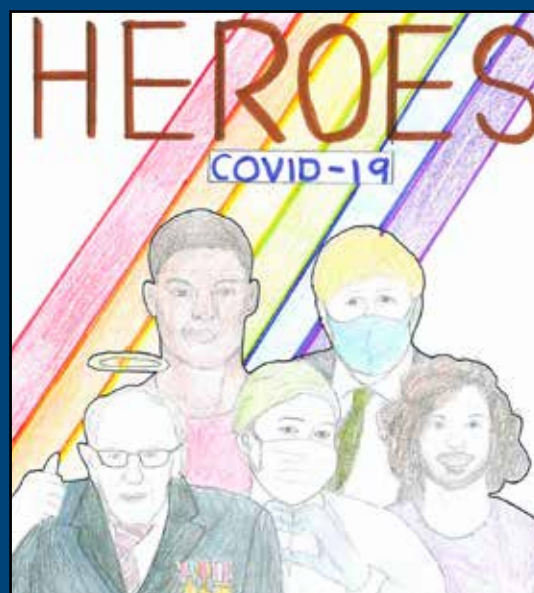
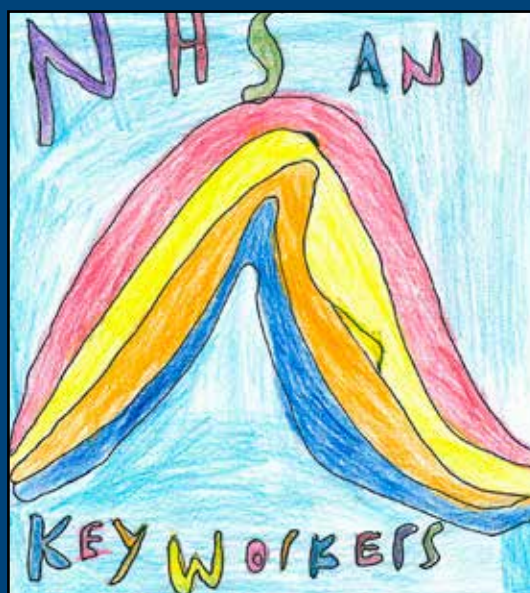


PORTFOLIO



Issue 35
July
2021



CONTENTS INCLUDE: HOUSE NEWS, STUDENT LEADERSHIP, CAREERS, SUMMER SPORT & SIXTH FORM

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WELLY Challenge!



It has been my pleasure to lead you through your final half term as Head of Abbas House and what a term it has been. One minute we have had rain and then the next minute we have had glorious sunshine. I've struggled to keep up. You have all endured this half term with renewed effort, gusto and resilience in the face of even more changes and challenges than we would experience in a normal academic year. Well done! Keep going! We only have a few days left.

The Values nominations for Abbas House have been fantastic. These have included: competing in a horse riding competition outside of school, winning two cricket matches, helping to pick up litter around school, assisting a member of the public and helping them when they had fallen over. It is so great to see that members of Abbas House are displaying the school values both in and outside of the school environment. So, a big well done to all you who have received Value nominations for this half term and I look forward to seeing what the Value nominations will look like for the next academic year. Can you make it even better for the coming year?

We have been fortunate enough to carry out the Three Peaks Challenge this half term albeit in a different format. The challenge was to carry out 17 laps of the 400m running track with the option to either run or walk. We had 23 students and 6 staff participating after school. We had two participants complete this event in a super quick 33 minutes. Bravo! A big thank for everybody that took part in this event as all money raised will go towards our current house charity 'Autism Anglia.'



Finally, this brings me to the aspirations for the coming academic year for Abbas House. Next year, I want us as a House to move from strength to strength embedding the TGS school values wherever we go. I want us to be recognised for taking part and being immensely proud of our achievements in charity events and house competitions across the board. So, thank you for all of your hard work, dedication and effort for this academic year (staff and students!) Remember to work hard, get involved and be proud!

Enjoy your summer. Look forward to seeing you all refreshed and raring to go in September.

Mrs K Wells



And in the blink of an eye, the end of another year is almost upon us once more. We have all overcome another 12 months of obstacles and difficulties, however I am thrilled to be able to write once more of the successes of Chamberlain House; you never disappoint me!

Firstly I would like to say a welcome to the Year 6s soon to be Year 7s. We have had a very successful transition evening where our tutees met their new tutors; there is a definite vibe of anticipation and excitement creeping into our house. It is great to see so many siblings of current Chamberlain students arriving through the classroom doors too. We are all looking forward to transition week in which I hope you will all work hard and earn as many merits as possible, as well as become more confident in your new school.

Due to bad weather before half term, we had to reschedule our new charity event, The Chamberlain Charity Triathlon. (Please read our other Chamberlain article for further information and photos of the event). However we are not resting on our laurels just yet! Wednesday 7th July is our last charity event of the year, Swim The Channel. We have so far been unsuccessful in swimming the 1352 needed, so it would be great to see as many competitors there as possible so we can FINALLY achieve this feat. This will be the final push in our efforts to win the charity cup, so please come along and get involved! I am also forever optimistic that we will retain the Chelsworth Cup this term so please keep collecting those merits and participating in the last few ongoing competitions.

Lastly, I would like to wish our Year 11s an official goodbye. At the time of our last Portrait going to press, you were still in school with us, however the space your departure has made since May half term has become very prominent. You are all hugely missed. However I do hope you are using this time to rejuvenate yourself before your post-16 studies begin in September. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Charlotte Roberts and Daniel Judd for being such amazing House Captains. I could not have wished for two more supportive and

encouraging students to help me settle into my role of Head of House two years ago. I wish you both all the best in your futures and I will be forever grateful for all your assistance over the past few years. I am hopeful I will catch up with the Year 11s at Graduation and Prom in the summer, but if not, I wish you all the very best.

I always find myself feeling very humble at the end of each year. I am so grateful to my tutors who support me and help at any given opportunity, and really will go above and beyond for their tutees. I appreciate some of my plans are slightly wacky, yet never once do you doubt me. You are always there to offer insightful words which really mean a lot to me and it is very much appreciated. I would also like to thank the parents of Chamberlain House students. My job would not be possible without your support so I am very thankful. And finally, Chamberlain House. You are always fabulous, always getting involved, always successful in all you do and always doing good rather than being conspicuous!

Wishing you all a safe and happy summer,

Miss A Alston



Well, as we approach the end of another school year, I am not sure we would have believed a year ago that we would still be dealing with COVID-19 in as intrusive and restrictive a way as we still are, but we are, and we are doing so magnificently (he wrote from his desk at home after being Tracked & Traced!)

“Necessity is the mother of invention” so the saying goes, and it is clear that, as it has been necessary for us to continue to be constrained in order to restrict the spread of the virus, students in Houghton House have been creative and inventive in order to continue to progress their learning and make a contribution to their community.

We’ve managed to run two charity fundraisers, spreading a little joy and getting some exercise along the way with our Messages of Kindness deliveries and “Step Up” challenge. Furthermore, at the time of writing, 156 students in Houghton have committed to a sponsored 5 kilometre run or walk for our Race for Life and all students have shown admirable commitment and resilience as they have completed end of year assessments and exams.

The new student committee have made an excellent start to their term of office - I am sure that Shania, Noah, Tommy, Emily, Josh and Thorunn will work well together and lead by example over the next year or so. As they exemplify the values of the school and the house, so do all those students who have been nominated for a values award this term, for leadership, animal care, friendship and charity work, to name a few. These acts are so typical of our students and it is so wonderful to recognise these achievements away from the classroom. I’ll conclude these notes, written with a sense of pride and sadness, with the news that this will be my last article for Portrait as the Head of Houghton House. Excited as I am to move to a teaching and learning role, the last two years have been a real highlight and I will hold fond memories of working closely with the students and tutors who make Houghton a really special group.

I have everything crossed that we can reclaim the Chelsworth House Trophy after two very close second places in the last two terms and I know that Mrs Gilligan will bring her skill and experience to the role to ensure that “Honour is the Reward of Valour” into the future.

Mr M Gibson



*Mrs N Gilligan
New Head of Houghton*

As we come towards the end of a very strange year we have lots to be pleased about. We have had a changing of the guard with our new House Captains and they have made a superb start. Kaden and Oriel have very ably led our new House Committee and my thanks go out to them. Their main task so far has been to organise our recent charity event, the ‘Smelly Welly Boot Challenge’. Pupils and staff have been able to ‘vote’ for their favourite teacher to win the honour of donning the wellies, full of all sorts of disgustingness, by donating money into the correct box at student services. 19 staff kindly volunteered and over £80 was raised during the 2 weeks. In third place was Mr Gibson with a total of £5.77; second was yours truly with a total of £23.56; and the winner, with a grand total of £36.20 was... Mrs Yapp! Congratulations (!!!) to her and to top it off she got to wear the wellies on her birthday too! What a fantastic way to spend your big day!

Thank you to all the staff who volunteered to be in the running and to all the committee members who helped organise.

Peyton House students have been up to some exciting things outside school too.

Luke Roberts (LNI) has been lucky enough to have climbed Snowdon in North Wales recently. Having completed this walk several times myself I know how hard the walk can be so a huge well done to him and his family. Luke has raised over £800 for charity whilst he was at it!

Georgina Read (LNI) has also been climbing mountains, this time Pen Y Fan in south Wales. This is one of the famous training routes used by the SAS so well done to her.

Stanley Waterson (LHe) deserves a special mention as he has recently achieved a black belt in Karate. Congratulations Stanley, the resilience and skill needed to complete this must have been huge!

