

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2014

September 2014 | Taverham High School | 01603 860505

A Welcome to all our Students from Mrs Garwood, Chair of Governors

Welcome to a new academic year at Taverham High School. It seems that the end of the summer term has hardly finished and yet here we are starting a new term and a fresh beginning, in particular for the young people in Years 7 and 12 who will be embarking on the next stage in their lives.

We have the highest aspirations for our students and offer them every opportunity to excel in each of the studies and activities they undertake. The staff work tremendously hard to enable the students to achieve their very best in an exciting and continually changing world. The confidence the young people exude as they go about their daily tasks is a reflection of the teamwork of all those involved in educating the youngsters, and it is a joy to see. Visitors who enter Taverham High School constantly remark on the happy yet busy atmosphere within the school: each child is thus in a good place to learn and grow. It goes without saying, of course, that the school's facilities are second-to-none and we are proud of what the school has to offer.

As governors we want the children to believe in themselves, to know that they can aspire to great things and be proud of their achievements. We see the children during the times when we visit the school: we see some of the activities in the classroom, on the field, on Open Days for example and see at first-hand how committed and happy they are. We know that they feel safe and secure as they carry out their daily tasks here at Taverham High School.

We wish all the students all the very best for the future.

Margaret Garwood
Chair of Governors

Welcome to the First Newsletter of 2014-2015

Welcome to our newsletter. A newsletter is published at the beginning of each term and is one of the ways in which we keep parents and carers informed about organisational matters in school.

Towards the end of term we will publish the first THS Magazine which will give information about all the activities students have been involved in throughout the term. All letters, newsletters and the THS Magazine are always placed on our website.

During the term we will be launching our new school website; please keep a lookout for this exciting development. Our website address is www.taverhamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk

Exam Success!!!

Our class of 2014 are celebrating their success. Mr Rapley has outlined below our successes at A-Level. At GCSE 61% of our students achieved the crucial 5 A*-C grades including English and Maths. This headline result is an improvement on recent years. The figure hides many individual successes, for example 31 pupils achieved six or more A and A* grades. Nearly every student achieved the grades they needed to access their chosen A-Level or college course; we have welcomed over 110 of these students into our own THS Sixth Form.

SUCCESS



Taverham Sixth Form Goes From Strength to Strength!

This year our year 13 students again achieved some excellent results at A2 Level. With a percentage A*-C figure of 77.21% and the percentage at A*-B being nearly 40% it is clear to see that students at THS achieve highly and achieve well. In addition, 10% of our year 13 students achieved at least 2 A grades and nearly a quarter gained at least one A grade. This is reflected in our average points per student of 691 and hopefully reinforces our philosophy that we will never enroll students on unsuitable or unnecessary courses just to increase our points. Our APS (Per A2 Entry) figure of 217 suggests that the average grade of an A Level taken at THS was a grade B.

Taverham Sixth Form enters its second year and is continuing to attract record numbers of students. This September, nearly 120 year 12 students enrolled on courses at the school, taking the total number of students past 170. This means we are big enough to offer a wide range of options but small enough to be able to personalise provision and nurture each individual. Students are studying a wide range of pathways, from A Levels in Languages, Sciences, Humanities, and Social Sciences through to a brand new Level 2 Bridging Pathway. Enrolment took place on Thursday 4th September and was followed by a whole day at the University of East Anglia where the outreach team led workshops on getting to know each other, effective study habits, and how to make the most of the Sixth Form experience.

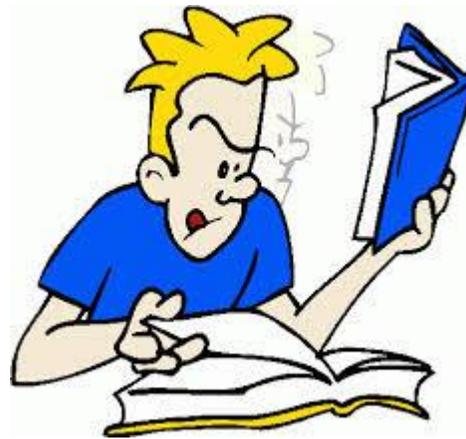
In summary, it is a very exciting time for the Sixth Form. We will be offering opportunities for students to get involved in the wider life of the school, a range of extra-curricular experiences and university visits, all planned to give students a platform from which to excel. Any parent/carer or student who wishes to know more about the Sixth Form can contact the office via 6thform@taverhamhigh.norfolk.sch.uk. Our Sixth Form Open Evening takes place on Tuesday 11th November and we would love to see as many of you as possible.

