

*Excellence: for each, for all*

# PORTRAIT

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THOMAS  
GAINSBOROUGH  
SCHOOL

TGS visits  
C h i n a





Our visit to China was the trip of a lifetime. We were able to see, do and experience lots of extraordinary things and meet so many new friends whilst we were there (including our wonderful tour guide David!)

One of the group's highlights was visiting our partner school in Changzhou. The students and teachers there were so welcoming, allowing us to join their lessons and look around their new building. It was really interesting to sit in on one of their English lessons and all of us were so surprised at how fluent they were at speaking English. Some TGS students also brought newspapers and postcards of Suffolk and the UK with them and it was fascinating to learn about what we had in common with each other and the areas of our lives that were different.

The most exciting part for many of us about visiting the partner school was that we got the incredible opportunity to split off into pairs and visit a Chinese student's house for a family dinner. This was an opportunity

to experience the true culture of an every-day Chinese family. The buzz when we all got back to the hotel was electric and the smile on everyone's faces as they were telling stories of the homes they visited, or the amazing food they tried, was a huge highlight of our trip.

Whilst we were in Beijing we were treated to traditional Peking Duck and climbed a private section of The Great Wall. It was fantastic to be able to do this as we got to see how the wall has changed and where it has worn over the years. All of the steps were very steep and in some places many wobbled or had broken from the use by Chinese armies hundreds of years ago. Whilst on the Great Wall we could see for miles so the views were brilliant and so were the selfies! Visits also included the Summer Palace and a Buddhist Temple that overlooked the Imperial Lake. Equally impressive was the tour through the Forbidden City and the view of the City from a high vantage point. It is hard to believe that such a structure was built to house one Emperor.

In Shanghai we visited the Bohemian District where there were lots of small boutiques and stalls; here we could all practise our bartering skills which was a completely unique experience to buying in the UK. In the Bohemian District we were also able to experience the overwhelming smell of many unique Chinese foods such as preserved tofu, starfish, scorpions, bugs and lots of other interesting delicacies.

This is just a short summary of some of our most memorable parts of the China Trip 2018 but there are many other amazing, once in a lifetime opportunities we were able to experience whilst in this incredible country. It is most certainly a trip all of us would highly recommend!

By Aimee Sharp and Mabel Frost









# Abbas

We held the Abbas Celebration Assembly on 23rd April, soon after beginning the Summer term. I thoroughly enjoyed the chance to focus on the multitude of marvellous achievements from the members of our House. Some of the highlights included Callum Ryan (Yr 8 KWA) receiving the Head of House Commendation for his tireless commitment to all things Abbas related, including completing the Sudbury sponsored run on Good Friday to raise money for our House charity – East Anglian Air Ambulance. Callum raised over £100, a really tremendous effort!

We were also very proud to see 14 Abbas students receive their Gold Merit award already. It is no surprise to me to see this list of names: hard work, extra effort and a positive attitude never go unnoticed. Phoebe Pledger, Liam Ward, Kara Day, Holly Samways, Rebekah White, Emily Downs, Lauren Newstead, Madison Dunne, Natasha Guy, Callum Ryan, Lottie Cooper, Harvey Cox, Gabriel Bailey and Ella McCrory. Alanah Reeve, Ella Crawford and Jessica Wilby went one stage better still and reached a phenomenal 400+ merits and their Platinum Merit certificate – with a term to spare before the reward trip deadline! Truly a great feat. RMC won the prize for the highest merit average per person as a form, with KFR and ABO hot on their heels. This is always so close – every merit truly does count.

KFR received a special award for their collective, collaborative, artistic endeavour. As a form

their cutting and sticking skills are a sight to behold, although at this moment we are awaiting the results of the “Sea Creature” competition for the Suffolk Show, and AAS have really set the bar very high indeed! On Friday 4th May Harry Freeman AAS, Lottie Cooper KFR, Ella McCrory, Rebekah White, Grace Gray, Emily Waudby AAS and Sam Clayton RMC were invited to the Spring Term cream tea event in recognition of their excellent effort towards house events. A lovely afternoon with plenty of cake, but also a great chance to relax and socialise with peers who also like to make a difference in the school environment.

East Anglian Air Ambulance are to be our guests in assembly on 21st May. Two members of the crew are coming into school to share some of their adventure stories with us. With Abbas having worked so hard to raise money for the charity in the first two terms, it will be brilliant to see just how this money will be put to good use saving lives in our community. We still have a couple of fund raising activities to go this term and will certainly keep up our efforts until the end of July.

Best wishes for the Summer term ahead, and a huge thank you for your continued support in all things Abbas.

Mrs N Wilby



# Chamberlain

We are now in our final term of this school year with one more chance to get our hands on that Chelsworth Cup. But firstly let me reflect back on the Spring Term....

Another 71 students have now reached their Bronze certificate and 48 their Silver (meaning you are on track for that free rewards trip in September!) An amazing 11 of you have already reached over 300 merits with a special mention to Madison Gardiner, Sam Harris, Megan Turner and Maisie Young who have achieved over 400 merits already this year – I look forward to seeing what your final total will be!

We still have 85 students who have not received any negative points this year – which is a great achievement as we are all only human and forget things sometimes but these students are showing great organisation and a fabulous attitude to learning at all times. Well done to the 20 students among us who still have 100% attendance – that shows resilience and dedication!

We have our first repeat winners with Miss Kelly's class once again having the highest average merit total – and I must say they produce some fabulous competition entries.

Talking of competitions: Well done to Eloise Bozwood-Davies who received my Head of House Commendation this term for her absolutely fabulous Mosaic Competition entry - which took her hours of patience and hard work, alongside maintaining her usual high standard of homework and a fabulous report.

We have had some great competition results already this term with Megan Turner winning

the Yr 8 Copper Challenge and Rosy Morelli coming 2nd place in her Aldi Bag Design (fingers crossed this goes further in the National Competition). A joint plastic sea creature entry also saw us coming 2nd place again and I have seen some fabulous Sunset & Sunrise Photos. There are still more competitions to enter – Summer Photo competition and Mr Edwards Short Story Competition to name the first two. At this point in time I would like to say a huge “Well Done & Good Luck” to all of our Yr 11 students – you have worked so hard over the past 5 years and I hope you achieved the great grades you deserve from this.

This is our last term to try to reach our £1000 target for Young Carers (our Chamberlain Charity) this year. We have already carried out some great charity work and now I would like to take the advantage of the warmer Summer weather by hosting a Sponsored Swim. Following the success of our London to Brighton Relay in the Autumn term I wonder if we could complete enough lengths of the pool to travel across the English Channel? Its only 21 miles which is 33,796m surely we can do that! Look out for more details on how you can join us in this event after school on Wednesday 15th June. The more people that join in, the easier it is!

Miss J Hilson





# Houghton

The last few weeks have been busy and exciting for all Houghton students, including a celebration assembly, exams for Year 11 and 13 students, clubs, competitions and sporting fixtures. I would like to thank the new House Committee for their great ideas and contributions towards competitions, assemblies and charity events. A special mention for Poppy Curran, Kaitlin Riddle and Milly Wingate for organising whole school events: Sports Relief and the Eco Committee Bake Sale. You are excellent examples of school commitment. Well done!

## Honour: Award Nominees Winners

Then in our April Houghton House Celebration Assembly we awarded certificates for the achievements of almost all our students. Many received certificates for their personal presentation and continued punctuality and being well prepared for every lesson. Sixty-six students received certificates for 100% attendance during the autumn term, ninety three students gained their Bronze Merit Award for gaining over 100 merits, forty eight students gained their Silver Merit Award for gaining over 200 merits.

