

PORTRAIT



**Basketball Success
for TGS Girl's
Cameron & Ella**



THOMAS
GAINSBOROUGH
SCHOOL

Graduates of 2017



Our annual Graduation Ceremony took place on Friday 23rd June and was a huge success. It was a great way to celebrate the academic achievements of our pupils with 70 of them gaining 5 ribbons and therefore being awarded full honours. Congratulations to all our Year 11's. Enjoy the photos!

Mr W Ponsford







Prom

The Year 11 Prom took place at Colchester United Football Club on Friday 30th June. It was a hugely successful evening with some amazing vehicles on show to compliment the outfits beautifully! The students had a great evening and enjoyed the dancing and socialising as well as the photo booth. Memory sticks loaded with photos from the night will be available to collect on Results Day for those who attended. Students also voted for their Prom King and Prom Queen during the evening, with the winners being Joe Millar and Maria Grumann.

Congratulations to them!

Mr W Ponsford



House News



Head of
ABBAS
Mrs N Wilby

House Captains

Ben Wong

Evie Byott



Deputy House Captains

Rosie Young

Harry Freeman



How quickly the end of another school year has arrived! It never ceases to amaze me the speed at which the summer term passes.

I am delighted to announce that our new House Captains and Deputies are beginning to find their feet in their new roles, so congratulations to Evie Byott and Ben Wong as our captains, and to Rosie Young and Harry Freeman as our deputies.

I would also like to introduce our Whips who will assist in continuing to build on recent Abbas success. Congratulations to Tia Cuthbert, Seb Crayford, Bethany Thompson and Jack Ecuyer who have been selected to undertake this role.

The selection process for Sports Captains was particularly gruelling, with candidates having to perform a three minute presentation on 'increasing wider sports participation within school' and produce a news report too. The standard was incredibly high. Eliza Betts, Finley Paul and Louise Watling were appointed captains with Jessica Griggs and Oli Greene becoming the new sports reporters with responsibility for presentations and all things "PR". I know that Mr Myhill is looking forward to working with such a strong team.

The Race For Life on 6th July was incredibly well supported. A fantastic morning and we look forward to hearing just how much money was raised.

Abbas House have shown tremendous spirit yet again this

term. We were just pipped into second place in the swimming gala, but all competitors put up a great fight. We have attained several strong placings in the various art and photography competitions too. We will just have to wait and see if it is enough to retain the House cup for a third term.

I am looking forward to meeting our new Yr 6 Abbas students this coming week during Transition, and want to show them what a brilliant House they are joining.

I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer, and thank you again for your continued support.

Mrs N Wilby



Head of
Chamberlain
Miss J Hilson

House Captains

Bethany Ireland-Whittaker

Josef Thompson



Deputy House Captains

Daisie Houlden

Reuben Devereux



Congratulations on making it through my first year as Head of House. It has been a pleasure to support you this year and to watch all of your progress and achievements.

Huge congratulations to all of our Year 11 students for graduating, 17 of which achieved full honours. You all looked very smart in your formal dress and I hope you enjoyed the Prom too. Good luck in your next steps wherever they may lead you.

Another huge congratulations to all of you who took part in the Swimming Gala – another big victory for Chamberlain house! We had a very strong team and also a large team of participants which means we were able to fill nearly every

race and gain points – Well Done! At this point I would like to formally introduce our new Sports Captains – Callum Metson and Phoebe Studdy, I am looking forward to working with you.

A special mention must go to Ella Smith for winning our Then & Now Art competition, whose Art work is now displayed at the Apex in Bury St Edmunds and Olivia Turkentine for winning the Sharing Photography competition – great work girls.

I hope you all have a fabulous Summer holiday and will see you back in September.

Miss J Hilson



Head of
Houghton
Mrs F Raleigh

House Captains

Oscar Edwards

Ella Keep



Deputy House Captains

Connor Crowley

Mollie Pratt



Well we have come to the end of the year and what a year it has been!

Houghton students should be very proud of the achievements they have conquered this year. Reading your reports a great number of you have reached your target grades which is impressive. We also have some amazing athletes in our house that have represented the school, county and some lucky few the UK which is fantastic. I have also been impressed to see how committed you have been towards charity events and competitions.

It is now time to take a long deserved break

and reflect on the past academic year. Plan your holiday wisely, do not waste the precious time you have with your family and friends. Remember to prepare yourself for the autumn term. Complete summer tasks, top up your stationery. Replace out grown uniform.

Goodbye Houghton we looking forward to seeing you all in the term.

Mrs F Raleigh



PEYTON



Head of
Peyton
Mr W Ponsford

House Captains

Jacob Micolub

Zara Hearnden



Mason Boggis



Chloe Cowlin

Deputy House Captains



George Dunn



Mabel Frost

House Captains

Thomas Dudden

Emma Crossley



Deputy House Captains



George Dunn



Mabel Frost

Head of
Tollemache
Mr J Oliver



House Captains

Thomas Dudden

Emma Crossley



Deputy House Captains



George Dunn



Mabel Frost

Having announced our House Captains in the last newsletter, I am delighted to introduce Lewis Miller and Evie Prager as Peyton House Sports Captains for next year. Kitty Fowles-Smith will ably support them in her role on the committee looking at sport. Joe McCrory; Owen Amery; and Amy Sparkes join them on the committee.

This completes a strong team to push us forward next year.

I need to say a huge thank you and well done to all the students in Peyton House for their efforts this year. We really need to build on this next year and ensure we get

I have been immensely proud of the contributions made by students in recent competitions and events that have been carried out this Summer term. To all those who have achieved the rewards trip merit attainment - a huge congratulations to you.

I urge you to take the time this summer to reflect on the previous academic year. What were your best moments? What worked out really well? Take time to evaluate how successful you were and plan for your new adventure into your next year at school. If things worked out well, keep the formula going. If you would like to do things differently for a better outcome, you have a fresh start to do this. I sincerely

ourselves fully involved in every competition going to give us the best chance of winning the house cup again.

Have a great summer and look after yourselves. Come back refreshed and raring to go in September!

Mr W Ponsford

hope that you continue to challenge yourself, aim high and succeed. Working with so many of you has been a privilege this year and I hope that each and every one of you make the most of opportunities and continue to strive for excellence in everything you do. Continue to demonstrate our core values, get involved in as many aspects of school life. The success of the house is not down to one, but all of you. Your actions have the greatest impact. Work with your fantastic tutors, support each other and make positive choices.

