

The Seagull



Issue 791 Friday 17th October 2025

Week beginning 3rd November is Week 1

All Enquiries: 020 8270 6222
Email: headteacher@jorichardson.org.uk

Website: www.jorichardson.org.uk
X: @JRCS_School



HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

We have had a positive start to the year and I would like to thank all parents/carers for their continued support.

Next week, students will be participating in our ACHIEVE trips. Students' feedback about these days is always positive and we hope your child finds them valuable and enjoyable. We will have different start and finish times for different year groups, so please ensure your child knows what time they are expected in school and what they need to bring. You should have received a brochure outlining this information and it is also available on the school website. Please remember the school is closed to students on Friday 24th October for a staff INSET day.

It was great to see so many of you at our welcome evenings and I hope you found the evenings informative. During these events we spoke about the importance of homework. Please continue to support us by checking your child has completed their homework. If a child is having trouble with their SENECA password, please ask them to speak to Mrs Morris so that we can support them. Homework is important in ensuring our students develop good study habits that will ensure they are ready to meet the challenges of exams in Year 11 and Sixth Form. We will be holding the Year 7 Information Evening after Christmas so that we can explain your child's first report card.

Uniform

As the weather turns colder, please ensure your child has a school jumper. A reminder that

students are not permitted to wear hoodies or tracksuit tops and should have a proper coat for the journey to and from school. We have a selection of preloved uniform items that are free and available for students that need them which can be found in the school reception. If you have any uniform you have outgrown, then any donations would be welcome! We also have a large amount of lost property. If your child has lost an item, it would be worth checking for it in the lost property baskets in reception.

I am pleased to say that standards of uniform have improved this half term. We will be continuing to monitor uniform next half term. Skirts should be worn to the knee, trousers should be tailored trousers that should be worn around the waist. Students should wear school shoes and not trainers. Uniform promotes equality, reduces distractions, and fosters a sense of belonging and pride in the school community. It also helps reinforce discipline and a positive school identity. Students represent us on the journey to and from school so it is important that students look smart and behave appropriately. I am extremely proud of our students, and I want them to support me in projecting a positive image of themselves and the school in the local community.

It is important that students go straight home at the end of the school day and do not hang around in the local parks and at the shops. This is also important in helping to keep your child safe. Please speak to your child about being aware of their surroundings and keeping their mobile devices out of sight when in public. We have been informed of a number of thefts in the local area. Please see the crime prevention

guidance from the police at the end of the newsletter.

Operation Kindness

Some students have been nominated by their peers for upholding our school values by showing kindness to others. I would like to congratulate these students who will be coming home with a gift bag sponsored by LUSH!

Thank you again for your continued support. Have a restful half term and we look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 3rd November.

Ms Keane
Headteacher

Geography Photography Competition

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Geography Photography Competition on the theme of "Diverse Dagenham". We had some brilliant entries and the winning photos are below.

Geography photography competition
'Diverse Dagenham'
Summer 2025



First place went to Nahian (Year 8), who captured people from different cultures socialising together. He shared: "Diverse Dagenham to me is when different people from different cultures socialise with each other."

Second place went to Rojus (Year 9), who took a beautiful picture of some local greenery with a deer in the background. He said: "I think this ties into the theme of Diverse Dagenham because it shows an array of wildlife and beauty of our local area."

Both students received a gift card as a prize for their effort and commitment to learning beyond the classroom, one of our Geography principles.

Well done, Nahian and Rojus, and a big thank you to everyone who got involved! Your photos really showed what makes Dagenham such a special place!

Miss Ross
Second in Geography

Library News – Autumn Term Update

We're thrilled to welcome students back to our beautifully refurbished and redecorated library! The space has been transformed with vibrant wall art, comfy sofas, stylish new tables and chairs, and inviting bean bags— creating the perfect environment for reading, studying, and relaxing.

The library is open from 8.00am every day and remains open after school, offering a quiet and welcoming space for:

- Completing homework
- Using the computers for study
- And of course... curling up with a good book!

