

Excellence: for each, for all

PORTRAIT

THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER . DECEMBER 2017 . ISSUE 15

Merry Christmas TGS!



THOMAS
GAINSBOROUGH
SCHOOL

Olivia Turkentine, Winner of TGS
Autumn Photo Competition



We are delighted that our school received an extremely positive report from Ofsted following the inspection that took place earlier this term. The school was rated as good with the report praising its “highly aspirational vision” and describing the behaviour of pupils as “exemplary”.

Inspectors also hailed the school for insisting on high standards, removing barriers for disadvantaged pupils and ensuring students are well prepared for future education and employment. We believe that the result reflects the hard work and commitment of everyone at the school, and we are

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very pleased the report recognised the progress that we have made in recent years. To be recognised as a good school with outstanding features is testimony to the endeavours of everyone involved with the school – staff, governors, parents and our fantastic students. However, we are in no way resting on our laurels. We will carry on working to improve further, ensuring that the school goes from strength to strength.

We have received an outstanding grade in the area of personal development, behaviour and welfare, with the inspection team stating the atmosphere in corridors, social areas and classrooms is “conducive to a highly positive working

environment”. The report also states that we “have been successful in securing the commitment of parents, pupils and staff to their vision for the school,” which makes us especially proud and grateful for the support of everybody involved with the school. It goes on to say that “Pupils speak positively about their experiences and about the quality of education they receive. They are particularly complimentary about the excellent help they get from our superb student services team. “Almost all parents who responded to Ofsted’s online questionnaire, Parent View, agreed the school is well led and managed and would recommend the school to others.” We can ask for no more than this.

This positivity was not just confined to the lower school with the report also highlighting the effectiveness of the school Sixth Form. It pointed to the strong progress across subjects and good careers education particularly focusing on the school's links with local businesses and industries.

A full copy of the Ofsted report is available on the school's website or from the Department for Education.

Mr W Lloyd



Photo Competition

3rd



5th

Thank you very much for all your entries. Lots of staff have commented on the quality of the work. There were so many stunning photographs Mr Lloyd found it very difficult to select the winners.

Mrs F Raleigh



*1st Chamberlain
Olivia Turkentine*

*2nd Peyton
Lauren Martin*

*3rd Tollemache
Jemma Sargeant*

*4th Houghton
Sonny Waterson*

*5th Abbas
Lauren Newstead*



4th



1st



3rd



2nd



Birds of Peace Competition

*1st Abbas
Elle Harrison*



*2nd Peyton
George Edwards*

*3rd Houghton
Devran Pryce-Orman*

*4th Tollemache
Louis Fenwick*

*5th Chamberlain
Finn Woodfield*





4th



5th

Shoal' project which was displayed in the Suffolk Show in Trinity Park this year. Here we won a £50 gardening voucher for our large contribution.

For this year's Christmas project schools and groups from all over Suffolk were asked to help make '1000 Beautiful Birds of Peace' using re-used and recycled materials. Initially, I emailed Mrs Fish saying I would be submitting about 50 birds, however, due to our sheer determination, the school managed to submit nearly 500 birds. What a massive achievement from our students, well done!

The birds came in all shapes, sizes and showcase the multitude of artistic talent we have within our school.

The Bird Of Peace exhibition is currently on display in the Apex in Bury St Edmunds over the Christmas period, where they will be seen by thousands of visitors.

Miss L Nichol

A month ago we were contacted by Mrs C. Fish; a Service Development Officer from Suffolk recycling's waste team. Mrs Fish asked if we would like to partake in this year's exciting Christmas project to celebrate and promote how good we are at recycling and reusing in Suffolk, as well as promoting a message of peace.

Thomas Gainsborough School has already established links with Mrs Fish through the 'Suffolk





With Christmas now in our sights and the Autumn term racing along, it is a good time to update you all with the activities of Abbas House so far this term. A huge “thank you” to Lorcan Connolly (RMY) for once again playing the Last Post tribute when the whole school came to a silent standstill on the stairwells to mark Remembrance Day this year. A very moving few moments to commemorate those that have fallen in conflict. The East Anglian Air Ambulance is the chosen charity for Abbas this year and the committee have been working flat out to raise as much money as possible. So far we have had the first two of our monthly “Munchy Monday” cake sales, with subsequent sales on the first school day Monday of every month. Alanah Reeve (ABO) has proved to be our sterling House poster creator having made the super Munchy Monday poster and won the charity advertising poster competition!

MUNCHIE MONDAYS

Monday 4th December cake sale in the light well at lunch and break!

Please bring in some cakes, cookies or any treats to the food tech rooms! These can be Christmas styled or any style you want!



Help ABBAS raise money for our local charity by bringing some money in to, have a yummy treat!



Merry Christmas!

FROM THE ABBAS COMMITTEE!



We held a “spooky lucky dip” while the scary face paint creations were judged at Halloween – see Ella’s victorious creation below. We have our great Christmas raffle ongoing until 15th December with some truly fantastic prizes. We are also planning our Christmas card delivery service to begin on 5th December.

This is the gruesome face of Ella McCrory (AAS) who won the Halloween face painting competition.



Alannah Reeve

Our Core Values nominations have been flooding in each week. It really is lovely to hear about all of those extra activities and events that our students are involved in outside of school, as well as to recognise the resilience and positivity of Abbas students striving to make progress in school. I have shared with you below just a small selection of our most recent nominations:

Tia Cuthbert- A super letter in from her Archery club recognising her work in raising money for charity and being a junior member of the committee.

Rosie Young- Performed a reading for the Remembrance service at the weekend as a representative of her Guide group.

Alex Mayles- Promoted to assistant patrol leader in sea scouts.

Callum Ryan- Received manager’s Junior Player of the Year for Cornard sports team.

Cain Hawthorn Grant- Super feedback for helping at the Open Evening and ongoing work ethic in Photography.

Ben Maxim-Excellent continued mentoring of another member of the form.

Please email me directly if you are aware of one of our students demonstrating our TGS Core Values.

I would like to say a huge “thank you” for your continued support. It really does generate a lovely Abbas House spirit.

I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year
Best wishes,

Mrs N Wilby





Peyton

handing in lost jewellery; and being selected for the national training squad in Basketball are just 4 examples of the effort and achievements of our students this term. A huge well done to them and all those who have been nominated and awarded Values Certificates this term.

There have been a large number of house competitions this term and Peyton students have been busy entering and gaining good results in them. Well done to all those who have entered and keep those entries coming in for the current competitions.

Mr W Ponsford



A busy second half to the term has seen our first charity event 'TGS Goes Scary' raise nearly £300 towards our house charities. There was a huge response from the pupils from all houses with some amazingly creative designs on display. The house competition was judged by representatives from the Tom Bowdidge Foundation who came in especially on the day. A huge well done to all our entrants and especially our winners.

We are currently organising for our annual Christmas fair and our pupils are running a range of stalls to raise further money for charity. By the time you read this the event will have happened and I am sure, having seen the efforts some people have gone to, it will have been very successful.

The pupils of Peyton house have been busy displaying the school values in a wide variety of ways this term. Creating a video of the School's open evening using specialist equipment including a drone; having their art placed on display in a local Art Gallery;





hamberlain

on the work you have been completing in your forms on Theme of the Fortnight. Amazing Remembrance poems from JHe and many colourful displays from BRi.

- A special Well Done must go to Jack Wiffen who is now the Eastern Counties Boxing Champion!
 - I know many of you have been giving generously to the Operation Christmas Hamper – thank you for all of your contributions
 - I have seen so many fabulous entries to the competitions going on. Some very scary faces for Halloween – especially Riley Anderson & Chloe Tills Lines. Many of you sent me amazing Autumn photos – well done Olivia Turkentine for winning, and some of you have already sent me your entries to the Winter photo competition – don't worry there is still time for you to take more over the holidays. Some of you made amazing Birds of Peace which are displayed at The Apex in Bury St Edmunds – Billy Purser & Finn Woodward to name just two!
 - And finally our London to Brighton event was a huge success, arranged entirely by students in Chamberlain house we managed to raise £336 for our chosen charity – Suffolk Family Carers. Please let me know if you have any other ideas of how we can raise more money this year.
- As you can see that is a large amount of success and I know there is plenty more to come.
Thank you for making me the proudest Head of House and I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Miss J Hilson



I would like to take this opportunity to say a big Thank You to everyone in Chamberlain House. We have had a fabulous term with so many achievements I could not be prouder. I cannot possibly list everything but here are some of our highlights:

- Sam Beare, William Champken, Alexander Richford & Vinnie Young received glowing reports from The Royal Marines School Fitness Programme where I hear they had to complete a series of difficult physical tasks.
- Michael Gwynn, Katherine Chapman, Paige Gardiner & Evelyn Hughes took part in the Cross Country championships getting through to the next round with Michael getting through to the third round!
- We have had a record of 134 value nominations so far this half term with some outstanding winners for helping others, receiving letters from outside agencies recognising your hard work and positivity, not to mention the many activities which you take part in outside of school.
- Our House Board has changed every fortnight with the wonderful contributions based

London to Brighton

On November 15th 2017 the London to Brighton charity event took place in the sports hall after school. It was a series of obstacles going up and down the sports hall 5 times to complete one lap. 760 laps needed to be completed in 2 hours to make the distance from London to Brighton - 76km.

