

Taverham High School

Weekly Newsletter

26.11.21



Inspire | Empower | Achieve

Week 2: w/c 29/11/21

Week 1: w/c 06/12/21

Message from Gareth Yassin, Deputy Headteacher

As we approach the end of November, the conversations in the corridors and over lunch are starting to take on a Christmas theme, particularly as the temperature outside starts to feel a little more wintery. We still have a few brave souls attending school in just a jumper and while this is of course personal choice I will take the opportunity to encourage all students to bring a coat into school with them as sitting cold and wet in a period 5 lesson is no fun for anyone.

As always, it has been a great week at Taverham with no end of fantastic lessons going on. I've had the pleasure of spending a lot of time this week observing teachers and the learning happening and I continue to be impressed by how maturely and confidently most of our students approach their lessons. As a scientist, I was particularly pleased to see how well the Year 10 combined scientists approached their core practical this week. On a similar theme, our Year 11 students have been fantastic in their mock examinations, demonstrating how much they care about their results and futures. It has been heartening to listen to them discussing the questions on their way out of exams; even I remember that excitement of finding out that someone else put the same answer as you for a question you weren't sure about! Most of the year group have been sensible in returning quickly to their lessons when their exam is over, for which I am grateful. The really important thing for these students is to consider what they will do next, when the results from the mocks are in, and my experience is that those students who are most successful in the summer are the ones who use the mock exams as a catalyst to start working really hard.



Talking of 'next steps', Year 12 and 13s visited the University of Suffolk last Friday to get a taste of higher education and a university campus. As ever, our students, your children, were a credit to themselves and we received this lovely comment in an email from our liaison at the university this week: *"I just wanted to say that we really enjoyed having you at the University on Friday and that your pupils were a real credit to the school. Our student ambassadors said that they found your pupils very engaging and that they were all very well behaved and polite."* Well done and thank you, Sixth Formers!

On Wednesday this week the library hosted a staff and student Horrible Histories quiz, with teams of 4 competing against each other to be acknowledged as the 'ultimate history buff'. I spoke with one team as they were quickly eating their lunch following the quiz and before tutor time and they said it was really good fun and interesting. Thank you, Miss Bradshaw, for organising this event.

I had a concerning conversation with a colleague this week who unfortunately saw three students in Year 7 or Year 8 cycling without helmets on and dashing across a red light at the top of Beech Avenue to turn left. A car coming across from Fir Covert Road narrowly missed hitting them. If your child is cycling to school, please remind them to wear a helmet and to observe the rules that all road users should, for their safety and the safety of others.

You will find attached to this newsletter a flyer for the St Giles SOS+ service. This organisation delivers early intervention work in educational and community settings, through preventative sessions on violence, vulnerability and exploitation. Their award-winning approach uses trained professionals with 'lived experience' of the criminal justice system to de-glamorise gang involvement and expose the harsh realities of crime and violence. If you think any member of your family would benefit from this support, please do take the time to read the flyer and investigate the opportunities available.

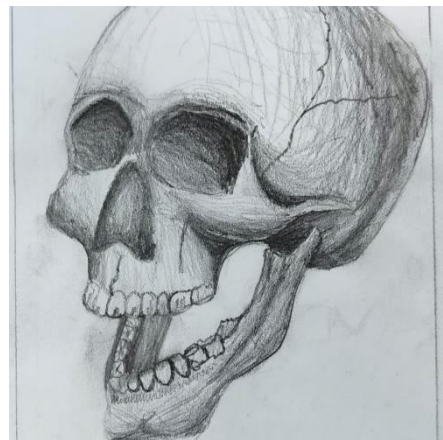
On 8 December we have two separate opportunities for families to engage with the school. From 3pm until 4pm the pastoral team are hosting an Open Surgery in the atrium where parents/carers can pop in to discuss any concerns they have or seek advice. Following this, from 5:30pm to 6:30pm we are holding our second Parent Forum, where families can sign up for up to two of five workshops on topics such as preparing for English, Maths and Science GCSEs, keeping children safe online and succeeding in post-16 education. I wrote home to families on Tuesday this week with further details of this event and would encourage you to sign up for any workshops that you feel would be of benefit.

A reminder that students will need to pre-order their lunch (Wednesday 15 December) 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. Students entitled to the meal allowance are being asked by form tutors if they wish to order a Christmas meal and a note made accordingly.

Finally, a reminder of our fantastic community Christmas fair on Thursday 16 December from 4:30pm to 7:30pm; over 50 stalls, food outlets in the car park and an amazing display of our students' art work (a sneak peek of which you can see below) – what a lovely way to finish a term at school.

As ever, have a fantastic weekend when it arrives, and thank you for your ongoing support.

Mr Yassin

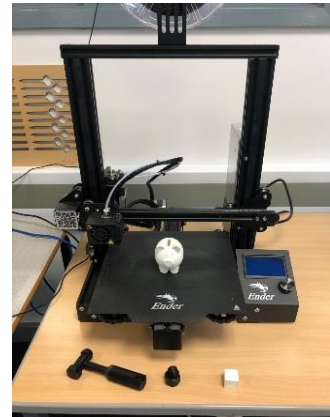


News from the Creative and Technical Faculty

Design and Technology

Year 7 and Year 8 students have recently completed projects, a sample of which can be seen below. Well done to all those who successfully completed their first projects of the year and produced some fantastic outcomes.

