

Headteacher's Update

9th July 2021

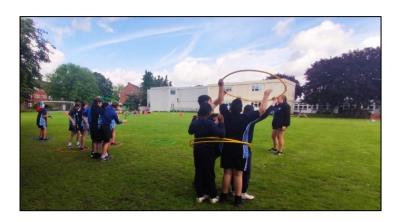
Year 6 Induction

We were absolutely delighted to welcome next year's Year 7 students to Turing House for their Induction Day on Monday. It was wonderful to meet so many students and give them a taste of what their subjects and school life will be like next year. They took part in a range of lessons, had a delicious lunch, played an enormous game of football on the field at lunchtime, and met new people who will no doubt become lifelong future friends. One parent kindly wrote to us afterwards, saying "I would like to thank the school for making my child so happy and welcomed today. He cannot stop talk about how he liked everything. He cannot wait to join the school in September. Thank you for having him today." Their behaviour and attitude were exemplary and they have made an excellent start for their years ahead. We very much look forward them to welcoming them in September.

PE With the New Year 7

It was great to see the soon-to-be new year 7 students working hard in their PE taster lesson as part of Monday's transition day. Students took part in team building activities where they were encouraged to use transferable skills such as communication, problem

solving and leadership – well done for your hard work and enthusiasm! Some students were even sporting the Turing House PE kit which was fantastic to see ahead of their official start in September.





Dates for your Diary

- Immunisations Year 8 HPV 13th July
- Last day of term 16th July

A message from the nursing immunisation team:

HPV Immunisations take place on the morning of Tuesday 13th July for Year 8 at Hampton.

The nursing team have asked for all students to make sure they have breakfast, wear a short-sleeved shirt and to keep a bottle of water handy to keep hydrated.

KS5 History Club

From next week, we will be screening a new film on Thursdays at lunchtime in 3.3. It links to our KS5 study of Australia. There is a bit about it here:

'In My Blood It Runs' was shot in Mparntwe (Alice Springs), Sandy Bore Homeland and Borroloola Community, Northern Territory, Australia over three and a half years. A key goal in the In My Blood It Runs campaign is to make Australian schools more culturally safe for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

Ten-year-old Dujuan is a child-healer, a good hunter and speaks three languages. As he shares his wisdom of history and the complex world around him, we see his spark and intelligence. Yet Dujuan is 'failing' in school and facing increasing scrutiny from welfare and the police. As he travels perilously close to incarceration, his family fight to give him a strong Arrernte education alongside his western education lest he becomes another statistic. We walk with him as he grapples with these pressures, shares his truths and somewhere inbetween finds space to dream, imagine and hope for his future self.

And read more here.

Jack Petchey Winners Certificates

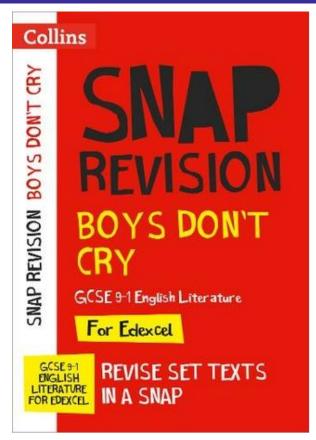
We finally managed to personally hand over the certificates to our winners. Well done again to our 6 superstars!







Teacher Success



It is always great to recognise members of staff when they are contributing to the wider world of education, so we were delighted to see Miss Andrews being thanked by name in the inside cover of this revision book for our Year 10 students. Miss Andrews worked as part of a team to ensure that this book was an effective support to learners when studying this novel. Well done, Ms Andrews!

Fun History

The next time you are washing your hands and complain because the water temperature isn't just how you like it, think about how things used to be. Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and they still smelled pretty good by June. However, since they were starting to smell, brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour - hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children. Last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it, hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water!"

Houses had thatched rooves -thick straw piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof - hence the saying "It's raining cats and dogs".

There was nothing to stop things from falling into the house. This posed a real problem in the bedroom where bugs and other droppings could mess up your nice clean bed. Hence, a bed with big posts and a sheet hung over the top afforded some protection. That's how canopy beds came into existence.

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt. Hence the saying, "Dirt poor". The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway. Hence: a 'thresh hold'.

In those old days, they cooked in the kitchen with a big kettle that always hung over the fire. Every day they lit the fire and added things to the pot. They ate mostly vegetables and did not get much meat. They would eat the stew for dinner, leaving leftovers in the pot to get cold overnight and then start over the next day. Sometimes stew had food in it that had been there for quite a while. Hence the rhyme: Peas porridge hot, peas porridge cold, peas porridge in the pot nine days old. Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man could 'bring home the bacon'. They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and 'chew the fat'.

