

HERON HOMELINK



Education with Character

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WHS Heron Homelink July 2026 Issue No. 24

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Dear **Miss Hillman**, I would like to thank you for all you do for all the students and parents at Wanstead High. It's a really great school and seems to be getting better by the year. After our visit when she was in Year 5 we didn't attend any other open evenings. My daughter is enjoying Wanstead High School so much and is doing well academically and is also enjoying all the extra-curricular activities. She is happy with the school and she has transitioned seamlessly. Our younger children are looking forward to joining next year.

Year 7 parent

The show was a real credit to the school last night - very enjoyable and so professional.

Year 7 parent

Dear **Miss Hillman**, I hope you know that the majority of parents really do appreciate everything the school and staff do. Thank you for the care, dedication and enthusiasm you bring to educating the children, as well as for organising extra fun activities like yesterday. Those moments make such a positive difference and are genuinely valued by so many of us.

Year 7 parent

To **Miss Hillman**, my sincere gratitude for addressing personally the matter of communications in your letter. Once again, you demonstrate pragmatism and dedication above all. Have a lovely holiday.

Year 7 parent

Dear **Year 7 team**, thank you so much for organising and supervising the Year 7 trip to Southend today. Our son and his friends came home having had a brilliant time. We really do appreciate all the effort and care that goes into a trip like this. Thank you for giving them a great ending to Year 7!

Year 7 parent



Keep up to date with us via our website: <https://www.wansteadhigh.co.uk/> or follow us on Twitter, Facebook or Instagram (wansteadhigh11)



THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD



London Borough of
Redbridge



Good afternoon, I just wanted to thank all involved yesterday for both the Thorpe Park and Adventure Island reward trips. My children had a fantastic time.

Year 7 & 10 parent

I was excited to read the letter from your new Science Director. I am still very happy to run science work experience in the future.

Year 7 parent

Hi, I really hope you're all well. I wanted to drop the school a quick line to say how brilliant yesterday's trip was. My son came home on such a high - he'd had so much fun from start to finish. We found it well organised, including giving the kids lots of freedom while keeping them safe, and the perfect destination for a group of 11 and 12 year olds. So, thank you from both my son and myself for a great rewards trip - he's looking forward to whatever Y8's will be.

Year 7 parent

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Year 7 parent

Dear **Miss Hillman**, thank you to everyone involved in making the transition day a success yesterday. My daughter came home brimming with excitement about her new school. She said she had an amazing day and is so excited about starting at Wanstead.

Miss White - thank you for approaching my daughter - she loved chatting to you and said you made her feel very welcome. Thank you again for making such a positive first impression.

Year 7 Sept 2026 parent

To **all of our son's teacher** this year, thank you so much for such a wonderful first year at WHS. We're so grateful for everything you have done for him this year and all the inspiring lessons. He's had a wonderful first year (so have we!) and he's really settled in - he loves WHS and that's thanks to all of you. Huge appreciation from us both and have a fantastic, well-earned break this summer! Looking forward to Year 8!

Year 7 parent

Dear **Miss Hillman**, thank you to all staff at WHS for your continued commitment to our children.

I hope that you have a wonderful summer.

Year 7 & 9 parent

Dear **Ms Harper, Ms Gullefer & Ms Gadhi**, we just wanted to drop you all a note of thanks for your support and guidance of our son this transition year. There was nervousness and trepidation last September but as we close the year, he is more settled, happy and more confident in his academic ability; all of this is due to help, support, guidance and patience that you have all provided this year and we would like to thank you so much. The trip yesterday was "the icing on the cake" - he loved it and I can only imagine the logistical challenge that was for staff - thank you. Wishing you all a restful and happy summer holiday."

Year 7 parent

Dear **Mrs Lane**, thank you for organising and running the Year 11 prom last week. My son had a great time and loved the whole event. I know it's a big commitment for you in terms of time and effort, and also for the staff who supervised the event on the night, but it is very much appreciated. I also wanted to say thank you for all your support over my son's time at Wanstead High, initially as his form tutor, then his PE and Sport teacher and latterly as his head of year. He's been very fortunate to have had such a dedicated teacher, who is prepared to go above and beyond and has the best interests of the students at heart, so involved in his time at Wanstead. Thank you."

Year 11 parent

Dear **Year 7 team**, thank you so much for organising and supervising the Year 7 trip to Southend today. Our son and his friends came home having had a brilliant time. We really do appreciate all the effort and care that goes into a trip like this. Thank you for giving them a great ending to Year 7!"

Year 7 parent

Dear **Miss Hillman**, thank you for your email. Please can I extend my thanks to all staff involved in the organisation of this trip. My son had a great time on the trip, and even though there are circumstances in this case that are outside of your control it did not affect the children enjoying the day. In the circumstances it sounds like the staff took the necessary steps to ensure there was as little disruption to the day as possible, it's much appreciated."

Year 7 parent

Dear **Miss Hillman**, a little note to say a big thanks to all WHS staff & teaching staff. We truly appreciate all you do for our kids & community."

Year 10 & 11 parent

Dear **Miss Hillman**, thanks for keeping everyone safe and closing the school early."

Year 7 parent

Dear **Mr Sweet**, I just wanted to send you a quick email to say thank you. My son has absolutely loved music over the last couple of years, and I'm sure a big part of that is down to you. He's genuinely excited to be taking Music GCSE next year, which says a lot about how much he's enjoyed your lessons and music at WHS. I also wanted to mention the talent show last week. For him to get up on stage and perform in front of everyone was a huge thing for him. Knowing how naturally shy he is, I never thought he'd do something like that, and he absolutely loved it. I'm sure you've helped build that confidence over the last few years, probably without even realising it. Thanks again for everything, and have a lovely summer."

Year 9 parent

Dear all, as our son comes to the end of his Key Stage 3 journey, we wanted to take a moment to acknowledge the support, opportunities and experiences he has been given along the way:

Ms Hillman, thank you for opening the door to so many memorable opportunities and experiences that have enriched our son's time at school. The Duke of Edinburgh Award, the Dunkirk trip, LAMDA lessons, sports clubs, theatre visits and reward trips have all helped shape his early secondary school experience and created memories that will stay with him for years to come. We recognise that many local schools are simply unable to offer the breadth of opportunities that you do, and we are genuinely grateful for the time and commitment from your staff that goes into making them possible.

Mrs Lane, our son has spoken about your kindness and enthusiasm, and he still says that the Duke of Edinburgh camping trip was one of the highlights this year.

Ms Khan (PSM), your door has always been open, and you have consistently made time to listen whenever our son had a worry or needed someone to talk to. He has always found you approachable, supportive and someone he deeply respects. Your encouragement and belief in him have helped him to continue believing in himself, even during times when he felt others did not. As parents, we are incredibly grateful for the positive influence you have had on his confidence and wellbeing.

Ms Jacob, Ms Cini and his tutor **Ms Waters** for steering a steady ship throughout our son's Year 9 journey. We are grateful for your consistency, clear communication and awareness of any issues as they arose. Thank you also for your support with the GCSE options process and for organising the trip to Chessington. This was a great end to his KS3 journey!

Ms Warren and Ms Dietze for your nurturing approach and the care you have shown. Even teenage boys need this support, and our son genuinely trusts you both as consistent and reassuring figures in his school life.

Ms Malik, Ms Begum, Ms Everhart, Mr Z Ali and Ms Samuel your smiles, warm greetings and regularly taking a moment to ask how he was made him feel seen and valued. These simple acts of kindness and respect often make the biggest difference, and we are very grateful that even during your busy days, you find the time to do this.

A special thank you to the teachers who have made a real difference in the classroom and inspired our son's love of learning: **Mr Willer, Mr Hoque, Mr Alom, Mr Sains** - he has been fortunate to have such experienced and dedicated teachers who have helped build his confidence, curiosity and foundations for KS4 learning."

Year 9 parent

I wanted to bring to your attention an incident on Christchurch Green this morning before school. A lady fell off her bike and 2 of your wonderful pupils ran to her aid. One of the boys said they were 12 years old and so I am guessing Year 7. The boys were so polite and kind, helping the lady to her feet and picking up her bike. If there is time before the end of term, I hope you can catch up with them to say well done and thank you. They were in Wanstead PE kit uniforms and are a credit to your school, their parents and of course most importantly themselves. As a resident of Wanstead, I often see your pupils in the high street and sitting on the green, their happiness and laughter an asset to our community. They are always polite, kind and respectful. I hope all at Wanstead High have a well-deserved and relaxing summer break. I wanted to take the time to email because I know you don't always hear the good stuff!"

Community Thanks



Head of Year 7

Ms R Gullefer

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a truly remarkable year, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the many achievements of our wonderful Year 7 pupils and thank parents and carers for their continued support throughout the year.

It has been a transformative first year at secondary school for our Year 7 cohort. From September to July, they embraced every challenge with enthusiasm, resilience and determination, continually striving for excellence in all that they do. I could not be prouder of everything they have achieved.

This term has been particularly exciting. Many of our Year 7 pupils took part in our spectacular Dance Show, showcasing their talent, creativity and commitment in front of a large audience. Their performances were outstanding and reflected the many hours of hard work they dedicated throughout the year. We were also incredibly proud of those pupils who represented the school at the London Youth Games Dance Competition in Stratford, competing against other boroughs from across London. To perform and compete at such a high level was a fantastic achievement, and they represented themselves and our school exceptionally well.

Our Year 7 pupils also continued to shine through the performing arts. We were delighted to see a number of pupils perform in the Summer Music Concert, demonstrating their musical talents, confidence and dedication. Their performances entertained and impressed the audience, and it was wonderful to see them sharing their skills with the wider school community. Performing in front of others takes courage, and every pupil who took part should be incredibly proud of their achievement.

Another highlight was our very successful trip to Southend. It was wonderful to see pupils enjoying themselves, making memories with friends and celebrating the end of a successful year together. The behaviour of all pupils throughout the trip was exemplary, and they were a credit to their families and to our school. Staff were delighted to see them having so much fun while continuing to demonstrate such maturity, kindness and respect.