Furthermore, special praise should go to Elicia Glass, Anwen James, Kiera Hall, Freya Cattermole, Davit Rickards, Hollie Platt, Kiera Blowers, Ruth McGrath-Wells, Oliver Race and Poppy Curran who have now gained their Gold

Merit Award for already gaining 300 merits. Kaitlin Riddle keeps on being in the lead, being the only student in Houghton who has gained a Platinum Merit Award for gaining over 400 merits. Congratulations to you all. Honour is certainly the reward for your continued valour.

The Head of House Commendation was awarded to Ella Green in JWK for supporting the Houghton Committee with new ideas, fundraising and being a role model to other students; Ella has had an excellent approach to learning and homework across the board, helped teachers and other students every time that an opportunity arises, and had a great and positive attitude at all times. Congratulations Ella, you are a great credit to Houghton!

The competition for the tutor group with the highest number of merits was very tough and it was great to see GBR taking the lead with an average of 68 merits per student, followed by EIR with 65 and JWK with 60. Remember that every merit counts, so keep on getting merits and avoiding negative points.



On Friday 4th May the Heads of House offered a cream tea for those students that have made significant contributions to the House.

They spent 1 hour together, doing some fun competitions and enjoying delicious scones and tea. The following students were selected among all the students in Houghton: Poppy Curran, Ben Lowe, Oliver Race, Lenny Lancaster, Alex Holloway, Anwen Jones, Elicia Glass and Kiera Hall. Many thanks for your contributions to Houghton and for being such a great role model for all of Houghton.

## Valour: Performers & Leaders

We are also enormously proud of and grateful to the students who have led our assemblies and organised activities for other students. As well as our new House Captains helping lead assemblies and present certificates we have had a range of talented students including Elicia Glass, Kiera Hall, Kitt Simms and Shannon Ambrose performing. You have probably noticed a few students from the Houghton Committee taking part in assemblies, promoting competitions and charity events. It definitely takes a lot of valour to stand up in front of over 250 students and talk or perform. Well done!

Houghton students have been making excellent contributions to the school competitions. Special congratulations go to Gemma Dix, who came second in the Copper competition and Charlie Hill who came third in the Aldi bag bag competition. We are now awaiting the results of the Suffolk Plastic Pledge competition and the Photography competition. The entries you have submitted are very strong so we're hoping to come first for some of those



3rd Charlie Hill Houghton

competitions! Keep on taking part, you get merits, have fun and make Houghton very proud with all your entries.

## Charity Events & Ideas

The Houghton Committee has been busy coming up with ideas and making sure people are getting involved. Our first cake sale of the term was a good start, raising over £30. We would like to congratulate JLO, as most of the students who brought cakes were from this tutor group; I hope you have enjoyed your chocolate prize! We will continue organising cake sales, the next one is on May 24th, so get ready to bake some nice cakes!



## Be Brave!

Our House motto, "Honour is the reward of valour", also reminds us of one of the assembly messages to be brave in our learning, to try new things and work hard to support others. Well done Houghton on a great start to the term, keep going throughout the year, and remember "Be Brave!"

Mrs L Hurtado

# Peyton

We have recently had our spring term celebration assembly, recognising the achievements from last term. Harriet Sayers was awarded for her hard work last term with the Head of House commendation. She quietly gets on with everything she is asked to do and completes it to a high standard. She has entered most of, if not all, the house competitions and was placed highly in several of them, including winning the school scarf design competition. A huge well done to you Harriet!

Those students who have gained large numbers of merits were also celebrated. 41 students in Peyton House had gained 200 merits and a silver merit award by Easter. This puts them on track to gain the 300 required for the rewards trip in September. We are again offering students who gain the 300 merits to choose between 3 trips to either Thorpe Park, Freeport or London.

Special Mention needs to go to 7 Peyton students who have already reached that milestone. Chloe Adamson, Tilly Motts, Kitty Fowles-Smith, Anna Robson, Millie Simon, Hannah Cowley and Esther Shrubsole have already gained their Gold award for 300 Merits – A huge well done and a motivator to everyone else. In fact, Esther Shrubsole has gone 1 better than that (well 100 actually!) by being the first students in Peyton to get to 400 merits this year and claim a Platinum award! A huge well done to you all.

We recently held our termly cream tea celebration event. 6 students who were nominated for last term's Head of House commendation were chosen to

attend a cream tea. Peyton were represented by Mollie Blowers, Millie Simon, Lottie Sears, Harriet Sayers, Will Bradley and Joe McCrory. An enjoyable afternoon gave a real opportunity for our students to both be rewarded for their efforts and also provide us with valuable feedback about school life.

The Most Valuable Tutor Group award is given termly to the group with the highest average merits per pupil. In third place this term were LNI, just behind LHE who came in second. The winners for last term were NBE so well done to all of them!

Huge congratulations also need to go to Jasmine Ratcliffe from Mr Gault's class after she was selected, from a very strong field, to be this year's Deputy Head Girl. Congratulations Jasmine, I am sure you will do a great job and make your house and the whole school very proud. Keep your eyes open for our next charity events after half term. The Welly Boots are making their return and our Pool Party is booked!

Mr W Ponsford





# Tollemache

I was so thrilled for the house when they were presented with the Chelsworth cup for the highest amount of merits in the spring term.

I was concerned as Tollemache were in fifth place on the house leader board in January. The students decided to implement a merit drive and made it their priority to attain up to seven merits a week. I am pleased to say their hard work paid off.

All the Tollemache tutors worked incredible hard as a team to encourage their tutees to take part in competitions, clubs and charity events. The students' effort and enthusiasm have gained momentum throughout the academic year. The houses have been very competitive, even more so than usual as the summer term progresses. All the students are merit hungry, feverishly working towards their 300 goal. Students who achieve three hundred merits can select a school trip in September. This is a fantastic reward for all the students who have worked hard throughout the year.

At Thomas Gainsborough we like to celebrate the student's achievements at the start of each term. Each House holds a celebration assembly to thank and reward the students for their hard work and the values they have demonstrated throughout the previous term. I would like to congratulate the students who have obtained a gold certificate for achieving over 300 merits. They are Lois Pilgrim AGA 340, Fergus Dark CLY 312, Hayley Provis GCU 346, Hayley Provis GCU 346, Alex Hayward JPA

312, Carys Preece JPA 325, Sasha Preece JPA 315, Thomas Dudden MHA 312 and Scarlett O'Shea MHA 310. Well done guys for working hard and upholding the school values!

The Tollemache Head of House Commendation was awarded to Sophie Hayward. Through Army cadets, Sophie applied to go on a leadership course in Canada this summer. Sophie was invited to go to Wales as part of the selection process and was chosen to go forward to the course. Sophie was the only cadet from Suffolk to have got through, and one of 26 from the UK. She is also the youngest cadet from the UK. I think Sophie is an inspiring role model for any student wishing to push themselves and strive for success in something they are passionate about.

This term the students have been focusing on the environment during tutor time. The students have worked on Earth Day activities and quizzes. One of the competitions has been to produce a design for an Aldi shopping bag. The design will promote healthy eating and recycling. The quality and quantity of the bag design entries was very high. Mr Lloyd and Mr Gibson had some tough decisions to make when deciding which designs would make it through. Thirty of the entries were sent off and a copy of them are currently displayed by student services.

The houses have surpassed themselves with the sea creature competition. Thomas Gainsborough have been liaising with an Ipswich waste management project. The students

were asked to create sea creatures made from recycled materials. The sculptures should be over a meter long and withstand the British weather. A selection of the sculptures will be on display at the Suffolk show. The sculptures are informing the county to be mindful of recycling and respect our beautiful earth.

Mrs F Raleigh



TOLLEMACHE 3rd



1st Ruby Marsh Tollemache 15 merits





## Enrichment Focus

Our summer term Enrichment timetable is now well underway with some fabulous new clubs starting and the return of some old favourites. There is a chance to make the most of the Summer weather with Athletics, Rounders & Tennis. Or if you prefer to stay indoors we have Textiles, Spanish Club or a World Cup Sticker swap group. Chess Club are currently running their first competition and we look forward to see which house comes out champions!

