



# HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



## Message from Mr O'Sullivan

This week our Jack Petchey winners went to the Rose Theatre to collect their medallions and celebrate this achievement. Although we celebrated their successes when the awards were originally handed out, this is a huge achievement, so well done again!



sports fields with a finish between the two pitches. A huge well done to all the students that took part. Each year group had a male and female winner, and two students took home a brand new trophy which will be engraved with their names as first male and female finisher. Well done to James (Y10) and Eleanor (Y9) for being the overall winners, particularly as we thought the oldest students might walk away with the trophies. A huge thank you to Mr Evans who was the brains behind and leader of the event.



A little bit of History was made this week in which we

ran (literally) our first every cross-country championship. In dark and rainy conditions, fifty plus students ran two laps of our sports field, one lap of the Heathfield rec, back into the



On Monday several staff and students wore odd socks to support Anti-bullying week. Anti-Bullying Week is a crucial campaign aimed at raising awareness about the harmful effects of bullying and promoting kindness, respect, and inclusion in schools and communities. Observed globally, this week encourages everyone, especially young people, to take a stand against bullying in all its forms – be it verbal, physical, or online. The theme underscores the power of collective action in creating safe

environments where everyone can thrive without fear. This year the theme was 'Make a Noise about bullying'.

# Make a NOISE about bullying

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

Too often, we are silent when we see bullying take place, silent about the hurt bullying causes, and silent when we hear bullying dismissed as 'just banter'.

It doesn't have to be this way.

Bullying at Turing House School is extremely rare; of course, we won't like everyone and we don't always agree, but we can choose respect and unity.



Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November - 2024 Ski trip online information evening (5-5.45pm)

## Diwali Last Weekend

A belated Happy Diwali to those of our families who were celebrating last weekend! Diwali, also known as the Festival of Lights, is one of the most vibrant and widely celebrated festivals in India, symbolising the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. This five-day festival, falling between mid-October and mid-November, is marked by millions of Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains worldwide. Homes and streets are decorated with colourful lights and diyas (small oil lamps), creating a magical atmosphere. Families gather for feasts, share sweets, and exchange gifts.

Fireworks light up the night sky, adding to the festive spirit. Diwali is a time of renewal and hope, encouraging unity, forgiveness, and new beginnings.



## Digestive System Learning

In Y8 Science with Mr Evans, students have been learning about the digestive system and how it works. A part of this has been showing their understanding through writing a story about the journey of food. Below are two amazing pieces of work.

The journey of Paul the pea (written by Jameson 8U)

My journey began with me dodging the ferociously sharp teeth of the mouth (I had some extremely close calls, but I survived). Then the salivary gland began lubricating me in slimy saliva. Then I was squeezed through the strong muscle tube of the oesophagus which led me down to the stomach. Then I was doused with hydrochloric acid (youch!) as well. Next, I was broken down by powerful muscles into little bits luckily that only took some time because of my small size. Then I was forced down the winding small intestine where all my nutrients were sucked out of me. Then I was sitting down in the large intestine (they call it large for a reason it is one mile long). Next, I became a semi-liquified state. Finally, I was ejected into a mysterious bowl filled with water. There is where I met my old friends Cameron the chip and Felix the fish. And that is how we became the well-known storyteller about the world above the sewers... Parker the poop.



## The Journey of Paula the Pea (Written by Daisy S)

The journey down the digestive system starts here, at the mouth, or as I like to call it, a waterslide. In your mouth, your salivary glands produce lots of saliva to help get your food down and is where your tongue pushes all the food down into the slide or the oesophagus. As you're traveling down the oesophagus, it contracts, closes and opens; this helps push the food down. After the long tight slide down the oesophagus, I end up in a big bowl of warm, fizzy water known as the stomach and hydrochloric acid or stomach acid. The hydrochloric acid helps to break food down so it's nice and small.