Culture Day was another unforgettable occasion. It was inspiring to see so many of our Year 7 pupils sharing and celebrating their cultures with pride. The afternoon performances were truly incredible, and the courage, confidence and enthusiasm shown by those performing in front of the entire school was remarkable. A special thank you must go to our fantastic Year 7 EAL Ambassadors, whose leadership, organisation and dedication helped make the event such a success. Your hard work behind the scenes and on the day, itself was greatly appreciated, and you should be immensely proud of what you achieved.

We would also like to congratulate our Year 7 Athletics Team, who represented the school brilliantly this term. Competing with determination and sportsmanship, they brought home several medals and achieved some excellent results. You have done us all very proud, and we look forward to seeing what you accomplish in the years ahead.

Finally, I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all parents and carers for your support, encouragement and partnership throughout the year. Your involvement has played a vital role in helping our pupils flourish during this important transition to secondary school.

Year 7, you have made an outstanding start to your secondary school journey. You have embraced new opportunities, overcome challenges and achieved so much in your first year. I am incredibly proud of each and every one of you for continuing to strive for excellence every day.

As we look ahead to Year 8, we are excited to see what new successes, experiences and achievements await. Have a wonderful summer break, and congratulations on an exceptional year. We cannot wait to see all that you will accomplish next year. Well done, Year 7 – you have done yourselves, your families and your school proud.

Have an amazing summer and be safe!



Head of Year 8

Ms G White

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and celebrate everything our Year 8 pupils have achieved. It has been a year full of learning, growth, creativity, and memorable experiences. Year 8 pupils have had a really positive end to the school year with the way they represented themselves on the end of year reward trip along with a memorable final achievement assembly. Congratulations to everyone who received special awards, certificates, and subject awards. Every achievement, big or small, deserves to be celebrated.

Year 8 pupils have worked hard across all subjects, developing new skills and

building confidence in their learning. Year 8 pupils have embraced a wide range of opportunities, including educational visits, enrichment activities, sports competitions and fixtures, Music, Drama and Dance performances, and wide range of other activities.

I am proud of the progress our pupils have made and I am excited to continue working with them in Year 9. As pupils prepare to move into Year 9, they will take on new challenges and responsibilities. Year 9 is an exciting stage of secondary school, offering new opportunities to develop independence and begin thinking about future pathways.

Thank you to our parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year especially as I returned from maternity leave. I would like to wish all our Year 8 pupils and their families a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer holiday.



Head of Year 9

Ms N Jacob

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another academic year, it is hard to believe how quickly it has gone. It has been a busy but fantastic year, and I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year as Head of Year 9. From the very beginning, pupils made me feel incredibly welcome, and it has been a pleasure getting to know them. We have a talented year group, and I feel very fortunate to have worked with them this year.

There have been so many highlights to look back on. One of my favourites was watching Our House and seeing pupils perform with such confidence and enthusiasm. Their commitment and talent were clear to see, and it was wonderful to watch them shine on stage.

Our trips to France and our end of year visit to Chessington World of Adventures were also real highlights. On each trip, pupils represented the school brilliantly. They showed maturity, supported one another and made the most of every opportunity. It was lovely to see them enjoying themselves while creating lasting memories with their friends.

Another standout moment was Culture Day. Seeing pupils proudly share their

cultures through performances, traditional dress and conversations with their peers was a real celebration of our school community. The excitement throughout the day was wonderful to see, and it was a reminder of the diversity that makes our year group so special.

This term has also been an important one as pupils completed their GCSE options process. I have been impressed with the thoughtful approach they have taken when making these decisions, and they will soon receive confirmation of the subjects they will study in Year 10.

As we look ahead, I am excited to see what Year 10 brings. GCSE courses mark the beginning of a new chapter, and I know our pupils are more than capable of rising to the challenge. I look forward to seeing them continue to grow in confidence and achieve their potential over the next two years.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year. It makes a real difference and is greatly appreciated.

I hope all of our Year 9 pupils have a well-earned summer break. Enjoy the time with family and friends, take the opportunity to recharge, and come back in September ready for the next step in your journey. I look forward to welcoming you all back as our new Year 10 pupils.



Head of Year 10

Ms C Murray

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy and successful year, I want to say how incredibly proud I am of our Year 10 pupils. It is hard to believe that they are about to become our Year 11s (how did that happen?!), but they have shown throughout this year that they are more than ready for the challenge ahead.

For me, our mock examinations were a real highlight of the year. I was so impressed with the maturity, determination and resilience pupils showed throughout the exam period. They approached every exam with a positive attitude, worked incredibly hard with their revision and gave each paper their very best effort. Most importantly, they embraced the mocks as a valuable learning experience, giving them a clear understanding of their strengths and the areas they can continue to develop before next summer. They should all be very proud of what they have achieved.

Of course, Year 10 has not just been about hard work. With our reward trip to Thorpe Park, they had the opportunity to relax, have fun and enjoy spending time together after all the effort they have put in this year. Seeing them laughing, supporting one another and simply enjoying being young people was

a lovely way to celebrate everything they have accomplished.

Our pupils have continued to impress outside the classroom too. The dance show was absolutely phenomenal. Despite performing in extremely hot conditions, every performer gave their all and delivered an outstanding show with energy, confidence and professionalism. Their determination and commitment were inspirational, never allowing the conditions to affect their effort or attitude.

Many pupils have also enjoyed fantastic enrichment opportunities, including a memorable trip to Paris, where they had the chance to embrace new experiences and create memories that I know will stay with them for years to come.

As we look ahead to September, I genuinely cannot wait to continue this journey with them. Year 11 is an exciting year, full of opportunities as well as challenges, and I know this year group has everything they need to succeed. They have worked hard, grown in confidence throughout Year 10, and I have no doubt that they will achieve amazing things. I am looking forward to supporting and guiding them through their final year and celebrating their successes along the way.

Thank you to all parents and families for your amazing support this year. I hope you have a wonderful, restful summer break, and we look forward to welcoming our fantastic Year 11 pupils back in September.



Head of Year 12

Ms E Horne

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you and your families are keeping well as we come to the end of the academic year. Like many of you, I can hardly believe that we are already more than halfway through your child's Sixth Form journey.

As we reach the end of Year 12, I would like to say how incredibly proud I am of everything our pupils have achieved this year. They have embraced the opportunities and challenges of Sixth Form with maturity, resilience and determination. In particular, I have been immensely impressed by the way they approached the recent mock examination period, especially during the exceptionally hot weather. Their commitment, perseverance and positive attitude have been a real credit to themselves and to our school community, and their hard work has certainly not gone unnoticed.

Our Higher Education and Post-18 Options Drop Down Day last week was a tremendous success. All Year 12 pupils attended a range of workshops and seminars delivered by our guest speakers. Presentations included life at Queen Mary University of London, making a competitive application to King's College London, choosing the right degree course from SOAS University, and understanding student finance, including tuition fee loans, maintenance loans and bursaries from the University of East Anglia.

Following these presentations, pupils selected from a carousel of talks featuring professionals and students from a wide range of fields. These included a finance and technology industry panel, a Global Development student from SOAS, a sociologist from the British Sociological Association, an ITV News presenter, a lecturer in Mathematics, Physics and Engineering from the University of East Anglia, and an MSc Neuroscience student from UCL. These sessions not only gave pupils valuable insight into a wide range of careers and university pathways, but

also encouraged them to think more deeply about their own aspirations and the exciting opportunities that lie ahead.

As you will know, all pupils have now been fully registered with UCAS and have spent time throughout the year preparing to write their personal statements. Pupils who have completed a first draft are encouraged to submit it to me via Google Classroom over the summer, and I will provide feedback ready for September. Those who have not yet completed their first draft should submit it by **25th September 2026** to allow the tutor team and me sufficient time to review each statement and provide meaningful feedback.

As highlighted in previous editions of The Heron Homelink, all pupils have continued access to their Unifrog accounts throughout the summer holidays. Pupils intending to make an early UCAS application—for example to Oxford or Cambridge, or for Medicine, Dentistry or Veterinary Science—have already been asked to make themselves known. If your child decides over the summer that they would like to make an early application, please ask them to speak to Ms Horne as soon as they return to school in September.

I would also encourage all early applicants to research any admissions tests required for their chosen courses and begin working through past papers where appropriate. These assessments are sat externally and can be booked through a Pearson test centre. Early applicants should aim to have a strong draft of their personal statement ready by **18th September 2026**.

Whilst the summer holidays provide a well-earned opportunity to rest and recharge, they also offer an excellent chance for pupils to continue developing academically beyond the classroom. Engaging with super-curricular activities—such as wider reading, listening to podcasts, attending lectures, completing online courses, visiting museums, undertaking independent research or gaining relevant work experience—helps pupils deepen their understanding of the subjects they are passionate about. These experiences not only strengthen future university and apprenticeship applications but also foster curiosity, independence and a genuine love of learning. I would encourage every pupil to dedicate some time over the summer to exploring

the subjects and career pathways that inspire them.

Alongside this, it is essential that pupils keep their subject knowledge fresh. All subjects will have set holiday work, assignments or revision tasks, and it is vital that these are completed. Pupils will sit further assessments and mock examinations early in Year 13, so maintaining good study habits over the summer will help them make the strongest possible start to this important final year.

Year 13 is an exciting milestone. It is a year filled with important decisions, new opportunities and significant personal growth. I have every confidence that this cohort will continue to rise to the challenge, supporting one another and striving to achieve their ambitions.

Finally, I would like to congratulate all of our Year 12 pupils on completing what has been a demanding, but undoubtedly rewarding, year. They should be incredibly proud of everything they have accomplished so far. I wish you and your family a restful, enjoyable and well-deserved summer break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back in September for what promises to be an exciting and successful Year 13.



Head of Year 13

Ms T van Beers

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I write this, I very much hope our Year 13 cohort are delighting in the glorious summer sun after many long months of dedicated study and sacrifice. I am so proud of our pupils who have completed the exam series with great focus and resilience.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to our Leavers' Prom at the King's Oak, High Beach and I am sure it will be a fitting send off for the year group and a night filled with wonderful memories. I will include Prom photos in our Yearbook which will be hot off the press on Results Day, ready to be collected by those who have pre-ordered.