At the start it looked like we were not going to have enough people to complete the 760 laps however the basketball team joined in as their warm up and people from the gym also came down as well. After everyone had joined there were around 40-50 participants and the tallies for the laps came rolling in. After a while, once the gym had opened, the laps began to slow down. By 4.30pm we were nearly half way through, but thought that we wouldn't make it to 760 laps as people were getting tired and slowing down. However, due to the fantastic effort of all the students who took part, by the time it got to 20 minutes to go we knew we were going to do it. To keep up everyone's energy up Miss Hilson handed out sweets to the runners. By 5.45pm we had completed the 789 laps more than our target. The even better news was that having measured the course it was actually longer than we first thought so instead of covering the 76km we needed we had actually achieved 110km!

We would like to thank the people who participated in the London to Brighton event; you have really

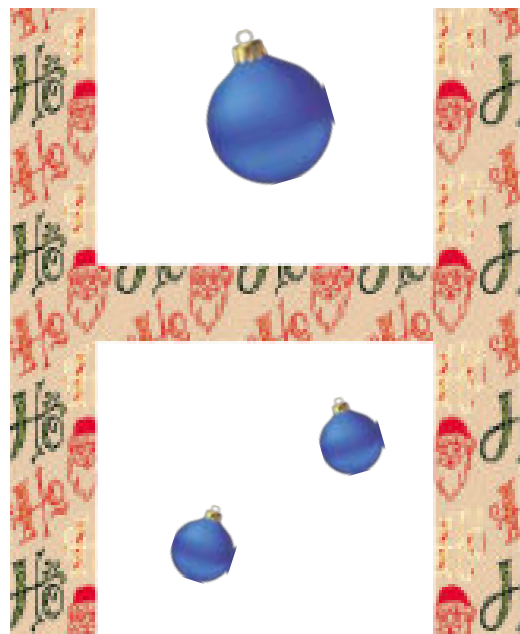
helped us raise money for a good cause. We would also like to thank everyone who contributed to the sponsorship money enabling us to raise £336 for Young Family Carers in Suffolk.

Lucy Amos & Briony Crawford



Houghton

October 2017



The last few weeks have been busy and exciting for all students, including an enrichment day, Children in Need events, exams for Year 11 and 13 students, clubs, competitions and sporting fixtures but, we've still had time to recognise many students' excellence, support for others and plan new charity events.

Honour: Award Nominees Winners

Each week tutors nominate students for their contributions to school and community life, and in Houghton nominees and winners in November have included: Ryan Bird (MSM) for receiving a reply from 10 Downing Street in response to a letter he wrote to them regarding electric cars; Maisie Young (GBr) and Bethany Skinner (TBa) for becoming a published author after entering the 500 words short story competition; Lucy Moore (RCa) coaching gymnastics every week at Wells Hall and fitting this in around her studies; Shannon Ambrose (JLo) who performed in the Disneyland Paris show over

half term and is a conscientious member of her class; Nadja Bearn (NBu) giving a box of essentials to an elderly friend who was unable to get them herself; Sonny Waterson (JWk) one of many who have consistent effort and an excellent attitude to learning in lessons, as well as making significant contributions to our excellent quiz scores.

Valour: Performers & Leaders

We are also enormously proud of and grateful to the students who have led our assemblies and organised activities for other students. As well as our house captains helping lead assemblies and present certificates we have had a range of talented students including Elicia Glass, Hannah McGrath Wells, Kiera Hall and Oliver Hughes performing.

Charity Events & Ideas

Our recent charity assembly featured student reading ambassadors and a group of younger students (Hannah Tinsley, James Hawkins & Kaitlin Riddle) speaking in assembly for the first time. Our chosen House charity for this year is the parent led group Friends of TGS who have already organised many events to raise money for the school. Along with the Penny Wars and Christmas Stalls we have plenty of new ideas for exciting events which we will run in the spring and summer terms.

An exciting start to the term for Houghton House sees Mr Ryall, as Patron of Houghton, leading assemblies and supporting students. Mrs Butcher also meets with tutors and house Captains each week. Both Mr Ryall and Mrs Butcher are available to help support and encourage any Houghton student throughout this term.

House Captains, Whips and Sport Leaders

We are extremely proud to have many excellent students in positions of responsibility within the House who work very hard to organise, lead and support other students. This year our House Captains are Ella Keep and Oscar Ashdown and their deputies are Connor Crowley and Mollie Pratt. The Captains are supported by the energising "Whips", Hannah Tinsley, Poppy Curran, Shannon Ambrose and Will Howard who work enthusiastically to encourage the involvement of other students in competitions and charity events. We also have the valuable support of two tireless sport captains Ben Lowe and Kaitlin Riddle. The vital role all these students play in the life of the House and the fine example they set to others is just one way in which our students serve and support one another.

New and established students have an impact in charity activities

The new Year 7s made a fantastic contribution to the first major charity event, the MacMillan Coffee Morning, by baking and buying cakes. Many other students also brought in cakes, helped at the stall and stayed behind to help tidy up. All

their hard work helped raise over £500 and we came second for the number of cakes produced with a beautiful and delicious sea of purple delicacies!

Sixth Form achievements

We also have two Sixth Form tutor groups in our House and we'd like to especially congratulate Reece Hartley in Year 13 for winning a Law essay competition organised by local solicitors Wayman and Long. We are also very impressed by Ollie Shennan in Year 12 who is a master at the weekly current affairs quiz, and also Bethany May, also Year 12, who you may spot frightening people at this year's Scareville! Houghton students can accomplish anything!

Assemblies to inspire and enthuse

Each Thursday morning we meet together as a House to celebrate our achievements. We have been able to recognise the success and hard work of almost 200 different students already for their progress, achievement, attendance, positive behaviour, exemplification of school values, musical exams and completing Royal Marines visibility training. Well done to all of you who have received certificates celebrating your achievements. In assemblies we have also learned about the history of maths, how the school parliament operates, the importance of targets and how to achieve them, how to become a reading ambassador. Assemblies have also featured wonderful musical performances from Elicia Glass, Hannah McGrath-Wells and Keira Hall.

Be Brave!

Our House motto, "Honour is the reward of valour", also reminds us of one of the assembly

messages to be brave in our learning, to try new things and work hard to support others. Well done Houghton on a great start to the term. Keep going throughout the year, and remember "Be Brave!"

Mr C Ryall



Tollemache

Wow what a busy term it has been! Thank you to all the students who have got involved and made Tollemache the generous house that it is.

The Halloween face painting event on 31st October gave us a chance to show off our artistic skills in a scary way with an impressive array of ideas on show, with all year groups taking part. This was followed with a variety of competitions including the birds of peace installation where over 460 students took part which was truly amazing. The birds are currently displayed in the Apex in Bury St Edmunds and I would encourage you to have a look at the display if you can.

The Autumn photography competition was a riot of colour with glorious images from around the county. Many of the students took the chance to show off some of those skills learned in their classes using filters and other techniques.

We are currently designing a school scarf that will be put

into production in the spring term. Tassels, house badges and even base colour are being hotly debated right now.

I am really looking forward to the Christmas Market seeing all of the houses working together to raise as much money as we can for the community charities chosen this year. Christmas is a time for giving and the market should be a really festive and joyous event to end the year.

With a new year we all have the opportunity for a new start. Maybe you would like to get more involved in school life and have ideas that Tollemache could put in place during the new term? Perhaps you would like to run a charity event or have an idea for a competition? You can approach our House captains or me (FRA Room 314) with any ideas.

As the end of term approaches I would like you all to reflect on your hard work this term. Take the festive break to relax with family and friends and recharge ready for the new term.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Mrs F Raleigh



Opera Visit

On Wednesday November 29th we travelled to London to The Royal Opera House in Covent Garden to see two Olivier Award winning operas - Cavalleria Rusticana and Pagliacci.

We had a clear view of the large orchestra pit which contained lots of instruments including 8 Cellos, 6 Double Bases, 2 Harps, 5 Timpanis and many more. To start the first opera, the orchestra, conducted by Daniel Oren, played an opening piece of music which set the tone of the first scene beautifully. The singing was incredibly strong, the performers didn't wear microphones and yet they projected their voices to the very back of the auditorium so that everything could be heard. Above the stage, there was a small screen where the dialogue had been translated into English, however, it was easy to follow the story as the acting was so convincing. The set was also impressive for both performances as the centre stage rotated during the action revealing different locations. It was an incredible experience to be able to hear the orchestra and performers live in such a fantastic venue.