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

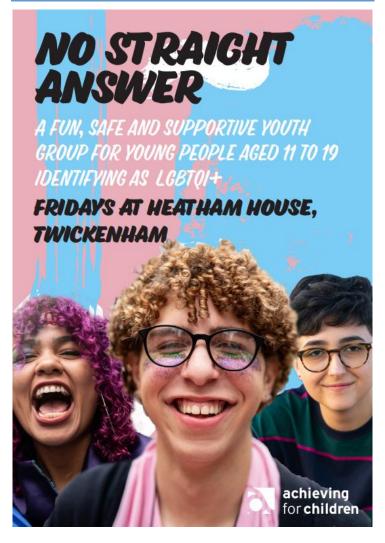
Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or the 'upper crust'.

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock the imbibers out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of holding 'a wake'.

The country was old and small, and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So, they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a bone-house, and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So, they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the 'graveyard

shift') to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be, 'saved by the bell' or was considered a 'dead ringer'.

No Straight Answer



Please contact Justin Johnson or Philip Waithe for more information (including session times):

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The Parents' Guide

www.theparentsguideto.co.uk offers a range of resources suitable for parents of teens.

It includes information on:

Making the most of the summer holidays;

- Boosting knowledge;
- Researching apprenticeships;
- Researching university courses;
- Writing a personal statement;
- Preparing to leave home; and
- Protecting your mental wellbeing.

Click July's school newsletter here for more information.

The Parents' Guide to provides a range of free support for both parents of sixth form students as well as those taking GCSEs, including guides, useful articles, a Q&A system where we answer questions personally, live chats and a blog with the latest news.

Literature in Colour

As part of our work with Penguin on their 'Lit in Colour' project, which aims to promote the teaching of texts by writers of colour in schools across the UK, Ms Andrews, along with Sam W (Y11) and Emily P (Y10) were invited to Penguin's quarterly briefing. They got to meet the CEO of Penguin over Zoom, and then they were asked to speak about the impact of introducing a text by a woman of colour into the GCSE English Literature curriculum. The interview was seen by just under 1000 people and helped the project leaders to promote the project within their organisation. The CEO was so impressed with Sam that he told him to get in touch if he wanted a career in publishing!

For more information about the Lit in Colour campaign, you can see the video on the homepage of our website, or see here: https://www.penguin.co.uk/campaigns/litin-colour.html

Year 9 GCSE Pod Competition

Well done to all of our hardworking Year 9s who managed to watch a massive 1950 GCSE Pods in preparation for their End of Year 9 exam. We had a competition for the students who watched the most pods and would like to congratulate the below students for winning:

9A

1st - Max P

2nd – Joe T

3rd - Fred H

9U

1st - Zac V

2nd - Daniel C

3rd – Katie R

9T

1st - Noa K

2nd - Taran V

3rd - Ben S

9N

1st - Nicholas K

2nd – Kaiden G

3rd - Abby P

9L

1st - Ethan L

2nd - Kuzev A

3rd – Evie K

Our overall winner was Zac V. Zac is a brilliant historian who has shone all year and will go onto be highly successful at GCSE. The winning class was the fantastic, brilliant and amazing 9U.



E-safety update

An update for parents: Wattpad is a popular online social network app that allows users to share their writing work with other readers. Among the genres you can find here are short stories, books, poems, among other reading materials. When it comes to users, this site is open to all those who enjoy writing and reading. However, there have been significant concerns raised by parents regarding very disturbing content, cyberbullying, identity theft, access to pornography and online grooming. Most internet safety sites do not recommend Wattpad for younger pupils and have recommended the app for 17+. If you know your child is accessing Wattpad, please take the time to discuss how they use the site and review the content they are accessing. There are a number of internet safety sites providing warnings about Wattpad. Please click on the link to see what Bark says about the app: https://www.bark.us/blog/what-is-wattpad/

Oxford

On 22 and 23 July, Balliol College are holding three online access workshops for Year 12 students who are interested in studying Law.

Find out more and book

The Year 12 Mathematics and Physical Science virtual study day is on 28 July from 2-4.30pm. Apply now

STEM Opportunity



Join virtual talks delivered by academics and industry experts. All sessions are designed to be accessible to able GCSE and A-Level students who are all welcome.

14th - 16th July Virtual Particle Physics Summer School 12th - 14th July Virtual Magic of Materials Summer School

Find out more here:

https://www.stpaulsschool.org.uk/ourcommunity/school-charity-partnerships/secondary/

Careers

A new intro episode for The Parent Perspective podcast is available now! Follow the link for a taster of what's to come in the highly anticipated series.