## Mini Bus Madness

**Thursday 24th May 3.10 – 5.30pm: THE BLUE OWL**

Back by popular demand we are returning to The Blue Owl where students can choose to Decopatch or Foam Clay Model. Both have been hugely successful on our previous visits and a lot of creative fun.

“Decopatch is a decorative papercraft, a bit like papier mache only much prettier! It’s so simple to get great results every time.”

“Foam Clay is a bright coloured, self-hardening modelling material which can be applied to any of our decorative ceramics or decopatch objects.”

**Tuesday 5th June 3.10-4.30pm  
ORIGAMI WORKSHOP**

Origami is the Japanese art of paper folding. Apart from being a great tool in developing spatial reasoning and geometric understanding, origami also

teaches patience and concentration. It is also therapeutic and creates a sense of achievement.

We are running an Origami Workshop where students will have the chance to create beautiful sculptures under the instruction of an Origami Specialist – Mikoto Hines, who has been in TGS recently working with the Art Department.

**Tuesday 12th June 3.10 – 6.30pm ARGER FEN STREAM DIPPING**

Once again we will be linking with the Suffolk Wildlife Trust to take students on a series of visits to an outdoor education centre at the Arger Fen. This week we will be learning about the wildlife which live in the waters of Arger Fen.

**Tuesday 26th June 3.10 – 6.30pm ARGER FEN BUSH CRAFT**

This time we will be learning a range of outdoors bush craft skills – shelter building and fire making or whittling.

Letters for all of these trips can be found at Student Services



### ¡Spanish club!

**Run by:** Year 12 students  
**Open to:** Anyone!  
**Focus:** Improve listening and speaking skills through fun activities!  
**When:** Wednesdays after school  
**Where:** 311

**Project 1:** A Hispanic film

**Project 2:** Hispanic music

**Project 3:** Playing board games

**Project 4:** Playing card games

**Project 5:** Preparing a play

### Origami Workshop

Origami is the Japanese art of paper folding. Apart from being a great tool in developing spatial reasoning and geometric understanding, origami teaches patience and concentration. It is also therapeutic and creates a sense of achievement.

**Tuesday 8th May £3**  
**3.15-4.30pm**  
**Rm 317**

Letters at Student Services – places are limited



## Cream Tea Celebration Event

On Friday 4th May, the Heads of Houses held a 'Celebration Cream Tea' in the G-block conference room. A handful of students, nominated by either their form tutors or Head of House, were invited to go. I was lucky enough to be one of Houghton's selected few. It was amazing to be shown how our achievements and efforts were being rewarded in the form of tables full of cakes and scones! I found it really relaxed and enjoyed talking to my Head of House and friends in a fun environment. I would really recommend participating in everything you possibly can and becoming an active participant in school life as this reward is worth getting!

Poppy Curran

A huge well done to all of those students who were invited!

### Abbas:

Sam Clayton  
Lottie Cooper  
Harvey Cox  
Harry Freeman  
Grace Gray  
Ella McCrory  
Emily Waudby  
Rebekah White

### Chamberlain:

Eloise Bozwood-Davies  
William Davies  
Rosemay Gray  
Sam Harris  
Emily Norfolk  
Olivia Roberts  
Charlie Walder

### Houghton:

Poppy Curran  
Elicia Glass  
Kiera Hall  
Alexander Holloway  
Anwen James  
Lenny Lancaster  
Ben Lowe  
Oliver Race

### Peyton:

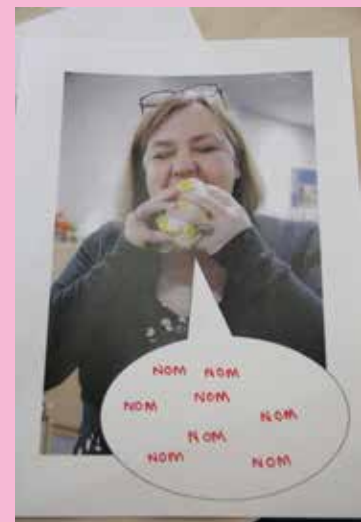
Mollie Blowers  
Will Bradley  
Joe McCrory  
Harriet Sayers  
Lottie Sears  
Millie Simon

### Tollemache:

Harrison George  
Sophie Hayward  
Abbie Manser  
Ethan Orme  
Amy Provis  
Aimee Sharp  
Flynn Taylor

We hope you all enjoyed yourselves and you gave us some fabulous photo captions to display around school!

Miss J Hilson



# MUN

Over the weekend of 21st and 22nd April, ten delegates from TGS attended the Royal Hospital School Model United Nations Conference. They represented the delegations of Canada and Syria in several committees, including political, DISEC, UNOOSA, Human Rights and the World Health Organisation. A plethora of topics were debated, ranging from child marriage to the use of chemical weaponry in Syria, and even a discussion on the potential future colonisation of Mars.

Several of our two delegations also achieved awards within their committees. AJ Simms and Ella Smith won 'highly commended' and 'commended' in WHO, and Sebastian Crayford and Joshua Thomas won 'highly commended' and 'commended' in DISEC. Overall, the event was incredibly enjoyable and was a great experience not only to speak, but to debate the ideas of others and work together to produce successful resolutions.

Francesca Perkins-Taylor





## Access

This term, some of the students in Access 2 have been learning about the Terracotta Army and the Great Wall of China. As part of this topic, they made some playdoh and created their own terracotta warriors. As you will notice, they are brightly coloured...this is how they would have looked originally! They also looked at nets and made the Great Wall of China.

### DO YOU KNOW?

What is the special ingredient that has held the Great Wall together for over 2000 years?

Send your answer to  
lhempel@tgschool.net.

All correct answers will get a merit!



## Volcano Project

The Year 7 geographers were set the task of creating volcano models in geography. Its is a task they rose to enthusiastically with some engineering them out of wood, some having been baked and some modelling them out of clay. We then peer assessed these in lesson giving them a score out of 10 for effort, appearance and accuracy - the top were awarded letters home and merits. Well done to all Year 7s involved, it was lovely to see your passion for the subject shine through as well as eating some truly delicious cake!

