



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



Headteacher's message

Whilst the school continued to run as normal this week with its usual packed programme, the main focus was on the Ofsted inspection that took place on Tuesday and Wednesday. I look forward to sharing the report when it comes out (more than likely in January 2025). I must, however, convey my appreciation to the 309 parents and carers that took the time to respond to the survey and the 171 families that made specific comments to the inspection team. As I have said before, we want your children to get the best possible education and this will always be achieved by recruiting and retaining the best teachers. The best teachers and support staff want to work in the best school, so the overwhelming positivity you showed in the survey was well received. The staff at THS all want every success for your children and work as hard as they can, and it was lovely to see that this is recognised by you. I have popped the headline figures here and as always, we will reflect on areas we can move things forward.



1. **My child is happy at this school.** 98%
2. **My child feels safe at this school.** 98%
3. **The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.** 96%
4. **My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.** 75% - child has not been bullied; 4% - agree; 11% strongly agree
5. **The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.** 95%
6. **When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.** 32% - no concerns; 47% strongly agree; 14% agree
7. **My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.** 88%
8. **The school has high expectations for my child.** 96%
9. **My child does well at this school.** 96%
10. **The school lets me know how my child is doing.** 93%
11. **There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.** 97%
12. **My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.** 97%
13. **The school supports my child's wider personal development.** 94%
14. **I would recommend this school to another parent.** 98%

Our children were exemplary during the two days and showed the inspectors a desire for learning and a drive to be successful. They all embodied the Turing Values of Leadership, Modesty, Curiosity, Creativity and Perseverance. I would also like to thank the staff for their huge commitment during the inspections, particularly the early morning arrivals, very late departures and the way they coped with the stress of it all.

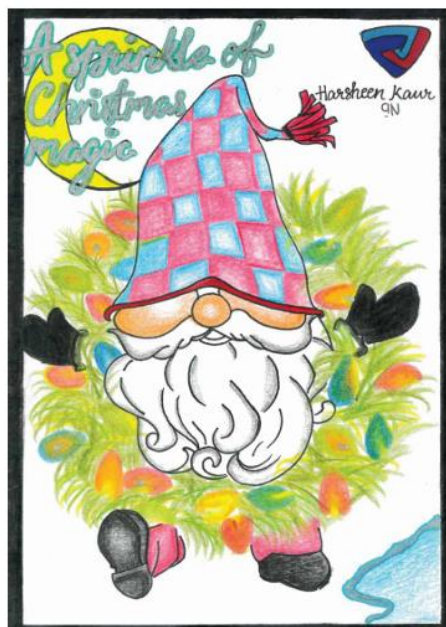
Surrounded by the additional stress of Ofsted, we continued to ensure we looked at the important things for the children and can now announce the winner and runners up of this year's Christmas card competition. I was delighted by the standard which has increased each year. I am sure the competition will be even more intense next year. Well done to our winners!



Overall Winner – Jasper B, Year 9



Runner up – Aneira E, Year 8



Runner Up – Harsheen K, Year 9



Runner Up – Lani W, Year 8



Runner Up - Florence M, Year 8

Journalist visit

This week we had Mollie Perrella in to speak to some Y9s, Y11s taking part in Sixth Former For a Day, and all media studies Sixth Form students.

Mollie gave students insightful knowledge of her career pathway in radio broadcasting. Citing personal experiences, coupled excellent advice, Mollie described in detail her educational journey through KS3 to KS5 from Orleans Park school, finishing with her university experience. For Media Studies students her 'on the day' job discussion linked directly to the themes they study in relation to radio, the BBC and its responsibilities, the importance of the audience and engaging with listeners as well as understanding your interviewees and their personal context. Mollie delivered her sessions with ease and really enjoyed taking questions from the students. Next time she comes in she hopes to be able to inform students of the latest celebrities she has interviewed!



10 th December	Year 7 online information evening
19 th December	Christmas lunch

A-level Poet

Thomas H (Y12) has continued with his creative streak and is producing more beautiful poetry that we want to share with you. He even managed to hand a copy of this particular poem straight to poet laureate Simon Armitage this week, who was speaking at a conference our A-level students attended! We're loving the idea of having our own in-house Bard!

