

# HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



#### Message from Mrs Harper

As we are all wondering what has happened to our summer weather this year, the summer term at Turing House continues at a pace. Today our year 11s sat the last of their core GCSE exams leaving only options subjects to go. Meanwhile many of our A'Level students are still in the midst of their exams. We are so proud of all our students taking exams, their dedication and behaviour continues to impress us. Before every exam the students wait for the start in the canteen. We see them arrive, take out their resources and studiously make the most of revising with their friends, actually looking like they are excited and prepared for the exam ahead. We are also beginning to miss their presence around the school, which feels altogether a quieter place, as they only attend for their exams.

In other work, the connections we are making with our new year 7 cohort waiting in the wings for September are growing as we get out to meet more and more of them in their last term as year 6s. Some students are the only one from their school coming to

us and they are invited to a fun afternoon to get to know us next week. In total we have 24 feeder schools this year!

In our 24<sup>th</sup> May edition of the newsletter, Mr O'Sullivan wrote about how he and other local Headteachers were preparing to cycle to the Headteachers' conference, held in Poole, Dorset. The ride was to raise funds for the Bee-lieve Foundation which supports positive mental health for young people in South East England. I am delighted to tell you that Mr O'Sullivan reported in to us, worn out but pleased that he had ridden the 102 miles to Poole. We are really proud of him especially as this is his first big bike ride since his bike accident in November last year.

If you would like to support this endeavour, you can visit the JustGiving page for Richmond and Kingston Headteachers to learn more about the campaign, Bee-lieve, and how you can contribute. Whether through a donation or by spreading the word, every contribution is greatly appreciated.



Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June – Year 13 leavers assembly

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June – Year 10 Army Day

Wc 24<sup>th</sup> June – Year 12 work experience week

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Year 8 trip to the Natural History Museum

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Year 11 leavers assembly

#### **Turing House Friends**

### Donate Your Second-Hand Uniforms and Revision Books!

As the school year winds down, we're reaching out for a little help from our amazing school community. Got any second-hand school uniforms that are still in good shape? We'd love to take them off your hands! We're specifically looking for branded items that are in good - excellent condition.

If we gather enough uniforms, we'll host a fun sale before the end of term. It's a win-win – clear out your wardrobes and grab some great deals on uniforms for next year!

But that's not all! For those wrapping up their exams, if you have any revision books (like CGP guides, unused workbooks, or flashcards) you no longer need, we'd be thrilled to take those too. They can be a huge help to younger students gearing up for their studies. Donations can be dropped off at the school office marked for Turing House Friends. Thank you for your support.

#### Choirs Connect

Our school choir took part in Richmond Music Trust's "Choirs Connect" event where ourselves and a number of local schools came together and shared our love of vocal music. The students performed 'When I Grow Up' from Matilda with some fantastic solos from Ida, Alice, Sophie, Raffi and Olyver. Our next concert is on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July when we'll be joining Richmond Orchestra in their 'Night at the Musicals' concert. Tickets are available now from the Landmark Arts Centre, Teddington.



#### LAMDA certificate

Well done to Lily F in Year 7 who has achieved an Acting Grade 3 Solo LAMDA with Distinction.



#### Local History Operation Bushey Park

Did you know that, during World War Two, Bushy Park contained a military base? In fact, this was where Supreme Allied Commander, Dwight D. Eisenhower worked on the plans for D-Day.

Find out more through this link: <u>Operation Bushy</u> Park: Plotting D-Day in a Royal Park | The Royal Parks

#### **Turing House School Mock Elections**

We are gearing up for our mock election, which will take place on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July. In preparation for this, students have been registering to vote in their form times, and they have been attending some voluntary talks by local candidates.

On voting day, students will vote for the Twickenham constituency seat. Six candidates have entered the race for this seat; Munira Wilson (Liberal Democrats), Tom Bruce (Labour), Jonathan Hulley (Conservatives), Alexander Starling (Reform UK), Chantal Lyn Kerr-Sheppard (Greens) and Umair Malik (Workers Party of Britain).

