

# Headteacher's Update

7th July 2023

# Message from Mr O'Sullivan

There is sometimes a perception that the closing weeks are a process of winding down in a school. In fact, they are the exact opposite. The volume of activity increases, and preparation is underway for the next academic year. So, the staff are in fact doing their current jobs whilst keeping one eye on September. This makes the end of term quite frantic but also very positive and exciting. This week we held our transition day for the new Year 7 students and our preparation for Key Stage 4 event for our current Year 8. Both events were incredibly successful and showed real commitment from our parents, staff and students to make a real success of things. Next week we have Sports Day, two prize giving evenings and a full governing body meeting to see us through to the final week of term. Celebration assemblies are also in place to reward the students that 'have done the right thing, because it was the right thing to do.'

Our thoughts this week go out to the families and the school involved in the tragic accident in Wimbledon. We hope the injured students and staff make a speedy recovery and offer our condolences to the family of the child who was killed.

#### Year 7 Kew Gardens trip

On Friday last week, the entire Year 7 cohort took a day trip out to Kew Gardens. Making the most of public transport, we all travelled to Kew Gardens station on the overground where excitement began to buzz.

Arriving at the gardens we split up into groups and spent the day soaking in the wild and wonderful nature that Kew Gardens has to offer. Completing activities from mindfulness sit spots, to scientific drawings, it was an incredibly fun and engaging day. Spending quality time in the outdoors can really help you appreciate how important every aspect of our ecosystems are from the tallest giant redwood right down to the tiniest beetle.

With tired legs and brains full to the brim with new knowledge of bees, butterflies and botanics, we ambled back to the station and embarked on our journey back to school. The perfect start to the weekend.

Pupils were asked what their favourite part of the day was, which is shown in the wordcloud below.

A massive thank you to Mr Tse-Laurence for organising the trip, and to all the staff who accompanied the students.

Dates for your diary:

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> - Year 7 trip to Strawberry Hill House

Friday 21st July - last day of term











# Books recommended by Miss Beeharry





















The Famous Five by Enid Blyton Christopher Pike Series The Day my Bum went Psycho by Andy Griffith The River Between by Ngugi wa Thiong'o Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela

The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy The Lion by Joseph Kessel Malguda Days by R K Narayan

# Turing House Friends

#### Second hand uniform sale at school

Wednesday 12th July from 5pm.

Come along and pick up some second-hand uniform items at a bargain price. Cash and card accepted. All items under £5.

# Year 11 Prom

Last Friday, Year 11 celebrated the past five years at their Leavers Prom. They had a wonderful time and were highly complimented by the hotel staff for being the politest, best behaved group. We will miss them greatly and look forward to celebrating again with them on Results Day!

















#### A Midsummer Night's Dream

This Sunday at 8pm, BBC are showing The Globe's version of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' on BBC4. An excellent production filmed at The Globe, this is one for Shakespeare fans of all ages to enjoy.



Battle of the Books competition

Eight of our top Year 8 readers have been working hard over the past few months to each read 6 books set by Richmond Libraries group in preparation for The Battle of the Books Competition: The Secrets Act by Alison Weatherby, I Must Betray You by Ruta Septys, Three Girls by Katie Clapham, Lionheart Girl by Yaba Badoe, Memory Thieves by Darren Simpson, and Shadow **Town** by Richard Lambert. All these books are available to borrow from the Richmond Libraries if you are looking for a great summer read! On Wednesday this week, Mrs Harper and the eight contestants made their way to Twickenham School for the big event. Other local schools were represented, and the morning started with all the school tables mixing; there were 8 teams in total. The students got in the right frame of mind with a round of ice-breakers, then the teachers were banished to the canteen while the hard battle was fought. Questions on the books and a general knowledge round were quizzed over as a team. Once entries were submitted, teachers were allowed to rejoin the room for an inspirational talk by Yaba Badoe, the author of 'Lionheart Girl'. She talked about the life experiences that she has drawn on to write her books and described the processes of her amazing

imagination. She took questions from the teams and revealed some hints, such as when she has writer's block, she simply sets herself the task of writing 200 words per day and that soon re-escalates to 1000 words. Orleans Park School were the winners of the competition, so congratulations to Orleans Park. Turing House put in an excellent performance that the team can be proud of, particularly as this is the first time we have entered the competition as a school. Well done, team!!