A Level results day this year is Thursday 13th August and pupils can pick up their results from school from 9.00am. The Exams Team, Sixth Form Team, Ms Samuel and I will be on hand to support and advise if necessary. It is really important that your young adult is available on this day to pick up their results from school and to liaise with universities to secure degree places (if necessary). If your young adult is unable to pick up their results in person, they can nominate someone else to pick it up on their behalf. They will need to email the Exams team examsanddata@wansteadhigh.co.uk the name of the person who is collecting and that person will have to bring in ID on the day. Otherwise, we can email results to your young adult.

Please note, exam results aren't shown on your child's UCAS portal, it only shows if the application has been successful or not. For more information, please refer to the UCAS guide to results day <https://ultimateguides.ucas.com/resultsday/>

On results day we very much hope that our pupils will be thrilled when they open their brown envelopes and that all pupils will get either their firm or insurance offer. If things don't go quite according to plan there are a few options worth considering including applying through clearing.

For any pupil not already holding an offer from a university or college UCAS clearing is of note. Pupils can currently browse <https://www.ucas.com/clearing-launch> and apply for vacancies and of course, on Results Day more courses will be available.

You can use Clearing if:

- you're applying after 30th June
- you didn't receive any offers (or none you wanted to accept)
- you didn't meet the conditions of your offers
- you've declined your firm place using the 'decline my place' button in your applica-

tion (this would be on results day)

UCAS has published a very handy guide 'A parent's Guide to Clearing' <https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/clearing-and-results-day/what-clearing/clearing-guide-parents> which explains the process in detail.

On a personal note, I wanted to thank all parents and carers for their unwavering support over the past two years - it has been wonderful working in partnership with you. Being Head of Year to your sons and daughters has been a joy and privilege - they are all amazing young adults and a credit to you. One of the highlights for me has been supporting them with their UCAS/Post 18 decisions, discussing their hopes and dreams and setting them off on what will be an amazing new chapter of life. I can't wait to hear about their next steps and adventures to come. I hope our pupils remember their time at Wanstead High with fondness because we are all rooting for them.

With every good wish for the future.

History Ambassadors

A Colourful End to the Year

To celebrate the end of another successful year, our History Ambassadors took part in a mosaic-making workshop, exploring one of history's oldest and most enduring art forms. Dating back over 4,000 years, mosaics have been created by ancient civilisations including the Mesopotamians, Greeks and Romans. They were used to tell stories, commemorate important events, honour individuals and celebrate communities. Today, these remarkable artworks continue to provide historians with invaluable insights into the beliefs, achievements and everyday lives of people from the past.

Inspired by this rich historical tradition, our ambassadors designed and created their own unique mosaics, combining creativity and patience to produce vibrant pieces of art. The

workshop was a wonderful opportunity to bring history and art together, exploring how people throughout history have used colour, pattern and design to express ideas, tell stories and

preserve memories.

Our final session before the summer break was a fitting way to mark the end of the academic year, celebrating the ambassadors' curiosity, creativity and commitment to history while taking time to reflect on all they have accomplished together. We look forward to welcoming them back next year for more thought-provoking discussions and historical adventures.

By Ms K Ali



Thank You for Your Support

A huge thank you to all parents and carers who have contributed to the School Fund. So far, we've raised £17,997.47 for the main school and £1,864.08 for the Sixth Form—your generosity makes a real difference!

- £5,750: PE department travel costs and additional staff trained to drive the minibus
- £1,250: Library updates and resources
- £3,000: Careers investment—extended Unifrog contract for 3 years
- £2,000: Theatre balcony
- £2,000: Support for science department – Sparx Science
- £3,997.47: To be confirmed

Sixth Form

- £400: Year 11 welcome breakfast and Year 13 celebration
- £1,300: Team building workshops/literacy support/6th form block enhancements
- £164.08: To be confirmed

How You Can Help?

We suggest an annual contribution of £60 for the main school and £45 for Sixth Form. Every amount counts and directly benefits pupils.

Technology Contribution

In our recent parent survey, 89% of families agreed or strongly agreed that they would prefer the school to provide all ingredients and materials for Food Technology, Design Technology and Textiles.

To continue offering fully-resourced practical lessons—where pupils take home the items they make — we ask for the following annual contributions:

- £25 for Key Stage 3 (Years 7–9) – 76% of families have contributed so far
- £40 for Key Stage 4 (Years 10–11) – 69% of families have contributed so far

If you haven't been able to contribute yet, please consider doing so next term. Every contribution, no matter the size, helps us maintain the rich, hands-on learning experiences these subjects provide. Your support enables us to supply all ingredients and materials without asking families to purchase items themselves. We are very grateful for anything you are able to give.

How Key Stage 3 Technology Contributions Support Our Pupils

Key Stage 3 Technology contributions help ensure that every pupil has the materials they need for Textiles, Resistant Materials, Graphics, and Food & Nutrition. All contributions are pooled and shared across the year group, ensuring fairness and consistent access for all pupils.

If families are struggling financially and are eligible for Pupil Premium funding, the school can cover the contribution on their behalf.

Every pound goes directly to the Design & Technology department and is used to purchase materials pupils use in their practical lessons.

How Key Stage 4 Food Technology Contributions Support Our Pupils

Key Stage 4 Food Preparation & Nutrition contributions ensure GCSE pupils have the ingredients and resources needed for their assessed practical work and skill-building sessions. These contributions are also pooled, meaning all pupils benefit throughout the course.

If families are struggling financially and eligible for Pupil Premium, the school can cover this contribution for them.

All funding goes directly to the Food Technology department and is used solely for ingredients and materials that support pupils' learning and exam preparation

Innovate: School Catering

- Due to the continuing food inflation, Innovate will be increasing their prices from September. The main meal deal will be increasing from £2.70 per meal to £2.80 per meal an increase of 3.7%.
- A new price list will be posted on the website in September.
- **Catering Account Refunds:** Refunds for Year 11 and Year 13 pupils with catering account balances of more than £5.00 have been requested from Innovate and will be processed before the end of term.
- **Top Up Accounts:** Please ensure dinner money accounts have sufficient funds. Innovate does not offer credit.

- **Spending Caps:** We can set daily limits—email whs@wansteadhigh.co.uk to request changes.

Smart Choices:

- Buying bottled water daily costs £218.50 per year—bring a reusable bottle instead!
- Juice twice a day costs £437 annually—please encourage your son/daughter to swap a juice box for a drink of water

Free School Meals Could Your Child Be Eligible?

The eligibility criteria for Free School Meals (FSM) is changing. From September 2026, all families in receipt of Universal Credit will be eligible for FSM. The school will need to verify eligibility in order to access this support.

To ensure your child can benefit as soon as possible, we strongly encourage all parents and carers to complete the FSM consent form via EduLink. This allows the London Borough of Redbridge (LBR) to carry out regular checks with the Department for Work and Pensions. If your circumstances change and you become eligible, this system will automatically identify this—meaning support can begin quickly without the need for a separate application.

For families who have not yet completed the consent form, it will be reissued. Please ensure this is completed promptly, as it also enables the school to receive the appropriate funding to support this important initiative.

If you believe your family may already be eligible, please note that contacting the local authority directly will not be necessary if you have completed the EduLink consent form. However, you can still contact them for advice at:

admissionsandawards@redbridge.gov.uk.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school in the usual way.

School Communication: EduLink

Manage everything in one place:

- Update details
- Monitor attendance and behaviour
- Track achievement points
- Need help? Email whs@wansteadhigh.co.uk.

School Lockers

Please remind your child to empty their locker by the last day of term. Over the holiday period, lockers will be cleaned and any necessary maintenance carried out.

If your child would like a locker for the next academic year,

please remember to rebook. Pupils will remain in their current form classrooms.

Locker prices increase from £28.00 per year to £29.00 per year.

Instructions for booking a locker can be found on the school website under the Parent tab:

<https://www.wansteadhigh.co.uk/page/?title=Lockers&pid=140>.

Locker locations:

- Main Building – First Floor
- Main Building – Behind Reception
- DT Atrium
- Outside Boys' Changing Room
- Lower PE Area

**Thank you for your
cooperation.**

Closing Message

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Every contribution, big or small, helps us provide the best possible opportunities for our pupils. Wishing you and your families a peaceful break.

By Ms S Williams



Culture Day 2026

For the second year running, we proudly celebrated Culture Day at Wanstead High School. Although still a relatively new tradition, it is quickly becoming one of the most anticipated and cherished events in our school calendar, and we look forward to seeing it grow even further in the years ahead.



The celebrations began with a week of exciting lunchtime activities designed to showcase and celebrate cultures from around the world. Pupils enjoyed taking part in a World Cup Quiz, henna art, origami workshops, and the ever-popular waist beads session, expertly delivered by Ms Collins.



This year, we were also delighted to introduce new activities from the Art and Design Technology departments, where pupils contributed to a collaborative painting and explored laser-cutting techniques.



On Culture Day itself, the school was transformed by a wonderful display of colour and diversity. Pupils arrived dressed in beautiful traditional outfits representing their heritage and cultures. Flags from around the world were proudly displayed, and the school was filled with stunning traditional attire, elegant dresses, and vibrant cultural clothing.



We were especially impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment shown by both pupils and staff, who embraced the opportunity to celebrate their identities and share their cultures with pride.

The afternoon festivities began with music and our much-loved shows, which once again proved to be one of the highlights of the day. Pupils and staff enjoyed a vibrant programme of performances, featuring an eclectic mix of music, dance and cultural showcases that celebrated the diversity and talent of

our school community. Our fantastic Year 12 hosts, Dylan and Anna, embodied the true Wanstead spirit, keeping the audience entertained, engaged and energised throughout the event.

This year's performances were truly outstanding. More pupils than ever applied to take part, dedicating their own time to rehearsals in preparation for the event. We were amazed by the confidence, talent, and creativity on display, and the quality of the performances was exceptional.

Culture Day continues to bring our school community together, celebrating the rich diversity that makes Wanstead such a special place. It has quickly become a tradition that both pupils and staff look forward to each year, and we are excited to see it continue to grow.



Thank you to everyone who took part and helped make Culture Day 2026 such a memorable success!

