

# Headteacher's Update

25<sup>th</sup> February 2022

#### Nearly there!

The new school is looking amazing and we're very nearly there!







# Fun in the Snow!

Students were delighted when it "snowed" on Thursday!







### **RET Creative Writing Competition Winners**

We are delighted to announce the winners of our Creative Writing Competition! These six students have been selected by the English Department to represent Turing House in our annual Trust writing competition.

#### Dates for the Diary:

Bike Marking – 8th March - Hampton Site only

INSET day - 25<sup>th</sup> March School Show – 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> June



These entries will now be sent off to be judged against the other RET entries.



To celebrate the wonderful quality of writing we saw, we will share one of the entries each week in the newsletter. Well done to everyone who entered the competition!

KS3: Jack D. and Darcey D.

KS4: Lucas Y. & Luke W.

KS5 Tom P. and Ayni H.

The bright neon paint on the bus stop was still wet and glistened as the rain slid down it. The graffitied bus stop was filled with bright letters but wasn't an obvious place for a gang to meet. As the leaves blew widely, the cars sped across the wet surface of the road and the deafening noise of the traffic made it hard for them to hear each other. As the boys breathed in, the smell of damp paint reminded them of the thrill of their plan.

He was on the edge of the meeting point, leaning in, listening but trying not to make eye contact. As he heard the plan to graffiti his school he started to move away and tremble with fear. His face started to crumple with anxiety, and desperation to leave. As he wiped his sweaty hands on his paint splattered trousers, his fingers reached his mouth and he chewed his nails fiercely, still listening to the plan.

This had gone too far, to graffiti his school was just too personal. Just 6 months ago his dad left him and his mum. He just walked out the front door. His school was his safe place, and that was why he had to stay with the gang or leave now. Walking away now would be hard as his gang was like the family he wanted back. Doing the right thing was just as hard as saying goodbye to his dad, all those months ago.

As he was about to turn and run, he heard his name, he turned, his eyes down, his head dropped, the shaking in his body overpowered him. The words that his mother said to him when his dad left repeated in his head over and over again.

"Don't be like him, always choose the right path, never look back."

The pressure of this decision felt overwhelming and, as the gang started to make their way to the school, he dug deep in his soul and sprinted in the opposite direction.

"Never look back," he heard his mother's voice.

He knew he had made the right choice.

By Jack D. - Year 8

#### Amazing Art Work!

Marissa in Year 9 creates the first piece of art for the new PLUS room.... we are thrilled as is she!



Well done, Marissa!

#### School show update

School show rehearsals are going well, and the cast and crew continue to impress staff with their commitment, determination, and creativity. This year, we have a cast, crew and band of over 60 students from Year 7-Year 12 who are working on stage and behind the scenes on a production of 'Matilda' that we're sure will rival the West End version.

This term we've focused on the musical numbers and some of our Year 11s have taken a lead teaching the songs and choreographing the dances. Our tech crew are taking notes during rehearsals, so we don't forget any blocking - and have been busy designing the set and buying props.



Next term our costume team will start making their ideas come to life when they order costumes and try out hair and make-up ideas on the cast, and our live band will start their rehearsals.

Show dates are 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June - we hope to see you there!

#### Online History Skills Workshops

Oxford University's Faculty of History offers free online History Skills Workshops to state sixth form college pupils in years 12 & 13 from across the UK.

Each workshop has three aims:

To inspire curiosity about the past and enthusiasm for studying history.

To help students to develop the analytical, critical, and imaginative skills that Russell Group universities look for in applicants for humanities degrees.

To inform and encourage students to consider applying to read history at university, including at the University of Oxford.

Sign up here: <a href="https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/online-history-skills-workshops">https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/online-history-skills-workshops</a>

#### Speak Out Challenge!



This week, five Year 10 students performed a speech that they had written and learnt off by heart to a Year 7 tutor group to battle for their place in the Borough Finals for the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge! All 5 students were incredible! They were articulate, eloquent and confident when performing (even if they felt a bit nervous, they didn't show it!). Below are their speech titles which highlight how sophisticated these presentations were.