*Honestly, I'm scared for what the future may bear
a rooted feeling of inevitable despair.
I'm sincerely scared if the next world will be fair.
I don't know if we will make it there.*

Humanity at present is a participatory peace of paper:

*Crumpled and wrinkly, filled and spilled to its margins, ready to rip and tear.
Black and Purple ink, smudged and scribbled leaving only small specks of purity on our side of the paper.
The footprints of carbon and capitalists have indefinitely muddied the icy sheet.
Very soon the paper will have to flip and flick, before our culture turns to Vapour.*

*This time the paper will be pre-emptively smudged, clouded with our digital footprints.
Will we exist in the cloud?
Unable to think or be heard in the loudness will we speak and write or be constricted and constrained to text?
Will we consume clout until we reach the other side?
Will we even move onto the next?*

Or will we stay rooted to the paper?

*We are small yet significant A slithering slice of the universal tree forever growing greener and greater.
Doomed. It's perfectly ample, our disobedience has banished - no. Barred? No. Blocked!
Us from paradise.
On his planet, to survive and thrive you feel like you must don a disguise
You. In reality, to survive and thrive need only to ingest, inject and die gest:
Ingest Food
Inject News*

And Digest the trinity of philosophy religion spirituality. Those make me blessed, chaperoning me on my quest, to do the best.

Father, will you rescue them with the blue beam of the Rapture?

OR will Technology trespass? Abandoning them at the scrapyard.

Beware, for I am the Bard.



Why attendance matters

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



Year 7 Flamenco Workshop

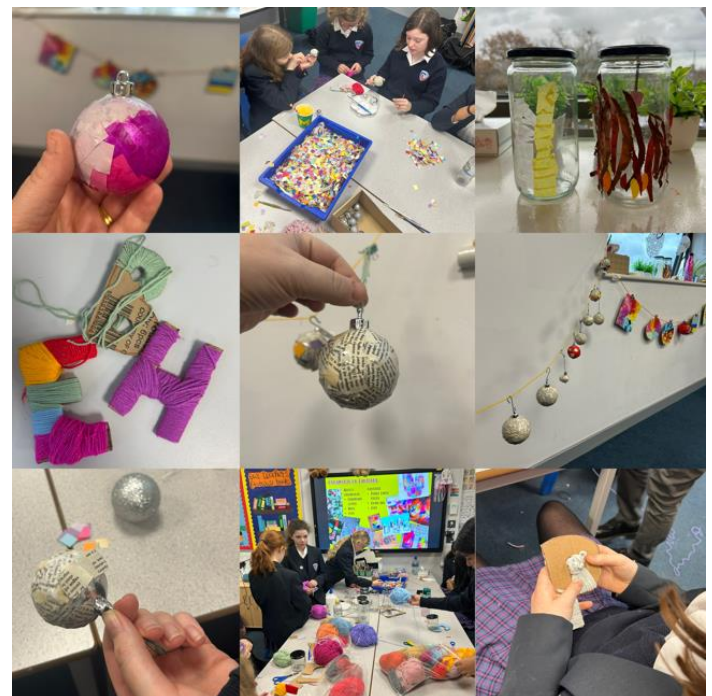
On Wednesday 4th December, the whole of Year 7 took part in a Flamenco workshop organised by Señorita Expósito. By the end of the lesson, they had learnt a full dance routine. They also learnt about the origins, history, traditions, and culture of Flamenco in the south of Spain. ¡Qué divertido!



Craft Club Update

We have had another busy week in Craft Club.

On Tuesday, students began making yarn wrapped initial decorations, as well as decorating glass jars with tissue paper to make lanterns. The Wellbeing Wednesdays group also used glass jars to make lanterns and incorporated leaves too. On Thursday, we used some old second-hand baubles and a discarded dictionary to make literary themed tree decorations. We will be continuing with the Christmas crafts next week!



TfL Pioneer Ambassadors

18 enthusiastic Year 8s came together to form the TfL Pioneer Ambassadors. This group are working with the TfL to improve the way that students travel to and from school, keeping them and the community safe. They are also looking at how we as a school can minimise our carbon footprint on the world. They are being supported by Mr Evans and three enthusiastic Year 12s. The group had their first session last week where they identified their goals for the school. This week they have been working on designing an assembly for the Year 7s and developing their presentation skills.



Christmas Carol

On Wednesday, Mr Hopkins and 21 Year 11 Drama students went to the Old Vic Theatre for a brilliant performance of A Christmas Carol. The students

(and staff!) had a great time and left feeling very Christmassy!