By Ms Gomez Alvarez
EAL Coordinator

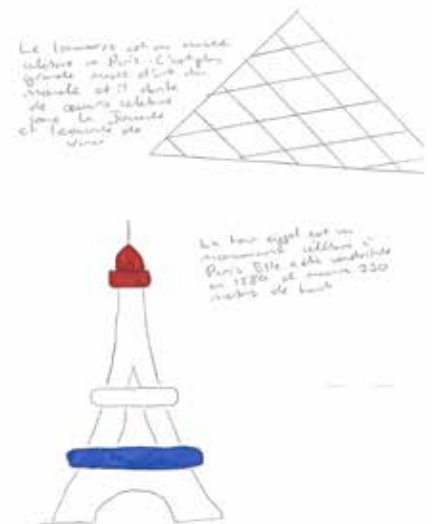


Studying Francophone Countries

It is always a pleasure teaching as a Headteacher and it has been amazing teaching 7S and 7G this year. This is a selection of the work 7S produced for Culture Day when learning about Francophone countries. Well done all - I hope you learnt something

new - I did. The winner is Maisara for her lovely work on Madagascar.

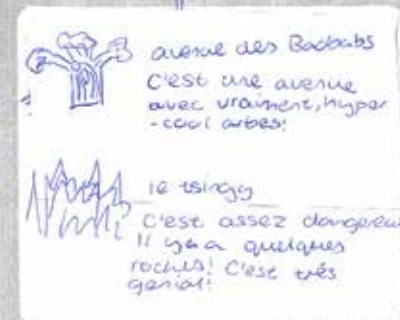
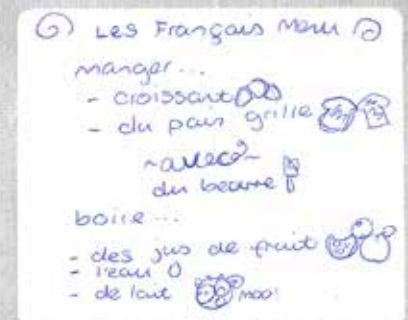
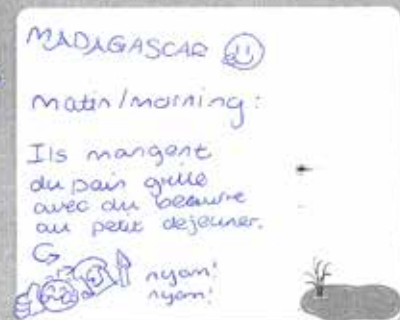
By Miss E Hillman



Mhari

UNE JOURNÉE DANS LA VIE..

James



UNE JOURNÉE DANS LA VIE..

Saad



Le pays que j'ai
Choisi est La Belgique



70 is
septante
instead of
soixante-dix

for see
you later it's
à tantôt insted
of à tout à
l'heure

for heavy
rain it's
une averse
instead of
une forte pluie

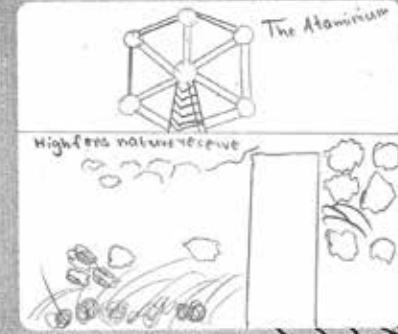
for to be
able to it's
savoir instead of
pouvoir.

for a
small round
bread roll it's
un petit pain
instead of
un pain



Petit Bruxelles

Manger	Boire
Petit Déjeuner: • Trinité • Croissant • Spécialités • Pain au chocolat	• Café • Thé • Chocolat chaud • Jus de fruits
Déjeuner: • Conque-mangeur • Soupe du jour	• Cola - cola • Limonade • Eau pétillante • Eau minérale • Jus de fruits
• Moules-frites • Stoeck • Vodka-Vent • Water-sooi	• Cola - cola • Thé • Café • Eau plate



UNE JOURNÉE DANS LA VIE..

Maisara



2- 5 expressions de base
(5 basic phrases)

'Mora mora'
Slowly, slowly

'Coucou'
Hi/Hey

'Vahoa'
Foreigner

'Wesh'
What's up?

'Koah'
Yeah!

3- Une journée type
(a day in the life)

Matin - Réveil à 5 heures
(morning) (5 AM - wake up)

- corvées (chores)
- petit-déjeuner (breakfast)

Vary sosoa et du pain accomp-
agné d'un café sucré

- robe (dress)
- La promenade (the walk)

4 - (continued)

École - (school)

AM - 8 heures - Assemblée et leçons
(assembly + lessons)

Déjeuner - (Lunch)

1 heures

Soirée - (evening)

4 heures - temps libre et
corvées (free time + chores)

PM - 8 heures - diner (dinner)

+ then bed!

Bonne nuit!

5 - Menu

MENU

Entrées: masikita
Mofa Anana
lasopy

Secteur: Romozava
Varanga
Kitoza

Déserts: koba
Bonbon Coco

6 - Points de repère (landmarks)

Allées des baobabs
(Avenue of the baobabs)

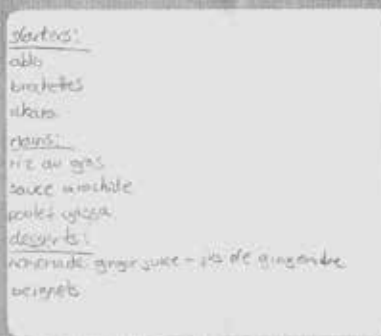
This is a dirt road in the Menabe
region which is lined with
centuries-old, towering Grand-
ider's Baobab trees!

Ce chemin de terre dans la
région de Menabe est bordé
d'.

TSINGY DE
BEMARAH

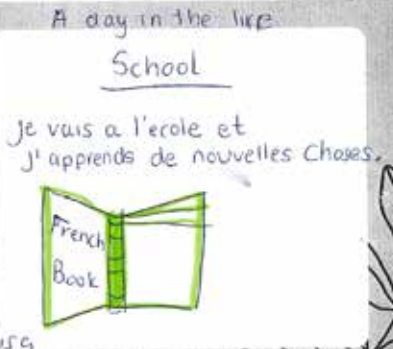
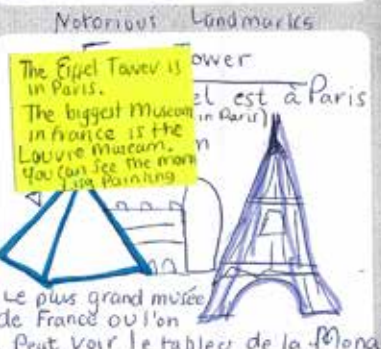
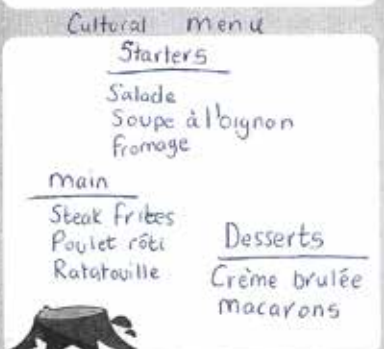
UNE JOURNÉE DANS LA VIE..

Isabella



UNE JOURNÉE DANS LA VIE..

Alexander



Library News

In the spirit of reading for pleasure and recognising that reading looks different for different people, at Wanstead High we are embracing the National Year of Reading 2026 approach by 'going all in'.

Our school library has all the formats from traditional books to graphic novels. From September, we will be subscribing to the hugely popular 'Newsweek Junior'. A weekly newspaper in a magazine format which covers all current affairs, national and international.

A huge thank you to the PTA. Funding provided by them has helped us to stock some wonderful books for both Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 including the hugely pop-

ular book 'The Correspondent', which has won 'The Women's Prize for Fiction 2026'.

In addition, we have the very popular book, 'Project Hail Mary' – the movie is currently showing in cinemas. We will also be having a range of brand-new books ready for children transitioning to Year 7 in September.

This week certificates were presented to children, in their achievement assembly, who have read the most number of books borrowed from the school library. The winners were

The library over the course of this academic year has issued 822 books, double that of the previous academic year. I will continue, with the support of the English Department and Miss Hillman to make each year progressively better than the previous year.

By Mrs M Ahmed



Redbridge Youth Eco Skills Festival

Five WHS pupils participated in Redbridge Youth Eco Skills festival on 2nd July at Redbridge Central Library, Ilford. The event was organised by Our Streets Team in collaboration with Redbridge Council and designed to empower young people from across the borough to share ideas and become climate leaders.

At the end of the day the Wanstead pupils were buzzing with ideas to start a new Eco Club in school in September.

As part of the action-packed day pupils at the festival participated in eco-workshops.



'Power Up Your Repairs' - A hands-on workshop organised by Team Repair, with the East London Waste Authority delivering the session.

- Pupils got to fix a games console and explore why repairing, instead of discarding broken items is an important way to reduce waste.
- 'Climate Literacy 101' - An exploration into climate change through quizzes, activities, and discussion led by Jen Gale, Founder of Sustainable(ish)



The Climate Garden project - a special art led workshop from Redbridge Council.

- Using recycled and reusable materials, pupils created their own sculptural flowers, transforming everyday waste into artwork that symbolises positive environmental actions to boost biodiversity in borough and help local wildlife to thrive. The artwork will be on public display at Ilford Exchange, on Friday 7 and Saturday 8 August to celebrate nature, and sustainability.

By Dr C Adelle

Annual Dance Show 2026 – Icons

Our annual dance show took place on 23rd and 24th June, with this year's spectacular production, Icons, celebrating the lives and achievements of influential people from the worlds of Music, Film, History and Science.

The performances were inspired by a diverse range of iconic figures, including Princess Diana, Gene Kelly, Tim Burton, Betty Friedan and Malala Yousafzai. Across the two evenings, audiences enjoyed 45 different dance performances, showcasing the incredible talent, creativity and dedication of our pupils. In total, over 120 pupils took part, including our talented pupil technician, who expertly managed the sound and lighting throughout both performances.

Every pupil involved did an amazing job, demonstrating months of hard work, commitment and enthusiasm. Their performances were a real credit to themselves and made both evenings truly memorable.

A huge thank you goes to all the parents and carers who came along to support the performances, especially during the heat-wave. Your encouragement meant so much to our performers. We would also like to thank the PTA for providing refreshments throughout the event, helping to make the evenings such a success.

