



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



Message from Mr O'Sullivan

I am sure that the parents and carers reading this will remember the UK becoming slightly obsessed with nuclear war in the 1980s. Films such as *When the Wind Blows* and *Threads* unsettled me as a child. The leaflet drop 'Don't Die of Ignorance' also created hysteria and panic. However, I do believe that as a child I was largely protected from some of the scarier things in our world from my parents, who ensured I had the correct amount of cultural capital regarding things like the Falklands and Thatcher. Sadly, children today have access through mobile technology to every minute of every bit of news globally whenever they want, making it much harder for parents to control or explain the reality of the world around them. With certain notifications activated, they are even getting news when they might not necessarily want it. A quick analysis of the daily news will confirm that there is rare, is ever, any good news shared. So what does this do to the mental health of our young people, when all they get fed is doom and gloom? Turing House has always been a lovely environment when generally most students will do the right thing to avoid conflict. However, this is not the case when they log on and read the news; conflict and division are everywhere. Human beings are fundamentally the same, regardless of race, colour, religion, sexuality. We all

pop our trousers on one leg at a time! According to the global conflict tracker [Global Conflict Tracker | Council on Foreign Relations \(cfr.org\)](#) there are nearly 30 global conflicts occurring at the moment that will fundamentally

have an impact on the lives of young people. This is a tragedy and once again needs to be considered by all of us when we complain about things that are inconsequential compared to how others are existing. On Thursday next week as we raise funds for UNICEF via a non-uniform day, let's dig deep to support those experiencing conflict and once again be grateful for the hand we have been dealt, doing our utmost to avoid conflict wherever we go. Life is short; be kind to people.



Second Hand Uniform Sale – Sunday 24th March

Shrek Performances – Monday 25th – Wednesday 27th March

Careers Fair – Thursday 18th April

Year 8 HPV Vaccinations – Thursday 25th April

THS Ski trip 2026 - launching soon



Creative Writing competition

Zara in Year 10 won the RET Trust-wide creative writing competition with this beautiful story about Iran, shared below. Well done for such a beautiful piece of work!



There was once a country...I left it as a child, but my memory of it is sunlight clear.

I love my life in London, I love my friends and all the experiences. But it doesn't feel right. It doesn't feel like waking up in Iran to the smell of freshly cooked kebab koobideh and naan bread. Running downstairs to see my Baba reading the stories of Rostam to my brother while my Maman cooks what is bound to be the best food you'll ever eat.

Living in London is a whole different experience. People would never understand we eat brain and tongue sandwiches and call people we love 'liver'. When I get out my feta cheese wraps with mini cucumbers people give me weird looks. If only they gave it a try. What I do love though, is spotting Iranians in public. As soon as I see a woman with dyed-blond hair, a nose job, gold jewellery, designer clothes walking a small white fluffy dog; I look at my mum who's already looking at me and we both say: 'Iranian'.

My journey here from Iran was one that I'll remember forever.

Starting in the dove-white mountains that soared into the sky. Encased in a necklace of white, people skied down through the chill air. I could smell stew being made in a cabin nearby. The next morning, we set off

to the capital. Tehran. Excitement was bubbling inside of me as I could see the city centre on the horizon.

It was a city of narrow avenues and small places to sit and eat, to relax as people went about their day. The sun was hidden behind fluffy clouds, radiating its luminescence into the bazaars. The smell of freshly baked naan wafted past my nose, quickly followed by the greasy touch of smoking lamb kebab making me feel slightly queasy in the summer heat. Shops of all different species stood on either side of the road, selling everything from jewellery to food to poetry books. Large, tattered waggons decorated with a collage of fruit and vegetables were parked beside the street and their owners stood beside them screaming prices like auctioneers. Tehran was exactly how I'd imagined it.

After weeks of travelling through the cobbled streets of Iran, we finally reached the tropical countryside. The sand was the gentlest hue of gold; a place where families gathered to say their last goodbyes. Palm trees stood tall along the beach dancing to the breeze from the waters of the seas. I sat on the cloud-like sand as my little brother rested his head on my shoulder. Trying to stop my tears, I thought back to my childhood and how special it was. This journey had taught me the value of lie and leaving this life behind is for the best, right?

My heart beats louder and louder the further we got away from my home country. Silence was the only noise that came.

Goodbye Iran.