Luke Woodhouse & Kayleigh Bishop



Enrichment Focus

This term it has been great to see so many of you come along and take part in our Enrichment Programmes. I hope you continue to enjoy these activities in the New Year.

Art Club Creates a Christmas Tree

Thank you to those you who have helped Art Club create the Thomas Gainsborough Tree at the Christmas Tree Festival this year in St Peter's Church. Through the club all of the trees decorations were designed, made and painted ready to create the tree.

This year the tree was a Traditional Polish Christmas Tree inspired by Martyna Jania. It represents what we want to give our family in the New Year – the red hearts symbolise love and family whilst the gold ribbons are for wealth and success – everything we wish for our family. Our special design team consisted of Martyna Jania, Savannah Shaddock, Ellagrace Wells, Maisie Higgs and Keeley McSweeney who worked extremely hard and demonstrated great team work to construct our tree in just an hour ready for the festival.



Textiles Workshop

Year 7, 8 and 9 students have been attending a textile design workshop after school as an alternative to 'minibus madness' to learn new skills and to create their very own textile product. The students learnt how to block print and dye their own fabric, how to use the sewing machine, and how to hand sew buttons on to create their very own craft bag.

Over the past 4 weeks a group of us attended a textiles workshop. We worked on making a bag. To do this we had to print patterns on materials to make our own bag material. The bag was challenging to make but all of us managed to complete it or take a button home to sew on. We all learned new skills and got the opportunity to enjoy doing something different. I really enjoyed making my bag and I would love to do something like it again as I was sad for it to end. Holly Samways 7ABo

In the textiles workshop we created a hobby bag. It was really fun and exciting to make something that was created from

scratch. We made our own fabric by printing and dyeing it. We then sewed the whole thing together ourselves. It was a really great accomplishment for all of us to create something new.

Laleh Birch

This has been a wonderfully rewarding and enriching experience for both the students and myself. The outcomes created were stunning! They all worked incredibly hard and I couldn't be more proud.

Miss Bowman



Mini Bus Madness The Blue Owl

On 28th November, Miss Hilson and Mrs Young took 10 students on a "Minibus Madness" trip to the Blue Owl pottery. It was a lovely building with a sweet little cafe as well. We had to choose a clay Christmas tree item to decorate and had all sorts of choices like Santa Claus, Rudolph, a snowman, a star and animals in Christmas stockings. We had an amazing time while painting and everyone was so focused we barely looked up from our work!

We were lucky enough to be able to go and see the kiln room and see all the pieces of art waiting to be fired. The kiln reaches 1000 degrees over 8 hours and takes the same time to cool down again. What makes the pottery shine is a green glaze which dries clear so at the end we left our work to be dipped and fired. Miss Hilson will collect and distribute them before Christmas. It was such a lovely, relaxing enjoyable trip that we hope to be able to go again.

Ellagrace Wells and Mrs K Young



Coming Next....

Our new Enrichment & Intervention timetables will be available in the New Year where we will see some new clubs joining the programme – including Nature Club, and the continuation of some old favourites.

Look at the Textiles Workshop running again due to popular demand More Minibus Madness where we hope to go back to The Blue Owl for some decopatch and more pottery painting and hopefully some local Historical visits and even Archery.

Miss J Hilson



On Tuesday 5th December students in Years 7 to 10 enjoyed a very valuable learning experience focussing on 'Living and working in modern Britain'. Students enthusiastically engaged in 'different' lessons enriching their personal, health and social care education.

We were delighted to welcome so many visitors who freely gave up their time to support our staff and students.

Unity in Diversity, in partnership with Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality and East of England Faiths Agency, facilitated workshops taking students on a journey, reflecting on Allport's Scale of Prejudice to explore how responses and actions to those of different faiths and culture can impact and the importance of mutual respect and tolerance. Jo Wilson from Unity said it had been a brilliant experience visiting an exceptional school with attentive and fully engaged students.

Ipswich Building Society who delivered their valuable and informative Money Metrics, providing students with the knowledge and confidence to make informed decisions about their finances.

Morwenna from the Teenage Cancer Trust was happy to return to TGS to talk to Year 10 students about 'Understanding Cancer Together' equipping them with the knowledge of early warning

Students in Year 9 welcomed Stacey and her team from



Enrichment Day

signs and how they can reduce their risk of cancer later in life through healthy lifestyle choices. Morwenna complemented our polite and engaged students.

Mrs T Welsh



Bronze Arts Award

Thomas Gainsborough School offer Year 8 students the opportunity to gain a Bronze Arts Award.

The Award is a unique qualification that enables students to grow as artists and arts leaders, inspiring them to connect with and take part in the wider arts world through taking challenges in an art form. The award enables you to:

- discover the enjoyment of creating and participating in any art form
- develop your creativity and leadership skills
- learn new skills and share them with others
- get to work with or experience working with creative arts professionals
- gain experience and knowledge to progress into further education and employment

To achieve their Arts Award, young people take on challenges in an art form, participate in arts activities, experience arts events, get inspired by artists and share their arts skills with others. Young people create a portfolio to keep a record of their creative journey. Along the way they are supported by an Arts Award adviser, acting as assessor, facilitator and mentor.

This year for the Bronze Arts Award I wanted to step it up a gear. I felt that the students needed to gain a greater experience of working within the community by developing links with our local church, St Andrews. This linked fantastically with our current art scheme of work being 'architecture' and the artist John Piper. John Piper was appointed an official War artist in WW2. His atmospheric paintings mainly showed bombed churches during that period. With that in mind I wanted students to connect to the beautiful architecture we have in our own local community. Working alongside our resident chaplain Mr Ian Copeman, I organised for the whole of Year 8 (273 students) to visit St Andrews church in Great Cornard. During their visit, students were given an historical talk about the church and then were able to draw and take photographs of parts that interested them.



The impact of this has been very notable from the ability to connect to their local community through interacting with the Chaplains, reverends and public to exploring the intricate patterns within the stained glass windows, stone carvings and incredible structure and materials of the church itself.

Miss L Nichol



Year 7 Published Authors

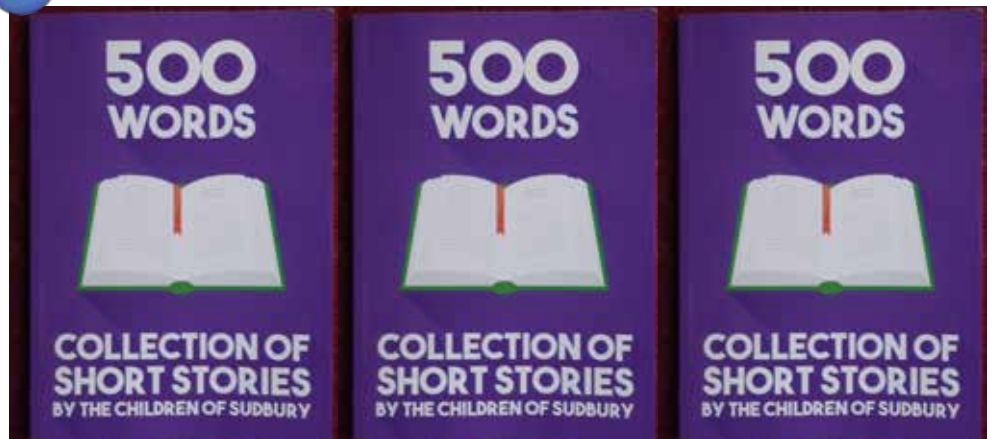
During the summer holiday there was an opportunity to enter a 500-word short story competition for 6-13 year olds, run by Sudbury library. The best 50 entries were published in a book, thanks to Lavenham Press, with an introduction written by the famous author of the Alex Rider books (on the TGS 50 list), and TV's Foyle's Law, Anthony Horowitz.

In his introduction Horowitz writes "[Everyone] should read this collection of short stories written by local children...Some of the ideas that you'll find here are quite amazing...These stories provide a wonderful illumination into the way young people think. I was also hugely impressed by the language used by many of the contributors."

The two winners received signed copies of the book at a presentation ceremony on November 4th and all contributors had the opportunity to purchase the book containing their story. I was really surprised to get my story in the book and feel very proud, even though I didn't win a category.

Congratulations to all the other Year 7 students who entered as well: Amy Howells (3rd place winner 10-13 category), Evie Barker and Rosie Gray.

Maisie Young



I really enjoy creative writing and for the past two years I have entered BBC Radio Two's Five Hundred Word Short Story Competition. I was really pleased to reach the second round of judging on both occasions. The competition was promoted through the Suffolk County Council Library Service and I was really excited about the prospect of getting my imagination published in a real book. I was inspired to write the story by a picture I saw of a strange ship sailing at night, The Rosalyn and was so pleased when I found out my creativity had made it through the final judging stage and was then published.