Miss J Lomas



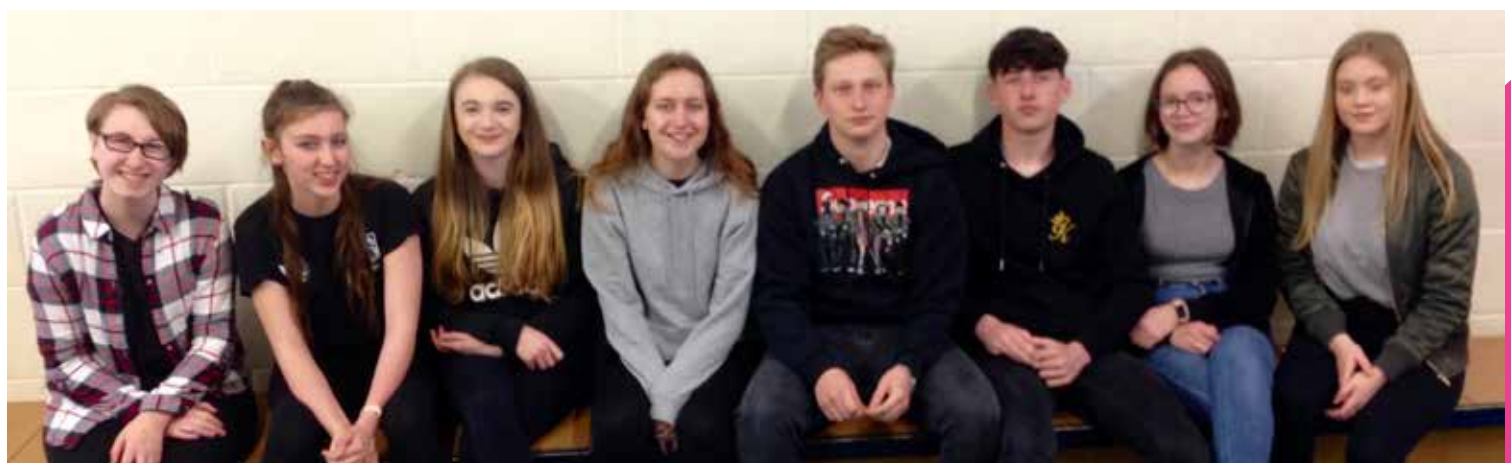
# Crucial Crew

Crucial Crew is run by Sudbury Rotary Club each year and over 750 Year 6 students from local primary schools take part in a range of activities educating them in safety and well-being. For the past eight years we have sent groups of Year 10 drama students to help take part in some of the scenarios run by the police. However, this year we were asked to run our own workshop based on bullying and how to prevent it. These students not only performed but led a question and answer session based on their play. Each group performed roughly 20 times a day and received both thanks and praise from the Police force and the Rotary Club. Laura Mansall from the Sudbury police force said: “They were all brilliant and were very believable, even making some of the younger children cry! They also helped me out every day not only with setting up and putting away, but also with coming up with new ideas to improve the scenarios. I would also like to congratulate the girls involved in the anti-bullying play. Bullying is something that I have always been strongly against and it is brilliant to see something like this at Crucial Crew.”

All students taking part had lots of fun and it was a great experience all round. The skills they have developed will not only help with their GCSE exam but also help them gain their community ribbon in Year 11.

Well done to everyone involved.

Caitlin Smith and Mrs K French





## GCSE Drama Practical Exam

30 Year 11 drama students took part in their GCSE performance exam in April. This accounts for 20% of their GCSE grade and students were busy rehearsing and preparing for this during the holiday period. Students performed extracts from a range of 12 plays, all of which were different in their style and subject matter. There was a range of different characters: from a nun who believed she had experienced an immaculate conception, to a pair of housewives who accidentally killed a police inspector after robbing a supermarket!

Students demonstrated great professionalism and support of each other during the process. Some of their work was moving, some hilarious! For many students the process of performing in front of an audience was the biggest achievement. They gained a great deal of confidence and all of them came out with a smile on their faces.

It has been a pleasure to work with such a fantastic group of students. They did both me, and their school, proud. I wish them every success in their written exam.

Mrs J Arrow



## Drama Showcase

We are really excited to be sharing an evening of drama with you on July 11th at 6:30pm in the Drama Hall. Students from the Year 10 GCSE group will be performing their scripted mock exam pieces from a wide variety of plays. Other select pieces from KS3 will be shown as well. We look forward to seeing you there!

Mrs J Arrow



## Poetry Competition Winner

Very well done to Ella Causer for winning the Secondary section of the Fowey Festival poetry competition. Quite an achievement in a national competition, especially for a student in Year 7 up against entrants up to the age of 16. To quote the judges: 'A powerful, very moving, mature poem'.

Mr G Edwards

### Missing You

I can't take this anymore, it's time to fly away ...  
From all the breaking hearts, I hope I'll be ok  
I have to get over this, no matter how hard it may be  
But for now I will stay up here in my lonely tree

Waiting for the sun to rise  
And to draw out my darkness hanging inside  
So I can fly away without any regret  
As I just can't forget about you yet  
Because you are in my mind every single day  
I miss the times when we used to play

So as I flap my wings and fly  
Up into the sunlit sky  
A hole is made into my heart  
One that can't be fixed when we are apart

By Ella Causer



## Book Mastermind

The Final of Book Mastermind took place on Friday 4th May at Stratford St Andrew. Rosemary Gray was one of nine contestants who had competed in school across the county and area finals to get to the Suffolk final. This is a fantastic achievement.

This was the 23rd year of the competition and Rosemary did really well to answer 16 correct questions on her book choice, *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green. The other contestants were also well-prepared answering questions on a variety of books including *Hive* by Mark Walden, *Divergent* by Veronica Roth and *Catching Fire* by Suzanne Collins. The scores were so close after the first round and it all rested with the general knowledge round.

Following the book round and the general knowledge, Rosemary finished 7th with Katy from Thurston Community College crowned as the winner. The other finalists were from Debenham High School, Ixworth Free School, Sir John Leman High School, St Joseph's College, Copleston High School, Stowupland High School and Ipswich Academy. After the competition, the students were entertained with talks by children's authors William Hussey and Francesca Armour-Chelu on how they got to be writers.

Rosemary was supported by four students in Year 7 and Sophie Johnston wrote this about the day; "The day of the Book Mastermind final was a fantastic day. On May 4th, the five of us (Rosie, Katy, Ellie, Sophie and Mrs Welch) travelled to the venue. On arriving we were offered refreshments and to join all the other contestants outside. Most of the people attending were outside due to the beautiful weather. After the first 10 minutes outside we were called inside to start the competition. At first there was an explanation to the order of how things were going to happen. In the first round (the book quiz) Rosie scored 16 points. After this we had more time outside then moved on to general knowledge. In this round she scored a great score, bringing her total to 21 points. At the end of the competition she was presented with a certificate. Following this there was an opportunity to listen to some authors talk about inspiration for writing. Then books were signed by the two authors, Francesca Armour-Chelu and William Hussey. Overall it was a great day".



Krystal Vittles, Suffolk Libraries Development Manager and children and young people's lead, said: "Book Mastermind is a celebration of books and reading and once again all the students and schools who took part have done themselves proud. It was great to see so many young people taking the competition so seriously and with such enthusiasm. I'd like to thank everyone who helped to support and run the event including the schools, students and our two inspiring guest authors."

Huge congratulations to Rosemary for her commitment to this competition. Many thanks also go to the English department for their support in the competition, all the staff and all the students who took part.

Mrs H Welch



## Eco Committee

The Eco committee is comprised of fifteen extremely dedicated individuals who help to 'do our bit' in the fight against global warming and pollution. We have had four meetings so far, in which everybody has made valuable contributions and has worked hard to raise awareness for the cause.

To commemorate Earth day, on Friday 27th April we held our first ever bake sale fundraiser, and managed to make an astounding £118! There were over 350 sweet treats donated, so thank you to everybody who contributed. The committee has many great plans for how to spend the money, which we will update everybody on once a decision has been made.

We are also working with various members of staff to involve 'Eco awareness' in our curriculum and enrichment days. In the week commencing 30th April the theme of all of the assemblies was being Eco friendly, and I feel truly privileged to have been a part of helping to organise these. We look forward to helping the local community (and the world!) in our endeavours to make a greener, more sustainable future for everybody, and hope to hold more fundraisers like the one we held for Earth day.

Milly Wingate  
Head of the Eco committee.



## Reading Ambassadors

**H**ello, we are Thomas Gainsborough's Reading Ambassadors. Following the launch of the Ambassadors at the start of the year our numbers have grown with the addition of five new faces and we now have three lead ambassadors - myself, Kitty-Mabel Fowles-Smith and Poppy Curran.

Since the new Ambassadors have joined, the ideas to promote reading have been flowing! As a result we have obtained a display space in the school to add articles such as reviews and reading suggestions as well as information about our new termly reading challenge which will include a new competition every 2 weeks in order to promote consistent reading throughout the school.

We are advocates for getting together to discuss books across all ages and in the future will have primary school students visiting the library weekly and the addition of a new sixth form section to our team.

