

SCHOOL NEWS

MARS – 1114 **EARTH – 1431** **NEPTUNE – 1167** **JUPITER – 1236**

ISSUE 1 – 13/09/2024

DIARY DATES

17/9/24 –Year 12 Art Trip
17/9/24 –Year 11 Next Steps Evening
19/9/24 –Year 7 Settling in Evening
19/9/24 –Year 12 Welcome Evening
20/9/24 –Year 10 Art Trip
20/9/24 –Year 7 Activities Fair (Form and period 5)
23/9/24 –Year 7 and Year 9 School Photographs
26/9/24 –Year 11 Geography Field Trip
26/9/24 –Year 12 Open Evening 6:30pm–8:30pm
2/10/24 –D of E Parent Information Evening
3/10/24 – Year 7 and Year 8 Parent Maths Workshop
10/10/24 – Year 6 Open Evening 6:30–8:30pm

GENERAL INFORMATION

Year 10 Timetables

Please be aware that the last date for Year 10s to request a change of options is Friday 20th September. Switching is, of course, subject to blocking and class capacity, and will not be possible after this date.

Ms J Webb

Prefect Training

Year 10 and new Year 11 Prefects completed their training on Thursday this week. We explored what it means to lead, the bystander effect and made exciting plans for the coming year of student leadership and community engagement. Well done to all who took part!

SAFEGUARDING AT TAVERHAM HIGH SCHOOL

The School's Designated Safeguarding Leads – Ms R Ricketts, Mrs G Killington, Mrs A Reynolds, Mr S Blowers.

Emergency contact number: 0344 800 8021

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

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:

<https://forms.office.com/r/jwPTkVYnYz>

ATTENDANCE

House attendance:

Mars 94%
Jupiter 97.3%
Neptune: 95.7%
Earth: 94.4%

95.4%

100% attendance last week: 7H, 7M, 7V, 7A 8H 9V 9E

Please remember to let us know if your child is going to be late due to a scheduled appointment, etc.

HOUSE VOICE



Our School Values

Last year our Student Leader team worked hard to establish our four new houses – Mars, Jupiter, Neptune and Earth. They had some amazing achievements: putting on the first inter-house competitions, meeting regularly to discuss school matters and creating a greater sense of community within the houses. Their final task was to decide on each house value, which in turn became our new school values of Compassion, Opportunity, Resilience and Discovery. We are excited to see how each specific house champions these values this year with competitions, challenges and more events than ever before!

Mrs T Gardiner
Head of Year 7
Assistant Headteacher – Learning Behaviour, Rewards and Culture



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

The beginning of the new academic year in the English department has been an exciting one and we are pleased to welcome Mrs McGhee as a new English teacher this year.

Key Stage 3 begins the year with their novel study. We are thrilled to introduce a brand new novel to the year 7 curriculum: 'The Bone Sparrow'; Year 8 will study 'The Hunger Games' as part of a big Dystopian unit that will take them up to Christmas; and Year 9 have begun 'The Woman in Black' as an investigation into the Gothic genre.

Year 10 have returned to begin study on a key text in their English Literature course. Our mixed upper groups are exploring 'Jekyll and Hyde', while mixed lower sets are studying 'A Christmas Carol'. In Media Studies they have been learning new terminology and exploring how representation is constructed. We have been impressed by the excellent attitudes this year group have shown towards their learning.

Year 11 have begun their study of Macbeth, and preparation for their next set of mock exams at the end of October. We have been focusing on retrieval to aid students in their revision, as well as how students can construct thoughtful responses to achieve the top grades.

We are looking forward to welcoming prospective students and their parents/carers to our Open Evening next month. Watch out for some fun activities in the English block!

Miss C Greenacre
Faculty Lead for English



SIXTH FORM

NEWS

I am honoured to introduce myself as the Head of Taverham Sixth Form.

Over the last week and a half, we have welcomed a new cohort of Year 12 students as well as welcome back our Year 13 students following their summer break. Year 12 have made an excellent start to their sixth form journey. I have been particularly impressed with how well they have settled in, making excellent use of the sixth form facilities to complete their directed study as well as engage in independent study. This positive attitude and commitment will stand them in good stead for the next two years.