This year's show was particularly poignant as it marked a very special farewell to our Year 11 pupils. Many of them have performed in every annual dance show since joining us in Year 7, and it has been wonderful to watch them grow in confidence and talent over the years. We thank them for their commitment and the lasting contribution they have made to our dance community, and we wish them every success and happiness as they begin their next chapter.

By Mrs R Walker





London Youth Games Dance Finals Success



Congratulations to our Year 7 & 8 and Key Stage 4 & 5 dance teams, who represented the school with pride at this year's London Youth Games Dance Finals at the Source Theatre in Stratford.

Both teams delivered exceptional performances after months of hard work and dedication. Our Year 7 & 8 team performed an imaginative piece inspired by the work of Tim Burton, in which three children are transformed into characters influenced by his iconic films and television series. Their captivating performance earned them an outstanding 4th place, as well as an Outstanding Performance Certificate.

Our Key Stage 4 & 5 team performed a powerful piece entitled The Second Wave, inspired by the second wave of feminism. The

choreography celebrated female empowerment and challenged gender stereotypes through expressive and thought-provoking movement. Their exceptional performance was rewarded with the bronze medal.

We are especially proud that this marks the seventh consecutive year that our dance teams have returned from the London Youth Games with medals – a fantastic achievement that reflects the talent, commitment and determination of our pupils.

Congratulations to all our wonderful performers for representing the school so brilliantly. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved.

By Mrs R Walker



A High Energy Day of Maths, Challenges and Discovery!

Our Year 9 pupils enjoyed an action packed day at Greenwich Maths Time, an event bursting with activities designed to show just how exciting and surprising Mathematics can be.

The expert talks were a real highlight. Speakers brought Maths to life with real world stories, clever demonstrations, and brain stretching challenges that got everyone thinking. These sessions showed how Maths connects to Science, Technology, problem solving, and the world around us. Billy's favourite lecture was The Maths of Crowds, where several of our pupils demonstrated to the audience how the speed of a crowd changes as numbers increased. Meanwhile, Kiran found the Maths Magic session highly entertaining — especially the card tricks that let you correctly guess someone's card.

Alongside the scheduled sessions, the event offered a lively mix of drop in activities. Pupils wandered between stations, tried interactive games, tested ideas, and explored Mathematical

concepts in fun and creative ways. Ernest, Max and Elijah even attempted to beat an AI robot at solving a Rubik's Cube — a challenge that kept them coming back again and again. The fast pace meant every workshop felt like a brand new adventure.

The atmosphere throughout Greenwich Maths Time was energetic and inspiring. Pupils were fully engaged, asking questions, sharing ideas, and discovering that Maths is far more dynamic than they ever imagined. It was a day filled with learning, laughter, and plenty of "aha!" moments.

Greenwich Maths Time proved to be a fantastic enrichment opportunity — one that left pupils motivated, confident, and excited to see where Maths can take them next. All our pupils enjoyed the day.

By Mr A Chauhan



Summer Vibes:

Summer Concert



The Music department summer concert took place on Monday 29th June in the school theatre, featuring a wide variety of excellent music from the school's two choirs, steel pan group, wind band, brass group, string group and jazz band, as well as some brilliant solo performances from pupils in Years 9 and 10.

This was the final concert for musicians in Year 13, all of whom have contributed a huge amount to the Music department over their time at the school.

Many thanks to Ms Pennington, Mr Wilcox, Ms Argyrakis and Isla for their musical leadership and hard work in preparing the performances.

By Mr I Sweet

School Jazz Band:

Summer Vibes

The school jazz band performed a range of repertoire at Our Lady of Lourdes primary school summer fayre on Saturday 13th June.

The whole event was organised and executed brilliantly by the

PTA of this important feeder school and it was lovely for the band to be a part of this, particularly for those who attended the school earlier in life.

By Mr I Sweet



From Vision to Reality:

Pupils Launch New Post-16 Social Media Page

As part of our Sixth Form social contract initiative, we have been encouraging pupils to take greater ownership of the community they are helping to shape. This year, Sophia and Audrey embraced that opportunity by stepping forward as Media Ambassadors.

Both pupils have an interest in marketing and were keen to support the Sixth Form team in raising the profile of Post-16 life. They approached myself with the idea of creating a dedicated Sixth Form social media page: a space that would celebrate pupil experiences, highlight key moments and offer the wider school community a clearer insight into what happens across our Sixth Form.

I was immediately excited by their enthusiasm, but I also wanted them to consider how their idea would work in practice. Sophia and Audrey went away, developed their thinking and returned with a thoughtful proposal. They had clearly considered the purpose of the page, the audience it would serve and the kind of content that would best represent our Sixth Form.

Their proposal was so convincing that I asked them to present it to the Senior Leadership Team. Standing in front of nine adults and sharing a new idea takes real courage, but they did so with maturity and confidence. Their presentation reflected not only their creativity, but also their determination to make a meaningful contribution to the school.

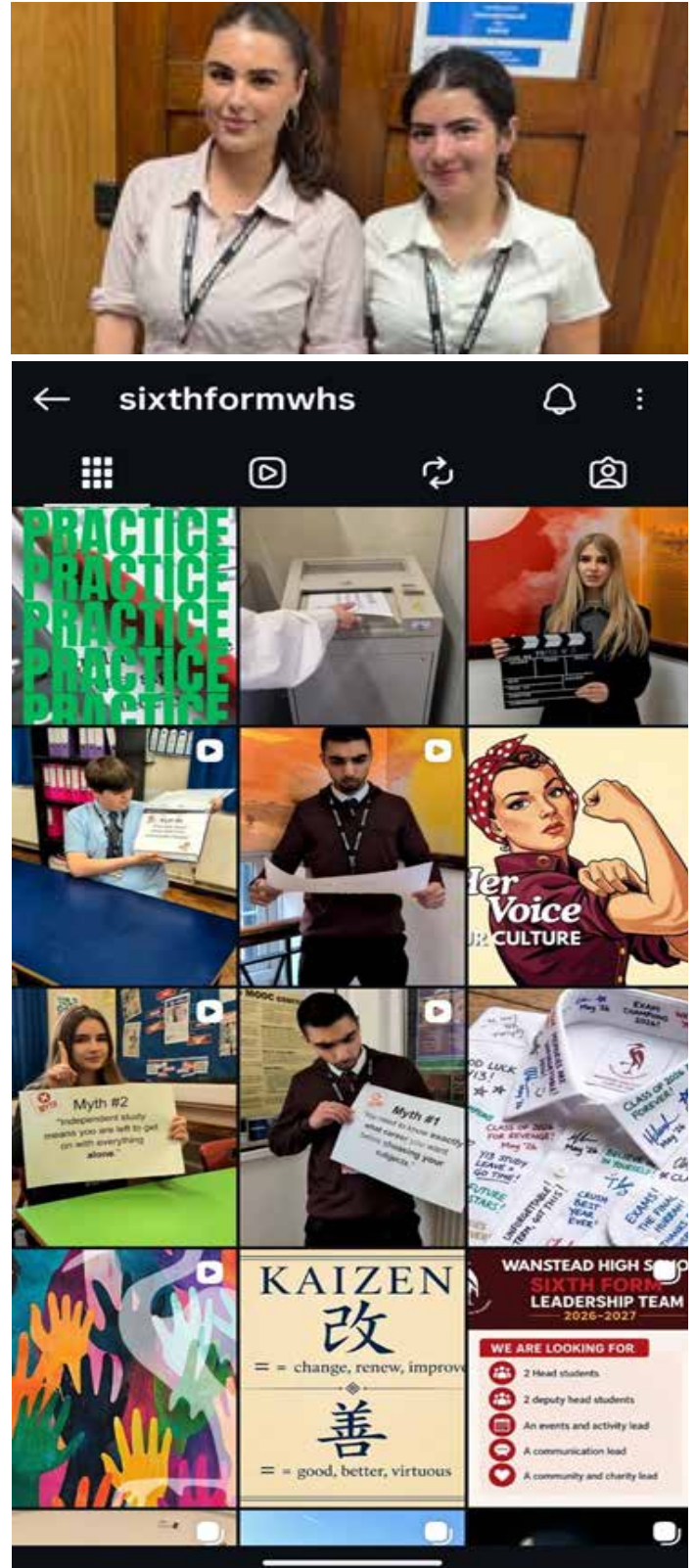
Since then, they have worked hard with Mr Sheehan to bring the page to life. They created a three-month strategy, designed a clear visual template and mapped out a content calendar to support regular posting. They have also recruited other Media pupils to be involved, showing that this is not just a project they are leading, but one they are helping others to contribute to as well.

What has impressed me most is the way Sophia and Audrey have moved from vision to action. Turning an idea into reality takes real determination, and they have achieved something that many adults can find challenging. They have shown energy and a growing sense of leadership throughout, and their work is already helping us showcase the many positive things taking place across Post-16.

I feel extremely proud of what Sophia and Audrey, along with our newly recruited Media Ambassadors, have achieved so far. It has been a real privilege to be part of their story and to see what they are doing now to support and celebrate our Sixth Form. Their work is already making a difference, and I am excited to see how they continue to shape the way we share Post-16 life with the wider school community.

Please do follow our new Post-16 social media (@Sixthformwhs) to see more of the fantastic work taking place across our Sixth Form.

By Ms D Samuel



Introducing Our Post-16 Pupil Leadership Team

We are delighted to introduce our new Post-16 Pupil Leadership Team.

The selection process for this year's team was both challenging and inspiring. Pupils who applied were asked to propose a #YourNextStartsNow initiative that they believed would improve Sixth Form life. This encouraged them to think carefully about the needs of the pupil body, the importance of community, and how they could contribute to positive change and development within our Sixth Form.

Pupils were then invited to interview, where they answered a range of questions about their skills, experiences and leadership potential. An example question was: Tell us about a time when you showed initiative, took responsibility, or helped improve something. What did you do, and what did you learn from the experience?

This was no easy feat. The quality of the interviews was outstanding, and we were genuinely blown away by the way pupils articulated themselves. Their honesty, maturity and thoughtful

responses made the selection process incredibly difficult. We had a very hard job selecting our final leadership team.

