

Newsletter

May 2015

THS students set their sights high!

We live in a constantly changing world: one of our responsibilities in school is to prepare our young people for all the challenges and opportunities that they will meet in later life. Our ICT department takes every opportunity to introduce and teach new technologies and approaches. Coding Club, run by Mrs Smith, allows interested students to develop these skills further and is very popular on a Wednesday evening.

A brief search through the blog on the school website will reveal the many other events that THS students have been involved in taking them beyond the classroom: all of these opportunities allow students to develop skills and understanding for the future. Year 8 had the opportunity, through the Norfolk and Norwich Festival, to take part in a day of fun, pace and challenge as they attempted to recreate Mendelssohn's Wedding March using everyday objects. This demanded team work and creativity coupled with the chance to learn a little about classical music. For Year 9 an Engineering Enrichment Day helped develop team work, determination and creativity.

For all students we believe that it is essential to set their sights high: to raise ambition and make every member of the school community believe they can fulfil their potential and more. For the third year running a small group of Year 9 students were able to be involved in an archaeological dig in Acle. The project, run by Cambridge University, involved two days of digging and a final day at a Cambridge College speaking to students, touring the college and finding out more as to how their archaeological finds will become part of research projects. As we look back at attendance on these digs over the past few years it is really interesting to learn that some of the students involved in the past, are now considering going to Cambridge University, after A levels, because of the interest generated through their Year 9 visit.

Members of Year 10 had their University interest sparked closer to home. 12 girls attended the Women of the Future Conference aiming to inspire the next generation of female STEM professionals (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and Medics). The students were set the challenge to be the next generation of leaders in STEM following in the footsteps of some very illustrious female scientists who led the day. Other students attended an Aim Higher Open day at the University of East Anglia where they explored the University campus and got involved in student life. The Maths Department took a group of enthusiastic mathematicians to a Maths Exploration Day at UEA where they used tutorials, workshops and lectures to explore 'Maths in Space'. Outside, a large group of Year 10 are undertaking their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award expeditions: so far they have completed the practice Expeditions in the area around Fakenham and soon will be assessed, as they explore the countryside around Overstrand.

Finally, Years 11,12 and 13, are starting their GCSE and AS/A2 examinations. It is a pressurised time for them all. We wish every student good luck! At THS we are proud that the excellent results that our students gain, enable them to achieve highly and then move successfully into Further Education and employment. We hope that the opportunities that these students experienced when younger in years 7 - 10, such as those described above, have broadened their horizons and given them great ambition: their exam results are the passport to the next exciting stage of their lives.

Mrs Plater

Rag Week 2015

Our total currently stands at £3629.72 which is a fantastic sum. Thank you to all who donated Easter Eggs for our Raffle –we raised £161.25 and the chocolate was enjoyed by many. Thank you too to the members of Year 10 who held a cake sale on the second anniversary of Trevyn's death. They raised over £150.41 for Nelson's Journey. Once the final Rag events have been completed we will be able to hand over the cheques to Coaching for Hope and EACH. Thank you again to all who contributed in any way to our fantastic charity efforts in Spring 2015.

Our non-uniform day this term will be on 26 June. The School Council will announce which charities we will be supporting nearer the time.

Norfolk Innovation Awards 2015

The inaugural Norfolk Innovation Awards were held at Wymondham High School on 19th March. George Freeman MP hosted the evening which 'recognised excellence in Science, Technology and Innovation from the young people of Norfolk'. We were absolutely delighted that Barbara Snelling, our Senior Science Technician, was the worthy winner of the Most Dedicated Science Technician Award. Congratulations Barbara!



Year 7 Gardening Club

In our Memorial Garden everything is growing very quickly. It is a time for weeding, planting and general maintenance. Much of the work is undertaken by our Science Technicians, Barbara and Kirsten, and ACE; we now have a group of Year 7 who regularly visit the garden to build bird boxes and bug hotels. They are also helping with preparing the land for planting vegetables and have made labels to mark the crops grown.



Clearing rhododendrons at Blickling Hall

Six members of Year 9 are involved in a summer project in partnership with the National Trust at Blickling Hall. On Tuesday mornings Mrs Killington and Ms Philpott in ACE take the students to one of the woods at Blickling where they have been working with NT staff to clear some of the invasive rhododendron. It is hard physical labour but the students are really enjoying both the work and the sense of achievement when the clearance is complete.



