



# Turing House



# Headteacher's Update

11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

## Message from Mr O'Sullivan

Next week brings the start of our first phase of mock exams for our Year 11 and then 13 students. We wish all the students the very best with these. Over the coming months, students will develop the revision strategy that works best for them. However, the following bits of advice may be useful:

Try revising in 20-minute chunks.

Procrastination - If you suffer from it, then identify your time thieves! Acknowledging them is the first step. Your mobile phone will be a time thief, put it somewhere out of reach during your 20 mins.

Add colour to your notes.

Use SENECA!

Research also indicates that certain classical music is better for retention and retrieval. The Mozart Effect is well known to create relaxation and focus when revising.

Parents/Carers should try and engage in revision; test your children (where you can) over the dinner table. Stick revision notes on the fridge or the back of toilet doors. Revision can be a lonely experience for some students so help them through it.

This website <https://getrevising.co.uk/> is particularly useful in helping students organise, create plans and

find useful resources. Good luck everyone; we'll be with you every step.

## Visit from Civil Engineers

A big thank you to representatives from Tony Gee & Partners for coming in and speaking to Year 11 and Sixth Form students in assembly this week. Tony Gee & Partners are a Civil Engineering Consultancy company who were able to explain to our students what civil engineering is about and different pathways into the job.

One Year 11 commented that "it was really helpful in getting me to think about being proactive and looking into possible future careers, and it is good to now know that civil engineering may be one of them".



## Student Council Meeting

We are looking forward to hosting our first Student Council meeting this year on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November, 3pm-4pm. The Senior Prefect team are working hard to draw up agenda items with SLT currently, and are looking forward to hearing the voices of our student body.

## Dates for your diary:

**13<sup>th</sup> November – Remembrance Day Parade 10am**

**29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> March – We Will Rock You school show**

Tony Gee & Partners also donated high quality bike lights to students who regularly cycle to school, even though the dark winter months. They were delighted to be able to provide something keeping students safe. Thank you!



We really appreciate having guest speakers come in to tell us about their companies and the pathways they have taken to employment. If this is something which any parents or carers would like to do, please do get in touch with our Careers Advisor (Ms Gould) or a Head of Year.

### Textiles needed

We are looking to build our stock and resources! If any parents have any fabrics, old clothes, duvet covers or anything you are throwing away, these could help build up materials for the students to use.

Please drop any donations to the main school office. Thank you!

### Remembrance Day Parade

Please do join us on this Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service, alongside the Royal British Legion and the wonderful work they do in supporting veterans.

The procession will start outside the Royal British Legion (at the junction of Kingston Lane and Teddington High Street) at 10.00am and proceed up the High Street and Broad Street to the Cenotaph outside Teddington Memorial Hospital.

There will then be a Service of Remembrance at 10.50am. Local dignitaries and representatives will lay wreaths on behalf of many local organisations. The

Salvation Army band will accompany the hymns and the Last Post will be played.

If any student, staff member or parent wants to take part in this event, Mr O'Sullivan will meet them in Kingston Lane (Vet4Life is on the corner) at 10am.



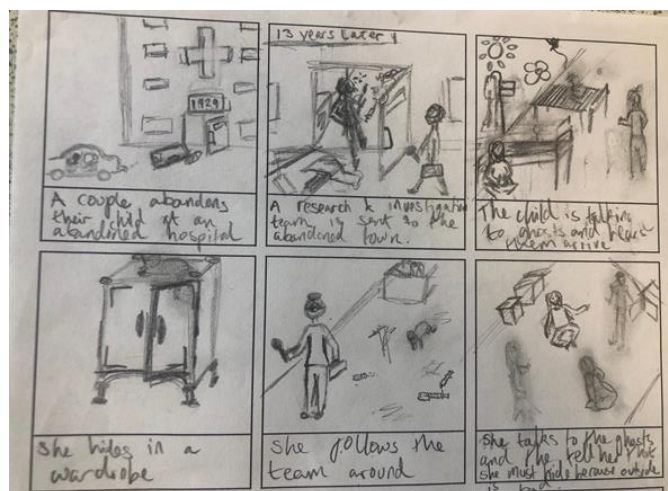
Students should wear school uniform and perhaps bring a brolly! Parents can collect from the Cenotaph or students should make their own way home.

### Storytelling lessons from Pixar

Year 9B/En1 have been learning how to plot their stories by studying a technique used by Pixar and Disney with Ms Lewis.

They've been picking apart the narrative threads of their own favourite movies like Finding Nemo and Toy Story and applying these lessons to their own fantastic story ideas.

Well done to Joseph, Alice and Abi for their beautifully planned storyboards.



Look out Hollywood, there's some serious storytelling talent in Y9.



Akala himself grew up in London. In 2009, he co-founded The Hip-Hop Shakespeare Company, a music theatre production company that explores the social, cultural and linguistic parallels between William Shakespeare's works and that of modern-day rappers. He is in the top hundred most influential Black British people in the UK 2022.