Bailey Jacobs (NBe) has been successful in gaining a place playing for Needham Market FC after a recent trial – Well done and good luck Bailey!

Isabelle Selwood (NBe) has recently passed her Grade 7 singing exam! Next stop – Grade 8! Congratulations Isabelle!

Noah Fitton (MGr) has been kindly volunteering his time at the Barnardo’s charity shop in Sudbury at the weekend. Well done Noah, I am sure the charity really appreciates your efforts, as do we.

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

Mr W Ponsford



This is the last newsletter of the academic year and my last to you all as the Head of Tollemache. I am stepping down from the role and Mr. Richards will be the new Head of House from September. I have enjoyed the role immensely and learnt a lot of new skills. I have relished working with the Tollemache tutors so much and think they are a great team. I would like to thank them for all their hard work. It has been a pleasure getting to know all the students in my house.

I think Mr Richards will be a brilliant addition to the House and I look forward to working with him. Luckily I will still be a member of the Tollemache house as a tutor. I have been assigned Doctor Clarke's tutor group as he is moving to the Sixth Form tutor team. So it is all change in the staffing in the Tollemache house in the Autumn term.

As the term draws to a close and you receive your last report for this year, you should take this opportunity to reflect on what you have learned throughout this year. Ask yourself did you try as hard as you could in every subject in every lesson? Did you get involved in school life as much as you could? Did you take part in any charity events or competitions? Did you meet your personal best in sports? Have you designed and produced a piece of art that you are proud of? Did you receive any badges in recognition for your hard work this year? If any of these answers are no, then what can you do differently? Do you have a plan of how to move forward?

Reflecting is an important skill that helps us make a plan for the future. New beginnings are always good, I think, can be magical as you can reinvent yourself if you so wish. September is a new start, a new leaf if you did not have the year you wanted and did not meet your goals then try again. What is stopping you? Remember the school values Honesty, Confidence, Happiness, Resilience, Positivity, Respect. You will need all of these skills to reflect on your achievements and make progress.

As you go through the school it is always important to refer back to give yourself a starting point to create plans for the future. School is a

small part of your life but what you take from your time at Thomas Gainsborough will form your life. The skills you learn will help you throughout your career, which is a huge part of your adult life. You should be preparing now to be a part of the future workforce.

The school is already training you: when you work as a team in your tutor base on topics such as Theme of the Fortnight and Capital Culture. Listening to others' opinions and being respectful of those around you, that means staff and peers. That is you training for the future. Being mindful of the environment you work and relax in, treating the resources and equipment with care. Being responsible for your litter at lunch and break time. Not damaging your books. Taking care of your uniform, not bending the rules to suit your personal taste. You will not be able to do that when you work for a company. They will insist you adhere to their dress code and how you conduct yourself in a meeting or a presentation. How you tidy away your lunch in the staff room and don't just leave it for someone else to clean up. Above all, the workforce will notice your appearance first. This begins at your interview and first impressions do count.

So when you return in September fully equipped and ready to learn, remember to work to the best of your ability, be respectful to those around you. Take care of your environment. Get involved in school life and look the part whilst training for your future.

Mrs F Raleigh



Mr B Richards
New Head of Tollemache

MY SNOWDON ADVENTURE

by Luke Roberts

My name is Luke and I am in Year 7. When I was 9 years old I was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. This means my pancreas doesn't make insulin and I have to inject insulin to keep me healthy and alive.

When I was told I had diabetes I felt worried because I had never heard of it and didn't know anybody that had it. My friends in primary school helped me so much and learned all they could about diabetes, but I still felt a little bit different because they didn't have diabetes themselves.

My nurse at the hospital told me about a special adventure weekend, just for children with diabetes. It sounded so much fun! So I went! I did kayaking, raft building and lots of other things with other diabetic children. But most importantly I met other children like me! I made so many new friends and felt normal again.

The weekend was organised by the East of England Child and Young People Diabetes Network. They organise and bring together children and families from all over East Anglia. They also do things like ice skating, summer games and wilderness days. They even have a football team!

When we heard about a fundraising event they were doing we decided our family would love to join in. It would be a huge challenge because we were climbing Mount Snowdon in Wales! It is 1085m high and very difficult to climb. We had to do lots of training and went on lots of long dog walks. Then it was cancelled because of Covid so when heard we could do it this year we had to train even harder!

On Saturday 26th June we met with other families, nurses and doctors to hike up Mount Snowdon. It was really hard at the beginning because it was so steep! I wasn't sure if I could do it but kept going. It took us 3 and a half hours to get to the top and

the views were amazing! It was sunny the whole time we were climbing but when we got to the top it was cloudy. Then after a break we walked back down again. That took a bit longer than going up but I think it was easier coming down. I had to make sure my blood sugar levels didn't go too low which was challenging, but it was alright in the end. This was the biggest challenge I have faced so far and I was so proud that I did it!

In total my family raised over £700 for the Network, and we raised more than £7.5k between everybody climbing. This will mean that the network can help so many more children with diabetes and their families.

I had so much fun climbing Snowdon that I have decided to climb Scafell Pike next year, and Ben Nevis the year after. I hope my family want to come, too!



STUDENT *Leadership* 2021/22



HEAD GIRL
Evie Prager



HEAD BOY
Charles Wilson



DEPUTY HEAD BOY
Sam Clayton



DEPUTY HEAD GIRL
Katy Branch



ABBAS 2021/22



Head of
ABBAS
Mrs K Wells

House Captains



Will Parsons & Abigail Booth



Committee
Alice
Ward



Committee
Jake
Morris



Committee
Vahan
Rickards



Committee
Jensen
Cooper



Committee
Tommy
Bentley



Committee
Josh
Moyes



Committee
Finn
Morris



Committee
Maisie
Lane



Committee
Charlotte
Turner



Committee
George
Bowden



Committee
Thorunn
Bubb



Committee
Emily
Martin



CHAMBERLAIN 21/22



Head of
Chamberlain
Miss A Alston

House Captains



Kai Thomas & Maisie Young



HOUGHTON 21/22



Head of
Houghton
Mrs N Gilligan

House Captains



Noah Ruse & Shania Warren



PEYTON 2021/22



Head of
Peyton
Mr W Ponsford

House Captains



Kaden Bailey & Oriel Hopkins



Committee
Jas
Howard



Committee
Jasmine
Brown



Committee
Daisy
Driscoll



Committee
Constance
Buckingham



Committee
Andrew
Cottingham



Committee
Matthew
Walker



Committee
Henry
Newman



Committee
Will
Gurney



TOLLEMACHE 21/22



Head of
Tollemache
Mr B Richards

House Captains



Alex Cadeddu & Ruby Marsh

10 RESPECT RESILIENCE HONESTY POSITIVITY HAPPINESS CONFIDENCE

RESPECT RESILIENCE HONESTY POSITIVITY HAPPINESS CONFIDENCE 11

PSHE Day



Thursday 1st July saw our final PSHE Day of this academic year. Our last day was online during lockdown so on this day we were able to catch up with the more sensitive topics which are best covered face-to-face with the students.

These days are so important for our students as PSHE education can boost students' life chances, helping them to stay safe, improve their physical & emotional health and develop the character, resilience and skills they need to succeed academically and in the work place. PSHE Education can play a key role in safeguarding children and young people, managing risks such as sexual exploitation, drug & alcohol use, violent or abusive relationships, consent and online safety.

On this day we covered the following topics:

Year 7 – *British Values and Drugs, Tobacco & Alcohol*

Year 8 – *Relationship & Sex Education: Being Safe and Keeping Healthy*

Year 9 – *Intimate & Sexual Relationships and Health & Safety*

Year 10 – *Relationship & Sex Education: Being Safe and Intimate & Sexual Relationships*

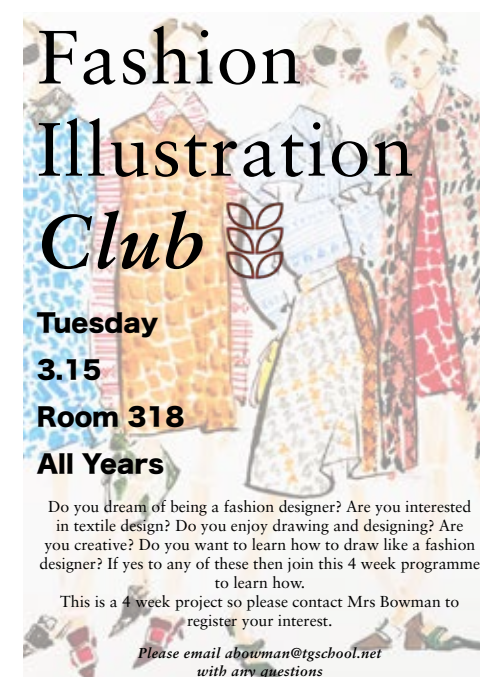
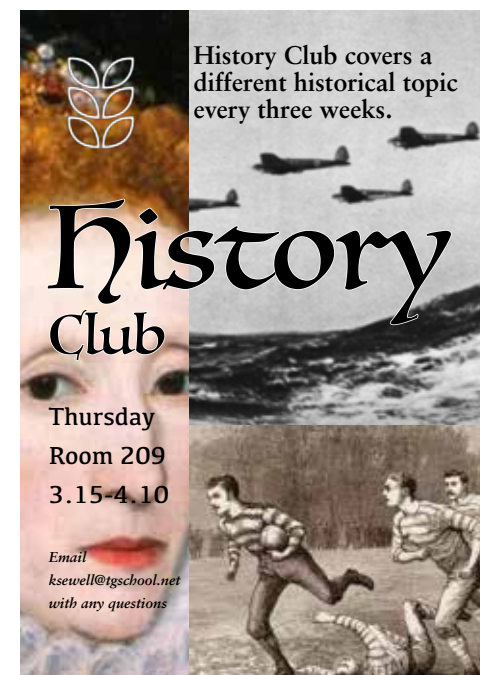
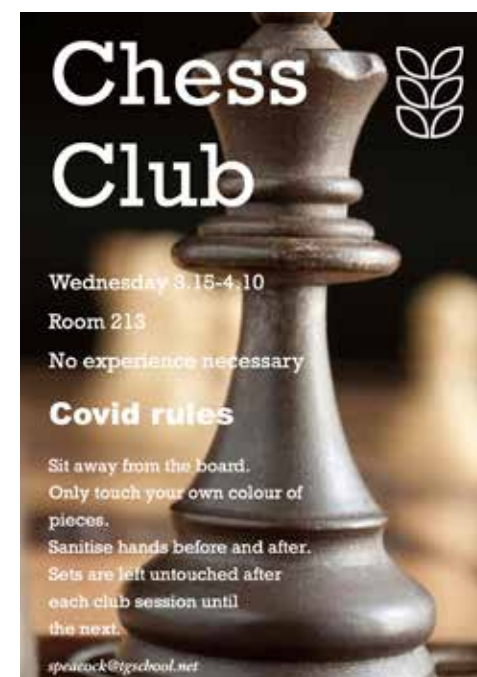
The afternoon lesson was fantastic to see the school outside in support of Cancer Research for the Race for Life, and I know Mr Gibson will give you more details about just how successful this was.