We would like to thank all pupils who applied. Every pupil brought something valuable to the process, and feedback was provided both verbally and in writing to support their continued development.

Since being appointed, the team has already begun its important work. They have met to discuss their collective "why" and how they want to lead. They have reflected carefully on the values that will guide them, including representation, unity, support, democracy, voice, change and development.

The team has also started to share ideas and create strategies for their different projects. They have been meeting weekly to discuss how each role and project will work, and how they can help drive the Sixth Form forward.

There are exciting times ahead. It is a real pleasure to introduce you to our Post-16 Pupil Leadership Team.



Ethan
Head Pupil

I feel that the pupil leadership team provides pupils with the opportunity to make real change within the school community, whilst also allowing you to build relationships with fellow members of the leadership team and work together to achieve outcomes, pushing forward not only your own opinions but the opinions of the entire pupil body. I wanted to be part of this leadership team so that I could provide my peers with a voice on real matters that will affect them within the school, and work alongside teachers to improve the community as a whole.

My main hope for this year is to better the transition process between Year 11 and Sixth Form. The transition as a whole can be extremely daunting for pupils in many ways: both making the academic jump from GCSEs to A-Levels, and also the rise in independent study. In the words of my Economics teacher, "90% of success in A-Levels is achieved outside of the classroom." However, I felt as if balancing making new friends within the Sixth Form and being successful academically is very difficult, especially for a 16-year-old who has only just finished their GCSEs. Therefore, I believe that it is crucial that we tackle this issue to improve both pupil wellbeing and academic achievement. As a pupil leadership team, many ideas have been put forward, such as a mentoring scheme, allowing pupils to receive advice from older pupils about managing independent study, and a welcome event allowing internal and external pupils to meet and facilitating a smoother transition come September.



Laura
Head Pupil

I wish to create a better environment for all pupils, and one which incorporates everyone's individual opinions and values. I want to be the voice for others and allow their voices to be accurately represented and reflected within the school.

I hope to make the Sixth Form experience easier and more enjoyable for all pupils, creating a fair and competitive nature which allows all to excel. In future, I would like to provide more opportunities and clarity when pupils approach their next steps.



Louis
Deputy Head Pupil

I wanted to be part of pupil leadership because I take pride in my ability to build positive relationships across the school. I believe this would allow me to help ensure that every pupil feels heard, respected and represented. I am also keen to encourage collaboration between pupils, helping to build stronger connections and close gaps between those who may not yet feel fully involved in the school community.

What I hope to achieve through pupil leadership is a school environment where every pupil feels listened to and valued. I want to help create more opportunities for pupils to share their views on changes that have been made, as well as suggest improvements for the future. By encouraging pupils to take part in surveys and wider discussions, I hope to support continuous improvement and make sure pupil voice has a real impact.



Orli
Deputy Head Pupil

I wanted to be part of the pupil leadership team as I am passionate about improving the Sixth Form, in line with pupil feedback, to make it a more enjoyable and fulfilling place.

I hope to improve the assistance given to pupils in Sixth Form in regard to making decisions about their future, offering a range of opportunities to benefit pupils studying all different subjects.



Nana
**Pupil Voice and
Belonging Lead**

I chose to be part of the pupil leadership team so I could be an advocate for others. I can represent ideas; help improve school life and ensure that everyone feels welcome and at home in our Sixth Form.

I hope to make a lasting, positive impact by not only encouraging pupils to share their opinions, but also acting upon concerns and feedback. This would create an environment where everyone feels valued and respected.



Esme
**Community and
Charity Lead**

I want to fight for each pupil, ensuring that all voices are heard and all pupils have a fair chance at succeeding in life, with us helping to provide that.

I hope to create an anonymous school resource bank available to any who need it, including school equipment, long-life food and leaflets advertising safe places for young people to go.



Isla
**Community and
Charity Associate
Lead**

I want to bring more charity and support into the school environment and help create positive connections with the local community across the school.

This year, I hope to see more pupils involved in our local community in a number of ways. I'd also like to see more pupils supporting each other and helping make the school and local environment a more connected place.

London Business School Graduation Celebration 2026

On Wednesday 8th July, Year 12 pupils gathered at the London Business School (LBS) Graduation Celebration to mark the successful completion of two outstanding enrichment programmes: the Guru Lecture Series and The Power of You female leadership development programme. The event celebrated months of dedication, learning and personal growth, recognising the achievements of pupils who have embraced every opportunity these prestigious programmes had to offer.

A special congratulations goes to Zach, Joshua, Raul, Zara and Deborah, who attended the celebration straight from completing a full day at their work experience placements - a testament to their commitment and enthusiasm. During the event, Zach, Joshua and Raul were also recognised for winning the final quiz, while Zara received a prize for her team's success in the team-building challenge.

A Mini-MBA Experience

Over 30 Year 12 Wanstead High School pupils took part in the Guru Lecture Series, attending ten bespoke lectures at the world-renowned London Business School. Pupils experienced a mini-MBA programme, learning directly from leading professors on topics including decision-making, finance, corporate social responsibility, entrepreneurship, research, reasoning and creativity.

Pupils' engagement and performance throughout the programme were carefully tracked, with the highest achievers earning a coveted place on the Honour Roll.

Congratulations to:

- Raul, Joshua, Zach and Mohammed

Each Honour Roll pupil received a monetary prize and a personalised letter from the Dean in recognition of their exceptional achievement.

Empowering Future Female Leaders

The Power of You leadership development programme provided an inspiring journey for our female pupils, focusing on leadership, purpose and values, expressing personal power, bringing their best selves to a team and building relationships with confidence.

Congratulations to the pupils who successfully completed the programme:

- Dora, Deborah, Megan, Laura and Zara

Each pupil received a monetary prize and a personalised letter from the Dean to celebrate their commitment and success.

A highlight of the evening came from Tina Clark, one of the organisers of both programmes, who praised our pupils, saying:

"The pupils from Wanstead High School have been outstanding and would welcome future cohorts from the school with open hands."

This wonderful endorsement reflects the exceptional attitude, engagement and ambition shown by our pupils throughout the year.

These Wednesday enrichment programmes have provided an invaluable opportunity for pupils to broaden their horizons, develop skills beyond the classroom and gain insights from world-leading academics and leadership experts. We are incredibly proud of every pupil who took part and look forward to seeing future cohorts continue this fantastic partnership with London Business School.

By Mr O Obanye



Celebrating Success

Highlights from our Latest Achievement Award Winners Ceremony

Subject Awards	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Maths	Luca	Woody	Akira	Sadyah
Further Maths				
Economics				
English	Dylan	Grace	Max	Oliver
Literature				
Language and Literature				
Science	Doug	Wooje	Zayan	Tameem
Biology				Lily
Chemistry				Archie
Physics				Ian
History	Florence	Isla	Thomas	Melissa
Classics				
Geography	Jia	Lyla	Zuri	Ian
Resistant Materials	Orla	Sarah	Rayyan	Taroob
Graphics	Gisele	Halle	Mariya	Xanthe
Art	Gabriela	Wooje	Betsy	Maahirah
Photography				
Textiles	Nellie	Emma	Khushleen	Sienna
Food & Nutrition	Eve	Evie	Pearl	Linh
Dance	Molly	Charlie	Ahmed	Xanthe
Drama	Ella	Sienna	Theodore	Daniel
Music	Evie	Ambar	Amaya	Milan
Spanish	Alexandru	Ayoub	Izzy	Jagger
French	Sophie	Hannah	Emily	Justin
Media				Teo
Computing	Avni	Lavinnia	Emily	Ian
Religious Studies	Saira	Matilda	Khushleen	Samara
Psychology				
Politics				
Sociology				Aijan
SEND				
Physical Education	Ben	Kim	Sienna	Eddison
EAL Champions	Yongjie	Fatou	Bilal	Roxhers
HOY Award	Saad	Lyla	Sabriin	Justin
Integrity	Ella	Mae	Isa	Alexander
Curiosity	Avni	Patryk	Inaam	Solomiia
Respect	Faye	Enam	Maya	Ioan
Service	Luca	Patryk	Ayaan	Farhan
Service				Roxhers
Teamwork	Ben	Vlad	Poppy	Oscar
Teamwork				Felix
Attendance Award	Keyan	Xander	Cynthia	Sylvia
Headteacher's Award	Lula	Sloan	Mila	Zain
Rising Star	Alexandru	Ayoub	Zara	Damario







It has been fantastic to see so many of our pupils embracing this year's Inter-House Sports programme. Across the year, pupils proudly represented their houses in a series of exciting competitions, including Cross Country, Benchball and Tug O' War, earning valuable points through teamwork, determination and sporting excellence.

These events are about so much more than competition. They provide opportunities for pupils to develop resilience, leadership, teamwork and house pride, while encouraging participation, inclusion and a lifelong enjoyment of physical activity. It

has been wonderful to see pupils of all abilities supporting one another, challenging themselves and creating a vibrant sporting atmosphere across the school.

Below you will find the final standings from this year's Inter-House competitions, followed by some of our favourite photographic highlights from an outstanding year of school sport. We are already looking forward to building on this success and making next year's events even bigger and better.

By Mr J Sains

TUG O'WAR RESULTS

TUG O'WAR	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	TOTAL	PLACE
WREN	0	25	0	25	1ST
SKYLARK	0	25	0	25	1ST
HOBBY	0	0	0	0	—
REDPOLL	0	0	25	25	1ST
GADWALL	25	0	0	25	1ST
BRAMBLING	0	0	0	0	—
KESTREL	25	0	0	25	1ST
MALLARD	0	0	25	25	1ST

PULL TOGETHER. WIN TOGETHER!

