



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



Message from Mrs Collins

This week on Wednesday, the whole school enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch, thanks to the heroic efforts of the kitchen staff who managed to plate and serve over 500 turkey dinners in a single lunch time! Teaching and support staff were also helping with serving drinks, helping with setting up festive tablecloths and clearing away plates so the next round of students could be seated for their meals. There was an all-round sense of community and celebration, and was a reflection of Turing at its best. Wednesday was also the deadline for tutor groups to have filled and decorated their Food Hampers for the Whitton Foodbank – you can see some of the incredible designs in the next article. It served as a reminder that for many families, this Christmas in particular may be a difficult one and that whilst the holiday period is a time of celebration for many, it's not easy for all. We are proud of how generous and thoughtful students have been in providing for others.

At GCSE for English Literature, we study Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* and revising it with my Y11



class recently, a particular quote stood out to me: *"But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round—apart from the veneration due to its sacred name*

and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that—as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys." With much of the news carrying such worrying, tragic sadness, a lack of compassion and empathy seems prevalent. Therefore it's heartening to see such acts of goodness and kindness from our students and wider community.

And (continuing to draw inspiration from literature) as we approach the Christmas break and the start of another year, I'd like to echo a sentiment expressed by Maya Angelou: "My wish for you is that you continue. Continue to be who and how you are. And continue to astonish a mean world with your acts of kindness".



Christmas Fair & Concert – Tuesday 19th December

Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 21st December

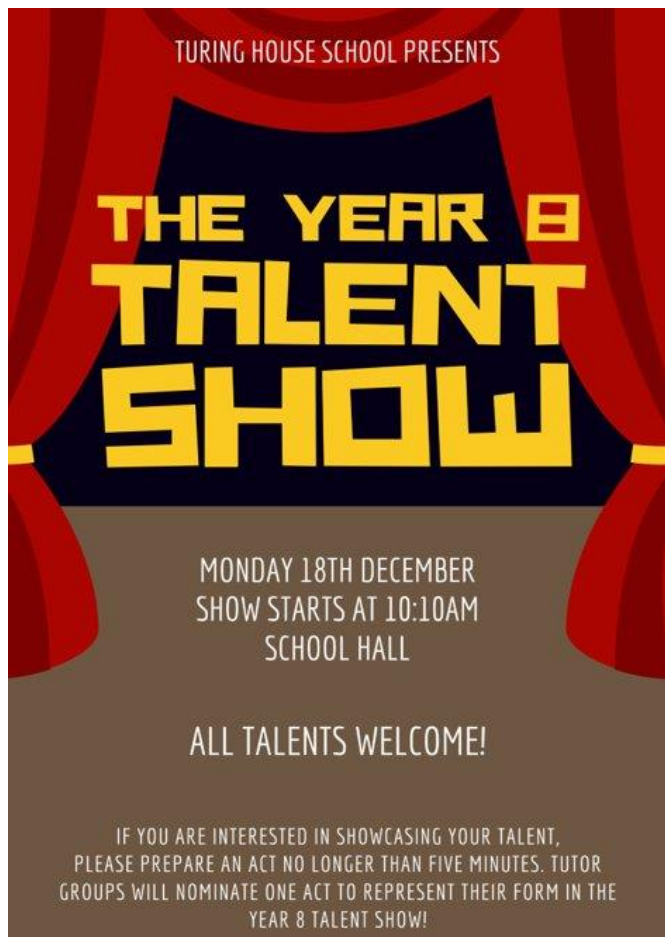
School closes for Christmas Break – Thursday 21st December

Christmas hampers

On Thursday we delivered the Christmas hampers to Whitton Foodbank, that you all have been contributing to over the past couple of weeks. Thank you to all the students who decorated the boxes; there were some really lovely designs. A shout out to the following forms who won the best design in their year: 7T, 8L, 9A, 10N and 11A – well done everyone! And also, well done to the tutor groups who gave the most items: 7T, 8R, 9T, 10A, 11A and 13L. And finally, a big thank you to all parents who kindly donated items.



Year 8 Talent Show



On Monday 18th December, Year 8 students will be participating in the Year 8 Turing's Got Talent show. Students have been encouraged to showcase their best talents in front of a panel of judges and the rest of their year group in order to win an exciting prize, alongside lots of positive points! Keep your eyes peeled for pictures of the acts in next week's newsletter.