In the main school we are planning on a "book doctors" activity for the lower school and, as part of our weekly quizzes in the school, a quiz based on the GCSE novels in order to assist Year 11s (and 10s) before their exams.

As you can see, we are very passionate and ambitious about our cause and hope to discuss more ideas like these in our upcoming meeting with other ambassadors from across the Samuel Ward Academy Trust. Until the next edition of Portrait (as Mr Harris says) watch this space!

Katherine Chapman

## Book reviews

The knife of never letting go  
By Patrick Ness

**T**his award-winning novel is about a small town called Prentisstown and a resident, Todd Hewitt. However, this town isn't a normal town. Everyone can hear everyone else's thoughts in a constant, overwhelming, never-ending noise. "The knife of never letting go" is about an extraordinary day when Todd finds a spot of complete silence, which is impossible.

This amazing book is full of lies, secrets and at the end of almost every chapter, a breath-taking cliff-

hanger. I highly recommend this book if you enjoy reading adventure or sci-fi novels. There are two further books called "The ask and the answer" and the final book, "Monsters of men".

Rosie Young

A Monster Calls  
By Patrick Ness

\*If you have been affected by cancer in any way and are not comfortable with reading books associated with it, you may not want to read this.

**I** decided to read this book as it had excellent reviews on Goodreads and on BookTube, and the basic premise of the book sounded like something I would enjoy reading, though it is not exactly a happy one. It is a contemporary novel about Conor O'Malley, who has been having nightmares ever since his mother started having treatment for cancer, and one night, a monster appears at his window to tell him three stories in exchange for the truth. The writing was very easy-going and was, I think, one of the reasons I enjoyed the book so. The author doesn't gloss over any aspects of the story, and the way it is written is part of what makes it so beautiful. Overall, the story was one that brought tears to my eyes and really made me think, nevertheless it was beautifully written and has definitely become a firm favourite in my collection. I would particularly recommend reading the illustrated version, as the accompanying drawings are also stunning. I read the whole thing in one night, it was excellent!

5/5 Stars

Daisie Houlden





# Intermediate Maths Challenge

## Spring term

Earlier this term saw 180 of our best Year 9 and 10 Mathematicians take on the Intermediate UK Maths Challenge.

The UKMT Individual Maths Challenges are lively, intriguing multiple choice question papers, which are designed to stimulate interest in maths in large numbers of pupils. The challenges cover the secondary school range 11-18 and together they attract over 600,000 entries from over 4,000 schools and colleges.

To recognise the highest performers in the Challenge, the top-scoring 40% of participants gain bronze, silver or gold certificates. In addition they invite 8000 students to take part in the Intermediate Kangaroo.

### Year 10

Congratulations to Fred Adams gaining a Silver award and the highest score in Year 10 along with James Hawkins, Jasmin Ratcliffe, Sebastian Crayford, Max Seaman, Daisie Houldenr, Finley Simpson, Rebecca Plumb, Isabella Turner, Phoebe Studdy and Mabel Frost gaining Silver awards.

Bronze award winners in Year 10 include Zander Howick-Evans, Tia Cuthbert, Charlotte Knights, Cameron Noble, Finley Paul, Jodie Bray, Bethany Thompson, Gregory King and Alex Bolden.

### Year 9

Well done to Evie Prager, Poppy Curran, Joshua Adamson and

Esther Shrubsole who all gained a Silver award.

Bronze award winners in Year 9 include Jacob Edwards, Andrew Nicholl, Anna Robson, Kacper Kasica, Luke Dudden, Charles Wilson, Faith Edwards, James Bailey, Johnathan Ogle, Mackenzie Savage, Summer Humphreys, Sam Wainwright, Evie Manning and Morgan Brain.

### Grey Kangaroo

Congratulations to Alasdair Noble who gained the best in Year 9 and for the school with a Gold award and also Evie Prager who qualified for the Grey Kangaroo.

After completion of the Grey Kangaroo, it's my pleasure to report that Alasdair Noble gained a merit, the highest achievement within the Maths challenge. This is only given to the top 25% of competitors. This year the mark needed for a merit was 93 and Alasdair scored an amazing 107 marks. That puts him within the top 2% of the country.

Well done Alasdair!

Mr B Mills



# Drama Success for Nicole

In March I auditioned for the role of "Young Rose" in a new musical called Pieces of String and I am very proud to have been successful. The musical was about forbidden love set in the time of World War 2 and modern day. It promoted the LGBT community and was a very powerful story with mesmerising songs. I shared the role with 2 other girls and we rehearsed first at the Garrison gym in Colchester and then at the Mercury Theatre.

I loved playing Young Rose and

learnt so much from working with the actors, director and musical director. Also doing LAMDA with Mrs Lockwood has really helped so I would like to thank her. Although it was a small role, it was my first time performing in a professional play/musical and it has made it very clear to me that this is what I hope to do in the future.

If Pieces of String is being performed anywhere else in the future I highly recommend you go and watch!

Nicole Grumann





# Supporting Your Child During Difficulties

## Top Tips for looking after your child's wellbeing

### *Act on Warning Signs*

You know your child better than anybody else.  
It's important to act on the warning signs if you start to feel concerned.

#### *Top tips:*

Look out for a change in things like sleeping or eating habits

Communicate with your child if you've seen these signs

Keep going, even if it feels like you're not getting through to them

**Contact your GP or school about the warning signs if things don't improve**

**When you've seen these signs, it's really important to try and talk to your child. Keep talking to your child and trying to communicate in any way you can - hugging, listening to them, texting them. In any way, keep the line of communication open with them.**

### *Be Part of the Solution*

As a parent, be part of the solution. There are a number of things you can do to support your child, whether that be helping them plan, problem solve, or develop a sense of hope for the future.

#### *Top tips:*

Get interested in what your child is doing

Open up conversations about what they're involved in

Keep an eye on pressure points

**Have conversations with them about music, about current affairs, about social media.**

**Get them to teach you about the things they're involved in.**

### *Be Your Child's Anchor*

If your child is experiencing problems or going through significant change, it's important that you can be an anchor for them.

#### *Top tips:*

Being an anchor will be reassuring if things are changing

Maintain hobbies and routines

Be a sense of hope by encouraging them

**See what kind of things you can maintain, whether it's hobbies, family favourites or routines. These will provide a safety net if your child is struggling, or finding it hard to cope with the change that is around them.**

### *Look After Yourself*

It's important you look after yourself, to best look after your child.

#### *Parent wellbeing tips:*

Recognise when you're finding things hard

Talk to family and friends about how things are

Don't blame yourself, it is not your fault

Recharge your batteries and relax

**Don't blame yourself, it's so easy to do but it's not your fault. As a parent you can feel guilty all the time, but what is happening is happening and what's really important is that you take care of yourself.**

On 23rd April, we had the pleasure of having Shaun Coles from Banco Santander present an assembly to the whole of Year 12. During this talk, we discussed what working in banking is really like and how there are a plethora of roles that need filling in order to provide a quality banking service; with everything from marketing teams and IT development to risk analysis and working in branch. He also told us the best ways to approach these career paths, through both degrees and graduate programs and apprenticeships. We also talked about interview technique and how to come across as an effective and innovative individual when under the oppressing gaze of a potential employer, with Beth Gerrish taking the hot seat to undergo an 'interview' in front of the rest of the year group.

Overall, the assembly was a fascinating insight into the reality of the banking sector and what it really takes for a global company like Banco Santander to function effectively.

Francesca Perkins-Taylor





The presentation given by CEO of Magnum Photography; David Kogan on 23rd April was extremely informative. It allowed me to understand how to get into the photography business, which is what I would like to do in the future. Magnum employ photographers who have heavily inspired me and my work, such as Henri Cartier-Bresson, who was a street photographer producing black and white photos which work very well

with his style. David Kogan's presentation covered many aspects of photojournalism and the power it has to highlight flaws in our society. Overall it was a really useful and interesting talk, which I greatly enjoyed.

