watson 8W → 62
- Mary Ellis-Williams 8F → 50
- Maryam Ali 8C → 46
- Aisha Issuf 9W → 45
- Susanna Chum 9F → 45

Reading Matters: Congratulations 8S!

Extra-Curricular Provision

	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 RIC Room 20	Homework Club NA Room 20	Homework Club DL Room 20	Homework Club RIC Room 20	Year 11 Biology Clinic 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 10 Drama Rehearsals MAL Drama Studio	Year 7 Cooking Club WAL Room H1	Year 7 Nuture Club ELK Room 42	11x/Ma3 Maths Drop In PET Room 10	Year 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
		Year 11 English Literature Revision CAR Room 34	Textiles Club RAN Room H2	Year 9 Poetry Club BUR Room 35	Year 8 Connections Club ALI Room 38
	Year 11 History Intervention KLE Room 6	Green Ambassadors DES Room 7 Week A Only	Year 11 French Intervention FER Room 41	Drama Club MAL Hall	

		Year 8 Attend Club ALI Room 38	Duke Of Edinburgh Support DES Room 7 Week B Only	Year 11 Chemistry Clinic AMR Mobile Week A Only	
		Drama Club MAL Hall	History Film Club KLE Room 6	Year 11 Drama Intervention MAL Room 8	
		Key Stage 3 Futsal Club KAD/GAG Gym	11x/Ma2 Maths Intervention ADO Room 4 Week B Only		
		11x/Ma5 Maths Intervention LAB Room 37	Dodgeball Club GAG Gym Week B		
			Year 7-10 Let's Celebrate KHL Room 39		
			Year 9 Teen Tech Awards KHN Library		
			Key Stage 3 Collage Club ELB Room 9		
			GCSE Art Coursework Catch Up Club HOC Room 17		
After school	11x/Ma4 Maths Intervention AUL Room 1	Year 10 Maths Action Tutoring IN Room 4	Year 10 English Action Tutoring CAR Room 4	Year 11 Textiles coursework Club RAN Room H2	Year 11 Physics and Chemistry Intervention MUJ Lab 3
	Key Stage 4 Art and Photography Club ELB Room 9	Year 9 and 10 Debate Club KHN Library			11x/Sc3 Science Intervention Lab 4 IQB Week B
	Year 10 Drama Rehearsals MAL Drama Studio	Leyton Orient Football Club GAG Gym			
	Year 11 Spanish Intervention EMA Room 40	Year 11 Drama Intervention MAL Room 8			

Wishing you a great Bank Holiday weekend, and we look forward to welcoming all the students back at the usual time on Tuesday 5th May.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Silk'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent horizontal stroke across the middle.

Mr. Silk
Headteacher