ENRICHMENT

This term we decided to re-brand our Enrichment offer and increase the number of opportunities for our students.

Extra-Curricular clubs offer students a wide range of new opportunities different to those they gain in lessons. It was a fantastic range from juggling, birdwatching and rounders to gardening or Warhammer. Most of these clubs offered drop in availability so that students could try a wide range. Some of our new clubs were based around a project to be completed in 4 weeks such as fashion illustration and creating a student school magazine. We are very keen for this wide variety to remain into next year.

Co-Curricular clubs offer students an extension to their lessons, in order to support their progress, coursework and exam practice.





Any moment now we will be revealing the winners of this term's Chelsworth House Cup. Every house has seen some amazingly high quality competition entries, and what a busy term we have had, with many of these being National competitions:

- Care in the Community
- Design a Stamp for heroes
- Step Up Challenge
- Design a Lorry for Aldi
- EDIT Media Challenge
- Design a T-Shirt which shows Unity

Create a Humanities Postcard
 Design a coin which shows respect to be used at the start of football matches
 Every entry earns students a certificate as evidence for their ROA, merits for themselves and points for their House towards the cup.

Our stamp designs were simply amazing!



THREE PEAKS CHARITY

The Three Peaks challenge took place on Thursday 24th June for an hour after school. Our mission was to cover the ascent and descent of the Three Peaks (or the equivalent) on the running track. Our aim was to complete 17 laps of the 400m track in just an hour. 23 students and 6 staff rose to the challenge. We even managed to hold off the rain until the last 5 minutes. Two participants in this event managed to complete the 17 laps of the track in a super speedy 33 minutes-Very impressive! A massive thank you to everybody who gave up their time to attend this event.

All money raised from this event will be donated to our current House charity 'Autism Anglia.'



Abbas Charity Event



Three Peaks Challenge has Arrived for 2021...

Want to race?
Want to keep that New Year resolution going?
Want to boost your step count?
Want to raise money for a fantastic local charity?

Take up the 'outside' challenge of the Three Peaks 2021!
We will be covering equivalent of the ascent height and descent height of Three Peaks without leaving TGS!(7000m)

If you take part in this event, this contributes towards your sports ribbon and if you get sponsored for this, it contributes towards your community ribbon.

THURSDAY 24TH JUNE 2021 3.30 TO 4.30PM- ON THE FIELD BY THE ASTRO-TURE.

This is a challenge that you can complete individually.
Sponsor forms are in 302 or see KWe for more details.
Can you cover the ascent and descent distance? 17 times around the 400m track. You can either walk or jog.

Raise money for Autism Anglia!




THE CHAMBERLAIN CHARITY TRIATHLON

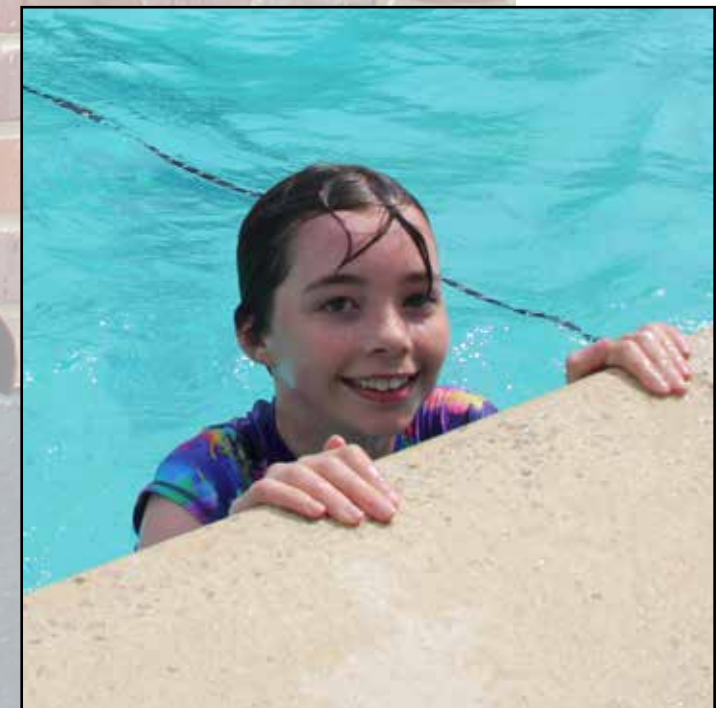
Due to terrible weather conditions before May half term, Chamberlain's Charity Triathlon was postponed and held on Friday 11th June. Fortunately on this occasion, the weather was on our side, and we were bathed in sun for the duration of the event. This was the first time an event such as this had been organised by a house in aid of charity, and it was lovely to see so many enthusiastic students from all five houses participating or assisting at the event.

Firstly, participants had to swim 100m, then undertake a short run to their bikes which were located in the bike racks. Students then had to complete two circuits of the school field, totalling 2km, and then lastly back to the bike rack to drop off their bike to then complete a 1200m run. Some students completed all three disciplines themselves, whereas others opted for a relay approach and entered as a team. The music was blasting, teachers and parents were offering plenty of encouragement to students and there were smiles on every face!

Isla Widdowson (Chamberlain) won the event in an incredible 15 mins 51 seconds, despite adding additional length onto the cycle. She really was quicker than a speeding bullet!! Second place with a time of 18 minutes was the team of Lucia Bunn (Houghton) and Aleisha Clarke (Peyton) and third place with a time of 19 minutes 2 seconds was the team of Kai Thomas (Chamberlain) and Will Aldsworth (Chamberlain). Jack Bentley (Chamberlain) was closely on the heels of Kai and Will, finishing fourth in a time of 19 minutes and 17 seconds.

In total, over £300 has been raised for Chamberlain's charity, Guide Dogs UK, which is brilliant news and will be very much appreciated by them. This will also significantly help Chamberlain's bid for the charity cup which will be awarded at the end of the summer term.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all those students who took part, certificates have been awarded for you to add into your Record of Achievement. Thank you to our ever-supportive staff who gave up their Friday afternoon to either help or compete; Mrs Sewell, Mrs Young, Miss Derry, Miss Hilson, Mrs Power and Mr Few. And lastly, a very special thank you to those parents who came and supported, particularly Mrs Widdowson who ended up marshalling the cycle track - Thank you!



STUDENTS EXPERIENCE VIRTUAL ART WORKSHOPS

An exciting opportunity has arisen for our Year 10 to 13 students to attend free after school online art based workshops in conjunction with the University College London (UCL) and STORE, London. Here, two Year 13 students tell of their experiences so far.

We were introduced to the STORE “After School Club” workshops after Miss Bowman had received an invitation from the people who run them in London. There are workshops that include art, photography, 3D modelling, and much more, and run online on weekday evenings. It’s a great opportunity as it allows for learning new techniques that we often don’t have access to either because of a lack of funding or inaccessibility by being in the countryside. They are free and they even send equipment and tools that you need for the course through the post!

Myself and Milly first attended the “Animal Tracks” workshop run on Tuesday 18th May where we experimented with a Japanese marbling technique called Suminagashi where you place ink on top of water, and it creates a tree ring like pattern. It’s fun to learn new techniques that we’d never learn unless we discovered them ourselves and it’s interesting to see people in the actual industry and what they do. We then attended another digital workshop run by RANDOM HAPPINESS who are based in Barcelona, on how Google Street View can be used in art. It’s fascinating to see how Street View can be used for different purposes and open up so many avenues. We are also planning to do their first in-person workshop in over a year in London, where we learn about sustainable fashion and techniques used in it, such as crochet. It’s run by fashion designer Liam Hodges, and while it’s expensive to have to travel to London, the skills and inspiration make it worth it. They’re supported by UCL and you can sign up for their future workshops through the website where you email them.

