

# Headteacher's Update

## 26th November 2021

# Message from Mr O'Sullivan

I write to you this week with exciting news regarding the move to our permanent home in Whitton. You should have by now received a letter with the first wave of arrangements. As you can imagine the logistics for this



are complex. Both temporary sites only have the facility for one lorry in and out at any one time so the process will take a while.

The school will move to remote learning from the week commencing 7<sup>th</sup> February. For most students this will mean the completion of work set via Microsoft Teams. For our learners in Years 11 and 13 this remote offering will be blended with some live lessons on the same platform. We will also look at providing a session during that week for students in Year 10 preparing for their GCSE in RP.

Staff will work with a removal company during this week to set up in their new rooms in Whitton. Some staff will continue this process during the half term.

While the move is daunting it is also incredibly exciting. Your support on this matter will be greatly appreciated as staff will be working extremely hard to make the move a successful one. Wish us luck!



Plans from the second floor!

#### Dates for the Diary:

1st Dec – Year 7 Enrichment Day

2<sup>nd</sup> Dec – Turing House Friends Meeting. ALL

WELCOME

10th Dec – Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper

Day

#### **Fixtures**

29th Nov - Girls Table Tennis Final 1.30pm @ RPA

29<sup>th</sup> Nov – Yr 7 Football v Hampton (away)

30th Nov - Year 10/11 Basketball v Teddington (away)

1st Dec - Y7 & Y8 Basketball v Twickenham (away)

3<sup>rd</sup> Dec – Y7 Basketball Tournament (away)

# Saku interviews Oscar winning director



Saku in Y10 was recently offered the opportunity to interview actor Lauren Ridloff (Eternals, Walking Dead) and Oscar winning director Chloe Zhao for The Female Lead. Saku spoke to the two about their views on feminism and the importance of diverse representation on and off screen. Well done, Saku! You can see the interview on The Female Lead's social media and our homepage.

#### Matilda West End Trip

Our 60-strong school show cast and crew were lucky enough to see Matilda in the West End last week (the day before the show celebrated its tenth birthday).

The students were inspired by watching the professionals perform and picked up lots of tips and ideas for our school production of the junior version of the show.



#### White Ribbon Day – Assemblies

Mrs Collins has led assemblies this week for the whole school, focusing on White Ribbon Day, which took place on Thursday 25th November. White Ribbon Day is a campaign which calls upon people in their communities to come together and say 'no' to violence against women. We reflected on what had happened, and what had changed since the tragic murder of Sarah Everard and what we, as a school, can do to take society a step closer towards gender equality and create a future that is safer for a daughters and granddaughters.

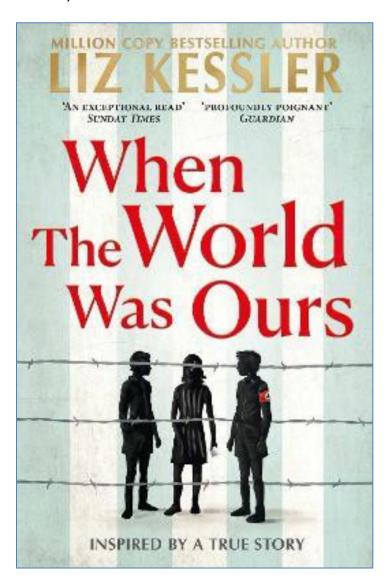


#### Book of the Week

**13+Readers**. A powerful and heart-breaking novel about three childhood friends living during the Second World War whose fates are closely intertwined, even when their lives take very different courses. Inspired by a true story, this is the perfect read for fans of The Book Thief and Anne Frank's The Diary of a Young Girl.

Vienna, 1936. Elsa, Leo and Max have always been best friends, a special team of three. Then the Nazis come. As a growing darkness descends around them, Leo and Elsa run for their lives, taking two very different paths across Europe. And Max, once their closest friend, now becomes the enemy as he is drawn into the Hitler Youth.

Will the friends ever find their way back to each other? Will they want to?



#### Christmas Lunch!

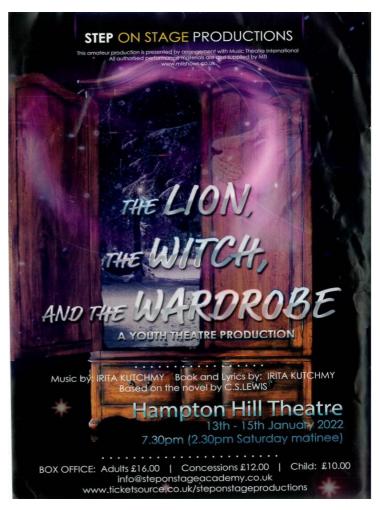
Our date for our Christmas Lunch is **Friday 10**th **December**. This will also be Christmas Jumper Day, so a great day for festivities!