Once you've been twirled down the stomach by your muscles contracting, you come to the small intestines which I love, it's like a crazy slide with loops and lots of turns. Even more water or liquid is released from your liver, pancreas and gall bladder which send you flying down even faster. At the end of the small intestines, all the nutrients are absorbed out of you for the rest of the body to enjoy. After all that, you will begin to pass through the large intestine including dead cells and plant fibre. At this point, you would be waiting in the rectum getting ready to all be released together. Finally, when it's time, you're projected out of the anus into a big pool, also known as the toilet. This part is called egestion.

We are delighted to announce the launch of our next Careers fair for students in years 9 – 13 on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2024 from 5.30 - 7.30pm.**

We are hoping to build on the wide array of careers represented last year, where we had over 40 stands and speakers with approximately 400 attendees.

We are therefore looking for representatives from a variety of careers, and this year we are particularly interested to hear from anyone working in trades. We have already had some exciting professionals agree to join us including representatives from the Home Office and experts in the latest AI technology in education. For the first time we also have 'Global Academy' who specialise in technical and creative media education.

Are you able to help us in any way? Do you run a Company or have an interesting job that our students may be interested in? Are you willing spend some time telling them about your experience in the workplace/your career path?

If so, please get in touch with the Careers team via [info@turinghouseschool.org.uk](mailto:info@turinghouseschool.org.uk) preferably by the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023. Please include a brief overview of your role/ company and include your contact details. We will then contact you with further details.

Many thanks for your support and we look forward to hearing from you.

THS Careers Team

## Careers Fair 2024





## Year 7 Remembrance Poetry

Year 7s have been reading a book called Remembrance and Arran presented a lovely poem he wrote, dedicated to Corporal George Taylor.



Artillery drumming on the trenches  
So used to it now it's like a rhythm  
Day in, day out.  
Vile smell of rotting corpses fills my nostrils,  
Traces of mustard gas drift on the wind-  
Day in, day out.  
Mind floats to thoughts of home,  
Machine gun fire like hail on the roof-  
Dreaming and wishing, dreaming and wishing.  
I feel mud in my boots  
And I am back on the farm  
Dreaming and wishing, dreaming and wishing.  
Itchy cotton uniform scratches my skin,  
Chin-strap of my helmet slowly chokes me,  
Constantly cold, constantly wet.  
Little sleep – not enough to go around,  
Like the rations I imagine having.  
Constantly cold, constantly wet.  
Losing all sense of love,  
Oblivious to humanity –  
Will I see home? Will I see tomorrow?  
Petrified of what's to come,  
My friends, still and cold in No-Man's Land  
Will I see home? Will I see tomorrow?

## Creative writing competition

With Year 11s partaking in mocks, a common question English teachers get asked is 'how to revise for English?' One of the most impactful ways to revise English is to do it constantly, through using language and structural devices to describe your surroundings. With this, and the launch of this year's creative writing competition, Mr Stevens decided to capitalise on the Autumnal weather, taking students outside during English to work on 'setting construction'. Here, you

can see Dani (7R) hard at work producing this beautiful description:

The crisp autumn leaves slowly dropped to the frosted floor whilst bright beams of sunlight echoed through the sky. The mixture of vibrant green grass and pale blue sky exudes a sense of peace as the icy wind trickled around the back of my neck. This... this is Autumn.



## UK Parliament Week

Last week we celebrated UK Parliament week at Turing House School. Students took part in a whole-school vote around the statement 'Rishi Sunak should abandon his plans to reform A Levels'. Students were taught a session on what the current A Level system is, what the planned reforms would look like and why these changes have been proposed. They then all completed a secret ballot vote, deciding whether they think the planned reforms should be scrapped or not. Take a look at the results!

### School Vote – Results

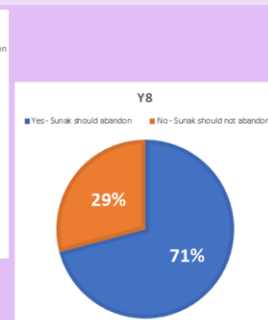
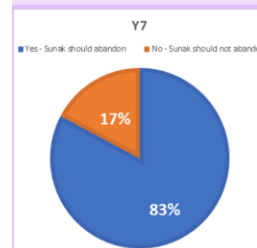
Over the last few weeks, THS has been voting on the following question:

Should Rishi Sunak abandon plans to change A Levels to Advanced British Standards?