Year 13 students have an important year ahead with their final A Level examinations this summer. They have hit the ground running and have made an excellent start to their lessons and are thinking about their next steps and destinations during tutor time. In an exciting move this year, the sixth form has joined the whole school House system and will work with the wider school community on house activities and events. Since we returned last Wednesday, sixth form students have received 185 House Points. Well done sixth form, a fantastic start to the academic year!

Mrs L Robertson
Head of Sixth Form



STUDENT VOICE

It has been an exciting start to this new academic year here at Taverham Sixth Form, as a leadership team we have been pleased to welcome the year 12 students and to begin plans for a busy year for Sixth Form events!

As Head of School, my role is to listen and promote student voice and to help lead our amazing team to organise fundraising and to come up with fresh and creative ideas to make this Sixth Form flourish. In discussion already, our team are preparing for our Year 12 Information Evening and the Year 11 Open day, we are looking forward to meeting you!

As the leadership team this year we want to continue building community and belonging, and over the coming months we will endeavour to keep you informed about upcoming Sixth Form events both familiar and new. From all on the Sixth Form Leadership Team, we hope you have had a great start to this new term."

Chloe C, Head of School
Sixth Form Leadership Team



AND FINALLY...

This week in school I've delivered assemblies to almost all year groups (the last one is on Monday) welcoming them back to school and sharing with them our vision for their time with us. I've described how they should expect to be challenged every day in their learning but also how I want them to see every lesson and experience as an opportunity to discover more and learn more. This thirst for 'new things' is a natural behaviour for infants, who are innately curious about the world and it's something I would love to see more of in our classrooms and more widely across the school.

You may have spotted on X that sporting fixtures begin next week and clubs have already started. We will try to highlight forthcoming fixtures to you weekly through this newsletter and the department are hoping to launch an Instagram account soon to update with fixtures and clubs and to celebrate our successes.

On the theme of celebration, a reminder please to send in your child/ward's successes and achievements to us at celebrations@taverhamhigh.org so we can share it through the newsletter. The young people we work with have so much more to offer than simply five hours a day in a classroom and it would be fantastic to be able to acknowledge and publicise this through this medium.

As you will likely be aware, it is getting increasingly costly to run a school, with utility bills and resources seeing extraordinary price increases over the last few years. Our very carefully managed budget means that we are weathering the storm well in general, however, financial constraints are inevitably restricting the money we have left at the 'end of the day' to spend on things we would like to (as opposed to the things we need to). We are determined to continue to improve our school and celebrate and reward our students as much as we can, so I thought I would take this opportunity to ask for your support as members of our wider community. If you are, or know of, an organisation with a real interest in engaging with their community and supporting their local schools, we would love to hear from you. It might be that you attend a local business forum who are looking for ways to engage widely with their customers, you might run a company who have a passion for supporting reading and would love to contribute to the development of our library. You may just be an individual who has felt the benefit of a good education and would love to sponsor rewards for our young people making the very most of theirs. However large or small, we would love to hear from you. If this is of interest to you, please don't hesitate to contact me at head@taverhamhigh.org and I'd be happy to make time to meet and discuss how you could help us to continue to ensure that our students get the very best opportunities possible.

Finally, just to make you aware of some upcoming dates. On Tuesday, 17th September, we have our Year 11 Next Steps evening – a great opportunity for Year 11 parents and students to start considering life after GCSEs and to find out a little more about the year ahead. We have our Year 7 welcome event next Thursday, the 19th September and, on the same evening, our Year 12 welcome event. On Friday all Year 7 students will attend our first ever 'activities fair' where they will find out about the many varied clubs and extracurricular opportunities available. Please encourage your child to engage fully with this and my thanks to the fantastic student helpers who are supporting the running of this event.

I wish you all a restful weekend and look forward to writing to you again soon.

Mr G Yassin
Headteacher



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>