Items brought into School

Please note that anything brought into school including pencil cases, books, PE kits, coats, footwear and all uniform of course, should be very clearly marked with the student's name. This means that if any lost property is handed in at reception then it can be very easily reunited with the owner. Please also remember that mobile phones, bikes etc, which are brought into school, are the responsibility of the students.

Scratch day 2015

May 9th was the international scratch day. Scratch is a program that allows people to code in a simple yet effective way. This year our school's Coding Club made some greeting cards on Scratch and sent them to another school to be judged. The other school also sent some back to us. We had three people to mark them; Charlie Annison, Adam Wright and Michael Jarvis. We had some very complex entries, so it was hard to mark them. We really enjoyed this friendly day where we could all come together and enjoy a greeting card swap. We look forward to the next Scratch Day where hopefully we will do the same thing again.

By Charlie Annison 8R

Take your daughter to work day!

The 23rd of April was 'take your daughter to work day'. I was one of the lucky ones in the school who was allowed to take part in this national day. I went to work with my Dad who is a civil engineer, which is similar to the kind of job I would like to do when I am older. My day started at 9 and ended at 6. I learned how to do small jobs within the office and how to use the programmes they use. After lunch my Dad and I went to a meeting at Norfolk County Council about one of the projects he is working on. I met the man in charge of highways development control at Norfolk County Council and the client my Dad is working for. After the meeting we went back to the office, where my Dad talked me through what he wanted me to do for the rest of the day, which was to help him design a car park; he introduced me to my mentor called Simeon. Simeon taught me how to use a scale ruler and how to design my car park. It took me 2 attempts because I ended up with a funny shape in my car park taking up valuable space, so I redesigned it. On my first attempt I managed 112 spaces and on my second attempt I achieved 154 spaces. I had a very enjoyable day and one that has benefitted me in many ways. It has been an eye opener into the world of work and enlightened me about what the job I aspire to do actually involves. By Ellen Doughty 9E

THS MOCK ELECTION

The School Council decided to run a Mock Political Election to both increase pupil political awareness and to see how our pupils would vote. The council split into groups to represent five political parties and elected a school party leader; Conservative party – Ben Knights, Green party – Ruby Lemmon, Labour party – Maddie Makenzie, Liberal Democrats – Summer Haylock and UKIP – Ellen Flower. Pupils did not necessarily believe in the views and manifesto of the party they represented but took on the roles splendidly and got into character convincingly. Each party produced a power point on their party views and plans, which was then delivered to all pupils during tutor time. On Tuesday 5th May the five leaders took part in an impressive election debate tackling tricky questions from the audience on education reform and environment. Finally on Thursday 7th May the whole school had the option to vote in the mock election, being given a ballot paper during afternoon registration. The final results were: Liberal Democrats: 5%; the Green Party: 13%; Labour 16%; UKIP 29% and the Conservative Party 36%.



Women of the Future Conference

On Thursday the 23rd of April a group of Year 10 girls were given the opportunity to attend the 'Women of the Future' conference at the John Innes centre. The conference was aimed to inspire the next female generation of STEMM professionals (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and Medics).

The day was busy involving information about career opportunities, question and answer sessions and talks from some of the top science researchers. We were able to meet PhD students and ask about possible struggles they have faced and what research they were involved in. They made us aware that they have to work hard to be where they are, they also have fun in the lab and in the field.

Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE and Professor Jackie Hunter were two of the influential speakers informing us of how they've arrived at their careers, the gender discrimination they have experienced and how they have overcome it. The STEMM employers and networks allowed us to see what studying the aspects of STEMM could lead us to in the future and what female STEMM professionals have achieved through taking various opportunities.



Talks were given about gender equality, what discoveries women have brought to science and how sometimes we are overlooked to the stereotypical male scientist. However from the conference we were able to get advice about how to overcome those problems and hopefully change people's misconceptions for the better. I believe the day was a success, inspiring the next generation not to be held back by anyone who holds a judgemental view of someone's gender, race or ability in STEMM. Like many of the girls, who attended the day, I really enjoyed the experience. My favourite part of the day was listening to Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock because she was engaging and proved that anyone can achieve through studying Science.

