

22nd October 2021

A message from Mr O'Sullivan

We made it! After an uncertain term returning into a world with less restriction, we have managed to get our school in most areas back to normal. Whilst hand sanitising and one-way systems continue to be the norm, cases have been low and the impact to our children's education has been minimal. It was great to hear that our Year 9 netball girls finished the term victorious (9-1, no less!) as a small example of the school beginning to look like Turing House again.

The school also made history this term with three of our students completing applications to Oxbridge. I won't name them as that would place them under additional pressure, but we will have everything crossed that they are successful.

Next term will see the return of mock examinations for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. I encourage both years to revise well for these tests as we still don't know what the future holds with the pandemic and the impact it may have on the exams next June.

As always, thank you for your unwavering support during these challenging times and have a wonderful half term.

Matilda – School Production!

Rehearsals are in full swing for this year's whole school show - Matilda!

The cast of over 60 of our students are already working hard to learn songs and lines, and have a trip booked to see the professionals at work in the West End production in November.

Our production will take place in the summer term to make the most of our state-of-the-art drama facilities at the new site.



Dates for your diary

25th Oct – 29th Oct – Half Term Week 4th Nov – Year 8 Virtual Parents' Evening 19th Nov – 26th Nov – Year 11 mocks 29th Nov – 3rd Dec – Year 13 mocks Sixth Form applications now open

If you would like to join our exciting and growing Sixth Form, please apply now via the Turing House Website!

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Staff news: Goodbye & Welcome back!

Sadly, Ms Eckersley is leaving us this half term and heading on to new adventures; we're sure you all join us in wishing her well. Ms Eckersley has been a brilliant, hugely appreciated member of staff and we will miss her very much indeed.

We are delighted though that we will be welcoming back Mrs Hughes, who worked with us last year, to take on Ms Eckersley's classes. We are delighted to have Mrs Hughes join our department again. For Year 8 Parents' Evening, Mrs Hughes will be available for appointments in English and has spent time with Ms Eckersley handing over classes. She is looking forward to meeting with you then.

Staff Vacancies

We are looking for Lunchtime Supervisors - 12:30 to 13:30, Monday to Friday (flexible to days candidates are available). This will be on a casual contract, £10.58 per hour. We're looking for people to start with us as soon as possible. Closing deadline is midday 8th November. Click here to download a recruitment pack.

We are also currently looking to appoint an IT Support Engineer to join our team in December 2021. This is a crucial role to support the efficient running of the school network by being hands-on and flexible. The postholder will provide $1^{st}/2^{nd}$ line support for all hardware and software, for both staff and students, as part of our Trust-wide IT Support Team. If you or anyone you know is interested in this role, please look on the school website for further details.

Online Escape Room



Drama & History Trip

Some of our Y11 drama and history students enjoyed a theatre trip to see Camp Siegfried at the Old Vic last week with free tickets provided by the Old Vic's education department.

Judging by the enthusiastic conversations on the train home, it got five stars.



Black History Month- History & English Competition

Thank you to all of the entries to our Black History Month History and English Reading Competition.



Well done to Mariyah Sheikh who won the competition with her review of The Dark Lady by Akala. Mariyah wrote: "Motivated by his longing for his mother and the calls from the Dark Lady, Henry must find his way through friendships, love and the hardships of reality. The

Dark Lady, Akala's debut novel for teens, will inspire and entertain young people, showing the struggle of black teenagers in 16th century London."

In joint first place was Beatrice Parish's review of Ace of Spades by Faridah Àbíké-Íyímídé. Rated 4/5, Beatrice wrote: "I really enjoyed this book. It is set in modern times, which really helps you to picture yourself in the setting. It's a really exciting (and sometimes, tense and sad) read! The book is about Devon and Chiamaka, the only two black students at a school called Niveus Private Academy.