I wish you a restful break.

Mr J Oliver

Enrichment

River Stour Trip (Minibus Wednesdays)

On the 21st of June, 8 students and 2 fabulous teachers, Mrs Young and Miss Hilson, all went to the lock at Great Cornard. When we arrived, we were greeted by the captain of the boat and given vibrant orange life jackets and then got in a boat called "The Edwardian Lady".

We had to wait for the trustees to make the water in the lock the same level as the river and the gates were soon opened. We then set off on our journey. We were very lucky as it was beautiful weather and there were lots of bright blue damselflies and dragonflies flying amongst the yellow water lilies and landing on the boat.

We were all given a sheet of things to look out for and tick off and we spotted lots of swans, ducks and moorhens. There were millions of tiny fish swimming below us in the clear water and some larger ones nearer the river bed. We had to turn around at the Henny Swan pub. The captain told us stories about what the river used to be like and what it was used for. Lighters used to be pulled by horse and transported bricks from Sudbury to London (they were used at Liverpool Street and St Pancras train stations) and then brought horse manure back from the streets of London.

On the way, he pointed out some highly dangerous giant hogweed which is poisonous and could give you massive blisters, needing hospital treatment. We thought it looked like cow parsley but bigger. If you see any you should report it to the environment agency. When we got back we were dropped off near the lock so that we were able to work it. First the boat had to enter the lock then we closed the gates. We had to open some slits to let the water rise so the captain could get out. We waited until the water in the lock was at the same level at the river and opened the gates at the other end of the lock so that the boat could moor nearby.

Afterwards, realising we had some spare time, Miss Hilson came up with the idea of geocaching. We walked sensibly to St Andrew's church to look for the hidden little pot. Geocaching is where you follow internet clues and you look for small containers which have a reel of paper inside and when you find it you sign the paper and replace it. We were stuck for ages as it was very hard to find when all of a sudden a man came up, felt behind a post and revealed a tiny cylinder no bigger than a centimetre cubed. Everyone was surprised how easily he found it as we searched for ages!

We thoroughly enjoyed the trip and hope there will be many more trips like this one.

Megan Turner and Kara Day
(Year 7)



Mini Bus Wednesdays:

We have had a range of fabulous trips this year finishing with our glorious river trip in the sun.

So where can we go next? Please send any suggestions you have to me and then keep a look out for the new adverts to see where we are heading.

Enrichment:

Our new Enrichment timetable will start in September with the Enrichment Fair in the assembly hall second week back - remember to come and visit it to see what's on offer.

Miss J Hilson

Paris

In the early hours of Sunday 28th May twelve staff and ninety-six Year 8 students met in the bus park to embark on a five-day adventure to Paris. We made our way to Dover and went across on the ferry to Calais before driving down to Paris. We stayed at the European Campus Sainte-Therese fifteen miles South East of Paris, which gave us great access to all of the planned tourist spots.

Day two was action packed and there wasn't a moment to spare. We started with the ascent to the top of the Eiffel Tower which made everyone extremely excited. The views over a very sunny Paris were spectacular and the students enjoyed selfies galore! This was followed by a walking tour of the famous tourist hot spots (well for one group anyway who walked much faster and made it much further than the other group) and was an opportunity to see Paris in all its glory. The sights

included the Trocadéro, Arc de Triomphe, Avenue des Champs-Élysées; Place de la Concorde, the Louvre, and the Notre Dame. Students were then gifted with the opportunity to take a cruise down the Seine River where they could sit back, relax and take more selfies! The day finished with the magnificent views that the Montparnasse Tower has to offer over the whole of Paris. Both students and staff were bowled over by the beauty of the city. Following this back to back day, students enjoyed the grounds of the accommodation, playing rounders, football and frisbee.

Day three was a day of two halves. One group made their way to Chateau de Versailles whilst the other enjoyed having

portraits drawn, exploring the boutiques and enjoying the views of the Sacre Coeur. They then swapped over so everyone could experience the magic of both.

Day four was the one they had all been waiting for, a visit to Disneyland Paris, the enchanting world that draws the inner child out of each and every person that visits and that included the staff!! Students explored the park, went on numerous rides and even got to watch the famous Character Parade. It was amazing to see everyone's faces lit up with joy at the end of the day!

Day five we were up, packed and on the coaches ready to make the journey back to school. The students were an absolute credit to the school and should be commended for their positivity, manners and enthusiasm. I hope this is a trip they will remember for many years to come!

I would like to finish by saying a big thank you to all the staff who gave up their half term allowing the students to have such a wonderful experience and they include Mr Lloyd, Mrs Crawford, Miss Buchanan, Mrs Harman, Miss Bowman, Mr Gault, Mrs Hunt, Mr Reynolds, Miss Lynch, Mrs Gammon and Mr Bently.

Mrs Amie Butcher





On Wednesday the 5th July, students from Year 9 and 10 involved within the Music department went to the Apollo Victoria Theatre in London to watch the musical production, “Wicked”. Not only did the musical include one of our GCSE new set work, the well-known “Defying Gravity”, it allowed students and staff to get a flavour of what a Broadway musical was like.

The production tells the untold story of the Witches of Oz and describes how the Wicked Witch of the West was not in fact evil. Laced in were references to the beloved “Wizard of Oz”, which many of us were fond of at a young age and acted as sentimental humour to the audience.

Gemma Deacon, one of our Music GCSE students said, “it was a great story and was an insight to the music and the production. I also loved the lighting and the smooth

transitions of the staging. I would recommend it to anyone with an interest in musical theatre.”

Zara Hearnden, who was one of the lead roles in our recent school production of “Little Shop of Horrors”, said, “I’ve always wanted to get into musical theatre and this production has really enlightened me. The singer’s vocal abilities impressed me and really inspired me.”

Jacob Miculob and Ruby Shrubsole

Media Year 9 Students visit Harry Potter Production Studios

The media department took 50 Year 9 students to The Warner Bros studios in London to study the making of the Harry Potter films. Everyone had a brilliant time enhancing their learning of the pre production process by looking at the intricacies of character creation through, camera script and costume. Whilst we were there students were able to experiment further with green screen technologies.