Serine Z.: Women in the Patriarchy

Zac V.: Vaccines and their Role in Modern Medicine

Evie H.: The Struggle of Women

Sasha G.: The Importance of Art

Muhra S.: Stereotypes in Society



Ms Lamb and Ms Kirwan had the difficult challenge of selecting our two Borough Finalists to go forward to the next stage of the competition and are delighted to announce the Evie H. and Serine Z. will be representing Turing House in the Borough Final on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Well done!

#### Year 8 Sports Bulletin

Written by Year 8 students, Conal & Sam.

In every tutor group in our school, we have one sports captain. The five Year 8 sports captains (Conal A, Freddie C, Ollie H, Marley S and Sam M) have been working with Mr Evans to write a sports bulletin every term.

In the bulletin, it displays the termly scores and fixtures and the sporting champion. Each champion will receive the tennis ball (trophy) for the term. Their name will be written on the tennis ball and at the end of the year, the 5 Year 8 forms will vote for 1 sporting champion out of the of the nominated students throughout the year.

#### The SPORTING CHAMPIONS SO FAR 🏆 🟆

Well done to our first sporting champion, Kaya F. He is the sporting champion because he has shown amazing perseverance, leadership and encouragement when playing for the Football team, Rugby team and at the Table Tennis Home Games.

He has also taken a brave step to help with the Y10 football team as goalkeeper.

Well done to our second sporting champion, Romy N. She is the sporting champion because she has competed in the Volleyball team for Y8 and worked well with the Y7 students.

She is always confident, fair and competitive in her sports lessons when doing the rugby and football units. Well done ©

TURING HOUSE FRIENDS COMMITTEE AND AGM - THURSDAY 24th FEBRUARY - 5-6pm, via Zoom

A warm invitation to everyone to join us next Thursday to help us plan our spring and summer activities for the new school site! An exciting time for Turing House, and we would love to share our ideas and hear yours to make the next term a memorable one.

We are always keen to welcome new parents/carers to our committee; we're especially keen for some help with communications and social media so if that's your bag, please do let us know.

Even if you can't commit to the committee but have ideas to share or support to give then please do come along, we love to see new faces.

Look forward to seeing you on Thursday.

Joining details:

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

Meeting ID: 838 6908 5131 and Passcode: 322620

#### **Rotary Youth**

On Bromcom, Ms Riglin has put up information for students of the right age on how to apply to the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA). This is an intensive summer programme for young people in both physical and intellectual terms.

It is open to all in the 15-17 age range. It is a week away in summer where students would enjoy participating in team and social activities and learning the essential skills you need to survive as a leader. It is free to attend (it costs £410 but our local rotary club is paying for two students to go) and those who successfully apply get their fees covered. See Ms Riglin for any questions and make sure you apply now!

#### Well done, Tom!

Well done to Sixth Former Tom D. who has entered a History competition run by Oriel College, Oxford University.

Tom has written an essay for the Rex Nettleford Prize for Undergraduate Students: Essays on Colonialism and its Legacies.

He wrote a piece in response to the question: "Our culture is increasingly recognised as being global. Is this a legacy of colonialism?"

We are very proud of your entry - well done!

# Target Oxbridge Online School Programme – a programme for Black students in Year 10

The aim of this programme is to remove barriers faced by Black students when applying to Oxbridge. The fourpart series will consist of online sessions of 1 hour to 1.5 hours. Each session will feature representatives from the Target Oxbridge team, the Trinity College and St Catharine's College Teams, and Target Oxbridge alumni.

Session 1 - April 2022 - What is Oxbridge really like?

Session 2 – May 2022 – How can I work towards Oxbridge?

Session 3 – June 2022 – What degree subject will help me get a good career?

Session 4 – July 2022 – What's it like to be taught by an Oxbridge tutor?

Apply here:

https://cambridge.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV 6EuR iieaObl1jNk

#### 'Macbeth' at the Globe

The Globe Theatre in London are putting on a production of 'Macbeth' designed to be a more accessible version of the play for young people and their families. We would really recommend seeing this for any students in 9-11, to help with students' understanding of the play for GCSE.

