



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



A Message from Mr O'Sullivan

From 17th–23rd March 2025, schools, workplaces, and communities around the world will take part in Neurodiversity Celebration Week, a global movement designed to challenge misconceptions and celebrate the strengths of neurodivergent individuals.

But what exactly is neurodiversity, and why is it important?

What is Neurodiversity?

The term neurodiversity refers to the natural variations in human brains and thinking styles. Just as biodiversity strengthens ecosystems, neurodiversity enriches society by fostering different ways of learning, problem-solving, and understanding the world.

Neurodivergent individuals may have neurological differences such as:

- Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) – affecting social communication, sensory processing, and thinking styles
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) – influencing focus, impulsivity, and energy levels
- Dyslexia – impacting reading, writing, and language processing but often linked to strong problem-solving skills



- Dyspraxia (DCD) – affecting motor coordination and spatial awareness, but often associated with creativity and determination

- Tourette's Syndrome – involving involuntary movements or sounds, alongside sharp focus and originality

Rather than viewing these differences as “disorders” that need to be fixed, neurodiversity celebrates the strengths that come with thinking differently. Many neurodivergent individuals excel in areas such as creativity, innovation, and resilience — skills that benefit society as a whole.

Why Celebrate Neurodiversity?

Historically, neurodivergence has been misunderstood, with many individuals facing stigma, exclusion, or a lack of support. Neurodiversity Celebration Week aims to challenge stereotypes and create a culture of acceptance.

Research shows that when neurodivergent people are supported in ways that align with their strengths, they thrive — whether in school, the workplace, or creative fields. Some of the world's greatest thinkers and innovators, including Albert Einstein, Steve Jobs, and Greta Thunberg, are believed to be neurodivergent, highlighting the power of different ways of thinking.

Changing perceptions in education and beyond

schools play a vital role in shifting the narrative around neurodiversity. Instead of focusing on what students find difficult, educators and peers can recognise and nurture the unique skills neurodivergent students bring—whether it's out-of-the-box thinking, attention to detail, artistic talent, or problem-solving abilities.



Beyond education, many workplaces and industries are also beginning to embrace neurodiversity as a strength. Companies in technology, design, research, and the arts are actively seeking out neurodivergent talent, recognising the advantages of diverse perspectives.

Neurodiversity Celebration Week is not just about recognising differences; it's about embracing the full spectrum of human potential. By fostering an inclusive mindset, we help all individuals thrive—no matter how their brains work.

For more information, visit www.neurodiversityweek.com.

The first student to click [here](#) and name all the neurodivergent or suspected neurodivergent people in these two images will receive a prize. I will announce the winner in next week's newsletter.



Year 7 Online Parents' Evening	Thursday 20 th March
Red Nose Day	Friday 21 st March

Turing House Friends

We're so excited about the **THF Comedy Night** tonight! We have some amazing comedians courtesy of the **Bearcat Club**, delicious food from **BurmaShack**, and a fantastic raffle. We'd like to give a huge shout-out to the amazing local companies and individuals who have donated prizes to support the school - you are all superstars and we can't do it without you.



Raffle Prizes

- Zero Gravity Twickenham Green - Pilates sessions x 5 worth £140
- TG Hair - £65 voucher - Twickenham
- David Lloyd Hampton - day guest pass for 4 people
- Stevensons £50 uniform voucher - Twickenham
- School Days £50 voucher - Whitton
- Nandos - Vouchers for a meal for 4 - Twickenham
- Sussex Pub - Meal for 2 and a bottle of house wine - Twickenham
- Bearcats Comedy Night Club - tickets for 2 people at the Turks Head St Margarets
- Mathnasium - 2 monthly passes worth £200 each - Twickenham
- Gents Barbers - Free mens haircut- Twickenham
- Sardunya - Voucher for 2 drinks and 2 pastries - Twickenham
- Real Drinks - A case of craft beers from independent breweries
- Limpopo Biltong - Pack of Biltong - Church Street- Twickenham
- Multi Tea- Bubble Tea - £10 voucher x 2- Church Street - Twickenham
- Waterstones- Selection of recent book releases
- Twickenham Green Dry cleaners - £5 vouchers x 10
- Harry Potter - 2 books and poster from MinaLima - Graphic artist
- Louise - Donated a beauty bundle
- Sedi - Donated Moth drinks and 5 bottles of Prosecco