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They are both very different and both have dark pasts which are explored in the story. They are forced to work together when a racist internet troll called Aces starts to unveil their secrets to the school. This is a

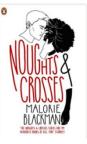
brilliant book that really makes you stop and think about the society that we live in. I recommend it to children age 12+ as it is quite hard-hitting and covers some controversial subjects."

Congratulations to Shamsi Subhani for finishing as one of our runners up. Shamsi recommended **Black and British**, writing: "I loved *Black and British* and I would recommend this for anyone. My favourite part was the Victorian era. I enjoyed all the different stories and the different vocabulary. I love to challenge myself with different genres of books and this was perfect! My family also read it and they loved it too."

Another brilliant runner up, Meg Delaney, also reviewed **Black and British** by David Olusoga. She wrote: "This non-fiction book is written by award winning British-Nigerian historian David Olusoga, who also presents multiple TV documentaries. The book covers a different time period in each chapter starting with the Romans and ending with the present day.

The book tells the story of black people in British history throughout the ages, as for many years these stories were untold. For example, we learn about the Tudor trumpeter John Blanke who played in Henry VIII's court, or more in more recent history tells the story of the Windrush generation. I recommend this book to anyone who enjoys history as it's not only informative, but is written in an engaging way, and gives a different slant to British history."

Finally, another brilliant runner up was Aymen Shehzad, who reviewed **Noughts and Crosses** by Malorie Blackman. Aymen wrote that she "liked the book a lot and liked that Blackman wrote the book in multiperspectivity, so that you could understand both Callum



and Sephy's story. I recommend this book to teenagers,

young adults and older people. It is definitely worth reading because it has a powerful message about race, love and fighting for what you believe in – and all of that takes courage and strength. I'm now going to have to watch the TV series."

Thank you so much to all our entrants.

History GCSE

If you are learning about Crime and Punishment at History GCSE, you will no doubt be aware of Hallie Rubenhold's excellent book 'The Five'. She has now released a new series of podcasts called **Bad Women:** <u>the Ripper Retold</u> in which she explores the lives of the victims, speaking to historians, teachers, forensic scientists and even descendants of the five victims.

Listen to it here: <u>http://podcasts.pushkin.fm/bad-</u> women?c=c9FCdEu2STf24er19R3W7w&h=030b0 dfa2a664b25d&



England v Tonga Twickenham Trip

The PE Department are looking forward to the rugby trip on Saturday 6th November to see England play Tonga at Twickenham Stadium.



We were allocated 40 tickets by the RFU which were then sold to students on a first come, first served basis - all 40 have been sold! Further information regarding the trip will be sent home to those involved just after the half term break.

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Jake Wightman running visit

Last Thursday during tutor, 1500m Olympian runner, Jake Wightman, came to visit us as we went on a run with cross-country club. We ran to Bushy Park where Jake gave us some tips, such as how to control your breathing and how to save your energy for a final sprint.



Once back from our 4k run, we had the chance to speak with Jake, ask him questions and get a photo or signature! We are really lucky to have this experience as he has helped us in future running school events and outside events. Thanks to Mr Evans for this great opportunity

Written by Charlie C and Iris W

Year 9 Netball – Well done !

The Year 9 girls netball team ended this half term on a high with a big 9-1 win over Twickenham! A fantastic effort from the team - well done all and to Maisie for her player of the match performance.



Chemistry/Science updates

This term Year 10 students conducted a number of experiments in chemistry in order to consolidate their knowledge on acid and bases/alkali.

Well done, Year 10 students! Special mention to Lucy and Abbie who managed to produce the largest copper sulphate crystal out of all the students!



Year 10 Assembly Visitor

Thank you to Will Reed for coming into speak to Year 10s this week. Will was in Ms Riglin's form at secondary school and is an incredibly talented swimmer who told us about everything he's been up to since he left school and how he has Down Syndrome, but it doesn't stop him doing what he loves. Thank you, Will!



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Year 13 Chemistry

Year 13 students conducted 12 practical activities on iodine clocks this week. Check out their concentration!