Sixth Form update



Sixth Former for a day

On Wednesday, the Year 11s became 'Sixth Formers for a day'. This was an opportunity for them to experience Sixth Form life. The day was a great success, and we feel confident that this has helped with their decisions about post-16 courses. South Thames College Group also visited



and provided sessions on a choice of 4 BTEC courses that they offer. The students were treated to a lovely lunch in the Sixth Form Common Room which seemed to go down well too! Prizes were given for the smartest dressed, along with a lunchtime Quiz offering an Amazon voucher for the winners. Each student attended a session where some Team Building activities took place, challenging students to build the highest structure using newspaper and Sellotape. They seemed to have a lot of fun doing this.

Kingston University donation

Kingston University Donates Microscopes to Our School

In a remarkable gesture of support for science education, Kingston University geology department has generously donated a set of high-quality microscopes to our school. This donation is set to significantly enhance our science department and STEM club, providing students with the opportunity to engage in more hands-on and detailed scientific investigations.

Kingston University's donation helps bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. These items are significantly different from the items already at Turing House School and will give a marvellous opportunity to experience different pieces of apparatus. This not only enriches students' learning experience but also prepares them for future academic and professional pursuits in the sciences.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Kingston University for their generous contribution. Their support underscores the importance of community partnerships in enhancing educational opportunities. This donation will undoubtedly inspire our students to pursue their interests in science with renewed enthusiasm and dedication.

Sporting fixtures

Year 8 Boys Rugby v Orleans Park

The Year 8 boys kicked off Tuesday's busy night of league final matches, which THS featured in three of the four finals taking place. The boys were up against Orleans Park and, being the defending champions, they did not want to give up the top spot for a second. Despite being given just five minutes to warm up, the men in blue got off to a strong start and kept the opposition pinned in their own half for the whole first section of the match. After going into the break three tries up, the second half continued in the same dominating style. Orleans Park made a rare visit into the THS 22 zone at one stage but were swiftly closed

down by yet another wall of Turing tackles. Having repeatedly won back possession, the ball was distributed out to the fast men on the wings and the flurry of tries continued to secure the win... all without conceding a single score. This is the first Turing team ever, from any sport, to win back-to-back league titles and it was great to see so many proud parents out to support as well! Well done to all involved!



Year 10 Boys Rugby v Orleans Park

The Year 10 boys faced Orleans Park in their league final this week at Richmond Rugby Club, with the league title up for grabs. The last time these two teams met, the Turing team scored a winning try in the final play of the game, only for it to be disallowed, so both teams were well and truly up for round two. A close battle ensued for much of the first half, with the opposition up by just one try at half time. The second half of the game saw some excellent THS breaks of the gain line but unfortunately it was the opposition who were able to exploit the gaps and capitalise on a sleeping defence. One more try added a final three-tries-to-one blow for THS at the final whistle, but the boys can be very proud of their performance. Well done to all involved!



Year 11 Boys Rugby v St Richard Reynolds

The Year 11 boys concluded the evening of rugby finals this Tuesday when they faced St Richard Reynolds with the winner taking the top spot in the league. A familiar opposition, it's no secret how strong a side they are but the Turing team were out to offset the norm. The game started evenly until two SRR tries gave the impression of a one-sided game. However, the Turing team bounced back with two well-worked tries of their own mid-way through the second half, but it was too little too late as they still trailed by two when the match ended. It wasn't the result the boys set out to achieve but they never looked like giving up and could be proud of their efforts overall. The boys have a friendly match next week against Hampton Boys B team and some will be involved in the Sixth Form game on Friday 6th so there is still plenty to play for. Well done to all involved!



Year 9 Boys Football v Glyn School

The Year 9 boys were back in action in the Surrey Cup earlier this week, which is the highly popular and competitive straight knockout football tournament with a huge participation rate. On this occasion, the Turing team were up against Glyn School based in Ewell. A tough start for both teams saw it all even by the time half time came around. The second half proceeded in a similar manner as both teams managed to score, ending regular time in a 3-3 draw. The search for a winner in extra time began but the two sides didn't want to let either one in behind their back line, closing down scoring opportunities and being tactical with possession retention. The match ended in a nervy penalty shootout to determine the winner and the boys proved why they were worthy of

the next opponent, staying calm and coming out on top in the end. Well done to all involved!