On Parent Pay there is the facility to book and pay £2.50 if you wish your child to have a lunch. Please state any dietary needs for your child.

If a student does not wish to have a Christmas meal, then they must bring a packed lunch for the day as no other food will be available for purchasing and students eligible for Free School meals will be provided with a full Christmas meal.

## Hampton Hill Theatre – Books your tickets!

Good luck to Raffi who is part of this wonderful production at Hampton Hill Theatre.



# Turing House Friends

Turing House Friends are holding their next meeting on 2nd December, via Zoom, and we would be very pleased to see you.

Bring your mince pies and mulled wine and help us plan activities for next year.

Date of Turing House Friends Meeting - Thursday 2nd December at 5.30pm:

https://stmarys.zoom.us/j/83869085131?pwd=VWJre UlVdUpvQjZ5b1loc014T3Bndz09

Meeting ID: 838 6908 5131

Passcode: 322620

#### Turing House Friends Christmas Book Drive

It's time for our annual Christmas Book Drive. If you'd like to buy the school a Christmas gift to leave under our tree, then follow the link below.

Quality second-hand books are also much appreciated.

Remember to pick Turing House Friends as your Amazon Smile charity. Let's get reading!

http://amzn.eu/hmp8ovu

# COP26 - Climate Change

Pupils throughout all years have engaged excellently with activities which are focused on highlighting the importance of combating climate change.

This is just a tiny sample of the 'pledge leaves' pupils have made). Each leaf states one pledge that the pupils themselves can make - a supposed 'small change' but one that can make a big difference collectively. Each leaf also contains a climate request for our world leaders and suggestions on how they can help combat climate change.

The most important thing is how brilliantly pupils have engaged with the topics of climate change and COP26; many have come running up to me excitedly to tell me

about their own research of COP26 or that they even know someone who attended personally.

Climate change will unfortunately be impacting their generation more than our own, so it really is a glimpse of hope to see how much they care.



## **History Exhibitions**

These two exhibitions look well worth a visit for historians:

https://www.somersethouse.org.uk/whats-on/we-arehistory

https://www.bl.uk/events/elizabeth-and-mary

Do let your history teacher know if you visit! We'd love to hear what you think!

# Free Saturday Club at Kingston University

Kingston University are running a free Saturday Club in Art & Design and Science & Engineering for Year **10** pupils.

It will be starting early next year in January. These Saturday Clubs are for Year 10s from across local schools, running at Kingston University KT1 2EE.

- Led by expert tutors, DBS checked & Safeguarding trained. Supported by University students.
- One club in Art & Design, one club in Science & Engineering (pupils can't be part of both, they are at the same time!).
- Everything is free for pupils selected, except travel to/from the club.
- Clubs run for 16 Saturdays between 22<sup>nd</sup> January – 18<sup>th</sup> June 2022 (with some weeks off)

Please watch this 14 min video which explains everything they need to know.

Pupils and parents/carers must then **both** complete application forms:

Pupils: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KUSaturdayClub">https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KUSaturdayClub</a>

Parents/Carers: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/">https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/</a> KUSaturdayClubSupport

Application deadline Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January. Decisions will be emailed by Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> January.

#### Give a book this Christmas!

As Christmas fast approaches, the English department would like to encourage parents to remember that books can make wonderful gifts that keep on giving.

We have lots of ideas for great gifts for students in our reading list, which we update regularly:

# KS3 reading list (1).docx

Penguin has also released a list of books that would make beautiful gifts for all ages here:

https://www.penguin.co.uk/articles/2019/nov/beautiful-gift-books-for-christmas/

#### Princess Alice Hospice Santa Fun Run!

Princess Alice Hospice has a team of specialist nurses, doctors, therapists, social workers and bereavement volunteers who work at their Hospice and with families at home. They are all experts in end-of-life care, who put compassion and respect at the heart of everything they do. However, they need financial support to be able to continue their work.

Bushy Park Santa Fun Run is the biggest event in their fundraising calendar. They really missed it last year. This year they are back at Bushy on 5 and 12 December and are hoping and need to raise £68,000 to help fund the care that they provide.

Despite everyone missing the event last year they are struggling to get the numbers they need to ensure that they raise what they can. The Friends of Bushy and Home Parks is proud to support the run by communicating it to our members.



# Sixth Form report on St. Mary's Trip

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week, Year 12 went on a guided tour of St Mary's University and had the pleasure of attending 3 lectures (Sociology, Psychology, and Marketing) delivered by experienced professors who summarised their courses and the opportunities their degrees bring post-graduation.

It was a great opportunity for us to get a feel for university-style learning and, for some of us, build on our pre-existing A-Level knowledge in these areas. We participated in some interesting discussions about the exploitative power of the media and its representations of society, as well as taking part in a Psychology illusion, tricking the brain into thinking a rubber hand belonged to the body.