Year 11 Politics Corner



Last Friday, the shocking news broke that Sir David Amess, MP for Southend West, was murdered during his surgery session in

his constituency.

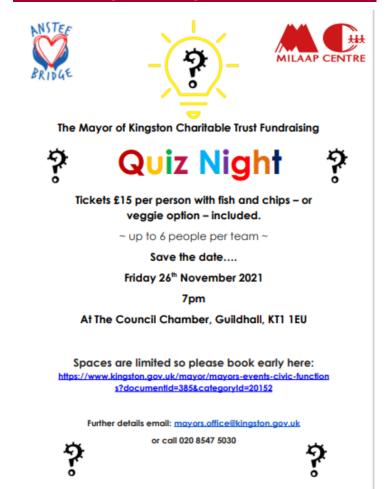
Our Year 11 Politics AS class discussed what happened and gave some ideas around the tragedy of this event, and what should be implemented going forward.

Sir David Amess was a Conservative MP, and held socially conservative views. He also supported animal rights causes, including voting to ban foxhunting and becoming a patron of the Conservative Animal Welfare Foundation. Amess was pro-Brexit, and was vocal in his support of the Brexit campaign.

For many reasons, this event is tragic. David Amess was a husband and father of five. He was participating in a crucial part of his role as MP, listening to and supporting his constituents. Only five years after the murder of Jo Cox, the death of Sir David gives us more reason to question to safety of our MPs. When asked whether this event suggests that MPs are unsafe, and therefore surgery sessions should no longer take place, our Year 11 Politics students responded with a resounding 'no', citing the importance of surgeries in helping constituents feel listened to. Furthermore, as students have learnt about the various voting systems in use throughout the UK, some mentioned that one positive of our first-past-the-post system is the MPconstituent link, strengthened and upheld by MPs holding surgeries. Therefore, by eradicating these key forms of access to our representatives, constituents cannot reap the benefit of our political system.

Year 11 politicians did, however, conclude that MPs needed to be kept safer, and suggested that constituents should have to walk through metal detectors before meeting with MPs. Another student suggested that MPs could be protected by a screen, and that they should have more security personnel at public events.

Anstee Bridge Quiz Night



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Horrible Histories - Trip

On Friday evening last week, fifty Year 7 students and ten Year 8 students made a trip to Richmond Theatre to see '*Horrible Histories - Barmy Britain*'. Year 8 students, William, Beatrice and Mariyah wrote a review in this week's KS3 History Club:



"We think *Horrible Histories - Barmy Britain* was brilliant – appealing for both young and old. It merged recent and past topics, looking at the history of Britain throughout time. We thought it was clever that there were only two actors throughout the entire play, and they swapped characters, outfits, and personalities throughout. To make it even better, in the second part of the show, there was lots of 3D elements. This made it extremely immersive, fun, and even a bit jumpy at times. We would recommend it to anyone who likes history! Unfortunately, it is no longer showing at Richmond theatre, but hopefully it makes a comeback soon!"

This day in Chemistry

On This Day – October 23 : Mole Day, the unofficial holiday, was first celebrated on this day in 1991: celebrated by chemists annually from 6.02 am to 6.02 pm on October 23rd, Mole Day commemorates

Avogadro's number (6.022 x 1023), which is the number of atoms in exactly 12 grams of carbon-12 (one mole).





This was founded by the National Mole Day Foundation on 15th May 1991. Avogadro's hypothesis was key to solving many problems facing the chemical sciences in the 1800s. But his idea was initially rejected. The demise of a little-known Italian lawyer 150 years ago hardly seems a matter of concern to 21st century chemists. Yet this man, for all his obscurity, held the key to one of the most central chemical problems of his day and ours. Without the solution that he suggested, chemistry would be unthinkably different today. His name was Amedeo Avogadro. Interested to know more? Check this article about <u>Amedeo Avogadro</u>

On This Day – October 24: Danish chemist Henrik Dam



identified Vitamin K on this day in 1929. When Dam fed chickens a diet low in cholesterol, he found that their blood did not clot. However, he

discovered that it wasn't just cholesterol but also a vitamin that they were lacking. He called this Vitamin K, after the German word for coagulation, "koagulation".

