



# Woodford County High School for Girls

## Bulletin

Issue No. 375 5th October 2021



Dear Parent / Carer

Five weeks into the Autumn term, and September behind us already, school has something of its customary buzz about it again. We particularly enjoyed celebrating the 102<sup>nd</sup> School Birthday last week. The day started, as it has done for more than a century, with a parade of banners and a school service. No birthday is complete without cake and we were astonished and delighted with the number, the ingenuity and the professionalism of the entries in our annual competition. Look out for photographic evidence in our December newsletter. Already by break last Wednesday there was little other than crumbs to testify to the efforts of so many. It wasn't possible this year to run a full range of School Birthday activities but the Silver Badge Team excelled themselves in persuading colleagues to star in their murder mystery, streamed to the delight of KS3 students last Wednesday afternoon.

In our newest birthday tradition, the Head Girl and her Deputies visited our neighbouring Children's Hospice mid-morning, presenting them with a cheque for £2273.73 and a tray of cake. We're told we've donated over £17,000 in School Birthday gifts over the last decade. My thanks to parents, as well as to students, for their handsome support of an important cause.

### A updates and reminders:

#### **Ofsted in the vicinity**

Three secondary schools in the immediate area have been inspected thus far this term. We fully anticipate a visit (on fewer than 24 hours' notice) ourselves soon. Parents are informed immediately when an inspection is notified and asked to complete an on-line survey. I'd very much urge you to participate when the time comes. The greater the number of responses, the more indicative the views collated. Your support when the time comes will be very much appreciated.

#### **Friday 8 October is a non-pupil Day**

Parents are reminded that there is a staff training day scheduled this Friday and therefore no school for students.

#### **Covid-19 safety**

Positive cases remain low in the WCHS community but are rising in secondary school populations both locally and nationally. Parents are asked to reinforce messaging to students about the wearing of masks in corridors and busy communal spaces, about hygiene, about maintaining a sensible distance and about keeping spaces ventilated. Public Health England is asking secondary school pupils and teachers to continue twice weekly lateral flow testing for the remainder of the term.

#### **Covid-19 vaccination for 12 – 15 year olds**

We await information about the scheduling of the vaccination programme at WCHS. In the meantime we continue to urge parents to talk with their children about the issue and to access available information in order that an informed decision can be reached.

Public Health England has updated its [page of resources for young people and their families](#) with [answers to some frequently asked questions](#).

Further information for parents is available via this link to the [government guidance for parents](#)

Yours sincerely

Ms Jo Pomeroy  
Headteacher

### **Availability of Home Test Kits**

The high transmissibility of the Delta virus variant means that, to limit numbers isolating, it is more important than ever to identify cases early, before the infected individual is in school potentially passing the virus on to others.

We therefore seek your assistance and encourage all students to continue twice weekly testing during the remainder of this month. Students will have been issued with a new box of test kits for this purpose following round 2 of mass onsite testing.

We would also ask that you continue to report your test results whether negative, positive or Void to both the NHS via the NHS website <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

In addition, please report the result to the school via our Microsoft form [Lateral Flow Test Home Reporting - STUDENTS \(September 2021\)](#)

### **Contacts who are not required to self-isolate from 16 August**

From 16 August, you will not be required to self-isolate if you are notified you have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated
- you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Fully vaccinated means that you have been vaccinated with an MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK, and at least 14 days have passed since you received the recommended doses of that vaccine.

All other persons should isolate for the required number of days

Should a member of your household test positive for COVID 19. You should take a PCR test even if you have no symptoms. Students should not attend school whilst they await the result of the PCR Test. If the results are negative, students can return to school but continue to take regular Lateral Flow Tests whilst members of their household with COID are isolating. If the PCR test result is positive, students should stay at home for the required isolation period.

Sheila Fonseca  
School Business Manager

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are writing to you in relation to the current police approach and enforcement regarding the unlawful use of E-Scooters. Officers are focussing on the unlawful use of all types of E-Scooters in a bid to improve user and pedestrian safety and road casualty reduction.

As you may know, it is currently illegal to ride any type of personally owned E-Scooter in any public place. We understand that buying a E-Scooter can be tempting, especially as they are so widely available now and are legal to buy/sell. However, the only place an E-Scooter can be used legally by anyone is on private land with the land owners permission. The reason for this is that E-Scooters are, for the purpose of current legislation treated as motor vehicles under the Road Traffic Act and are subject to the same legal requirements, including:

The driver must have a full driving licence

The driver must have an insurance policy

The vehicle must have been taxed

The vehicle must have an MOT certificate

It is not currently possible to get the above for privately owned e-scooters, making them illegal to use in public spaces.