Year 7 Culinary skills

Each day, a lovely group of our Y7 students sit together in the canteen and compare their delicious lunch boxes, which regularly make Miss Nicholson jealous! This inspired a culinary competition between the students, who each cooked up a treat and brought it in for a competition. Here is what the students had to report!

This half term's menu consisted of a delicious variety of homemade food. There were macarons,

carbonara and Thai chicken, all made by Year 7 master chefs, Ruby, Rory, and Freya. Rory's carbonara won the competition with a landslide victory! Ruby's macaroons and Freya's Thai chicken were also delicious, but missed the top spot. Dishes were judged on presentation and taste, which we were more than happy to assist with! We are looking forward to next half term's competition and seeing what everyone can cook up.

Written by Dhriti

Food happily judged by Greta and Florence.



Turing House Friends

Second Hand Uniform Sale

Don't miss out on our upcoming second-hand uniform sale happening on Sunday March 24th from 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM. This is a fantastic opportunity for families to find quality school uniforms at affordable prices. Whether you're looking for PE kit, skirts, trousers, or blazers, we have a good selection available. By purchasing second-hand uniforms, you not only save money but also contribute to sustainability by giving these items a new life. Join us at the school and grab some great deals. We look forward to seeing you there!

Year 9 English

Students in Year 9 English have been enjoying their study of Shakespeare's 'Much Ado About Nothing'. Alongside this, they have been watching clips of some productions of the play. The Globe Theatre in London are putting the play on from April as part of their summer season, and you can get tickets for £5 (standing) or from £24 (seated). We'd really recommend seeing a Shakespeare play at The Globe as it's wonderful preparation for studying Shakespeare at GCSE.

[Much Ado About Nothing | Summer 2024 | What's On | Shakespeare's Globe \(shakespearesglobe.com\)](https://www.shakespearesglobe.com/whatson/2024/summer/much-ado-about-nothing)



Sickness reporting via Studybugs

We would like to encourage all parents/carers to use the Studybugs app for sickness reporting. This feeds directly into our registers and saves us time each morning when accounting for absent students. It's quick and easy to register and automatically reminds you to keep us posted.

If your child is not able to attend school due to illness, please contact us each day before 8.30 am. Please give an indication of the problem and when you expect your child to return to school.

Please download the following link to set up your Studybugs app. <https://studybugs.com/about/parents>

This link can also be found on our school website.



Please get the **free Studybugs app** for reporting your child's absence due to illness.

<https://studybugs.com>

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play | Get it from Microsoft

Report sickness, receive guidance, help improve children's health
See what illnesses are going around
Secure system, all communications encrypted

Working in partnership with: NHS, Department of Health, Public Health England, Epi-Insight

Studybugs

Turing House School Determined Admissions For Arrangements for 2025-26

We would like to advise parents/carers that the Turing House School Determined Admissions Arrangements for Y7 and Sixth Form for September 2025-26 are now available to view on the school website (see links below).

[THS Determined Admissions Policy Year 7 2025.pdf](#)
(turinghouseschool.org.uk)

[THS Determined Sixth Form Admissions Policy 2025.pdf](#) (turinghouseschool.org.uk)

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sports fixtures

Year 9 Boys Rugby v Twyford School

The Year 9 boys made a trip to Acton to take on Twyford School in a rugby union friendly. The boys were partly expecting to be slightly rusty on the pitch as they hadn't played a match for some time now. However, the Turing team were anything but that! They displayed their eagerness to get their hands on the ball, run hard and prove that a friendly match does not necessarily mean an easier match. At the half time break, the boys were up several tries and hadn't conceded a single score. Impressively, they managed to keep that clean sheet going in the second half while adding to the flurry of line breaks leading to some excellent tries. The Year 10 boys face the same

opposition next week - can THS make it two friendly wins from two? Well done to all involved!

Year 8 Boys Basketball Tournament

The Year 8 boys finally received the chance to get stuck into some competitive basketball earlier this week. This came in the form of the borough basketball tournament which saw several schools battle it out for the top spot in the borough. Hampton Boys and Teddington proved too strong for the Turing team on the day, but they regrouped, picked themselves up and battled to muscle-out Richmond upon Thames in a convincing and hard-fought win. Year 8 basketball fixtures to follow shortly so we'll see what progress can be made in the meantime. Well done to all involved!