Mrs A Gammon



MUN Conference

The 19th and 20th June saw the fourth time both Thomas Gainsborough and the Royal Hospital School Year 7's have come together, to take part in a simulated conference of the United Nations. Eighty of our TGS Year 7's were placed into groups, with another pair from RHS, and the students of both schools debated and worked together to suggest possible approaches to solving the critical issues that face the world today; Climate Change, Torture, HIV and AIDs and Nuclear disarmament.

The first day started with RHS' Assistant Headteacher Mr Christmas dividing the students of both schools into the forty different countries represented at the conference. Then the background research into their country started. The students each wrote a policy statement on their countries' views on the topic- which they would deliver the next day. They researched their countries in depth, learning things about foreign and home nations that they never knew.

The second day saw the different committees hear the policy statements of each country represented and debate the different suggested resolutions. Firstly, the delegates read their speeches to their respective committees, outlining the issues and how, as their country, they would resolve them. Then the debates began. Thomas Gainsborough students and the RHS students made their schools proud with the quality of these. Many students received awards for the quality of their research and involvement in the final

committee debate.

Special mention must go to the following for particularly impressing Mr Hempel and Mr Christmas during the course of the conference: Kara Day, Hasuka Newland, Emily Harness, Madalene Howard, Connie Jacobs, Ella McCrory, Blake Wood, Tilly Motts and Davit Rickards.

MUN enrichment club meets every Thursday in Room 202 and is open to all year groups, everyone is welcome. If you become a member you can expect over time to improve your ability to research, debate complex ideas and speak competently in public.

Mr J Hempel



Geography

On a really hot and sunny day in May Year 8 Geographers visited Felixstowe for the annual coastal field trip.

The geographers were there to look at various coastal sites, areas of coastal erosion and to question local people about their views of coastal management. This was to get data to complete a project once back in school.

The Year 8's worked really hard during the day and developed their understanding of coastal protection and longshore drift. This was done by walking from the spit all the way down the promenade, a real pleasure in such wonderful weather.

Thank you to all of the teachers who worked with the students during the day - it was a fantastic way of learning!

Mrs C Kelly



Year 10 geography students attended a day working with the Essex Wildlife Trust at Walton on the Naze. Students looked at the difference between a managed and unmanaged stretch of coastline at the Naze.

Erosion here is rapid at up to 8 metres in some years. Students evaluated the different defences and management, completing surveys and conducting public questionnaires.

Mr N Bennett



Year 10 went to Bury St Edmunds to learn about shopping hierarchies and services as part of the GCSE course. This trip enabled students to learn key examination and field skills as well as putting key theories to the test.

The Year 10's worked really hard over the course of the day and conducted numerous interviews with the public. This was to collect sufficient data to create graphs and a field report on their return to school.

Thank you to all of the teachers who took the Year 10's - I know it was appreciated and the work generated from the trip was of a very high quality.

Mrs C Kelly



Thomas Gainsborough School students and colleagues from the Samuel Ward Academy Trust exhibit their work in Apex Centre, Bury St Edmunds

Students from across the school have produced a wide variety of vibrant and imaginative work based upon the theme 'Then and Now' as part of a House competition this term. Along with work by ex-students of the school and fellow students from the Samuel Ward Academy Trust, they have exhibited their work in the gallery area at the Apex centre in Bury St Edmunds and have produced an impressive visual experience for visitors. A group of the exhibitors visited the Apex centre with Mr Clark and Miss Raleigh and enjoyed seeing their work alongside the other art pieces. Mr Clark said "the work was incredibly varied, imaginative and bold. Well done to everyone who took part!" The exhibition

takes place throughout the whole of July and will be seen by many visitors to the Apex centre; we encourage everyone to visit and see it for themselves.

Mr E Clark



TGS Art Teachers get involved in Primary School Art Week

Great Waldingfield Primary School students got creative and took part in their Arts Week from the 18th May, dedicating 4 days to all things arty. The event was organised by Miss Benford and was a fantastic opportunity for TGS Art teachers Miss Nichol and Miss Bowman to work collaboratively with the school; taking part in workshops teaching various techniques to year 1 through to Year 6.

Inspired by their visit to their local church, the students produced a range of art and

craft work including tie dying, wax resists, land art, chalk and charcoal studies, and even created their own miniature stained glass windows!

The event was a great success! Miss Benford spoke that the workshops 'were really engaging and captured the kids' imaginations' and that they 'left both the children and staff talking about them all day'.

To showcase all the work produced the school held a stunning Art exhibition where the children and their parents could see the outstanding work created.

A wonderful few days of creativeness was had by all and

we were really pleased to be a part of it. Thank you to the school, Miss Benford and especially the students, you were brilliant!

Miss A Bowman and Miss L Nichol



Philosophy

On Wednesday 5th July, Mr Hempel's Year 7 Grammar group had the unique opportunity of having a visiting speaker take the lesson.

Mr Theobald visited the class, explaining how he was a member of the Christian organisation called the Gideons. Mr Theobald spoke with our Year 7's who have recently been studying the life and actions of Jesus Christ. Mr Theobald explained the work of the Gideons in providing copies of the New Testament and Psalms to people in over 200 countries in the world! He offered students their own personal copy of the book to take also.

The lesson continued with students studying a Sand art film about Jesus's Parable of the lost son, working hard in groups to unpick and consider different interpretations of this well known moral story.

Mr J Hempel

Maths

On Monday, a group of 15 Year 10's went to the University of Hertfordshire, to a maths enrichment day. The students joined forces with other schools to solve difficult maths problems and listened to several talks from mathematicians.

These talks all covered a different area of maths: first, a maths PhD student taught the schools the maths behind braiding; next we learned the secrets behind defence and strategy using maths (and even received some dating advice in the process!)

The final talk of the day, by mathematician Ben Sparkes, looked into the creation of numbers and asked the question: 'Were numbers created by humans, or only discovered by them?'

Emily Mowles



Busta Rhyme Crime

In the last newsletter I commended on the excellent poems of the entrants to the Busta Rhyme competition. By mistake, however, I missed six students from this list. Many apologies to the following, and a belated well done to Madalene Howard, Grace Hines, Frankie Walker, Blake Wood, Aaron Ratcliff and Alice Balode.

(Like Santa, next time I will check my list, then check it twice!)

Mr G Edwards

Food Technology

As part of the new Food and Nutrition course the students have to gut and fillet fish. The group did a great job filleting fish such as salmon, sea bass and trout; then they seasoned the fish and added herbs and lemon juice and baked them in the oven.

