

Excellence: for each, for all

PORTRAIT

THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER . MARCH 2016 . ISSUE 3



THOMAS
GAINSBOROUGH
SCHOOL

JOSEPH
AND THE
AMAZING Technicolor DREAMCOAT
School Production



JOSEPH

And the
AMAZING Technicolor
School Production





JOSEPH
A Color Dreamcoat
Production



Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat



The story of Joseph and his coat of many colours came to life on the evenings of Wednesday 9th and Thursday 10th March. Even when it seemed to be all over, the team and cast pulled off two further superb shows for our primary schools on the Friday. The Great Cornard Lunch club attended the rehearsal; they told us that the cast is 'very talented', the costumes 'so colourful' and rehearsal 'word perfect'. The audiences were wowed!

Oliver Hughes gave a strong lead with powerful, clear vocals and commanding stage presence. The narrators, Gemma Deacon and Zara Hearnden, provided the strong glue that held the performance together. They had amazing presence and crystal clear diction. And Zara's top notes were amazing. Ross McCrory, the consummate actor playing Potiphar, was comical and moving- a difficult combination to pull off and testament to his excellent acting skills. Sam Wainwright was a star as Pharoah with a rockingly good number! Each member of the big cast should feel rightly proud of their performances as all had strong singing voices and presence on stage. Dancers were superb and the choreography perfect, the band professional.

A special mention and huge thank you goes to Mr Brett Houlden for his carpentry expertise in the scenery. The entire Production Team worked hard to make this Musical such a success, ably supported by the many staff that pulled it all together.

Joseph Thompson adds, 'The hours of work that have been put into Joseph are unbelievable, both night and day the cast members, band members and teachers have given it all to produce an outstanding performance.'

"The singing is amazing!"



"Potiphar and the narrators were excellent!"



"I loved all the singing and dancing"



Young Designers

Gooderham PR and NHS West Suffolk call on Young Designers at Thomas Gainsborough School



Working with Gooderham PR and NHS West Suffolk, a small group of students in years 10-12 were invited to get their design hats on in order to evaluate the NHS West Suffolk Hospital website.

The website is due an overhaul and students were offered the opportunity to have their say in identifying next steps for improving the design and functionality.

The students critiqued the website from functionality content and design, giving a good account of the design areas covered as everyday users plus elements picked up throughout their IT lessons.

The students gave an insightful review, generating great ideas for the web design team to take away and incorporate. We look forward to reviewing the site once it has been developed.

'Members of the NHS Trust came into our school to allow some

students, from a range of year groups, the opportunity to have a look at their current website and give us an input into the design process of the new website. We were tasked with looking at the old website and in a forum type setting gave our strong and weak points on the website and how it could be made with the patient in mind. As a group we wanted the new website to be user friendly, compatible with mobile devices, have a simple but effective homepage and relevant quick links like visiting hours and car parking charges. Some of the key issues were addressed and it is great to know that not only would it help us, it will help the whole community,' Matthew Chambers

'It was a good experience to be able to contribute to a real world 'problem' that needed to be solved and having the opportunity to deliver ideas towards a new, better looking,

more efficient website was fantastic to be a part of. Being able to deliver feedback to a project allowed us to see the practicality of the IT skills that we had been learning,' Dan Marsh

Attendees:

Jess Lee-Rimmer Year 10
Ella Thompson Year 10
Alex Nightingale Year 11
Kieran Waters Year 11
Alexia Gortsilas Year 12
Matthew Chambers Year 12
Dan Marsh Year 12

Thanks to students for their contribution and Gooderham PR/ NHS West Suffolk Web Design Services for the opportunity.

Jim Oliver

Preparing Young People for the World of Work

TGS Students Join Business Leaders to Launch the New Enterprise Adviser Venture to Inspire and Prepare Young People for the World of Work

A new programme which aims to link local senior business people with Headteachers and Principals was launched at Thetford Academy in February.

The event was attended by more than 60 Head teachers, Principals, Assistant Heads & Vice Principals, students, Local Authority Staff and senior business leaders.

The New Anglia Enterprise Adviser Network is a national programme being delivered locally that connects local business leaders with senior leaders in local secondary schools, academies, colleges, helping to motivate and inspire young people's career aspirations, to make a major impact on their work prospects.