Archaeology Results

A big WELL DONE goes to the twelve students who took part in an Archaeological dig in Foxearth back in July. It is clear from the feedback we have received that the budding archaeologists certainly impressed the Cambridge University team, so congratulations. What makes it all the more impressive is that much of what the students were being assessed on was equivalent to the work Cambridge undergraduates would do. Here is a breakdown of the assessment:

All of the students scored incredibly highly in the Data Collection skills component proving a very clear ability to collect and process complex archaeological information. This was broken down into four skill sets:

1. technical proficiency
2. data collection and processing
3. measuring and recording and
4. working with others.

Of the twelve who took part in the dig seven achieved an A* or an A - truly exceptional.

This was

accompanied by similarly very high scores on the Personal Learning and Thinking Skills component of the assessment. This criteria

was broken down into six skill sets:

1. verbal communication
2. structured working
3. creative thinking
4. reflective learning
5. working with sustained effort and
6. persistence and team working.


This time six A*'s or A's were awarded - remarkable.

The third component of the assessment was the written report. This allowed the students to demonstrate a range of skills in:

1. writing
2. data analysis
3. technical report writing and
4. IT skills.



In many respects this was the most intellectually demanding aspect of the assessment and it had to be



fitted into their already demanding homework and holiday fun schedule. Despite these challenges it is a real pleasure to announce that two of our



Amy
Sparkes
Joanna
Wojciechowska

And of course to Mr Howe
and to all the staff who took part
and made it possible.

students
achieved A*'s,
so special mention
must go to Eliza
Betts and Aimee Sharp in
particular.

So a big thank you and much applause
to the TGS Archaeologists of the 2017

season:

Fred Adams
Eliza Betts
Lucy Bowes
Chloe Cowlin
George Dunn
Nicole Grumann
Dasie Houlden
Summer-May Humphreys
Lily Nayler
Aimee Sharp



Dr C Talbot



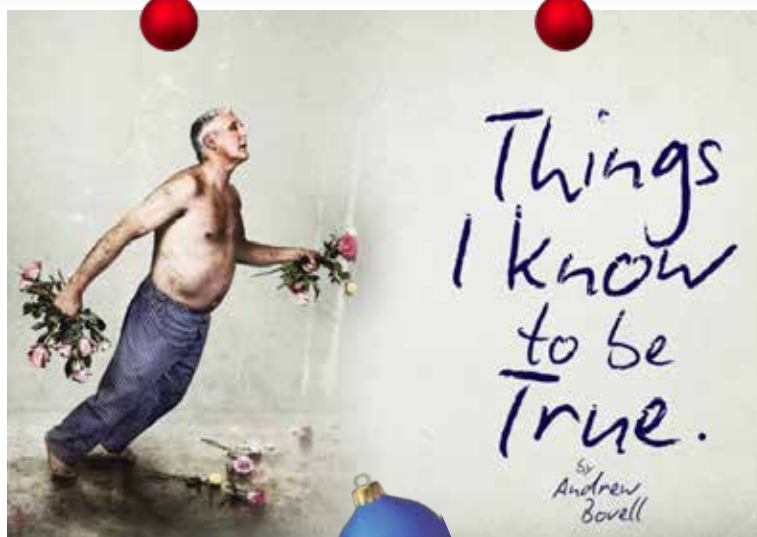
Things I Know to be True-GCSE Drama Trip

The Year 10 and 11 Drama students were lucky to witness Frantic Assembly's collaboration with a fantastic Australian theatre company at the Mercury Theatre this term. Having workshopped physical theatre in class, it was a great opportunity to see a professional physical theatre company at work.

Having taught drama for over 10 years, I have seen many productions and witnessed a great deal of powerful and moving theatre; however, nothing quite like this. The flawless movement and beautiful set and lighting encapsulated the journey of one family and their pain, loss, love and connection. Students and staff were both, unashamedly, moved to tears. We witnessed everything from heartbreaking lost first love, to a young transgender character's search for identity, this piece of theatre touched us all.

Truly breathtaking.

Mrs J Arrow



GCSE Drama & LAMDA Showcase

The Year 10 GCSE drama and LAMDA showcase on 15th November was a roaring success. Every seat was filled with performers, family and friends, students looking to take drama next year and individuals considering trying LAMDA. Multiple performances took place: several from the Year 10 drama class and many LAMDA students from lower year groups.

The GCSE drama students were showcasing their talent at devising from a stimulus. Their stimulus

explored issues surrounding social media and communication in the 21st century. The LAMDA students were performing pieces from their exams taken earlier in the year. The showcase brought talent, comedy and entertainment under one roof, and overall the night was a huge success.

Caitlin Smith



Year 11 GCSE Devised Drama Showcase

34 GCSE Drama students have been working on their devised pieces in preparation for their practical exam at the end of this term. In preparation for this, they invited friends, family and students to an evening to share their work. Students presented some creative pieces of drama exploring issues ranging from teenager grief, to religious identity. For some students this was their first public performance and they combated their nerves well. For others, who have performed many times, this was a chance to showcase work of their own creation, in many cases, work that was very personal and moving. I congratulate all of the students on their performances and I know they will pull out all the stops for their upcoming exam.



Mrs J Arrow



Panto Visit

Christmas started early for over 80 Year 7 Drama students when they visited The Mercury Theatre in Colchester to see their annual pantomime Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, as part of this term's unit of work. Sitting close to the stage, it wasn't long before we were booing the evil queen, chatting to the dame and shouting "it's behind you" at the spooky ghost. The panto used a mix of actors and puppets, and with its bright coloured set and vivid costumes was an excellent example for the students to use in their own work. A fun time was had by both students and teachers and was the perfect way to start December.

Mrs K French

Global Maths Week

This term held global maths week, so the whole school was celebrating maths. Each House was presented with an assembly about the history of maths and how it has evolved over time. As part of maths week, we were told about a website called Exploding Dots which is about trying new ways to do addition, multiplication, subtraction and division. It is an educational game, which is also great fun to play around with. It has improved my maths skills, especially algebra in the harder levels. This is an



amazing website and I would definitely recommend this site to other people who would like to improve their maths in a fun way. I have really enjoyed global maths week this year and I am looking forward to the next one.

Jessica Print & Lottie Cooper





TechFuture Girls



- Girls ONLY club
- Tech Girl? Want to know more? Between 11-14?
- Creative Coding, Sport and Fitness, Cyber Safety and more
- Challenges with digital badges
- Complete with How2 guides and copyright-free images and music to use in the challenges

- Using your school email, sign-up at <https://learning.thetechpartnership.com/login/signup.php?>
- Need help? See Mr Oliver in R113 at lunch

Access

As part of their work on Health and Wellbeing, Students in Access 2 got the chance to review the website of Delyth Johnson, a Nutrition and Wellbeing Therapist. Through Miss O'Beirne the class were able to ask Delyth some questions about why she chose her profession and what her hopes were for her website. Delyth was delighted that her website could be used to promote awareness of health and wellbeing in schools and has even offered us a Skype call to contribute to future learning.

Miss T O'Bierne



Take your power back & transform your health, your wellbeing, your life.

On Thursday 22nd November Mr Copeman came in to the Access class. He talked about Simon of Sudbury, the Archbishop of Canterbury during the Peasants' Revolt. Mr Copeman brought with him a model of Simon's skull, which is the only one in the world. It was made using images from a scan made of Simon's head which is in St Gregory's church in Sudbury. He also brought a model of what Simon's head might have looked like when he was alive.

Mr Copeman told us that Simon's head was chopped off because the peasants blamed him for the poll tax and that it took seven chops with the axe to chop it off.

Billy Purser



Library

The following students were busy during the Summer holidays and deserve recognition of their achievements.

Summer Reading Challenge - read 6 books during the Summer;

Alex Hayward, Ruth McGrath-Wells, Jarius Pinto, Aaliyah Rivett, Rebecca Wingar and Rachael Wren

Great reading throughout the Summer holidays! Well done!

Imagination Reading Challenge and Creative Challenge;

Aaliyah Rivett, Sydney Batt, Nadja Bearn, Maisie Young, Jarius Pinto, Rosie Young, Isabella Ludlow, Daisy Houlden, Kaitlin Riddle and Katie Bitten

A challenge to be creative and read during the summer, some lovely art work produced to encourage others to read, Well done!

Volunteering in the Library during the Summer;

Mabel Frost, Thomas Dudden, Hannah McGrath-Wells, Megan Turner, Kaitlin Riddle, Abbie Manser, Daisy Houlden, Katherine Chapman, Fay Dover, Rebecca Harding
Carolina Jacobs, Molly Houlden, Alanah Reeve, Amy Sparkes, Ethan Rivett and Esther Troughton

These students volunteered for a total of 230 hours to encourage younger children to complete the 6 book challenge during the summer holidays. Fantastic role models. Well done!