All candidates have been invited to the school to speak with students, and engage in a Q+A session. Students have signed up to attend these optional talks, and this week we hosted Tom Bruce. Students listened to key priorities for Tom, and asked him some questions. Our favourite was a student asking what music album would best represent his campaign (although some students were unsure of who Oasis are).

Next week, Munira Wilson and Alexander Starling are due to visit the school to conduct similar talks. We are awaiting a response from the other three parties, but hope they can also visit so that students can gain a wider understanding of the political parties in the UK, and our political system.

Students will also have tutor time sessions delivered in the run-up to the election outlining our voting system and giving an overview of the main UK political parties.



#### **Esher College Open Evening**



#### Open Evening – Monday 1 July 2024

Our Open Evening will take place on Monday 1 July from 4.30 – 8.00pm. This event is a great opportunity for Year 10 students and their parents/carers to visit our departments, speak with current students and teachers and get a feel for the College. Throughout the evening, they will also have the opportunity to hear our Principal's Talk and find out about our student services by visiting our Learning Resource Centre. Tickets for the Open Evening can be booked online via our website.

#### Applications Open - Tuesday 2 July 2024

Following the Open Evening, students who wish to apply for a place in September 2025 can submit their applications from 2 July 2024. The application window will remain open throughout the summer and will close at midday on Monday 30 September 2024. All applications are made online via our website.

If any of your students require further information about the application process all the details, they need can be found on our website Esher Sixth Form College. We hope this is of value and we look forward to welcoming your students at our Open Evening in July.

#### Friends of Cathja and Mental Health

#### What is mental health?

Mental health is a state of mental well-being that enables people to cope with the stresses of life, realise their abilities, learn well, work well, and contribute to their community. It is a vital component of well-being that affects our individual and collective abilities to make decisions, build relationships and shape the world we live in. Mental health is a basic human right. It is crucial to personal, community and socioeconomic development. – (Google Definition)

Mental health issues affect lots of people, in fact one in 6 people either know someone (or themselves) who are affected by mental health illnesses or problems.

#### Who are friends of Cathja?

Friends of Cathja are a free service that provide a safe space where people who suffer with poor mental health can be themselves, freely explore their creativity by creating art pieces (see their website for personal testimonials) and talk about how mental health has affected their lives in a safe space, unjudged, and with people who have been through the same experiences as them.

"On these days, my wife tells me to get myself down to the workshop. I don't have to ask but just show up. I am not quizzed about how I am feeling but just welcomed. It always works and I go home feeling better. Knowing Cathja is there whenever I need it is the most important thing for me – and my family" James

#### How can you help?

During this term, (Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June) 2 students in 9L are participating in a sponsored silence in support of Friends of Cathja to raise money and awareness for this wonderful charity. This is part of our campaign for First Give. We will share a donation link with you very soon so you can help us reach our fundraising goal. In the meantime, please share this article with people you know to spread awareness for Friends of Cathja (https://www.cathja.org/).

By Alice and Demi in 9L

#### Geography books needed

In the Geography Department we are currently building our library of books/magazines/journals



linked to the subject to support literacy and also to help inspire our students.

If you have any books that are collecting dust that you don't need at home (or know of people that might) we would be incredibly grateful for any donations.

Particular favourites of our students include books by Tim Marshall, National Geographic, Travel Guides, student atlases, and general interest books on fascinating places.

#### RSPCA photography competition



#### Student Sporting Success

Congratulations to Year 8 student Aggy C, who was selected to represent Richmond in the London Games on the football pitch this past weekend. Aggy helped the team win their group but agonisingly lost in the quarter finals against Bromley by just one goal. Aggy played a key part for the team, being on the pitch for almost all of their games and scoring a goal. Well done Aggy!