Speakers at the launch event also included Mary Tyler, Programme Director, The Careers and Enterprise Company, business leaders Richard Bridgman, Warren Services and Clive Edmonds of Scienta Consulting and students from the Thomas Gainsborough School, Suffolk and the Thetford Academy, Norfolk, who are learning about careers and enterprise through a range of activities.

PSHE Enrichment Day

Wednesday 9th March was another brilliant and vibrant day when we were delighted to welcome members of our local community into school to share their experiences and knowledge to enrich our students' learning. The theme of the day was choices, equality and diversity – celebrating difference and challenging intolerance.

Year 7 and 8 students eagerly debated the European Migrant Crisis and explored and challenged some commonly held myths when looking at the threat of terrorism.

Year 9 and 10 students looked at the threat of terrorism too and discussed the Government's 'Prevent Strategy'. They also focussed on relationships and were fortunate to share, and question, the experiences of 'Explore' ambassadors, real life married couples, as well as meeting Joseph an ambassador from Stonewall.

Budding forensic scientists, in Year 7, investigated an imaginary break in at Thomas Gainsborough School and the suspicious death of our unfortunate caretaker. (Editor's note: We have to say they are all looking particularly well after the day!) Using some sophisticated scientific techniques they were successful in identifying the culprit.

Year 8 students skilfully questioned a number of employers in a speed networking event finding out about future careers and employability skills.






Healthwatch

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.

Healthwatch and Unity & Diversity also engaged in debates with 65 students in Year 10 and 11 in their Health and Social Care lessons. Students discussed and analysed the collected data on 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 prepared a script for a series of four short plays. Our talented Year 8 and Year 9 Drama students, over the next few weeks, took part in Drama Workshops with a professional actor from Unity in Diversity.

On Tuesday 22nd March these students will perform the plays at a Showcase Evening Event. Offshoot Films has recorded this innovative project; their film will be shown at the Showcase Event. Representatives from Health and Social Care providers in Suffolk and members of Suffolk County Council attended 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.

Tracey Welsh



**Mental health and wellbeing in Suffolk:
What are the issues?**

Presented by Healthwatch Suffolk and Unity and Diversity.

Students from the Thomas Gainsborough School will be presenting a showcase event to highlight issues of mental health and wellbeing among children and young people. The event will also provide an opportunity for health and mental health organisations in Suffolk to engage with children and young people, parents and teachers.

**22nd March 2016
18:00 - 20:00**

Thomas Gainsborough School

For more information, please contact Healthwatch on
01449 703949

Please click to register for a place
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TGS2016>

Unity in diversity 

healthwatch
Suffolk

Healthwatch Drama Workshop



Poetry by Heart

Poetry by Heart is a pioneering national competition designed to encourage school students to learn and to recite poems by heart. Since September, some Year 10 students have been busy preparing to compete.

In Poetry by Heart Club, we began by reading, discussing and performing a range of poems from an online anthology. After much consideration, students then chose two poems that they liked, interpreted their meaning and learned them off by heart.

In January, our three finalists,

Thomas MacClean, Jessica Lee-Rimmer and Francesca Perkins-Taylor, recited their poems in front of an impressed Year 9 group and Francesca was chosen to represent the school at the County Final. A group of keen supporters, Mrs Buller and I travelled to The John Peel Centre for Creative Arts in Stowmarket to watch Francesca perform her poems. Francesca's recitation of *Invictus* by W.E. Henley and *Morning Song* by Sylvia Plath was compelling and she was awarded a Special Commendation! The esteemed judges remarked that her performance "brought a classic poem into the modern era with style."

Francesca performed at our Easter Celebration Assembly so we were all able to listen to her poem. Rosaleen Furey



Sudbury Festival of Performing Arts

The Sudbury Festival of Performing Arts is a competitive festival open to all ages. It gives the opportunity for students to perform in front of an audience and to receive an expert assessment from a professional adjudicator. TGS was honoured to hold the festival this year in our new Assembly Hall in March.

Students with a wide range of abilities from all over East Anglia took part and benefitted enormously from the experience - learning the discipline of preparing their pieces, taking to the stage and watching and listening to their peers.

Our students did exceptionally well this year - the adjudicator said, 'What a high standard of performance and the standard of diction at this festival is one of the highest that I've ever seen.'