Kali Elderfield

Kali and I have been very fortunate with an opportunity to be attending Store, London, free virtual art after school clubs. These clubs are supported by UCL and by various figures within the art world, and are an opportunity for 15 state school students to engage with

art in a different way, over a course of four weeks. The first class is the Animal Tracks and Weather Maps, where we have been mastering the technique of Japanese suminagashi printing, where the printing supplies are provided! We have learned about animal tracking and engaging with nature to enhance these prints too. On Thursdays, we have been participating in another course, Digital Promenade, with RANDOM HAPPINESS. We have been digitally travelling through Barcelona, embracing the culture and creating abstract work from Google Street View. Our next set of classes is in London with design studio Liam Hodges, working to create a collection of sustainable fashion accessories, which we are very excited about! Thank you to Store and all supporters of these workshops, which we are enjoying and will take the skills learned further into life. A massive thank you to Miss Bowman for informing us about this amazing opportunity.

Milly Wingate



'Sudbury as our canvas'



'Sudbury as our canvas' is returning to Sudbury in July to bring some colour and positivity from the young people of the town to the shopfronts and business of the town.

Following on from the last exhibition, in which over two hundred pieces of work were exhibited in shops, vacant units, coffee shops and supermarkets, Thomas Gainsborough School is aiming to expand the concept this summer by including pieces by local primary school students, students from Year 7-13 at Thomas Gainsborough School and also work from former students who have gone on to degrees and careers for an 'alumni exhibition'. In addition to visual arts, there will also be elements of performing arts and music, along with creative writing and poetry.

Incoming Head of Visual Arts Fran Raleigh says 'We are proud that we are showcasing inspirational pieces of work from an inspirational community which is so supportive of the arts.'

Assistant Headteacher and outgoing Head of Art Ed Clark says 'The concept behind Sudbury as our canvas was to bring the work of Sudbury's young people to the local community and to make it easier for them to experience and celebrate the talent and hard work on display. In these strange

and challenging times, it is even more important to support the creativity of our young people and find innovative ways to exhibit them. In addition, including the immense achievements of former students from Sudbury has filled us with pride in their work.'

Sudbury as our canvas runs from the 5th of July till the 16th of July in various locations in Sudbury town centre, with an exhibition and performance showcase evening at Thomas Gainsborough School on Thursday the 8th of July between 6 and 8pm.



TES CREATIVE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR:



TGS shortlisted for prestigious national award

Thomas Gainsborough School has been honoured for its commitment to creative learning and the arts by being shortlisted for the most prestigious education awards this summer.

The Times Educational Supplement (TES) education awards are the most widely recognised awards for excellence in the teaching world, and this year TGS has been shortlisted for the ‘Creative school of the year’ category, with an application based upon the work we have undertaken over the last year on cultural touchstones in tutor groups (which we have also shared with other schools) and the partnerships we have employed with Historic England, the Protein databank and the Human Cell Atlas.

The award was given to the Chorlton High School in Manchester, in recognition of the work they have done to highlight the journeys and plight of refugees fleeing danger in other countries. Being shortlisted for this award is an extraordinary honour, having been selected over hundreds of other deserving candidates and we are extremely proud to have been recognised in this way by the selection panel at TES.

Mr E Clark



TGS STUDENTS RECIEVE EXCELLENCE AWARDS FOR CARD GAME DESIGN

The Human Cell Atlas game design project

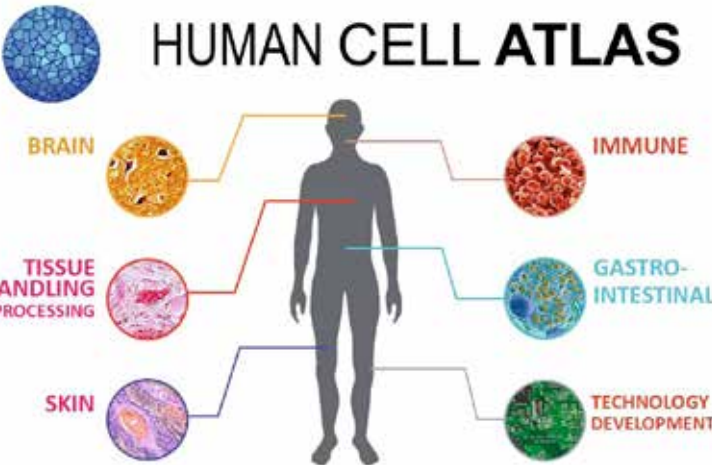
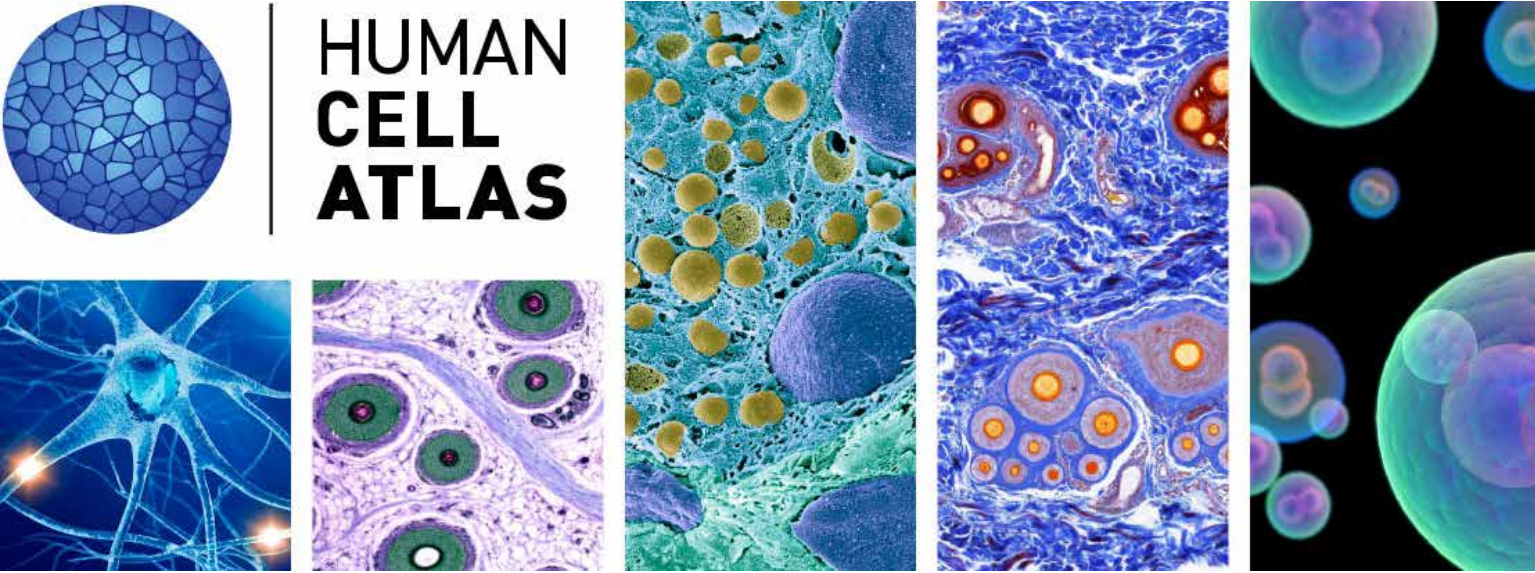
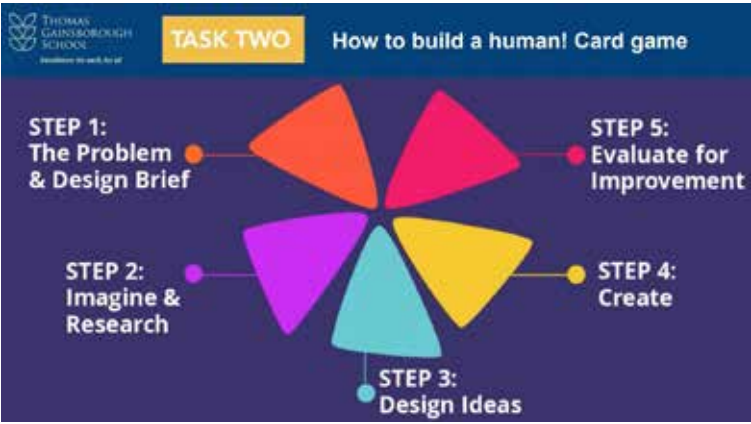
The human cell atlas is a science group based in Cambridge whose mission is to map every cell in the human body and understand how they work and what they do. The end result would be essentially a ‘Google maps’ of the human body, which will enable scientists to analyse every affliction that affects us and more effectively develop treatments. The group is widely considered to be the premiere group working in the field, and at the cutting edge of cellular research. This Spring, the Human Cell Atlas ran a project with schools called the ‘how to build a human’ game design project with students in Key Stage Three. This project was designed to give schools the chance to design a card game which explained through play the objectives of the Human Cell Atlas and the types of cells they research and map. This could be completed by students individually or in groups.

Mr Few and Mrs Spinks have designed a short project for students in the Design classes, with an introduction created by Mrs Palmer. Mr Few created a series of outstanding resources which combined the resources and information provided by the Human Cell Atlas with a series of tasks, information on the design principles of card

games and example images of both the work of the HCA and other card games. Mr Few’s work has been shared with the public engagement team at the Human Cell Atlas, who have been extremely impressed by the way he has converted their materials into a sequence of lessons with clear success criteria and examples of similar games, along with analysis and evaluation prompts.

While TGS did not win the first place award, which was given to Kimbolton School in Huntingdon, we have received ‘Excellence awards’ for the creativity and skills demonstrated in our entries, with winning students Luke Mallinson and Finn Doyle, both from Year 8 receiving certificates for their Records of Achievement. We are very proud of the way the students responded to this exciting opportunity, and the way that they were able to incorporate complex concepts into their creative outcomes.