Book Clubs Are Back!

KS3 Book Club – Tuesdays at 3.05pm

We're kicking off with *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, a thought-provoking dystopian novel set in a seemingly perfect society where pain and memory have been eliminated. When 12-year-old Jonas is chosen to be the Receiver of Memory, he begins to uncover the dark truths behind his community's facade.

KS4 & KS5 Book Club – Thursdays at 3.05pm

This term's theme is "Banned Books" — exploring powerful texts that have been challenged or censored around the world. We begin with 1984 by George Orwell, a chilling vision of a totalitarian future where surveillance, propaganda, and thought control dominate every aspect of life. A must-read classic that still resonates today.

Poetry Club –

Wednesdays 2.00pm–3.00pm

Join us for performance poetry, creative expression, and the exciting search for the JRCS Poet Laureate! Whether you're a seasoned writer or just curious, come along and share your voice.

Celebrate Black History Month in the Library!

October is Black History Month, and our library is proud to showcase a powerful collection of books by Black authors that explore identity, history, resistance, and hope.

Come and discover titles such as:

- ***Cane Warriors*** by Alex Wheatle — a gripping story of rebellion and courage.

- ***Clean Getaway*** by Nic Stone — a heartfelt road trip through history and family.
- ***Clap When You Land*** by Elizabeth Acevedo — a poetic tale of grief, sisterhood, and discovery.
- ***The Gilded Ones*** by Namina Forna — a fierce fantasy about strength and survival.
- ***Children of Blood and Bone*** by Tomi Adeyemi — an epic journey to restore magic and justice.
- ***Long Way Down*** by Jason Reynolds — a powerful verse novel about choices and consequences.
- ***The Hate U Give*** by Angie Thomas — a bold and emotional story of activism and voice.

Visit the library to explore the full collection and take part in our 'Read a Black Author' challenge!

Let's celebrate stories that matter.

Miss Sumsion
Librarian and Reading Champion

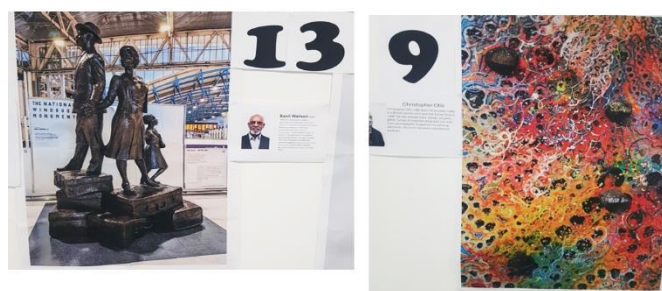
Black History month in the Art and Design Department



We have been celebrating the significant contribution Black artists make to the art and design world globally by displaying the work of a chosen Black artist for each day of the month down the art corridor.

We have chosen artists from the past and present with a particular emphasis upon Black British artists. Students and staff have been commenting on the diversity of the examples on display and have become aware of artists that were previously unknown to them.

This display is a celebration, showcasing the amazing work of Black artists from around the world.



Mr Hassan
Head of Art

Year 7 and 8 Girls' Football Team



Well done to the Year 7 and 8 girls' football team who made their debut performance.

The girls did fantastically well and managed to beat Eastbrook 7-0.

Player of the match goes to Aaliyah in Year 7 for scoring five goals.

The girls' next game will be against Dagenham park in November.

Miss Pridie
Second in PE

To find out how we process your personal data,
visit the following link: [Privacy Notice for
Parents and Pupils](#)



ROBBERY CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION



As police officers, our job is to keep you safe and stop people who want to steal property like phones, cash, earphones and even expensive coats or trainers.

You can help us do that by being careful where you use your phone and taking care of cash and other valuable items.

KEEPING YOU AND YOUR PHONE SAFE

Getting a phone is really exciting. You can stay in touch with friends and find out more about the world.