By Hannah Stone Year 10

Year 10 Business Studies visit to Norwich City Football Club

On Thursday 12th March, the Year 10 Business Studies students visited Norwich City Football Club for a view into their finances to help with our Finance exam in the summer.

To begin with we had a talk by one of the Norwich City representatives, Roz, explaining to us the finances of the club. Roz went onto talk about how Norwich is one of the only debt free clubs in the UK. She also mentioned that around £40million of the clubs income came from TV rights. This is also a similar amount of money that the club spends on the players' wages each season.

The second part of the trip was a tour around the stadium, seeing all of what happens behind the scenes of the club. We also saw the trophy room with the trophies from Norwich's past, including the Milk Cup won in 1985. We also got the chance to sit in the manager, Alex Neil's, hot seat in the dugout where he manages his team Norwich City.

We would like to thank Norwich City for this trip.

By Thomas White (10E) and Bevan Asher-Downs (10T)

The Year 10 students were a delight to take on this visit. They behaved impeccably and asked some insightful and probing questions into the finances at Norwich City. It was a privilege to have such a behind the scenes tour that enabled the students to gain a real insight into how the club generates revenue and what exactly it spends its money on.

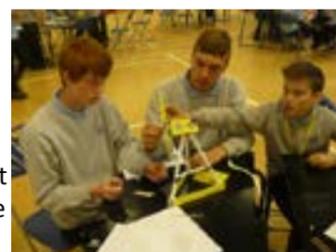
Mrs Robertson



STEM Enrichment Day

On 24th April around 60 year 9 pupils took part in a day of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) activities, designed to enhance and develop understanding of the application of STEM. Working in teams the pupils had to solve problems that included making a water-tight vessel, a structure to support a wind turbine, a turbine propeller and a method of pumping water. The turbine support structure and propeller were tested and the amount of electricity generated was measured, with the winning team generating double that of their nearest rival. The day was a great success with the pupils gaining valuable experience of working in teams to solve problems with limited resources, reflecting real Engineering challenges.

Mr Eastick



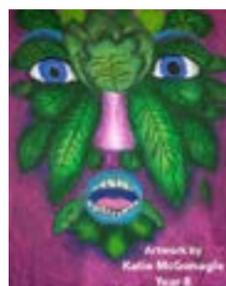
What is happening in the Art Department?

This year so far in the Art department we have undertaken expressive drawing and performance workshops leading up to exams, have sent our GCSE students to work with Art professional artists at the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts and turned our year 8 students' work into professional reward postcards! In addition, we have been preparing for the final GCSE Summer exhibition of GCSE and A-Level work.

Five pupils engaged in professional workshops in lino cutting, sculptural techniques and assemblage at ArtsLab sessions run by the University of East Anglia. They gained new skills whilst building these into the preparation sketchbook for their final exams.

Year 8 student work was selected for this term's department reward post card. Students developed portraiture work in response to Green Man iconography whilst putting their own colour twists and incorporating unique leaf designs. We are proud of our students' achievements this year and look forward to a creative summer term!

Miss Pearce (Head of Art)



Sports News

Clubs running this Term:

Day	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunch	Year 7 cricket Year 8 Rounders	Years 9/10 Cricket	Year 7 Rounders	Year 9 Rounders	
After school	Cricket nets by invitation	All years athletics	KS3 tennis All years' dance Community Gymnastics	All years Rounders	All Years Badminton

Rounders' fixtures

U12			U13		
Date	vs	Venue	Date	vs	Venue
9 June	Framingham Earl	Taverham	11 June	CNS	CNS
10 June	Ormiston Victory	Ormiston Victory			
25 June	Everyone	Tournament at Taverham High School 1-3pm			
U14			U15		
9 June	Framingham Earl	Taverham	9 June	Framingham Earl	Taverham
10 June	Ormiston Victory	Ormiston Victory	10 June	Ormiston Victory	Ormiston Victory
18 June	Everyone	Tournament at Langley 1-3pm	11 June	CNS	CNS

Athletics competition

The District Athletics Competition is taking place at UEA on Friday 22nd May. The School Games Athletics competition is taking place on Monday 1st June also at the UEA. All events have been entered for Junior and Intermediate Boys and Girls. Training on Tuesdays are being used to select the team.