#### Year 7 Cricket v Richmond Upon Thames

A mixed Year 7 cricket team took to the pitch this week in a friendly match as they took on Richmond upon Thames at home. Choosing to bat first, the visitors kept the Turing team to a reasonable number of runs with some accurate bowling. However, when it was their turn to bowl, a bowling masterclass is now expected of them due to their bowling form in their league games and that's exactly what they delivered. A few maiden overs later and the home side has secured a hard-fought victory! Read on to find out how they got on in their second friendly match. Well done to everyone involved!

#### Year 8 Girls Rounders Tournament

The Year 8 girls took part in a rounders tournament last week, hosted by Waldegrave. Having just completed their matches in the borough's rounders league, there were several schools in attendance looking to end the season on a high. The girls were bested on the day in some of the matches but, as always, they put in a great shift when batting and fielding and looked to improve their performance in every game. Well done to all involved!

### **Borough Sports Day Results**

A massive well done to everyone who took part in the highly competitive Borough Sports Championship a few weeks ago at St Mary's University. On the whole, we improved on our performance from last year and managed to finish in 5<sup>th</sup> place in total out of 12 schools. This is a huge achievement given that we have only had the facilities for most athletics events for just one year now - onwards and upwards! Below are the results of those students who finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place or above - nearly all events had 10-12 students competing per year group category so, again, this is a great achievement! Well done to all involved!

Year 7			
Event	Place		
800m	4th		
Shot put	1st		
Discus	3rd		
200m	5th		
1500m	3rd		
Javelin	4th		
	Event 800m Shot put Discus 200m 1500m		

Year 8			
Event	Place		
100m	1st		
200m	3rd		
Shot put	1st		
Javeline	2nd		
Long jump	4th		
1500m	4th		
Discus	3rd		
Relay	4th		
	Event 100m 200m Shot put Javeline Long jump 1500m Discus		

Year 9			
Name	Event	Place	
Finlay	200m	4th	
Kaya	300m	2nd	
Charlie	800m	3rd	
Archie	Long jump	3rd	
Ethan	Triple jump	4th	
Elicia	Discus	1st	
Jude, Archie,	Relay	4th	
Ethan, Lennon			

Year 10			
Name	Event	Place	
Anya	200m	5th	
Flo	300m	2nd	
Andrea	Shot put	2nd	
Elvie	Discus	4th	
Livvy	Long jump	3rd	
Flo	Triple jump	2nd	
Brendan	100m	4th	
Lucas	Shot put	5th	
Brendan	Triple jump	5th	
Brendan, Max,	Relay	4th	
Jo, Caleb			

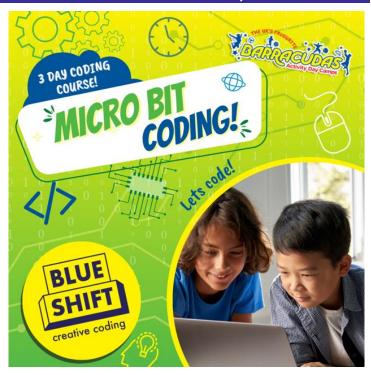
## Barracudas Activity Day Camps

We've got specialist coding courses at a camp near you!

# We're offering parents £30 off your booking with the code CODING30.

A fantastic 3-day course delivered by the experts at Blueshift Coding. Designed and led by industry leaders within the coding education field, providing the latest technologies and teaching practices.

On our Micro Bit course children will learn and understand how to code creatively, from making wearable tech such as a smart watch, designing a virtual pet and creating secret messages. Available at Waldegrave School, Twickenham this summer!



# The Exchange