Sixth Form Madrid trip

On Friday 8th December, eight sixth formers went to Madrid with Ms Ramnarine and Ms Shilton to learn about the culture and history there. It was a busy four days with museum visits, flamenco shows, lots of sampling of tapas, as well cooking classes, visiting Royal Palaces, Christmas markets and lights! Hala Madrid!





Careers Fair 2024



SAVE THE DATE

Meet
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Careers Fair

 Thursday 18 April 2024
 5.30 - 7.30pm
 Turing House School, Twickenham




Sports fixtures

U13 & U15 Girls Indoor Cricket Tournament

Two cricket teams took to the indoor stage this week and last to take part in the indoor cricket borough tournament hosted by Richmond upon Thames School. As expected, a flurry of strong opposition across the field made for a competitive and pacy afternoon as the Turing teams gave their all in this indoor version of a sport growing in popularity at THS. While the girls look ahead to sunnier days when they can take part in their outdoor cricket fixtures once again, they showed real grit and determination among each of their performances, which paid off with a third-place finish for the U15 team and second place for the U13 team. A special shout out must go to those girls who played in both tournaments! Well done to all involved!



Year 9 Boys Basketball v Barking Abbey

The Year 9 boys basketball team embarked on another mission to secure yet another win in their Dynamik basketball league, again playing with the home advantage. The match was a physical encounter right from the start and remained so right up until the last play. Neither team wanted to let the other sneak away with a sizable lead, knowing exhaustion would soon set in. But the second half saw the Turing team take things up a notch as they dug deep to slowly build momentum in the offensive key. Crucial chances did not go begging and the boys' accuracy when it mattered made the difference in the end as they recorded a 70-46 win. Well done to all involved!



Year 10/11 Boys Basketball v Teddington

The Year 10/11 boys took to the basketball court to play Teddington this week. The Turing team were well and truly up for the challenge away from home which showed in their high-tempo start. Their early efforts were rewarded with a small lead going into the second half, but the boys unlocked a new level in the latter stages, ensuring crucial counter play was converted to points. The match finished 60-48 to THS. The team have one game left to play in their league which will likely be played after Christmas - can they finish on another win? Well done to all involved!

Year 10/11 Girls Netball v Richmond Park Academy

The Year 10/11 girls played their final netball game of the borough league this week when they travelled to Richmond Park Academy. The Turing team took a little bit of time to recover from the longer than usual away trip and settle into the match, but eventually got the ball moving swiftly through the hands. It was the opposition, however, who were able to dominate in the shooting D when it mattered but the girls bowed out not without a fight. Well done to all involved!

Year 7 Boys Basketball Tournament

The Year 7 boys travelled to Hampton Boys School to take part in the borough basketball tournament at the end of last week. This was the first opportunity the boys had to play together on the court, so the aims of the day were to establish team cohesion, see how they compared to the other Year 7 teams and enjoy a new competitive environment. The Turing team wanted more from the day, however, and

pushed for excellence in every game they played. Beating every team they came up against, the boys were crowned tournament champions! They have set the bar high and cannot wait for their league fixtures to start after Christmas. Well done to all involved.



PE Department at the Christmas Fair

Next Tuesday the school are hosting a Christmas fair - the PE Department will be there with their very own PE stall, bringing you all the festive fun and games. Bring your £1 coins and take part in some enjoyable challenges with a chance to win some prizes. Games will include a shooting challenge, a rowing challenge, a throwing challenge and a few more. See you all there!

Help Turing House Friends when shopping online

It's that time of year again - the festive season is upon us! As we jingle all the way into Christmas shopping mode, we wanted to share an incredibly easy and magical way to support our wonderful school while ticking off those gift lists... Easyfundraising! It's like Santa's little helper for fundraising, but with a modern twist. The best part? It won't cost you an extra jingle bell! Simply shop online via Easyfundraising at your usual stores, and poof! A sprinkle of your purchase amount is gifted to Turing House Friends. These festive funds go straight into making our school even more amazing for our fantastic students. Let's make this Christmas even merrier while giving our school an extra sparkle!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=151344&invite=25NTVM&referral-campaign=s2s>

Easy fundraising