Mr E Clark



TGS HIGHLIGHTED BY EUROPEAN EDUCATION JOURNAL:

'Science in schools' article on the Protein Art project highlights the work of students in STEM groups

For the second year, TGS has taken part in the 'Protein Art Project' in partnership with the Protein databank of Europe to create pieces of art based upon the unique protein structures of different species. Given the restrictions in place, this time around students, in KS3 STEM groups have developed a digital portfolio of work in which they have researched the work of the protein databank of Europe, other artists who have worked in the field of microbiology based art, selected a protein number from the databank, created a series of designs and a final outcome and then wrote a statement for the competition. These portfolios, along with images of the final pieces, have then been submitted digitally to the Protein data bank for entry in the exhibition of work. Alongside this, the work of last year's students, which could not be exhibited physically will have its own mini exhibition as part of 'Sudbury as our canvas'.

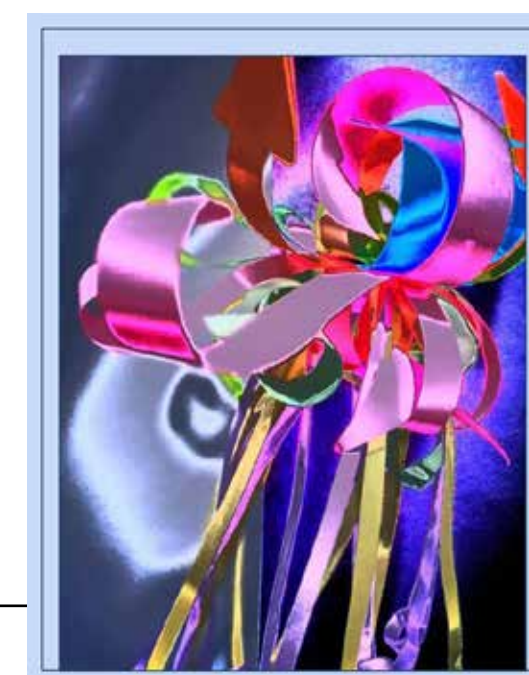
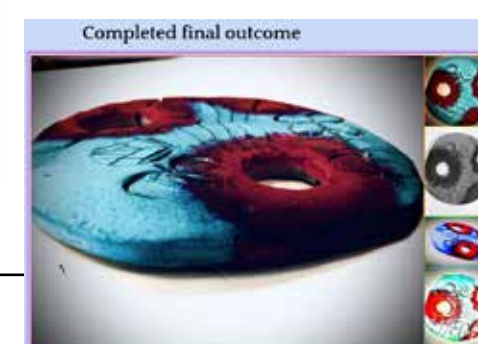
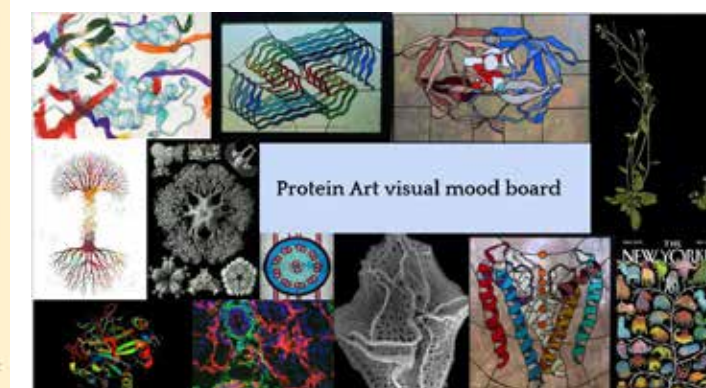
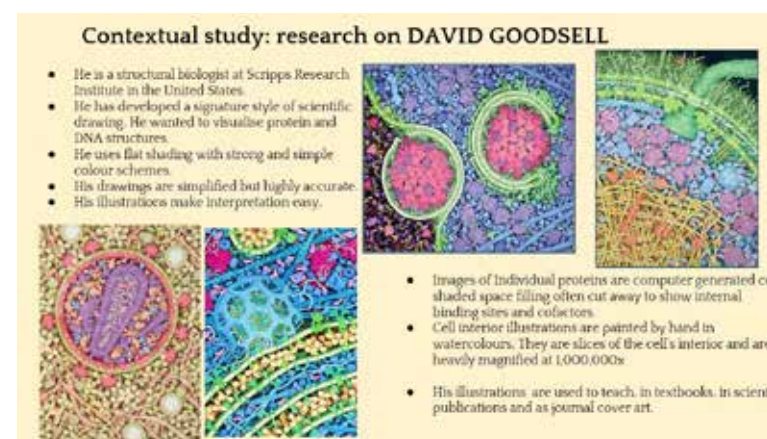
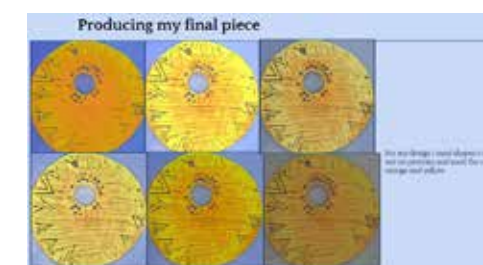
TGS' work to scale up its participation in the Protein Art project has impressed the project managers at PDBE, and they have highlighted it in an article they have published in the European Journal of Science Education, 'Science in Schools.' The article 'Introducing students to the beauty of biomolecules' is written by Dr Deepti Gupta and Dr David Armstrong. The article opens by explaining the work of the group and the objective of the Protein Art Project:

The PDB Art project is run by Protein Data Bank in Europe (PDBe), which is jointly responsible for managing the Protein Data Bank (PDB) archive, a database containing 3D atomic structures for more than 175 000 biomolecules. These structures are crucial for scientists looking for answers to important biological and biomedical questions, for example, relating to disease, metabolism, and developing new drugs. Through the PDB Art project, students are introduced to the importance of biomolecules such as proteins and DNA, and how these can be visualised in 3D. The aim is to spark their curiosity and inspire them to learn more about a molecule of interest, for example a protein linked to a disease. After learning more about the protein, they are encouraged to

create artworks that illustrate the molecule and explain 'why it matters'. These artworks are then shared widely by PDBe in the public and scientific community through exhibitions and other media, such as a yearly calendar.

When referencing TGS, the article continues: The project, which started with just a single student, now covers eight schools, including Thomas Gainsborough School (TGS) in Sudbury, UK. Teachers from TGS have used the project to foster a deeper collaboration between the science and art departments. The active-learning strategies employed throughout the project enable teachers to introduce their students to complex scientific topics in accessible ways. Students were really enthused by this approach to scientific learning, and many were surprised by how valuable it was to combine these subjects in new ways. Students were encouraged to be creative about how they developed the artworks depicting their scientific topics, which challenged them to fully understand the science behind their chosen protein. One of them said, "Although it wasn't hard to come up with scientific ideas and concepts, it was harder to incorporate them into a piece of art." The cross-curricular nature of the project helps the students gain interest and confidence in both science and arts. The blend of scientific learning and creative expression provides a unique opportunity for students to explore societal issues through a scientific lens, giving them options to explore future career opportunities. TGS implemented the project broadly, with students aged 12 to 17 years participating at various levels. Dedicated lessons introduced students to molecular structures in the PDB and the basic scientific concepts of proteins and amino acids, using resources provided by PDBe, 3D modelling kits, and activities. Later, the students were reintroduced to molecular structures in art lessons using additional resources from PDBe like a 3D visualisation tool and previous year's artworks in the PDBe calendar. The students were then encouraged to research a protein of their choice before creating artworks depicting the protein and written descriptions about how their artwork relates to the protein and the world around us. For older and more advanced students, TGS ran a more free-form version of the project, with more focus on independent learning outside of lessons and during extracurricular sessions. This allowed students more time to explore and research the scientific topics, thus resulting in deeper interpretations of proteins in their final artworks.

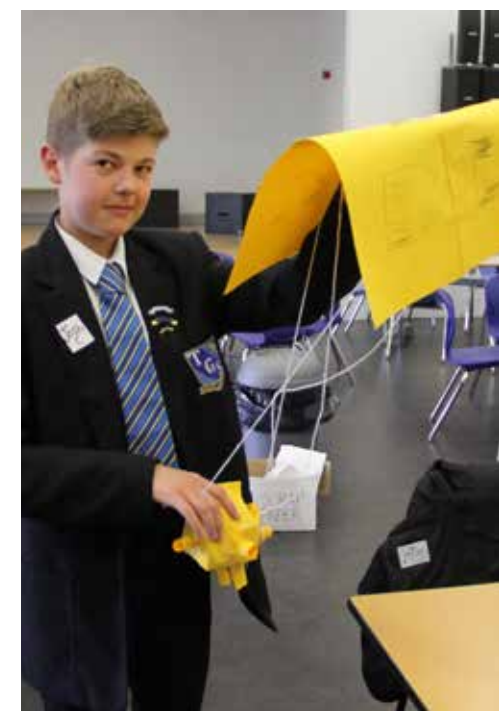
Once again we have been extremely proud of the work our students have produced, and the recognition we have received for delivering the project with such a large group of students in a comprehensive setting. We look forward to coming up with new and innovative ways of approaching the project again next year.





Students in 7b1 used their arms to show linear graphs. Students combined exercise and mathematics to show the graphs of $y = 0$, $x = 0$, $y = x$ and $y = -x$ and others.

Kinaesthetic learning in action!



