

Taverham High School
Weekly Newsletter
08.10.21



To create a learning environment within which every individual can realise their full potential, develop self-respect, respect for others and to prepare themselves for life in a changing world.

Week 2: w/c 11/10/21

Week 1: w/c 18/10/21

Message from Gareth Yassin, Deputy Headteacher

It has been another fantastic and busy week at school, with lots going on across the departments.

We started the week by welcoming the Hertfordshire and East Anglia Community and School Age Immunisation Service into school to roll out the 12-15 Covid-19 vaccination program. Thank you to all families who supported this work and understood our role as facilitators rather than providers. We have heard of other schools who haven't seen such support from their community, so we're very grateful, as ever, for your understanding.

With a good proportion of the school community now vaccinated, we are hopeful that we will start to see a decrease in the number of positive cases over the next few weeks and, as a result, an increase in attendance. Until then, rest assured that we are continuing to work closely with the Norfolk Covid management team and the safety of our community remains a priority. Along that theme, please could I ask that you ensure your child has a face covering when they leave the house in the morning (unless exempt). We are having to hand out a considerable number of masks every morning at the moment which is slowing entry into school and quickly depleting our reserves!

We have been working hard with subject leaders this week looking together at improvement plans and, specifically, curriculum planning to ensure learning opportunities are as good as possible and we're already starting to see the impact of this work in the classroom. In particular, we are working hard to make sure that the fantastic skills and experience of our learning support team are being used to help improve lessons and I'm grateful to our LSAs for their hard work on this.

In form time this week, tutors have been working with students looking at activities as part of our support for today's World Mental Health Day. It was lovely to see students coming into school this morning in their 'hello yellow' items to show their support for this increasingly important work.

The Government body that regulates examined qualifications, Ofqual, has recently released their approach to the 2022 examinations, mainly affecting Year 11s and 13s. We are heartened by the fact that there is an acknowledgement that these year groups have experienced a turbulent few years in education which will undoubtedly impact on their learning.

The summary of changes to qualifications can be found here [Decisions: proposed changes to the assessment of GCSEs, AS and A levels in 2022](#). My colleagues across the school will be working hard over the next few weeks to make any necessary changes to courses and curriculum delivery.

Year 7 students are coming to the end of their cognitive ability tests and have conducted themselves maturely throughout – my thank you to them for this. The data from these tests, as well as teacher assessment since September, will help us to create new groupings ensuring that all students are in groups where they can be supported and challenged appropriately.

Finally, an apology that Year 8 data tracking point 1 will be delayed by a few weeks. As parents will be aware, this year group did not sit KS2 SATs and therefore we are reviewing how we report tracking information to families to make it as useful as possible. This is taking a little longer than we had hoped due to some technical difficulties. I have therefore decided to delay the publishing of the information until we are sure that it is how we would like it to be. Thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Have a lovely weekend, when it arrives. If you are stuck for something to do, the 'Messages and Reminders' section below includes a link to a great, free family event that you might enjoy.



News from the Science Team

We have had a great start to the new academic year in Science, with some exciting initiatives planned for this term.

The launch of the Youth STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths and Medicine) awards with an eager group of sixth formers encourages them to think beyond the curriculum and log activities in four development areas of: *Developing skills and knowledge; Engaging the public; Inspiring the next generation and Shaping your future*. We will be looking for our sixth formers to support our KS4 and KS3 students throughout the year, through interventions and STEM clubs, which will allow them to work towards a recognised STEMM award. This will support their university applications, placing them above their peers, whilst also benefiting the whole school community.

This term we have a group of KS3 students acting as a judging panel for the Royal Society, reviewing six short-listed science-themed books and giving their valued opinions to agree on a winner. We also have a group of Year 10 students who will be taking part in a STEMM competition, competing against other schools. We are sure they will enjoy the experience.

With tracking assessments happening throughout this term, Mrs Kent sent letters out before the summer break to parents and students to notify them of the topics which would be covered. With helpful resources signposted, we aim to support students with their independent preparation for these assessments. Students are encouraged to contact their science teachers if they are unsure of what is required at any time.