Mr Rapley

The school has been decorated!

Over the summer Kier, who manage our site, have completed an excellent redecoration programme. The Science department has been completely redecorated and has new external doors. Many corridors have been painted and there are new lights in the PE corridor.

Students at THS are very lucky to work in such a modern and clean school with excellent facilities and, of course, we expect them to respect their environment at all times.



ePortal & Progresso

Parents/carers will be aware that we are in the process of moving our School Management Information system from ePortal to Progresso. Once the transition is complete we will write to parents/carers to inform them as to how they can gain access to their child's information on Progresso. Thank you for your understanding over the next few weeks.

Specialist Outreach Resource Base (SRB) for Dyslexia

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the newly appointed Administrator for the SRB for Dyslexia, based at Taverham High School. The SRB for Dyslexia offers a wide range of support and training primarily to educational settings throughout Norfolk County. We also offer nationally recognised qualification courses at varying levels for those wishing to gain a wider knowledge and understanding of dyslexia.

If you are a parent/carer of a child with dyslexia, we are offering the following course which may be of interest:

Level 1 Dyslexia Awareness – Wednesday 24 September OR Tuesday 10 December (09.30-16.00)

Suitable for: parents/carers of a child with dyslexia; teachers; employers; any other adults working with people with dyslexia or a person with an interest in dyslexia.

If you would like further information about our courses and course fees, or if you have an employer who you feel may be interested in finding out more about our courses, please contact Taverham High School and ask for the SRB team.

(Please note: If you are a parent/carer with any issues or concerns regarding dyslexia and your child, please contact Miss S Mitchell, SENCo in the first instance).

Mrs C Partington
SRB Administrator

Staff News – We welcome the following staff to the school and hope they enjoy their time with us:

Teaching

Mrs Kirsty Brook – Child Development, MFL
Mr Felix Chivite-Matthews – MFL
Ms Ilona Havunen – MFL
Dr Margaret Mary McFadyen – Science
Miss Holly Pearce – Art (HoD)
Mrs Amy Romans – Science
Miss Aarti Sharma – Science
Ms Pauline St Clair – Food Technology
Mrs Kerry Watson - History
Mrs Hayley Webster – English
Mr James Williams – History
Mr Luke Wolsey – Design & Technology
Miss Elea Yaghil - Maths

LSA

Miss Bryony Bushrod
Miss Jenny Drane
Mrs Sarah Jarvis
Mr Tom McCleary
Miss Danielle Walpole

Associate

Mrs Mel Buckingham – Cover Supervisor
Mrs Sarita Ould Zaouche – Library Assistant
Mrs Catherine Partington – SRB Administrator
Mr Casper Spouncer – D&T Technician
Mrs Sarah Tomlinson – Food Technician

Newborns!

Mrs Freeman (MFL) and Mrs Donlevy (Library Assistant) are both currently on maternity leave. We are pleased to announce the arrival of both of their babies:

Oran Glen Freeman
Chloe Mary Donlevy

Is Your Child Absent Today?

Then call the absence line 01603 264 340 with your child's name, form and reason for absence if they are ill or have a medical appointment. Please continue to phone on each subsequent day of illness.

Dropping off and Picking up on the School Site

Please can parents note that they should not drive onto the school site either in the morning to drop children off or to pick up in the evening. A few cars are allowed on site for those children who have particular mobility issues. These parents/carers will be issued with a car-parking permit which should be displayed when on the school site.

Good Attendance & Correct Uniform

All students should have brought home letters and information sheets reminding them and parents/carers of the importance of good attendance. We would like to remind students that they should be in school by 8.30am. Arrival after 8.35am, for whatever reason, will lead to a break-time detention. Students will also be asked to attend a break-time detention if they are not in the correct uniform.

Planners

We hope you will have seen that the School Planner has changed this year. We are really pleased with the new layout. As well as signing the Planner each week, Parents/carers may like to look through the Planner, especially the first 32 pages which contain much school news information. Please use the Planner as a means of communication with the school.



Diary Dates!

24/09/2014	Yr 12 Settling in and Information Evening
30/09/2014	Yr 10 Information Evening
09/10/2014	New Intake Evening to Welcome Yr 6s
21/10/2014	Yr 7 Settling in Evening
22/10/2014	Last Day of Half-Term