Our wall of fame is currently displaying a selection of excellent design work from Years 7 to 11. The standard of work being produced across the school in DT is outstanding and we will keep updating our display with some of the best examples. Well done to: Olivia in Year 7; Isabel, Davashree and Rosie in Year 8; Mia, Isla and Jasmine in Year 9; Lois, Hattie and Miia in Year 10, and Flynn in Year 11.



We have recently bought two 3D printers to add to our computer aided manufacturing facilities, which will give students opportunities to include complex printed parts in their projects and will be especially good for high level GCSE and A level projects.

Music Department:



Following the disruption to practical lessons caused by the pandemic, we are back in the Music classrooms and students are enjoying the practical nature of music again. There is a real buzz in the lessons with students producing some great work.

Year 7 have been busy, learning the basic elements of music through performing, listening and appraising music, exploring keyboard performance technique, maintaining a part within an ensemble and demonstrating an awareness of how the different parts fit together to achieve an overall effect. They have performed Wallace and Gromit and Ode to Joy in pairs to their peers.

Year 8 have been learning about 'What makes a good song?' focusing on popular songs ('Stand by me' and 'Beat it') and their mass appeal across all age ranges and in a variety of contexts. They have explored four features that are integral to elements of a good song: the role of riffs, the interaction of lyrics with the music, how the song is put together and memorable melodies.

Year 9 have gained an understanding of how music is based on repeated musical patterns and distinguished between hooks, riffs and ostinatos, studying and performing 'Uptown Funk', 'Shape of You' and the 'Blues'.

Year 10 have been extremely productive developing their ensemble performance skills through the study of 'Conventions of Pop', demonstrating an understanding of vocal and instrumental techniques within popular music

Year 11 have been working extremely hard working through the areas of study preparing for their mock listening and appraising examination.

Year 12 have been introduced to sequencing and developing their midi and audio skill set within the unit entitled 'Digital Audio Workstation', successfully making midi files and enhancing them to become more realistic.

Year 13 are currently working on 'Mixing and Mastering' techniques, mixing the recorded stems of 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. They have been given, in their words, a jigsaw puzzle of the track to put back together and have everything mixed perfectly! In the New Year they will be producing their own Dub Step tracks which will be released through Spotify.

We are extremely pleased to announce that instrument lessons have started once again. We are currently offering drum, woodwind (flute, clarinet, saxophone), piano/keyboard and vocal lessons. We are currently sourcing guitar and brass lessons; these will be resuming imminently, so please watch this space. Any enquiries for music lessons please see Mr Timbers.

Finally, we are delighted to say we are now getting extra-curricular activities up and running, as follows:

Monday lunchtime	Ukulele Club for all year groups
Tuesday lunchtime	Year 8 Rock Band
Wednesday lunchtime	Singing Club – for all students and staff
Thursday lunchtime	Wind Band – for all woodwind players
Thursday after school	Jazz Band
Friday after school	Year 11 coursework clinic to support with composition



Messages and reminders

- **Aerosols:** please remind your child that they can only use aerosol deodorant sprays in the school changing rooms or outside. Any aerosols seen or used in classrooms or other indoor areas will be confiscated. This is to protect those members of our community who suffer from asthma.
- 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. Also, follow the THS art department on Instagram [@taverhamartdept](https://www.instagram.com/taverhamartdept)
- **Wellbeing and Mental Health Referral Form:** If you are worried about the wellbeing of one of our students, please complete 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

- Mrs Burgess wants to acknowledge the U14 girls hockey players that attended the tournament at Greshams last week: Evie, Jess, Sophie B, Amber, Kiera, Lily and Sophie N. It was the first time they had played together and they did amazingly! They won all of their games in their pool, to then play the semi final against Wyomndham College, which they lost . However, they then went on to win their 3rd/4th play off to come 3rd overall out of 9 teams, losing only to the winning team. Well done girls!
- Thank you and well done to Aaliyah H in Year 10 for planning and running an entire PE lesson last week. She taught the entire class boxing skills.

- Finlay, in Year 8, competed in the European Championship Kuk Sool Won and achieved 2nd place in sparring. Congratulations!
- Ben W, Billie D, Finlay D, Saul P, Jayson N, Archie C, Tee Jay, Matthew W, Jack H, Ben W, Joe CP, Tiegan M and Luca M have worked hard this year in the vegetable garden and took part in the Solana Seeds Potato growing competition where they finished 2nd in the 'quantity stakes', winning a £20 garden centre voucher which will support next year's allotment work.



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 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: Parents' Forum 5:30-6:30pm • 9/12/21: Year 13 Parents' Evening • 10/12/21: Flu Vaccinations Years 7-11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15/12/21: Christmas lunch • 16/12/21: Christmas Fair • 17/12/21: Last day of term. School ends 2pm |
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