



Friday 24 November 2023

Headteacher's weekly update for parents

Dear Parents,

It was brilliant to see so many of you at last night's Year 7 parents evening. These evenings are so important in ensuring that we are working together to ensure all students excel at CGA. We are also really proud of Year 11 and 13 who are showing huge commitment to their Pre-Public Exams.

Important dates for your diary

Thursday 30 November	Whole school bake sale for Save the Children's Gaza Emergency Fund
Monday 4 December	Winner of Next Level November announced
Wednesday 6 December	Year 11 photo day Global Majority Parent Group Meeting (5.30-6.30pm) in the LRC
Tuesday 12 December	Clapton's Got Talent (6-9pm) – Nightingale Hall
Wednesday 13 December	Culture and Identity Day/Non-uniform day for students
Thursday 14 December	Year 8 Parents' Evening (4-7pm) – Nightingale Hall

Update on CGA response to crisis in the Palestinian territories and Israel

Please ensure that you read the letter sent to parents this Wednesday. [Click here for a copy of the letter.](#)

The School Council are organising a fundraising bake sale on Thursday 30 November to raise money for Save the Children's Gaza Emergency Fund. They would like students to bring in cakes, biscuits and other sweet treats which can be sold at the bake sale. Donations of food will need to be taken to the Dining Pavilion from 8.15 to 8.40am on Thursday. Any food donations should not need refrigerating, be pre-sliced if possible and should definitely not include any nuts. If students are baking items, it would be really helpful for ingredients to be listed. If students are bringing food in containers they need back, these will need to be clearly labelled with their name and tutor group.

Next Level November

As we approach the last week of NLN (Next Level November), please continue to motivate your child at home; your support and encouragement will help foster a positive and competitive spirit among our students. The winning tutor group will be rewarded with an exciting ice-skating trip. The categories taken into account are: most achievement points, fewest behaviour points, fewest late marks, best attendance, best morning line-up (years 7-10). Results will be announced on Monday 4 December and ice skating trips will be held in December for Years 7-11 and in early January for Year 12 and 13.

Clapton's Got Talent 2023

We are excited to announce this year's winter event is the much-anticipated Clapton's Got Talent. Please save the date and time: Tuesday 12 December 6-9pm. More information and details on how to buy tickets will be in next week's letter.



Sparx Maths update

Well done to all students for a great start to using Sparx Maths in the first half term. Prizes were given out to students with the most XPs, a special congratulations to those students. Next half term's prizes will be based on students who have made the most progress with their Sparx Maths so please encourage your child to keep working hard! All students are set a compulsory Sparx homework task each week and additional tasks can be completed as revision. This is especially helpful in the lead up to end of term assessments.

Message from the Friends of CGA – parent volunteers needed

Thank you to all the parents that have supported the Friends of CGA to date. With your support, we have been able to raise significant funds to help pay for trips and extra-curricular activities for students. We are very proud to be sponsoring Clapton's Got Talent this year. We still need your support! Please email us at friendscga@gmail.com if you can help with:

- Running the second-hand uniform shop (including opening the shop and washing/sorting uniform)
- Helping sell refreshments and raffle tickets at Clapton's Got Talent (6-9pm on 12 December). Volunteers can do an hour, 90 minutes or the whole evening.
- Donating prizes for the raffle (please drop these off at main reception by 1 December)

Importance of supporting your child's reading

Reading for pleasure has many positive impacts on attainment across the curriculum, develops knowledge of the world and awareness of others, and can improve mental wellbeing. Please support your child in reading for pleasure by helping them to choose books of interest to them, ensuring they have a reading book as part of their essential school equipment, engaging in 'book talk' and modelling an interest in reading, and creating time for reading at home. For more information on how you can support your child, please refer to this [guide](#). Your child can access our Learning Resource Centre before, during and after school as a quiet space for reading, and to borrow from a wide catalogue of books. Hackney Libraries also offer free services, including book borrowing [Libraries | Hackney Council](#).

SSAT's 'What should schools be like in the future?' student submissions wanted

In a few months, there will be a general election to choose a new government. In the run-up to the election, politicians will make promises about what they will do if they are chosen to run the country. As part of this, they will say what they think should happen to schools. The SSAT want students to answer the question: 'What should schools be like in the future?' Students can submit their ideas in any form they like e.g. a written piece, art work, a film or a diagram by Monday 18 December. More information can be found here: [Beyond Manifestos – Future Schools - SSAT \(ssatuk.co.uk\)](#)

Reminder: Hackney Empire trip to see Aladdin – Years 7, 8 and 9

Please remember to give consent via the Evolve email and make payment on ParentPay. A big thank you to all the parents that have already done this!

Kind regards,

Anna Feltham - Headteacher