Yr 11 Boys Football

The boys did fantastically well to reach the city cup final. They lost narrowly to Sprowston High School after extra time having played some of their best football in 5 years. The boys have been an absolute credit to themselves and the school, playing football in the right spirit and deserved the success they finally got in year 11. Special mention goes to Callum Evans and Caleb Warne who both played their part in two brilliant results to get to the final.

News Item: Any PE kit from year 11 leavers can be donated back to school to help others.

The Tennis courts are available break and lunch to play tennis on if pupils bring their own equipment.

Congratulations Harley

Harley Gowen in year 11 recently sat an aptitude exam for the Arkwright scholarship which is awarded to students to support them in their future studies in Engineering and Design. As a result of his success in the exam Harley attended an interview at Brunel University and is currently waiting to hear about the next step. Well done Harley!

THS Brass Band

On Wednesday March 11th the Taverham High School Brass ensemble performed as part of the Norfolk County Music Festival at the Norwich Salvation Army Citadel.

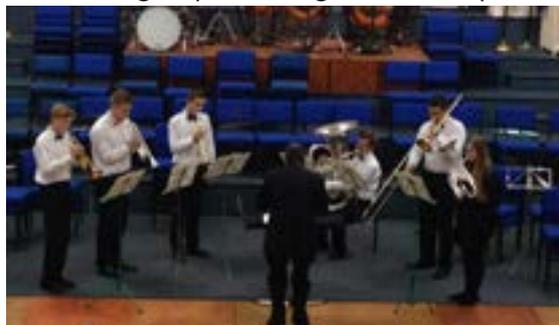
The Festival was founded in 1925 to encourage and support amateur music making and teaching throughout the county. The Festival is a great showcase for many children, and some adults, who are learning to make music in schools.

The Festival, although not competitive, provides an opportunity and platform for students at all levels to perform in front of an appreciative audience. The Taverham High School brass band received expert advice and guidance on their performance on the evening from Sally Adams the Adjudicator.

The students from THS included Eddie Lamb, Harry Stanger and Ben Knights performing on the trumpet. Morgan Winyard performed tuba, Alex Utting performed trombone and Charlotte Greenacre performed Tenor horn.

The THS brass band performed two pieces; 'By George' and 'Down to the river'. It was a positive experience for the performers and the comments received from the adjudicator praised the level of musicianship and sense of ensemble describing them as outstanding at this level.

The ensemble was led by Robert Dockray who teaches the students brass at THS. Special thanks goes to Robert who has prepared the students for the Festival performance and raised the profile of brass at Taverham High and our local feeder schools. Robert has been working in conjunction with the Taverham Brass band led by Ian Coleman which has brought brass into the wider community and encouraged so many students to undertake brass lessons. I would like to congratulate all the performers for their hard work preparing for this occasion. The students were a credit to the school in their professionalism and demonstrated what can be achieved with hard work and commitment to their instrument.



Mr Timbers (Head of Music)

Diary Dates

- 25 – 29 May: Half Term (revision sessions for Years 11-13 on Wed 27 May, by invitation)
- 10 June: UCAS Convention and Yr 12 UCAS Parents' Briefing (evening)
- 18 June: Sports Award Evening
- 19 June: Yr 9 Ypres Trip
- 25 June: Yr 11 Breakfast and Assembly
- 25 June: Yr 10 Parents' Briefing on post 16 choices
- 26 June: Non-uniform day
- 27 June: Yr 11 Prom
- 29/30 June: New Yr 12 6th Form Induction
- 3 July: Sports day (finish 1.30pm)
- 7 July: Summer Concert
- 13 – 17 July: Yr 9 Hautbois camping week
- 14 July: Celebration Events for Yrs 7&8
- 15 July: STEM day for Yrs 10&12
- 16 July: Careers fair for Yrs 10&12
- 17 July: Yr 10 Enterprise Day
- 20 July: Celebration Events for Yrs 9&10
- 21 July: Term Ends 12pm