The student ambassadors, Ahmed and Mary, gave us a tour around the campus, which has many large dormitories, a theatre, a chapel and prayer room, a sports centre, a gym, a track course, and many large green fields, among other facilities, due to the uni's heavy sport focus.



The architecture was also very beautiful and ranged from early 19<sup>th</sup>-century traditional designs in some of the older buildings to more modern designs - all appealing to the eye.

The lecturers and student ambassadors gave us an insight into how life at uni is, explaining how they still had free time with a reasonable workload, the independence experienced through living in university

accommodation and post-grad jobs which they were aiming for, noting that St Mary's has 99% employment for students who graduated from it.

Overall, the experience was very useful for those of us who are planning to go to uni and gave us insights into how student life is on campus, what to look forward to and how to cope with the workload and living away from home.

#### Enrichment Day – Year 7

We are pleased to announce that we will be holding an enrichment day for our year 7s next Wednesday, the 1st of December. The day will centre around the theme of personal safety, with students spending the day taking part in different activities with their form groups.

The day will include a session on e-safety, a practical lesson on first aid, a session on health and nutrition and a drama-based activity to explore the themes of the day.

The timings for the school day will remain the same, with students arriving by 8:30am and leaving at 3:00pm.

Lunches and breaktime will also run as normal, with food available in the canteen as usual.

Students can come to school in their PE kits, as we will have a practical first aid and drama session.

We hope that this will be a fun and rewarding day for our year 7s. If you have any additional questions about the day, please contact the school using the regular email address: info@turinghouseschool.org.uk

# Kingston College Open Day

Kingston College Open Event - this Saturday 27 November, 10am to 1pm.

The event includes Principal's Talks, the opportunity to talk to tutors and students, tours of the college by our fantastic student ambassadors, 'have a go' activities and the opportunity to talk to a member of our careers and additional learning support teams.

Students wishing to attend can register here.

#### Congratulations Ben!

Ben in Year 11 just received his result for his Grade 6 Bass Guitar exam and achieved a Distinction.

Well done, Ben!

Ben and his brother Billy in Year 8 are also in a band, run by local not-for-profit organisation, Powerjam.

Their band, Late In Tokyo, will be playing live on Sunday 5th December in Herne Hill at a free event called JOM (Junior Open Mic) which also features Sam Wilkinson, winner of The Voice Kids.

https://www.instagram.com/jom\_junior\_open\_mic/?h l=en

#### Historical Performance – Year 8



On Wednesday the Year 8 students enjoyed watching a Historical Performance and attending two historical workshops from a group called 'Time Will Tell'.

This play which they watched was called Letters Home and was created for English Heritage as a two-handed play. It was the result of a chance reading of an article about a now non-existent building, which just shows how inspiration can come from any source.

The actors had been looking to find a way of commemorating WW1 that encompassed not just the experiences of fighting men, but also the Home Front that was constantly in their thoughts. The Post Office gave them the perfect story; an institution that provided its own soldiers, the Post Office Rifles; employment for women on a massive scale when the men went off to war; but most of all the means by which millions of letters and parcels were conveyed to and from the fighting men, wherever they found themselves. They call it "an extraordinary story of ordinary people" because it summed up for us how, in the indescribable horrors of the battlefield, a little thing like a letter could profoundly affect morale.



In addition to watching this brilliant play, all Year 8 students attended two workshops titled: "Men's War" & "Women's War", looking at the different experiences people had in World War One.

It was a very exciting day for all Year 8 students. Thank you to all who attended and enjoyed!

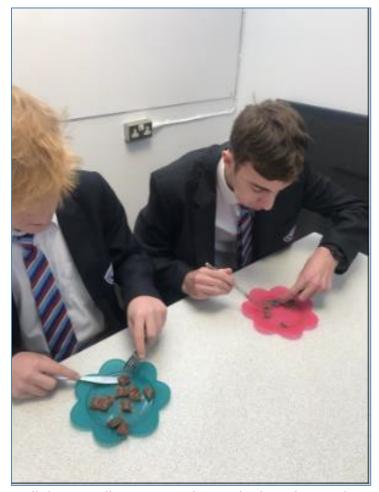
# Poppies – Well Done!

Joseph M in Year 8 spent break and lunchtimes selling poppy merchandise for the Royal British Legion for about two weeks — we even had to get some merchandise from the Hampton site as he had managed to sell everything he had been given!

He raised an amazing £250.58! Well done, Joseph!



#### Year 10 Tutor Challenges



Well done to all Year 10 students who have been taking part in tutor challenges this week to win positive points for their form towards the tutor cup. This week a representative from each form took part in a smelling test. No one managed to correctly guess the five smells which were: marmite, peanut butter, oregano, mustard seeds and chilli flakes!