- 724 of you voted in total
- 30 forms participated
- The results are in.....

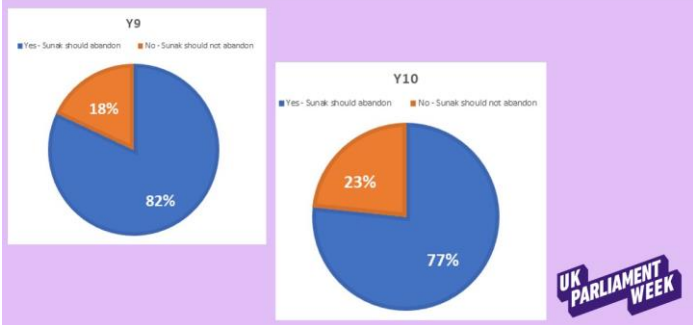


### School Vote – Results

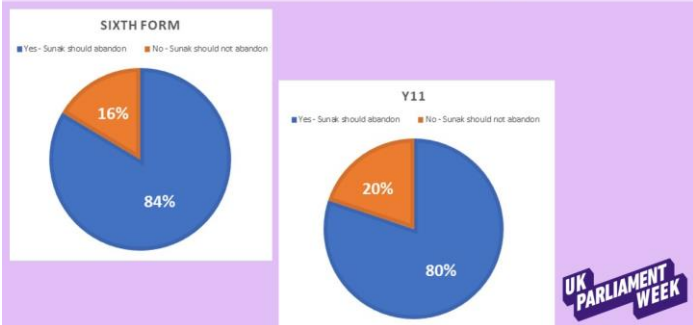




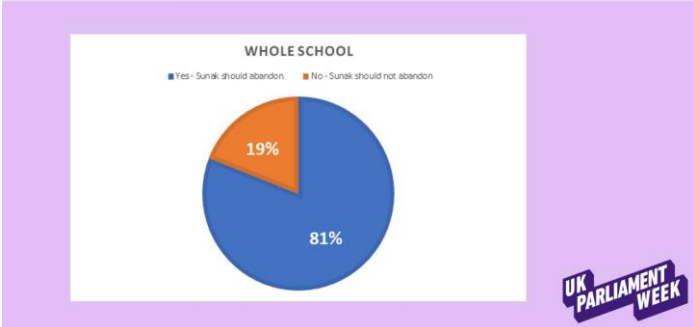
### School Vote – Results



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### School Vote – Results



THS Friends meeting

**THS Friends**  
 The next meeting of the Turing House Friends (PTA) will be on **Wednesday 22nd November, 7pm** at **The Fountain, Beefeater** (on the corner of Sixth Cross & Staines Rd, Fullwell).  
 Come support your school, find out more about what goes on and help build a thriving school community

### Year 7 BINGO night

On Thursday night our Friends of Turing House ran a wonderful fundraising BINGO night. It was brilliant to see so many students helping out and we loved getting to know our Year 7 families more. Thank you to everyone who came for supporting the event and well done to our winners!



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### School Bus

#### Message from Mrs Chatir – School Business Manager

Families, you were so instrumental in campaigning for us to get a third onsite 481 bus in the afternoon, so we need your help again to do the same for the morning bus! The current two buses, plus the 481 public buses, are just not enough at 8am to pick all the students up from Teddington through to Whitton and students are often left at the bus stops and risk being late for school.

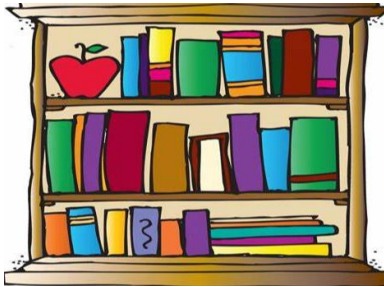
If your child regularly has trouble getting on a bus to school, I encourage you to complain to TfL: <https://tfl.gov.uk/help-and-contact/contact-us-about-buses>. Please say that your child needs to be in



school by 8.25 at the latest. Our London Assembly Member has been very supportive and can put pressure on TfL, as he's on the transport committee. <https://www.london.gov.uk/people/assembly/nicholas-rogers>

Thank you.

