



# WETHERBY

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## PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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for boys aged 7 to 13 years







# WELCOME to WETHERBY PREP

The past few years at Wetherby Preparatory School have been tremendously exciting ones, with widespread academic, sporting and extra-curricular successes for our boys. Our award by the Tatler Good Schools' Guide as Preparatory School of the Year in September 2012, together with an excellent report by the Independent Schools' Inspectorate in May, strengthens further our resolve to be the preparatory school of choice in central London. The schools at which our boys continue their education, some of the most prestigious public schools in the country, inspire confidence in that vision. The creation of Wetherby Senior School in September 2015 provides a further, valuable option for boys seeking to continue their education within the immediate locale.

Such success is a shared venture, achieved jointly by our boys, their parents and a superb teaching and support team. Together, a distinct ethos, characterised by a commitment to boys' education in the broadest terms, has been created. Parents, whose boys are new to our school, are reassured by an evidently challenging academic curriculum that maintains rigour and pace for all, supported by an established and effective system of pastoral care. We have a wide-ranging clubs, sports and visits programme and there is rarely a lunchtime when boys are not discussing eagerly a much anticipated activity or excursion.

We welcome you to come and see us as we are, during a normal school day – there is no better way to form a judgement. I would be delighted to meet with you personally to discuss the expectations and aspirations you have for your son. As the father of two young boys myself, I fully understand the importance of your decision.

Nick Baker, Headmaster











# HISTORY of WETHERBY PREP

Wetherby Prep first opened its doors in September 2004, with 24 pupils in Year 4. Since then, the school has grown organically and now provides education to over 300 boys in Years 3 to 8. In September 2009, the school moved to larger premises at Bryanston Square, W1. Here the school is able to develop, grow and continue to provide a first-class education to its boys.

Wetherby Prep retains close links with the well-established Wetherby School in Pembridge Square and many boys transfer between the two schools at the end of Year 3. As part of the Alpha Plus Group, Wetherby Prep is associated with Pembridge Hall, Falcons Prep and St. Anthony's in London, as well as other educational establishments across the country.











# ACADEMIC CURRICULUM at WETHERBY PREP

We appreciate that every boy learns in different ways. As a school, we ensure that the delivery of our curriculum is exciting, varied and accessible. Our boys look forward to every lesson. Maths, English and Science are at the top of our agenda and, with subject specialist teaching from Year 4 onwards, the boys are taught by experienced, dedicated and enthusiastic staff to take them forward and prepare them for the 13+ Common Entrance exam. For those taking scholarship exams in Year 8, additional classes are provided. Small class sizes and support staff ensure that every boy's potential is realised and those with particular areas of academic strength are appropriately challenged.

Lessons in the classroom are regularly enhanced with visitors to the school and trips to various places of interest in and around London. Our school calendar is always full of events, trips and activities, from experiencing Victorian surgery to questioning the local MP at the Houses of Parliament. All boys attend an annual, residential excursion. These range from short camping adventures to week-long language and activity holidays in France.









# SPORT

## at WETHERBY PREP



All boys spend two afternoons a week at Wetherby Sports Ground, which is situated a 15 minute coach journey away in Acton. The boys play football in the autumn, rugby in the spring term and cricket in the summer. The boys play numerous fixtures, home and away, and participate in tournaments and national competitions. All boys, regardless of ability, get the opportunity to represent their school and our sports teams experience great success on the sports field.

Rowing is also part of our curriculum and Years 7 and 8 have the opportunity to participate in weekly morning sessions at Putney Rowing Club. We also play table tennis on site, participate in fencing and boys can tune their fitness, using ergometers and running machines in our Fitness Suite.

Boys have an hour-long PE session once a week. In addition, Years 3, 4 and 5 take part in weekly swimming sessions at Seymour Leisure Centre, behind the school building.