Year 9 Boys Football v Richmond upon Thames

The Year 9 boys were back in action on the pitch when they played their football fixtures against Richmond upon Thames away this week. The home side looked to disrupt the winning form of this Turing team and there was still a chance that could happen when it was all tied at a goal each at the break. The second half saw the THS team open up to create chances with more promise surrounding them, which they capitalised on as they dug deep and scored on three more occasions, each goal more spectacular than the last. The final result meant that the boys returned to school with a 4-1 win to be proud of. Well done to all involved!



Year 9/10 Girls Football v Waldegrave

The combined Year 9 and 10 girls played in an away match as part of their borough league fixtures this week on the football pitch. They faced an ever-determined Waldegrave side. At the start of the match the Turing team approached cautiously, eager to see how the first half would play out and responded appropriately to any signs of attack from the opposition. Their defensive efforts paid off as the match stood at 0-0 at the break with everything looking fairly level. However, the home side stepped it up a notch in the second half and netted two goals to claim a 2-0 win, but it was still a great THS performance despite the final result. The girls still have one game left to play which will unfold next week when they make the short trip across the road to take on Twickenham. Well done to all involved!

Year 7 Boys Rugby v Christ's School

The Year 7 boys hosted Christ's this week, having had a few weeks' break since their previous match. Once again, a number of keen boys turned up making the most of the home advantage, with the aim of giving everyone a run-out over the duration of the match. It was the away team who got off to the stronger start as they led two tries to one at the break. The Turing team were never out of the race, however, and they scored two tries early on the second half to lead by one. The game continued in similar fashion as both teams enjoyed brief spells in front by a single try, but it was the home side who clinched victory after finding space out wide late on to cross the whitewash as the game finishes six tries to five to THS. Next up is Teddington away. Well done to all involved!



Year 10 Boys Football v Richmond Park Academy

The Year 10 boys took to the pitch for their last football fixture. They hosted Richmond Park Academy in their football borough league. The Turing team spread the ball well to test the opposition early on and were very much still in the fight despite trailing by just one goal at half time. However, the visitors changed up the game plan and found a formation that unlocked the THS defence. The boys will be the first to admit that heads dropped slightly as RPA scored on two more occasions while keeping a second half clean sheet to take a 4-1 win. A tough day in the office for this Year 10 team but the one positive they can take is that no one learns anything when you win, as they say. Well done to all involved!

External Clubs & Notices

Richmond Orchestra | **SPRING CONCERT**

SIBELIUS | **BOSMANS** | **BRAHMS**
 KARELIA SUITE | CONCERT PIECE FOR VIOLIN & ORCHESTRA | SYMPHONY No 3

CONDUCTOR – MARTIN SMITH | SOLOIST & LEADER – MARINA SOLAREK

7.30PM, 23RD MARCH 2024
 ST JOHN THE DIVINE, RICHMOND, TW9 2NA

WWW.WEGOTTICKETS.COM/RICHMONDORCHESTRA
 £15 ADULTS | £12 CONCESSIONS | £6 STUDENTS | £3 UNDER 12S

Richmond Orchestra UK Charity No. 276187 Find us on: [Facebook] [Twitter] [Instagram] A member of: [making music] Supported by: [HERCT]




2024 MULTI-SPORT HOLIDAY CAMPS

Our multi-sport camps provide an enriching, inclusive and welcoming environment for all children to learn and have fun.

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Easter:
Tuesday 2nd - Friday 5th April
Monday 8th - Friday 12th April

Children learn up to 15 sports per week including athletics, gymnastics, football, frisbee, mini-golf, cricket and more!

Day bookings
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FREE VOLUNTEER COURSE

JOIN HOME-START'S VOLUNTEER NETWORK

Do you have parenting experience and a few hours spare each week? Local charity Home-Start is offering a free volunteer training course to provide emotional and practical support to parents with pre-school children facing challenging times.

Interested? Contact Erin Laybourne
erin@homestart-rkh.org.uk or 07884 536161.
Registered charity no: 1108975.



HAMPTON WICK



THURSDAYS, 9TH MAY - 20TH JUNE
(NOT HALF TERM 30TH MAY)



9:45AM - 2:30PM

TWICKENHAM ROWING CLUB

JUNIOR ROWING COURSES

AGE 12-16



JOIN US! REGISTER ONLINE

LEARN TO ROW COURSE
01/04 - 05/04
12:30 - 5:00PM

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Hounslow and Richmond Community Healthcare NHS Trust

Measles cases are rising

Are you fully protected?

You need two doses of the MMR vaccine to be fully vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella.

To book an appointment, call 020 3691 1019



Search HRCH Children's Immunisations for more information