Duologue Acting 14-16yrs
Distinction
Oliver Cotton and Oliver Hughes - 1st Place
Commended
Jemma Slade and Jasmine Rogers

Duologue Acting 12-13yrs
Distinction
Chelsie Lockwood and Danielle - 2nd place

Commended
Elena Pilgrim and Ella Keep - 3rd place
Yola Lohr and Caitlin Smith
Katherine and Rosie

Annabel Swan and Annabel Mudge

Solo Acting 14-18yrs
Distinction
Georgia Higgins - 2nd place

Solo Acting 12-13yrs
Commended
Milly Wingate 1st place
Nicole Gruman
Kallista Gronland
Bert Kavanagh

Gail Forster



Dramatic results

12 Distinctions and 7 Merits for LAMDA students

The LAMDA Showcase was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all the hard work students had put in to prepare for their LAMDA examinations.

The next rounds of examinations are on Thursday 14 April. Do help us celebrate their work at the Showcase one week later on Thursday 21 April.

If you are interested in taking LAMDA lessons please contact Miss G Forster.

Oliver Hughes, the lead actor in Joseph the Musical received the 'Ruth Barber Memorial Trophy for Solo or Duo Dramatic Excellence' for his performance of 'The Importance of being Ernest' with Oliver Cotton. We were very proud of all their achievements.

Susan Lockwood LAMDA

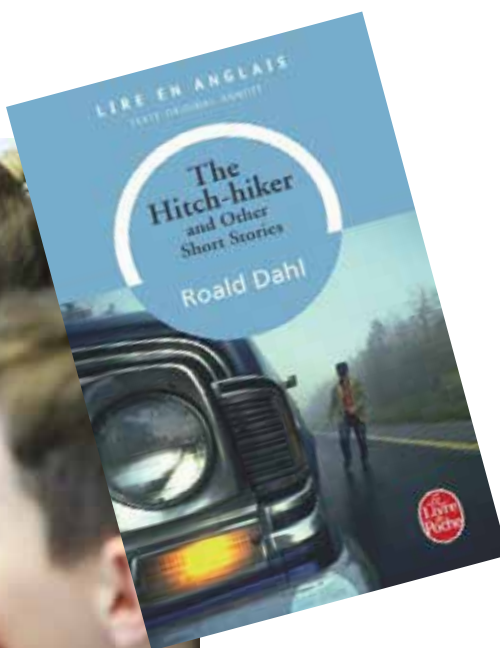


World Book Day

TGS celebrated World Book Day 2016 by reading aloud the short story 'The Hitchhiker' by Roald Dahl.

All teachers of Years 7, 8 and 9 students spent a good part of their subject lessons on March 3rd reading aloud the entire Roald Dahl classic short story to celebrate the value of reading fiction.

Heather Welch



Reading Supporters

Thank you, Mrs Bavington, for bringing your Year 8 Grammar English class to the Library. They were superb! Mrs Howard, Pot Kiln Primary School teacher, said that 'it was the best reading experience Pot Kiln had ever had at the Library and it was because of the wonderful TGS students.'

Heather Welch

Maths Master Class

In February fifty one Year 5 students, from ten local primary schools, joined us for 3 days of Maths Master Classes. Students were taught by Maths teachers from TGS. The small groups of students were supported by Mathematicians from Years 7 to 9. It was a fantastic experience for everyone involved and gave a brilliant introduction to Maths here at Thomas Gainsborough School. Lots of new friendships were begun.

Tracy Barfield



British Schools Karting

Thomas Gainsborough School sent two teams of Karters to the preliminary round of this year's British Schools Karting Competition on February 3rd. The two teams travelled to Anglia Indoor Karting circuit in Ipswich to race against pupils from other schools in East Anglia in the Local final.

The students made up two teams of three with each driver racing in two sprint races; the points then contributed towards a team total. As always, the field was very competitive this year with several very experienced returning teams including Farlingaye High School and Kesgrave High School. TGS A came second overall, narrowly missing the top position due to an incident in the last race. TGS B raced consistently and came 8th overall. Ben Tatum and Josh Martin of TGS A were both novices to competitive racing. 'It felt like forever waiting for the green light at the start of the first race,' said Josh Martin.

'Both new drivers performed exceptionally, you wouldn't have known they hadn't raced in competitions before and were not fazed by the seasoned veterans they were competing against,' said Mr Cameron, the teams' organiser. Ben and Josh both earned important points for their team, making up several places over their two races apiece. Josh Addison made the third member of TGS A, winning his first race and lapping all but the Karter in second place. TGS B comprised of Tom Davey, Olly Marshall and Charlie Fletcher. In coming second TGS A team has advanced to the next stage of the competition, the regional final held at Daytona in Milton Keynes on April 26th.