Mrs H Lindsey



Music Summer Showcase

The evening of Wednesday 7th June saw the annual Summer Showcase, with a wide range of exceptional performances from the world of Music and Dance. Our Ensemble, String Ensemble and Choir all played a central role, together with some high quality performances from the Guitar Group and the Year 10 Band.

The soloists performed in a range of styles, spanning from Ruby Shrubsole's classical violin solo to Flo Redmonds' dazzling jazz improvisation. A notable highlight was Millie Kirkpatrick's and the Choir's performance of 'When We were Young' by Adele. The evening culminated in a group performance of 'Blame it on the Boogie' which saw the audience up on their feet dancing along!

Mr M Ulph



Science Fair

Thomas Gainsborough School's 19th annual fair was declared a roaring success, with two floors dedicated to science.

We were joined by businesses and organisations including Colchester Zoo, Otley College, and Suffolk Police to show how science is used in the real world through a series of demonstrations.

Ryan Furlong, Head of Physics, said: "The purpose of our science fair is to stimulate an interest in science and engineering and to show how important it is, not just in schools but in the outside world.

"Our goal is that the primary schools involved will be able use some of the demonstrations they have experienced to help teach their curriculum."

The event was supported by the Ogden Trust, a Cambridge-based charitable trust that exists to promote the teaching and learning of physics.

Mr R Furlong



ITV Election Debate



As a school we have been lucky in recent years to have had ITV come in twice to work with the school on the different events regarding different elections. Although a more unexpected election this time around, it was to be that as students on the 19th of May we were to gain another massively positive experience.

The structure of the day consisted of local MPs coming in to have a forty five minute debate about different topics affecting us as a society. All this was filmed by ITV, through facebook live and their own clips which they later used in a live broadcast piece. The live broadcast was structured so that the old and new sixth form team as well as other selected students, were interviewed by ITV about the earlier debate and our own interest in politics. It was a different structure to the last visit, and certainly the topics were very different making it a very engaging experience for those who participated in the last debate and filming two years before.

The topic of the day was are young people interested in politics? As students on the day we showed our great enthusiasm and interest for politics by questioning the MPs and later discussing important topics affecting us. Interestingly, looking back on the election it can be said that young people certainly came out and showed their interest making a huge difference to the result.



As well as the great experience with the debate itself, it was also great to work with ITV again and see the amount of work and effort that goes into the pieces we see on the news. The process of going live and watching them film some cut away clips for the broadcast later was very interesting.

Overall it was a very enjoyable day, thank you to ITV, to all the MPs and all the teachers who helped make the whole day very successful.

Katharine Rose

Technology

Year 8 STEM students have been extending their creativity using our contemporary laser cutter. This modern equipment speeds up manufacturing, so projects can be realised quicker and prototyping can be thoroughly investigated. Prototyping allows designers to take risks and push inventiveness, which are qualities we at TGS are striving to instil into our STEM students.

The laser cutter has a 0.1mm accuracy, which combined with our computer design programs mean that the students can create extremely precise structures. Mimi Mills created this structure to support a mobile phone incorporating a headphone holder.

Mr F Robinson



On the 29th of June, Thomas Tullin, Rebekah White and Megan Hermon from Year 7 travelled to Santapod Raceway in Northamptonshire. They were taking part in the national final of the Bloodhound SSC race for the line competition.

Having won both their local and regional finals outright, the team had made it through to the nationals, where they had to design and build a scale model rocket car from a strict brief and over a tight time scale. The cars then had small rocket motors fitted to them and were raced using some of the world record rules that Bloodhound SSC will hopefully face next year, when it attempts to break the land speed record and a 1000mph in the South African desert.

The competition was extremely tight and no bending of the rules was allowed whatsoever with three teams being disqualified from racing due to design infringements. Sadly, the team were not able to replicate their previous success and came 18th out of 30 cars. Even though the team left disappointed not

to win, as national finalists the name of the school will be on the tail fin of the actual Bloodhound car and that is a real achievement.

Mr A Cameron



Let's Get Digital!

Digital Literacy & Citizenship Award Released

A program of study to recognise students' digital literacy and citizenship has been unveiled. Students will be introduced to the new award, which will contribute to their record of achievement when they graduate from Thomas Gainsborough School in Year 11.

An electronic portfolio assessment tool has been designed in-house, where students collate examples of work that highlight safe, responsible and appropriate use of IT tools and resources.

The award recognises four topic areas:

- Using the WWW and web etiquette
- Producing business documentation
- Demonstrating awareness of health, safety and well-being in a digital climate
- Producing a business presentation

Certificate of Achievement



Digital Literacy and Citizenship Award

presented to
Enter Name Here

Achieving

In Progress

Date Awarded
13/07/2017

Awarded by

Thomas Gainsborough School

Excellence for each, for all

Information: CreateSafeResponsibleCommunication

Students will work on activities through tutor time, enrichment days, activities in IT and their own evidence conducted outside of school to build a portfolio to recognise their achievement.

Awards will be presented to Bronze, Silver and Gold standard as well as a ribbon on their record of achievement to recognise this accolade.

The benefits are profound and will endeavour to develop responsible citizens who are aware of their digital footprint and its impact, ensuring safe and responsible use of technology.

For more information, please contact Jim Oliver joliver@tg-schoolnet

Mr Oliver

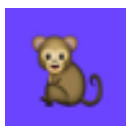
Please be aware of this app called Monkey on Apple Devices (iOS)

This social networking app randomly connects users with people using Snapchat for a short live video chat, with the option of adding the person on Snapchat to continue the connection. Before connecting, users can see the 'alleged' age and gender of the potential 'friend' and can choose to accept the video chat or not.

Be aware that there is no verification of age and the app relies on random introductions. Personal information is collected and can be shared.

Dangers include inappropriate contact and content shared live between users.

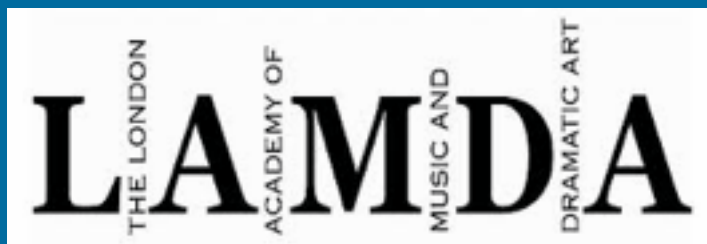
Please be vigilant



Snap Map is the latest update for Snap Chat - but be careful about sharing private location information. Click on the link below to find out more.

