

Taverham High School

Weekly Newsletter

10.09.21



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 13/09/21

Week 1: w/c 20/09/21

Message from Gareth Yassin, Deputy Headteacher

Welcome back to a new term with us at Taverham. After a rather overcast Summer break, the sun shining as I write this and the sound of students moving around our corridors once again is fantastic. Last year was a difficult year for everyone, but already this year feels like a return to the way schools should be and the vast majority of our school community have returned to us full of smiles and excitement for the year ahead. Our teachers are really pleased to be back in their teaching areas, using their specialist resources to improve learning and everyone will benefit from being able to move around the site with fewer restrictions. While this is undeniably a step forward in terms of our Covid arrangements, I would ask that you remind your children of the importance of maintaining high standards of personal hygiene, particularly around hand washing and sanitization as well as acknowledging that some members of our community are still very nervous to the risks of Covid, so it is important to respect other people's personal space and caution. Additionally, it remains important that students stay at home if they show any symptoms of Covid-19 and get themselves tested.

Having worked hard over the inset training days last week, preparing the school for testing and the new term, as well as training ourselves more on how to support every student, irrespective of their level of need, and improving and adapting our curriculum, it has been encouraging to see how well the term has started. Students have been engaged well in lessons and are keen to learn and lots of our returning students have grown over the break, both physically and emotionally, and seem more confident to contribute to lessons; this has been lovely to see. Over the next week or so, we have asked teachers to be really clear in explaining to students what we expect of them in terms of effort and behaviour, to make sure there is clarity in our work, so students are not trying to guess at what we expect. This has led to a very settled feeling around the school this week.

We are aware that this has been a very difficult break for a small number of our families so please do contact the school, through your child's head of year, if there are circumstances at home that you feel we should know about or can help with.

We have decided to retain our online Parent's Evening system, SchoolCloud for this academic year, as it proved popular with families and colleagues, but we will be looking increase opportunities for families to visit the school for other events later in the year, so we can put faces to names and build relationships with you.

Each week, or thereabouts, we will write home to update you with what's happening at school, to share good news and celebrate some of the fantastic opportunities our school can offer.

I hope your child has enjoyed their first week back with us and is working hard.

Finally, just to let you know that last week, we welcomed the following members of staff to school:

- *Roger Harris - Headteacher*
- *Tabitha Gardiner – Teacher of English/Head of Year 9*
- *Sarah Adams – Teacher of Child Development/Personal Development*
- *Charlotte Clifford – Teacher of English*
- *Hannah Crane – Teacher of Maths*
- *Charis Crossley – Trainee Teacher (Psychology)*
- *Lucy O'Brien – Trainee Teacher (English)*
- *Chinonye Okeke – Trainee Teacher – Computer Studies*
- *William Hemsley – Trainee Teacher – Business Studies*

News from the SEND (special educational needs and disabilities) Team

We are excited to be back working once again with our learners and colleagues in more familiar school circumstances, to build on the positive relationships formed during the challenges of the school closures and a refocus of SEN Support and provision.

Our strong and experienced SEND team work hard to support learners, families and colleagues using a range of targeted measures available to us, alongside the continuing work across school to develop our curriculum to support student progress at all levels.

If you have questions or concerns about your child's progress, then we are here to work with you, their teachers and tutors to identify what support is needed. Support can be accessed by raising your concerns with any of our colleagues in the usual way; we can also be contacted directly at sen@taverhamhigh.org

Rebecca Dixon – SENCO

Joanna Gray – Assistant SENCO

Messages and reminders

- *A reminder that our school uniform expectations can be found here [Uniform | Taverham High School](#). We expect all students to be in correct uniform at all times. If you have genuine reasons why this is not possible, please contact your child's head of year before sending them into school.*
- *If you use social media, please do follow our Twitter account [@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.*

Celebrations

Our first congratulations of the year has to go to Mr Clarkson and the Year 7 team and students. The year group has joined us from lots of different schools and have already shown great courage and resilience in overcoming those first-day nerves. Moreover, they are smart, well-mannered and engaged in their learning – a real credit to their families. I'm sure this is just the start of a fantastic 7-year journey with us. Keep it up!

Congratulations to Leon H in Year 8 who has made it into the top 20 in the UK for under-13 boys high jump. He jumped 1.43m at the weekend! He was also 1st in the East of England for high jump and 3rd in the East of England for hurdles for under 13 boys - an amazing achievement!

Congratulations to Year 11 Ciah-Lilly R who has signed a contract to play for Bromley FC's Academy within the Junior Premier League (JPL). A terrific opportunity!

Useful Contacts and Websites

- Young Minds: www.youngminds.org.uk
- NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk
- Thinkuknow: www.thinkuknow.co.uk
- Children's society: www.childrensociety.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://staying-safe.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-childrens-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">• 14/9/21-19/9/21: National Coding Week• 21/9/21: Year 11 Next Steps Evening• 23/9/21: Year 7 Settling IN Evening and Year 12 Welcome Evening• 27/9/21: School photographs Years 7-10• 27/9/21-01/10/21: Year 13 Mock Exams• 29/9/21-30/9/21: Year 11 Art Mock Exam• 1/10/21-31/10/21: Black History Month• 4/10/21-10/10/21: World Space Week• 6/10/21: Year 6 Open Evening | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15/10/21: Year 8 and Year 11 Tracking Data Published• 20/10/21: Pastoral Open Surgery 4-5pm• 20/10/21: Parents' Forum 5:30-6:30pm• 21/10/21: Year 11 Revision Evening• 21/10/21: GCSE drama rehearsal• 22/10/21: GCSE component 1 exam• 22/10/21: Term ends.• 1/11/21: Term begins (week 2) |
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