### Knitting club

Last term knitting club's members made their first ever woolly creations: squishy pumpkins. They turned out super cute. Students learned the knit stitch, how to cast on and cast off and how to sew their projects together.

This term we will be making Christmas decorations. If you would like to join the knitting club, please see Mrs Beard from the SEN Department (room 2.18). The club runs every Thursday after school; all materials and equipment provided.



### Journalism Club review

By Turing Journalism Club Member, Holly M. 8L

This term, Year 8 students are studying the work of Akala, who is a British rapper, hip-hop artist, author, journalist, activist, social entrepreneur, and poet. We are reading his novel, The Dark Lady.

The Dark Lady is an intriguing YA novel set in Elizabethan times. The story's main character, a teenage boy named Henry, has a 'special gift'.

As well as this book being an accurate period piece for sixteenth-century London, it compares Shakespeare's time with contemporary England, like much of Akala's work. There are many parallels between the two time periods including rising racism and poverty.

## STEM Club

S.T.E.M club were delighted to welcome Joan Gibson from Friends of Heathfield Recreation Ground to share her expertise on Hedgehogs and how we can support them in our school and our neighbouring open spaces.



The students learned why hedgehogs are ecologically important and what steps we can all take to ensure the decline in the UK's only spiny mammal is halted.

If you have any outdoor space, there are a few things you can do to help hedgehogs in your area, such as allowing leaf litter to accumulate and providing small holes in fences so hedgehogs can roam between gardens and open spaces.

At Turing House, all our fences are hedgehog friendly! The students designed signs to hang in their own gardens and around the school near these areas to increase awareness and encourage more people to provide habitats and support our hedgehog populations.

## Year 7 History

Year 7 students have had great fun pretending to be the contenders to the throne in 1066 and learning all about the Battle of Hastings this week.



## Sixth Form Senior Prefects

We are delighted to introduce our new team Sixth Form Senior Prefects. The role of the Senior Prefect is to work alongside allocated year groups in a mentoring capacity, but also developing fun activities for students to get involved in throughout the year.



They will also be leading this year's Student Council. We will be keeping them very busy! The team are looking forward to getting stuck in and visiting year starting next week.

## MENSA Test Results

Congratulations to all the students below who all sat the MENSA test and were shown to have incredibly high IQ scores in the top 1-2% of the population.

These students have been invited to be part of the MENSA society – congratulations to:

Raffi P. (Year 8)

Muhammad S. (Year 8)

Naji Z. (Year 8)

Jack B. (Year 8)

Zofia F. (Year 8)

Amir H. (Year 8)

Stanley J. (Year 8)

Alice D. (Year 8)

Callum C. (Year 8)

Harriet R. (Year 8)

Wassim H. (Year 12)

Many more of our wonderful students took the MENSA test too and also found out that they had amazing IQ scores.

Congratulations to Amy H. (Year 13) whose IQ was shown to be in the top 3% of the population, Olivia M. (Year 10) whose was shown to be in the top 4%, Luke R. (Year 13) and Kaysan C. (Year 8), whose scores were in the top 6%, and finally to Jakob R. (Year 8) and Nabil S. (Year 8) whose IQ were shown to be in the top 7%!

Brilliant work everyone!



## Coding Magic!

In this week's Coding Club, the aspiring C# developers worked on a Magic 8 ball simulator. Students created their own set of answers, used the console to ask questions from their program and received (mostly) favourable responses.

While having great fun with creating more and more elaborate answers, they also learnt about user input, random number generation and switch-case selection statements. Some students even managed to make their simulator ask questions on a loop and favour some answers by adding a 'shake factor'.



Join us for more C# game development in 1.13 every Thursday 3pm-4pm. No prior coding experience necessary.

### Jake Wightman Visit!

1500m World Champion Jake Wightman visited the school on Wednesday to take a Cross Country session with Mr Evans.

All students loved perfecting their technique and running with Jake. He also spoke to Year 9 in their assembly about goal setting, resilience, and maintaining a positive mindset. We were very thankful to Jake for giving up his time.



### Achieving for Children - Survey

Achieving for Children provides children's services on behalf of Kingston Council and Richmond Council.

We would like to hear from you if you live in Kingston or Richmond and have children aged 0-19, or up to 25 years for those young people with a special need or disability.

We are developing a Family Hub approach to some of our Early Help services. Family Hubs are digital platforms and physical centres which, as part of integrated family services, ensure families with children and young people aged 0-19 receive early help to

overcome a range of difficulties and build stronger relationships.

Effective early intervention can improve children's wellbeing, educational attainment and life chances, reduce family poverty, improve mental health and lead to lower crime, unemployment and other negative outcomes which carry significant cost to the public purse.

These centres enhance integrated working by enabling easier access to support, better outcomes for families, more effective service delivery and smarter use of budgets.

Please can you complete the survey [here](#).