Save the date: Turing House Friends AGM

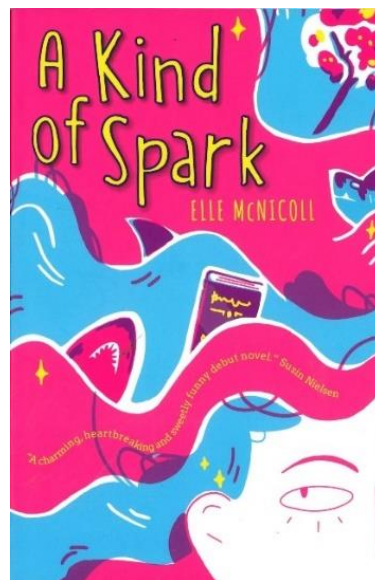
Tuesday 18th March, 7pm on Teams. Keep an eye on MCAS for the link. We'd really appreciate your support; log on to find out what we've been up to and exciting future plans.

World Book Day

Turing House World Book Day 2025 Review Writing Competition Winner: Aoibheann L, Year 7

'A Kind of Spark'

With its modern take on the life, we think we know points of view we're not used to; A Kind of Spark really is the latest sensation in the world of reading. Written from the vantage point of an autistic young girl called Addie, the book captures the need for more awareness about hidden disabilities.



A great option for younger readers who have disabilities or friends with disabilities and older people who want to know more, this book is the perfect match for all ages. This book is also an enjoyable read for teachers who teach those with hidden disabilities.

Despite people's best efforts, the world can be hard for people with ADHD, Dyslexia and Autism. Written by an autistic author named Elle McNicoll who writes from experience of her own childhood, this book really encapsulates the difficulties and troubles faced by those deemed 'different'.

In the book, Addie faces 'challenges' that neurotypical people see as everyday normalities. So when she finds out about witches, she is determined to know more. Even for the neurotypical brain, it is hard to take in that people were accused of being a witch. If left-handedness, acting 'abnormal' and having disabilities meant that you were a witch, would that apply to you? And if it does, what would you do about it? Well, Addie wants to create a monument for those who were tried and hanged, or drowned, as a witch. But being a child with a disability often means your voice is scarcely heard, and if it is, you must fight every moment for it. However, with her sister Keedie and best-friend Audrey by her side, the likelihood her voice will be heard is tripled. Will the trio be able to convince the mean mayor before he stops listening to them altogether?

STEM Club – British Science Week Edition

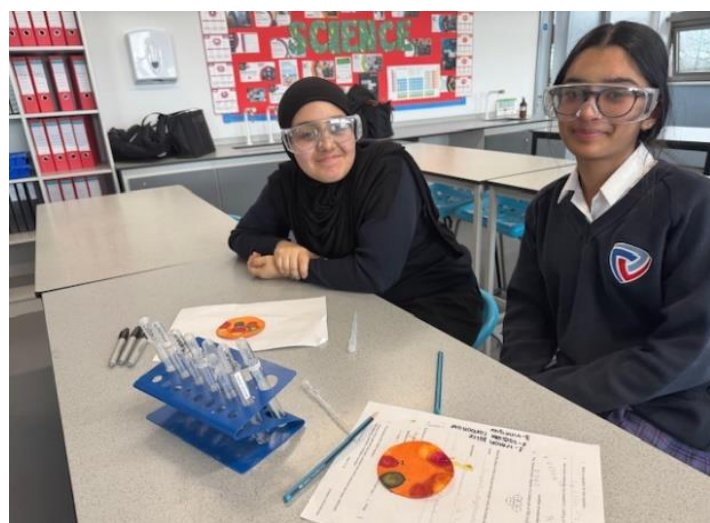
This week, a special edition of STEM club took place which involved Miss Sabharwal and Miss Miesi carrying out lots of exciting demos. We started the session off with flame tests which the students thoroughly enjoyed!