You may have seen various pilot schemes being run across the country for the rental of E-Scooters and there are currently several which have started in parts of London. These pilots schemes are subject to exemptions as they are part of a Government trial and do not extend to the use personal scooters, even in the designated areas of the trials.

If your child is found using an E-Scooter on a road, pavement or any other public place such as parks, car parks etc, they face having their scooter seized by police and could be subject to prosecution under the Road Traffic Act for offences such as, but not limited to:

Driving otherwise than in accordance with a driving licence (6 to 8 Penalty points and up to £100 fine)

Driving without Insurance (3 to 6 Penalty points and up to £300 fine ).

Driving / Riding other than on a road (Fixed penalty notice and up to £50 fine)

Contravening a cycle lane (Fixed penalty notice and up to £50 fine)

There may also be circumstances where offences are committed by parents, such as Permitting to drive without valid insurance or permitting to drive other than in accordance with a driving licence which could result in the parent being fined and given points on their own driving licence. The offences relate to any age of rider and it is irrelevant whether they are at an age where they can apply for a provisional licence or younger.

We are seeking your support in our approach to this initiative which is primarily aimed at safeguarding children as well as other members of the public/road users by reducing the unlawful use of these E-Scooters.

To find out more, visit [www.met.police.uk/e-scooters](http://www.met.police.uk/e-scooters)

# October Recital Evening

*Musicians wanted...*

*This term's Recital Evening will be taking place on*

**Thursday 21st October at 6pm**

The termly Recital Evenings are an opportunity for students to perform on an instrument, or singing, in any style of music, to an audience of parents and friends. This term, we are looking for students to perform alongside our GCSE and A Level musicians in what promises to be an enjoyable concert.

You can perform as a soloist (your teachers can be available as accompanists) or as a duet or small ensemble.

You should be used to performing in a formal setting and have a piece that is completely ready for a concert.

Auditions for performers are taking place on:

**Tuesday 5th October, Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>**  
lunchtimes.

In your audition, you should be prepared to play the piece which you plan to perform, and to bring the piano accompaniment (if there is one).

Sign up for an audition slot on the Music noticeboard outside room SF1.

Any questions? Ask Dr Bonnici, Ms Hasler or Miss Hannent



## Music Extra-curricular Timetable



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Lunchtime</b>	<b>Junior Choir</b> Conference Room 13:50- 14:35	<b>Junior Band</b> IBO (SF1) 13:50-14:40	<b>Jazz Band</b> KHN (SF1) 13:25-14:15  <b>GCSE/A-level support</b> IBO (SF2) 13:25- 14:05	<b>Senior Choir</b> KHA (SF1) 13:25- 14:05  <b>Theory</b> IBO (SF2) 13:30-14:20	<b>Orchestra</b> IBO (SF1) 13:30-14:20
<b>After school</b>	<b>String orchestra</b> IBO (SF1) 15:45-16:30  <b>Brass Ensemble</b> (SF2) 15:45-16:15	<b>Chamber groups</b> IBO (SF1) 15:45-16:30			

These music sessions will be on weekly, girls should bring their own instrument and no registration is required for the sessions.

### REDBRIDGE MUSIC SERVICE

Remind your child to check their music timetable for their lessons , the timetables have been sent out. The information is also on the notice board by the hall and in the Jubilee rooms.

**Music activities will be starting this week Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September apart from Senior choir which will start rehearsing on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>. I would highly encourage people to attend as we have a wide variety of ambitious works, with all involved performing at our Christmas Concert on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December.**

A brief description of musical activities:

**String Orchestra:** Open to all string players from grade 3 level and tackling classical repertoire.

**Brass Ensemble:** A visiting brass specialist from the Redbridge centre will be taking these, open to all brass players.

**Junior Band:** This ensemble is an excellent introduction to music at the school, available to all instruments and appropriate from novices up to roughly grade 3 equivalent standard.

**Chamber groups:** These are small ensembles which the music department will supervise and coach alongside proposed initiatives from students. I highly encourage anyone interested to speak to a member of the music department ahead of time to allow for planning.

**Jazz Band:** Mainly for years 10-13 instrumentalists, grade 4/5+ level - woodwind, brass, and rhythm section players (guitar, piano, bass, percussion) We play a range of swing, funk and pop tunes; encouraging learning to improvise confidently.

**GCSE/A-level support:** This is an ongoing class to aid any students taking the GCSE or A-level music course.

**Senior Choir:** A choir for all students in years 10-13, singing a wide variety of music from pop to jazz to classical. The Senior Choir performs at some of the school's traditional events – including the School Birthday coming up soon.