There are half price tickets for under 18s, or if you want the authentic groundling experience, you can get standing tickets for just £5! https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/whatson/playing-shakespeare-with-deutsche-bank-macbeth-2022/

#### Congratulations!

Congratulations to Louis N. who has just received a distinction in his Grade 7 drumming exam!

Well done, Louis.

#### Book of the Week: 11+



The real world is a hostile place for twelve-year-old Bren, his schooldays stalked by vicious bully, Shaun, and his family life fractured at home.

Ever since his sister Evie died in an accident, Bren's only safe space is Furthermoor, an imagined world of mechanised trees and clockwork animals,

where Evie is still alive.

In Furthermoor, no one can hurt Bren...until the mysterious Featherly arrives. Now Bren is forced to confront his deepest fears and decide if his place in the real world is worth fighting for.

Enter a world as vast and dark as your imagination, in this unforgettable coming-of-age story about courage, friendship and finding your voice.

#### Thursday 3rd March is World Book Day



To celebrate the 25th anniversary of this annual event, we are encouraging students in Year 7 and 8 to come into school dressed as a character from a

book they enjoy. Staff and teachers will also be getting in the spirit and dressing up, and there will be prizes and literary-based games running through the day.

The only restriction is that we ask that pupils choose outfits that are clearly based on a book, as this is not a standard non-uniform day.

In addition, each pupil will be given a voucher on the day which will allow them to receive a free book. This is being run in collaboration with National Book Tokens.

#### Bike Marking – Hampton Site

Bike Marking will be happening at the Hampton site on Tuesday 8th March at the Hampton site for years 9 to 13. Led by PC Smith, our school liaison officer, this is another layer of security for our students' bikes. Please ensure as always that students lock bikes with a secure lock, and the bike marking will happen at points throughout the day.

A further date will be allocated for year 7 and 8 shortly.

#### **Physics Olympiad**

Congratulations to Sanjith, Caiden, Wassim, Thomas and Farhan (all Year 11) who recently took time out of their evening to participate in the British Physics Olympiad Intermediate Physics Challenge.

They were all awarded silver certificates and should be congratulated on their achievement.



#### **Forthcoming Fixtures**

Mon 28<sup>th</sup> Feb:

Year 7 Boys Rugby v Christ's

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Mar:

Year 7 Girls Netball v Twickenham (away)

Year 8 Girls Netball v Twickenham (away)

Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Mar:

Year 9/10 Girls Football v Hampton High (away)

#### Year 7 Boys Rugby Tournament

The Year 7 boys rugby team took part in a rugby union tournament against other schools from the borough, ahead of their highly anticipated league starting the following week. Everyone worked well together and managed to win their pool!

They beat St Richard Reynolds two tries to one in a close encounter and then they beat Richmond Park Academy five tries to three.

The boys then went on to play the runner up of the other pool, Richmond upon Thames. Richmond upon Thames proved too strong and ran away with the win to take a place in the tournament final.

However, the Turing Team will be looking to take revenge when they play the same team in a few weeks' time.

Well done to all involved!



#### Year 7 Girls Touch Rugby Tournament

Well done to all the girls who took part in a Year 7 touch rugby tournament this week hosted by Waldegrave. Some of the girls managed to build on their experience gained at the last touch tournament and for some this was their first time playing the game.



There was some excellent progress shown by the team, particularly in defensive line speed, and the girls put in a great effort on and off the pitch. Well done to all involved!

## Year 7 & 8 Girls Netball v Hampton High

The respective year 7 and 8 girls netball teams got their league underway this week. Both teams travelled to Hampton High to play their first game of the term. The Year 8 team couldn't quite stop an organised Hampton side from coming away with the win but represented the school superbly as usual.



The Year 7 team managed to win their match which finished 6-3 and will be aiming to keep the strong start going when both teams take on Twickenham next week. Well done to everyone involved!

