

# PORTRAIT

THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER · JANUARY 2016 · ISSUE 2

**Book Mastermind Winner 2016**

Evie Prager



# TGS Book Mastermind 2016

Evie Prager joined an illustrious list of TGS Book Mastermind Champions by securing victory in the school final on Friday 23rd January. As ever, the competition was fierce with the other finalists: James Searle, Fergus Dark, Daisy Houlden, Elena Little, Summer-May Humphries, Kiera Blowers, Joseph McCrory, Lucy Bowes, and Elodie Reeves putting in excellent performances. The student audience was enthralled as, one by one, the contestants took their seat under the spotlight. In the very close and tense competition Evie held her nerve to triumph. Congratulations to Evie who will now compete against students from other schools in the Western Area in March.

Our exciting new challenge the 'TGS 50', like Book Mastermind, aims to promote reading for enjoyment. The inaugural TGS 50 book list contains a wide range of titles to inspire and challenge you to read for enjoyment.

The library holds copies of the books on the list. Mrs Welch in the library welcomes any reviews of the books on the list.

- Go to the library.
- You need some evidence of the books you have read- ie a copy, a photo, reading it in tutor time, a note from your parents.





# Catching Up with Joseph

Rehearsals for Joseph the Musical are in full swing this January, and the effort being put in is astounding. This musical promises to be one to remember.

A new star has emerged as the lead actor of Joseph, Oliver Hughes. He and the rest of the cast have been putting in lunchtimes and afterschool to rehearse.

There are some amazing songs that will headline the show like 'One More Angel in Heaven' and 'Any Dream will Do'. These songs are being sung along-side challenging dance routines.

The set this year is being built by Daisy Holden's father. The art club are planning to paint the set which will be as vibrant and colourful as the rest of the show.

This promises to be one of the best shows Thomas Gainsborough School has ever seen.

Josef Thompson



## TGS students help to shape future health care provision for children and young people in Suffolk

Healthwatch Suffolk is working with TGS to find out what young people think of current health care for children and young people in Suffolk. On the Enrichment Day on 1st December Healthwatch gathered the views of 600 students from all year groups.

Year 10 and Year 11 Health and

Social Care students discussed and analysed the collected data on Tuesday 19th January. They found that the main areas of concern for young people are Mental Health and Sexual Health. Their discussions on these areas and the more generic concern of accessing health care provision were noted by Healthwatch Suffolk and their partners Unity in Diversity who will now prepare a script for a series of four short plays. Our talented Year 8 and Year 9 Drama students will, over the next few weeks, take part in 3 Drama Workshops with the professional actor from Unity in Diversity. On

Tuesday 22nd March the plays will be performed at a Showcase Event.

Offshoot Films has recorded this innovative project; their film will also be shown at the Showcase Event. Representatives from Health and Social Care providers in Suffolk and members of Suffolk County Council will also attend in order to learn from our students. The feedback in its many guises will inform Public Health Suffolk County Council's Children and Young People's initiatives.



# TGS Has Got Talent for Fundraising

Back in November, Chamberlain House held the 'TGS Has Got Talent' show to raise as much money as possible for the 3 school charities. Many talents were showcased on the evening.

From amazing singers to a diablo extraordinaire, the crowd was filled with awe as each act represented their house in hope to win the scores from the judges. Congratulations to Sam Wainwright, Year 7, who came 1st place in the contest, closely followed by Rhys Butterworth-Bowman who came 2nd, and Jacob Miculob and Zara Hearnden 3rd. The Chamberlain committee, who organised everything, from ticket selling to hosting the contest, would like to thank the judges: Emma Quin, Molfrey French-Owen, Mr Lloyd and Mr Gibson, as well as all of the wonderful contestants who auditioned for the show. The final huge thank you goes to everyone who supported the evening by coming to watch or donating to the charity; we hope you all enjoyed the night. Overall, we raised £150.48, which will be split between the charities at the end of the year.

Maria Grumann

The three day Christmas Market created a buzz of pre-Christmas excitement and entertainment and raised an impressive sum of £684.49.

Staff and students wore a selection of very festive jumpers on Christmas Jumper Day donating a total of £262.97 for the privilege.





