



## Jeans for Genes Day

Changing the world for children with genetic disorders

Friday 19 September

1 in 25 children in the UK is affected by a genetic disorder. Their associated health problems mean that they are the biggest cause of death of children aged 14 years and under. Genetic disorders are caused by an alteration in DNA. This may mean that either a gene or several genes are missing, repeated or in the wrong order. Altered genes can affect a child's senses, movement, ability to learn or appearance.

Jeans for Genes Day is an annual event which raises money to provide care and support for children with genetic disorders and increases awareness throughout the country. Tomorrow, WA students have the chance to participate and raise as much money as possible by donating **£1 to swap trousers for jeans for the day**. In the spirit of Jeans for Genes, it will not be a full non-uniform day; **jeans will be the only permitted exception to school uniform!**

Jeans for Genes gave us great support at our Science Fair this year, so we look forward to repaying them!

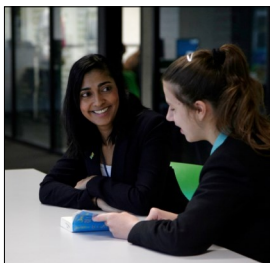
By Ms Dwyer, Teacher of Science



## Message from the Principal, Ms Bora

We have continued to experience a fantastic start to the year despite start of term teething issues with new IT systems as well as the disruption caused by the building works.

Students are finally getting used to all the new rules and procedures. Parents are reminded to go through the behaviour policy and appendices with their children regularly; these can be found on our website together with full guidance about our uniform. As always, ALL students must be **reading, revising and practising questions every night** as well as completing homework. I would like to thank parents for your support so far and hope that the rest of term continues to be as successful as the first few weeks have been.



## Studying languages at the University of Oxford



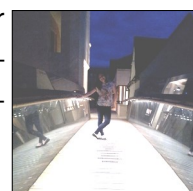
Three of our students recently went to the University of Oxford for a language summer school. The aim of the summer school was to expose us to the Tutorial style of

teaching which is currently applied at The University of Oxford and The University of Cambridge.

Modern language courses at Oxford compose mostly of studying literature of the target language country. On the first day of the summer school we got a piece of poetry on which we had to write an analysis over the next day. The day after we discussed our essays and ideas with our Tutor in a small group - such a session is called a Tutorial. We practised organising our time to work on the essay and discussing our ideas with the Tutor's.

We stayed at the Oxford students' accommodation and were able to use facilities of the college, including the library. This added up to the summer school being an experience of feeling like a real student at that university. We could see what skills are necessary for such a student and whether the modern language course at Oxford is the type we would like to consider studying in the future.

By Gabriela Jaroszewska, Year 13



## WA life begins for new Year 7s

Life has finally begun for us! The first week was absolutely amazing, packed with learning. WA was really welcoming and has pulled me in for a fantastic future.

I love it here and have found it really easy to make friends. And the dinners were really tasty too! Thank you WA, I love it here!

By Jamie Druce, Year 7



## Creative writers become published poets

Congratulations to the WA Creative Writing Club, who last term had their poems on cyberbullying published by online anti-cyberbullying charity, Cybersmile. We're even more proud to reproduce their thought-provoking words below.

For further information or support on cyberbullying, you can visit Cybersmile at:

[www.cybersmile.org](http://www.cybersmile.org)

### A Battle to Smile

Who knew the challenges a username could make?

Forget trying to find the perfect name

(the perfect cloak and mask to hide behind)

There are bigger things to think about.

With a single name, you could build a world,

share your life,

find fame and fortune...

The possibilities are endless, really.

But reaching for the key to the world is not as easy as it sounds.

There are battles to be fought first.

Against the monsters that try to destroy your world.

Against those that would use you as a stepping ladder for their own fame.

Against those that would smother the beauty of your voice.

Luckily, there's an arsenal of weaponry to help you fight these battles.

There's the phone of aid, it will always work,

There's the Cybersmile Team waiting to assist you with your mission,

And best of all, the Shield of Smiles.

Ready to win?

By Amina Moussa, Year 13

### His Laughter is Happiness

He lies on his bed, dreaming.

He's invincible.

He's breaking.

Blows can't hurt him.

Words can.

He lies on his bed, thinking.

He's introspective.

He's agitated.

People can help him.

They can't.

He lies on his bed, panicking.

He's in control.

He's stricken.

They'll go away eventually.

They won't.

He lies on his bed, trembling.

He's fearless.

He's petrified.

He'll just have to end it all.

He won't.

The boy leaves his room and their cruelty behind, a lead cape shed.

The boy sees beauty and freedom combined.

The boy sees life for the first time.

His laughter is happiness.

By Sarah Al-Saad, Year 13



## Parents: What's on

**FREE IT classes for parents**

**FREE Art classes for parents and community**

**FREE 'Parent Gym' for parents to support students to learn faster, do better and be happier**

**FREE Adult English classes** - every Wednesday 1-3pm

**To express interest in any of the above, please email Mr Gothard: AGothard@westminsteracademy.biz**

**Jeans for Genes Day** - Friday 19 September

**Year 11 Parents' Evening** - Wednesday 24 September

### WA Parent Committee

The Parent Committee is run **by parents for parents**. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Mr Gothard: AGothard@WestminsterAcademy.biz

**Westminster Academy**

**'Education is Success'**

- TES Secondary School of the Year 2013
- Winner of the Deputy Prime Minister's Pupil Premium Award 2013
- Winner of the IAA Honorary President's Award for Academy Transformation 2013
- Only Westminster secondary school to be given a Gold Club Award by the Mayor of London in 2013
- Ofsted 'Outstanding' Academy

**Westminster Academy Open Days 2014**

Westminster Academy warmly welcomes prospective Year 6 students and their families to meet our students and Principal and to tour our award-winning Academy. We look forward to seeing you soon!

**Open Evening: Thursday 2 October 5-7pm**

**Open Mornings 9.30-10.30am:**

**Monday 22 September**

**Friday 26 September**

**Tuesday 7 October**

**Thursday 9 October**

**Wednesday 15 October**

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