#### UK Disability History Day



November marks UK Disability History Month (UKDHM) which is an annual event creating a platform to focus on the history of our struggle for equality and human rights.

To mark this month, Y10 students Taran and Zac have created an informative PowerPoint presentation for all tutor groups to go through this week.

It is an inspiring piece of work reminding us all that it is our turn to document this history and to become agents of change within our communities.

# Year 7 & 10 Borough Rugby League Tournament

The Year 7 and 10 teams were in action at the borough's rugby league tournament, both aiming to get through to the next round of the competition.

An eager Year 7 team fell victim to a strong Richmond upon Thames team but pulled off a very convincing victory against St Richard Reynolds.

The Year 10s also came away with one loss and one win, again losing to Richmond upon Thames but winning against St Richard Reynolds.

The results were not enough to put either team through to the next round but the effort and teamwork from all on the pitch was fantastic.

Well done to both the Year 7 and Year 10 teams!

#### Year 8 Regional Rugby League Tournament

The Year 8 boys were back playing rugby league this week but this time they were in the next round of the competition - the regional stages - representing Richmond, having won the borough stage last week. The team lost against St James Boys School and Westcliff Boys School, but managed a crushing victory (six tries to 0!) against Elthorne Park High School.

Given that Rugby League is not part of our curriculum and that last week's tournament was the team's only league experience, the boys had to learn quickly and adapt to this different rugby code.

The enthusiasm and determination with which they have done so has been excellent.

Well done to everyone involved and well done to Kaya F on being our player of the tournament! The team can be seen in the photo with the impressive RFL Challenge Cup trophy which was on show for the day - although they were disappointed to learn that it was not the trophy we were competing for.



# Year 9 Table Tennis Borough Tournament

With the Year 7 and Year 8 table tennis borough tournaments been and gone, it was time for the Year 9 team to get stuck in. Thank you to senior table tennis club leader, Mr Hatzidakis, who took a team of four

boys - Joe R, Joe M, Eashan P and Toby B - to compete at the tournament held at Richmond Park Academy.

The team just missed out on coming away with a tournament win as they finished in second place, which is still a fantastic achievement given the stiff competition. Well done to all four boys!



#### Year 8 Boys Friendly v Hampton High

The Year 8 boys were treated to a friendly football fixture against Hampton High this week. It is safe to say that the boys were very keen to show how much they were looking forward to a football fixture at long last they put on a dominating performance to win 6-0!

Well done to everyone involved and well done to Ollie H on player of the match.

# Year 8/9 Girls Basketball v Hampton High

A massive well done to the Year 8/9 girls' team who secured a 18-16 win in their basketball fixture against Hampton High! The game was won by just one basket, showing how close and competitive the game was.



There was fantastic side-line support from both teams, which created a brilliant sporting atmosphere. Well done again to the teams and well done to Livvy L on player of the match.

# Year 7/8 Girls Borough Touch Rugby

Well done to the Year 7 girls who took part in a touch rugby tournament this week. The tournament, which ran for the first time and will be an annual fixture to look forward to, included several schools from the borough which created a great game-day atmosphere at Bushy Park. With a mixture of experienced rugby players and those playing rugby for the first time, the Turing team played brilliantly; they narrowly lost to Richmond upon Thames, St Richard Reynolds and Grey Court, but secured a win against Christ's! The effort and attitude from the girls was fantastic on and off the pitch. Most importantly, everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience! A big thank you to Teddington RFC for organising the event. Teddington RFC are working hard to raise the profile of rugby for girls - there will be more on this in next week's newsletter but there are some flyers in school with more information if your daughter is interested. A special shout out must go to Mr Clifford, Elli Clifford's father, for not only doing so much for the organisation of the tournament but for also giving up his time over the past few Mondays to give the Turing girls some excellent touch rugby coaching ahead of the tournament. Thank you, Mr Clifford, and well done again to everyone involved.

#### **Boys Rugby Taster Session**



# Forthcoming Fixtures

Monday 29th November:

- Year 7 Girls Table Tennis Borough Finals Tournament (at Richmond Park Academy)
- Year 7 Boys Football (friendly) v Hampton High (away)

Tuesday 30th November:

Year 10/11 Boys Basketball v Teddington (away)

Wednesday 1st December:

- Year 7/8 Boys Basketball (friendly) v Teddington (away)
- Year 10/11 Girls Netball (friendly) v Richmond Park Academy (away)

Thursday 2nd December:

 Year 9 Boys Football (friendly) v Twickenham (away)

#### Friday 3rd December:

- Year 7 Boys Basketball Tournament (at Hampton Boys)
- Year 10 Boys Rugby (friendly) v Christs (away)