HOUSE STEM COMPETITION

Friday 25th June saw teams of Year 7, 8 and 9's battle it out against other houses to complete an engineering challenge. They were tasked with the safe delivery of an egg from the 1st Floor to the ground floor of the school.

It was a great day showing lots of creativity, ingenuity and team work. There was a clear theme of all students electing to make a parachute to safely delivery the eggs to their location unscathed, with one team choosing to think outside of the box. A team of 3, Harrison Adams, Charlie Fairbanks and Archie Wiffen all chose to show their creative flair by going against the grain, they created a chute for the egg to travel down and a net to catch the egg at the end. Although their design wasn't 100% successful -and did see the only broken egg of the day- it was a great attempt at thinking differently and what STEM is all about.

Our winning houses through the day were:

Group Winners

Year 7 - Abbas and Tollemache

Year 8 - Houghton and Tollemache

Year 9 - Abbas



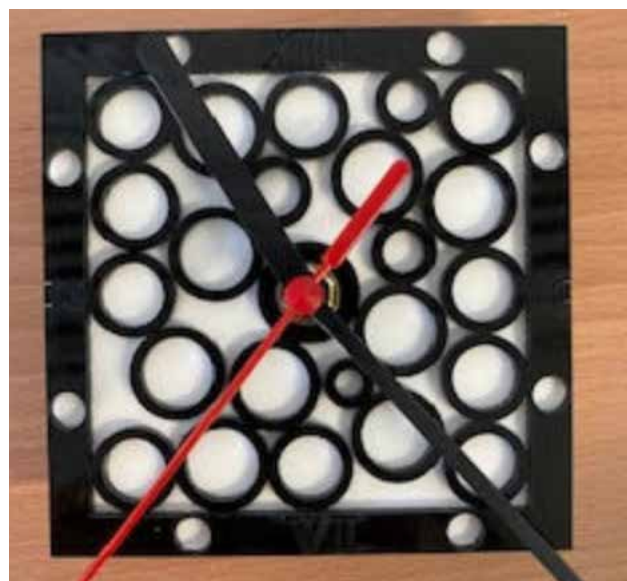
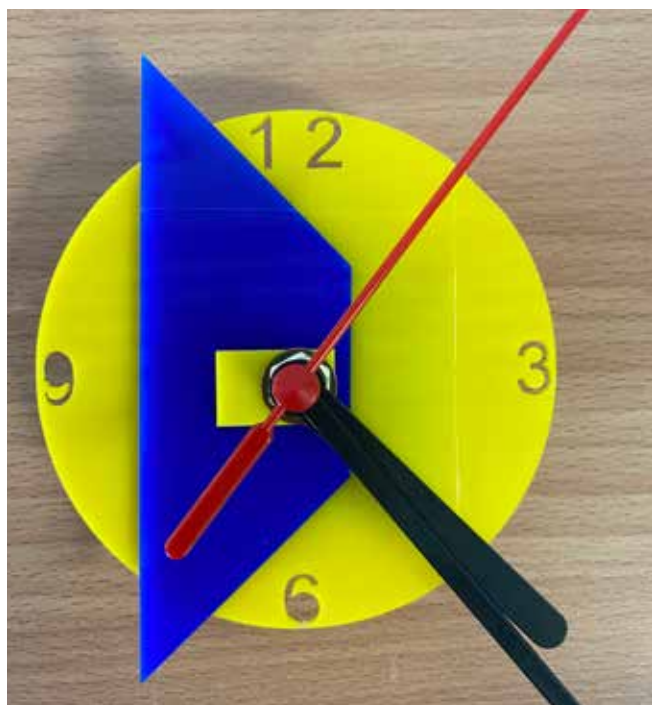
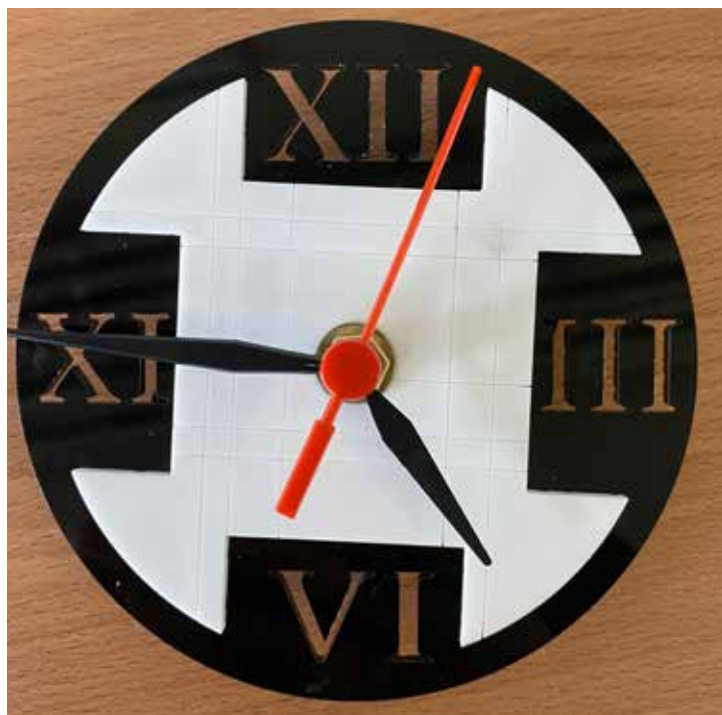
It was great to see so much collaborative learning and ideas after so long of working as individuals. Getting the students out of the classroom cause a stir of excitement throughout of the hall. A big well done to those involved and a special mention to Lucia Bunn (Y7), Finn Doyle (Y8) and Josh Cates (Y9), for showing the best individual contributions throughout the competition.



TECHNOLOGY

From Bauhaus to pop art, Year 8 have been having the time of their lives designing and making clocks inspired by their chosen design movement. In September the technology department invested in its second laser cutter meaning every student in KS3 now will have the opportunity to learn CAD and CAM, skills that will enhance the knowledge of engineering design principles, linking numeracy, computer skills, and good communication skills. Using the brief of creating a clock inspired by their chosen design movement 8G/tk2 have been busy this term researching, creating moodboards, designing and consulting. They have gained knowledge and understanding of Computer Aided Design and Computer Aided Manufacture.

As you can see, they are all very proud of the clocks they have produced.



Practical engineers have been focusing on the engineering of the Solar Orbiter. The Solar Orbiter mission aims to produce images of the Sun and perform detailed measurements of the Sun's properties.

Week 1: Each student had to design, make, test and evaluate an appropriate heat shield to protect a square of chocolate from a heat source. In this instance the chocolate represents the payload of important equipment and tools on the solar orbiter and the heat source represents the sun.

Week 2: The solar wind is a rapid expansion of the Sun's outer atmosphere, producing gusty flows with speeds of between 200km/s to 800 km/s means the orbiter needs to protect its cargo from impact. Limiting the students to 3 materials of their choice they had to design and make a protective capsule for an egg. To test the impact protection the capsule enclosed eggs were dropped from the 3rd floor.

Only one egg was harmed during the session!



Creative Kite Design

- Design starts with the Dragons Head.
- Final Dragon design before making the kite.
- Dragon head design being added to the construction paper.
- Final design ready for flying.



This term in careers Mrs Osborne has met with over 60 Year 10 students to discuss their post 16 options and have recorded a video to share with parents and students about future pathways. We will be running further events next term to ensure our current Year 10s are aware of all their options after they complete their GCSEs in Year 11. Open day dates for colleges and 6th forms will be shared as soon as they are available to us.

We would encourage students that are moving into Year 11 to arrange a 1:1 careers guidance session with Mrs Osborne (Level 6 Qualified in Careers Guidance and Advice) from September as they will need to apply to college or 6th form by Christmas 2021. Even if students are sure of what they want to do next it is always good to have a back up plan thought out and to check that your understanding about certain choices are correct and unbiased.

We are delighted to announce that 86 of our current Year 11 students have been awarded full ribbons which is truly impressive considering the challenging couple of years they have had. You will find the criteria for the full ribbons in your child's planner along with other useful career related information regarding half ribbons for lower years 7-9 and an explanation of Skills Builder which will be introduced to students next year.

Skills Builder is a national organisation that helps individuals at all stages of their education and beyond to develop the 8 essential skills needed for any area of work or life in general namely; listening, speaking, problem solving, creativity, staying positive, aiming high, leadership and teamwork. This term we started

an after school club on a Tuesday that any student can join to help them develop these skills through fun interactive activities. Next term 6th formers will also be able to develop these essential skills during a Wednesday afternoon enrichment class.

Next year we will be launching a new careers education platform called Morrisby to help students explore areas of work suited to their interests and skills and understand what qualifications and requirements are needed for those roles so they can plan ahead. Our 6th Form will also be able to use Morrisby to explore University or Apprenticeship routes, track their progress and undertake careers related tasks set for them by myself and members of the 6th Form team. We are very excited about the role this sophisticated and comprehensive system will have in introducing a range of opportunities to students, encouraging them to look more broadly at their future options.

As the Careers Hub is located in the 6th Form building Mrs Osborne has been spending Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes over in the main building to ensure her advice and guidance is also accessible to the main school. Promotional videos of higher education colleges and our own 6th form are now running on our internal TV screens around the school so students can get an idea of what further education post 16 might look like for them.

For the lower school, Year 9s during enrichment days have learnt about Health and Safety in the workplace, professional communication and created their first CV and covering letter ready for the mock interviews with an employer later in the year.