Year 8 Table Tennis Competition

After the success of the Year 7 team at RPA's table tennis competition last week, we are hoping to deliver another strong performance on Tuesday 9th November when it's the Year 8's turn to compete against other local schools at Richmond Park Academy.

Well done to everyone who took part in the trials this week in order to be in contention for this event; it was very competitive with lots of skill on show! The Year 8 team will be announced soon.

Oxplore Book Club – 24th November 4pm

Q&A session with Philip Pullman 'Northern Lights' is November's recommended read and we're excited to announce that students will have the opportunity to share their thoughts and questions about the text with Philip Pullman himself! Suitable for students aged 11-14. Oxplore Book Club author Q&A with Philip Pullman

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Year 7/8 Girls Football v Richmond upon **Thames School**

The girls football team were back in action against RTS this week in what turned out to be a very even contest. After finishing 2-2, the game had to be decided by penalties! Unfortunately, the girls were pipped by a narrow loss in an exciting yet tense penalty shootout. Nonetheless, the team were fantastic - well done to everyone involved!



Year 13 Physics – Advance Topic Knowledge

Year 13 students are becoming independent researchers and must carry out their investigations individually. If students need direction, instructors may guide them into making, for example, a 'Google search for... ' allowing the students to browse and select the information they believe to be relevant.

Our Year 13 physics students are doing this brilliantly. Pictured are Cal, Will and Archie, each determining the gravitational force constant using Simple Harmonic Motion.



Prep Room news from Mrs Dippie

As normal, this term showed absolutely no normality at all in the prep room! Amongst the odd items on my desk (superglue, a rubber duck, an antique decade resistance box, Australian spiny stick insects ... you know, the usual stuff) another object appeared. This was a Gratnell storage box containing an abandoned budgerigar chick that needed company and a regular feed.



Cholla (named after the cactus as he has very prickly claws) has been a great favourite with the Y7 and Y8 students. Unknown to many, as I wandered around the school, he was often snuggled under my collar to

keep warm.

For a while we didn't think he had a chirp until one student spent some time with me. Cholla took to this young man and started to chirp. We can't shut him up now! Cholla has now also found he can fly so has moved in with all my other birds with the freedom of a very large room to spread his wings. To all the students who have asked after his wellbeing, he sends his love and chirps.

G2G Interview

Well done to Anton, Zac and Taran who interviewed Judith Hayman from G2G after school over Teams on Monday. Judith Hayman is a retired English teacher and journalist.

During the two years before COVID, she has spoken to 25,000 students in schools on anti-Jewish and other forms of racism. She has written a teachers' guide on anti-Jewish racism and other forms of racism for the Campaign against Antisemitism.

Her mother and aunt suffered in the Holocaust and she told our students about their stories and discussed other important topics with them.

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She is turning the interview into an article which we will be trying to get published in the local press - fingers crossed!

Judith commented afterwards that they were "outstanding students" and that "their questions were profound and showed a concern for humanity that was heartfelt. It was interesting that they could learn from studying the Holocaust and strive to make a better future". Well done, Anton, Taran and Zac!



Museum of Richmond – Half-term workshops

The Museum of Richmond will be running workshops for families at the Museum throughout October half term.

They are also able to offer free places to local children who would benefit from some financial support. To access this funding call the Museum on 020 8332 1141 to book.

Ghosts of Richmond Palace – workshops at the Museum

Tuesday 26th October to Friday 29th October, 10am to 12noon, and 1pm to 3pm. Discover the ghostly goings-on in the remains of Richmond Palace. Make your own haunted palaces to help decorate your home this Halloween! Book here:

https://museum-of-richmond.arttickets.org.uk/themuseum-of-richmond/2021-10-26-family-workshopghosts-of-richmond-palace

Year 11 Achieving Excellence Talk

This week Year 11 were introduced to top tips on the best work habits successful students across the country have reported gave them the edge in their exams and helped them achieve.