Andy Cameron





Monday 8th February marked the start of the Chinese Year of the Monkey, and here at TGS, with a visit to our partner school in Changzhou imminent, we held a series of events to celebrate and to wish our Chinese friends a warm “Hung Hei Fat Choy”.

Each morning, much to our enjoyment, Tai Chi sessions, with instructor Diego Robirosa, replaced our normal House Assemblies. On Monday in the Lightwell, which was beautifully decorated with Chinese decorations and displays about the animals of the Chinese Zodiac, a delicious Chinese lunch was served. Of course, we had the option to eat with chopsticks, an opportunity for some to show off their expert skills! Meanwhile, Mr Ponsford was running a very well-attended Chopstick Challenge competition to put these skills to the test. In tutor time during the week, each tutor group learned a little about the Chinese Zodiac and created a Fu sign for their tutor group noticeboard, which was hung upside down for extra good fortune for the coming year.

Hung Hei Fat Choy.

Lisa Magowan



China Revisited

20 students from across Year 8 to Year 13, with Mrs Magowan and Mr Gibson, are on a 10 day tour of China at Easter. We fly to Beijing, travel by train to Shanghai and spend two days with our partner school in Changzhou. Some of the sights we visit include the Great Wall, the Forbidden City and the Bund.

In preparation for the trip, a Mandarin teacher has been visiting once a week to teach us basic language and insights into the culture and history.



Access News

As part of the Chinese New Year celebrations, Access 1 made some dragons.



Access 1 are busy working on their garden. With the help of Mr Bird, they have started to set up some raised beds ready for planting. The hard work will pay off: thank you Access for making our school more attractive and green.



Constructing the new polytunnel
Lyn Burns



The BBC News from Ella Keep

In the recent half term holidays I visited BBC Broadcasting House in London and went on an amazing tour. When I was there I found out lots of different facts that I had never heard about before; for example the word Broadcasting actually means sowing seeds and was used to communicate the idea of spreading news. I also discovered that in the Second World War a delayed action German bomb was dropped right on top of the BBC, killing seven people. The newsreader, Bruce Belfrage, continued to read the news despite being covered in plaster and soot. Listeners heard a dull thud but had no idea it was a bomb. We listened to the broadcast and it was extraordinary the lengths Bruce Belfrage went to not to let the Germans know the BBC had been hit. He was a real hero.

We saw the One studio, the enormous News room, the BBC Radio Theatre and lots more but the highlight of the tour was when I had the opportunity of reading The News in a mock studio with cameras, lights and autocue. It was very nerve racking but at the same time very exciting.

It was a fantastic day!

Ella Keep



Skiing in Austria

On Friday 12th February over 40 students and 6 staff travelled to Wagrain in Austria for the lower school ski trip.

The group had an amazing six days on the slopes with fresh powder every day creating a fantastic experience for all. From the beginners to the most advanced, all students (and staff) made outstanding progress. But as we know, you must make mistakes in order to learn and we saw a fair few skis upside down and in a pile, let's call it the domino effect! The après ski kept us entertained in the evenings when students took part in ice skating, swimming, quizzes and sports activities.

The students were a pleasure to have on the trip and a credit to the school.

Amie Butcher



House Matters

Chamberlain House

London to Brighton fancy dress obstacle course relay. Amazing effort, making it to Brighton at about 5.10pm.

Thank you to Amanda Forster, Blake Richards, Aimee Gammon, Tracy Hunt, Jo Arrow and Tracy Metson.

And to Sixth Formers Will Nicholson and Will Poole who gave up their time.

Thanks also to the house team including Nina Battle, Ami Crowley, Jaz Samson, Murray Lange, Cerys

Duke and Robert Bray.

£200 has been raised with money still to come in.

Amie Butcher



Houghton

Houghton was dancing to fund raise!

On Friday 27th February, Houghton House held a Snowball School Disco. Even though it did

not snow as we expected, we had lots of fun, danced a lot to great music thanks to our school DJ, Harry Sage (Y10), had great food and raised more than £100 for charity.

Thanks a lot for all your donations and support. All the money raised will have a great impact on the work done by the charities that TGS supports:

East Anglia's Children's Hospices, Cancer Research UK, WaterAid and Friends of TGS.



UK Linguist Olympiad

On Tuesday 15th March 75 students from TGS were selected by their Languages Teacher to represent their House in the 2016 version of the UK Language Olympiad.