We then moved onto showing demos of the screaming jelly baby, elephants' toothpaste and finally ended with the spectacular methane bubbles! Thank you to all of the students who participated. STEM club happens every Monday after school in the science department so please do come along if you'd like to take part in lots more exciting science!



Celebrating British Science Week 2025

This week we celebrated British Science week! As part of our extracurricular offer students made some colourful neutralisation 'souvenirs' where a variety of everyday substances were put on round filter paper soaked in universal indicator! The next step is to turn these in to personalised coasters which students will take home! Students also made their own lush and fragrant bath bombs using organic essential oils, like mint and lavender. The bath bombs are currently drying but once dried students will also take these home and enjoy a calm relaxing bubble bath! Much deserved after such hard work! Big shoutout to Aleksandra and Amisha both doing A-level chemistry who supported and guided students with the activities.





service where you can get access to healthcare advice at your local pharmacy. Please click on the link below for more details:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/primary-care/pharmacy/pharmacy-services/pharmacy-first/>

International Women's Day

A group of students helped Mrs Hicks make a display of inspirational women, including all of the female staff members in our school. The IWD theme for 2025 is 'Accelerate Action', highlighting the continued importance of taking swift and decisive steps to achieve gender equality. At the current rate of progress, it will take until 2158, which is roughly five generations from now, to reach full gender parity, according to data from the World Economic Forum.

Published Admissions Arrangements for September 2026

Following the recent consultation on the school's admissions policies, the Russell Education Trust have now determined the Admissions Policy and Sixth Form Admissions Policy for the academic year 2026-27.

Published Admissions Arrangements for Year 7 and Sixth Form in September 2026 can be found in the link to our school website below:

[Turing House School Admissions Policy and Data](#)

Why attendance matters

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



If your child has a minor illness and no immediate appointments at your GP surgery, there is a free NHS

Craft Club

This week in Craft Club we embraced Science Week with making chromatography flowers! Students got



very experimental with colours and patterns and we ended up with some beautiful flowers.



Timeout Boxing

On Monday some students took part in a boxing workshop with Timeout Boxing. The physical section of the session primarily focused on boxing technique, discipline and general fitness, allowing students to release negative emotion and build self-confidence. The verbal section saw students run through a cool down led by their coach, whilst having verbal reflection time. The students all fed back that they really enjoyed the session and got a lot out of it.



Romeo & Juliet at the Hackney Empire

Year 8 students and their parents might be interested in this modern take on Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet, which emphasises the connection between Shakespeare's language and rap music. Tickets are still available but selling fast. [Romeo and Juliet | Hackney Empire](#)



Year 11 Exam Revision

What better way to remember the key plot points of A Christmas Carol than to head outside for a bit of fresh air. Mrs Curtis's class embodied a different plot point and had to place themselves in the correct order (which they did almost perfectly!), then tell the plot through a quote, before finally exploring the themes through their plot points. The students engaged really well with the activities - hopefully the change of location gave them a fresh perspective on their revision practices.



Year 11 Food Prep & Nutrition

A massive well done to all the Year 11 Food Preparation and Nutrition students who have been completing their practical work in the past few weeks (and good luck to the one group left to go!). The students have been working hard to produce some delicious dishes that focus on cooking techniques, presentation and organisation, with crucial marks up for grabs that count towards their final GCSE grade. Well done, everyone!

Sports Update

Year 7 Boys Rugby v Christ's School

The Year 7 boys played their second rugby fixture in their borough league this week when they travelled to Richmond to take on Christ's School. Having battled hard to an impressive victory over Orleans Park in the previous week, the Turing team were looking to make it two wins from two games. The opposition had other ideas, however, as they played to their strengths, crashing the ball up through their power players and distributing the ball to test the THS defence. The boys regrouped at the break and made a great comeback in the second half to take the lead by one try. With still some time to go, Christ's managed to score two tries to deliver a disappointing loss to THS, but the team will go again in a few weeks' time when they play a team from the other side of the league. Well done to all involved!



