



Connaught
School for Girls

Newsletter

July 2024

2023-24 Issue: 54

Special points of interest:

- Year 7 students enjoy an enriching and memorable experience on their visit to the River Roding
- whole school have fun at our PTA Culture Day celebrations
- a day of fun, learning, and environmental awareness at the Year 7 cycling event

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Featured in this issue:



End of Term Learning Activities

In a vibrant display of creativity and teamwork, Year 7 students took on a unique challenge of designing and modelling outfits made entirely from newspapers.

This initiative, part of the end of year activities, was aimed at fostering innovation, collaboration and building good social and communicative skills.

Some stand out designs included a ballerina dress, queen of hearts, one inspired by Kate Middleton, while others were inspired by weddings and fancy dresses.

Overall students thought it was very fun and they believed it was an amazing opportunity to explore and expand their creativity and to use a wide variety of newspapers to create fashionable items of clothing.

The teachers were wowed by the extent to which the students had gone whilst undertaking this challenge.

A big thank you to Mrs Rain and Mrs Wallace who facilitated this event and to all the teaching staff and support staff who became judges for a fantastic event.

Leavers' Event

On the 9th of July, our school hosted the most long awaited event for our year: Prom! The day was divided into two parts, one at school- as a more formal get together- and the other on a boat along the Thames, the perfect way to mark the end of our secondary school experience.

The school hall was decked out in an array of decor: massive balloon arches, adorable photo spots, and delicious finger food laid out for us to enjoy as we listened to sentimental speeches from both our peers, our form tutors and lastly our HOY Ms Ali, whilst we reminisced about our time together. There were speeches from each form group, highlighting

just how far we've come and just how much we've grown in our five years at Connaught. Together, we laughed at shared experiences and took a trip down memory lane, reliving our past memories.

Following the touching



"Together, we laughed at shared experiences and took a trip down memory lane, reliving our past memories."



Leavers' Event continued

moments at school we collectively embarked on the second half of Prom - a boat cruise along the Thames that promised to be a thoroughly memorable experience. The music played, we danced, and the boat's deck became our dance floor as we celebrated our last event as a year group. This boat cruise - being one of the most long anticipated events - did not fail to deliver, seeing as every one of us left smiling, laughing and filled with a bittersweet feeling: happiness for the event we had just enjoyed, and a lingering sadness that it was all over.

Needless to say, this experience will stay with us for years to come and while it is a little sad

that our journey together has come to a close, this was hands down the best send off that we could've hoped for as we all continue down our own paths, filled with utmost gratitude for our school experiences and the teachers that made it possible.

Meerub
Year 11

Ms Ali
Head of
Year 11



*"The music played,
we danced, and
the boat's deck
became our
dance floor as we
celebrated our last
event as a year
group."*



Science

The science department has been extremely busy in this final term, with many classes finishing off their topics and having end of unit assessments.

Nevertheless, Mrs Mujahid still found the time to fit in some practicals for her enthusiastic students who learnt how to make salt in the laboratory. Making salt helped the students to develop a range of practical skills which they will be able to use when carrying out other GCSE practicals.

This is what some of the students had to say:-

"In this experiment, we tested out ionic bonding by producing a salt. We enjoyed the experiment and look forward to doing more experiments similar to this one".