Year 10 Boys Football v The Winston Churchill School

The Year 10 boys got their week off to a winning start on the football pitch. They made the journey to Woking to take on sports a specialist school, The Winston Churchill School, in the Surrey Cup. The losing team faced termination from the competition so the boys made sure of their progress into the next round by making a statement of intent with the clean sheet that they kept for the entire game. Not only did their defence hold up each time it was being tested, but the boys came together nicely in midfield, finding the space and feeding the ball into the gaps for the men up front to exploit. Such chances were converted into goals as the final result was 4-0 to THS. They will soon find out who they play next in the tournament. Well done to all involved!

Year 12 Sports Studies at Thames Young Mariners

Last Tuesday, the Year 12 Sport Studies cohort took a trip to Thames Young Mariners on a bright and crisp winter's morning where they spent half the day soaking up some outdoor sport. This came in the form

of a kayaking session and was part of their Outdoor Activities unit, which requires them to be assessed when performing and operating in an outdoor activity. The students enjoyed the change of scenery and did a brilliant job at displaying their paddling skills, as well as their knowledge of the correct safety procedures.



Year 7 Girls Football v Richmond upon Thames

The Year 7 girls hosted Richmond upon Thames earlier in the week on the football pitch. This was their final fixture of their Richmond borough league, so they were hoping to finish on a high by claiming one final win. The match played out in an evenly contested fashion until the visitors unleashed a quick counterattack which saw them take the lead going into the break. The Turing Team really stepped it up a gear in the second half, but it seemed to be one of those days where hitting the target was proving difficult, despite creating some brilliant chances. RTS played one more move late in game to sink the girls in blue and take the win, but they finished their league mid table so by no means the worst outcome for their first secondary school football league. Well done to all involved!

Year 7 Boys Rugby League Tournament

Last week, the Year 7 boys got a taste of some rugby while they wait for all their union matches to kick off after the Christmas break. The tournament came in the form of the other code, rugby league, and they were taking on Teddington and Richmond upon Thames, with the winning team going on to represent Richmond in the regional stages of the competition. The Turing team lost to Teddington but beat Richmond upon Thames, finishing second in a physical and testing afternoon. To build on the enthusiasm for rugby, Year 7 students will have a chance to play a match next Tuesday after school against each other. This is open to any students who wish to take part - all they have to do is bring their PE kit (and gum shield) and turn up! Well done to all involved!



Year 10/11 Boys Basketball v Christ's

A team of Year 10 and Year 11 students recently travelled to Richmond to play Christ's in a Richmond league basketball match. One of the more prominent teams in this league, the opposition looked organised as always. That wasn't enough to discourage the Turing team, however, as there is no challenge too small for them. Some sharp shooting from both sides meant that the first two quarters were fairly even. The hosts slowly started to open up a bit of a gap on the scoreboard in the first quarter, but THS remained in the game, until Christ's ran away with it in the fourth and final quarter. They had a slight edge with their shooting accuracy under fatigue and as a result, the match concluded with a score of 55-33 to the home side. A great game was had regardless of the outcome and some of these boys will be back in action in the Dynamik league next week. Well done to all involved!

Year 10/11 Girls Basketball v Twickenham

Last week, a combination of Year 10 and Year 11 girls headed to Twickenham School to face them on the basketball for their league match-up. The Turing team were a little out of practice and were caught napping in the first quarter, suffering a crushing blow on the scoreboard. The girls gave themselves a talking to before the second quarter and they managed to make up for previous errors with accurate passing and a concentrated effort in defence. By the end of the match, too much damage had been caused to avoid a loss, but the girls could be proud of their comeback efforts despite the early laps in concentration. The girls will regroup and then go again next week when they come up against Richmond Park Academy. Well done to all involved!

Year 7/8 Girls Football v Orleans Park

A combined Year 7 and 8 girls football team faced Orleans Park at home in the Surrey Cup last week. Looking to go one stage further in the straight knockout tournament, the Turing team knew the size of the challenge they faced with the opposition having a reputation for playing structured, attacking football, but they were up for it, nonetheless. A slow start from both teams meant that the game took a few moments to take off, but eventually Orleans Park netted two goals in quick succession of one another. In the second half, the girls looked to become more creative with their game plan, but they weren't able to shut down an ever-growing attacking force. The final result was a sore one to take but not from a lack of effort. Well done to all involved!