Mr Doyle, Deputy Head from Salesian School in Chertsey, visited Year 11 to share with them his research findings into how successful students learn and revise.



Some Top tips:

- Be an active listener in class.
- Never leave a lesson with questions; always seek answers to aid later understanding.
- Make notes for <u>YOU.</u>
- Having a pet actually helps!
- Do not procrastinate.

Sounds obvious, but the wealth of research from 200 GCSE students from across 100 schools all agree there are some key habits successful students all adopt which are free and have no bearing on wealth or access to tech.

IF you want to succeed it starts with YOU!

We will be following this up next term as Year 11 will be looking at post-16 options and careers in their PSCHE lesson. However, they can all put into practice today the key habits they will need in the future.

Good luck, Year 11!

Miss Brennan

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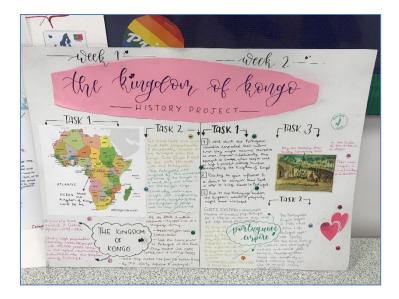
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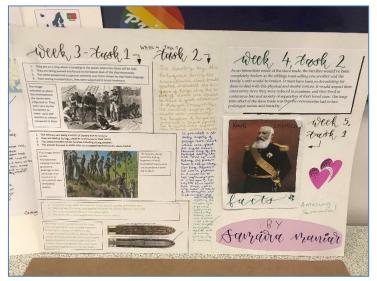
Year 8 History Projects

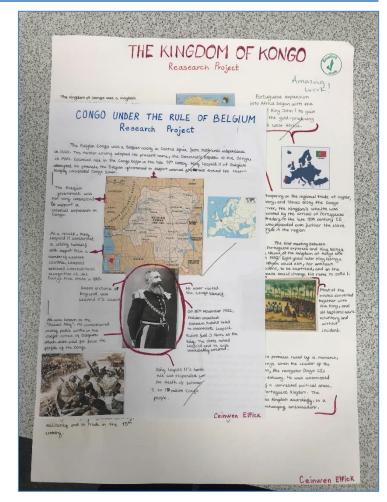
Well done to all of our brilliant Year 8 historians who created some wonderful research projects this half term.

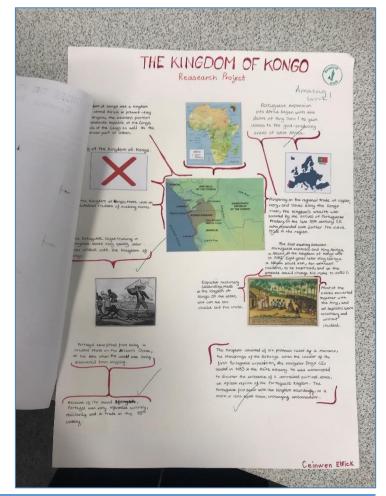
Students were researching the Kingdom of Kongo which was a large kingdom in the western part of central Africa from 1390-1914.

We were really impressed with their brilliant efforts and fantastic presentations. Do ask them what they learnt!









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Mental Health Awareness Day

Friday 8th October was Mental Health Awareness Day, and our school participated in the national wide #helloyellow message from Youngminds (the company running the event): "Wear yellow and donate £2 to YoungMinds this World Mental Health Day, because a little yellow goes a long way."

This event raised awareness and funds for this mental health charity. This is a cause that we, as a school, value highly as the NHS service, CAHMS (Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services), has been repeatedly defunded by the government, so third party charities are more important than ever.