<https://www.theverge.com/2017/6/23/15864552/snapchat-snap-map-privacy-threat>





We have had a bumper year of results!

21 Distinctions

17 Merits

And no fails!

Many congratulations to the following pupils on their outstanding results from the March exams
Distinctions (Acting 80% and above)

Maia King Grade 3

Lois Pilgrim Grade 3

Yola Lohr Grade 5

Annabel Mudge Grade 4

Annabel Swann Grade 4

Phoebe Conerney Grade 7

Emily Edwards Grade 7

Jessica Lee-Rimmer Grade 7

Merits (Acting 77% -79%)

Solo Nichol Grade 3

Billy Tonks Grade 3

Caitlin Smith Grade 5

Francesca Perkins-Taylor Grade 7

Lauren Bayliss-Dagg Grade 6



All students have worked incredibly hard over this school year, and have been so disciplined and committed to their lessons.

For those who are unfamiliar with Acting exams the syllabus offers the students the opportunity to develop and attain confidence and competence in a variety of disciplines including: increased confidence, increased performance skills, self-esteem, effective communication and the development of vocal techniques and acting skills.

The other examinations I offer are:

Speech and Drama, Shakespeare, Reading, Spoken English, Public Speaking, Interview Technique and Devised Drama.

In a world that is getting more reliant on digital communication there never has been a more important time to learn the art of vocal communications.

For more information please contact Mrs Arrow Head of Drama

Ms S Lockwood



Great Cornard Community Association Fair

On Saturday 1st July, Great Cornard residents enjoyed a free fair run by the Great Cornard Community Association at the Stevenson Centre recreation ground. The fair, which has only run for the last 3 years, is organised by a small but hard working group of volunteers and is building on its success every year.

This year, visitors enjoyed attractions such as face painting, Play Your Cards Right, bird of prey displays, donkey rides, crockery smash, craft stalls, Punch and Judy shows, performances from the Thomas Gainsborough School Choir, live music and singing, a classic cars display, craft stalls, giant bouncy castles and a car boot sale as well as the usual tombolas, raffles, teas, cakes, barbecue, bar and ice creams. There were also several information stalls from organisations such as the library, Safewatch, Slimming World and St Nicholas Hospice.

The GCCA would be keen to hear from anyone interested in joining the team or able to lend a hand in any way. The main need is for volunteers to help assemble gazebos and set up tables and chairs, run a stall or help clear away at the end. If you are interested, please contact Stuart on 01787 371268. Without volunteers, events like these would not run!

Mrs K Young



O₂ 😊 NSPCC NetAware)))

Share Aware focus

We tell our children to share but online it's different. In fact, sometimes sharing online can be dangerous.

That's why the NSPCC have teamed up with O2 to

ask parents to be Share Aware and keep children safe online.

Talking to your child is the best way to help keep them safe. But with things changing all the time, it can be hard to keep up to date.

You can always call the online safety helpline on

0808 8005002 to get advice on anything from the latest social networks to parental controls.

Or find out what other parents think about the most popular social apps and games, what's the right age and details on privacy and safety settings with the

NSPCC's Net Aware tool.

<http://www.net-aware.org.uk/#>

Their straightforward, no-nonsense advice will untangle the web, and show you how you can be just as great a parent online, as you are the rest of the time. The internet is a great place for children to be. Being Share Aware makes it safer.

Mrs E Wilson-Downes

Bronze Duke Of Edinburgh Practice Expedition

21 bronze students put their training into practice during their expedition on the 23rd & 24th June to Baconsthorpe in North Norfolk.

The expedition was over 2 days and one night where they had to meet the 20 requirements in order to complete that section. For example students had to be self-sufficient, properly equipped, plan their routes, work towards an aim and cook one hot meal a day.

A practice expedition enables students to make mistakes and learn from them which I'm sure several did.

Although tough all students completed it to a very high standard which impressed the accompanying teachers Miss L. Nichol, Mrs A. Bevan-Smith and Mr N. Bennett.

Friday 26th May, our last official day at Sixth Form for all Year 13's. The last time as a group, we would officially hear the Scottish voice of Mr Alexander. It was an afternoon to celebrate our great successes and achievements throughout our whole time at TGS and especially in the Sixth Form. It started off with a speech by Mr Lloyd who described our year group as the pioneers of TGS: The first into the new official Thomas Gainsborough School, first in the new uniform, first to move into the new building and first year group to adapt to the changes within the Sixth Form. After that, our ribbon folders were handed out, all of us getting our gold folders celebrating our time in the Sixth Form.

Next, Ross McCrory, Emily Gillbanks and Callum Rolfe took the stage for the last time to give a few words of thanks. Up next was Mr Alexander, trying not to be out done by his own students he had created a poem which included everyone in the Sixth Form from Luke Howard 'loving his cars and Chloe' to Harry Harman 'the entrepreneur', he certainly did us all proud. Finally, the most important part of the day - pizza and doughnuts. What a great way to end our time at Thomas Gainsborough Sixth Form. All too soon, it was time to say goodbye to everyone and wish them good luck on their future adventures wherever that may take them. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at the Sixth Form, and wouldn't swap it for the world.

Matt Chambers



Enrichment Day Trip to Cambridge

On Thursday the 6th July, all of Year 12 went on a trip to Cambridge. When we arrived we were split into two groups, and the first group went punting while the other group had a cultural tour of the city area surrounding the university buildings, before changing activities. Going punting was a really fun experience, we saw beautiful views of the university colleges and learnt a lot about it's history. Over all it was a great day spent in a lovely city. Thank you to the sixth form team for taking us.

Katharine Rose



Emily Sharp wins Lancaster University Criminology Essay Prize

In May this year I was informed about a Criminology essay competition that was being run by Lancaster University Law School and open to all sixth form students around the country. The task was to write a 1000 word essay discussing the statement “The media is responsible for the way the public interpret and understand crime”. I was instantly intrigued by this and so decided to enter the competition. I submitted my entry and really did not expect to hear anything back. However, I was shortlisted and invited to their faculty taster day on the 30th June where the winner would be announced.

The day was extremely informative and enjoyable. I attended the Sociology taster session first where the topic of conversation was ‘who made my jeans and why did I buy them’ – a fascinating question when you really think about it. I then had a campus tour and finally attended the Criminology session. Before the lecture, Professor Paul Iganski spoke about the competition and then to my huge surprise announced me as the winner. I was awarded with a lovely certificate and a £100 voucher. I was so shocked but so pleased.