The UK Language Olympiad is a competition for students who are still at secondary school or college – any age, any ability level – in which they have to solve linguistic data problems. Similar competitions happen in a number of other countries, though it's only recently that they have taken place in English-speaking countries.

It was a tough challenge and all students worked hard during an hour to complete the Foundation and Intermediate tasks. We find out soon who the winners are.

Well done!

Liliana Hurtado



Finishing School



Teachers from Finland spent a few days sampling lessons and seeing how we educate young people in our country. They enjoyed their experience and we look forward to paying a reciprocal visit to Finland to learn from them.



Eden's Youth Centre treated us to an assembly informing students of their youth facilities.

Small Acts of Charity Project

In February students in CLY tutor group raised a total of £7 in spare change for a good local cause: Tramp, Shell and Dingo the Dog. We decided to help keep someone warm this winter and bought: Hat, Gloves, Scarf, Socks and a soft portable mat and pillow. All three were so grateful for our help that they returned the favour by writing a thank you letter.

Carrie-Anne Lynch

CAREERS

Work Experience News

Student in focus work experience

Hannah Scott - The Swan Hotel in Lavenham

Hannah says 'My work experience was a fantastic week, I enjoyed every minute of my week in the kitchen. Working in the kitchen has fully determined what I want to do in the future.'

Head Chef comment - 'A real star, she worked hard, was polite and great to work with and her cakes were great.'

Hannah exceeded all expectations.

Parent view - 'Hannah truly enjoyed and benefited from every minute. She was extremely enthusiastic and found it really inspirational.'

Many thanks to our employers for providing excellent placements for TGS students.

Ella - TMH Media

Charlotte - Angela's

Ivo - Fisher Jones Greenwood

Katrina - Woodhall Primary School

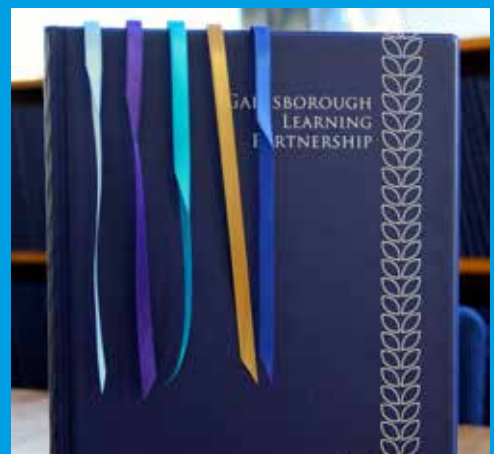
Hannah - The Swan Hotel

Anna - Catley Cross Veterinary Practice

Jasmine - Huffers



Join TGS Careers on Twitter for
information



Year 11 Celebration Opportunities

Our Year 11 Graduation Committee is working towards providing various opportunities to celebrate our years together at Thomas Gainsborough School. The Year 11 Graduation ceremony is on Friday 24th June from 10:30 to 12:00. This is a celebration for Year 11 students and their parents. Invitations have been posted to families and we look forward to receiving your replies.

The Year 11 Prom is on Friday 8th July at Colchester United Football Club from 19:30 to 22:30. Tickets cost £25 and include venue hire, DJ and a buffet meal.

Our 2016 Yearbook will include profiles and photographs of all students in Year 11 who submit their details, as well as house information and photographs. This will be available at a cost of £15.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Welsh twelsh@tgschool.net or Mrs Gilligan ngilligan@tgschool.net

Naomi Gilligan



Fancy spending 2 weeks away from home this summer and making a REAL change in YOUR community? National Citizen Service (NCS) is a once in a lifetime opportunity for 15 – 17 year olds. You'll not only build lifelong friendships and take part in adrenaline fuelled outdoor activities, but also gain invaluable skills for UCAS applications, your CV and life in general.

All food, travel, accommodation and equipment are provided while you're away – with a total worth of £1200 -

but you'll never pay more than £50. In the first week you'll get to grips with the great outdoors – taking part in adrenaline packed activities, including; rock climbing, high ropes and archery! But if that's not for you don't worry, you can look forward to chilled evenings by the camp fire roasting marshmallows. The following week you'll be setting off to uni and experiencing 'the student life'. You'll take part in a variety of activities to hone your skills, develop leadership and build your confidence, preparing you to take on new challenges in the next phase – Make a difference.

