

Taverham High School
Weekly Newsletter
19.11.21



Inspire, Empower, Achieve

Week 1: w/c 22/11/21

Week 2: w/c 29/11/21

Message from Becky Ricketts, Deputy Headteacher

Education is so much more than just sitting in lessons and learning how to pass exams. School life enables our young people to develop life skills, work as a team and to be part of a community. A real strength of Taverham High students is their sense of community and how they will rally around each other to support things that are important to them; events like RAG week and sports day always highlight this spirit at its very best. Last week a small group of ELFs and Diana Ambassadors visited Eastlands Care Home to speak with the elderly residents and run a quiz with them. It was incredibly successful and some of the residents who initially were reluctant to join in later participated. The care home spoke highly of our students and we are hoping to build further links with them.

We try very hard as a school to work with our local community and support when things don't go quite according to plan. The most frequent issue raised with us from the local community is the way in which students come and go from school; large groups of students walking together, cyclists riding two or three abreast or students running across the road without looking. We regularly discuss in assemblies and form time the importance of coming to and from school in a safe and respectful manner and would be grateful if you could reiterate this message at home too.

It has been another busy week in school. On Wednesday Year 11 had a revision and metacognition workshop, and the visiting author and musician E.R. Traina worked with some of our Key Stage 3 students during their library lesson. Throughout the week there have been daily activities held around Anti Bullying Week. The students who have worked and planned the Anti Bullying Week activities have done some amazing work; creating 'bee kind' key rings, bunting, form time competitions and recording an assembly on the importance of 'One Kind Word'. I am so proud of them and that they have had the confidence to speak to their peers in this way.

Next week our Year 11s start their mock exam period. I know many of our students have spent a lot of time revising and preparing for them and are taking them very seriously. I wish them every success with the exams but also want to reiterate that they should see this as an opportunity to identify where their gaps in knowledge and understanding are and to use this process help them to guide their future revision.

As this half term marches on we are starting to plan events for next month. Please keep an eye out for information on the school Christmas lunch (Wednesday 15 December). Students will need to pre-order their lunch via WisePay by Thursday 9 December. Unfortunately we will not be able to allow students to purchase a Christmas meal on the day of the event. Please note a limited menu will be available at the snack shack on that day, but no other food will be available from the canteen.

We are also pleased to announce that we will be holding our Christmas Fair again this year on Thursday 16 December from 4:30pm to 7:30pm. We have over 50 stall holders attending as well as the Chip Bucket and East Coast Pizzas for refreshments. We really missed not being able to hold our fair last year so hope you will be able to join us for some festive spirit and last-minute Christmas purchases!

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend.

News from the English Faculty

It's been a busy time in English. As we moved into the second half of the autumn term, KS3 students switched from reading to creative writing, taking inspiration from the novels they read in the first half term. Year 11 students are busy preparing for their mock exams and Year 10 students are nearing the completion of their literature text 'A Christmas Carol' (aided by the perfectly timed Aldi parody of Ebanana Scrooge).

This year we are trying to increase our extra-curricular activities. Here's a summary of what's been happening:

The Woman in Black theatre trip – Thursday 21 October

On a dreary day in October, not too dissimilar to the foggy frets of Crythin Gifford, 50 Year 9 students and three members of staff set off for London's West End to watch a matinee performance of their Autumn 1 set text 'The Woman in Black'. The performance thoroughly captivated students and the general public - we all felt we were in Eel Marsh House with Arthur Kipps and were equally scared at some points! One memorable highlight was where the Woman in Black appeared out of nowhere making students literally jump out of their seats - and even some members of the audience screamed! If you never thought a stage production could be scary, this performance was truly terrifying - but enjoyed by all. The students were even praised by an audience member and by the theatre stewards. Well done Year 9 for being fantastic ambassadors for the school.

Thud thud.... thud thud...What is that noise?!

Miss Hollis

Author Visit – Monday 15 November and Wednesday 17 November

Ms Bradshaw, the school librarian, arranged an amazing opportunity for English students to take part in a workshop with author Elena Traina, who visited with her publisher this week. Elena is an Italian author who originally published the novel 'Amarantha' in Italian. It has recently been translated into English, with the English edition having new content and scenes. As a singer/songwriter, she has also written and performed her own soundtrack to go alongside the novel; these are highlighted in the book by a treble clef at the top of a page.

We also had Ella from Kurumuru Books visit alongside, who published the book and was on hand to pass out her business cards to budding writers and give lots of behind-the-scenes tips to contact publishers.



Ella has also given us a discount of £5.99 off the book if anyone would like to order before 30 November - visit the link below and input the code: TAVERHAM! We do have some copies available for students to borrow in the library. The free soundtrack is downloadable here: <https://www.amarantha.land/>

Miss Bradshaw

Creative Writing Wall and Competitions – Ongoing

The English Department have a new 'Creative Writing Wall'. Once a fortnight, we will post a new theme to inspire some creative and free flowing writing. There are no bounds to this writing; it is completely up to students what they choose to write and how they write it! The brand-new theme is 'The Fibonacci Sequence', which ties in with Fibonacci Day on 23 November. The Fibonacci Sequence is a famous sequence that can be recognised in a growing spiral. So, please encourage your child to pick a prompt and send their star submissions to Miss Clifford in E2!

Our wall will also feature fantastic creative writing opportunities for young people. Currently, we're looking for 100-word 'Twisted Tales'. Entries close 6 December, so see your teacher ASAP if you're interested!

Miss Clifford

Messages and reminders

- A polite reminder parents are not permitted to drive onto school site unless they have a carpark pass or an arranged meeting with a member of staff.
- **Social Media:** 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.
- **Aerosols:** wherever possible please encourage your child not to bring aerosols into school as they can trigger asthma for some people. Thank you
- **Sanitary wear:** should your child need any sanitary wear please remind them that they can pop along to student support or reception/first aid where we will be able to provide them with items.

Celebrations



- Congratulations to Will B in Year 11 who raced for the first time at Henley in their long-distance sculls head races. Will raced in both a single and a double race and came second. In the composite J16 double Will and his rowing partner came first out of a field of 12 competitors.
- The SEN Hub students have been learning how to cross stitch and are making lavender bags using home grown lavender.
- One of our students has been selected for their consistent completion of lessons by Bedrock and won a £10 Amazon voucher. Well done Sky C in Year 8 and congratulations to all the students who are using Bedrock regularly.

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://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-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 help line for victims of sexual abuse in schools: 0800 136 663

Dates for the Diary

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 22/11/21-3/12/21: Year 11 Mock Exams• 8/12/21: Covid catch up vaccinations• 8/12/21: Parents' Forum 5:30pm - 6:30pm• 9/12/21: Year 13 Parents' Evening• 10/12/21: Flu Vaccinations Years 7-11• 15/12/21: Christmas lunch• 16/12/21: Christmas Fair• 17/12/21: Last day of term. School ends 2pm | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5/1/22: Students return to school (week 1)• 13/1/22: Year 9 Parents' Evening• 17/1/22-21/1/22: Year 13 Mock Exams• 21/1/22: Year 11 Tracking Data published• 26/1/22: Parents' Forum• 3/2/22: Year 9 Options Evening• 7/2/22-11/2/22: National Apprenticeship Week• 10/2/22: Year 11 Parents' Evening• 11/2/22: Year 8 and Year 13 Tracking Data published• 11/2/22: Last day of term |
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