I thoroughly enjoyed the whole process, from writing the essay to attending the taster day (although getting up at 3am wasn’t my favourite part!)

Emily Sharp



Higher Education Convention at University of Suffolk

On the 14th June Year 12 students attended the Higher Education Convention at the University of Suffolk, where students interested in higher education, apprenticeships, volunteer and gap year programmes, or career opportunities could find out more information from the experts.

UCAS exhibitions are a unique opportunity for students – and anyone supporting them – to explore the wide range of opportunities available after school or college, all in one setting. Whether they’re interested in applying to university or looking at alternative options, they’re sure to find something that appeals to them.

Higher Education Evening

Following on from the Higher Education Convention, on the same evening we held an event for Year 12 students and parents to relay information, courtesy of a representative from the University of Suffolk, on the process of applying for University and the Financial implications. We also had a representative from Apprenticeships Suffolk talking about the availability and quality of apprenticeships and how to go about applying for them. This was followed by my favourite part of the evening... a return of some of our ex students who have completed their first year at university, talking about their experiences and imparting their wisdom about studying and living away from home. It was delightful to see and hear what confident and animated individuals they have become. To complete the evening we had an ex parent give her account of sending her daughter to University and informing current parents of the pro’s and con’s of doing so.

Mrs L King



Sixth Form Taster Day

On the 28th June nearly 100 Year 11 students attended the TGS sixth form taster day, several of whom attend other schools in this area and beyond. The day consisted mainly of taster lessons and activities. This is some of the feedback we have received:

What do you feel we did well?

You created an environment that was very open and comfortable for the students.

Allowing every subject which I had chosen to be experienced.

The taster sessions and activities were good to meet teachers and other students, and the panel at the end was helpful.

The sessions I attended gave a lot of information about the courses I wished to take, which has helped me make an informed decision about my courses.

Please tell us the most positive thing you took away.

That if I need help with anything, the teachers and staff at TGS will be fully willing to help me.

I know what I want to take and what I need to take to achieve my end goal (university).

The feeling that I could actually complete A levels.

I now feel that TGS sixth form would be enjoyable.

We are looking forward to meeting all students.

We were delighted to see so many potential students and look forward to seeing them again on results day Thursday August 24th.

Mrs L King



On 4th May, the Year 13 geographers headed out to Stratford and the London Docklands area to extend our subject knowledge. We headed to Stratford as our first port of call to conduct a survey in two different areas of Stratford; the old Central Business District and then over to the Westfields side to see if there was a difference in views about the legacy of the Olympics. However, Londoners being Londoners, it was hard to get them to complete our survey.

After a bit of time in both parts of Stratford, we headed on the Jubilee Line and DLR to Royal Victoria where we headed for the Crystal, which is a building all about sustainability. We could link multiple ideas to the work we had studied, from climate change to sustainable cities. After that we jumped on the Emirates Air Line cable car over the River Thames and descended into North Greenwich before heading to Canary Wharf and the London Docklands Museum. The museum was a great place to visit as it reinforced our knowledge of the London Dockland's Development Corporation and about the redevelopment of that area. After a whistle stop tour of Canary Wharf, we headed back to Stratford to finally catch the train home.

Overall, it was a quick trip to the Docklands however we could physically see what we had learnt in the classroom.

Mr M Watkins



CAREERS

CAREERS

The Careers Hub recorded 1290 visits by lower students since 15th May. Every time the students visit Careers to place achievements in record of achievement folders, attend employer workshops, Career guidance interviews or just to use our resources and Chrome books, we ask them to sign in.

On 18th May Sixth Form students Ricky Reader and Haydon Willis went to 'Age UK' in Sudbury. During their visit they interviewed Jilly Vince and a number of residents, in order to make a video for a future careers enrichment day activity, on the subject of dementia for Year 8 students.

As part of the Sixth Form induction day, on the 28th June, prospective Sixth Form students spent a lesson in the department, taking part in a careers quiz and listening to a careers induction talk. We are keen to encourage students to make the most of every opportunity to network with employers and to learn all important employability skills.



On 30th June a variety of West Suffolk Hospital employees came to the school to speak to students' regarding a career within the

NHS and healthcare profession. Students were fortunate enough to hear presentations from a surgical nurse, occupational therapist, physiotherapist and a midwife. This NHS employer workshop proved to be an invaluable experience for all those considering healthcare or medicine as a career. We have already booked a number of employers to visit in September including the Air Training Cadets, a beauty therapist, West Suffolk Hospital volunteering, Suffolk apprenticeships workshop, an apprenticeship talk with Shannon Smith and an alumni guest to talk about successful apprenticeship routes.

The last week of June saw Health and Social care Sixth form students complete their 100 hours of work experience. Many thanks go to Age UK, Hillside Special School, Number 72, Mrs Canham in Access, Catchpole Court, St Gregory's Primary School, West Suffolk Hospital and Waldingfield Primary School for their continued support this year.

The start of the new academic year will see the launch of the Half Colours programme for students in Year 7 and 8. This is to celebrate achievements of our students during their first two years of Thomas Gainsborough School. The Half Colours award will be based on the same framework as the graduation ribbons. Our aim is to encourage students to get into the habit of visiting careers with documentation of their achievements, both in and out of school. Students will receive a

stamp for each achievement and the students will be awarded a Half Colour award sticker once all stamps have been accumulated.

During English and IT lessons, students in year 9 have been working on their CV's and cover letters in preparation for mock interviews, that will take place when they move up to year 10. Currently they are in the process of visiting the careers department to file work and evidence in their Record Of Achievement folders.

On Enrichment day July 6th students in Year 9 listened to a presentation, and took part in follow up activities regarding health and safety in the workplace. They will receive a certificate to place in their ROA folders. This is in preparation for work experience in Year 10.

The Careers team invited local colleges, Apprenticeships Suffolk, YMCA Training, a representative from the RAF and ICANBEA careers information website to Thomas Gainsborough School. They provided post 16 information and networking opportunities for student's in Year 10 in preparation for making further education and training choices later this year.