**Junior Choir:** A specialist vocal coach from the Redbridge Music Centre will be attending to lead this. It's an excellent opportunity for those in years 7-9 to attend regardless of prior experience.

**Theory:** These sessions provide a great boost in confidence for those who wish to understand the theoretical side of music not only to supplement music classes across all years, but also for aiding instrumental progress. Coaching will be based on ABRSM graded books, and will include anyone wishing to do their grade 5 theory exam, which is required for instrumental grade 6 and higher.

**Orchestra:** This is the main instrumental body of the school and is open to all relevant instruments of grade 4 equivalent standard or higher.

## Redbridge Music Service (RMS) – Individual Music Lessons

Can parents please remind their daughters to check their lesson timetables and to make sure they attend their lessons. All students have been given their timetables. They are also on display on the RMS noticeboard by the Main Hall, in the Jubilee Rooms and on the notice board by the music rooms. Should they have any problem locating these they can speak to Mr. Ehigie in the office or email [music@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk](mailto:music@woodford.redbridge.sch.uk)

Any students who wish to sign up for new music lessons need to contact RMS Directly, please be aware additional students will only be able to be added to lessons at the start of a term, therefore students now can request sign up for January lessons

<https://visionrcl.org.uk/music-service-sign-up/>

Any queries about billing or requests to cancel lessons need to go to RMS direct

<https://visionrcl.org.uk/centre/redbridge-music-service/>

Please be aware that timetables are not given out to parents.

Thank you

Ms. Wightman

# Non Uniform Day

The non uniform day raised £960.26 for the Human Appeal.

Woodford County High School  
Woodford County High School

High Road  
Woodford Green  
IG8 9LA  
United Kingdom



Page 1 of 1

Donor ID: UK0407452

30/9/2021

## Donation Receipt

Type	Location	Project	Description/Note	Amount
Sadaqah	General	Where Most Needed		£960.26
Total Sadaqah				£960.26
Grand Total				£960.26



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## ONLINE SAFETY INFORMATION

### *What Parents need to know about DISCORD (Communication app)*



#### *What is Discord?*

Discord is a chat room app commonly used by gamers, it is used to talk to other players while playing games. Users can send direct messages swap tips and advice with other players in game-specific servers (similar to online forums). Some games, like Fortnite and PUBG, have official verified Discords for fans to talk about the game.

Most significantly, you do not have to download an app to use it as it can be accessed via any browser and is free to use.

This is being shared with you to make you aware that the Discord social networking tool is geared towards adults, not children and young people.

[Click on this link for more detailed information from Defend Young Minds](#)

[Parents' Ultimate Guide to Discord](#)



Official  
age rating

Rita Del Giudice  
Network Manager



With over 14 million daily users, Discord is one of the most popular communication tools for gamers. It allows you to create or join what are known as 'servers', where different users can talk in groups via text message or voice call. There is also the option to send direct messages and make video calls.



## What parents need to know about **DISCORD**



### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of inappropriate content being shared. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



### SEXUAL IMAGERY

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of sexual imagery being shared. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



### RISK OF CYBERBULLYING

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of cyberbullying. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



### HIDDEN CHARGES

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of hidden charges. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



### RISK OF CYBERCRIME

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of cybercrime. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



### STRANGER DANGER

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of stranger danger. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



## Top Tips to Protect Your Child



### 1 BEWARE OF WHAT'S SHARED

With over 14 million daily users, Discord is one of the most popular communication tools for gamers. It allows you to create or join what are known as 'servers', where different users can talk in groups via text message or voice call. There is also the option to send direct messages and make video calls.



### 2 IMPROVE SECURITY SETTINGS

To help protect your child, make sure they are using a secure password. You should also consider using two-factor authentication for extra security. This means you will need to provide a second code when logging in, which can be sent to your phone or email.



### 3 CHECK THEIR FRIEND LIST

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of cyberbullying. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



### 4 REPORT & BLOCK SUSPICIOUS USERS

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of cyberbullying. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



### 5 BEWARE OF NSFW CONTENT

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of cyberbullying. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



### 6 SHOW RESPECT TO OTHERS

Discord has a large community of users, many of whom are young. This means there is a risk of cyberbullying. Parents should monitor their child's activity and ensure they are not exposed to anything inappropriate.



### 7 TURN ON SAFE MESSAGING

You should encourage your child to enable the Safe Messaging option. This will help protect them from receiving inappropriate messages from people they don't know.



### Meet our expert

Dr. Sarah Houghton is a leading expert in child online safety. She has worked with the police, the NHS, and the government to help protect children from online risks. She is also a regular speaker at conferences and events on this topic.

## STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Parents **MUST NOT** drop their children off or pick them up by pulling into the main entrance gate at the front of the school. This entrance is for staff and school visitors only and not a drop off zone.

Parents are also stopping on the yellow zig-zag markings and double yellow lines on Woodford Green High Road which causes traffic problems on this very busy main road.

Parents **MUST NOT** wait, park or block access to and from neighbouring residential roads in particular Lodge Villas on the Woodford High Road.

Additionally parents are parking on the double yellow lines on The Charter Road and have even been observed pulling entirely onto the pavement at the junction of this road and Chingford Lane.

If you cannot safely drop or pick up your daughter on The Charter Road, parking is available at Sir James Hawkey Hall around the corner on The Terrace.

We appreciate traffic can be very busy at the start and end of the school day, but **for the safety of all students, staff, parents and local residents, parents MUST park safely and considerately in marked bays or where parking restrictions otherwise allow.**





**"When I grow up,  
I want to be a superhero!"**

London Borough of  
**Redbridge** 



**Foster for Redbridge**

**0208 708 6068**

**fostering@redbridge.gov.uk**

WWW.WOODFORD.REDBRIDGE.SCH.UK

## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



@WCHS\_UK



@WoodfordCHS\_UK

## RETURN Your Library Books



**LIBRARY**

Please return all Library books borrowed last term. Our records show that we have a number of seriously overdue books on loan.

If you are unsure of the status of your Library account see me in the Library to discuss.

Many thanks,

**Danielle Horn**

**Librarian**

Currently reading .... Fen

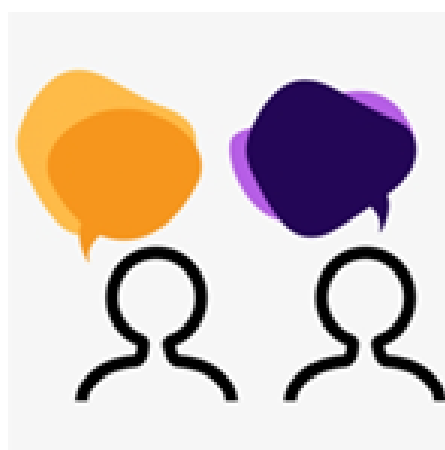


## Educational Psychology Parent Helpline

*Would you like to talk to someone about difficulties that you or your child are experiencing during the COVID-19 pandemic? Do you need some support with creating a daily routine for your child? Are you concerned about your child's emotional wellbeing? Are you struggling to motivate your children at home or manage sibling relationships? The Educational Psychology Service are here to support you.*

The Redbridge Educational Psychology Service have a **dedicated telephone helpline for parents/carers** where you will receive advice and guidance from a professional psychologist.

The EPS helpline is available for all parents and carers - your child does not need to be known to the EPS, does not need to have a special educational need or additional support within school. We welcome calls from all parents and carers.



### EPS Helpline

Telephone: 077 41 3 31 009

Opening hours:

Every Wednesday 10am - 4pm

Webpage: <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/schools/educational-psychology-service/>



FIND: [Educational Psychology Service](#)

@Redbridge\_aep Twitter account.

# Dates for the Diary

<b>AUTUMN 2021</b>		
<b>Term</b>	Friday 3 September	Friday 22 October
<b>Half-term</b>	<b>Monday 25 October</b>	<b>Friday 29 October</b>
<b>Term</b>	Monday 1 November	Friday 17 December
<b>Non Contact Day</b>	Friday 8 October	
<b>SPRING 2022</b>		
<b>Term</b>	Tuesday 4 January 2022	Friday 11 February 2022
<b>Half-term</b>	<b>Monday 14 February 2022</b>	<b>Friday 18 February 2022</b>
<b>Term</b>	Monday 21 February 2022	Friday 1 April 2022
<b>Non Contact Day</b>	<b>Tuesday 8 March 2022</b>	
<b>SUMMER 2022</b>		
<b>Term</b>	Tuesday 19 April 2022	Friday 27 May 2022
<b>Half-term</b>	<b>Monday 30 May 2022</b>	<b>Friday 3 June 2022</b>
<b>Term</b>	Monday 6 June 2022	Friday 22 July 2022
<b>Non Contact Day</b>	Wednesday 29 June 2022	



## KEY DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 29 September—School Birthday (102<sup>nd</sup>)  
 Monday 11 to Friday 15 October—House Charity Week (Newton)  
 Tuesday 19 October—Sixth Form A Level Options Day  
 Tuesday 19 October—Sixth Form Open Evening  
 Thursday 21 October—Music Recital Evening