Hiba 9G and Mei 9C

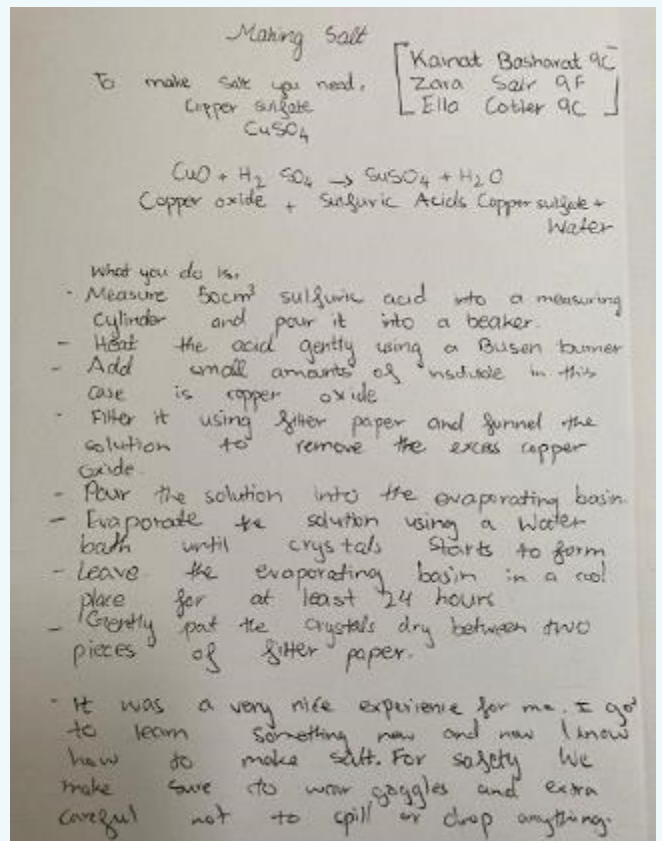
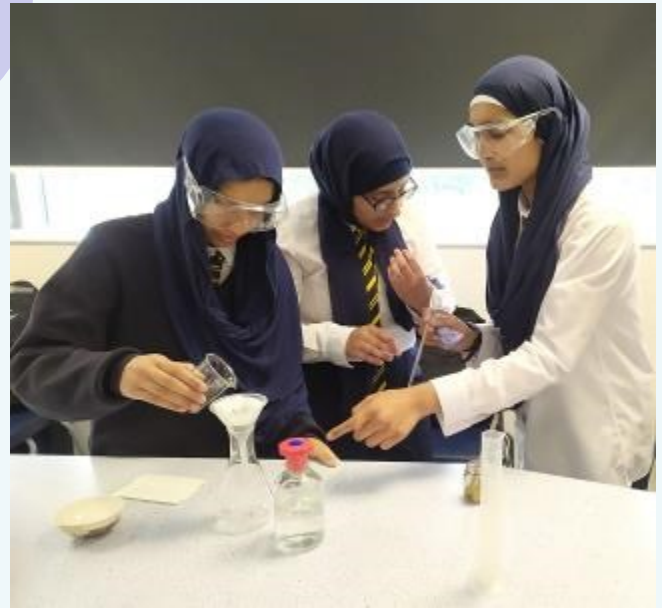
"We learnt about ionic bonding when sulphuric acid and copper oxide react together."

Halimah, Hanna, Ellen and Inayah

On the right, Kainat Zara And Ella have given a detailed account of their experiment.

The science department would like to wish the Year 11 students all the very best for their exam results and the future.

Science department



"In this experiment we tested out ionic bonding by producing a salt."



Students enjoying their practical experience

Drama

It has been another very exciting, jam-packed year in the Drama Department, with Theatre Club trips to: Sister Act; Six and Mrs Doubtfire. The cost of living crisis has hit everyone hard over the last few years, but by working closely with specialised ticket agencies that we have built excellent relationships with, over 60 students were able to experience the magic of the West End at a fraction of the cost. I believe visits to professional theatre productions should be for everyone and we will always offer support to those who may not be able to make the full trip payment. Please do not hesitate to reach

out. Evening trips like this can only take place with the support of the attending staff giving up their time. I personally thank each of them for helping to make these trips possible.

Of course, the big highlight of the year was our school production *Mehndi Night*. An evening of immersive drama, dance, music, food and of course mehndi. Our cast worked solidly for over five months and remained focused on their line learning even during the school holidays. As a group, they bonded and helped each other during rehearsals with their acting and dancing, and made us

all laugh after long days in the classroom! In my 18 year long career, they have truly been the nicest cast I have ever worked with.

The cast also took part in outreach work with Aldersbrook & Buxton primary schools who visited us for a performance and dance workshop. They were the best role models for the school and it generated a lot of excitement in the Year 5 students who all asked if they could come back for the next production.

On the 10th July we celebrated with a little picnic and rounders on Wanstead Flats, an afternoon of relaxation and reminiscing was

"In my 18 year long career, they have truly been the nicest cast I have ever worked with."

Drama (continued)

exactly what we needed, but of course it wasn't long until they pestered me about what the next school production would be!