It was a record breaking year for our annual Operation Christmas Appeal. A staggering 1,559 hamper items were donated by students and families. The Sixth Form Prefects co-ordinated the collection and Access and Year 12 Health and Social Care students had the mammoth, but very enjoyable task, of making up over 60 hampers. The hamper boxes had been made by Year 8 students on Enrichment Day and these, along with the hand-made cards created by Year 7 students also on Enrichment Day, were delivered to some very grateful local families and elderly residents. Special mention to the five tutor groups who each collected over 100 items: ABO, JHI, CKE, JPA and LBU but a massive thanks to the whole of the TGS Community; you really did make a difference.



## Chamberlain's Christmas Triumph

I am writing this as an extremely proud Head of House and am very pleased that Chamberlain won the Chelsworth Cup for the second time in a row.

This is testament to the hard work, enthusiasm and engagement of both students and staff alike! Well done to those students who showed resilience achieving 100% attendance, well done to those students who worked hard and produced fantastic work to be awarded merits, well done to those students who got involved in house competitions, well done to those students nominated for star of the week, well done to students who gave up their time to help others and support the school and a massive thank you to the staff for all of your encouragement, support and organisation. Watch out Abbas, Houghton, Peyton and Tollemache because we are going for a hat trick this term!

Amie Butcher





## Houghton News

Houghton Christmas Caroling:

Hark the Houghton angels sing!

Raise some money caroling!

Many thanks to all students in Houghton who took part in our Christmas Caroling Fundraising. We managed to raise over £50 and had great fun while doing it.

Houghton School Disco:

On Friday 12th February Houghton House will be holding a school disco for students in Year 8 and 9 from 7 until 9.

Last school disco was a great success, so we hope you can join us. Please find out more details in Student Services.

If you want to get involved in the organisation of this event and any other events run by our House please contact Mrs Hurtado or any member of the House Committee.

Liliana Hurtado

## TGS in the Community

Access to Christmas

**A**ccess One participated again in the annual Christmas Tree Festival at St Peter's on Market Hill. The theme was Access to Christmas. Every student decorated a letter for the message wishing everyone a 'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.'

Lyn Burns



## Great Cornard Parish Council Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch Party

**O**n the last day of term, seven Year 8 students: Fred Adams, Ashleigh Blowers, Reuben Devereux, Daisie Houlden, Lily Nayler, Amy Sparkes and Joanna Wojciechowska joined 70 senior citizens at the annual lunch party. Our TGS ambassadors were excellent waiters and leaders of the entertainment.

## TGS Befrienders

**S**ixth form Health and Social Care students, assisted by some lower school volunteers, hosted a Christmas party for members of the Befriending Scheme. Entertainment was provided by Harry Sage and his disco. We all enjoyed joining in with the Christmas tunes and a few of us were brave enough to have a go at performing some seasonal songs.

An excellent time was had by all. Jade from the Befriending Scheme wrote 'Thank you for a great lunch and lovely afternoon.'





## Evan Taylor helps out in the community

Evan Taylor literally held up the traffic in Cornard while helping a stranded disabled person cross the road safely. Evan didn't think twice about acting as any good citizen should when faced with someone in need. True Christmas charity!



Recently, the local Sudbury Storms Swimming Club held their yearly presentation afternoon which involved reflecting on the previous year and presenting awards for all the swimming events as well as presenting special awards.

Katie Chambers, Year 7, won the Female Endeavour Award which is handed out each year to the swimmer who has shown the greatest commitment to the club throughout the year, even if they haven't received all the glory of medals at Galas.

Katie was recognised as she has put tremendous effort and commitment into the swimming club this year. This hard effort has also seen her achieve two county times for 50m Freestyle and 50m Fly. Matthew Chambers

## Sudbury Sea Scout of the year

Will Champken was recently awarded Sea Scout of the Year at 1st Sudbury Sea Scouts. Will was recognised for his commitment and enthusiasm across the year. During the summer months the Sea Scouts are down at the river every week, kayaking, canoeing and swimming. During winter months they do knot skills, fire lighting and cooking. He also regularly does bag packing at Sainsburys and Waitrose to help raise money for Scout funds. He aims to become a Scout volunteer and help with the younger scouts in the group.