Lydia Page-Wright



# Business Expo

A group of prefects from TGS attended the Best of Sudbury Business Expo on 3rd May, to assist Penny Wilby with the event and to strengthen links between the school and local employers. Whilst there I was able to speak to Wayman and Long Solicitors and open up the opportunity for some work experience during the Summer holidays. We all found the expo extremely helpful as we had the chance to network with a wide range of employers from a variety of sectors. The expo was a great opportunity to develop crucial soft skills and to network with businesses which interested us.

Teia Yule



In March 2018, I was elected as the DMYP (Deputy Member of the UK Youth Parliament) for the constituencies of Central and South Suffolk, with Finlay McPherson as the new MYP. During this parliamentary term, we are hoping to focus on matters that were identified as being important to young people in this area through last year's Make Your Mark campaign. This primarily included a curriculum for life, involving more political and financial education with the PSHE curriculum, and improving local transport links; reducing costs to young people. However, we would also love to receive your feedback on what really matters to you, both within your local area and on a national level. So please don't hesitate to get in contact with either Finlay or myself if you have any problems or ideas to share and we will do our very best to get your voices heard!

Francesca Perkins-Taylor



Francesca Perkins-Taylor

# Wayman and Long

**I**n the Easter holidays, I had work experience with Wayman & Long, a law firm in Sudbury that takes on clients in need of wills, conveyancing, family law and many other issues. I mainly worked on wills and probate and learned some very valuable skills which I'll take forward with me into university and beyond. I had the opportunity to meet many clients and saw the process of gathering the necessary information for a will, updating and even finalising and signing them as proof of legitimacy. I thoroughly enjoyed my time there as I got to work on many interesting cases and I got my first real look into what a proper solicitor's is like. It has certainly helped me decide that becoming a solicitor is definitely what I want to do in life. I hope to return in the summer to do some more work experience with the firm and learn even more about it!

Molly Fisher

# Sixth Form Student Lydia Page-Wright's Emotional Performance at Local Charity Event

On 6th April Year 12 student Lydia Page-Wright was invited to perform at the Masonic Hall in Sudbury for the Kernos Centre's 15th annual event. The Kernos Centre is a local charity providing therapeutic support for sufferers of mental illness within the community. Over the last 15 years they've helped over 3000 people, both adults and children. The event was attended by fifty people, including the Mayor of Sudbury, Sarah Page, and local MP James Cartledge.

The Kernos Centre sent a letter to the school thanking Lydia for her support during the evening. This is what they had to say: “Highlights of the evening were two musical performances by local young people: 17-year old Lydia Page-Wright sang ‘I Will Fix You’ by Cold Play and Simon and Garfunkel’s classic ‘Bridge Over Troubled Water’. Lydia was so relaxed and confident and gave a wonderful performance. We particularly liked her poignant song choices which matched the evening so well and touched so many people.”

Well done Lydia!

Mrs A Forster



# SPORTS NEWS

## Athletics

**T**illy Motts, making her debut in outdoor athletics, had high hopes for qualifying for the final of the 100m. However, a very difficult race, was made more difficult as Tilly made a slow start, and she couldn't claw back the top 3, and missed out in qualifying by the smallest of margins.

## Betts Jumps to Gold

**A** selection of TGS students made the short trip to Bury St Edmunds for the County Schools Athletics competition. A very strong competition, with some very talented athletes in all age groups. TGS has some very good athletes, and went into the competition quietly confident. Jacob Fenner, running the 100m, was drawn in a very hard heat, and with a stumble out of the blocks, it was always going to be hard to qualify for the final. Anna Robson and Ben Lowe worked tirelessly in the blistering heat. Bradley Smith, senior boys long jump, saw some huge distances, however Bradley was having some run up issues and did not manage to jump anywhere near his best. All athletes didn't perform on the day and to their best and were just outside the top 3. With events running out, it was down to the Eliza Betts, a 200m and long jump athletic. Eliza qualified for the final of the 200m as a top 3 runner. Having competed against some of the other athletes already this year, Eliza was a touch short in confidence. However, she kept

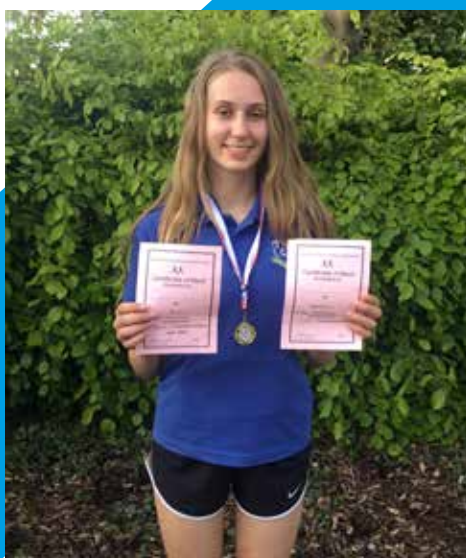
her technique perfectly and ran through the line to finish 3rd. Long jump was next up for Eliza, and in very easy terms she blew the rest of the athletes away! Her run up was spot on, her technique was superb and a personal best was jumped, as she took the gold medal. A great achievement. Now representing the county is next up for Eliza. Well done all athletes who competed!

throughout the match through both batting and fielding, especially as there were many Year 7s playing up a year who were playing their first ever game. Star performances go to: Kaitlin Riddle who helped lead the team throughout, Ella Bennet for her fielding performance on first base and also Ella Crawford who did a fantastic job at bowling.

## Year U16 Football

**T**he U16 TGS team have played two games in the last few weeks, a quarter final and a semi final of the county cup. The first game was against Sir John Leman away, the boys took time to get going but that was no surprise after the 1.30 hour journey. The game was a very close affair with both sides creating good chances. Alex James pulled off some good saves to keep TGS in the game and up the other end Will Egglestone came close after some quick footwork, just hitting the outside of the post. The deadlock was finally broken when substitute Joe Marsh got on the end of a through ball and poked home what turned out to be the winner and a great result for the boys.

The semi final was against Felixstowe. TGS started slowly and as a result conceded 2 goals in the first 15 minutes. After the second goal TGS woke up and started playing some attractive football looking the more dangerous side creating a few good chances. The first half finished 2-0 so we had to make some changes and do more attacking to close the gap. TGS



## Rounders

**L**ast week the U13 girls Rounders team played their first fixture of the year against St Benedicts School. Unfortunately the girls came away with a loss, but despite this the team demonstrated incredible resilience



# SPORTS NEWS

started where they had left off with a high tempo looking to use Will Egglestone to hold the ball up and bring others into play. TGS finally got their reward when a through ball from Joe Rodgers found Trent New who finished calmly as the keeper rushed out. Felixstowe then responded with a very impressive strike to make the score 3-1 but this did not stop TGS from playing and responding quickly with another goal to make it 3-2 from Will Egglestone whose quick feet allowed him time in the box to slot the ball into the bottom corner. The game finished 3-2 but it was a very close affair that TGS will think they should have won.

## Dance

The first SWAT Dance Competition happened on 8th May, where we had the following students represent TGS: Ruth McGrath- Wells, Lily Belcher Watters and Keria Waring who composed a brilliant group piece. And Millie Simon who danced so beautifully in her solo. Millie came second in the overall competition which was a very high standard. All the girls were fantastic and were scored



incredibly well by the judges.

## Leadership

On 25th April our TGS's Sports Leader Academy conducted their first event where they were leading the Primary High-5 Netball Tournament. 16 of our students were involved in this and they were all a credit to our school. This was commented on by parents, teachers and from the primary school children themselves. The sports leaders all had different roles that day such as umpiring, time- keeping, getting the teams ready and in the right places and supporting all the children who were involved in the event. They all learnt a lot and we are looking forward to the next sports leader event where they can start to implement what they are learning as sports leaders into action.