Shelf Help Project Winners;

Thomas Dudden, Chloe Walker and Katie Bugg

These students produced a marketing plan to promote a reading list for their peers to read well

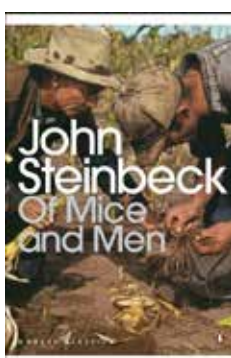
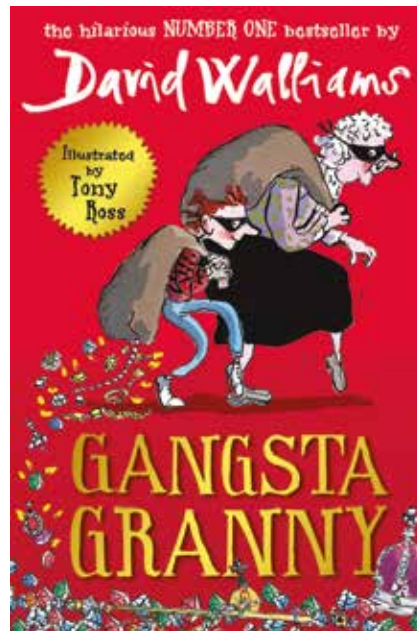
about bullying, stress and self-esteem. They won £500 for the school to spend on resources on young peoples' wellbeing. Well done!



The Library is hosting the class rounds of Book Mastermind this Half Term. We have almost 300 students taking part across years 7, 8 and 9. The students have been answering questions on their chosen book in timed conditions to be the one of the top scorers. It has been a fantastic competition so far with the students answering questions on a variety of different books including Harry Potter, Of Mice and Men and Gangsta Granny by David Walliams. The School final of Book Mastermind will take place on Wednesday 10th January for the top 10 scorers in the class rounds to compete for the title of TGS Book Mastermind Champion. The students will be choosing a different book in this round and will be also answering some general knowledge questions. The TGS Book Mastermind Champion will then compete against other schools in Suffolk.

Book Mastermind is a competition open to all pupils in Years 7-9 and is a vehicle for promoting reading across Suffolk. It is organised by Suffolk Libraries, Literacy, Books and Reading Team for Schools (previously called Schools Library Service). The competition starts in schools with winners from each school competing in area finals. The county final includes workshops by leading authors for young people. The winning school keeps the trophy for a year and receives £200 worth of books.

Mrs H Welch



Christmas and New Year opening times

Thursday 21 December - 2pm-7pm (We close for lunch 1.00-1.30)

Friday 22 December - 10am-5pm during school holidays)

Saturday 23 December - 10am-3pm

Sunday 24 December - 10am-12.30pm

Monday 25 December - closed

Tuesday 26 December - closed

Wednesday 27 December - closed

Thursday 28 December - 2pm-7pm

Friday 29 December - 10am-5pm

Saturday 30 December - 10am-3pm

Sunday 31 January - 10am-3pm

Monday 1 January - closed

Tuesday 2 January - 10am-1pm

Wednesday 3 January - closed

Thursday 4 January - term opening times apply



Year 7 and the Ovid Storytelling Project

This term, Year 7 took part in the Ovid Storytelling Project, a competition run in conjunction with the Classics Faculty at Cambridge University. In English lessons, students listened to a range of myths from Ovid's Metamorphoses collection recorded by award-winning storytellers, Hugh Lupton and Daniel Morden. Then, they chose a myth to re-tell in a modern and creative way. Students embraced the challenge and began re-telling with gusto! From the creation of a chess board with mythical figurines to a cake inspired by King Midas and The Golden Touch, there was a range of originality and creativity demonstrated!

The winning entries from each of the English groups are as follows:
7G1: Evie Barker, Edward Burbidge, Sophie Johnston, Maisie Young, Gabriel Bailey, Ellie Andrews, Katy Branch, Noelani Upton and Rosie Gray

7G2: Charlie Hill

7B1: Oriel Hopkins, Amber Collins, Kate Leonard, Summer Collins, and Lizzie Crowley

7B2: Lilly Elms and Joshua Gilson

7D1: Holly Badge, Lily Gittings, Tamika Mc Knight, Lilly Packham, and Jack Parker

7D2: Will Parson

7S1: Lottie Sears, Michael Gwynn, Braden Webster, Oliver Mullans,

7S2: Jamie Wood

7S3: Harry Mullan, Amber-Louise Partridge, Toby Hogger and Paige Gardiner

7S4: Freya Cattermole and Rachel Wren

It was very difficult to choose the winners, but two video clip entries stood out above the rest for their originality. Lottie Sear's interpretation of Pandora's Box cleverly brought the myth into the modern day, using the opening of text messages as the catalyst for the release of evils such as global warming and political unrest. Evie Barker and Edward Burbidge's excellent stop motion animation of King Midas and the Golden Touch, with the intricate drawings and imaginative use of props, was mesmerising.

These students were invited to a prize-giving event at Cambridge University where they browsed the collection at the Cast Gallery and listened to another story from an award-winning storyteller. The judges were very impressed with TGS's entries: Lottie received an honorary mention and Evie and Edward's animation was awarded joint-second place! A successful afternoon all round!

Overall, it has been a very positive experience – one we look forward to taking part in again next year!

Miss R Furey



It All Starts At Yes!



I was part of Wave 4 NCS this summer, and it was a really exciting, unforgettable experience. I met some amazing people who I am proud to call my new friends! It was a challenging few weeks that pushed me out of my comfort zone, which made me learn more about my own strengths and weaknesses. I did things which I never thought I could do, but NCS gave me the opportunity to try - for example, on the first week I completed the leap of faith, which involved jumping from a small platform at height! Overall, I would highly recommend going on NCS as it will push you to be the best you can be, and will of course boost your CV.

Fran Perkins-Taylor

NCS was a very rewarding experience, and one that I will treasure, as I spent it with a group of my peers, and a group of strangers that were soon to become my friends. While on NCS, I had fun, and tackled problems, in a way that was enjoyable and a fun challenge. NCS enabled me, and the others in my group, to make a difference to our community in both terms of charity, and awareness. We chose to do a social action project

on positivity and mental health within Bury St Edmunds, and in choosing this, we made a positivity wall to display within the Apex, and raised money for the London-based charity, the Centre for Mental Health.

Isabella Marie



IT ALL STARTS AT YES

Grab the opportunity of
a lifetime this summer!

You'll get the chance
to abseil, rock climb,
discover new places &
much more...



Jump in to NCS in Summer 2018!



Enjoy your very own NCS
Festival Week! Live
Performing Acts, your
chance to shine & make
new friends.

IT ALL
STARTS AT
YES

*Students in Year 11 will be provided
with information regarding
participation in NCS in
January 2018.*

Parents' Safeguarding Bulletin

Stop, Speak, Support Cyberbullying Prevention Campaign

Duke of Cambridge Launches National Action Plan to Tackle Cyberbullying.

The internet has opened our world to exciting opportunities, giving young people a view of the world their parents could only dream of. But with it has come a new ferocity to bullying that can follow a child wherever they go. Cyberbullying is a serious threat to happy, healthy childhoods and in the most serious cases can ruin lives.

After more than 18 months of work, the Taskforce has created an Action Plan, which is designed to kick-start a new approach to support young people when they are using social media and gaming platforms. Chaired by tech entrepreneur Brent Hoberman CBE, the Taskforce members include: The Anti-Bullying Alliance; Apple; BT; The Diana Award; EE; Facebook; Google; Internet Matters; NSPCC; O2; Sky; Snapchat; Supercell; TalkTalk; Twitter; Vodafone and Virgin Media.

Stop, Speak, Support The Code of Conduct Campaign

The Duke of Cambridge believes that our largest social media, technology, gaming, communication service providers and media companies have a positive opportunity to create the solution to support our children online, and to help children feel empowered to question online behaviour, speak out and support their friends.

All young people should feel able to look out for their friends, to stop the bullies, to speak out and to get support. The young people on the Taskforce said they had rules and guides for every part of their life – but not online. This is the 'green cross code' for the web.

The Stop, Speak Support code includes:

STOP

- Action 1: Take time out before getting involved, and don't share or like negative comments.

- Action 2: Try and get an overview of what's really going on.

- Action 3: Check the community guidelines for the site you're on.

SPEAK

- Action 1: Ask an adult or friend that you can trust for advice.

- Action 2: Use the report button for the social media it's happening on.

- Action 3: Speak to one of the charities set up to help with situations like this, such as Childline.

SUPPORT

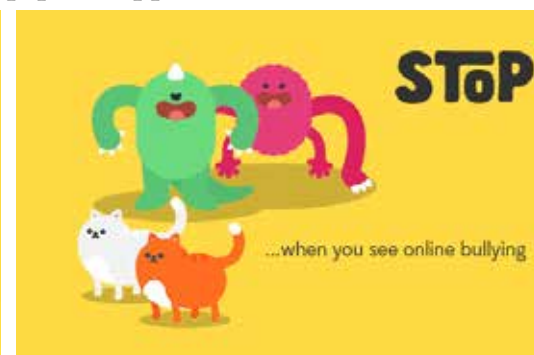
- Action 1: Give the person being bullied a supportive message to let them know they're not alone.