## Spare bookcase



A few weeks ago, we put out a request in this newsletter for any unwanted bookcases for our English department and were very lucky to receive

donations. The bookcases are now happily full and being well used by our students; thank you to those families who helped. This week, we are repeating the same request again, this time for our inclusion room where we have a small and very overflowing bookcase and would love to be able to store and display our books to better advantage. Therefore, if anyone does have a bookcase or cupboard that they were thinking of 'moving on', we would be very appreciative of being able to give it a new home. Thank you!

## Jack Petchey Scouting Achievement

Emilia, in Year 10 has received a Jack Petchey award on Tuesday for her great achievements in scouting. Well done, Emilia!

'Emilia has always been very motivated to achieve the best she can and was the youngest person we've ever awarded the Chief Scout Gold; she was also the youngest Scout ever to achieve 50 times on the water which is the highest stage of the badge.'



## Sports fixtures

### Year 7/8 Girls Football v Richmond upon Thames

The combined Year 7 and 8 girls football team hosted Richmond upon Thames in the final match of their league. A close game played out with both sides battling to keep possession until the visitors broke the deadlock to go 1-0 up. The girls are not one for dropping heads when they have their work cut out for them, however, and they almost instantly bounced back, immediately piling on the pressure and forcing opposition errors all over the pitch. The match finished 2-1 to THS and the team is expecting to finish second in their league, having only lost just one game earlier in the term - impressive stuff! Well done to all involved!



### Year 8 Boys Rugby League Tournament

The Year 8 boys faced Richmond Park Academy at the beginning of the week in a rugby league show down, with the winning team going on to represent Richmond in the regional stages of the tournament. The Turing team made a very strong start, running in a flurry of tries to give them a comfortable lead at half time. The opposition, however, had other plans for

the second half and worked their way back into the game. The two sides exchanged some hard-hitting blows to the defence of one another and the last ten minutes saw one team ahead by one try before the other team would level and then take the lead by the same amount. After a very even and exciting second half, it was RPA who were up by one score at the final whistle. Well done to all involved!

### **Year 11 Boys Football v Richmond upon Thames**

The Year 11 boys hosted Richmond upon Thames at home in a delayed fixture that the boys had been looking forward to since before the half term break. With the pitch in immaculate condition, the Turing team were hoping to make the most of the occasion and play a fast-paced game in order to put the opposition on the back foot early on. The opposition anticipated part of the strategy well and the score was even with a goal each at the break. The second half became a battle for a winning goal as both teams exchanged well-worked chances that went begging. The game finished 2-1 to THS after a great show of resilience from the boys in blue and a final push for goal with an element of accuracy when it mattered. Well done to all involved!

### **Year 8 Boys Football v Richmond upon Thames**

As was the case with the Year 11 football fixture, the Year 8 boys played Richmond upon Thames in a match that was rescheduled from Term 1. Both teams played a cautious game in the first half, aiming to read the other team when in possession of the ball and test defences only occasionally. The second half, on the other hand, proved to be a spectacular display of accuracy and control on the ball from the home side. The half time score was level at 1-1, but the Turing team returned from the break to put not one...not two...not three...but four goals past the opposition, securing a 5-1 win in dominating fashion. Well done to all involved!

### **Year 10/11 Boys Basketball v Orleans Park**

The Year 10/11 boys basketball team began their borough league campaign against Orleans Park at the beginning of the week. Playing at home, part of the

Turing team comprised of Year 9 students while mock exams occupied the minds of those in Year 11. Not only did these Year 9 and 10 players hold their own against some who were two years older, but they also orchestrated a rather convincing win in a fashion typical of their on-court talent and flare. The final quarter ended with the score 84-64 to THS and they now look forward to their next match against Grey Court. Well done to all involved!