When you return home, the skills you've built over the past 2 weeks will be put to good use, as YOU pick an issue in YOUR community and come

up with a plan to fix it! That could be dispelling the negative perception of young people with the elderly, improving facilities in your area or even, if you're ambitious, putting on a concert to raise awareness of a local charity. The choice is yours.

It all starts at YES!

We have departure dates available throughout July and into the first week of August.

The UFA NCS team visited your school in an assembly on 21st March 2016, followed by two lunchtimes.

For more information and to sign up online go to WWW.NCSEAST.CO.UK.



TGS Media and the BBC join forces

BBC School Report 10th March 2016

On the 25th February, our Year 12 students were fortunate enough to have Jo Mathys, Senior Reporter for Current Affairs Impact and Digital working with them for the whole day. The aim of the day was to research a story, write the report and record and edit it for a radio broadcast. The highlight of the day was a face to face interview with local MP James Cartlidge – the students got to interview him about his recent petition for a mobile mast in the county's worst affected 'not-spots'. They also went on to interview Dr Rob Matthews from Vodafone to find out what could be done. It was a very enjoyable day and students were inspired and learnt what it was like to record the news for 'real'! <http://tgschool.net/enrichment/enrichment-events/bbc-school-report/>



Sue Crawte

Taylor Mann's report:

Year 12 Media students from Thomas Gainsborough School have produced a BBC school report. They have compiled a radio station report on James Cartlidge's petition to increase mobile phone reception in Suffolk. They interviewed Mr Cartlidge and a Vodafone representative. They asked some really tackling questions which Mr Cartlidge and the Vodafone employee responded to. The group of students had help from Jo Mathys a reporter from BBC Radio 4. She showed the students some of her colleagues' work; the students were intrigued to see how their reports had been presented.

Their first lesson was about what they could ask Mr Cartlidge; they came up with some very interesting questions which would engage Mr Cartlidge. In the second lesson two of the students interviewed Mr Cartlidge. The report was then recorded by other students from the group. In the third lesson one of the students interviewed Vodafone, who gave them a lot of interesting facts and figures about the company. They then crafted and edited their interviews with the software on the Media Studies computer.

Overall the day was a success: all the students loved it, they learnt a lot from the day and they said they would love a day like it again.

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 £75/£50/£25) has now been launched. Students were asked to complete an essay on one of nine different areas of discussion, aimed to be around 1200-1500 words. Entries have been submitted and are now being looked over by form tutors. The best essays will then be passed on, and it will be down to Mr Lloyd and Holmes and Hills to decide which three essays will be placed in the top three – and receive the prize for their hard work.



London Docklands visit



On Thursday 4th February the A-Level Geography students took part in a field trip to London's Docklands. After conducting questionnaires in Stratford we headed for London's financial district where Canary Wharf is situated. Here we visited the London Docklands Museum where we mainly researched about the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC). This was very interesting as it helped to cement our knowledge, and gave us a recent case study of urban decline. After the visit to the museum we walked to the Emirates Air Line (while taking lots of pictures on the way!) but on the way we noticed that in front of Canary Wharf would make a good photo - so that's what we did!

The Emirates Air Line was really good fun and allowed us to take more photos of the O2 Dome, the Shard and the Olympic Park. It was similar to the London Eye but actually transports you across the river to The Crystal - which we visited next.

The Crystal is a sustainable city exhibition which has many zones, including future life, waste management, transport links and many more.

This field trip is useful for the main exam and for the fieldwork exam. Thank you to Mr Watkins for organising this trip and also to Mrs King for coming along and helping out.

Will Price

Sixth Voice

The Sixth Voice is a magazine exclusive to Thomas Gainsborough School, superbly written by English students in the Sixth Form. Anyone can contribute to the Sixth Voice, and should anyone wish to express their interest in writing for this magazine, then they can either speak to Mr Alexander, Mrs Wakeman or even members of the Sixth Voice themselves. The Sixth Form decides what should be in the magazine, and what an individual chooses to write about is up to their own imagination, as long as it is within the realms of suitability to the Sixth Form and other audiences.

