

October 2024

2024-25 Issue: 55

Special points of interest:

- Incredible progress in physical education
- Students build confidence in public speaking
- International Day of the Girl workshops
- Year 9 go on a thrilling trip to the London Zoo
- Beyond Wonderland

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London Zoo trip

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Football tournament

Science

Year 7

It has been a great start to this academic year, with all the classes getting lots of hands-on experience.

Especially, the Year 7 classes who first learnt about how to work safely in a science laboratory carrying out many practicals and quickly developing their practical skills.

They learnt to identify all laboratory the equipment before using bunsen burners the followed by investigating the boiling point of water. Once they had mastered this they used bioviewers to learn about specialized cells. They didn't stop there and went on to investigate the changes of state. The particle theory and what sublimation is.



Sofia and Anabiya drawing specialized cells

Anabiga Adnan 75
I found todays lesson Very interesting because We discovered about animal and plant Cells I found it enjoyable Also we drew diagrams of it.

In this lesson, we used bioviewers to examine different animal cells and plant cells. It was interesting to see the different cells bigger so we could look at them properly and see all the different parts.

Joan Michelson, 75.





Looking at specialised cells using bioviewers

"They learnt to identify all the laboratory equipment before using the bunsen burners followed by investigating the boiling point of

water."

Science (continued)



Maryam and Mariya looking at plant and body cells using the bioviewers.

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7S-Working safely using bunsen burners



Si Le, Gabrielle and Saffiyah investigate the boiling point of water



Hareem, Humeira and Nahla investigate at what temperature water boils



Mrs. Siddique demonstrating sublimation of iodine and the recrystallisation of iodine

Science Open Evening

The Science open evening was a hit with all the parents, carers and students who came to visit the department and took part in the wide range of interactive activities. From making onion cell slides, to testing different foods, making slime, watching a heart dissection as well as Mrs Mujahid putting on a spectacular show with her holding fire experiment, everything was fascinating to watch.

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Science (continued)





Food tests

Making circuits

"From making onion cell slides, to testing different foods, making slime, watching a heart dissection as well as Mrs Mujahid putting on a spectacular show with her holding fire experiment, everything was fascinating to watch."



Mrs Mujahid making bubbles for the super demonstration of holding fire



WOW!

Mrs Mujahid and Minal holding fire



Display of some of the many models that are used in Biology lessons

Ms Siddique

Science (continued)

Using Microscopes in Biology

In Biology today, we prepared onion skin cells to observe under microscopes - we were successfully able to identify distinct features of the cell such as the nucleus, cytoplasm and cell wall. This practical lesson helped to improve

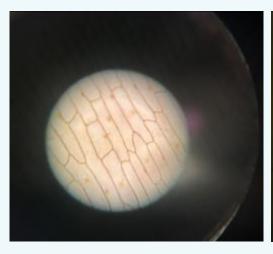
our understanding of the structure of eukaryotic/plant cells, and how to use microscopes effectively in a fun and interactive way. Below are some pictures of the results.

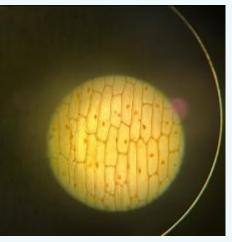
In advance to the practical, Ms Ali allowed us to look at our own hair strands under the

microscopes, which was fascinating to see how different they could look under that level of magnification and also made using the microscopes more relatable to ourselves.

Ms Ali

Science department





"The students had
to perform a prelearnt monologue
demonstrating
their commitment
to learning lines as
well as their best

acting skills."

Drama

'Beyond Wonderland'

On Wednesday 9th October over 70 eager students auditioned for our upcoming production 'Beyond Wonderland'.

The students had to perform a pre-learnt monologue demonstrating their commitment to learning lines as well as their best acting skills. There was also a very demanding Dance audition run by three very talented students Iqra Essop, Freya Maitland and Jasmine Saeed and overseen by Ms Gilbey.



I was genuinely blown away by the talent, and sheer number of students wanting to audition, it just goes to show increased access to performance opportunities and trips develops students' confidence andpresentation skills.

By the time this newsletter goes to print the final cast will have been announced - A big congratulations to everyone who received a part! Unfortunately with so many students auditioning it was impossible to include everyone, so for anyone

Drama (continued)

who did not make the final cast you will be rewarded for your efforts by way of a complimentary ticket to the show.

School shows are highlight of the school year and in order to help raise money towards the production costs we will be holding a few events in the next term, so please get involved where you can. Parents, if you are able to help with things such as, printing o f the

programme, decor (Mad Hatter's Afternoon Tea theme) and Food/Drink for the show (end of January) please do get in touch with our PTA PTA@connaughtcloud.co.uk

Sophia Thakur

As part of Black History Month Celebrations and National Poetry Day, various classes have been exploring the work of the Black British Poet Sophia Thakur, a young London born Artist who has inspired a whole generation to pick up a pen and pour their hearts out.

Students from 9W used the style of Physical Theatre to bring the poem 'Slow Sky, Move On By' from Thakur's book 'Somebody Give This Heart A Pen'

Poems were written to be heard. Our stories are meant to be told.

What is your heart saying?

Ms Jemal

Head of Drama

"Poems were written to be heard. Our stories are meant to be told."







