

# HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



## Message from Mr O'Sullivan

Movember: Embracing Men's Health



As November arrives, so does an important campaign – Movember. This initiative

 Movember. This initiative goes beyond just growing moustaches; it's a movement

to spotlight men's health. It's a reminder for men to prioritize their well-being, from physical health to mental wellness. Men often overlook health checkups and discussions about their physical and mental condition. Movember aims to change this by raising awareness about prostate cancer, testicular cancer, mental health, and suicide prevention.

This month provides an opportunity for the entire community to support and encourage the men around us to take charge of their health. Small steps, like regular exercise, a balanced diet, and open conversations about mental health, can make a significant impact on one's overall well-being.

In our school, we're proud to announce the



participation of several staff members in support of Movember:

Mr Quigley, Mr Tse-Lawrence, Mr Hall, Mr Jacks, Mr Millar, Mr Parkin, Mr Jones and Mr Hatzidakis. Let's rally behind these individuals and the Movember cause, promoting the importance of men's health and fostering a community where everyone feels empowered to prioritize their wellbeing.

This November, let's raise awareness, spark conversations, and support each other in embracing a healthier future for men everywhere.



9<sup>th</sup> November - Year 8 online parents evening

22<sup>nd</sup> November - 2024 Ski trip online information evening (5-5.45pm)

#### Remembrance Sunday

During the week leading up to Remembrance Sunday (week commencing Monday  $6^{th}$  November) our Senior Prefects will be selling poppies during tutor time in return for cash donations.



Mr O'Sullivan will be heading to Teddington to take part in the Remembrance Sunday parade

and service on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November.** If any student, staff member of parent wants to take part in this event (we usually get a good few) he will meet

them in Kingston Lane (Vet4Life is on the corner) at 10am. Students should wear school uniform and perhaps bring a brolly! Parents can collect from the cenotaph (which is outside Teddington Memorial Hospital) or students should make their own way home.

Please do join us on this Remembrance Sunday
Parade and Service, alongside the Royal British
Legion and the wonderful work they do in supporting
veterans.

The procession will start outside the Royal British Legion (at the junction of Kingston Lane and Teddington High Street) at 10.00am and proceed up the High Street and Broad Street to the Cenotaph outside Teddington Memorial Hospital. There will then be a Service of Remembrance at 10.50am. Local dignitaries and representatives will lay wreaths on behalf of many local organisations.

The Salvation Army band will accompany the hymns and the Last Post will be played. All are welcome to follow the procession, line the streets or join us outside the hospital.

## **GCSE languages**

If you are a native speaker and are interested in achieving an additional GCSE or A Level this academic year please email the school at: info@turinghouseschool.org.uk. Please address your email to Miss Shilton. The deadline for being entered is the 21st December 2023. Below is a list of the languages that you can be entered for:

Arabic	Cantonese	Persian	Greek
Bengali	Mandarin	German	Gujarati
Italian	Japanese	Urdu	French
Panjabi	Polish	Portuguese	Hebrew

Russian	Turkish	

## Year 7 Bingo night

Calling all Year 7 parents, you can now book your tickets for the Bingo night which is on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November. To book your tickets, please go onto the link below.

https://www.trybooking.co.uk/CSQB



#### Year 10 Munich trip

This half term 46 of our students were lucky enough to enjoy a four-day educational trip to Germany. On the trip our Year 10 and 11 GCSE History students had the opportunity to delve into the past and learn more about Weimar and Nazi Germany (which they study as part of their GCSE) in particular.

#### Day 1: Arrival and NS-Dokumentationszentrum

On the first day, our students met us at Heathrow Airport, demonstrating independence from the outset. After a smooth flight to Munich, we headed directly to the NS-Dokumentationszentrum. This museum, with its audio-guided tour, provided an exceptional start to our historical exploration.

# Day 2: Munich Old Town and Dachau Concentration Camp

Our guided walking tour of Munich's Old Town took us back in time and was many students' favourite part of the trip. After a lunchtime exploring the town centre and many food markets, a visit to Dachau Concentration Camp was an opportunity for our students to learn more about the first Nazi concentration camp.

#### Day 3: Nuremberg's Historical Sites

Nuremberg added another layer to our understanding of Nazi Germany. The Memorium Nuremberg Trials provided profound insights into the events of that era, and exploring the city's medieval walls and buildings as we walked up to the city's castle was wonderful.

# Day 4: White Rose Memorial and Nymphenburg Palace

The White Rose Memorial exhibition was a highlight of our trip, as we learnt more about student resistance to the Nazis. Furthermore, an afternoon visit to Nymphenburg Palace allowed students to learn more about Germany's past.

Throughout the trip, our students were engaged, respectful, and inquisitive. They demonstrated commendable behaviour and a thirst for knowledge. We are also highly grateful for the staff who gave up their time to run the trip - thank you to everyone involved.







# Westend Drama Trip

On the penultimate week of last half term, Y11 and 13 Drama students went to the Westend production of Ocean at the End of the Lane. They enjoyed a fantastic production which left them with lots to write about in their exams. The production was particularly special as the lead character was played by Millie Hikasa, who is from Whitton and attended

Chase Bridge and Orleans Park schools. We would thoroughly recommend the show for families who want to go to the theatre in the next couple of weeks. The run finishes on 25<sup>th</sup> November.





To top of a great afternoon, Mr O'Sullivan received an email from an audience member who was sitting next to our group:

Having worked in education for many years, led many school trips and theatre trips, I felt it only fair to write to congratulate the school for the excellent behaviour of the pupils at the performance. Far too often, teenagers get a bad press, and schools get bombarded with complaint letters about pupils and their behaviour; however, yesterday, it was a pleasure to be in this theatre with the pupils from Turing House.