This term we have had some employers speak to our 6th Form students about careers in

IT, sport and town planning and hope to get our lunchtime employer workshops up and running again next academic year which will give all years a chance to meet with a variety of different employers during their lunch break. We have also had an ex student (Alexander James) speak to Year 12 students about his experience on an IT Apprenticeship at Penna in Manchester. Students really appreciated hearing from the horse's mouth what it has been like for Alex over the last year and how he went about looking for this great opportunity.

We continue to update and review information on the careers page of the school website and issue our careers weekly newsletter full of virtual work experience opportunities, inspirational speakers, open day information and more.

If you have any general questions about the careers provision at Thomas Gainsborough please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing Mrs Osborne on kosborne@tgschool.net or if regarding work experience Ms Perkins on kperkins@tgschool.net.



TGS U16 girls vs Tottenham Soccer ball. Really proud of the girls working hard in the heat and great to play against an opposition of such high standard.

A real learning experience for us all.



FOOTBALL V SPURS

On Wednesday 9th June 2021, the U16 girls football team travelled down to Harlow Town FC to play against a trialing Tottenham Hotspur side. Due to COVID the girls had not had a game together since the previous academic year so it was a new experience for all getting used to playing with different players. Our U16 team included talented girls from Years 9, 10 and 11. Tottenham Hotspur were trialing for their coming season so fielded an extremely strong side with players from QPR, Tottenham, and Crystal Palace so our girls had some tough competition. The girls worked in the first half against a strong opposition with some good passing and defending. Jess Egan made some great drives

down the right wing. With extremely hot weather the girls fought really hard. However the final score was 13-0. Stand out performances were from Jess Egan who got invited along for training with the Spurs team and Annabelle Krijgsman who was a great captain, constantly communicating from the back.

Well done to all involved and a learning experience from all!



These girls in Year 8/9 have started the 'Game of Our Own Leadership' programme looking at increasing girls' participation in football and leading a tournament/session. Session 1: focusing on the pledge and relating to our school values - confidence and respect.

GIRLS ACTIVATOR COURSE

9 students from Year 8/9 were chosen to complete a girls' football coaching programme whereby they participate in training/development sessions with the end goal of delivering a coaching session or leading a tournament/event. The girls are split into 2 pathways, the developers looking at coaching a session or leading/officiating a tournament and the marketeers looking at promoting girls football and the end tournament. Session1: the girls focused on what the programme involves and what makes a good leader. Session 2: the girls were looking at barriers to



participation and different scenarios. The developers also led a small session for the rest of the group. The girls have been planning an interhouse tournament for Year 7 girls and boys on Thursday 15th July. The marketeers have made a poster to advertise which is being promoted on the school social media pages. The developers have planned the running order of the tournament; they will be officiating all the games and they will keep track of the leaderboard/scoresheet. All girls will be receiving their Girls Football Youth Award on completion of the course.





SPORTS WEEK

Sports Week saw many different, alternative activities on offer to students and staff of TGS. These included table tennis, roundnet, volleyball as well as walk and talk – all activities were to encourage staff and students to come together again after the lockdown. A huge number of students participated and will receive 5 merits for each activity they completed. It was not just after

or before school students took part, there were plenty of form time physical activities taking place all week, and at home. It was great to see so many students enjoying being active each day and throughout the week.

TGS HIGHLAND GAMES

A selected group of students took part in the TGS Highland Games, which consisted of running, putting the shot, wanging the welly, throwing the vortex and long jump. Each house took part in all events with each house receiving points for their final position. The games concluded with a house tug-o-war comp. This seemed to decide the overall result. The winners for the 2021 Highland Games were Peyton.

Well done to everyone who took part!

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



Join The
Race for Life
2021



TGS DOES RACE FOR LIFE, *July 1st 2021*



**SPONSORED
EVENT**
3 laps of the
yellow route
for 5KM

**NON-SPONSORED
EVENT**
1 lap of the pink
route

For the first time since December 2019 the whole TGS community was able to take part in the same event at the same time, with our major fundraising effort of the year, the Race for Life in aid of Cancer Research.

Blessed with the best weather of the week and following an excellent Enrichment Day, the entire school community took to the field for the 5kilometre run or walk. With the overwhelming majority of students and many staff too, taking part in the sponsored element of the event, the start line was a busy place, and although the field, led by a highly energetic Mr Few soon spread out, the energy, commitment and sheer joy of the event shone through. With so many individuals running with a close family relative in mind, there was lots of emotion on display as well as lots of effort.

Most importantly, lots of vital funds were being raised for Cancer Research. By the evening of the event £3900 had been raised in online donations and with masses of cash to come in and be counted there is a sense of optimism that we may break our £7000 record from 2016.

Many thanks to all the staff who provided support in all sorts of different ways and to the students for their energy, enthusiasm and willingness to put themselves out for the benefit of other people. A great day.

Mr M Gibson



SWIMMING GALA



Wednesday 7th, the dark clouds were brightened up by the lane ropes, flags and house colours as swimming gala 2021 got underway. Students from all years in all houses competed for the championship. We were blessed with some very exciting and close races between Nell Motts and Isla Widdowson in Year 7, Emma Arnold, Jack Osborne, Lucas Lawson amongst others performed very well. Every single student who participated performed so very well, and I must give a special mention to Tiana Harrison, Year 8, who performed the IM as the only Year 8. Great work. A very close affair in both the 7/8 & 9/10 galas, with Chamberlain pipping Abbas to the championship. A great morning of swimming had by all. A massive thank you to Miss Hilson for organising the event, and all the members of staff for support – and Mr Chiang's enthusiasm throughout the morning.

Well done everyone!

1st Chamberlain 127

2nd Abbas 126

3rd Peyton 123

4th Houghton 111

5th Tollemache 35



SPORTS LEADERSHIP

As of the end of the summer term, Thomas Gainsborough currently has 65 students enrolled in the programme with a further 22 joining us from Year 8 in September. The current Year 9 students did the beginning of their training just before Covid and then the majority in their own time at home, eventually doing mainly theory without opportunities to do practical activities.

So being thrown straight into the deep end with not just helping but effectively running four primary school Sports Days has been quite an undertaking and one that they have faced with bravery and confidence.

Many comments have been returned from the school's teaching staff commenting on how well, confident and organised they students have been. They have been and will continue to be great ambassadors for the school.

Smaller groups of students from the Leaders have undertaken a Youth Sport Trust Young Coach/Mentor programme specifically for girls, culminating in a day for the 20 leaders from across West Suffolk, in activities they'd planned, hosted by Ipswich Town at Portman Road. Another small group are about to undertake their Level 1 coaching in Dodgeball and a larger contingent are going to become leaders in Volleyball so they can take their training into local schools.

We have some excellent leaders and I'm grateful for their continued support helping me with School Games events, support for the local primary schools and for the support of their teachers.



CPD

We have been very lucky to have been allocated funds from Sport England to increase our knowledge in many different activities. The PE staff have been very busy with developing their knowledge and understanding in many activities this term. Activities such as Roundnet, Golf Box2bfit and functional fitness. Look out for these activities next year.



Student Success

Isla Widdowson

On Saturday Isla did her first cycling race. Endorsed by British Cycling it was actually the East Region Circuit Championships. So quite an event for a first foray into cycling. Isla came 3rd and got the bronze medal. It was a 30 minute race over the 1 mile Colchester Northern Gateway circuit. Isla probably covered 10-11 miles in total. The first girl was a long way ahead (in fact she lapped the whole field!) but the second girl was in a group just ahead - Isla had to time trial solo for the best part of 20 minutes and unfortunately didn't have the benefit of a bigger group to be able to make the catch. A good first experience that has encouraged her to do more cycling specific events.

On Sunday Isla did the 'Discovery' triathlon at Writtle College near Chelmsford. Normally this is part of the East Region league series but sadly this is the only kids triathlon taking place in our area this summer. It was an open water swim with a two lap cycle circuit before an out and back run. As was the case in Leeds Isla confidently chose to not swim in a wetsuit and despite not having the extra buoyancy still came out of the water 35 seconds ahead of the next competitor. Swift transitions and a hard push on the bike meant she was a long way ahead going into the run and I would say gave a medium effort to easily take the win.

Next up we travel up to Yorkshire for a short 'break' in Yorkshire at the start of the summer holidays - Isla is doing her first fell race, a triathlon at Castle Howard, will ascend at least one of Yorkshire's 3 peaks (possibly all 3) and will be training in some of the lakes of the Dales/Moors.

Looking ahead she has a lot of regional training camps over the summer in preparation for the IRC Triathlon finals - there is a team relay in August followed by the main event in September.