Kira Dus



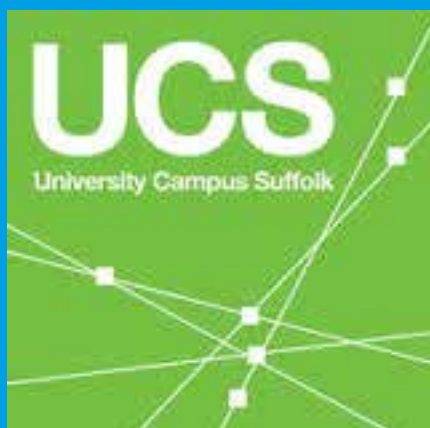
UCS Research Lunch

Earlier in February, UCS held a research lunch for certain individuals with the aim of looking at what a student really wants in a website. There were several different cards with different aspects of a website on them; for example, videos, social media links, and each card had a different amount of money on them for how much they'd cost to be put on a website.

Each student was given a set budget in the form of poker chips, each one representing £10. Students set out to designate what they'd want on a website; having to stay within the realms of a budget they had been set. They also had to create two of their own cards for what they'd want on a website, adding to the task. A full discussion ensued.

They also had lunch, as the name UCS Research Lunch suggested, which – in the words of one student – 'was very yummy'.

Overall, the experience was worthwhile for the students, proving invaluable for those who may be looking into going into the creation of a website. However, it was useful not just for those specific students, teaching the importance of budgeting and stretching your money as far as it can go.



Football Friendly

The Norwich City Regional Football Scholarship Programme, in partnership with Thomas Gainsborough School, is an exciting opportunity for young people between the ages of 16-18 to continue their academic, football and career development through Norwich City Football Club.

We will have up to 24 scholars enrolled on this fantastic opportunity, with some very competitive fixtures in the coming weeks, including a game against Norwich City Academy.

Kenny Alexander



SPORTS NEWS

Pearson makes the cut

On the 17th February I travelled to Manchester's new Belle Vue Stadium for a two day England basketball training camp. I got through after they cut the squad to 16. I am hoping to be included in the final 12 member under 15 team and making my England debut in Copenhagen in July this year. The Great Britain women were training there after us.

Ella Pearson



U14 Girls' Netball Western Area Finals

The under 14 netball team travelled to Thurston and played two games in the finals evening. TGS performed very well and GA and GS were on fire and beat County Upper School 18-4. The final was going to be difficult against Thurston. TGS played a good game but unfortunately were up against a very well drilled Thurston team. The star of the match was Ella Pearson for excellent shooting and good defending; very close behind was Nicole Scanlan.



U13 Hockey tournament VS Thurston, St Benedicts and Horringer Court

It was a fantastic tournament held on home turf. Despite the cold and windy conditions we had some great hockey from all teams involved. Unfortunately TGS came 3rd in both the girls' and the boys' tournaments. However our players gave it their all and they made a great start in their first matches as an U13 team. Looking forward to seeing what these teams can do in the future.



Adam Crawford competed at the English Schools cross country championships, Wollaton Park, Nottingham. It was a hilly course set in the beautiful grounds of Wollaton Park. Adam ran a good race finishing 109th out of approximately 400 runners coping with a sudden hailstone downpour at the start! Adam is the younger year of senior boys and was the second Suffolk runner home so he was very happy and looks forward to next year. The cross country season is nearly at an end but he runs for Suffolk at the inter-countries championships on Saturday 12th March, at Cofton Park Birmingham – great news and good luck.



SPORTS NEWS

Year 7 Boys' Basketball

Close Result To Thriller Match!

The TGS Year seven boys played their first basketball match on Tuesday 2nd February, and it was a great match. TGS played Howard Middle and narrowly won 13-10. The first quarter ended 2-2 with TGS opening up the scoring, Alfie (Haygreen), Yujin (Boorman), Thomas (Cadeddu), Morgan (Brain) and Jonny Ogle all making a big difference.

The second quarter was where TGS came out and played with amazing contributions from Harvey (Clare), who scored a lovely layup and Luke (Dudden) who played a great all round game. The second quarter ended 5-4 to TGS. In the third quarter TGS didn't score until 5 seconds left and with TGS down by 1 point Thomas threw a brilliant pass up the field to Morgan (Brain) who managed to get a shot on the dribble with great defence from the Howard defender to beat the buzzer.

The quarter ended 7-6 to TGS. Once again TGS played brilliantly in the fourth quarter. It looked like Howard Middle might be coming back but TGS boys played brilliant, exhilarating and beautiful basketball. In the end a beautiful no look behind the back pass from Harvey (Clare) and a lovely finish from Kai (McKnight) and brilliant basketball from Lui, Josh (Addison) including Luke (Dudden) won it for TGS. To conclude, a great first game from the Year seven boys.