- Action 2: Encourage the person being bullied to talk to someone they can trust.

- Action 3: Give the person being bullied a positive distraction from the situation.

The promotional campaign to highlight the code will run for three months until 'Safer Internet Day', and seeks to reach every single 11-16 year old in this country. The aim is to empower all young people to take a stand against bullying.

For more information visit www.stopspeaksupport.com



Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day 2018 will be celebrated globally on Tuesday 6th February with the slogan 'Create, Connect and Share Respect: a better internet starts with you.'

Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. The UK Safer Internet Centre – a partnership of three leading charities; Childnet, the South West Grid for Learning and the Internet Watch Foundation – provide resources for children, schools and families, and tools for getting involved at www.saferinternet.org.uk.

Globally, Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries, coordinated by the joint Insafe/INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission, and national Safer Internet Centres across Europe. The day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. It calls upon young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers, and wider, to join together in helping to create a better internet. Get involved to play your part! At Thomas Gainsborough School, we will be exploring further how we can use and utilise the technology we have in a safe, responsible and purposeful way. If

you want to get involved and join myself and others as a Student Digital Leader, get in touch: joliver@tgschool.net

#SID2018

UK Safer Internet Centre

The UK Safer Internet Centre is a partnership of three leading charities – Childnet International, South West Grid for Learning (SWGfL) and the Internet Watch Foundation - with a shared mission to make the internet a better place for children and young people.

The partnership was appointed by the European Commission as the Safer Internet Centre for the UK in January 2011 and is one of the 31 Safer Internet Centres of the Insafe network.

The UK Safer Internet Centre delivers a wide range of activity to promote the safe and responsible use of technology by children and young people:

- coordinates Safer Internet Day in the UK, reaching millions every year
- founded and operates an online safety helpline for professionals working with children in the UK, including teachers and police officers
- operates the UK's hotline for reporting online child sexual abuse imagery
- develops new advice and educational resources for children, parents and carers and teachers to meet emerging trends in the fast-changing online environment
- delivers education sessions for children, parents, carers, teachers and the wider children's workforce, including free events across the UK
- trains children and young people to be peer educators and champions for the safe and positive use of technology
- shapes policy at school, industry and government level, both in the UK and internationally, and facilitates youth panels to give young people a voice on these issues.

For more information visit www.saferinternet.org.uk and the websites of the partners: Childnet, the Internet Watch Foundation and SWGfL.



Christmas Fair



Christmas Jumpers





We can't help everyone, but
everyone can help someone...

TGS 2017/18 CHARITIES



The East Anglian Air Ambulance is an air ambulance providing Helicopter Emergency Medical Services across the counties of Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire.



Suffolk Family Carers provide advice and support to those who look after a family member or relative.



The Friends raise funds for Thomas Gainsborough School.



The Befriending Scheme provides friendship and learning opportunities for people (16yrs+) from vulnerable groups.



The Foundation is headquartered in Colchester and its aim is to fund projects that support teenage cancer sufferers and their families.

ONE GOOD DEED CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING

It's the most
wonderful
time of the
year

Thomas Gainsborough School
WINTER CONCERT

13th December 2017
7PM



Open Evening Success



We are extremely pleased to report that the Sixth Form open evening held on 9th November was a huge success.

With over 300 students and parents attending, many of whom came from other schools, there was a definite buzz around G Block that evening.

As well as informative talks from Mr Alexander and Mr Lloyd, the prospective Sixth Formers and their families were given the opportunity to find out about their potential subject choices, not only from the course teachers, but from a whole host of fabulously enthusiastic student subject ambassadors.

Visitors were given demonstrations of how to navigate their way around our fantastic Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form App, which is a vital communication link between the Sixth Form team and students. On the App they were able to complete a survey giving feedback on how they felt the open evening had gone. The results we had were extremely encouraging, with 100% of responses rating the evening as “very helpful” overall.

We would like to thank all the staff and students involved in the evening for making it a big success, and remind all year 11 students to get their Sixth Form applications to us by the 20th December.



West Suffolk Hospital Visit

On Friday 3rd November a small group of Year 13 students visited West Suffolk Hospital to find out more about what it's like to work in the NHS.

The day started out with an early morning drive to Bury St Edmunds. We went to West Suffolk Hospital's education centre and listened to a welcome speech by Diane Last, the Education Coordinator. After that, key note speaker Dr Siklos talked to us about the NHS constitution and values amongst other things. It was a real insight into how the NHS views medical students and how important the morals are of the people

who work in the NHS.

Later we split into groups and went to do different activities. The first one I did was to go into the clinical skills lab where we learnt to take manual blood pressures, the different kind of weight bearing statuses and how to resuscitate an unconscious patient. These were interactive and for me were the highlight of the day.

We also had a talk from the A&E manager Mark Manning, where he described a case study of an elderly man and how rewarding working to save his life is and all of the different jobs that were involved in saving his life. We then had a talk on interview technique and the importance of first impressions.

After lunch we had a talk from head nurse Rowan Proctor. She told us how she had to stabilise a patient outside of hospital which was outside of her comfort zone. She spoke about the rewards of that and how rewarding a career in the NHS can be. After that we had the career market place where we could network with different people. I was able to talk to a foundation doctor and a medical student. Overall the day was incredibly informative.

Eden Arkesden



On Enrichment Day on 5th December, Year 12 were visited by several members of the University of Suffolk Team, who gave interesting workshops about applying to university, writing personal statements and life as a student. We even found out what universities are looking for in a UCAS application, and common myths about university finance. We also had a talk from AIM Apprenticeships, where we found out about the wide variety of apprenticeships available and the benefits of going straight into the world of work. Overall, each talk and activity was incredibly informative and covered many potential options for everyone in different careers, whether academic or vocational. I now feel even more prepared for deciding my next steps after TGS.

Francesca Perkins-Taylor

I found the enrichment day very helpful as it provided more information on next steps about after Sixth Form, whether that be attending a university or completing an apprenticeship. Throughout the day, we were given information which made the next steps more realistic and achievable. It also put in perspective that even this early into A-Levels, you need to be considering and researching what you want to do afterwards. Overall, I found the day helpful because it gave strong guidance about what I need to be doing in order to prepare for the application process towards the end of Year 12 and the beginning of Year 13.

Teia Yule





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Cross Country

Anna and Joe Robson ran at the Suffolk Schools XC at Culford.

The conditions were good for running: cold and dry, with little wind, and dry underfoot. The course at Culford is flat and fast, but the races are a bit longer than usual (to compensate for the lack of hills!). The Senior Boys ran 7.5km – Joe was 10th. The Junior Girls ran 3.5km – Anna was 28th.

Anna and Joe go through to the next round – at Woodbridge on the 11th January.

Thanks for encouraging running and XC at TGS. Anna has only just started running again, but she is keen to start training properly and hopes to do GCSE PE next year. They both ran at the Eastern Counties XC Championships a couple of weeks ago (Anna was 10th in U15 Girls; Joe was 7th in the U17 Boys).



Netball Trip

On Friday 24th November, a group of students had the fantastic opportunity of going to the Copper Box to watch England vs Malawi. The speed of the game was phenomenal and watching Netball so advanced was great for the students to see and they learnt a lot. This inspired the students to develop their own knowledge and skills. England had a brilliant start to the game but then Malawi came back strong for it to finish 66-60 to England. This was a brilliant game to watch and something which all the students would like to experience again.

Kaitlin Riddle



5-a-side-Football

On Tuesday 21st November the following students competed in a 5-a-side football tournament at County Upper: Katilin Riddle, Madison Gardiner, Paige Gardiner, Esther Joes-Adom, Dedorah Joes-Adoms, Millie Dextor, Anna-belle Krigsman and Zoe Degan. The students played 6 matches and won five of them and scored 10 goals in total, in which Paige scored 8 and Zoe and Esther scored one each.

The students came second on

goal difference and should be proud of themselves for their tremendous teamwork and what they achieved.

Kaitlin Riddle and Madison Gardiner

Badminton Competitions

This half term we have had two badminton tournaments in which we took a U16 boys team and a U14 boys and girls team. The U16 tournament we took two teams which consisted of: Mikey Watson, Ben Branch, Oli Judge, Dan Meekings, Jake Brace, Harry Arter, Joe Rodgers and Ethen Hardy. The students were involved with both singles and doubles and tried really hard but they were up against very tough opposition, therefore they did not progress onto the next round.

The U14 boys team consisted of Kyle Brown and Ben Mallinson who played doubles and Charlie Wilson and Josh Adamson who played singles. The boys played incredibly well and the stand out performance goes to Charlie. Charlie had only been at our school one week and to already represent our school is a fantastic effort. Charlie won all of his matches and beat all of the first seeded players from the other schools.

The students who represented our school for the U14 girls team was: Niamh Bailey and Olivia Ford who played doubles, where as Celeste Barthropp and Evie Prager played singles. All the girls were exceptional and won every

SPORTS NEWS

match they played. Therefore the team has progressed to the County Final on the 26th January, where we wish the girls the best of luck.