CAREERS

CAREERS

Finally, since the last newsletter, 32 year 10 students have attended their work experience placements. Our students have enjoyed a wide variety of quality placements, some proving extremely interesting. Students have completed work experience at Beth Chatto's gardens, Country Farm Livery, SRL Sound Laboratories. Other students have worked with a photographer based in London, and an Architect in Colchester. Recognition should go to our students who all received positive feedback from the employers.



Work Experience Report

A few weeks ago I spent four days working with Essex Police for my year 10 work experience. Each day was action packed, with a taster session in a number of different units where I could see first-hand just how the Police Force operates. It was a really good experience; especially my fantastic full-on itinerary which included community training, a visit to the control room, helicopter unit, dog unit, roads policing, weapons training and a visit to the Essex Museum.

My favourite part was the OSG (Operation Support Group) which involved a visit to Lakeside where we patrolled the shopping centre to see how the public behaved and how they reacted to us. We almost made an arrest and did stop someone on the A12 on our return journey. The weapons training was really interesting as we took part in real life situations where we used a disused school to practise searches.

This work experience has really made me think about a career in the Police when I am older and would highly recommend it based on my experience. Special thanks to Chief Inspector Egan for making this work experience possible.

Chloe Adamson



Student Success

Katherine Mcleod - a Thomas Gainsborough School 2016 school leaver was awarded the prestigious title of 'Otley Student of the Year' on the 10th July at the Otley College Awards evening. A very proud moment for a student with a passion for horses. She studied Equine this year at Level 2, achieving a Distinction in her end of year exam.

She will be returning to Otley in September to study Equine at Level 3 for 2 years.



Coming up in September

ATC Employer workshop – 8th September
Beauty therapy/looking after your skin – 22nd September
West Suffolk Hospital – 28th September
The Skills Show for all Year 9 students October 18th
Suffolk Apprenticeships 8th November
Employer workshop – Shannon Smith Apprenticeship routes – 16th November

The Careers department would like to wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday.

SPORTS NEWS

England Basketball

Ella Pearson (Year 10) and Cameron Taylor-Willis (Year 9) travelled to Copenhagen with the U15 England basketball squad to compete in the Copenhagen Invitational Tournament. 15 other countries were also participating in this prestigious event.

The girls had to progress through a number of trials to eventually be selected to represent their country. This initially started with selection for Suffolk, moving on to representing the East of England. After a number of cuts, the girls were selected, along with 10 other U15's to represent England. This feat is particularly impressive for Cameron, due to her being a year younger for this age category.

Ella and Cameron spoke of how fantastic an experience they had. The match against Sweden was a particular highlight and Cameron commented on how it was amazing to play on the main court with a huge crowd watching. When asked what they had learnt from this great opportunity, both felt their knowledge on nutrition and what to eat to enhance performance had significantly improved. Throughout the tournament, both girls were in the starting 5 every game, which is a brilliant achievement in itself. Overall, the team came 7th out of 16, which is the best England have done in the girls U15 category for a long time.

The next step for Cameron and Ella will begin in September, where they will begin trials for the Great British U16 basket-ball team. If successful, they will be representing Great Britain in 2018.

Both Cameron and Ella hope to one day play professional basketball, and with the hard work and dedication they have demonstrated so far, perhaps one day, TGS will proudly speak of two students who made it into the WNBA! Well done girls, we are so proud of you.



THIS
GIRL
CAN



SPORTS NEWS

Eliza jumps to success!

Suffolk AAA Championships.

At U15 level she won the Long Jump and the High Jump and took Bronze in the 200 metres.

Sports Captains

After a very successful Application process, the Sports Captains for each house have been selected. The Applications and presentations were on the whole fantastic and it was such a hard decision for all 5 houses.

2017 Sports Captains:

Abbas – Eliza Betts, Finley Paul, Louise Watling

Chamberlain – Pheobe Studdy, Callum Metson

Houghton – Ben Lowe, Kaitlin Riddle

Peyton – Evie Prager, Lewis Miller

Tollemache – Maxi Webster-Coles, Bethany Jarvis

We have also decided to have committee members, along with the sports captains to create the sports council.



Swimming Gala

On the 10th July TGS had our swimming House competition; we had a fantastic turn out for those who participated in the gala. The students competed in the following events: 25m freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke, butterfly, 100m Individual Medley (I.M), diving and 4x25m relay. There were some outstanding races, many were less than a second between first and third. Some of the standout performances, to name a few, were James Rowley in the 100m I.M. who finished a length ahead of the next competitor. Evie Prager and Katie Chambers had a very tight race in the 25m butterfly, where Katie managed to finish fingertips ahead of Evie.

The support for all the houses was brilliant for the duration of the gala and everyone got behind each swimmer to cheer them on. At the end the swimmers eagerly awaited the final results which were

1st Chamberlain
2nd Abbas
3rd Tollemache
4th Houghton
5th Peyton



SPORTS NEWS

Sports Leaders

Every week there has been Sports Leadership Club, the people who attended the club have become outstanding sports leaders for our school. They have represented us at Bures and Potkilt's primary school sports days. This has included leading field events and running events. They successfully managed to tailor their teaching to the suitable age group of the pupils.

The sports leaders also lead at Quadkids athletics where many schools from the local area came to TGS for a big athletics competition. Here they lead everything without the aid of teachers and were a credit to themselves and our school. Throughout the events many parents, teacher and pupils from other schools praised how fantastic they were.

Well done to all leaders involved this half term.



Athletics

Year 9 Western Area Athletics

22 students from Year 8 and 9 travelled over to Bury St Edmunds to represent TGS in Western Area Athletics. Students took part in both track and field events against a number of western area schools. Eliza Betts won both of her events, completely outclassing her competitors in the long jump. A number of other students were also successful in their individual events, which was fantastic to see. The final result came in with the TGS boys coming 9th out of 14 and the girls 4th out of 14. Congratulations to those students.

Year 7 West Suffolk Super 8's

TGS took 16 students from Year 7 to represent TGS in the West Suffolk Super 8's competition. 8 girls and 8 boys participated in a number of track and field events, alongside 16 other western area schools. At the end of the event, the students took part in a relay that consisted of 4x100m immediately followed by 4x200m, which was interesting and lots of fun for those involved! At the end of the event, the TGS boys came 4th out of 17, whilst the girls came 11th. Well done to all who took part.

