



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

17th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thanking the Staff

If the teaching staff of WGGGS had a communal step counter, I think it would show they have collectively walked from Land's End to John O'Groats in the past week. As the girls stay in their zones, teaching staff are travelling between buildings and class rooms after every lesson. Once there, they are teaching in unfamiliar rooms, without the equipment or books they usually rely on and then with reduced breaks, meaning they are teaching for longer. Yet in every classroom I see the quality of teaching, engagement and passion for learning that we have always seen with our staff.

If we could pause and clap for our teachers, I think we should. The best part of being a teacher at WGGGS is that the girls value the education they are receiving and it is only at WGGGS that I have been thanked on a daily basis for the lesson I just taught. I think it is this acknowledgement that makes all the extra work, effort and steps feel worthwhile. Please encourage your daughter to keep saying thank you.

A reminder that when reporting your daughter absent:

Call 01923 442788 or email

Year 7 - 11 absence@watfordgirls.herts.sch.uk

Year 12+13 sixthformabsence@watfordgirls.herts.sch.uk

Face Coverings

Your daughter will have received information regarding face coverings in the school and I would like to share this with you through this YouTube video:
<https://youtu.be/loeXHBfUuyw>

Second-Hand Uniform

We are pleased to inform you that the second-hand uniform shop is now online and second-hand uniform can only be purchased by completing an online form via the link below:

[Second-hand uniform](#)

Once you have completed the form, we will then be able to confirm and process your order and payment will need to be made via ParentPay. Once your order has been processed and payment has been made, you will receive an email to confirm when the items are ready to be picked up from Reception.

Congratulations to:

I am very proud of Anna Goraya 12C. I received a letter from Threads London Led who ran a volunteer group called 'The Love of Scrubs' making protective wear for NHS key workers. Mrs Puja says:

"Anna's love for sewing got her involved and she has demonstrated great skill, determination and tenacity. Her desire to learn and to continue to produce the best is inspiring for someone so young. The scrubs Anna made were sent to The Royal Brompton and Hillingdon Hospital"

A chance to volunteer

One of our school values is service to others and we were very proud to hear that during the COVID crisis, eleven of our current sixth form pupils volunteered their time to help at West Herts Hospitals Trust (WHHT).

They were involved in many areas including assisting NHS staff, managing donations, helping with social distancing and mask wearing rules and very crucially, keeping patients company and delivering packages to them from their loved ones. We had some lovely feedback from the Voluntary Services Lead, saying that that our pupils 'made an incredible contribution'.

Going forward, WHHT are still in need of volunteers. Last week, Year 11, 12, and 13 pupils were informed about the Response Volunteer Programme that is being run and which can be applied for once your daughter turns 16. Please speak to your daughter about this if she is interested in volunteering, or gaining experience within a care environment. There is no deadline for applying to this scheme, as applications are dealt with throughout the year so if your daughter is not 16 yet then she can apply later in the year. The role description and application pack are attached to this email.

Workshops for Parents

For the last 3 years we have offered parents the opportunity to participate in workshops delivered by the charity Supporting Links. They have given the parents a forum to talk about the experience of parenting teenage girls and here are quotes from previous participants concerning what they felt to be the benefits:

"I really wasn't sure what to expect but found the topics really useful."

"The role play."

"Really interesting, just need time to practice."

"I liked the practical parts."

"The role play and the explanation."

"Starting a conversation with acknowledging the child's feelings - I've noticed."

You will find information about the workshops offered this term attached to this week's newsletter, which have been adapted to be delivered remotely.

Best wishes,

Sylvia Tai