Trust Games Cross Country

On Monday 20th November we took 14 Year 7 and 8 students over to Castle Manor for cross country to compete against all the schools in the Samuel Ward Academy Trust. All the students we took ran exceptionally well and finished in the top 30 for their age group and gender. Stand out performance to Tamika McKnight and Paige Gardiner took the top two positions for the Year 7 girls and Corey Shields came 2nd in the Year 8 boys competition.

Indoor Athletics

Thomas Gainsborough has been a host for the Year 5 and 6 indoor athletics competition for the heats and the western area final this half term. During this event we had 20 sports leaders from Year 8 grammar to lead the event on both these occasions. The students were responsible for the timing of races, measuring distances of jumps and throws, and assisting the primary schools with anything they needed help

with. The stand out leader went to Tilly Motts as she consistently went above and beyond her roles of a leader and helped support a staff member organise and run the tournament. Overall, both schools, students and parents commented on how fantastically well leaders represented our school.

The Year 7 A team did really well against Thurston even though we lost 14-6. Firstly, they are a very hard team to play against and they worked well as a team. Secondly, as a team I think we really supported each other both when we were on and off the court which helped to motivate us, which was good to see and hear. We also spent time cheering on the B team too. Thirdly we all tried our best and that's what matters. I hope everyone decided to continue playing netball and go to netball club on a Thursday after school and Monday lunch time. There is also extra time to play netball at Gems netball club on a Thursday evening 7-8:30.

Tamika McKnight (Year 7 netball captain).



Netball

The U12 A and B netball teams have got off to a great start this year with both training and fixtures. Their participation to after school and lunch time netball club is outstanding which has in turn lead to significant progress in their abilities. Despite falling short of a few goals in some of their matches the Year 7 A team have had fantastic wins against OSA and Stour Valley and are rapidly increasing in confidence. Our star player of the season is awarded to Madison Dunne who is a key player for the team due to her motivation and positivity. Additionally, a special recognition goes to the Year 7 A teams' captain Tamika McKnight who continually uses her experience in netball to help team mates improve. As a result of this, many of the team have taken it upon themselves to take up netball outside of school at Gems Netball Club in Sudbury due to Tamika's involvement with the club.

The U13 netball teams have again had a fantastic season and have demonstrated their commitment to netball in vast numbers by consistently attending after school and lunch time netball. There are several key players of the Year 8 netball team, however each and every individual contributes significantly. They have had some high scoring games against OSA and KEGS and have only slightly missed out against competitors such as Sybil Andrews. We

SPORTS NEWS

have seen significant changes to both A and B teams over the course of the year which has led to increased team cohesion during game time, the girls' commitment will see them continue to go from strength to strength.

Despite a tough season the U14 netball team have shown incredible resilience this year during fixtures and continue to persevere as a team. Alongside this, many of the girls regularly attend club in a bid to develop as a team and are starting to see high levels of progress as they work alongside each other on court. We have nominated Ella Mae-Bloomfield as star player of the season for her continual hard work and captaincy of the team. She is a fantastic netballer and a role model to students in younger year groups.



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the last hurdle. The girls work fantastically as a team and every individual contributes to we would like to award the star player of the season as Milly Watson due to her commitment to club and also working with younger year groups. We would also like to highlight Mollie Pratt for her continued resilience in the face of adversity throughout the season.

The U16 netball team have had a fantastic season on court this year and despite some challenging matches, have worked their way to success on numerous occasions. Their first success of the season was against Stowupland where they stole a win at 16-15. They then went on to win against St Benedict's where they won 8-1 and finished off the season with an incredible 24-1 against rivals County Upper. The girls continually play to an impeccably high standard of netball and have a bright future together as a cohesive team. We would like to highlight Jessica Arkesden for her continued organisational skills of the team. Additionally, we would like to award the player of the season to Chloe Adamson for her support within defence.



Basketball U16 & U14 V Samuel Ward

The U15 netball girls have had a great season on court this year and have consistently played to a high standard of netball. In particular, in their first game of the year against Thurston, a usually very tough rival, the girls showed fantastic team work and came out with an 11-6 win. They then went on to win against Stowupland, and also get into the semi Finals of the Western Area Netball Tournament, unfortunately losing out to Finborough at

TGS invited Samuel Ward over for a double header basketball match on Wednesday 6th December. It was the first game for both age groups and this was seen early on as TGS were very unorganised defensively. TGS grew as the game progressed

SPORTS NEWS

and improved both defensively and in attack, creating lots of scoring opportunities and limiting Samuel Wards chances. Overall both teams played very well but both ended up losing out to Samuel Ward. However shot of the game must go to Harry Stephens who scored a 3 point shot just beating the buzzer in his TGS basketball Debut. Well done to all of the players involved! We now look forward to inviting County Upper over for our next game on Monday.

Football (County Cup) U16 V Newmarket

TGS and Newmarket have met already in the league with TGS winning 3-1 in a very close game. TGS started on the front foot creating lots of early chances in the first 20 minutes resulting in 2 goals being scored, one by Will Egglestone and the other by Jack Wiffen. Newmarket finished the half strong and then took this into the next half starting well and scoring a penalty. TGS then woke up and started playing and creating chances. This led to TGS scoring 2 more goals, one from Max New and then Jack Wiffen scoring again to make the score 4-1. Overall the boys played very well as a team and have now progressed into the next round of the county cup. Well done!

Girls Basketball

The under 14 and under 16 basketball teams have had a busy few weeks of matches. There have been some fantastic performances, lots of teamwork and some great learning opportunities for our students. We have had a mixture of results so far for both teams, with the under 14 team beating OSA but unfortunately losing to County Upper and Westley, which resulted in them not going through to the semi final round this year. The under 16s won their matches against OSA and St Benedict's, but lost a very close match against County Upper School and the end result was 23-29 to County Upper. This means that the under 16 team will go through to the semi final round and will be playing against Thurston Community College on Friday 15th December. If they win this match, they will be through to the Suffolk county basketball finals. Good luck girls.



Sudbury Rugby Landrover Cup 2017

6.30 am The Sudbury Rugby Club under 12's boarded the coach, heading to Northampton Saints training ground to take part in the Landrover Cup. After 2 and half hours we got off the coach and left with a stomach full of sweets and chocolate. The first match for Sudbury didn't go well. We unfortunately lost 1:0. But by the second match our brains clicked into rugby mode and forgot about all the sweets and chocolate and went onto win all of our matches to get us into the final. The final was a hard fight with Sudbury keeping 80% possession of the ball but unfortunately one

SPORTS NEWS

of the opposition managed to slip through our defence and score a try in the last second.

The day was not over, we then went on to watch the Saints vs Wasps and at half time we were allowed to walk around the pitch in our teams live on T.V.

After the match had finished we got to take pictures with some of the players and get their signature. Still excited we went back home to Sudbury Rugby Club with great memories and loads of pictures.

Sudbury Rugby Club welcomes everyone, doesn't matter about your size or shape as there is an important place for everyone on the team. Come and join us and start playing RUGBY.



Alex Cadeddu & Flynn Taylor

Rugby

I competed in the Ryvita Touch National Rugby Finals as a member of the U 15's Midlands Cambridge Junior Squad. We participated in a series of round robin matches against other regions. This tournament was also an opportunity to be selected for the England Squad as they had invited England Scouts to watch us play. Around two weeks later, I received an email regarding squad selection, from the coordinator of the England Junior Touch Association. They informed me that I had made the

selection for the England High Performance Training Squad for U15's Mixed, U18's Girls and U18's Mixed teams.

Thea Dawson



Hockey

Maxi learnt to play hockey at TGS in Year 7 where he went to club once a week. Through a lot of hard work and dedication Maxi came on leaps and bounds in his hockey ability. Mr Chiang recognised his talent and nominated Maxi to go to a hockey tournament where scouts chose Maxi to play for the U15 Suffolk Hockey team, which is part of the England Academy. This is an outstanding achievement, especially with only 3 years of playing experience.

Maxi played his first tournament representing Suffolk at Culford where he played against Norfolk and Essex. Sadly they lost their games but they were incredibly close and Maxi took a lot away from the games. Maxi now trains with Sudbury Hockey Club where he hopes to develop even more as a player. Maxi plays for their U16 team and has played several games for the men's team.

We are incredibly proud of Maxi's rapid progress in this sport and we hope he continues going from strength to strength.

Ms N Buchanan



As always, the Careers Hub has been very busy with 3,383 students visiting the Hub since October.

We have had tutor groups visiting during registration to find out all about careers and the opportunities open to each year group. Students have been actively coming down to place evidence into their Record of Achievement folders; Years 7 and 8 have been very enthusiastic about the half ribbon awards scheme that was launched in September.