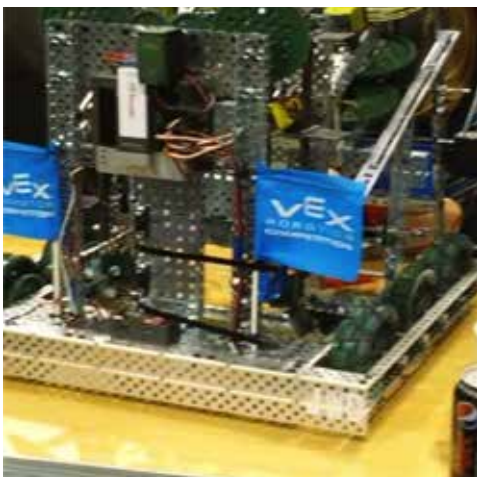
Sally Wade



## Vex Robotics

Recently the members of the VEX Robotics competition reached the top. Our teams include Team A (William Price, Deeta Pallent and Joel Pallent) and Team B (Mia Cox, Riley Anderson, Oliver Webb and Will Champken). Also we have our Year 9 programmer, Arlo Morris, who is the brain behind the robots. This year's competition includes 2 teams of 2 robots in an arena, pushing and launching balls into high and nets. At the end of the game the teams have to low or high elevate their partners. Did we all accomplish successfully?

Riley Anderson





## Max Herbert is 2015 Ellough Park Karting Champion!

**M**ax won the EPKC Honda Cadet Championship on 18th December and was presented with the trophy on Saturday 9th January at the annual dinner and dance in Norwich. He was completely taken by surprise when he was also awarded The Martin Dobson Young Driver of the Year Memorial trophy. During the course of the evening Max met Martin Donnelly, the former Lotus Formula 1 driver, who used to compete with

Senna and Mansell in the 90s. He is now the FIA Driver Steward and Chief Instructor for Lotus Driving Academy.

Max has test driven a kart by the chassis manufacturer 'Gillard' and is competing in the British Championship this year. Will Max be the next Lewis Hamilton?



## Suffolk Family Carers' Gold Award

**R**ecently Miss O'Beirne visited Westbourne Academy in Ipswich where she was presented with a gold award from Suffolk Family Carers CEO Kirsten Alderson in recognition of the work that Thomas Gainsborough School does to identify and support young people with a caring responsibility. In addition to making appropriate referrals to the Suffolk Young Carers division of the charity, the school also gained recognition for taking a personalised approach to supporting young people and their families to achieve better outcomes.

If you would like more information on Suffolk Young Carers please visit

<http://www.suffolkfamilycarers.org/young-carers.html>



**Year 11 students receive their  
mock exam results**

**Suffolk** ●●●  
**Family Carers**  
**Living Fuller Lives**





## Shotokan Karate

Louise Watling in Year 8 qualified for a black belt in Shotokan Karate in December. She has taken part in Karate for 5 years and now has her sights set on adding Dans to the black belt as she continues to train. Though she is petite she explained how her opponent had to be her match in gender and size for the qualifier in Egham last December but that she trains against grown men!

Louise pictured with Frank Brennan 8th Dan and Andy Sherry 9th Dan, the Chairman of the Karate Union of Great Britain, after she was presented with her Black Belt at Egham.



Abigail Banham proudly wearing her four Blue Peter Badges

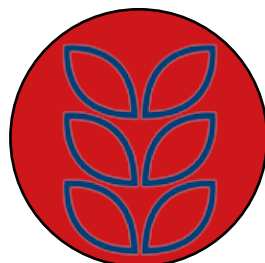


## Boxer

### Jack Wiffen

Jack Wiffen took part in the UK Schoolboys' Championship against a boxer from Repton, the best club in the country. Though he and his opponent won one round each in the match a split decision meant he lost to his much taller opponent.

Jack is already ranked second in Ireland in his weight category (39-41kg) in 2015. His aim is to come first when he competes in Ireland in 2016. He trains at the Sudbury Boxing Club based in Head Lane Great Cornard.



## Life Saving Skills

Sudbury Life Saving Club held their annual club competition recently. Jasmine Honeyball won the Under 16s Girls' award and Connor Wade won the Under 12s Boys' category and also Club Boy of the Year. They had to compete using lifesaving skills such as rope throwing, swim and tow and body boarding.

Sudbury Life Saving Club meets on Sunday evenings at the Kingfisher Leisure Centre from 6.30 – 8.30pm. There is an hour of poolside first aid and life saving skills, followed by an hour in the water learning the techniques to save lives. The club is open to all (non swimmers included) and would welcome new members.