#### **Sporting Fixtures**

#### **Borough Sports Championship Trials**

Well done to every student who took part in the athletics trials for the Borough Sports Championship after school on Wednesday. It was great to see so many students looking to represent THS and the PE Department. As always, the effort on display was a reflection of the determination and overall positive attitude we often see in PE and we can't wait to compete against the other schools in the borough on the main stage in a few weeks time.

#### Year 7/8 Boys Rounders v Richmond upon Thames

A team of Year 7 and 8 boys made their way into the Turing House history books this week - the school's first ever boys' rounders fixture went ahead against Richmond upon Thames. This was a result of the popular uptake of the after-school rounders club each Monday which is open to boys and girls. Not only did the boys put on a fantastic display of rounders prowess, but they scored a massive 17.5 rounders against the opposition which was more than enough to claim this historic win. Well done to all involved!



#### Year 7/8 Girls Rounders v Twickenham

The Year 7/8 girls faced Twickenham at home this week on the rounders pitch, in search of a comeback from a previous fixture that left them marginally defeated. The Turing team did exactly that as a very

close game played out but the girls battled hard to edge out the opposition and achieve a win by 1.5 rounders. The girls are up against Richmond Park Academy next, but they will have the opportunity to regroup in Monday's training beforehand. Well done to all involved!

#### Year 9/10 Girls Rounders v Twickenham

It was a good day for girls' rounders as the combined Year 9 and 10 team also took on Twickenham and completed the second rounders win of the week for THS. The Turing team scored 16.5 rounders to the opposition's 8 rounders with some strong and tactical running at the bases. The girls will go into their next fixture in a weeks' time, which is against Richmond park Academy, full of deserving confidence after such a positive performance and look to build further winning momentum from there. Well done to all involved!



Year 7 Boys Football v Hampton High

A group of Year 7 boys were treated to an out-of-season friendly football match earlier this week when they travelled to Hampton High. While cricket, rounders and athletics are the prevailing sports this term, it was great to see the enthusiasm for football hadn't been reduced by any means as the Turing team got stuck in and played some brilliant football. The nature of the friendly game meant that no one really kept the score but what was noted was the positive

attitudes and manner in which the boys conducted displayed. Well done to all involved!



#### Parent session – County Lines

The MET Police Central Youth Team, are currently running a project, offering <a href="#FREE and online">FREE and online</a>, <a href="#parent/">parent/</a> <a href="#carerengagement webinars">carer engagement webinars</a> in partnership with IVISON Trust. The sessions will give advice to parents/ carers, on how to spot signs of <a href="#County-Lines">County Lines</a>, gang affiliation, grooming and exploitation. The input will include a lived experience speaker who will explain how they themselves or their children,

will explain how they themselves or their children, became involved with gangs and exploitation.

The session for the **West London boroughs**(Hillingdon, Ealing, Hounslow, Wandsworth, Merton, Kingston, Richmond, Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea, Hammersmith & Fulham) will take place on **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June, 6.30pm – 7.30pm.** 



#### **External Clubs and Notices**





Can your child swim a minimum of 25 meters confidently and perform safe self-rescue?

Pools on the Park and Teddington Pool and Fitness Centre are providing a new pilot Summer Splash programme this summer, specifically for children in school years 5, 6 and 7 who are not able to swim 25m confidently and perform safe self-rescue. Please visit this link for more details and to start your application: Summer Splash - London Borough of Richmond upon Thames.



## Summer Splash Free Swim Crash Courses



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COACH

RICHMOND NETBALL CAMP



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Fun and Outdoor friendly venue



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25TH & 26TH JULY TIFFIN GIRLS SCHOOL, KT2

29TH & 30TH AUGUST GREY COURT SCHOOL, TW10

9.00AM - 12NOON

SCHOOL YEARS 3-10 (SPLIT AGE GROUPS)

**BOOK HERE** 



www.netballcoachuk.com/camps