# CREATIVE ARTS

## at WETHERBY PREP

From Year 3 through to Year 8, the boys experience a broad field of creative practices and are involved in: drawing, painting, mixed-media work sculpture, ceramics and Design Technology. The boys are expected to investigate the role of Art in everyday life and in society. It is important that, by Year 8, the boys are visually literate, understanding images, signs and symbols as key elements of communication. We also discuss and share opinions about work produced by other artists.

The boys have the opportunity, from an early age, to become familiar with painting, drawing, printing, modelling, collage and construction (in 2 and 3 dimensions). The boys use the formal elements of Art and observe, explore and comment on their world, developing their imagination, by expressing and communicating ideas, concepts and feelings.

By the time the boys leave Wetherby, they are equipped with problem-solving abilities to evaluate their own Art work and the work of others. Most importantly, the boys will have developed in self-confidence, resourcefulness and sensitivity.











# PERFORMANCE ARTS

## at WETHERBY PREP



Music plays an important role in the life of Wetherby Preparatory School. Be it singing hymns in assembly, forming ensembles in classroom music or learning an instrument, every boy plays an active role in the music programme.

Every boy is encouraged to participate at his own level and, to this end, there are highly qualified peripatetic tutors visiting the school throughout the week, offering a wide variety of instrumental tuition. Classroom music lessons are focused on performing, composing and appraising, developing skills across a wide variety of musical genres.

Musical activities outside the classroom are organized regularly in order to develop the breadth of each boy's musical experience. There are also visiting artists who come to perform at school or to run workshops for our ensembles.

It is important to nurture and encourage those boys who show exceptional musical ability. They are encouraged to join Wetherby's flourishing choir or to perform in an ensemble. Performance opportunities for all boys are provided on a termly basis, either as part of an assembly or at a more formal School Concert.

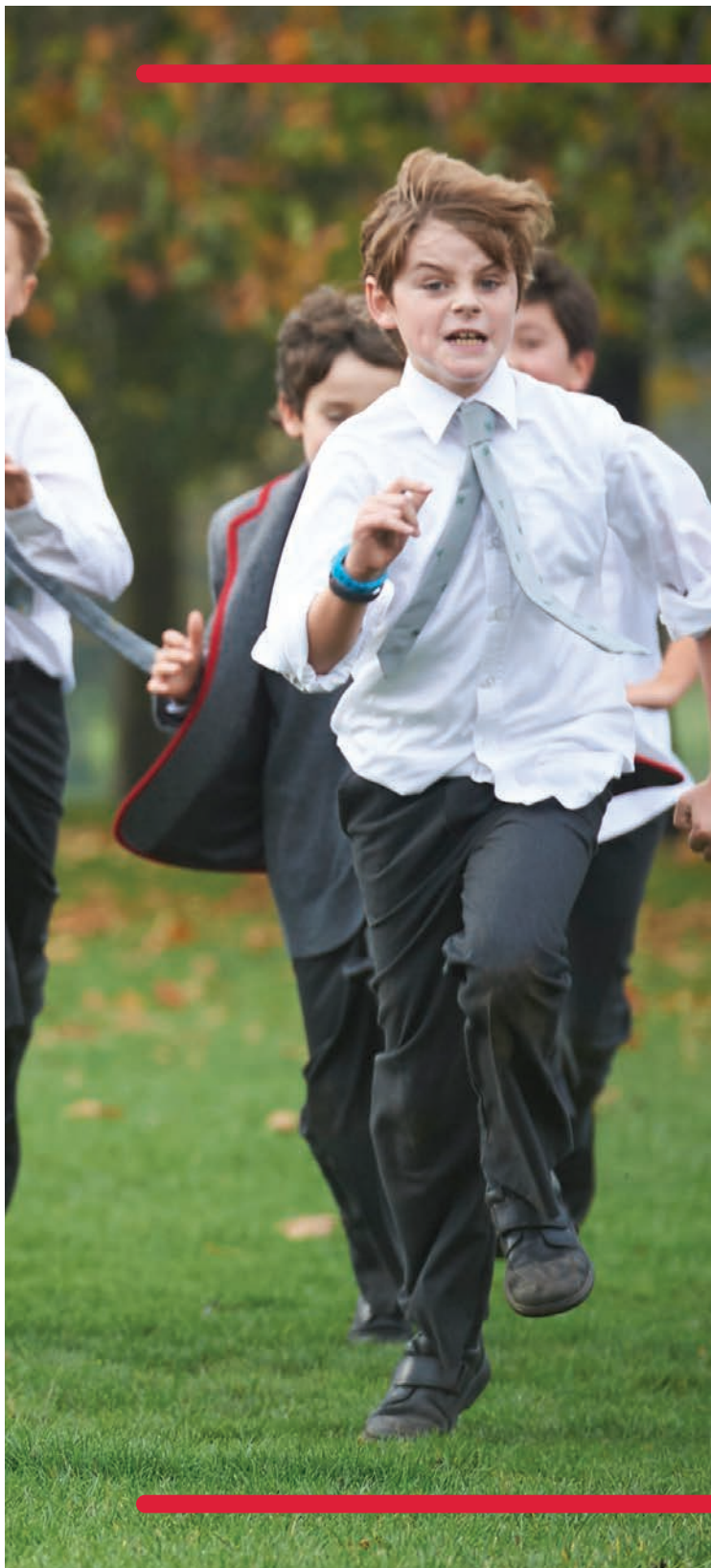
The numerous opportunities for Drama at Wetherby Prep include a variety of performance-related projects. In addition, boys learn to use Drama techniques within lessons such as role play, improvisation and script writing. Lighting, stage management and prop design also form part of the whole Drama experience, culminating in an annual performance which takes place at the end of the spring term.











