



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



Headteacher's message

It has been another packed week at Turing House, that following another successful open evening last week. We were delighted that we continue to be incredibly popular; we even had to stream my Headteacher talk into two science rooms this year due to the number of visitors. As always, our students shone the brightest with one parent writing in to say *'we had so many wonderful exchanges with different students last night. They were unfailingly polite, attentive and most impressively of all, they were individuals. They had character; they were not robotic; they clearly are encouraged to be the best versions of themselves.'* I would like to personally thank all the students involved, particularly Arthur and Sophia in Year 7 for their wonderful speeches and the Sixth Formers that managed the streaming rooms. I am sure their resilience was built having to listen to my speech four times! Our open mornings have also been successful this week. It was lovely to see the families of our Year 9 students on Thursday evening as we presented our annual 'Preparation for KS4' event. It was great to see how engaged everyone was in

supporting their child as they transition to KS4 during this academic year. This week we also completed our regular fire drill and I am delighted to pass on that the



students were exemplary in ensuring that this ran smoothly.

Special thanks this week goes to [Tony Gee](#) in Esher who have once again continued their commitment to promote active travel and keep kids safe. They have kindly donated some Hi-Viz straps and some excellent bike helmets for students who don't have one. Here are a couple of lovely comments from some students that tried them out:

'Thank you so much, these high viz straps will be useful when it gets darker and I'm riding home from school.'

'Wow, I love the helmets, they have an inbuilt light! It will keep me safe on my way home.'



Finally, as mentioned later in the newsletter, if you do get a chance, please take a moment to look at the fantastic photography from Toby in Year 10 here [Lensograph](#). He will have an amazing career in this field.



Thursday 17th October – Sixth Form Open Evening
 Thursday 7th November – Years 7-9 Flu Vaccinations
 Friday 8th November – Years 10 & 11 Flu Vaccinations

Coding and Gaming Club

We are delighted to see so many students participating in our Coding and Gaming club this year. Our lunchtime club has become so big, it now has two computer rooms, two members of staff and nearly 50 members!

We are keen to support those coming to develop their skills and are on the hunt for some students in the club to become 'Coding Coaches'. We are looking for Y9 students who have developed their skills already to support the club by offering 10 minutes at the beginning of a few sessions to help newer students with ideas or to create their code.

As a Coding Coach, you'll get some bonus rewards for helping out and know you are giving back to the school too. Anyone interested can ask Mrs Hickman for more information in their next session. Well done all on making this a great club!



Why attendance matters



We aim for every student's attendance to be at 96% or above!

Ski 2026 is now live



THS Ski 2026 is now live on ParentPay for students in Y7 & 12! For more information, please refer to the letter sent home via email. Deadline for deposit is Friday 11th October.

Sixth Form Open Evening

We look forward to welcoming prospective Turing House Sixth Form students and their families to our Sixth Form Open Evening on **Thursday 17th October 2024**, from **6pm**. We invite you to take a tour with our current Sixth Form students around our amazing departments to see what we offer at post-16 study.

The Headteacher and Head of Sixth Form will be hosting talks at 30-minute intervals from 6.30pm. Should you like to join us for this event, please scan the QR code below.



Or click this [link](#)

Poetry week

Thursday 3rd October was National Poetry Day. We marked this across the school by reading and sharing poems on a range of different topics. Some students created these beautiful blackout poems.



School Photographer

Toby R (Year 10) is our school photographer. However, he is also developing his own work outside

of school - including having worked on the upcoming Bridget Jones 4!

He has just launched a website featuring his work and it truly is amazing. Many of our staff have enjoyed looking through and seeing the unbelievable standard of photography. Toby's even selling his digital copies there too.

Please feel free to have a look if you get a spare second: [Lensograph](#)

English Literary Review

Nettles: A Strikingly Sharp Story, reviewed by Casper W, Year 12

The renowned Vernon Scannell managed to gracefully evoke a sense of responsibility with his poem 'Nettles'. It recalls a memory of a parent finding his son injured from falling into a bed of nettles, with the parent taking measures to ensure this event does not happen again, however to no avail.

What was particularly poignant about this poem is that it reveals the true nature of parenthood. The child is injured due to lack of knowledge around the danger and even when the parent gets rid of the problem, it only comes back, with the likelihood of his son being injured again being very high. This situation can apply to any danger, offering a unique overall perspective on the idea of responsibility. Nettles' rhyme scheme follows a more traditional pattern, almost telling the tale like a fairytale, making it highly pleasant to follow. With the final line 'My son would often feel sharp wounds again' it strikes me as meaning that the responsibility of parents for their children is perpetual, which resonates deeply with many parents across the planet.

With that being said, there's a few things I would like to address around the cons of this poem: personally, I see poems to be like puzzles, and the wartime themes of Nettles are far too rudimentary and obvious to me. Poets tend to hide themes within the lines of their poems, however the concept of war sticks out like a sore thumb, as we say. As well as this, the themes, given the context, are rather bleak. Considering that this is based around raising a kid, the theme can also be considered a bit of a stretch to some extent. Generally, the use of simple words and phrases are

sweet and suit the text, but some could see it as shallow and not really letting the reader challenge themselves.

