

Wanstead High School

Education with Character

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Headteacher: Miss E Hillman

27th May 2025

Dear Parent/Carer,

Thank you for your continued support for the school during this short term. Do please make time to read the Heron Homelink as it has lots of information about the amazing achievements of our young people and the hard work of staff.

Return to School on Monday 2nd June

With the exception of any Year 11s and Year 13s who may have exams, pupils should return to school at 9.40am for registration. Gates will be open from 9.25am - an hour later than normal allowing time for staff to get together after Ofsted and set expectations for the final half-term. The normal school day will continue from 10.00am with break and lunch as normal.

Staffing

We have said goodbye to Ms Qureshi, one of our TAs, and thank her for all the work she has done with our SEND learners. She returns to work for HMRC – quite a change! We also say goodbye to Ms Vadgama in June, another TA, who will be retiring.

National Thank a Teacher Day will be celebrated on Wednesday 18th June and this year we will be celebrating all of the amazing teaching and support staff in our school - from the canteen staff to the TAs and pastoral team. They deserve a thank you for everything they do. If you have a special teacher, dedicated support staff member or even a whole school team in mind, let them know how grateful you are by sending a free e-card on the [Thank a Teacher website](#). We will also be sharing this with our pupils - and hope that they will join us in celebrating.

Eid

As you know, we have to plan in advance to ensure both staff and pupils can celebrate Eid-UI-Adha. We anticipate that this date will be Friday 6th June, however, we are aware that differing groups of Muslims follow different Islamic countries for the sighting of the moon, and therefore the start of Eid-UI-Adha may vary. Please complete the form below to ensure that we know who will not be attending school on this day or specify another day - please complete by Monday 2nd June at 8.00am. This will be recorded as religious observance.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSehaxz4HCWrNUxOHHIexfPsPQP2SQKXQe5GbfuWTDc-RgvaUg/viewform?usp=header>

We wish all who are celebrating a very happy day with your friends and families.

Attendance Update

We now have a new team of attendance staff (Ms Ali and Ms Shah) and this means we now have the capacity to undertake home visits. If your child has been off for a period of time, and we do not have the correct information about their absence or want to offer more support, the team may visit you and your child at home. These visits have been very helpful so far in ensuring a partnership between home and school and encouraging and enabling pupils to come back to school.



Parent Feedback

Thank you to those that completed the Ofsted Parent View survey - we will be sending out a more bespoke survey in the summer term to dig deeper into some of these areas. There was some very positive feedback with the vast majority of parents appreciating that their children are safe, happy and doing well as well as appreciating the wide curriculum on offer, both in and out of the classroom. We always reflect on any feedback and will use it to add to our school development plan for the year ahead.

Communication

We will be revisiting our communication strategy in readiness for next year to look at setting out clearer expectations for you about methods of communication with the school - this will include who and how the school will communicate with you and acceptable time periods for a response. This will also set out how we expect parents to communicate with the school. Although it is rare, there have been a number of incidents of abuse to staff which we will not tolerate. We will be asking for a focus group of parents to be involved in shaping this strategy to ensure it works for both the school and stakeholders.

Uniform

As the weather will be more changeable after half-term, we ask that pupils return to compulsory wearing of blazers until further notice. We will update you further about plans for a possible summer uniform for next year and also some other small changes for September after discussion with Governors. In regards to equipment - please ensure pupils return fully equipped for the lessons they have each day. This includes the following equipment as a minimum expectation: 2 pens, 1 pencil, 1 ruler, 1 eraser, a scientific calculator, a reading book of choice. Optional equipment used in some subjects includes a glue stick and colour pencils.

Lost Property

We will be running regular Lost Property Sessions in the future and I know that the last one meant items were returned. When they are named, this makes life so much easier and we returned over 50 items to pupils directly last week which had names on. Thanks to the office helpers for all their hard work delivering these items.

I hope you enjoy the rest of the week and Year 11s and 13s have some downtime before the final few weeks of exams.

All the best



Emma Hillman
Headteacher