



Friday 13 October 2023

Headteacher's weekly update for parents

Dear Parents,

**Recent international events**

Following recent events in Israel and Palestine, our thoughts are with those who have been lost, lost loved ones and have been made to feel unsafe in their own homes and communities in Israel and Palestine. Our thoughts and condolences are also with those whose friends and family have been affected by the recent earthquake in Afghanistan. We have reminded students that they can speak to their form tutor, ESA, Head of Year or a member of the Leadership Team if they need any support.

**Important dates for your diary**

Tuesday 17 October	SEND Parent Support Meeting (5.30-6.30pm) in the LRC
Thursday 19 October	Year 11 Sixth Form Taster Day – all day
Friday 20 October	Wear Red Day
<b>Monday 23 - Friday 27 October</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
<b>Monday 30 October</b>	<b>Professional Learning Day – No students onsite</b>
Tuesday 31 October	Students return to school

**Year 11 Sixth Form Taster Day – Thursday 19 October**

This is a fantastic opportunity for our Year 11 students to spend time in the sixth form, attend A-Level and BTEC taster lessons and participate in team building and wellbeing activities. Year 11 students **do not need to wear uniform on this day** but must bring equipment to write with so that they can participate in lessons. Students should enter via their normal gate on Laura Place and go to Collective Time as usual. They will be in school for the whole day.

**Wear Red Day – Friday 20 October**

Next week, as part of Show Racism the Red Card, CGA will be taking part in 'Wear Red Day' where students can swap **one** item of their uniform in favour of a red one. This is to show our commitment to being an anti-racist school and to celebrate the diversity of our school community. Please encourage your child to wear something red - this could be a red jumper, t-shirt, socks or a hair scrunchie.

**Lost Property**

If you child has lost anything since the start of the academic year, please encourage them to go to Student Reception before school, at break time or after school **by Friday 20 October** to reclaim any lost items. Anything that remains **unclaimed after 20 October** will be donated to charity, disposed of or laundered to use as loan uniform.

**Free school meal vouchers for October half term**

Hackney Education have confirmed that they will be providing Free School Meal vouchers to the value of £20 per eligible student for the October half term holiday. The usual Edenred vouchers will be emailed to parents early next week. If you have any problems accessing your vouchers, please email [cga@clapton.hackney.sch.uk](mailto:cga@clapton.hackney.sch.uk)

**Year 11 and 13 PPE exams**

Year 11 and 13 Pre-Public Exams (PPEs) begin after half term. Please find the timetables here: [Year 11 PPE](#)

[Timetable](#) [Year 13 PPE Timetable](#)

Parents and students can find exam support pages on our website here: [Exam Support – Clapton Girls' Academy \(claptongirlsacademy.com\)](#)



### Focus Day – Wednesday 8 November

At CGA, we have three Focus Days each year when all year groups are off timetable to create time for activities that support the curriculum and student wellbeing. Please see the plan for this year's first Focus Day below:

Year	Activity for Focus Day – Wednesday 8 November
7	Trip to the Museum of London, Docklands
8	Trip to Go Jump In, Enfield
9	Activities to support GCSE Guided Preferences – in school
10	Trip to the Science Museum, South Kensington
11	Activities on site and afternoon trip to the cinema
12	Activities on site and trip to the Design Museum, South Kensington
13	Activities to support UCAS applications – in school

Letters and parent consent requests for the trips for Year 7, 8, 10, 11 and 12 have been emailed to you this week by our Evolve trip system. Parent contributions for the Year 8 and Year 11 trips can be made on ParentPay. Year 9 and Year 13 will have other opportunities to go on year group trips later this year.

### WAMHS and SilverCloud

The Wellbeing and Mental Health in Schools (WAMHS) Service is an initiative led by the CAMHS Alliance with the support of the Children and Young People's Integrated Commissioning work stream in City & Hackney. This innovative service aims to improve mental health and wellbeing support for children and young people in schools. [Click here](#) for the leaflet that outlines how WAMHS support schools.

SilverCloud: Supporting An Anxious Teen is an online intervention based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, built in conjunction with leading clinical and subject matter experts. The programme aims to help parents of teenagers (aged 12 – 18) who want to support their child in dealing with worry and anxiety, while learning helpful strategies to tackle their own anxiety. Scan the QR code on [this leaflet](#) for more information and to access support.

### Art, Design and Technology Parent Pay Appeal

Thank you to all the parents that have donated to the Art, Design and Technology appeal to help with material costs for this academic year. For those of you who still wish to contribute £10, please complete this by Friday 20 October on ParentPay.

### Anti-social behaviour

There have been some recent concerns about anti-social behaviour from a small number of CGA students in the local community. We have reminded students about the importance of our CAIR values and our behaviour code and the fact that these still apply on their journey to and from school. We have increased the staff presence on local streets after school to support with this. Please remind your child about the importance of safe, sensible behaviour in the local community and of the importance of coming straight home after school. If you have any concerns about student behaviour, please call main reception or email the CGA inbox.

Kind regards,

**Anna Feltham**  
Headteacher