## Girls football week

On Wednesday 25th April a group of leadership students had a fantastic opportunity to lead a 5-a- side netball tournament for the local primary schools. In the morning the young leaders had a training session with Miss Jeff (Sainsbury's School Games coach) to develop their leadership skills and practise their roles for the afternoon. After lunch, the Primary schools arrived and the young leaders put their new skills into action!

Throughout the day, the leaders were all complimented on their leadership skills, and how well they have done. It was a great day and the young leaders should all be proud of themselves for

showing 'confidence', 'positivity' and 'resilience.'

Well done everyone!

Kaitlin Riddle

## U13 Tennis v Sam Ward

4 Year 7 boys made their debuts for the TGS tennis team, at home against Sam Ward. Perfect conditions for tennis, and perfect tennis from all players saw TGS come out victorious 10-2. Now for Stour Valley. A win there and it's the county finals day for the boys. A great win. Noah Ruse, Jasper & Oliver Mullan and Harold Le Fanu -

Well done!



## Swimming

James Rowley (Year 8) has worked incredibly hard at swimming and has qualified at regional level in seven events this year, including three different strokes. His final result was first place in the 100m freestyle, knocking almost 3 seconds off his previous time!

Miss K Mayes

# SPORTS NEWS

For Sports Relief Week 2018, TGS worked together to raise an astonishing £1464.85 for the charity. The idea for the whole school fundraiser stemmed from a 'Food Committee' meeting where having themed lunch days was proposed. Two students, Poppy Curran, Year 9, and Kaitlin Riddle, Year 8, immediately began planning the day, with the idea of holding the first complete non-uniform day in years, a bake sale, mile run, a staff female vs male netball match and the other sport competitions.

The two girls took the planning into their own hands and arranged a meeting with the Headmaster (Mr Lloyd) in order to discuss the non-uniformed day. After proposing their ideas, Mr Lloyd agreed to the first full non-uniform day in years. As well as completing this, they successfully advertised and arranged the cake sale and helped operate the stalls during their lunch and break time (raising £97.35). However, without the help of the school's finest bakers the day wouldn't have gone ahead. Alongside the PE Department, the girls managed to help organise the events and were even seen to have participated in the mile run, being active participants in school life. The mile run, netball and football raised a shocking amount of £283.05 towards Sports Relief 2018.

The PE department supported the 2 girls with their ideas for Sports Relief week. A great week for

all involved, and many students took part in the penalty shoot outs, the basketball shooting and the mile run. However it was the staff netball match that made all the headlines. Male staff v female staff. Two strong teams on paper. The females made a very strong start, helped by Mr Chiang giving foul after foul and some very dubious decision by one umpire. The boys had to dig deep, they did and slowly clawed back the the girls' score. Very even at half time. A few chances for the second period for both sides, females swapping positions, boys changing personnel. An early collision between the 6 foot plus Mr Gibson and Mr Smith nearly helped the girls, but both players were ok to carry on, and they stopped everything that the girls had. Some fast play for the boys and very consistent shooting by Mr Richards saw the boys pass the girls score and increasing the difference. A great spectacle supported by a huge crowd of students and staff.

A great week and well done to all involved!

Mr R Myhill





# SPORTS NEWS

## Suffolk U13 Champions

There was a strong team spirit with a mixture of anxiety and excitement as this squad approached their first hockey final. The side entered the tournament having won all their qualifying games and had their eyes firmly fixed on the title. A change in the tournament format meant that TGS would play three games instead of a semi-final and final. The first game was a cautious affair against the strongest team, Thomas Mills School, and resulted in a 0-0 draw. Rose played superbly in goal making crucial saves towards the end of the game to save TGS from defeat. Opportunities at the other end were equally matched by an experienced goalkeeper. In the second game an early goal from Orme eased the pressure but this was quickly cancelled out by a fortunate opposition goal. After

a frantic half time talk the team moved up a few gears and the goals started coming. Braybrook dominated the right flank creating numerous opportunities. Brazier came on to give several players a well-earned rest, and Orme, Chisnall and Ruse scored a further 5 goals to complete a 6-1 victory over St Benedicts School.

Despite a minor injury, Griss played on to defend the TGS goal alongside Rose who continued to grow in confidence. The final game against Copleston was dominated by TGS. Chisnall, Ruse and Davies managed the midfield to provide goals for Orme and Davies. Ruse and Griss ran several polished short corner routines to provide Griss with his first goal of the tournament. The team played well together and thoroughly deserved the victory after dominating the tournament. They were well Captained by Griss and remain undefeated this season.

Mr D Chiang





As always, this term has been busy in the Careers Hub. Year 11 students are coming to the Careers Hub to complete their Record of Achievement folders, to gain ribbons, in preparation for the Graduation Ceremony in June. This year we have a new ribbon: the Digital Literacy and Citizen Award. Any Year 11 students who are interested in how they can gain this ribbon please go and see Mr Oliver in room 113 at lunchtime.



On 24/4 we welcomed Steph Parmee from Gainsborough's House to lead an Employer Workshop. Students who attended were amazed with all the activities that are held at Gainsborough's House and the work involved.



On 25/4 a cluster networking event was held at The Granary organised by Penny Wilby our Enterprise Adviser. Employers attended and were interested to learn more about getting involved with TGS and the other schools in the local area by offering work experience placements, taking part in speed networking and mock interviews or coming in to speak to students about their careers. The following students attended the event, along with Mrs Baker, Mr Alexander and Miss Perkins:

Fran Taylor-Perkins, Teia Yule, Beth Gerrish – Year 12  
Thomas Dudden – Year 11  
Jess Wilby, Megan Turner – Year 8

The students were fantastic ambassadors for the school, networking with employers and explaining about the various aspects of the school and what opportunities the careers department at TGS offers to students.

Fran Taylor-Perkins was one of the guest speakers and delivered an inspirational speech. Well done to all students who attended the event!



Year 7 and Year 8 students have been visiting the Careers Hub regularly to add achievements to their ROAs' in order to gain their half ribbons. We have the first three students to achieve all the half ribbons. They are Jess Wilby, Megan Turner and Lottie Cooper. Well done!



Designs for new half ribbons- Lottie Cooper and Emilie Hurst have created the new stickers for us. We will combine the two designs to make the new half colour sticker.



# CAREERS CAREER

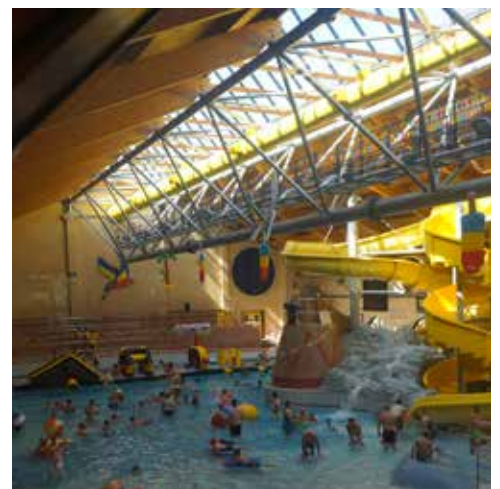
All students did exceptionally well during their week in the world of work and received glowing feedback from their employers.



## Work Experience

Since the last newsletter numerous students have been on work experience as follows:

Jasmine Manning : *Ardmore Vets*  
 Greg King: *Mel Aviation*  
 Harry Freeman: *Oxfam*  
 Kyle Wallace: *Tesco*  
 Ashley Chambers: *Community Warden*  
 Archie Bennett-Bonner: *Maxim Coaching*  
 Faith Edwards: *Pot Kiln Primary*  
 Devon Andrews: *Konings*  
 Phoebe Studdy: *S by N Hotel, Spa and Gym*  
 Thomas Churchill: *Microsoft*  
 Saffron Smith: *Pot Kiln Primary*  
 Ethan Thomas-Burns: *CJB Property Services*  
 Jasmine Leamey: *Pot Kiln Primary*  
 Emily Dean: *Nayland Primary*  
 Mason Boggis: *Swayne and Partners*



interviews in Year 10; they were each given a booklet to enable them to conduct research regarding skills and qualities in preparation.