It brought a lovely supportive atmosphere to the school, and created a great sense of community schoolwide, and within the 6th form, as everyone opted to wear something yellow. I think it's incredible that our school participated in this event as it helped everyone in school to understand the importance of mental health. Will, 13L

I'm a Sixth Former Get me out of here!

Late last academic year, the Sixth Form hosted a student version of the popular reality TV show: 'I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here'.



This was one of the activities held in the Sixth Form last year to bring fun (and some healthy competition!) into the Sixth Form student experience.

The format of the show was modified to fit the student version named 'I'm a Sixth Former, Get Me Out of Here'. Over three days, a group of students competed in various activities such as eating and drinking challenges and problem-solving tasks to mention just two.



As the competition progressed there were knock-out rounds where students would be eliminated one-byone. One challenge that students struggled with was 'Grot Shots', where competitors had to drink 6 mixtures made by the teachers. The overall winner of 'I'm a Sixth Former, Get Me Out of Here', Ethan H, received a Polaroid portable printer as a prize. This is sure to become a regular in the Sixth Form events calendar! Ethan, 13A

Royal Holloway Workshops

Though only one term in, Year 13 students have already been given a lot of support with university applications, from what to write in our personal statements, to how to know what course/s to pick. We have been helped by visits from Royal Holloway University.

Last year we were lucky enough to have had a meeting with Royal Holloway, via zoom, to hear about their Law courses and what to expect of uni life at this university.

This year they have helped us with learning more about other universities and university life in general. They weren't there to sell their own specific uni but

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instead genuinely wanted to help and answer any questions we had.

Though of course they were a little biased – I mean just look at it, it's like something out of Harry Potter!



The Royal Holloway team still understood and respected every question asked, because they themselves had been in our positions before and understood how stressful it was.

Overall, they really helped Max & I (and the rest of our year) understand how to approach our personal statements and helped cement the course directions we were heading down whilst also just allowing it to feel like an adult environment which was definitely new to us. Millie and Max, 13A

Active learning in lessons

A big part at A-Level is active learning, which involves knowledge actively engaging your with the course material.

For example, the practicals in science allow you to retain information better by practising the skills you have learnt about. whilst also getting an insight to the real-life applications of the natural sciences beyond the theory.

A practical I particularly enjoyed was qualitative analysis in Chemistry, where we added certain chemicals to different solutions in order to identify the types of compounds present in each of them.

helped deeper This me to have а understanding within this topic.

Another subject where we used an active learning Whilst technique was Psychology. studying biopsychology, we learnt about neurons and synaptic transmission which has many steps.



created neurons out of In groups we sweets. knowledge on the strengthening different our structures.

On top of this we created stop motion videos to show the process of synaptic transmission, helping to create a visual cue in our minds and overall consolidating our learning on this. Tas, 13A

St Mary's Outreach

The first term of Sixth Form was packed with all sorts of events and enrichment opportunities. Elevate Education came into school to do workshops on study skills.

We have recently been in touch with St. Mary's University and have been lucky enough for some of their lecturers to come in and teach us. Michael Hobson is a lecturer in BA Sport and Social Change, gave a fascinating talk about sport and how it affects our lives.



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We also had Meg Grissel, who is a student recruitment officer, speak about why we should consider going to university and the benefits from it. We also have an upcoming trip to St Mary's to explore Post-18 opportunities.



Careers Help

The Teams Turing House has а page careers section too, advising and informing us of work experience, seminars and many more events that we can take part in.

Enrichment at Turing House Sixth Form

Turing House offers great enrichment opportunities.

Something I have learnt whilst **Example 1** Form being in the Sixth Form is that what you put in, is what you will get back. I took the House initiative to get involved in

areas outside of my subject areas and I now teach Drama to Year 9s once a week alongside Miss Andrews.

This has gradually led me to become co-director of a school play, which is being run as an afterschool club and soon, will be performed at the Lyric Theatre in Hammersmith!