U16 Boys' Football final

County Cup

TGS vs Felixstowe

A long awaited game had a lively start with both teams having seen plenty of the ball, but it was then TGS who began to put pressure on the opposition's defence. Hogger and Ramdhanie worked hard down the wings to give Bloomfield, Pengelly and Gore chances to fire shots at a talented goalkeeper, but were unlucky to not see TGS in front. The back 3 of Sperring, Prentice and Railton kept the attack of Felixstowe at bay, leaving Prager little to do in goal. Towards the end of the second half, a beautifully delivered corner from Lange found the head of Gore to see TGS into a well-deserved lead after Prager had just been forced to save several attempts at the TGS goal, before Gore's opener.

Going into the second half, it was Felixstowe's turn to apply the pressure, but TGS defended superbly to avoid conceding an equaliser. After several dangerous attacks from Felixstowe, Gore cleverly found his way past several players before smashing in an unstoppable shot into the bottom right corner to put TGS 2-0 up. Felixstowe again applied the pressure, but TGS again managed to absorb the pressure through fantastic determination from the midfield and defence, with Ambrose, Hogger, Mansell, Bloomfield and Lange supporting the defence excellently. TGS then managed to put a few intelligent passes together for substitute Ambrose to then whip a dangerous ball into the box and find Pengelly who finished a well worked goal that put TGS 3 up against a frustrated Felixstowe.

TGS did not let their excitement affect their performance, as they comfortably saw the game out without conceding a single goal and therefore the final whistle blew at a 3-0, a thoroughly deserved TGS victory that would see them into the next round.

Chester Bloomfield.

SPORTS NEWS

U16 Girls' Football County Cup Finals

A very brave performance ultimately ended in disappointment as the girls were knocked out of the County Cup at the quarter final stage. Missing several key players we played the whole game with only 10; despite this there was very little between the teams. TGS conceded early from a corner but went on to lead at half time with well taken goals from Olivia Greaves and Lucy McLaughlin, with Alicia Pavon clearing one off the line with her head.

The second half was difficult with Sir John Lemen having more of the possession but TGS playing well on the break. SJL equalised following a good move down the right hand side where they had threatened all game. Right at the end TGS had a chance to win it, an excellent turn from Captain Jessica Gill created a wonderful opening but her shot went agonisingly wide with seconds remaining.

The game then went into extra time and SJL scored early. The girls showed great determination and spirit but despite creating a couple of half chances were un-able to find the equaliser.

Credit to all the girls but special mention must go to Alicia Pavon, making her debut for the team and playing her first ever game of 11 a-side, she really grew in confidence and showed excellent technical ability. Well done!

Golf - Suffolk Team Championships

Two teams from TGS made the short journey to Hintlesham Hall Golf Club to compete against other schools in the Suffolk Team golf Championships. A very cold but sunny day greeted the team. All 5 players were confident going into the competition. All players performed very well and represented the school very well. Henry Day, Ollie Page and Ben Tatum started strongly but faded on the back nine. Their team came in at 18th place. Alex English and Alice Barlow performed

slightly better, having the consistency that has made both the golfers attend England camps in the past year. Alice won the Girls' Scratch competition and Alex won Division 1 Boys' Stableford competition. Together as a team they finished 4th. A great day of golf. Bring on the Western Area competition in July!



U16 Hockey

TGS battled it out with Copleston High, Ipswich on the 3rd March to see who would be advancing to the county cup final - TGS started strongly, with excellent running and skill from Jake Hogger and Ben Clark. It didn't take long for TGS to take advantage of the control they had; Clark found the back of the goal. Copleston fought back, scoring from a deflection from one of the TGS players. The second half saw Copleston dominate the play, yet solid defending from Robert Bray and Charlie Moss and a couple of brilliant saves from keeper Charlie Mayhew meant that TGS went away with a draw. However, as TGS scored more goals against Hadleigh than Copleston did in previous games, it means that TGS went through on goal difference to secure a place in the final. County Final – Wednesday 23rd March at Rushmere, Ipswich.

Up Coming Fixtures

U16 hockey final – Wednesday 23rd March
U16 boys' football – county semi-final TBC
Athletics, tennis, cricket and rounders fixtures all after Easter.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 11th April

Summer Term

Wednesday 13th April

Academic Review Day

Monday 25th April

Modern Arts Subject Surgery

Tuesday 26th April

Enterprise Subject Surgery

Wednesday 27th April

Communication Subject Surgery.