Year 7 Girls Football v St Catherine's School

The Year 7 girls played a repeat of last week's fixture on the football pitch as they played St Catherine's School again. The first match ended in a goalless draw as the sides were evenly matched, making this game more of an interesting encounter. The Turing team were determined not to accept another draw, let alone a defeat on home soil. With both teams going into the second half with a goal each, however, the match looked like it was heading in the same way until the girls produced a moment of magic to blast the ball into the back of the opposition's net to take a 2-1 lead. The travelling team created one or two opportunities to level but THS did enough to hold them off until the final whistle. Well done to all involved!



Year 10 Boys Basketball v Holy Trinity

The Year 10 boys were back on the basketball court earlier this week. They were playing in a play-off match in their Dynamik league against Holy Trinity School of Wimbledon. The Turing team were looking to continue their winning ways as they've become accustomed to recently. This occasion proved to be no different for this team - they blocked and countered their way to a healthy lead by the halfway point, giving the boys a slight cushion in the final two

quarters. The opposing team did cause a stir in the third quarter when a comeback from them looked possible, but the boys did enough to "lock in", as they like to remind each other, and double down on their defensive efforts to see out the match, winning 75-46 in the end. Well done to all involved!



Year 9 Boys Football v Riddlesdown Collegiate

The Year 9 boys took on Riddlesdown Collegiate from Purley in the Surrey Cup. Playing away from home, the Turing team was looking to progress into the next round of the knockout-style tournament, but had their work cut out for them on this cold Wednesday. Settling into the match, the boys looked to pick their passes accurately and play the ball behind the opposition's back line, creating chances for the men up front. Frustratingly, it was one of those days where the back of the net couldn't be found no matter how hard the boys pushed. The opposition scored just before half time, but it was in the second half where things went a little south. The boys kept their heads up and continued to work hard to get back into the game, but ultimately, they had to accept a regrettable exit from the competition. Well done to all involved!

Year 10/11 Boys Basketball Tournament

A handful of Year 10 and 11 boys travelled to Hampton Boys School to take part in this year's 3v3 basketball tournament. A large number of schools from across the borough were in attendance as this tournament proves more popular by the year, with each team searching for the top spot on the podium. The Turing team gave it their all in this shortened version of the game and did very well to survive the

first few matches undefeated. They later came up against two other tough oppositions where they were narrowly defeated, but one final win was enough to allow the boys to finish on a high, crowning them third place overall. Well done to all involved!

Year 8 Boys Rugby League Tournament

The Year 8 boys dusted off the rugby boots this week when they attended a rugby league tournament hosted and organised by Elmbridge Eagles. This is still a relatively new tournament, in its third year of running, with THS still searching for a tournament win. The Year 8 boys were determined to revert back to their default performance, which is one that often sees them on the winning side of the final standings. Playing three back-to-back 20-minute games of league against Teddington, Coombe Boys and Hinchley Wood, the Turing team were tested mentally and physically but pulled off an inspiring display of rugby dominance to win all three matches and take the tournament title. Their efforts, as always, were nothing but impressive to watch. Well done to all involved!



Year 7 Boys Basketball v Richmond Park Academy

The Year 7 boys were back on the basketball court this week as they faced Richmond Park Academy. Playing at home, this match formed a play-off game within their borough league where the winners would go on to play another team of the same standing from the other side of the league. The Turing team, by their own admission, made a slow start to the game and the away team were able to capitalise on such moments. The boys then dialled in their focus after the first quarter and closed the gap in each one. Through their strong work ethic and accuracy on the



ball, they were getting closer and closer to making a full comeback. Sadly, the time ran out on them and the final quarter finished 31-27 to the visitors. The boys have a double header to look forward to, however, when they complete a Junior NBA fixture next week so they will get a chance to go again then. Well done to all involved!



Supporting Teens with SEN?

Join A Free Online Spotlight Sessions

Are you supporting a teenager with additional needs and looking for effective strategies? Whether you're a parent, carer, or professional, navigating teenage behaviour—especially for those with ADHD and ASD—can be challenging. We're offering free 45-minute online Spotlight Sessions to provide expert insights, practical strategies, and real-life solutions to help you support young people with confidence.

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with
ADDITIONAL NEEDS

Help parents of teenagers with SEN, including ASD and ADHD, improve relationships and understanding through support and guidance.