5 TIPS TO KEEP SAFE

- Keep your phone and valuables out of sight and in a safe place. Take care when you take them out especially near bus stops and train stations.
- Stay alert and remember earphones/headphones can distract you from being aware of someone approaching from behind you. Thieves can approach on mopeds, e-scooters and pedal cycles.

YOU CAN HELP US PROTECT AND TRACK YOUR PHONE IF IT'S STOLEN.

HERE'S 3 THINGS YOU CAN DO:

- Your phone will have security features such as a passcode or fingerprint/face ID. Make sure you use it to protect access to your phone.

- Tracker apps can help locate your phone if it's lost or stolen. Ask a parent to show you how to set one up.
- Record the phone's IMEI number in a separate place at home. Find this by typing in *#06#. You'll need to give this number to police if it's stolen.

For more information go to www.fearless.org/campaigns/robbery

STAY SAFE GOING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

We want children to be as safe as possible on the school journey.

- Stay aware of your surroundings when walking.
- Try not to walk along with your phone or valuables out on show.
- Plan your route and use forms of transport others are using.
- Avoid shortcuts in isolated places.
- Don't confront a thief or risk your own safety.

Robbery is a serious crime that should be reported, this includes any attempts to rob victims of their property.

IF YOU SEE A ROBBERY TAKING PLACE OR HAVE JUST BEEN ROBBED CALL 999. OR REPORT IS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON 101 OR AT MET.POLICE.UK



Protect yourself from Mobile Phone theft

Don't leave your phone, iPad, tablet or camera unattended, out of your sight, or left on a table. Thieves can grab a phone from a table in seconds.

Be aware of your surroundings and only use your mobile when it feels safe to.

When you've finished using it, put it away.

Register your property on Immoblize.com for free. Used by all UK Police Forces to reunite owners of stolen property.

If you love it log it

Register your valuables FREE and improve your chances of getting them back if lost or stolen

IMMOBILISE
THE UK NATIONAL PROPERTY REGISTER

Visit immoblize.com to get started

How to contact Police

In an emergency always dial 999

Non-emergency number 101

IMMOBILISE
THE UK NATIONAL PROPERTY REGISTER

Report crime and find your local Safer Neighbourhood Team at:

www.met.police.uk

TO PROTECT IT REGISTER IT

Register your property FREE on www.immoblize.com and improve your chances of getting it back if it is lost or stolen

To get started visit www.immoblize.com

IMMOBILISE
THE UK NATIONAL PROPERTY REGISTER



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

**MORE
TRUST**

**LESS
CRIME**

**HIGH
STANDARDS**



Fearless

Fearless is the dedicated youth service of the independent charity Crimestoppers. They provide you with the opportunity to give information about crime 100% anonymously.

You can give information to them by using their [online form](https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless/what-is-fearless/who-we-are) (<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/fearless/what-is-fearless/who-we-are>) or by calling Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**

They cannot track your IP address or your phone number. They have no way of knowing who has contacted them.

After receiving your completed form or your call, they will create a report, ensuring it doesn't contain any information that could identify you, and generate a report which is then sent on to the relevant authority with the legal responsibility to review the information that has been passed to them.

We are not the police. We are a charity. You will not be contacted by the police after passing information on to Fearless as the police have no way of knowing who the information has come from.



THIEVES MAY TRY TO USE FORCE OR THREATENING BEHAVIOUR AND MAY USE MOPEDS OR BICYCLES TO GET AWAY FAST. DON'T CONFRONT A THIEF OR RISK YOUR OWN PERSONAL SAFETY.

If you see a robbery taking place, or have just been robbed, call **999** immediately.

If you can't call **999** at the time then you should report it as soon as possible by calling **101** or online at met.police.uk

**Look up.
Look out.**

Help protect yourself from street robbery when you're out. Be aware of your surroundings and your valuables.

**TACKLING
VIOLENCE
TOGETHER**



**METROPOLITAN
POLICE**

**Look up.
Look out.**

Help protect yourself from street robbery when you're out. Be aware of your surroundings and your valuables.



**MORE
TRUST**

**LESS
CRIME**

**HIGH
STANDARDS**