London Zoo trip

This half term Year 9 went on a thrilling trip to the London Zoo. We saw sleepy sloths, mischievous monkeys, all different kinds beautiful birds and so much more. ventured all around the zoo with some of our classmates teachers and grouped back together for lunch and a quick stop at the gift shop. This trip to the zoo was the perfect opportunity to expand knowledge our different animals and their adaptations which will help us in upcoming assignments. Because why would you want to learn about it through a textbook when you can to tree and even petted see the real thing in front of you? All in one day we travelled to the outback, the savannah,



to the woodlands and we even took a walk through a rainforest and experienced the humidity that some animals need to survive Together we all watched how a Mother gorilla cares for her baby, we watched monkeys jump from tree goats together. watched lazy lions laze around and penguins go for a swim.

Some very students even went to see creepy crawlies. Thanks to the teachers at Connaught School it was wonderful and experience we made SO many memories with all of our friends that we will remember for years to come.

Hafsa Khan 9G

"We watched lazy lions laze around and saw penguins go for a swim."



International Day of the Girl

Last week Friday, we took 6 Year 10s (Gilda, Caitlin, Alexis, Shianne, Kassidy, Matilda) & 2 Year 11 (Amara M, Naomi J) girls the MilkHoneyBees' inaugural Black Girls School Networking Conference as part of the International Day of the Girl. The whole-day event was designed to support the wellbeing for airls of Black & Mixed-Raced heritage, focusing Healing, Empowerment Resilience.

The girls took part in several workshops keynote discussions in which they focused on self-healing and empowerment, as they reflected on their school experiences and offered advice towards other girls!

were fortunate Thev enough to also receive a Gift Bag which included



many items, which included Lip Balms, Hair Gels, Books, Make Up & their own Stanley Cup!

All the girls reflected on their time at the Schools' Conference and have taken tips they can use

not just on themselves, but to support the schooling experience for their peers.

Watch this Space! Mr Kajue-Adolphe Head of Sociology

Jack Petchey 'Speak Out' challenge

On Thursday last week, we had the opportunity to had the Speaker's Trust in school, working with some of our Year 10 students to enhance their public speaking skills and potentially have chance to compete against each other in assembly in which they their public practise speaking to a large crowd before winner is а selected to perform against other schools.

The students involved all

reflect on their varying confidence and ability to communicate in public whilst taking part in a series of activities throughout the day to help increase their skills in Public Speaking. I felt that the workshop had given all of them strategies to feel more in control when presenting despite their varied 'starting points' and all were able to stand in front of the group and tell an anecdote with a

message-mostly memory; with only 20 minutes planning time-by the end of the day. This is a feat most adults would shy away from - so they really do deserve a big congratulations for We will now have six speakers chosen hv judges on the day go forward to the assembly presentation round.

Ms Burton

English department

"The whole-day event was designed to support the wellbeing for girls of Black & Mixed-Raced heritage, focusing on Healing, Empowerment and

Resilience."

PE

We are thrilled to share the incredible progress our secondary girls have in made physical education this term! Through participation in team sports, individual activities, and fitness tests, our students are not only developing their athletic abilities but also gaining essential life skills such as confidence, resilience, leadership, andteamwork. It's been truly inspiring to see these young athletes support one another and thrive in such a positive and inclusive environment.

Following the success of last year's football club, excited to we are announce the expansion our extracurricular activities. New offerings now include basketball, multisports, dodgeball, and badminton—each carefully designed to promote physical fitness, mental well-being, and personal growth alongside our regular PE curriculum. These sessions encourage students to embrace n e w challenges, explore



different sports, and step outside their comfort zones. It's an opportunity for them to discover what they love and build lasting skills through engaging and fun activities.

We are particularly excited to announce the launch of our new **boxing club**. This program will help students enhance their fitness levels while building discipline, strength, and focus—qualities that are essential both in sport and in life. Additionally, our calendar is packed with exciting

events, including interschool competitions for Year 9 and a football tournament for some of our Year 7 and Year 8 students. These competitions offer platform for fantastic students to showcase their talents, build team spirit, and experience the thrill o f friendly competition in supportive setting.

Looking ahead, we aim to engage parents and the wider community in our efforts to promote a love for sport and fitness. In the coming weeks, we will be sending out a Google form where you can share your input on the sports you would like to see offered during after -school hours for yourselves. Your feedback is essential in helping us continue to build an inclusive, engaging program that benefits everyone.

Ms Agilara Head of PE "It's been truly
inspiring to see
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Connaught

School for Girls

Dyers Hall Road Leytonstone London E11 4AE

tel: 020 8539 3029 fax: 020 8558 3827 Email: school@connaught. waltham.sch.uk

seize the day

HEADTEACHER MR A SILK

Artist of the Month

Congratulations Haajra Mushtaq and Tasnia Islam in Year 9 for being our Artists of the Month! Year 9s have been working on drawing pages for their project titled, Present, Future' and we were thrilled with the original andcreative way that Haaira and Tasnia responded to this task. Well done!

Ms Broadway and Ms Gilbey





Dates for your Diary

Half Term Holiday

- Monday 21st to Friday 25th October 2024

First day back after Half Term

- Monday 28th October 2024

Year 11 Mock GCSE Exams - Tuesday 29th October to Friday 15th November 2024

Last Day of Autumn Term

- Friday 20th December 2024

Start of Spring Term for all

- Monday 6th January 2025

Half Term Holiday

- Monday 17th - Friday 21st February 2025

- Wednesday 12th March 2025

Staff Training Day 3

- Friday 4th April 2025

Last Day of Spring Term

First Day of Summer Term (all)

- Tuesday 22nd April 2025

May Bank Holiday

- Monday 5th May 2025

Half Term Holiday

- Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May 2025

Last Day of Summer Term

- Friday 18th July 2025

Published and edited by Mr L. Simpson **Media Resources**

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