Sally Wade



## UCS Games Design Trip

Our IT sixth form students had the opportunity to visit the local university, University Campus Suffolk, for a day of game design and programming on 13th January. The purpose of the trip was to look at the university course and get a feel of what university is like.

The first session we completed was a session on Games Programming, which was interactive and interesting. We were learning Python code on a website; it was a really good way of learning the basics of the code. Throughout the session we were being shown what the course involves. This session was really interactive and overall was great fun. UCS has developed a website called [waterfrontgames.com](http://waterfrontgames.com) and they publish games that their students have created. It was really interesting learning how to code properly to complete the level.

After about an hour of programming, we moved onto the campus tour and it was very surprising how modern UCS is. UCS consists of five buildings which include the impressive Waterfront building which is right on the docks. On the campus tour we went into one of the accommodation blocks and had a look round one of the apartments. To our surprise they were very practical consisting of five rooms and a shared kitchen which was spacious. On the campus tour we realised that UCS is very modern and spacious and looks like it is designed for the student.

After we had refuelled at lunchtime, we moved onto another computing

walked into that room and heard the lecturer talk, we knew it would be a great session. He explained that the whole point of games design was to immerse the player into that game. He showed us a game that he created and with someone else playing it, how they go through many different emotions. He explained how and why he had done that. After that he gave us a few requirements for us to create our own game. We had twenty minutes to come up with a plot, character and how we were going to complete the game. It was really interesting to see how everything can come together to create this game that you had in your head. This was properly the best session of the day though that was probably down to the lecturer.

After an exciting day, it was time to head home. It was a great day and has given us a great insight into university life.

Matthew Chambers

Dan Marsh

"Inspiring to see authentic opportunities for a games design course and a great experience to see enthusiastic people in their respective fields."

Taylor Mann

"Amazing day out"

Bradley Daultrey

"Truly inspirational and life changing and it has opened my eyes to a new world"

Mr Oliver

"A great opportunity for students to see the next stage of development within the professional Games industry. Students can now develop greater awareness and apply this within their own work."



TGS Media are pleased to announce a joint project working with BBC Senior Producer for Current Affairs Impact and Digital, Jo Mathys.

Jo and Sue Crawte, subject leader for media studies met recently to discuss the project. On Thursday, 25th February Year 12 media students will be taught how to search and develop a news story, they will learn how to gather the news, conduct telephone interviews and then record and edit together a 2 minute radio news story, which will form part of the BBC School Report newscast on Thursday, 10th March. TGS Media have been previously been involved with the BBC School Report newscast, and have made the news by being interviewed 'live' by Luke Deal of BBC Radio Suffolk, and have even taken over part of a 'live' broadcast on the Mark Murphy show on BBC Radio Suffolk.

TGS Media are really looking forward to working with the BBC again!

You can see what they have been up to on this link : <http://tgschool.net/enrichment/enrichment-events/bbc-school-report/>





## UEA trip

On 14th December, Year 12 went on a trip to UEA for the day. They left early on in the day, heading for Norwich.

The day began with the students – accompanied by Sixth Form students from neighbouring schools – receiving a small talk from some of the members of staff at UEA, and a student there as well. They were then set into different groups, such as: Campus tour; UCAS application talk; DNA analysis; story of your breakfast; sound of science; psychology in education; economics behind drinks such as Pepsi and Coca-Cola; pathways to action; image of Buddha and studying abroad. Each student had the chance to do two of these activities, choosing the ones that appealed to them.

The trip offered an insight into university life, especially with the tour, and gave the students a chance to really understand what university was like. The grounds were huge, with an entire library and a sport centre just within walking distance of the lecture halls. Students got a chance to see the living quarters of other students, and the tour especially was popular with the students there.

Overall, the experience was a very enjoyable, and hopefully allowed the students the insight they needed to decide whether or not university is the right choice for them.

Kira Dus

## Prefects

The Prefects, as always, have been keeping up their active work in the school, working during the lunchtime and keeping vigil. Not only have they been tirelessly working during lunchtime, but the Prefects have also been helping out with other tasks such as the Christmas stalls and the Year 8 disco.