### **Year 10 Boys Rugby v Orleans Park**

With the help of some Year 9 boys, an on-form Year 10 team travelled to Orleans Park to complete their league fixtures on the rugby pitch. Away-day syndrome is a thing of the past for this team as they made a promising start from kick off, scoring two tries by spreading the ball and finding the space out wide. A third try inside the first half meant that the Turing team had a lead to maintain in the second half. They did exactly that as they rarely found themselves on the back foot which was a result of some excellent defensive work and sheer attacking intent. One final push for the opposition try line after a quick penalty saw the match finishing 26-14 to THS. Well done to all involved!





### **Year 7 Table Tennis Tournament**

The Year 7 table tennis tournament took place among a busy week of school sport. The majority of the Year 7 sports fixtures tend to take place a little later in the school calendar, so the two Turing teams that took part felt like they were being treated on this occasion and really showcased their enthusiasm for representing the school in such a proud manner. There was also some great table tennis on display among some stiff competition from elsewhere in the borough, with the THS teams taking third and fourth place respectively. Well done to all involved!



### **U14 Boys basketball Tournament**

The Year 9 boys basketball team took part in the annual borough tournament this week. They faced Richmond Park Academy, Teddington, Grey Court and Christ's. Two wins, one draw and an incredibly narrow loss against the eventual tournament winners saw the Turing team finish as runners up overall. Given the level of competition on the court for this age group, second place is a fantastic achievement, and the boys could leave feeling proud of a very consistent performance that played to the strengths of each individual player. Well done to all involved!

**ADHD Embrace**



Peter Cowley, Achieving for Children's Former Online Safety Adviser.

#### **About this Event**

Peter will be talking about online safety. He will specifically address topics to help parents understand the current and emerging risks online and support their children through them.

You may be aware that a recent report from the Children's Commissioner found that by age 13, half of children have seen online pornography. Additionally, another national survey, The Pupil Safeguarding Review, found 58% of students had reported feeling unsafe online several times in the past six months; 19% of those students missed school because of feeling unsafe online. This is an essential talk for all parents.

#### **About the speaker**

Peter Cowley, Achieving for Children's Former Online Safety Adviser.

#### **Online information**

Registrants will be emailed the Zoom dial in details on the morning of the webinar.

#### **Pricing & Assisted Places**

We charge a modest amount for our seminars in order to help us cover our costs, yet we also want them to be affordable to as many people as possible. We have a limited number of assisted places for those suffering financial hardship. To apply for an assisted place, please get in touch with us outlining your circumstances at [jenny.c@adhdembrace.org](mailto:jenny.c@adhdembrace.org). Please note the bookings for this event will close at midnight the night before.

When - 28th November, 2023 from 8:00 PM to 9:30 PM

Location – online



Email: [info@adhdembrace.org](mailto:info@adhdembrace.org)

[Book now](#)

## Kingston Adult Education

**KINGSTON ADULT EDUCATION**  
Learn Achieve Progress

Courses during school hours

[www.kingston.gov.uk/adulthoodeducation](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/adulthoodeducation)

### Maths for Parents Courses

Learn how to better support your children with their schoolwork  
Practise the same maths and methods taught in schools  
Discover helpful maths resources

Our Next Free Course is:

### Maths for Parents: Secondary School Maths: Part 1

Tuesdays  
10:15 - 12:30

9th January to 6th February (5 sessions)

Where: Hook Centre, Chessington

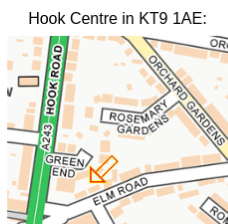
Cost: This is a **free** course

How do I sign up?

Visit the link below:

<https://bit.ly/multiply-kae>

or scan the QR code:



Funded by  
MAYOR OF LONDON



You must be living in London, be aged 19 or over, and **not already have a GCSE at grade C** (or equivalent) in Maths.