On Wednesday 18th October, Careers took 260 Year 9 students to the Suffolk Skills Show in Ipswich. The event is designed to give students an overview of the agricultural and allied industries and present them with careers choices available to school leavers within the industry. The students enjoyed getting involved with activities such as engineering, nail painting and hairdressing, brick laying, chocolate welding, building a PC and a mini simulator along with many other "have a go" activities. The students all had a "passport" to encourage them to interact with employers by collecting signatures. They all came away feeling very inspired by the employers. Elodie Reeves was very lucky to win an Ipad Touch from a car company at the show.



Alana Pilbrow from Suffolk Apprenticeships came in to talk to students about the opportunities apprenticeships offer for one of our Employer Workshops. This was well attended by all year groups and gave an insight into apprenticeships.

Future Employer workshops booked for the New Year include:
West Suffolk College on 18/1/18
The Air Training Corps on 25/1/18

University of Suffolk Radiography department on 8/2/18

All students can sign up to attend these work shops (which are run over lunch time) in the Careers Hub.



On Enrichment day on Tuesday 5th December, the Speed Networking event for Year 8 students was very successful. We were supported by over 25 employers for the event, which involved 278 students in groups of 4/5 speaking to individual employers for a 5 minute period before moving onto the next employer and so on. The aim was to allow students to network with as many employers as possible during the course of the day. The students then went back to class to reflect on the discussions had and the questions they had prepared in advance.

The employers were very

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impressed with our students with many comments made about the positive attitude students displayed, the sensible questions asked and how well mannered they all were.

Some of the employers also took part in the mock interviews for our Year 13 form students during the day. Students were required to prepare a personal statement, UCAS application and CV for their interview and all agreed it was a valuable experience in preparation for their journey post TGS.



Work experience has seen over 100 secured placements for Year 10 and Year 12 students since September. The placements have been varied and include:

The Bridge Project

Automotion

The Mill Hotel

Ardmore Vets

Primary Schools

Gainsborough's House

Hair Salons

Offshoot Films

Microsoft in Cambridge

Mindshare in London

British Telecom

Tesco Head Office

These are just a few of the employers, there are too many to list!

Year 10 and Year 12 students have been proactive in coming to the Careers Hub to request work experience and making sure their CV's and personal statements are up to date in order to make a good impression on prospective employers.

The Careers team would like to thank all of the employers who have given our students the opportunity of work experience. It proves very valuable for students to gain an insight into the world of work. Well done to all students who have completed their work experience.



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Operation Christmas is now in full swing. Many students have signed up to help decorate the Christmas hampers and tutor groups are bringing in food and gifts to make up the hampers. These will be given to various charities before the end of term to help people less fortunate than ourselves.



Employer Interaction Information

Do you want to get involved?

Work Experience for Years 10 -13

Each student has an entitlement to 15 days work experience between Years 10 – 13. The programme is a personalised and quality experience. Students are encouraged to do work experience at any time during the school year. A risk assessment of the workplace may be required; this is undertaken by a qualified member of staff. An agreement form must be signed by the employer. The student must be supervised and will be visited during work experience by a member of the careers team. Full employer information will be shared prior to the placement commencement. All students have a Work Experience Logbook. Employer Workshops Employers visit Thomas Gainsborough School to present 30 minute workshops in the Careers Hub to introduce students

to careers in their industry. The employers give advice on employment applications and apprenticeships. The workshops are usually held at around 1pm. A projector is available for use for power point presentations and videos, or employers may sit around a table for an informal discussion.

Sixth Form Assemblies

We encourage employers and alumni to book to present for 20 minutes to sixth form students during assembly.

Enrichment Days – we have three per year

Mock Interviews for Year 10 and Year 13 Students

Employers are invited into school to conduct mock interviews for students. The employers are supplied with a list of students to interview; this is usually 9-10 students throughout the day. The Careers Team provide employers with student interview paperwork presented in a record of achievement folder to assess; for Year 10 the paperwork consists of a CV and cover letter. The Year 13 interviews are more rigorous students are expected to provide a suitable personal statement or a UCAS application linked to their future career pathways; interviewers are selected to match the field of expertise chosen by the student.

Speed-networking

Year 8 students prepare questions to ask employers. Employers are seated with their marketing materials in a large room; students are split into small groups of around 5-6 and are placed with an employer to ask questions. After a short amount of time a bell will ring and the students will move to the next employer and so on.

Preparation for work experience – Health and Safety in the workplace Students in Year 9 begin the preparation for work experience in July. They receive health and safety in the workplace training to ensure they are fully aware of the legal requirements regarding hazards, risks and control measures in the workplace. Employers linked to Health and Safety training is welcome to support.

Enterprise Activities

We encourage our students to think outside the box, to work in small teams to create activities and games to compete with each other in a ‘Dragons Den’ type session.

Employers we need your support

If you would like to support Thomas Gainsborough School or are Alumni then we would like to speak to you. If you have new ideas to bring to our school, please get in touch. If you are an expert in a particular field, want to provide information in curriculum lessons please email or telephone the Careers Team. Email: bbaker@tgschool.net or kperkins@tgschool.net Telephone: 01787 375232



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Junior Chef Programme Introduction Level 1

Location: West Suffolk College
Start Date: Saturday 27 January 2018
Days: Saturday
Times: 09:15 - 12:15

Summary

This introductory stage programme is specifically designed to give young people an opportunity to experience working in a professional kitchen and to see if a career as a chef is for them or just to have fun.

You will learn great new skills and techniques all of which you can use either in your future career or simply at home for your family.

To book a place on this course please contact us on 01284 716246 or via email training@wsc.ac.uk – payment options are available (£60 deposit followed by 3x payments of £55)

Entry Requirements

You must be aged 10-15 and keen to learn new skills

Qualifications

You will receive a West Suffolk College certificate signed by the Head Chef

Course Content

You will be cooking, from scratch, with fresh ingredients cooking recipes in the following sessions:

- 27/01/18 - Week 1 – Induction, Food Safety

Homemade Soup and Bread Rolls

- 03/02/18 - Week 2 – Homemade Burgers and Rolls
- 10/02/18 - Week 3 – Seasonal Fruit Pie and Custard
- 24/02/18 - Week 4 – Chicken Tikka and Salad
- 03/03/18 - Week 5 – Teriyaki Salmon on Egg

Noodles, Stir Fried Vegetables

- 10/03/18 - Week 6 – Chocolate Brownies and

Vanilla Ice-Cream

- 17/03/18 - Week 7 - Chocolates and fudge
- 24/03/18 - Week 8 – Students to cook and serve a two course lunch for parents and family or invited guests (one free place then £5 per head, max 4 places).

Equipment Required

£225 includes ingredients, apron and knives.

Duration 8 weeks.

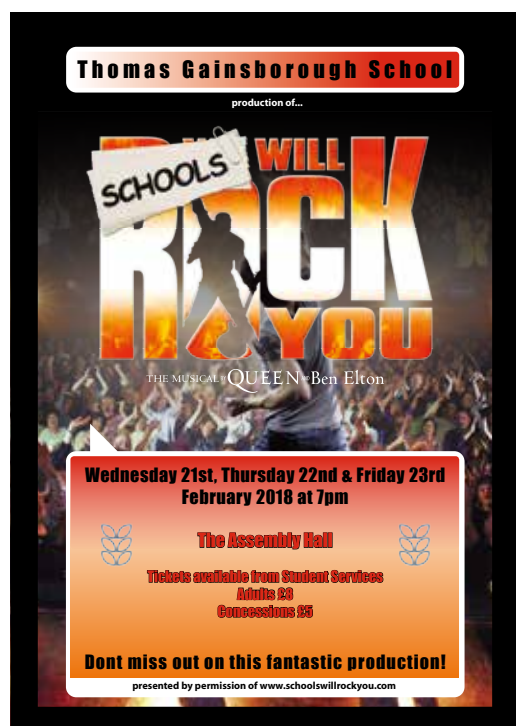
Cost £225.



The careers team would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Friends of Great Cornard Library

QUIZ



Join us for an evening of quixotic fun and a fish & chips supper!

Friday 19 January • 7.30pm

Great Cornard Library doors open at 7.00

teams of up to six: £8 per head including fish & chips

tickets from Sudbury Tourist Information & Great Cornard Library. For more information call 01787 310888. Tickets must be paid for in advance.

Free Adult English Lessons

FREE lessons on offer at the Sudbury Adult Centre, Cornard Rd, for all Adults with English as a second language: all levels welcome.

Lessons are currently every Monday afternoon from now until Monday March 5th.

In the New Year lessons will also be on a Tuesday afternoon from February 6th to July 24th 2018.

Further information available from the college tel: 01787 880619, email: sudbury@wsc.ac.uk



Spring Term 2018

Monday 8 January – Thursday 29 March 2018

Half Term: Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February 2018
Non Pupil Days: Thursday 4 January and Friday 5 January 2018

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16 April – Tuesday 24 July 2018

Half Term: Monday 28 May – Friday 1 June 2018



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If you would like to visit us it would be our pleasure to show you around. Please contact us on 01787 375232