## Amsterdam trip

On 9th March, the next enrichment day, a handful of Year 13 students and teachers will be taking an early morning flight from Stansted airport and travelling to Amsterdam for a day. Amsterdam is the capital city of the Netherlands, and is a beautiful city full of places to visit. The city is known for being the home of Anne Frank; and one place that the students will be visiting is the Anne Frank Museum. It's anticipated that the students

will have a grand time on their trip, and once the trip is over it can be expected that other students will be hearing of the trip in greater detail.

Kira Dus



## Holmes and Hill essay prize

A competition with a substantial financial benefit of a prize at the end for a series of winners: (1st/2nd/3rd prizes of £100/£50/£25) the Holmes and Hills essay prize competition is exactly what one would expect it to be. Essays are to be selected from a list of ten titles, and will be short-listed by tutors and the Sixth Form Team. These essays, in turn, will be

read by Mr Lloyd who will select ten finalists to be submitted to Holmes and Hills for their final judgement, and awarding of the prizes. This competition will be launched in February.

## Sixth Form Football

The Sixth form senior team is competing in a local derby with Ormiston on Wednesday 3rd February. This will be a tough competition, but we trust that our Sixth Form team will come out on top!

They will also be competing in the County Cup against Castle Manor the following week. The captain of the team, George Mansfield, is looking forward to the challenges, and we can only hope that the team is prepared for the competitions placed so close together.

Kira Dus

# SPORTS NEWS

## Alice is crowned County Captain

Alice Barlow has recently been crowned the junior county captain for golf. Her roles and responsibilities as the county captain are making speeches at county and friendly games, being a good role model to the team, discussing possible team issues with the junior committee.

Alice also won the Eva Harris Shield: Suffolk Girls' Player of the year. During 2015, her Suffolk triumphs included Suffolk Girls' junior championships (Strokeplay and Matchplay), the Suffolk Girls' Autumn meeting, and winning two matches out of 5 during East Region Junior County match week.

## Indoor Athletics

TGS won the competition for the boys and girls with out-standing performances from every single person in all of their events. On 12th January TGS competed in the West Suffolk U13 Sportshall Athletics Competition at Newmarket Academy. We knew we had a very strong team due to the results at the house competitions, but both the boys' and the girls' teams exceeded expectations. We are proud to announce we are through to the West Suffolk County Finals on 5th February.

## Basketball County 1/4 Final v Westley

Following a successful league campaign the girls had a home draw against Westley Middle School. A tight first quarter prompted the girls to really focus their efforts and they proceeded to a comfortable victory despite an excellent effort from the visitors.



## County Finals Day

We had a semi-final draw against Kesgrave who contained a number of club players so we expected a tough game. A tight first 1/4 saw us leading 14-8 which was steadily extended to a first half lead of 28-19. This was due to some excellent team play and the way in which Cameron Taylor Willis won her personal battle with the opposition's star player, managing to force her in to foul trouble and reducing her effectiveness.

The 3rd 1/4 followed a similar pattern before we really pulled away in the last 10 minutes to win 60-32 with a number of players making a strong impact.

Scorers:

- 28 - Ella Pearson
- 14 - Cameron Taylor Willis
- 8 - Chloe Adamson
- 4 - Molly Pratt
- 2 - Rose Benton
- 2 - Hannah Cowley
- 2 - Millie Pearson



The Final saw us play Thurston just as we did last year. This was always going to be a very difficult game and we knew we had to start well. Midway through the first quarter we were 5-4 up but a strong scoring streak from Thurston saw us 10 points down. The next quarter we were better defensively but had





# SPORTS NEWS

conceded a 28-13 deficit at half time. It was clear where the opposition threat was with 27 of those points coming from their star player.

Despite our best efforts we could not turn things around and eventually lost 60-29.

A huge well done to the girls for their effort and commitment throughout the season and special mention to the younger members of the team who stepped in and gained valuable experience.

Scorers:

- 11 - Ella Pearson
- 7 - Chloe Adamson
- 6 - Cameron Taylor Willis
- 3 - Hannah Cowley
- 2 - Molly Prat



TGS U16

## Boys' Basketball Away to County Upper

On 16th December the TGS team faced a very tough game away to County Upper. With a few players missing from the side and a very talented opposition, it would not be an easy game. A strong start from County saw them finish the first quarter 15-4 ahead. After some substitutions were made, the team played very well defensively and the points scored for the second quarter

were 8-8 making the score 23-12. County started the second half very well finishing the third quarter 45-22. However, TGS won the fourth quarter 4-10, although the final score ended 49-32. This was by far the best the team had played so far this season, and a particularly brilliant performance from Darrien Murray, who scored 18 points for the side.