Students have already begun to work on the creation of their curriculum vitae and cover letters in their English lessons. English Groups have been coming to careers to talk about the importance of CVs and letters of application. After the half term students will conduct research regarding career pathways and the format of interview paperwork during their IT lessons; they will type up the CVs, letters and will complete an online application form in preparation for work experience and mock interviews in Year 10.

Our thanks to English and IT for their tremendous support with this.



# Employer of the Month

**W**e are delighted to announce the Kingfisher Leisure Centre as our Employer of the Month.

The Kingfisher have kindly accommodated 4 TGS students this year for a 1 week work placement. All students have enjoyed their time at the Leisure Centre and have come back to school feeling inspired by their experience.

**Jonathan Harvey, Group Operation Manager at the centre, explains the Kingfisher's ethos on work experience:**

At Kingfisher Leisure Centre we strongly believe that developing our future leaders starts with the students on our work experience programme. Our Current work experience programme is designed in 5 key steps, to give the best insight into all aspects of starting employment in leisure.

## *Step 1 – Pre-placement*

The experience starts way before stepping into the building. Booking your work experience is your first chance to make a positive impression on your employer. It is important to make the experience as realistic as possible so that you can gain the most from the experience. Aim to organise this yourself with a little help from your parents.

## *Step 2 - Interview*

To add to the experience we organise a time to attend a mock interview prior to the placement.

Top tips for interviews:

1. Research the company that you could be working for
2. Visit the centre and ask for a tour prior to interview
3. Research types of interview questions, such as competency base questions and prepare some potential answers
4. Prepare some questions for the employer
5. Don't be late!

## *Step 3 - Placement*

Students work alongside our Catering team, Gym team, Reception team, Lifeguard team and the Management team. We encourage students to interact with customers building vital communication skills that help with report building and self-confidence. Learn what happens in our pool plant room to keep our pool clean and safe for bathers. Shadow gym inductions and learn complete checks to ensure the facility is and customers.

how to  
safe for staff

CAREERS C



## Step 4 - Feedback

During and after your placement, staff will feedback how well you have done over the week and suggest any tips for the future. We would also like you to give us feedback on ways we can make the experience better for future placements.

## Step 5 – Future employment

On the last day of the placement, you can take part in a lifeguard water test. This involves demonstrating basic swimming skills needed for the National Pool Lifeguard Qualification. As a thank you for your hard work during your placement, we offer successful students a 50% reduction for our National Pool Lifeguard Qualification. This is a great opportunity to start your career in leisure as a Lifeguard.

We are currently reviewing our work experience programme under the new GDPR laws. This gives us the opportunity to improve our work experience programme.

Jonathan Harvey  
Group Operations Manager  
South Suffolk Leisure





## THE YEAR 11 OF 2018 GRADUATION CEREMONY

Friday 22nd June 2018  
10.30 - Noon

*Excellence: for each, for all*



### Year 11 Graduation, Prom, Yearbook and Hoodies

Exams are now in full swing and so is the preparation for the leavers' celebration events.

#### *Yearbook*

Students have been asked to submit a comment and a photograph in order for us to put this year's yearbook together and this should now be completed. Yearbooks are available to order until Friday 25th May at a cost of just £5. Order forms have been sent via email to all students and parents. Yearbooks will be available to collect at the end of the Graduation Ceremony on 22nd June.

#### *Hoodies*

We are working with a local

company called Snow Union to produce Graduates Hoodies for pupils to purchase at a cost of £19.50. A link has been sent to all students and parents via email. Deadline for orders is Friday 25th May. These will be also available to collect at the end of the graduation ceremony on 22nd June.

If you would like to order please do so here:-  
<https://www.snowunion.co.uk/thomas-gainsborough-hoodie.html>

#### *Graduation*

Our annual Graduation Ceremony is taking place on Friday 22nd June from 10:30-12:00 in a marquee in the grounds of the school. Invitations have been sent to parents and students via Email. Copies of the invitation letters are also available at student services. Replies must be in to the school by Friday 25th May to

guarantee tickets. There is no cost for this event.

#### *Prom*

The Year 11 Prom takes place at Colchester United Football Club on Friday 29th June. Arrival is 7:00 for 7:30 with carriages at 10:30pm. The dress code is formal (dress to impress!). Tickets are still on sale from Students Services at a cost of £30. This includes entry to the event, a welcome drink, a Buffet Meal, a DJ for the night, exclusive use of the Suite at CUFC, a group photograph taken in the stands of the stadium and access to 500 photographs as a memory of the evening.

It is always a great night, so get your tickets soon!

Mr W Ponsford





# Year 11

THOMAS GAINSBOROUGH SCHOOL MAGAZINE · MAY 2018 · ISSUE 18

PORTRAIT

## Prom 2018

FRIDAY 29 JUNE  
COLCHESTER UNITED FOOTBALL  
CLUB  
19.00 TO 22.30

£30 PER TICKET WHICH INCLUDES,  
VENUE HIRE, DJ, BUFFET MEAL WITH  
DRINK ON ARRIVAL AND ACCESS TO  
ALL THE DIGITAL PHOTOS FROM  
THE NIGHT

TICKETS ON SALE FROM  
STUDENT SERVICES SOON



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TGS ALUMNI


## Class

of  
Thomas Gainsborough School-  
Great Cornard Upper School

WE WANT TO INSPIRE OUR STUDENTS TO  
STRIVE TO BE THE BEST THEY CAN BE.

DID YOU, OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW, ATTEND  
TGS/GCUS AND HAVE GONE ON TO A  
SUCCESSFUL/FULFILLING CAREER?

PLEASE LET US KNOW BY EMAIL  
HYAPP@TGSCHOOL.NET  
MCLAXTON@TGSCHOOL.NET




## TGS FRIENDS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN US  
NEXT MEETING: 5 JUNE  
6-7PM AT TGS  
ALL WELCOME!

**Summer Term 2018**

*Last Day of Term -  
Tuesday 24 July*

*Half Term:*

**Monday 28 May –  
Friday 1 June**

**FREE SWIM FOR 15'S AND UNDER**



*Spend  
SUMMER  
at the  
POOL*

**AT GREAT CORNARD SPORTS CENTRE**  
**OPENS 4TH JUNE-12TH AUGUST**

To apply for your free swimming you will need to complete the registration form  
on the reverse of this leaflet. There is a £5 registration fee.

Term Time Opening Hours Monday-Friday 2.30-7.00pm Saturday & Sunday 2.00-5.30pm	School Holiday Opening Hours Monday-Friday 2.30-5.00pm Saturday & Sunday 2.00-5.30pm
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**AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE HIRE**

For more information call the Sports Centre on 01787 374862



**Annual Sports Awards  
Evening 2018**



An evening to celebrate our success and  
achievements  
with special guest  
Hannah Macleod  
HOCKEY OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALLIST

**6.30pm – 8pm**  
Arrive for 6.15pm  
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

Price includes: AWARDS FOR ALL / FOOD & DRINK /  
RAFFLE / SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER  
Tickets available at Student Services £8

*Excellence: for each, for all*



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SCHOOL**

Thomas Gainsborough School, Wells Hall Road, Great Cornard, Suffolk, CO10 0NH  
Telephone: 01787 375232, Fax: 01787 377386  
enquiries@tgschool.net, www.tgschool.net

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