Subscribe on your preferred platform today to be ready for the first episode coming next week!

University

If you're not sure what you plan to do when you finish school or college, and would like some help researching and thinking about your options and preparing to make applications, 'Find Your Way' is for you. Find out more and apply here.

If you are feeling a bit challenged with your studies and would like the support of a peer mentor who has successfully completed the qualifications you're studying for, 'Ask Bath' is for you.

The University of Southampton would like to invite Alevel physics students of Afro-Caribbean heritage to a free one-day physics and astronomy virtual summerschool.

The day will feature sessions exploring specialist research and careers in Physics, plus a presentation by Benyam Dejen, Director of Outreach at the Blackett Lab Family. Their ambition is to become influential in society, leading the conversation on diversity in physics and inspiring a new generation of Black minds in our communities.

Register here or contact the Outreach team at physwizz@soton.ac.uk with any questions you may have.

English Spoken Language Assessments

The English department have been so impressed with the quality of the speeches given by Year 10 for their Spoken Language Endorsement, part of their English Language GCSE. Well done to all students who clearly worked really hard to research, write, rehearse and perform their speeches - we are proud of all of you!

Some of the many highlights included:

- Lizzie B gave a powerful speech exploring the impact social media has on teenagers' body image.
- Lottie H spoke convincingly and authoritatively about the power young people have to influence politics.
- George B spoke intelligently and persuasively about the flaws in British democracy.
- Dion H gave an impassioned and important speech about the Black Lives Matters movement and how to challenge racism.
- Benediktas M delivered an engaging speech on the need for education reforms in the UK.
- Sapna S spoke in a very informed and empathetic way about how social anxiety may affect people and their mental health.
- Paul H spoke about how disabilities need to be more widely understood and how schools could play a part in this.
- Nyan S talked about issues surrounding the increasing cost of computer components as a result of the pandemic and what companies could do to counteract this.
- Amy H spoke passionately about the impact of social media on political discourse.
- Sam B created a sophisticated speech about minority discrimination in politics.

Sixth Form Higher Education Week



Across the past two weeks, THS Sixth Formers have participated in a number of activities focused on a variety of higher education pathways. As well as continuing their exploration into Post-18 options during tutor time, Mrs Kaur organised two events to get students excited about what university has to offer and what better way to begin than to take part in THS's very own 'University Challenge'. Each team aligned themselves to a university and, of course, brought in a mascot to represent them! The teams engaged in challenging questions put to them by our very own Jeremy Paxman (Mr O'Sullivan), devised by Sixth Form teachers. The participation from both the teams and the audience was excellent. Crowning winners were Max, Kit, Jack O and Ethan H representing the Open University.

To continue the university buzz, students and teachers also engaged in University 'Speed Dating' where they came ready with presentations and props in order to sway students to consider the university they attended as a possible option for them. We even had a couple of students dial in from home and be passed around on a laptop so that they didn't miss the experience! Students voted for their favourite university based on location and uni life, best experience, best campus and best sales pitch. The winning universities were: Glasgow (Miss Scott), Birmingham (Miss Riglin) and Royal Holloway (Mr Hall). It became competitive but it was great fun!



I'm a Sixth Former, Get Me Out of Here!

What better way to finish Year 12 than with a competition of logic, dexterity, strategy...and a strong stomach!



Five Year 12 competitors are going head-to-head in an 'I'm a Sixth Former, Get Me Out of Here' set of challenges. Round 1, which took place yesterday, consisted of sugar cube towers, M&M sorting and toilet roll unravelling. We've started easy on them but it's set to get more challenging each day! Watch this space for updates next week!

Sporting Headline of the Week

England's 55-year wait to reach a major men's final is over at last after victory against Denmark at Euro 2020. Gareth Southgate's side were on a mission to travel one step further than any England side had done since the 1966 World Cup final win against West Germany, and they finally achieved the long-cherished goal as they came from behind to triumph in extra time. England secured a meeting with Italy in the final at Wembley on Sunday.

Also, Mark Cavendish is one stage win away from equalling the all-time record number of stage wins at the Tour De France. He currently stands on 33 wins, 1 win away from the record from Belgian Behemoth, Eddy Merckx.

Sporting Fact of the Week

Did you know.....?

On average a volleyball player will jump 300 times in one game.

Summer Football Camp

WMF GIRLS, a football coaching club for girls of all abilities ages 5-13 based in Twickenham, West London, is hosting a Girls Only Football Holiday Camp in Twickenham run by an all-female coaching team. For more information click here.