Each year we aim to make our production more professional than the one before, and Mehndi Night was no exception. Each performer had their own personal radio mic which meant we could fill the audience and the show would still be heard from

the back of the hall. This would not have been made possible without the generous support of the PTA who purchased us the set of microphones and liaised with local businesses to sponsor the evening; donating food, decorations and their services. We are truly grateful to have a PTA who have such drive and passion and whose actions have an immediate, tangible impact on the school,

and of course we are so grateful to you the parents for helping to make Connaught School feel like a real community.

If you would like to help out in anyway please don't hesitate to contact the Chair of the PTA Samim Patel

PTA@connaught-cloud.co.uk

Ms Jemal

Head of Drama

"Each performer had their own personal radio mic which meant we could fill the audience and the show would still be heard from the back of the hall."



"Who in the world am I? Ah, that's the great puzzle!"

"It's no use going back to yesterday, because I was a different person then."

Look out for audition posters in the Autumn term

Spelling Bee

Year 7 took part in their annual Interform Spelling Bee last week after a few tense lessons of preparation!

Teams were selected through a combination of volunteering and Spelling Tests to whittle it down to five team members who were ready to take on the challenge for each of our five form groups.

The bee kicked off with seven rounds of 'It's a Knock out' style spelling tests with each team member being given a specific spelling and the spellings becoming increasingly difficult. All the audience -and the judges- were incredibly impressed by the abilities of all the students taking part given that they were spelling words such as *f o r t u i t o u s*, *a c q u a i n t a n c e* and *s y m p h o n y*! Why don't you try testing members of your family on those



words and see how they do? By the last round, only a few inspiring individuals were clinging on...

The second half of the Bee was made up of a 'Quick Fire' quiz, in which the team chose a random list of words e.g. List C (without knowing which words were in it), and when the words were read out, any member of the team could try to spell it. The aim was to get as many correctly spelled words as possible in the one minute.

The form groups flew through impressive

amounts of words and showcased their excellent literacy skills - in addition to providing their team mates with a supportive atmosphere. We hope Year 7 relished the challenge; many audience members loved having a go sounding the words out themselves so it was a great learning experience for all. Every participant deserves to feel very proud of themselves. In particular, we'd like to offer our congratulations to 7W who took first place despite fierce competition from the other forms; particularly their nearest competitors 7G (second place) and 7C (third place).

Ms Burton

English department

"Every participant deserves to feel very proud of themselves."



English (continued)

Year 7 Creative Writing Challenge

Some students in Year 7 took up the writing challenge of creating a mini saga of just 100 words (no more). The genre of their short writing piece could be a scene from a dystopian story or a thriller as the theme was 'Mission Chaos'. There were a lot of great entries - so here are just a couple:

Fiery Spark

I open my eyes as a strange yellow light dances around me. My vision clears. The 'strange yellow light' was really a hungry fire threatening to swallow me whole. What happened? Why am I still in the building? I push the thoughts aside as I get up and run for the exit; chaotic flames reach for my feet as I pull on the door. It's locked. A feeling of devastation washes over me as I try to escape the fiery flames grasp but we all know once the flames have been sparked someone's bound to get burnt.

Cleo Akar Grams (7C)

The Crazes

Newt stepped forward, he looked from side to side, he knew they were close; he sensed their presence around him. Crazes everywhere ready to attack. 'Crazes' that's what they're called, deranged humans hit by inevitable bullets filled with virus VN6Z3d. No one knows where they come from but everyone knows that once they're hit, there's no cure. The remainers (people who haven't got hit) suspect the government. They had sent threats to decrease population - "less mouths to feed, more money!" - it was sick and vile. Crunch! Newt jumped, crunch! Louder. They're here...

Mouna Hadjilah (7F)

Ms Caroto
English department

"We have earned a whopping £291 in rewards!"

Library

Scholastic Book Fair: Apprentice Edition

Our school apprentices battled it out this term for the highest number of sales at the Book Fair. They were tasked with promoting and marketing the bookfair, and this was done in various ways. The groups presented to the school in assembly, created posters and came up with ways to incentivise students to buy

from them. We had groups offering free glitter face paints, bookmarks and bracelets, and even home baked brownies any time a customer voted for their team.

It is testament to their hard work that we can say that we were rewarded with the highest ever amount since we started hosting the Scholastic Book Fair in our school! We have earned

a whopping £291 in rewards! That looks like around 30 new books for the library!