BENCHBALL RESULTS

TEAM	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	TOTAL	PLACE
WREN	7	24	8	39	4TH
SKYLARK	11	14	11	36	5TH
HOBBY	10	21	9	40	3RD
REDPOLL	5	14	12	31	7TH
GADWALL	7	9	4	20	8TH
BRAMBLING	13	18	13	44	1ST
KESTREL	15	24	4	43	2ND
MALLARD	0	23	9	32	6TH

CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

TEAM	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	TOTAL	PLACE
 WREN	73	74	72	219	 1ST
 SKYLARK	54	97	56	207	 2ND
 HOBBY	58	56	76	190	 3RD
 REDPOLL	63	64	54	181	4TH
 GADWALL	78	25	63	166	5TH
 BRAMBLING	66	38	61	165	6TH
 KESTREL	75	31	50	156	7TH
 MALLARD	40	48	62	150	8TH

OVERALL TOTAL RESULTS

TEAM	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	TOTAL	POSITION
 WREN	80	123	80	283	 1ST
 SKYLARK	65	136	67	268	 2ND
 HOBBY	68	77	85	230	 3RD
 REDPOLL	68	78	66	212	5TH
 GADWALL	110	34	67	211	6TH
 BRAMBLING	79	56	74	209	7TH
 KESTREL	115	55	54	224	4TH
 MALLARD	40	71	71	182	8TH

INTER-HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY



INTER-HOUSE TUG O'WAR



INTER-HOUSE

BENCHBALL



WANSTEAD HIGH SCHOOL

PROJECT VOLLEYBALL

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Tesco Grants Programme has been successful and your project will be put forward to a customer vote in Tesco stores.

Voting will commence in store from **Tuesday 28th April 2026** until the end of **July 2026**.



Enhancing our sports program by offering additional PE activities, lunchtime sessions, and after-school clubs for students of all ages and ability levels.

VOTE WITH TOKENS IN THE FOLLOWING STORES:

- 2078 Ilford Superstore IG6 1HY
- 2399 Seven Kings Express IG3 8LG
- 2569 Romford Goodmayes Extra RM6 4HY
- 2603 Gants Hill Ilford Express IG2 6LE
- 2730 Ilford Express IG1 1XR
- 3422 Woodford Green Superstore IG8 8GE
- 5191 Manford Way Chigwell Express IG7 4DN
- 5727 Woodford Green Express IG8 9FB
- 5923 Wanstead Express E11 2AE
- 5983 Ilford Cranbrook Road Express IG1 4NH
- 6364 Ilford Ley Street Express IG2 7RX

TESCO

Zain won Gold at the recent Karate Elite International Open Championship adding to an impressive collection of medals and trophies including English National Champion.

Zain has been learning Karate for 6 years and has been competing for over 4 years. CONGRATULATIONS ZAIN!

Please keep us updated of future events.





Noah continues his progress to the Olympic Games by being crowned London Champion at a recent event. Noah picked up the accolade in the 200m Breaststroke event. CONGRATULATIONS NOAH!




HOLIDAY ACTIVITY & FOOD CAMP

FREE multi-sports activities and engaging workshops for ages 8-14 living or studying in Redbridge, in receipt of benefit-related free school meals.* Come along and try new activities, learn new skills, have fun & make friends. **Also, enjoy hot and nutritious meals served every day!**





LOCATION	Loxford Leisure Centre, Loxford Lane, IG1 2UT
DATE	Monday to Thursday 27 th July to 13 th August 2026
TIME	12:00 - 16:00
AGE	8-14 years old *Redbridge residents in receipt of Free School Meals
QR CODE TO REGISTER	
BOOKING LINK	www.esqu.org/experience/4089








GIRLS POWERHOUSE FOOTBALL CAMPS

7 - 14 YEARS OLD

ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

LOCATION: WHITBREAD SPORTS GROUND, DURHAM AVENUE, WOODFORD, IG8 7NH
DATES: 30TH JULY | 13TH AUG | 27TH AUG
TIMINGS: 10AM - 3PM
PRICE: £30 PER DATE

**30
JULY**

**13
AUGUST**

**27
AUGUST**

Led by a team of all-female Powerhouse Project qualified coaches!

BOOK NOW

email us at
info@thepowerhouseproject.co.uk
 or fill out the form in our bio



District Athletics Championships

Congratulations to all of our wonderful athletes competing at the recent District Athletics Championships!

Our pupils ran, threw and jumped their way to many excellent performances and medals!



Football News

We are extremely proud of our wonderful Year 8 football team who have been successful in the Redbridge Plate Final this season! It has been a pleasure seeing this team grow, and we can't wait to see what they can achieve next season. Well done boys!

Breaking News

Poppy secures a Bronze medal at the London Youth Games!

Being selected to represent Redbridge is a tremendous achievement in itself, but Poppy went one step further by competing brilliantly against London's top athletes and earning a well-deserved Bronze medal.

An outstanding performance and a fantastic accomplishment. Congratulations Poppy — we're incredibly proud of you!

Mega Mix Summer Programme 2026

With the end of term fast approaching, we want to make sure all pupils in Redbridge schools are aware of the music activities the Music Service has planned through the borough's Mega-Mix summer programme.

We would be very grateful if you could inform all parents of your pupils about these sessions via your school's end-of-year communications, please.

Here's the link for parents/carers to see full details and to register: Redbridge Megamix - Booking by Bookwhen

There are many different sessions for children of all ages to get involved with during the summer holiday:

- **African drumming**
- **Early Years music sessions**
- **Gamelan**
- **Music sessions for children with SEN**
- **Beginner instrument sessions ("Anything Philharmonic")**
- **Singing day**
- **Steelpan (already sold out but you can join the waiting list in case of cancellations)**

The sessions are all led by specialists in their fields and subsidised by the London Borough of Redbridge so will be of excellent quality and extremely good value.

Many thanks in advance for your help in spreading the word - we do hope children from your school would like to get involved.

Adam Walters
Music Development Manager
Redbridge Music Service
Vision – Redbridge Culture & Leisure
John Savage Centre, Fencepiece Road, Hainault, Ilford, IG6 2NB
Tel: 020 8708 2828
Email: admin.music@visionrcl.org.uk
Web: www.visionrcl.org.uk/centre/redbridge-music-service/



GoFundMe

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to share a cause that is very close to home for our Wanstead community and to invite any parents who may be able to support a fundraising effort I am personally involved in.

A local family is currently going through an incredibly difficult time following their son and my godson Thomas' diagnosis with leukaemia. Both of Thomas' parents are former pupils of Wanstead High School, and Thomas himself currently attends

Wanstead Church School. As a community, they are well known in Wanstead and deeply connected to our school.

To help support Thomas and his family, I will be taking on the Three Peaks 24-hour Challenge on 14th-15th August 2026 and raising funds through the following GoFundMe campaign:

[Three Peaks One Thomas – GoFundMe](#)

Any donations, no matter how small, would be hugely appreciated and will go directly towards supporting the family during this challenging time. Contributions are entirely voluntary, but I know how much even a small gesture can mean in circumstances like these.

Thank you to anyone who is able to support, donate, or simply help spread awareness. It means a lot to me as well Charlotte, Reece and Thomas.

Best wishes,

Mr M Tinker
Teacher of PE



School Uniform: Clothing and Appearance

How we present ourselves can be a way of communicating our feelings and values. Being well presented and smart supports self-confidence, identity and pride. High standards of uniform and personal appearance can make a valuable contribution to the self-confidence of individual pupils and the professionalism of the school community as a whole.

A shared uniform supports the principles of equality and unity, it encourages a sense of belonging and identity as a pupil of Wanstead High School. It also prepares pupils for working life, many careers require uniforms or clear professional dress codes.

All uniform is gender neutral.

For the year 2026/2027, Summer uniform can be worn from September until the October half-term and in the Summer term. We will continue to review this.

Required items Years 7 - 11	Description
Burgundy school blazer with school badge	- Blazers must be worn to and from school unless in summer uniform. They must be worn at all times around the school site and in lessons unless given permission by their class teacher in class or by a whole school announcement during periods of extremely hot weather, when they may be carried or left at home in exceptional circumstances.
Lanyards	- When you arrive at Wanstead High School you will be given an ID card and lanyard to wear around your neck. These items must be purchased from ParentPay before arriving at the school. These are handed out in Tutor Time in the morning and pupils return them to tutors in the afternoon. It is imperative that you wear the lanyard at all times. You will also be given a copy of your timetable which fits into a plastic wallet attached to your lanyard.
School tie	- All pupils must wear a school tie unless in Summer uniform. Ties can be purchased from school via ParentPay or from our uniform retailers. A pupil's year group is identifiable by the colour of the stripe on their tie, as well as coloured lanyard. The Heron should be visible with 4 stripes below it.
White plain school shirt	- Top button must be done up. Shirts can be long or short-sleeved and must be tucked in.
Black tailored school trousers or black tailored school shorts	- Formal tailored trousers and shorts must be school-style and not be skinny or tight-fitting. No leggings, jeans or denim, stretch material, canvas style such as dickies trousers; flared trousers and bell bottoms are not appropriate.
Black knee-length school skirt	- Skirts must be school-style and not be skinny or tight-fitting. Skirts should rest on the knee and must not be rolled up. Black tights must normally be worn with a school skirt. If pupils wish to wear socks over their tights, these must be plain black.
Black V-neck long-sleeved plain pullover (optional)	- No sweatshirts, no crew necks, no cardigans and no logos apart from school badge. Pullovers do not have to have the school badge if worn.
Black leather shoes with black soles and black laces	- Please see examples later in the booklet for what is acceptable. No Dr Marten boots, no boots, no trainers, no high heels, no canvas shoes, no coloured laces (except when sold in school for LGBTQ+ awareness). Nike Air Force or similar are not a suitable school shoe.

School Uniform: Clothing and Appearance

- Plain black tights - No patterns and tights must not be torn or ripped. Must be worn with our school skirt.
- Outdoor coat (optional) - Appropriate coat suitable for school. Unzipped whilst in the school building. Hoodies or tracksuit tops may not be worn instead of a coat.
- Religious headwear - Should be plain black, burgundy or white.
- Hoodies and other non-uniform jumpers or coats - Hooded sports tops or 'hoodies' are not permitted and will be confiscated. Only a black v-neck jumper may be worn in school, this does not have to be logoed. Dance or Drama hoodies are only allowed for extra-curricular activities.
- Hats, Ski Masks, Balaclavas, Face coverings - It is not permitted for any pupil to wear any form of cap or hat in the school building. A woollen hat can be worn to and from school and at break/lunchtimes when the weather is cold. Ski masks, balaclavas and face coverings should not be worn, to, from or within school.