For help or more information:  
email: [skillsforworkandlife@kingston.gov.uk](mailto:skillsforworkandlife@kingston.gov.uk)  
Phone: 07511045124

## Powerjam Band Project

Brothers, Ben (Year 13) and Billy (Year 10) are in a band and are performing this Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November at the Hampton Hub and next Friday 24th November, on the Riverside Radio stage at FREE family event, 'Twickenham Twickmas Christmas Trail and Lights Switch-On' from 3.30pm. Their performance will be broadcast live on the radio!

Details: <https://discovertwickenham.co.uk/event/twickenham-christmas-switch-on/>

**Stafford Stewart**  
PRESENT - IN ASSOCIATION WITH HAMPTON HUB

**Local Legends**  
past, present & future!

An evening of incredible vibrant music - celebrating the unique ongoing local contribution to UK musical history

The Amazing Geoff Garbow Band; and world-renowned Powerjam; the not-for-profit Community-Heroes-awarded project for young musicians.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/staffordstewart>  
Website: <https://www.geoffgarbowband.com>  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ggbandlive>

OPENS 17.30  
CLOSES 22.30

**Sunday 19th November**

Tickets from £12.00  
<https://fixr.co/event/local-legends-past-present-future-hosted-by-tim-st-tickets-102918331>

HAMPTON HUB - 3 Ashley Rd, Hampton TW12 2JA

Local Young Bands from Powerjam

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/powerjam\\_band\\_project](https://www.instagram.com/powerjam_band_project)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PowerJamBandProject>  
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/powerjambandproject>  
Website: <https://powerjambands.com/>

discover twickenham  
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
collaborate, create & thrive

# Christmas Event Trail 2023

Friday 24th November

Stage performances  
King Street, 3pm - 7pm

Tree Switch-ons  
Twickenham Green, 4pm - 4:30pm  
Heath Road, 4:45 - 5:15pm  
King Street, 6pm **The Big Switch-on**

Pop up Santa's Grotto, Facepainting, Indoor Market at Patch  
York Street

and much more festive fun throughout the afternoon...

Arts & Culture

## Cooking Up Charity



# CAN YOU COOK?

Cooking Up is a new charity coming to Whitton Community Centre on Percy Road. We're helping local people learn to cook healthy, cheap meals for themselves.

We're looking for local volunteers who love cooking to help us.

Our cooking sessions pair up groups of non-cooks with our volunteers and together we prepare a meal for four people that they can take home.

Your commitment would be around 3 hours per week on a regular or occasional basis. Our sessions run between 10 am and 1pm on Thursdays. All training and equipment will be provided.

For more info, take a look at our websites:

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

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

If you're interested, email us at [john@cookingup.org](mailto:john@cookingup.org).

We're looking forward to cooking with you!



Cooking Up is running free classes for people who want to learn to cook affordable, tasty meals for themselves and their families

#### WHAT HAPPENS?

Each week, you can join us at Whitton Community Centre where our local volunteers will help you to cook a meal for up to 4 people. We'll provide all ingredients and equipment, and a take-away carton for you to transport it home. You'll get a recipe card so you can make it again yourself anytime.



**WHERE?** Whitton Community Centre, Percy Road, TW2 6JL



**WHEN?** Classes Running on Thursdays from 11 January 2024 11am-12.30pm. Email us for info

#### Who can apply?

- People aged 18+
- Family pair (adult and 1 child over 8 years)
- Priority given to people who are unemployed, on low income or receiving benefits
- Priority given to people living in Richmond Borough

#### Interested?

Email us at [info@cookingup.org](mailto:info@cookingup.org)  
Or come and see us at Whitton Community Centre, Percy Road, Twickenham, TW2 6JL  
Tel 0208 894 4452

Find out more about Cooking Up

[www.cookingup.org](http://www.cookingup.org)  
Facebook: [@cookingupcharity](https://www.facebook.com/cookingupcharity)  
Instagram: [/cookingup](https://www.instagram.com/cookingup)  
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cooking-up>