Thank you to all the teams and a big congratulations to the winning team.



Library (continued)

Summer Activity Booklet

Students in Year 7 and 8 have been given a Summer Activity Literacy Booklet to take home over the summer and

work on. There are a lot of fun activities in there that will help students prepare for the next academic year. Please do encourage students at home to work on this

booklet, you may even wish to take it with you on the plane!

Ms Khanom
Learning Resource Centre

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P.E.

KS3 Annual Interform Competition

From June 26th to June 28th, Key Stage 3 students participated in an exhilarating Interform Competition that brought the school community together in a spirited display of teamwork and sportsmanship. Forms competed against each other in various sports, and the days were filled with joy, effort, and the incredible energy of students who put in so much effort, supporting one another throughout the event.

The essence of the competition was not solely about winning, but about becoming a unified team. Students engaged in discussions about their strengths and

weaknesses, tailoring their strategies for each sport accordingly. One of the most remarkable aspects of the competition was witnessing the team captains in action. Their support and encouragement played a crucial role in keeping their teams motivated and united towards their common goal. The enthusiasm and leadership displayed by the captains was truly inspiring.

In a display of creativity and school spirit, students created banners and posters, and some even designed amazing tops to represent their forms. Teachers also played a significant part in the event, cheering and supporting the students



with as much passion and excitement as the participants themselves. Their involvement added to the vibrant atmosphere and highlighted the strong sense of community within our school.

Well done to all students for their incredible efforts and teamwork! The Interform Competition was a wonderful reminder of the power of unity and the joy of shared achievements. Congratulations to the winning forms, and a big thank you to everyone who participated and made this event such a success.

"Well done to all students for their incredible efforts and teamwork!"



P.E. (continued)

Here are the results of the Interform Competition:

OVERALL SPORTS DAY RESULTS

YEAR 7

POSITION	POINTS	CLASS
3rd	24	7G
2nd	26	7C
1st	33	7F

4th 18 points 7W

5th 17 points 7S

YEAR 8

POSITION	POINTS	CLASS
3rd	24	8S
2nd	25	8C
1st	27	8F

4th 18 points 8G

5th 17 points 8W

YEAR 9

POSITION	POINTS	CLASS
3rd	23	9S
2nd	24	9G
1st	25	9F

4th 17 points 9W & 9C

"The enthusiasm and leadership displayed by the captains was truly inspiring."

P.E. (continued)

Year 7 Cycling Event - A Day of Fun, Learning, and Environmental Awareness

On the 25th of June, twelve enthusiastic Year 7 students participated in an exciting cycling event that combined fun, learning, and environmental awareness. The day was packed with diverse activities that engaged students in unique ways.

The event kicked off with an environmental awareness project, where students created TikTok videos to promote environmental consciousness. Following this, they attended a bike maintenance course, learning essential skills to ensure their bikes are safe to ride.



One of the highlights was the smoothie bike activity, where students pedaled to generate power and make fresh smoothies, providing a tasty and healthy way to regain their energy. Additionally, students participated in balancing activities, a relay game, and various park games, all designed to enhance their cycling skills and teamwork.

The enthusiasm was

palpable, especially in the spin test. The spin test saw Amy from 7F achieving the best time, closely followed by Apolonia, also from 7F. The day culminated in a competitive bicycle race where every student gave their all, demonstrating remarkable effort and determination.

We are incredibly proud of the students' participation and the positive spirit they brought to the event. Thank you for making the PE department proud! We look forward to the next cycling event and even more outstanding performances.

Ms Agilara
Head of P.E.

"The day was packed with diverse activities that engaged students in unique ways."



PTA Culture Day celebrations

On Friday 12th July, the students came to school in their own clothes/ clothes to represent their culture/ heritage.

The PTA sold cakes and bakes, sweets and treats and there was a raffle with kindly donated prizes.

The highlight of the day was Beat the Goalie and Sponge the Teacher.

"It was really nice to see the whole school having fun together"

Eda 9S



PTA Culture Day celebrations (continued)

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"The highlight of the day was Beat the Goalie and Sponge the Teacher."



