

Monday 11th – Sunday 17th May 2015

# Withington Week

Fund Raising Pack



ENHANCING OPPORTUNITIES...

Supporting Annual Projects at Withington



Withington  
GIRLS' SCHOOL

# Enhancing Opportunities – The Annual Fund

Withington has long had a commitment to providing the best possible educational opportunities to all pupils. The Enhancing Opportunities Annual Fund aims to raise £50,000 for educational experiences and items of equipment identified by pupils and staff, to provide the best learning opportunities for all girls to take into their futures beyond Withington, and to boost our Bursary Fund to help meet growing demand from very bright girls whose families would not otherwise be able to afford the fees.

## Creative Writing Course

The Arvon Foundation residential creative writing course is an inspirational experience that will enable 16 girls from Year 10 upwards to develop and sharpen their creative writing skills, and grow their love for the written word beyond the classroom under the expert eye of some of the UK's most celebrated published writers. This course was first funded by the Annual Fund in 2012 and the experience was such an unforgettable one for the students that the English Department has requested that a new cohort of girls be able to benefit from this fantastic opportunity.

“The quality of writing produced was outstanding and this was a genuine opportunity for girls who would not ordinarily be able to access such a course to develop their writing skills. The Annual Fund has opened this up for all girls and we feel that this is an opportunity we would like to offer again, thus ensuring that even more girls can experience the unique environment of an Arvon course.”

Mrs Jill Bowie, Teacher of English



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## Language Showcase Event

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This one-day event will champion the importance of studying languages at GCSE and beyond and demonstrate the role languages play in careers. The main highlights of the day, which will be aimed at all girls in the Senior School, will be keynote inspirational speakers and a convention which would show the girls and their parents how having language skills opens up opportunities in many exciting careers. This will be supported by an assembly, displays and lunchtime films and discussions.

**“We would like to ensure girls do not miss out on opportunities to work within Europe and beyond and to have access to career opportunities in international organisations.”**

**Mrs Yorke Menzies, Head of French**



## Mobile Fume Cabinet for Chemistry

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Many people who have been attracted to studying Chemistry have done so as a result of a memorable visual experiment performed in the laboratory. Withington is nationally known for the quality of its Science teaching and a large and growing proportion of Sixth Form girls currently study Chemistry (55% at AS level and 37% at A2).

**“Chemistry is a practical subject and what can be more stimulating than a chemical demonstration performed before an audience? We would love to be able to acquire a modern fume cabinet which is glazed on all four sides and can be moved to a position within the laboratory to provide maximum visibility and engagement for the pupils.”**

**Dr Cristina Vilela, Head of Chemistry**



# Fundraising Ideas & Tips

Withington needs to be proactive in seeking support to make sure that it continues to provide the excellent education for which the School has become nationally known. The good news is that the Enhancing Opportunities projects do not need large donations to be achieved. For example, if 300 people donated just £5 per month for one year, after claiming Gift Aid, School would be able to deliver every one of these projects!

'Withington Week' (Monday 11th – Sunday 17th May 2015) is all about Alumnae meeting up with one another to socialise whilst raising money for the Enhancing Opportunities projects.

The possibilities for your event are endless - why not hold a clothes swap event, a cocktail evening or even (weather permitting) a picnic? Depending on what type of event you're planning, you could host it in your home, or at a local bar, or park. It could be a private event, open to your circle of friends or year group only, or an open event, at which all Alumnae are welcome. The date and timing of your event are also important – would your event attract more guests during the daytime, in the evening after work, or at the weekend? The choice is yours!

The easiest way of raising money is to ask guests for a contribution to attend. In addition to this, you might ask for 'contributions in a hat' from guests in support of the projects. Why not hold a small prize raffle as part of the event, to raise further funds? There are no set target fundraising amounts, but aiming for a donation of £5-10 per person would be an excellent guide.

Past Withington Week events have included:

- A walk at a National Trust property, with coffee afterwards
- A year group reunion lunch
- An afternoon of tennis followed by afternoon tea
- A coffee morning, with a prize raffle
- A pub quiz, with teams divided into W, X and Y forms
- A drinks event open to Alumnae of all ages

All contributions to the Enhancing Opportunities projects are welcomed



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# Organising Your Event

## Advance Planning

Firstly, you will need to decide what type of event you would like to hold, who you would like to invite, and when and where you will hold your event. Once you've confirmed these arrangements, you'll need to invite your guests! Whether you are planning a private or an open event, the Development Office can help to put you in touch with Alumnae from your year group, or living locally, who might be interested in attending. If you use Facebook or Twitter then you could publicise your event there too, tagging the Alumnae profiles in your updates so that other Alumnae can see what you're planning. If you'd like us to, we can also advertise your event on the Alumnae website, and on our Facebook page, to maximise the number of guests.

To make collecting guest contributions easier, why not set up an online fundraising page for your event at [charitychoice.co.uk](http://charitychoice.co.uk) choosing Withington Girls' School Trust as the beneficiary. Guests can make their donations online both easily and securely, meaning less work for you!

## On the Day

When your guests arrive, collect their contributions and ask them to complete the Guest Contribution Record, so that everyone can then concentrate on the main part of the event – having fun! Make sure to take lots of photographs if you can, and if you use Twitter or Facebook, why not share these with your friends or followers?

To maximise the value of each contribution to the Appeal, please do encourage all your guests to tick the Gift Aid option on the Guest Contribution Record (a copy of which is enclosed with this pack) when they make their donation. This means School can claim a further 25p from HMRC for every £1 you raise for the Appeal.

You'll also find enclosed in this pack a page of flyers, giving information about the Enhancing Opportunities Appeal and the three projects for which you're raising money, which you might like to give to your guests. There are two flyers on the page, which can be reproduced in colour or black and white, making it easy for you to print the number of copies you'll require.

## After the Event

Congratulations on hosting a successful event in aid of the Enhancing Opportunities Appeal!

After you have calculated the total of the contributions to the Appeal made by your guests, please send a cheque for the amount you've raised, payable to 'The WGS Trust', to the Development Office at School, at Freepost RLYR-BUUH-YZZZ, Withington Girls' School, 100 Wellington Road, Fallowfield, Manchester, M14 6BL.

Make sure to include your contact details and details of the the date and nature of the event you held in the envelope with your cheque, as well as the signed Guest Contribution Record, so that we can maximise the efficiency of the donations you've collected. We'd appreciate it if you could return this to School before Friday 26th June 2015, so that we can total up the monies raised before the end of the summer term.

We would like to share news of all the 'Withington Week' events being held with Alumnae and the rest of the School community. Please email over any photographs you take at your event, along with a brief summary of what you did and the total you raised, to [development@wgs.org](mailto:development@wgs.org), so that we can publish these on the website and in the Bulletin and eNewsletter.





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## Mobile Fume Cabinet for Chemistry

In order to facilitate more challenging practical work which is to a standard expected of prospective undergraduates the Department would like to purchase a mobile fume cabinet to enable pupils to more fully engage in and view practical demonstrations.



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