This volunteering towards counts my VISA (Volunteering in Schools Award) which, when me to have a completed, allows more flexible timetable throughout the week. Whilst completing the

VISA programme, I also get a Freedom Pass - that means on certain days I can wake up at 9am instead of 6am on some days (providing my attendance remains above 96%, of course!)! Sean, 12L

RAG Week

RAG week was a week of fun activities for the Sixth Formers which took place over the first week of the school year. Activities included a pizza and movie night, sponging the Headteacher and the most loved activity - a trip to Brighton on the Friday.



Since we are in Sixth Form now, we were allowed to be independent and explore the city on our own which was great fun! Not only were the activities there to help the Sixth Form students in both years get to know each other but they also contributed to a charity, which we chose earlier in the week.

In addition, there was a themed non-uniform day where all the students dressed up in bright colours. Now that was a laugh!

The day when we all threw sponges at Mr. O'Sullivan was brutal; he got absolutely soaked!

Overall, RAG week was a great experience for our year group - it really helped everyone get to know each other and gave us a fun introduction to our studies. -Spike & Lilu 13L

Clubs & Charity Events

Turing House Sixth Formers participate in many fun and enriching extracurricular activities that are offered by many teachers and students themselves.

All clubs that are available to Year 7 to Year 11 students are also available for all Sixth Formers to enjoy.

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For example, if you have a fondness for sports or academic activities there are numerous ways to satisfy your passions ranging from football club to maths club.

Personally, I love battling it out for a spot on the top table during the table tennis competition that occurs weekly. The best thing about a Sixth Former's role with clubs, is that you can either help run an existing club or create a new one for whatever activity you want, for example we are considering starting a Vietnam History club; there's a spot for everything no matter how niche. There is so much opportunity for fun and creativity!

On top of clubs, a Sixth Former also has the option to partake in many volunteering and charity events to help set them on a path of righteousness and improve their UCAS application.

Just a fortnight ago, the school participated in the nationwide Macmillan Coffee Morning, to raise money for cancer patients. Sixth Formers even baked their own cakes to bring in and sell to the younger year groups. A mind-blowing and astonishing £495.30 was raised in just one day! Kai & Jacob 13L







Student Leadership

The prefect system at Turing House School is part of an system that develops leadership overall and responsibility throughout each year group. For the lower school, students can apply for leadership roles within their tutor groups, such as Tutor Group Captain and School Council Rep. In Year 11, students apply for and are appointed as prefects to support within departments.

For Sixth Form however, the stakes are higher: we get the opportunity to apply for Senior Prefect positions, designed to work alongside the Heads of Years to devise games and competitions for the students to participate in!

As it is an important role, the Sixth Form students that wish to apply are interviewed after writing an application letter, detailing the qualities and ideas that they have for our school.

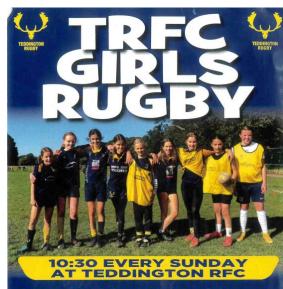
This prepares us for the real world, when interviewing for jobs and university, but it also makes us realise just how important the job is: it enables us to help our school grow and also to hear the voices and opinions of all students.

The Senior Prefects include both years 12 and 13 students. We work closely with the teachers to organise events and raise money for causes within school. There are a multitude of leadership roles that are offered across the school, this is to allow all students to have a chance and to aid their UCAS applications. Ayni 13L and Treisi 13A

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Girls Rugby



We need new players to join the above Junior Girls Rugby Team (Yr 7&8) Come and join weekly fun and friendly training sessions with RFU accredited coaches

Rugby is the perfect sport for developing lasting friendships, leadership skills, confidence, teamwork and fitness levels

Any questions/enquiries please contact: junior-girls@teddingtonrfc.co.uk or mobile: 07971 980996 eddington RFC, Bushy Park, Club Car Park is in Dora Jordan Road, (via NPL Gates Queen's Road). Teddington, TW11 0EA

Basketball Camp for Year 7-12