Summer Uniform (for Summer Term and September to October half-term only)

Pupils are able to wear the Wanstead High School burgundy polo shirt in place of a shirt, tie and blazer during the above times. Pupils can also wear plain black ankle or knee length socks instead of tights but skirts must rest on the knee. Pupils can choose to wear a blazer with the polo shirt but not a polo shirt and jumper. For religious or documented medical reasons, a small number of pupils can wear a plain black long sleeved top underneath.

- Jewellery - Jewellery worn to school should be safe and appropriate.
Pupils may wear up to two small stud earrings in each ear and one small nose stud may also be worn. Hoop or drop earrings of any size are not permitted. No other body or facial piercings should be displayed.
Pupils may wear a watch; smart watches are not permitted in exams or assessments.
- Make Up - Make-up needs to be subtle and nail varnish can be worn. Heavy make-up, false eyelashes and fake or acrylic nails are considered inappropriate for school and a distraction from the purpose of school, they are not permitted in Years 7-11.
- Hair - Extreme hair styles or those associated with any kind of anti-social activities or groups are not permitted. These change from time to time and the Headteacher reserves the right to specify what these might be at any point.
The patterned shaving of hair or eyebrows is forbidden.
Wanstead High School has adopted the Halo Code. This means our school champions the right of staff and pupils to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves, wigs and headscarves, as long as they are in line with school colours and hair colour guidance.
This does not include durags or bonnets which are not appropriate in school.

Children coming to school in unacceptable uniform will be supplied with the correct uniform from the Reflection Centre. Pupils are asked to leave a deposit (an article of minor value) whilst school property is being borrowed.

School Uniform: Clothing and Appearance

In cases of financial need, parents can apply to the school for assistance towards the cost of school clothing.

School PE Kit

Required Items	Years 7 - 11	- Wanstead High School PE polo shirt with logo - Wanstead High School Fleece with logo - Wanstead High School Rugby top with logo WITH - Wanstead High School PE shorts with logo, with plain black socks - Wanstead High School track bottoms with logo - Wanstead High School PE leggings with logo - Plain black non banded sports leggings - Plain black non branded shorts, with plain black socks - Plain black non branded tracksuit bottoms Optional Additional Items: - Plain black base layer Pupils that are unable to take part in their Physical Education lesson should provide evidence from a parent or carer. Pupils that are unable to follow the PE kit requirements will not be permitted to take part in the practical PE lesson and instead will continue their education by taking on a role such as official, coach, recorder or assessor. Below is the school policy for pupils who do not meet the PE kit requirements: M0 - No or incorrect PE kit - reasonable adjustments can be made for some pupils with additional needs. M0 – Unable to participate – appropriate evidence seen. M1 – No or incorrect PE kit – ‘non-participation’ lanyard given. M2 – Persistent no or incorrect PE kit - twice or more per half term.
Hair		Long hair must be tied back securely during all practical PE lessons and sporting activities where it could present a safety risk. This reduces the risk of hair obscuring vision, becoming caught in sports equipment, or causing injury to the wearer or others during physical activity.
Footwear		Pupils must wear suitable trainers that are securely fastened and appropriate for the activity and surface. This reduces the risk of slips, trips, falls, and foot or ankle injuries by providing appropriate grip, support and stability. Suitable trainers should have a secure fastening, an enclosed toe and heel, and a sole that provides adequate grip for indoor and outdoor PE activities. Fashion footwear, canvas pumps with minimal support, boots, sandals and shoes with heels are not suitable for practical PE lessons.
Jewellery		Jewellery must be removed before practical PE lessons or pupils will not be able to take part. This follows AFPE guidance and ensures there is no risk of cuts, abrasions, snagging and impact injuries to both the wearer and others.

Shoe Guidance Table

Acceptable Shoes

Shoes must be black shoes, below are examples of acceptable shoes.



Unacceptable Shoes

The following 'trainer' like shoes are not acceptable. Many companies have these under their 'return to school' range. Please avoid any of these hybrid trainers typically made by Adidas.



Shoe Guidance Table

Acceptable Shoes

Shoes must be black shoes, below are examples of acceptable shoes.



Unacceptable Shoes

The following ‘trainer’ like shoes are not acceptable. Many companies have these under their ‘return to school’ range. Please avoid any of these hybrid trainers typically made by Adidas.



Trousers and shorts - must be black formal tailored.



Wind breaker jackets which are similar to hoodies are not appropriate.



Leather or denim jackets are not appropriate.



Term Dates for 2026 - 2027

Autumn Term 2026

Wednesday 2 September 2026 to Friday 18 December 2026*

(All pupils return to school on **Thursday 3 September**)

INSET 1 Wednesday 2 September 2026

Disaggregated INSET DAY 2: Friday 2 October 2026

Half-term break: Monday 26 October 2026 to Friday 30 October 2026

INSET DAY 3: Friday 27 November 2026

Christmas break: Monday 21 December 2026 to Friday 1 January 2027

Spring 2027

Monday 4 January 2027 to Thursday 25 March 2027*

Half-term break: Monday 15 February 2027 to Friday 19 February 2027

Easter break: Friday 26 March 2027 to Friday 9 April 2027

Summer 2027

Monday 12 April 2027 to Thursday 22 July 2027*

Half term break: Monday 31 May 2027 to Friday 4 June 2027

Bank holidays 2027

Please note the following is a Bank Holiday not included in school holidays above:

Monday 3 May 2027

Whole school training days or additional days when school is closed to pupils

Wednesday 2 September 2026

Friday 2 October 2026

Friday 27 November 2026

Monday 11 January 2027

Monday 22 February 2027

*On the last day of term, pupils will be dismissed at lunchtime

September

2026

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Dates for your diary

3

September 2026

First day back for pupils

1

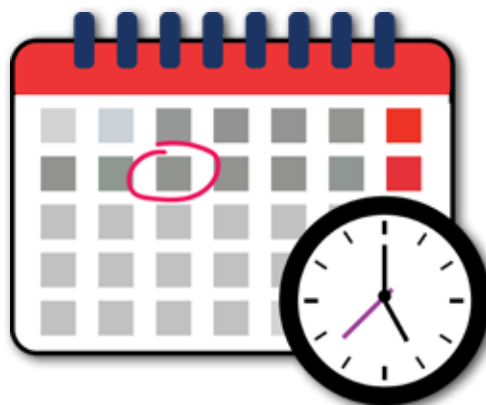
October 2026

Year 6 Open Evening

26

November 2026

Sixth Form Open Evening



Enrich a Life. Foster for Redbridge Council.

Do you remember jumping over the waves at the beach in the summer? Or the dance show you were in when you were 6? If you would like to create fun and lasting memories for children who may have never had these experiences, please call us on 020 8708 6068 or join us on our next virtual information session. Visit <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/fosteringschools> to book a place.

LOCAL COMMUNITY
Fostering
REDBRIDGE

London Borough of
Redbridge

Enrich a life

Foster for Redbridge Council

A photograph of a young girl with long, curly brown hair, wearing a dark blue wetsuit, lying on her stomach on a blue and white surfboard. She is smiling and looking towards the camera, with white foam from a wave crashing over her. The background shows the ocean and a clear sky.



020 8708 6068
www.redbridge.gov.uk/fostering

Tutor Grid 2026 - 2027

Year 7		
HOY	Ms C Lane	
SLT	Mrs H Martin	
PSM	Mrs N Ahmed	
7.M	Ms I Unegbu	
7.W	Mr S Rashid	
7.B	Mr A Chauhan/ Ms M Sharee	
7.K	Ms K Kioi	
7.S	Mr G Narang	
7.H	Mr K Miah	
7.R	Ms O Ogungbe/ Ms S Farooq	
7.G	Ms Z Ammantoola	

Year 8		
HOY	Ms R Gullefer	
SLT	Mr L Wood	
PSM	Ms S Khan	
8.M	Ms K Ali	
8.W	Ms C Shepperd/ Ms H Ahsan	
8.B	Mr M Ojo	
8.K	Mr P Chartorizhsky	
8.S	Mr T Ready	
8.H	Mr B Weakliam	
8.R	Ms M Kara	
8.G	Mr A Yiacoumi	

Year 9		
HOY	Ms G White (Tues-Fri)/ Mr I Choudhury (Mon)	
SLT	Ms D Cini	
PSM	Ms S Khan	
9.M	Ms E Chowdhury	
9.W	Mr S Younis	
9.B	Mr L Willer/ Ms K Robinson	
9.K	Ms S Hoque	
9.S	Ms N Hassan	
9.H	Mr A Mohamed	
9.R	Mr R Nazir	
9.G	Mr I Choudhury/ Mr S Hussain	

Year 10		
HOY	Ms N Jacob	
SLT	Ms D Cini	
PSM	Ms J Seekings	
10.M	Mr K O'Connor/ Ms G Kartha	
10.W	Ms B Waters	
10.B	Ms N Yasin	
10.K	Ms C Gorczak	
10.S	Ms A Malik	
10.H	Ms S Begum	
10.R	Ms E Hayes	
10.G	Ms E Everhart	

Year 11		
HOY	Ms C Murray	
SLT	Mrs H Martin	
PSM	Ms J Seekings	
11.M	Mr J Sains	
11.W	Ms I Jasmine	
11.B	Ms N Rowshan	
11.K	Ms K Akhtar Bibi/ Ms J Kasolo	
11.S	Ms D Collins/ Mr A Boateng	
11.H	Ms R Walker	
11.R	Mr M Tinker	
11.G	Ms N Gomez Alvarez/ Ms C Adelle	
11.D	Ms S Khan	

Year 12		
HOY	Ms T van Beers	
SLT	Ms D Samuel	
12.1	Ms E Christofides	
12.2	Mr C Sheehan	
12.3	Mr B Alom	
12.4	Mr O Obanye/ Mr G Brodie	
12.5	Ms M Tayeba	
12.6	Mr M Hamza	

Year 13		
HOY	Ms E Horne	
SLT	Ms D Samuel	
13.1	Ms J Wali	
13.2	Ms L Pennington	
13.3	Ms H Cressall/ Ms D Bennett	
13.4	Mr I Sweet	
13.5	Ms S Clarke	
13.6	Mr K Holdbrook	