What You'll Gain:

- Insights into your teenager's unique developmental needs
- Practical tools to reduce conflict and build stronger connections
- Strategies for healthier communication with your teenager
- A deeper understanding of SEN, particularly ASD and ADHD
- A supportive space to share experiences and challenges with other parents

Duration: 7 weeks
Language: English
Schedule: 2 hours per week (Online)

REGISTER NOW

For more details, please contact info@parentingu.co.uk

[Click here](#) to read more.

Contact **Parenting U** for more information.

Junior Boys
U16s (Yr 10 & 11) U14s (Yr 8 & 9)
A SUMMER OF RUGBY LEAGUE WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT....
WANTED: RUGBY LEAGUE PLAYERS

WHEN: THURSDAY 6TH MARCH
WHAT TIME: 7.15-8.30PM
WHERE: OLD CRANLEIGHANS
PORTSMOUTH RD, THAMES DITTON KT7 0HB

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: ADMIN@ELMBRIDGERL.COM

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ALLIANZ STADIUM, TWICKENHAM

Family tickets from
ONLY £10
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22-23 MARCH, 2025

BOOK TODAY!
SCAN HERE

The Family Traveller would like to offer our school families a unique opportunity to join us at the Allianz Stadium Twickenham, to experience the ultimate day out for all the family.

The Ultimate Family Day Out event is taking place on the weekend of March 22nd & 23rd. The stadium is well connected with plenty of FREE parking available onsite or a short walk from local rail and bus connections.

Once inside there are multiple free activities to enjoy: climbing walls, parkour, crazy golf, surf simulators, ice hockey, football skill classes and stargazing.

Rugby-loving boys and girls will have the unique chance to play inside the home of England Rugby thanks to exclusive pitch-side training sessions with Harlequins coaches.

There will even be the chance to ride on an epic zipline across the stadium – the first time this has ever been open to the public at Allianz Stadium, Twickenham! As well as an abseil off the top of the stadium (*extra charge for these two activities). There

will be the chance to win amazing competitions worth £10,000s as well as incredible offers exclusively available at the show.

Tickets for this event are priced at £55 for a family ticket (2 x adults & 2 x kids) but The Family Traveller would like to offer our school families the opportunity to join them for just £10 per family ticket. A huge 80% discount.

ASD Parent/Carer Support Group



Wednesday 19th March 2025

9.30 to 11am

at

Grand Avenue Primary School, Surbiton, KT5 9HU

Join us for coffee, biscuits and chat to other parents that understand.

Karen Lowry and Rob Harris will be joining us to talk about local services.

If you would like to come along, please register by following this link:

<https://forms.gle/pPwX19WzkTbccGKM7>

or contact

Jane Pidduck (e-mail jpiddle2@grandavenue.kingston.sch.uk)



Kingston & Richmond SENDIASS



Opening Hours

Monday:	09:00 - 17:00
Tuesday:	09:00 - 17:00
Wednesday:	09:00 - 17:00
Thursday:	09:00 - 17:00
Friday:	09:00 - 16:00

Richmond & Kingston SENDIASS is a free and confidential service. We offer impartial information, advice and support on issues relating to a child or young person's special educational needs or disability. We work with parent carers, and with children and young people from 0 to 25, in Richmond & Kingston.

We can provide information, advice and support about a range of topics including:

- Listen to your views and concerns and help you to explore your options.
- Your own or your child's rights around education, health and care.
- SEND support in schools, early years and post 16 settings.
- Exclusions.
- Preparing for and attending meetings.
- The statutory assessment process towards an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- Disagreements, mediation and appeals to the SEND tribunal.
- Local services and support groups.

0808 164 5527
 info@rksendiass.co.uk
 www.rksendiass.co.uk

Click here to download leaflet.

Online Safety Awareness for Parents

Online Safety Awareness for Parents

Our workshops will equip you with the knowledge and skills to keep your child safe online and create a safer digital environment and experience for them.

TOPICS INCLUDE:

AI & Deepfakes, Online Spaces, Internet Addiction, Radicalisation and keeping your children and young people safe online.

14 MARCH 2025
 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
 Online

21 MARCH 2025
 10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
 Online

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