Overall, 'Nettles' is very allegorical when you read between the lines, leaving us with a new perspective on parenting, though some can consider it to be bleak. This poem does exceptionally well at engaging with the reader, earning it a 9/10.

Craft Club update

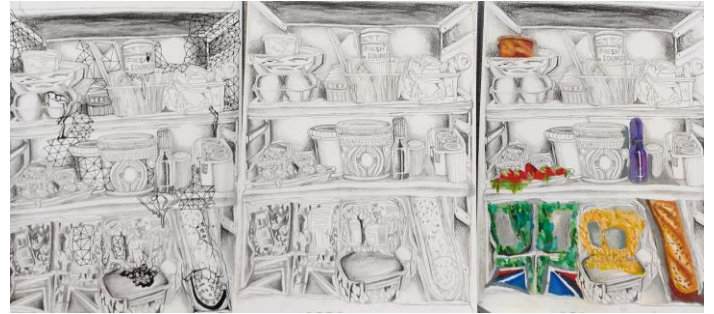
This week in Craft Club, we spent Tuesday painting our models, which had mostly dried out over the weekend. We then started a new craft on Thursday, which is paper mosaics. Mrs Hicks searched around the school for scrap cardboard for the backing squares and had some help from a few students cutting thousands of tiny squares of scrap paper for the mosaic tiles. We will finish the mosaics on Tuesday - anyone is welcome, as always!



European Day of Languages & Macmillan Cancer support cake sale

On Friday 27th September to celebrate the European day of languages, lots of Year 7 and 8 students participated in a bake sale and baked European themed cakes. Miss Shilton nominated Maria H for 1st place for the best cake design. Maria designed a cake that looked like a stack of different language dictionaries! Meera P and Kaira B came 2nd due to their creative Parisian themed desserts. Below are pictures of some of the amazing cakes and desserts. Well done, Year 7 and 8, for your dedication and amazing baking skills!





Year 12 Art

Our Year 12 Art, Craft and Design students have just finished their first project and have produced lots of brilliant and diverse outcomes. Students were tasked to select a sentimental object and produce 20 pieces of art based on their item, all made through a theme of their choosing. It has been amazing to see their incredible work ethic, attitudes and independence blooming already.

Sixth Form updates



Last Friday, the Sixth Form leadership team organised two successful events. The first was the Macmillan Coffee Morning Cake Sale, in which we raised £223.85, the most we have ever raised. This would not have been possible without the excellent contributions of cakes from across the year groups.



After school, we held a Staff vs Students netball match, which was won by the students in their first ever victory. The final score was 6-3 to the students (bad luck Mr Quigley). Well done to all who took part!



Year 7 Bingo Night



TURING HOUSE FRIENDS (PTA)

THF welcomes Y7 families to:

Y7 Bingo Night

Tuesday 15th October, 6.30pm for 7pm start
Turing House School

Tickets: £3 per adult; £2 per child (under-6s free)
 soft drinks and snacks will be on sale
 Book Tickets [Here](#)



Sporting fixtures

Year 8 Boys Rugby v Teddington

The Year 8 boys had their second rugby game in the borough league, this time coming up against Teddington. With the weather doing a complete U-turn compared to the previous match day conditions, a cold and wet grudge match played out on the

muddy battlefield. Last year this game finished 0-0 so the Turing team were determined to put that right this time round. Despite finding themselves two tries down early in the second half, the boys led a mighty comeback which was a testament to their character, going on to win the game five tries to three. They now wait to find out who they will play from the other side of the pool which will form the league semi-final match. Well done to all involved!



U13 Table Tennis Tournament

A team of Year 8 students took part in the borough table tennis tournament earlier in the week which was attended by students in this age group from a number of local schools. As ever, the tournament delivered fast-paced games and high skill level at every table as this is often one of the most competitive tournaments in the fixture calendar. With first and second teams representing their school, both Turing teams did exceptionally well in doing so. They proudly contested their way to respective second places overall! Well done to all involved!



The year 7 & 8 girls played two great matches this week against Twickenham and Waldegrave. Against Twickenham, the girls battled hard and with some near chances and brilliant saves the game ended scoreless with a 0-0 draw. Waldegrave came out the blocks flying and capitalised with a few great goals. In the second half though Turing came out and proved to be a match for the strong Waldegrave side. Unfortunately, it wasn't enough as Waldegrave came out victorious. The girls will go back to training in preparation for their final two games in the league, looking to end the season with some wins.

Year 11 football

The Year 11 football team started their season off with a comfortable win over Twickenham. The team played well, keeping their structure and formation tight allowing free flowing football to be played. Turing were comfortable on the ball and a strong team effort paid off. We are looking forward to our other upcoming games in the Borough cup and Surrey league.