Geography

Our recent Year 7 geography field trip to the River Roding was an enriching and memorable experience that brought classroom lessons to life through hands-on learning and exploration. The primary focus of the trip was to carry out fieldwork on river processes, and it was complemented by a delightful nature walk.

The day began with practical activities along the riverbank, where we investigated key river processes such as erosion, transportation, and deposition. Armed with measuring tapes, and field notebooks, we meticulously measured the river's width, depth, and flow rate.



Observing the sediment types at different points along the river provided us with tangible examples of how rivers shape landscapes over time. These activities will aid in the students getting a deeper understanding of theoretical concepts

"This walk was not only educational but also provided a peaceful and reflective break from our fieldwork."



Geography (continued)

when we study these concepts in more detail within Year 9.

One of the highlights of the trip was the nature walk. This walk took us through the lush surroundings of the River Roding, where we encountered a variety of plant and animal species. This walk was not only educational but also provided a peaceful and reflective break from our fieldwork.

It is clear that combining fieldwork

with a nature walk created a well-rounded educational experience. The hands-on data collection and analysis helped reinforce the students' geographical knowledge, while the nature walk nurtured our appreciation for the environment. Experiencing the river processes firsthand and observing the natural beauty of the area made the theoretical aspects more concrete and engaging.

In conclusion, the Year 7 field trip to the River Roding was a highly successful endeavour that enhanced the learning and fostered a greater connection to the natural world. It underscored the value of experiential learning and reminded us of the importance of integrating environmental awareness into our studies.

Mr Desborough
Head of geography

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"It is clear that combining fieldwork with a nature walk created a well-rounded educational experience."

End of Term Learning Activities

Here are some photos from the end of term learning activities which included a study skills workshop, interform team games, STEM enrichment workshop and designing outfits from newspapers (front page).



"The teachers were wowed by the extent to which the students had gone whilst undertaking this challenge."



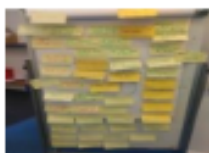
FREE Family Learning Courses and workshops 2024/25



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS – 90 minute workshops for families

Availability: weekdays from 3pm

- Navigating the world of prepaid cards and debit cards for children
- Family cookery workshops (pizzas or energy balls)
- Family craft workshops (making board games or origami)
- Yoga for Families



PARENTING SKILLS – 2 hour classes x 5 weeks for parents

Availability: Mon, Tues, Weds or Thurs between 09:30 and 14:30

- Calm Parents, Calm Children
- Raising Resilient and Confident Children



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING – 2 hour classes x 5 weeks for parents

Availability: Mon, Tues, Weds or Thurs between 09:30 and 14:30

- Keeping up with the children in Maths or English
- Everyday English for Parents (ESOL)
- Understanding Coding



LIFE SKILLS & WELLBEING – 2 hour workshops for parents

Availability: Mon, Tues or Weds between 09:30 and 14:30

- E-Safety
- Making the most of AI and Chat GPT
- Budgeting/Saving Money on Your Food Shopping
- Yoga for busy parents



DIGITAL SKILLS COURSES – 2 hour classes x 5 weeks for parents

Availability: Mon, Tues or Weds between 09:30 and 14:30

- Microsoft Word
- Microsoft Excel
- Using Canva to produce posters, videos and social media content



CAREER BASED WORKSHOPS – 2 hour workshops for parents

Availability: Mon, Tues, Weds or Thurs between 09:30 and 14:30

- Exploring a career in Customer Service
- Working with Food and Food Safety



www.walthamforest.gov.uk/adult-learning
adult.learning@walthamforest.gov.uk



Artist of the Month

Year 8's have been developing their painting skills this term with a Landscape project. Zahra

Zeeshan, 8C, has shown particular skill and excellent progress in her watercolour study, so she

is our Artist of the Month! Well done Zahra! Art department



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07944 682 849

Dates:
Week 1:
August 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th
Week 2:
August 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd
Time: 11am - 3pm

Dates for your Diary

Last Day of Summer Term
Staff Training Day 1
Staff Training Day 2
Students start 2024-2025

- Friday 19th July 2024
- Monday 2nd September 2024
- Tuesday 3rd September 2024
- Wednesday 4th September 2024

8:20am - 8:30am Year 7 arrive to school
2:00pm - Years 8 to 11 arrive to school
3:20pm - End of school day

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