Well done to our GCSE and A-Level drama students for representing Turing House in such good light!

# A-Level Drama Orange Tree Trip

Last term, Y12/13 A-Level drama students attended a production of That Face at the Orange Tree

Theatre. The play, which the classes study as part of their course, was beautifully presented and left a lasting impression on the students. A real treat however, was being able to stay behind after the show for a Q&A with the cast and assistant director. Thanks to the Orange Tree Education Team for providing us with such a great opportunity.





#### Year 11 Boys Football v Twickenham

Before the half term break, the Year 11 boys played not one but two of their league fixtures, firstly coming up against Twickenham. The boys made their intentions clear early in the match as they got off to a flying start, netting a flurry of goals before half time. The Turing team didn't relax from there - they continued to press right up until the final whistle and were rewarded for their efforts while only conceding one goal. Read on to find out how they got on against Teddington. Well done to all involved!

#### Year 11 Boys Football v Teddington

The second game for the Year 11 boys in the last week before the October break saw them take on Teddington. The boys are very familiar with this team by now, having been on the receiving end of some hefty defeats to a consistently strong Teddington outfit. The opposition proved no different on this occasion, but the Turing team stepped up their game. The match was tense from

start to finish as both sides produced chances but defended like lives depended upon it - no one wanted to be the first to let up. The game finished in a goalless draw, but the scoreline only reflects progress and stubborn determination on the pitch. Well done to all involved!

#### U14 Boys Basketball v Christ's

A team of Year 9 boys took part in their first fixture in the Dynamic League, which is a highly competitive competition that the team have been entered into based on the positive results they produced last year. This was an unbelievably close contest in all areas of the match and a brief newsletter entry simply won't do the team justice - they fought to the bitter end to make sure they were never out of winning contention. The match entered overtime as the score was even by the end of the fourth quarter. Drama on the court unfolded in this time as two Turing team players were fouled out for the final two minutes. A sensational last-gasp effort resulted in a 58-55 win to THS, followed by elated celebrations. Well done to all involved!



#### Year 9 Boys Rugby v Christ's

The Year 9 boys hosted Christ's on the rugby pitch in their postponed league fixture, which they had been looking forward to with high levels of enthusiasm that have become synonyms with this team. This was reflected in their performance tenfold - not only did the Turing team concede not one score, but they are now the current holders of the school's biggest rugby score...very impressive! The boys will come together once again in a few weeks' time when they change codes and represent Richmond in the regional rugby league tournament. Well done to all involved!

#### Year 11 Boys Rugby v Christ's

The Year 11 boys, and a handful of Year 10's stepping up to the occasion, played their rescheduled match against Christ's this week. Thursday's wet and wild weather might put some people off, but not this team! The Turing team got stuck in from the off and looked to match their opposition's efforts as end-to-end rugby made for a very close game. THS had a narrow lead at the break, but the second half saw the boys dig deep with several displays of impenetrable defence on their own try line. Complete with plenty of attacking intent, the boys closed match out with a 19-5 win. Well done to all involved!



#### Sixth Form Boys Football v Christ's

The Sixth Form football team travelled to Christ's earlier in the week to play their league fixture. The weather made for some testing playing conditions, but that did not deter the boys from giving their all in search of an away win. The Turing team fought hard in the second half to come back from being 2-1 down by half time and they managed to hold the home team to a draw almost until the final whistle. The dying moments of the game saw a lapse in defensive concentration from THS which resulted in a Christ's striker finding the back of the net to secure a win. The game finished 3-2 but the boys can be proud of their efforts. Well done to all involved!

#### **Sports Clubs Term 1 Update**

There are just one or two changes to the sports club provision in this second part of the first term. Girls' rugby is now on Tuesday after school. All girls are welcome from any year group. Girls do not need previous experience and new players are encouraged

to attend, especially if they have enjoyed rugby in PE lessons. Table tennis will commence every Tuesday at lunch time. Students do not need to bring their full PE kit, only trainers. All other term 1 sports clubs resume as normal.

#### **Music Clubs**

We're delighted to share that Turing House is now a Music Mark School for this academic year in recognition for our commitment to enhancing and developing students' musical education. Music Mark is the UK Association for Music Education, championing and supporting access to music for all children and young people. We're thrilled that so many students are taking the opportunity to participate in Music since the start of term, but it's not too late to get involved through any of the following extra-curricular clubs:-

Monday after school - Band Club. Open to all year groups.

Tuesday - Choir (Open to all years)

Friday - Orchestra. Open to all orchestral instrumentalists (Brass, Woodwind, Strings and Percussion) of all standards.

Additionally, Mr Sweeney will be starting a Songwriting club from Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November. This is for students who are interested in composing and mixing sound with Music Technology, and they will be introduced to Logic Pro and GarageBand.

It's fantastic to see so many students taking up the opportunity to learn a musical instrument at Turing House School, yet it's not too late to get started. If



you're interested in signing up for lessons on Guitar, Electric Guitar, Drum Kit, Piano, Vocals, Brass (Trumpet, Trombone), Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello) then please do sign up with

Richmond Music Trust by scanning the QR Code. Lessons come at an additional cost and

significant support is available for low-income families.

# **TAFC U12 Stags and Panthers**



Teddington Athletic Boys U12 teams Stags and Panthers are looking for new players to join their successful Saturday teams.

We are running trials on the 5th and 12th November on

The King's Field in Hampton Wick, and on the 6th and 13th November at Orleans Park School.

For more information and to sign up for a trial please visit our recruitment website:

https://tinyurl.com/mr4a8u36

#### Santa Fun run



# Fundraising event