Messages and reminders

Learning for Communities

STORYBOOK TRAIL - 9TH OCTOBER

Come along to Wensum Lodge and take part in our mysterious story trail to uncover hidden book covers & find clues to help you complete story based tasks. You will help support your child's English skills & find out more about what our Family Learning team can offer. We welcome SEND families. Trail 1 starts at 11am. Trail 2 starts at 1:30pm

Find out more and book:
www.norfolk.gov.uk/openstudios
0344 800 8020 (option 5)
adultlearning@norfolk.gov.uk

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@norfolklearn
@norfolk_adult_learning

Adult Learning Norfolk Open Studios

Are you looking for a fun, creative FREE activity to do together as a family? Join Norfolk Adult Learning who are running a Storybook Trail as part of the Norfolk Open Studios project that will allow you to search for hidden book covers in order to find clues to complete a series of fun story-based tasks. Saturday 9 October 2021 11am (1 hour) or 1:30pm (1 hour) at Wensum Lodge, Norwich. Find out more and book www.norfolk.gov.uk/openstudios

- If you use social media, please do follow our Twitter account [@TaverhamHigh](https://twitter.com/TaverhamHigh) for regular updates and news. You may have seen on here that we have had issues with the school's telephone system this week; my apologies for the inconvenience this has caused.
- If you are worried about the wellbeing of one of our students, we have created a referral form; this can be used as a self-referral form or as a referral for someone else. It can be found on our school website on the 'students' page and can be accessed via this link: [Student and Parent Referral Form](#)

Celebrations

Will in Year 11 has had a fantastic year competing as a rower. Earlier in the year, Will won a national medal for his age group in the British Rowing Junior Championships and he was hoping to take part in the 'Pairs Head' event last weekend, a landmark sculling race on the Thames, where he and his partner were strongly considered to be favourites, but unfortunately strong winds 'stopped play'. I'm sure I will have cause to write again about Will's successes this year and we wish him luck for his upcoming events.

Congratulations to Nicole in 7R for performing in a stage show in Beccles last Sunday. She performed sections from Grease, The Wizard of Oz and Lion King – singing, acting and dancing – a triple treat!

Well done to Betty in Year 10 for her success in the in-house CrossFit competition for the RS3 group that she trains with in Bowthorpe. She competed in the team event with 15 males and 15 females, a 5-hour competition involving exercises such as dumbbell thrusters, burpees, rowing and box jumps. Betty and her partner, Pietra, finished in fifth place, narrowly missing out on the final by just two places. CrossFit tests not only your physical endurance but also your mental strength and resilience, and Betty should be very proud of herself.

Finally, Isobel, in Year 13, has created this piece 'Ocean Personified' to spread the message about the effect of plastic on marine life. She created a personified character of the ocean who is dying because of the abundance of plastic around her. Her skin is turning blue as she is being suffocated by plastic around her waist and neck. Alongside the image is a QR code that can be scanned to learn more about the issue, the image and how we can help. A fantastic piece of socially aware artwork - thank you Isobel for allowing me to share this.



Useful Contacts and Websites

- Young Minds: www.youngminds.org.uk
- NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk
- Thinkuknow: www.thinkuknow.co.uk
- Children's society: www.childrenssociety.co.uk
- Ownit: www.bbc.com/ownit
- Just one number Chathealth: <https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/chathealth>
- Nelson's Journey: <https://nelsonsjourney.org.uk/>
- MAP: <https://www.map.uk.net/>
- Kooth: <https://www.kooth.com/>
- Staying Safe: <https://stayingsafe.net/home>
- Guide for parents and carers, coping with self harm: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2015-12-01-new-guide-parents-who-are-coping-their-childs-self-harm-you-are-not-alone>

Safeguarding at Taverham High School

The School's Designated Safeguarding Leads are: Ms Ricketts, Mrs Killington, Ms Philpot, Mr Blowers

Emergency contact number: 0344 800 8020

NSPCC- Run Helpline for Victims of Sexual Abuse in Schools: 0800 136 663

Dates for the Diary

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1/10/21-31/10/21: Black History month• 15/10/21: Year 11 tracking data published• 20/10/21: Year 6 Open Evening• 21/10/21: Year 11 Revision Evening (online)• 21/10/21: GCSE drama rehearsal• 22/10/21: GCSE component 1 exam• 22/10/21: Year 8 tracking data published• 22/10/21: Term ends | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1/11/21: Term begins (week 2)• 3/11/21: Pastoral Open Surgery 4pm-5pm• 3/11/21: Parents' Forum 5:30pm-6:30pm• 11/11/21: Sixth form Open Evening 6:30pm-8:30pm |
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