YEAR 12 HIGHER EDUCATION EVENING

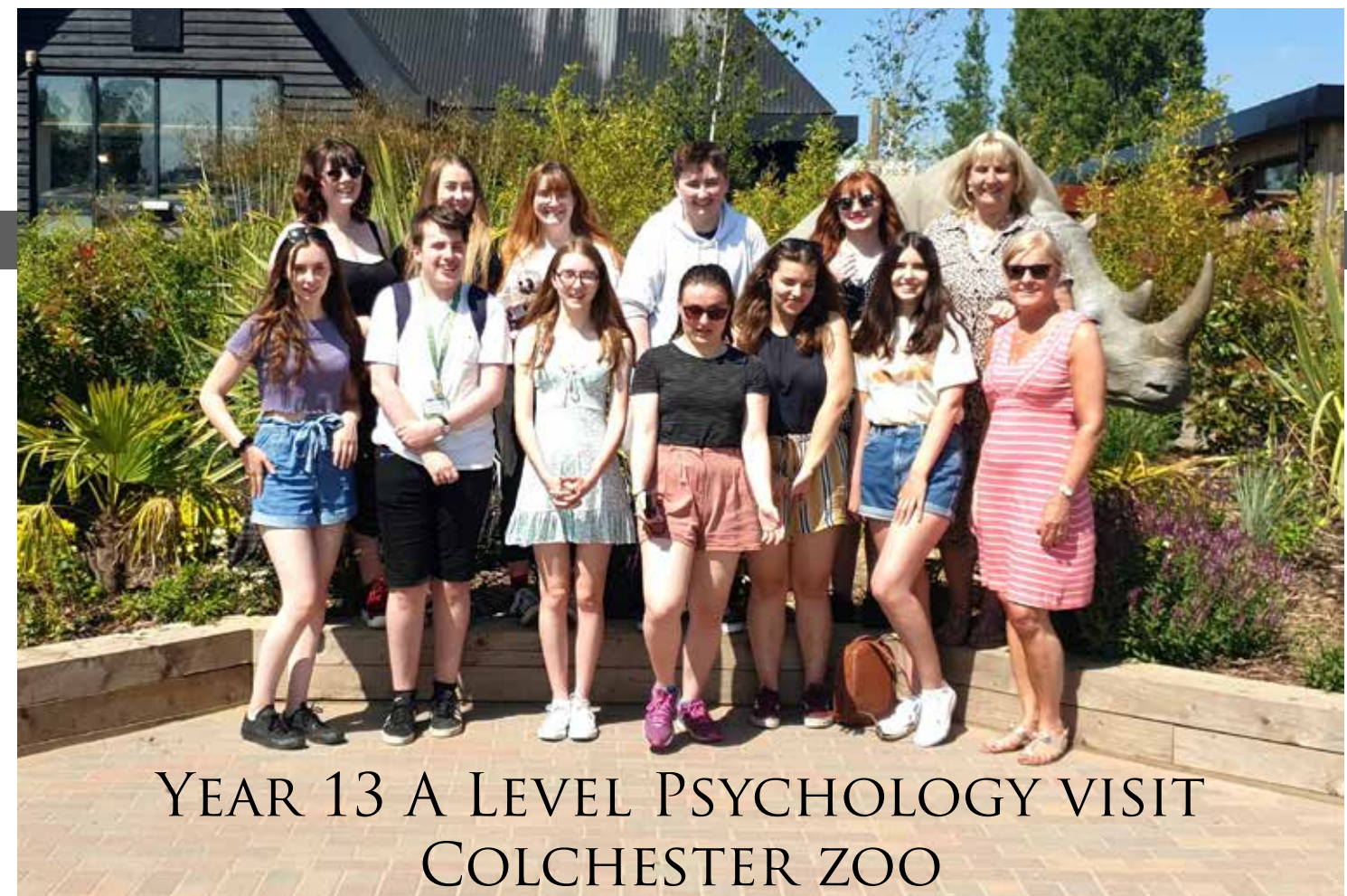
On Wednesday 23rd June we held our first ever 'virtual online' Higher Education Evening. We were still fortunate enough to be able to have our guest speakers in school transmitting live. Mr Alexander spoke first and introduced the EPQ, Extended Project Qualification, which students can apply to complete during the next year. This was followed by a presentation from Mrs Osborne on Careers and applying for Apprenticeships. Then followed a presentation from Aemilia from The University of Suffolk regarding the process of applying to University and the financial implications. Our highlight of the evening was hearing our wonderful ex students, Fran Perkins-Taylor, AJ Sims, Gemma

Deacon and Jacob Miculob, speaking about their experiences of studying at University. The final talk of the evening was from Mrs Perkins-Teacher, giving her account as a parent of sending her daughter to University. Students requiring support with their UCAS application should make an appointment to see Dr Talbot.

For Career or apprenticeship advice please see Mrs Osborne in the Careers department.

Thank you to all parents and students who sent us very complimentary reviews of this event.

Mrs L King

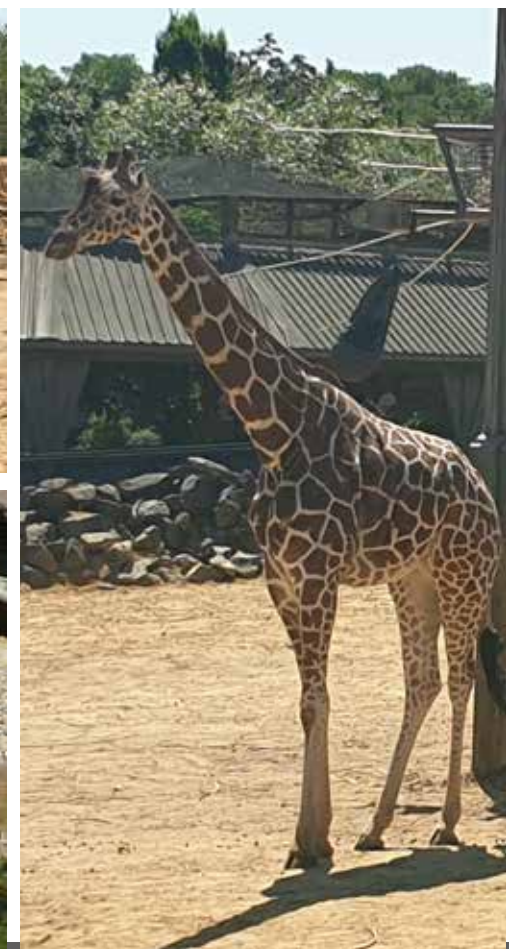


YEAR 13 A LEVEL PSYCHOLOGY VISIT
COLCHESTER ZOO

As the Year 13 had missed out on their animal behaviour A Level Psychology trip to Colchester Zoo in July 2020 due to the corona virus lockdown, a trip was organised for them to visit the Zoo following completion of the A Level Psychology course.

The day was enjoyed by all making many memories marking the completion of Year 13. As you can see from the photographs the weather was very kind to us as it was a very hot summer's day.

Mrs C Buller



Year 12 geographers were back outside completing 4 days of fieldwork to develop the skills for their non-examined assessment worth 20% of their A level as well as working on concepts and ideas studied so far.

Students visited Bradfield Woods to complete transects and sampling of different areas and species to measure the carbon capture by the woodland while Felixstowe was visited to complete assessments of both coastal erosion and flood risk.

Students spent a day measuring and calculating infiltration rates on different land uses as well as investigating whether soil compaction, relief of the land and soil moisture affected these rates. Finally, a day investigating the impact that COVID has had on Sudbury as a retail centre was completed with interviews at a safe distance with the public.

We always say we can write a reference on students after 4 days of fieldwork not just on their geography and students showed an abundance of soft skills and employability skills whether independent learning, team work, organisation, leadership and resilience when interviewing people in the street might not be your thing!

Year 12 were excellent and are now deciding what they will investigate as their independent research for their NEA over the summer. For some it will be local for others places further afield will be used.

The outdoors is a great classroom. It was great to share it with this group and to feel some normality returning to what we can do after this difficult time.

Mr N Bennett and Mrs J Perkins-Taylor.



I am a qualified and accredited psychotherapist who works voluntarily in the TGS Sixth Form for about half of the school week. I offer everyone who refers themselves to me three sessions to assess how I may be of help. The sessions are 50 minutes (half a lesson) long and I try to fit them in when you do not have timetabled lessons.

What we would talk about in the sessions would depend on you, but could be anything on your mind. What I offer to these sessions is an ear to listen and another mind to think about things with you. I also offer confidentiality, unless you disclose something to me which I believe puts you or somebody else at risk of harm, in which case I would follow TGS Safeguarding procedures.

Mr Tony Bavington

Child and Family Psychodynamic Psychotherapist



SIXTH FORM TASTER DAY



Nearly 120 students, from ten schools, attended our fantastic Sixth Form event on the 5th July. Students had a personalised experience, covering their potential academic choices, alongside 'next step' guidance, as well as exposure to our new, super-curricular Wednesday afternoon offer. They were impeccably dressed in their professional attire, and thoroughly enjoyed interacting with our current Sixth Form students, as well as appreciating their Sixth Form coffee shop and Mr Smith's Taster Day Challenge!

We look forward to meeting them all again on GCSE results day on the 12th August.

2021-2022 TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2021

Monday 6th September - Year 7, 12 & 13 return to lessons

Tuesday 7th September - Year 10 & 11 return to lessons

Wednesday 8th September - Year 8 & 9 return to lessons

Half term:

Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October

Non Pupil Days:

Wednesday 1st, 2nd & 3rd September and Friday 22nd October

SPRING TERM 2022

Wednesday 5th January - Friday 8th April

Half term:

Monday 21st February - Friday 25th February

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY SUMMER BREAK TGS!



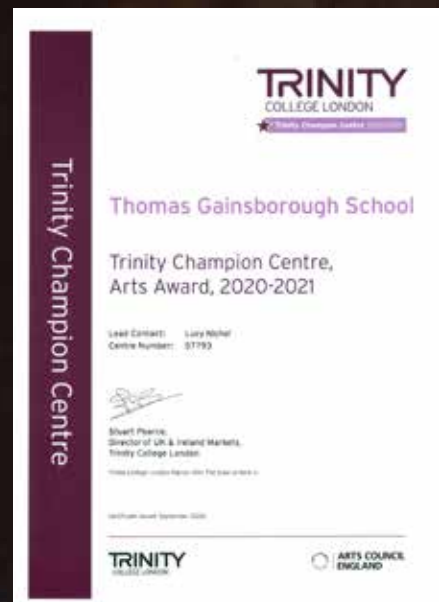
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If you would like to visit us it would be our pleasure to show you around. Please contact us on 01787 375232