Overall

We have had many athletics competitions this term for all years up to Year 10. All athletes have represented the school very well in a number of competitions. There were some stand out performances from Eliza Betts who won both the 200m and the long jump, Oscar Edwards in the high jump, Shayna Preston in Long Jump, Molly Pratt long jump and Cameron Taylor-Willis in the shot put. We also had great success in the relay events in all competitions with great change overs and teamwork shown throughout. The Year 10 girls team finished second in the western area competition which was great and the Year 8 girls team got through to the Suffolk

SPORTS NEWS

schools games finals which was the team highlight overall. All athletes performed very well and gave it their all with lots of promising prospects for next years competitions. Thank you and well done to all the athletes that took part.

Miss N Buchanan



Cricket

So far this season we have played three games against three very good sides. Our two Captains, Dan Soborg and James Quin, have led the team extremely well and this played a big part in winning two of our three games.

Our first game was away to Thurston, a challenging side who bowled and batted very well. Soborg decided to bowl first which was a wise decision as we got them all out for 74, wickets coming for Soborg, Jack Ecuyer and Alex Quin. However we lost three early wickets from solid bowling and fielding from Thurston. At 5, James came in and steadied the ship hitting multiple fours. In the end we hit our target with overs to spare. A good start but room for improvement.

Our second game was against St. Benedicts, our local rivals. It was always going to be a tight game knowing they had a couple of county players. James captained the team well and we put out a solid score. With a neat score under our belt, we bowled and fielded well, putting the batsman under immense pressure. In the end, we won only by a few runs but everyone played very well and a fantastic win.

The third game came against County Upper and this was not as successful. We batted first and once the first couple of wickets had gone it began to go down hill. We were all out for around 60 and to win we were going to have to field like never before. County Upper however had one big batsman who hit a 50 and the game was over just after 7 overs.

As a cricket team this season, we have all bonded very well and are proud of how hard we have trained through-out the year and how this has paid off in these three games.

We looked forward to building on this next year.

Golf

On Thursday 29th June the golf team comprising of Oliver Page and Alice Barlow travelled to Haverhill golf club to participate in the Suffolk Schools Golf Tournament. Having won the last tournament Alice would have been confident in another win and her performance did not disappoint. Coming in at 2 over par! A performance which she described as "playing ok" certainly putting her in contention. Oliver was certainly confident having been cut from a handicap of 10 down to 7. He however did not fare so well. Starting with a couple of bogeys he never recovered however he could use the excuse that it was because of the pressure of being watched. He finished stronger than he started but unfortunately with a score that would not be challenging for a trophy.

Well done to both for participating and representing the school many times for the golf team. With these two students leaving us we are keen to see some new students represent the school golf team. If you have a handicap and want to play please let the PE department know.

Sky Dive Success!

I recently completed a sky dive and it was definitely the best experience I've ever had. I also managed to raise £500 for charity which is mind blowing!

Jade Ashdown

SPORTS NEWS

Sports Day

This year we had to use the reserve sports day due to the severe wet weather on Day 1. However the field events could take place and there were many competitors from all houses and all years competing in long jump, high jump, shot putt, javelin and discus. Good performances in the field can give a great platform for the track events.

Results from the field were;

1st Chamberlain, 2nd Abbas
3rd Houghton, 4th Peyton, 5th
Tollemache, still all to play for on
day 2.

Day 2 saw a much brighter day, but windy which is very difficult for sprinting however all competitors did extremely well and again some very good performances. It was very close in all races, Eliza Betts, Phoebe Studdy, Louie Arnold all performed in their chosen event. As the relays were being run 3 houses could still become champions. The relays were run and the final standing were:

Chamberlain 616
Abbas 606
Tollemache 602
Houghton 554
Peyton 547

A great few days
for all involved.

Mr R Myhill



SPORTS NEWS



SPORTS NEWS



Thomas Gainsborough School Race for Life!

On Thursday 6th July over 400 students and staff laced up their trainers, dressed in pink t-shirts and gathered their sponsor money in order to run the biggest 'Race for Life' that Thomas Gainsborough has hosted to date. Zoe Battell, who helps to organise the Junior Park Run, swung into action by setting up a new route, organising staff and briefing the marshals. The two lap course, which covered the TGS field and Cornard Dynamo Pitch, was bathed in sunshine and supporters galore. Mrs Canham and her access team provided refreshments to all weary competitors and brought a smile to all that passed. This year's event was planned on 'Healthy Body Healthy Mind' Enrichment Day so all students who had not signed up to run were out walking the perimeter of the field showing encouragement and support. The sea of pink was a phenomenal sight. Over the last two years Thomas Gainsborough School have raised over £11000 for Cancer Research UK and so far this year we have raised £3,500. It is clear to see by the acknowledgement badges that students pin on, that they appreciate what they are doing and who they are doing it for. Cancer affects so many people and this event allows students, staff and teachers to support family and friends as well as providing the opportunity to reflect on loved ones lost to this disease. Students must be congratulated for their finishing positions, with Corey Shields in first place, George Mann in second place and Ben Barton in third place. We are pleased to make this event a permanent feature in our school calendar and look forward to many events to come.

It's not too late to sponsor us as a school, if you would like to do this, please go to the following Just Giving Link :<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/thomas-gainsborough-school-2> (this can also be accessed from the 'Latest News' section on the TGS Website).

A massive well done to all organisers, runners and sponsors, an event to be proud of!

Mrs A Butcher



SPORTS NEWS



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



**End of Year GCSE and
A Level Art Exhibition
@ Thomas Gainsborough
School**

**6.00pm – 8.00pm
Thursday 20th July 2017**

OPEN TO ALL

Refreshments Available

Exhibition @ Thomas Gainsborough School, Wells Hall Road,
Great Cornard, Sudbury, CO10 0NH.
Contact Mr Edward Clark (Head of Art) at:
ecornard@tgschool.net

Open Evening

THOMAS
GAINSBOROUGH
SCHOOL

Thursday 21st September 2017, 5.30-8.30pm, for families and pupils of Year 6
Talks with Mr Lloyd, Headteacher, will be at 5.30, 6.30 and 7.30pm in the Assembly Hall



We also welcome visits to the school at anytime, please contact us for a personal tour

Excellence: for each, for all

enquiries@tgschool.net www.tgschool.net 01787 375232

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Autumn Term 2017

Wednesday 6 September – Wednesday 20 December 2017

Half Term: Monday 23 October – Friday 27 October 2017

Non Pupil Days: Monday 4 September, Tuesday 5 September and
Friday 20 October 2017



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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**