Ben Clark

## U16 Girls Vs County Upper

The girls did a great job against County Upper on 16th December. They put up a good fight against an extremely strong team. TGS started off down 20-2 and managed to pull it back with another 13 points (including a great 3 pointer from Jessica Gill). County Upper, however, kept coming back at us with more points. Unfortunately it was not our night; their attack was too strong and we ended up losing 51-17.

Player of the Match- Jessica Gill.  
Great playing and a fantastic 3 pointer.

## Girls' U16 Basketball Vs Thurston Quarter final county competition

The girls played strongly on 15th January against Thurston. They fought hard with TGS leading by 2 most of the match. Despite their best efforts, Thurston put on a full court press in the last few minutes

and managed to bring the score to 26-24.

## Cross Country

Four students from TGS qualified for the second round of the schools' Cross Country: a good run here gains selection for the Anglian schools' team. It was good to see all runners who qualified take part as both Joe and Adam were laid up with illness in the weeks leading to the race meaning that training was interrupted.

It was a tough one - not too muddy underfoot, but the weather was just grim. The temperature wasn't much above freezing, with wind and sleet showers, it really was a challenge for all the runners, with many not finishing the race.

Year 7 George Mann was 39th and Drew Olley was 16th and Joe Robson was 17th in the inter boys' age group; a great run for Joe. Adam Crawford finished 7th in the senior boys, a great effort. Joe Robson won a county medal on Sunday at the Suffolk County Championships at Heveningham Hall - for being part of the 2nd Team, coming 10th overall. Well done and fingers crossed for selection for the county teams.

# SPORTS NEWS

## Netball

### U14 Netball Vs Thurston A and B teams

TGS U14s had a great game against Thurston B with our attacking players showing dominance over Thurston. We ended up winning 19-1. A great win!

### U14 Netball Vs Thurston A

Another fantastic game from the TGS U14 Netballers. TGS showed a strong attack and defence force throughout. Both teams fought hard, with end to end play. However, our defence was extremely resilient and managed to keep Thurston from gaining an advantage. Some fantastic shooting from Ella Pearson and Holly May. We ended up winning 13-9. TGS U14s are now through to the next round.

### U16 Netball Vs Thurston

Thurston dominated this game strongly. Bex Judd scored the one and only goal for TGS. Unfortunately Thurston's attack and defence were too strong for our team and they ended up winning 14-1. This means that Thurston have now gone through to the semi finals. A strong win from Thurston but it has to be said that the TGS team never gave up and fought hard.

### U12 & U13 Netball

Years 7 and 8 had their final netball match of the season on 20th January. All the girls played incredibly well in very cold and testing conditions. Both teams really grew into their games and in the final quarter were really displaying fantastic game play. Sadly both teams lost though both games were very close.

## UP COMING FIXTURES

U13 Indoor athletics finals  
U12 Rugby tournament  
U13 Rugby tournament  
U14 Rugby tournament

U13 hockey tournament  
U16 Boys' hockey  
V Hadleigh High, Copleston,  
Northgate High



  **THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH SIXTH FORM**

Norwich City Football Club

### FOOTBALL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME 2016/17

OPEN TRIALS | WEDNESDAY 10TH FEBRUARY | 5-7PM  
CORNARD UNITED, BLACKHOUSE LANE, SUDBURY, SUFFOLK CO10 0NL

8 HOURS OF FOOTBALL PER WEEK  
WITH UEFA B COACH

**OPPORTUNITIES TO PROGRESS**  
PRO FOOTBALL - SEMI PRO FOOTBALL  
AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIPS  
COACHING - JOBS IN THE SPORT  
INDUSTRY



STUDENTS CAN EITHER STUDY FOR A LEVEL 3  
BTED EXTENDED DIPLOMA IN SPORT OVER 12  
HOURS PER WEEK ACROSS A TWO YEAR PERIOD  
OR CAN SELECT A COMBINATION OF A LEVELS,  
OR A COMBINATION OF A LEVELS AND  
VOCATIONAL SUBJECTS AT TGS.