# PASTORAL CARE at WETHERBY PREP



Effective and consistent pastoral care contributes to a happy environment in which Wetherby Prep boys thrive.

All boys have approachable Form Tutors and teaching staff who know our boys individually. Parents are informed regularly of their son's progress, whilst assemblies provide a forum for whole-school celebration of our boys' wide-ranging achievements, guest speakers and an act of communal reflection.

Rewards and commendations are important features of our school, with special recognitions awarded in class, assemblies, the weekly 'Wetherbuzz' and through individual parent contact. Every boy excels at something.











## DAILY LIFE at WETHERBY PREP

Our buses travel to and from school every morning and afternoon, covering a wide area of London. At lunchtime, the boys make the short journey to play at nearby Hyde Park.

The reputation of our kitchen continues to grow and a whole range of hot, cold, meat and vegetarian food is prepared every day. Boys are encouraged to eat, talk and take time over what is an important social activity. Themed days are arranged frequently and Cookery Club is always one of the most popular Friday afternoon activities.

The Wetherby Prep PTA meets every half term and is an open forum for questions and suggestions relating to the school. It organises numerous social functions throughout the year and lends valued support to Carol Concerts and inter-house competitions.

We organise a full weekly programme of extra-curricular clubs before and after school. In addition to this, further activities are held every Friday afternoon. Boys can attend a different club every week, ranging from cricket nets at Lord's to horse riding in Hyde Park. Wetherby Prep boys are encouraged to take part in all areas of school life. We applaud enthusiasm and a 'have a go' attitude.

There is an extensive range of trips, residential visits and visiting speakers during the school year. We take full advantage of the museums, theatres and places of interest in the capital, as well as those in Paris and Brussels. Our links with senior schools are well established and the boys benefit from special lessons by visiting staff.











# ADMISSIONS to WETHERBY PREP



Boys may be registered at any time up to December of the year preceding proposed entry. Parents are welcome to make an appointment with the Headmaster and can tour the school to gain an insight into life at Wetherby Prep. Please contact the school office and speak to our School Secretary.

Registered boys are invited to attend the January Assessment Day for entry at 7+ or 8+. They will sit short tests in English and Maths and take part in group-based activities. Offers for entry into Year 3 and 4 will be made by spring half term.

The school has a single class intake at Year 3 and three classes in Year 4. Wetherby Pre Prep boys join our school in Year 4.







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