



Connaught
School for Girls

Newsletter

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

Featured in this issue:



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.

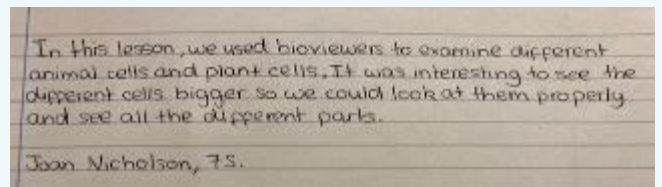
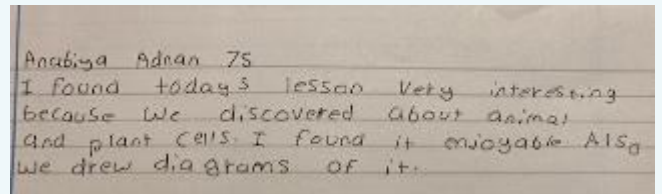
Especially, the Year 7 classes who first learnt about how to work safely in a science laboratory carrying out many practicals and quickly developing their practical skills.

They learnt to identify all the laboratory equipment before using the bunsen burners 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.

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



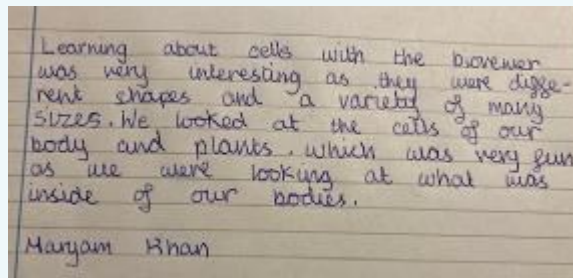
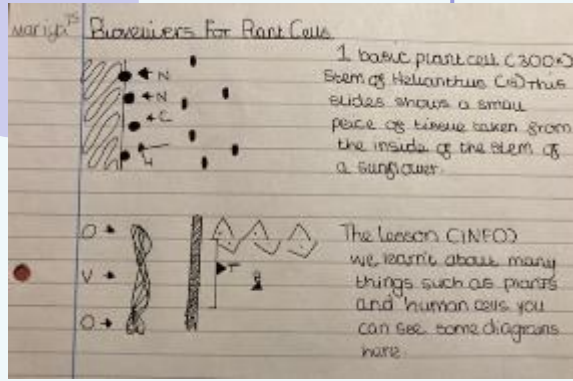
Sofia and Anabiya drawing specialized cells



Looking at specialised cells using bioviewers



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



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

"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."

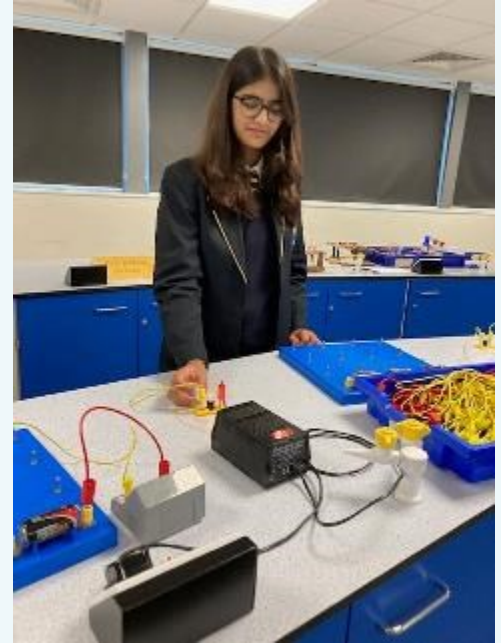
Science Open Evening

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.

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

Science (continued)

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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

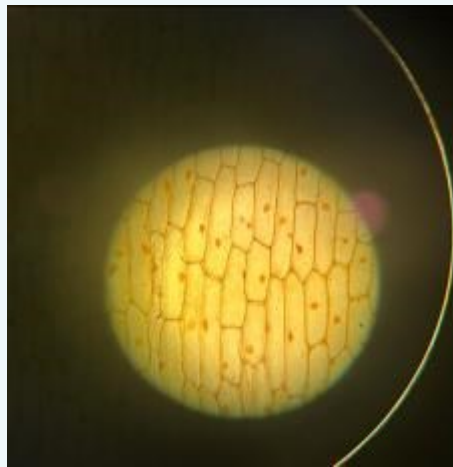
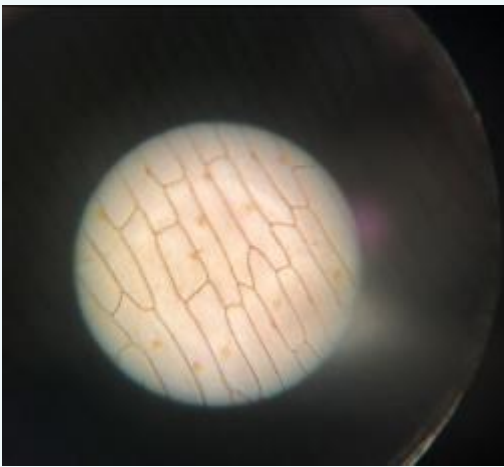
our understanding of the structure of eukaryotic/plant cells, and how to use microscopes effectively in a fun and interactive way. Below are some pictures of the results.

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 pre-learnt 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 that increased access to performance opportunities and trips develops students' confidence and presentation 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 a 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 of 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@connaught-cloud.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 of beautiful birds and so much more. We ventured all around the zoo with some of our classmates and 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 our knowledge on 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 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 in. Together we all watched how a Mother gorilla cares for her baby, we watched monkeys jump from tree to tree and even petted goats together. We watched lazy lions laze around and saw penguins go for a swim.

Some very brave students even went to see creepy crawlies. Thanks to the teachers at Connaught School it was a wonderful experience and 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.”*



We are thrilled to share the incredible progress our secondary girls have made in 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, and teamwork. 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, we are excited to announce the expansion of 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 new 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 **inter-school competitions for Year 9** and a **football tournament** for some of our Year 7 and Year 8 students. These competitions offer a fantastic platform for students to showcase their talents, build team spirit, and experience the thrill of friendly competition in a 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 these young athletes support one another and thrive in such a positive and inclusive environment."





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School for Girls

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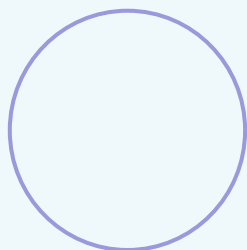
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seize the day

HEADTEACHER

MR A SILK



Published and
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Media Resources

Artist of the Month

Congratulations to 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, 'Past, Present, Future' and we were thrilled with the original and creative way that Haajra 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
Staff Training Day 3	- Wednesday 12th March 2025
Last Day of Spring Term	- Friday 4th April 2025
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

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