### Mental Health Support

All London mental health trusts have a free telephone service, supported by trained mental health advisors and clinicians, open 365 days a year.

These enable children, young people and their families and teachers to get free urgent mental health support 24/7.

For Kingston & Richmond the number is:

**0800 028 8000**

### Sports Update

#### **Year 9 Boys Rugby League Tournament**

Last week, the Year 9 boys competed in the borough rugby league tournament hosted at our school. Due to some schools still being on half term, this tournament ended up being a two-team showdown between St Richard Reynolds and Turing House, with St Richard Reynolds winning by a large margin in their union match just a few weeks prior. Playing for a total of 50 minutes, both teams ran in multiple tries as they exchanged periods of leading throughout the game.

With the score level at half time, the Turing team came out firing but were unfortunate to have two tries held up over the try line!

St Richard Reynolds came away as the eventual winners as they won by a fine margin of two tries (4 points a try in rugby league), but the improvement from the Turing team compared to the last time the sides met was a massive victory in many ways. Well done to all involved!

### **Year 8 Boys Rugby League Tournament**

The Year 8 rugby team took part in the borough rugby league tournament this week, with the winning team going on to represent Richmond Borough at the regional stages of the competition. The opposition included Richmond upon Thames, Richmond Park Academy and St Richard Reynolds.

The boys were tested in defence in all three games right up to each final whistle. However, choosing to use their solid defence as their best form of attack - as they regain possession after six tackles in rugby league - the Turing team completed a clean sweep winning all three games! What a performance! Well done to all involved.



### **Year 10/11 Boys Basketball v Hampton High**

The Year 10/11 boys basketball team got their school league campaign off to a positive start earlier this week - they travelled to Hampton High for their first game.

The Turing team started strong and were ruthless in their pursuit of glory as they came away with the win in a high scoring game...all while donning the new THS basketball kits too!

The boys will be looking to continue their strong form in next week's game when they take on Twickenham. Some team members have recently opted to dedicate some extra time to training - it is already starting to pay off. Well done to all involved!



### **U14 Girls Basketball**

Girls from year 7, 8 and 9 took part in a basketball tournament this week which involved different schools from across the borough.

The girls had the advantage of playing at home and grew in confidence throughout the tournament, showing some excellent team cohesion and determination. Well done to all involved!

Our new PE facilities here at THS continue to host several various sporting tournaments for schools from the borough to take part and compete in - next week alone we are hosting three tournaments in three different sports, as the sports fixture schedule continues in full swing.

### 6<sup>th</sup> Form Boys Football v Teddington

A large 6<sup>th</sup> Form squad took to the football pitch to resume their fixtures, this time coming up against an organised Teddington at home. The previous defeat to Waldegrave before half term still fresh in the mind, the Turing team were out to put things right by delivering a more consistent performance.



Consistency is exactly what they managed to achieve as they worked hard to hold onto a one goal lead, with the match finishing 2-1 to the home side.

Well done to all involved! 6<sup>th</sup> Form boys also have rugby fixtures to look forward to after Christmas, where they'll be coming up against Orleans Park, St Richard Reynolds and Christ's.

### Sixth Form Visit to The Marketing Society

Rohan, Zoe and Ms Lewis spent a day in Westminster attending The Marketing Society conference to understand more what it might be like to work in the marketing industry. Zoe and Rohan wrote an article about their highlights from the day, now published on The Marketing Society website and shared with over 4,000 senior marketing leaders.



Thank you, Ms Lewis, for organising this amazing memorable trip to The Marketing Society Conference in Westminster. The whole day was filled with interesting talks from marketing giants ranging from Unilever to Jimmy Choo. The talk I enjoyed most was by Dr Usha Kim who created Eye Clinics initially in India, but took an interesting approach in her customer service as she gave each customer the option for free or paid eye care regardless of their income.

This was surprisingly successful and was made possible because of the marketing techniques that she used to promote her service. Now her business "Aravind" has expanded internationally whilst also adapting to the pandemic.



I had such a fun time and am now inspired even more to pursue marketing in my future career. *By Rohan*

Thank you to Ms Lewis for inviting us on an extremely interesting and memorable day at the Marketing Society Conference. It gave us a clearer insight into the marketing industry by delivering numerous talks from large brands such as Unilever, Versace and Jimmy Choo. We had such a great time and both walked away further inspired to pursue a career in marketing. *By Zoe.*

## Brentford v Watford Women's Football

For the first time, the Gtech Community Stadium will host a Brentford Women's fixture on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 3pm, against Watford Ladies Development. This game is FREE to watch.

Gates will open at 2pm on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November for the 3pm kick-off against Watford Ladies Development in the London South-East Regional Women's Football League Division One North. The South Stand will be open for this big day for the team.

All tickets for the game are free and up to six tickets per person can be claimed at [tickets.brentfordfc.com](https://tickets.brentfordfc.com).

Anyone without a Brentford ticketing account will need to register for an account to claim their tickets.