**REPRESENT NORWICH CITY FC**  
IN THE ENGLISH COLLEGE DIVISIONS  
FUTSAL EVENTS AT CARROW PARK

Jason Curtis - Football Development Officer (Suffolk) - Tel: 07825 952530 - Email: jason.curtis@canaries.co.uk



# CAREERS

## Work experience

### Gemma Slade

Gemma went to WHSmith, the book store in Sudbury, for her work experience. She learnt how they shelved all their books and said that the experience was fun and enjoyable. In fact, Gemma will even go back there for her second week of work experience.

### Molly Fisher

For her work experience, Molly went to Ipswich Crown Court. She watched cases in the court and helped out in the office. It's through her own work experience that Molly found her passion for being a lawyer, and has decided that that's a career path she will pursue in the future.

### Career Working party

The Career Working Party is a small group composed of around a dozen students dedicated to improve careers provision using the thoughts and ideas of the students. Most of the students forming this party applied to join straight away, while others heard of the party through Careers Club. The group aims to meet once a term, although this may become once a half-term in the near future.

Last term improvement of communication of Careers information to students was on the agenda; currently the group are working on National Careers Week in March. The idea is for the students to organise the week, including all the different activities that are available during that week. Many different ideas were discussed during the most recent meeting; including the idea of the students even beginning to run the meetings

themselves. This in itself shows very many skills that are required in the world of work, and acts as good preparation to a positive future.

### AGE UK

During the Christmas holidays, a number of our students gave up a morning of their own time in order to volunteer at AGE UK. The school is incredibly proud of the students for doing this; and their support shown was well received by the elderly they interacted with.

AGE UK is a local charity dedicated to providing services and support for older people in the UK. Christmas means a lot of elderly people who have nobody to turn to end up spending Christmas alone. AGE UK makes sure that doesn't happen.

Those who volunteered were able to enjoy a fun-filled morning that day. They enjoyed a quiz game, pool, bowls and the refreshments that

were on offer that morning. The elderly there thoroughly enjoyed the interaction, and gave the chance for those of the older generation to meet with the younger generation.

This kind of opportunity is something the school wish to do regularly. Mrs Baker will be asking for volunteers for the next time this is available – be sure to keep an eye on the student noticeboard should you be interested. Volunteering is a good chance to give back to your local community, and possibly make some new friends while you actively influence and improve the lives of those around you. Community work always looks very good in your RoA. Those who attend the volunteering choices do receive merits, as well as a letter home, so that what you have done is recognised.



Careers Working Party



Join TGS Careers on Twitter for information



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**Great Cornard Library**  
is holding a Harry Potter night on  
Thursday 4th February at 5-7pm.  
It will be a night of magical fun,  
activities and a night of spells!  
Tickets are available from Great  
Cornard Library and cost £1 each.  
Recommended age 7 and above  
Please call 01787 315195 for  
more details.

*Thomas  
Gainsborough  
School*

*Year 11  
Class of 2016 Leavers' Prom*

*Friday 8th July 2016  
7pm*

*Colchester United Football  
Club*

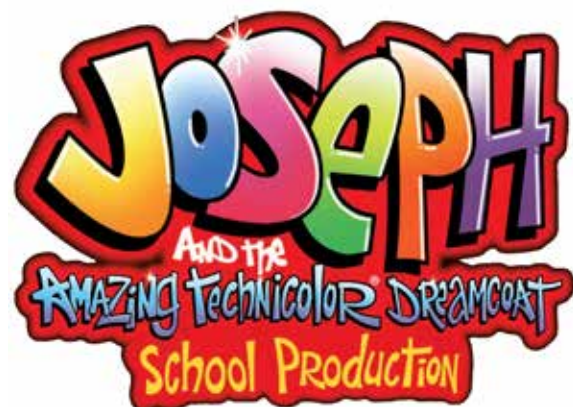
*more details to follow*



**Enterprise Subject Surgery**  
**Monday 8th February 4pm - 7pm**

**Communications Subject Surgery**  
**Tuesday 9th February 4pm - 7pm**

**Modern Arts Subject Surgery**  
**Wednesday 10th February 4pm - 7pm**



**9th & 10th March**

