



Friday 20 October 2023

Headteacher's weekly update for parents

Dear Parents,

Important dates for your diary

Monday 23-Friday 27 October	Half Term
Monday 30 October	Professional Learning Day – No students onsite
Tuesday 31 October	Students return to school
Thursday 2 November	6 th Form Open Evening (5-7pm)
Friday 3 November	Later start for students (9.30am)
Wednesday 8 November	Focus Day – reminder to parents of Year 8, 11 and 12 – please log into ParentPay to make contributions for trips for Year 8, 11 and 12

Impact of international events on the CGA community

The news of the current conflict in Israel-Palestine is traumatic and is affecting us all in different ways. Our current priorities are supporting students' mental health and wellbeing. To help us better understand what students need, we have had a student feedback box in the LRC this week. Students have been asked to share how they are feeling and how they would like to show their support as a school community for the many victims of this conflict. We have also reminded students about the importance of self-care and shared practical strategies with them via Student Notices. We know that you will also be discussing the ongoing events with your children and have collated some guidance [HERE](#) on talking to children about conflict and war. As always, if you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing or safety, please call main reception or email cga@clapton.hackney.sch.uk

Message from Frances Feeny, Chair of the Board of Trustees

CGA Trustee Board are pleased to announce that Sarah Hatia was the winner of the recent election for a Parent Trustee at CGA. To ensure the process was fair and transparent, some Year 12 & 13 students oversaw the counting of the votes. The Trustees would like to extend our thanks to all the parents who stood as candidates in the election. We would also like to thank you, the parents, for playing your part in this process and casting a vote for the candidate of your choice.

Sixth Form Open Evening – Thursday 2 November 5.00-7.00pm

This is an exciting opportunity for Year 11 students to discuss their post 16 options and explore the wide range of A level and BTEC subjects that are on offer at CGA. The sixth form team, KS5 teaching staff, alumni, and current sixth form students, will be available on the evening to answer your questions. This event is part of our compulsory careers curriculum and it is therefore essential that CGA Year 11 students attend. Ms Storey, our careers advisor, will also be there to support with progression. Please ensure your child signs up for the event [here](#) Parents of Year 11 students are also very welcome.

Applications are now open on the admissions page on the [CGA Sixth Form Website](#). Please encourage your child to explore the website before attending the evening, so that they come fully prepared to ask questions, to ensure they have all the information they need regarding progression into Year 12.



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](#). A reminder that parents and students can find exam support pages on our website here: [Exam Support — Clapton Girls' Academy \(claptongirlsacademy.com\)](#)

Revision support booklets

A reminder that our website has 'exam support' pages: [Exam Support — Clapton Girls' Academy \(claptongirlsacademy.com\)](#). We have created a new KS3 and KS4 'Revision and Study Skills' booklet to support students revising for assessments and exams. We hope parents and students find this helpful.

Attend to achieve

Thank you to all parents that continue to support your children to have excellent attendance. Students need to be in school every day to ensure that they are receiving the high-quality teaching from staff that will give them the best opportunity to achieve their full potential. Excellent attendance supports consistent progress, building good relationships and builds resilience. Please contact your child's Head of Year if you have any concerns about your child's attendance.

Online Safety

The holidays are a time in which children often spend more time online, especially bearing in mind current world events. At CGA, we recommend that parents monitor online use carefully, apply limits to screen time and ensure that children do not have phones and devices with them overnight.

When online, we encourage parents to ensure their children follow the 'four Cs':

Content - Be careful of harmful content that can be viewed online, especially on social media including misinformation

Contact - Be careful of people that might try to contact your children.

Conduct - Be careful that children do not engage in behaviour that can be harmful to themselves or others.

Commerce - be aware of inappropriate advertising!

If you have any questions about online safety, please contact Sarah Garvin (Assistant Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead) at sgarvin@clapton.hackney.sch.uk

Reminder: Free school meal vouchers for October half term

Hackney Education have provided £20 vouchers per eligible student for the half term holiday. Vouchers have been emailed to parents this week. If you have any problems with your vouchers, please email cga@clapton.hackney.sch.uk

I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half term and look forward to seeing students back in school on Tuesday 31 October at the normal time.

Kind regards,

Anna Feltham - Headteacher