



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE



Message from Mr O'Sullivan

Year 11 and Year 13 students are now in the full swing of their external examinations. We have all been incredibly impressed with their focused approach. For Year 11 students across the country in particular, it is vitally important to remember that the journey to this point has been less than smooth. Mrs Graco, our former Computing teacher whom some of you will remember, passed on this powerful message about students in Year 11 the other day, that I will share with you:

When the world shut down in March 2020, you were just children in Year 6. You missed your leavers' parties, your final sports days, the transition days that were meant to ease your leap into secondary school. For some, education halted entirely—no online learning, no structure, just uncertainty. You began secondary school not with the usual excitement and nerves, but through screens and restrictions. Your Year 7 wasn't filled with team-building days, school trips, residential adventures and lunch break conversations.

You learned to work in bubbles, to avoid physical contact, to keep your heads down. Interschool sports? Cancelled. Drama productions? Postponed. Group work? Discouraged. Yet here you are. Five years later. About to be

assessed and judged by the same grade boundaries used in a pre-Covid world—as if it's been a level playing field all along.

To every young person in Year 11 sitting their GCSEs this year: you've already overcome

one of the greatest disruptions to education in living memory. You are resilient. You are capable. You are more than a number on a results slip. Pace yourselves. Do your best. Be kind to yourselves and each other. In just six weeks, these exams will be over. But your courage, your persistence, and your story—that will stay with you, and with us, for a lifetime.

When Covid hit, Year 13 were in Year 8, Year 10 (who are sitting their GCSE RP next week) were in Year 5. We couldn't be prouder of you all.



Jack Petchey Award winners

This week I had the pleasure of presenting four students with the Jack Petchey award. Nominations for the awards were made by students and staff, and we had a difficult time picking the winners from all the nominations. Well done to everyone who was nominated. It gives me great pleasure to share their citations below.

Digby is a truly outstanding student who exemplifies everything this award stands for. He is a well-mannered, polite, and thoughtful learner whose



curiosity and creativity shine in every subject. Digby consistently contributes insightful, thought-provoking questions in class and approaches historical enquiry with impressive analytical skill. His dedication to Art is exceptional, combining talent with imagination, and he never fails to impress with the originality of his ideas.

A natural leader and team player, Digby is a role model to his peers—modest, respectful, and always ready to support others without seeking recognition. He lives out our school values daily, showing resilience, integrity, and commitment in all areas of school life. Whether he's helping classmates, participating enthusiastically in tutor time, or representing the school in cross-country and the London Mini Marathon, Digby leads by example and inspires those around him.

His positive attitude, warm presence, and constant drive to go above and beyond make him not only a pleasure to teach but also a cherished member of our school community. Digby is, quite simply, a star.



Joseph is an extraordinary student whose warmth, charisma, and talent have left a lasting impression on everyone at Turing House. A natural performer with boundless energy, Joe has lit up our stage year after year with standout roles—including Shrek in Shrek the Musical and the unforgettable Fat Sam in Bugsy Malone. His performances are not only technically brilliant but full of heart, humour, and captivating presence. He inspires others with his enthusiasm and his generous support for peers in drama and beyond.

In the classroom, Joseph brings the same energy and thoughtfulness. In English, his insightful contributions and analytical thinking show a deep engagement with the subject. Across his subjects, Joe is personable, honest, and always ready with a good-humoured comment or an encouraging word for others. He consistently uplifts those around him—whether modelling for a friend's photography project or simply being a friendly, approachable presence.

Joe's resilience has shone through in challenging times, and his ability to remain committed, creative, and kind speaks volumes about his character. He's not only a brilliant student and performer, but also a mature, empathetic young man with a huge heart.

Joseph is, quite simply, a joy to teach, to know, and to celebrate. He leaves a legacy of positivity and excellence that will long be remembered.



Luke is an exceptional student whose consistent dedication, humility, and generosity make him a

shining example of all that Turing House stands for. Throughout his time at the school, Luke has demonstrated an outstanding work ethic, applying himself fully to every subject and showing resilience, focus, and a genuine love of learning.

In every classroom, Luke sets the standard. Whether it's crafting a brilliant revision guide to support his peers, tackling complex concepts in Chemistry and Biology, or offering thoughtful contributions to Geography and History discussions, he combines deep academic understanding with a willingness to share and support others. He is always the first to engage, the first to lend a hand, and the first to ask how someone else's day is going—thoughtful in every sense of the word.

Luke's enthusiasm is infectious, and his humble, respectful nature has earned him the admiration of students and staff alike. He consistently models the school values of curiosity, perseverance, and kindness, and he does so quietly, without ever seeking praise.

As he heads toward his GCSEs, Luke is on track for thoroughly deserved success. He is not only a high achiever but a genuinely lovely young man—hardworking, funny, generous, and grounded. We are proud to celebrate all he has achieved and all that lies ahead.

Avani is an exceptional student whose dedication, compassion, and quiet determination make her a truly deserving recipient of this award. Throughout her time at Turing House, Avani has demonstrated remarkable perseverance and consistency in her academic journey, approaching every subject with a focused mindset and a drive to succeed—even in the face of challenges.

What sets Avani apart is not only her academic excellence but also her deep sense of empathy and unwavering commitment to others. A sensitive and generous individual, she consistently goes out of her way to support her peers and younger students. From initiating reading support for Year 7s to proactively seeking opportunities to volunteer at local primary

schools, Avani's instinct to help others reflects a maturity and warmth far beyond her years.

Her leadership qualities are equally impressive. Through her outstanding application and interview, Avani secured a Senior Prefect role, where she continues to lead with humility, responsibility, and confidence. Whether supporting the school community through her involvement in EDIT or simply taking time to ask how her teachers are, Avani embodies the values of kindness, curiosity, and integrity in everything she does.

A diligent, dependable, and inspiring young woman, Avani is a true asset to Turing House. Her positive presence leaves a lasting impression on all who know her, and there is no doubt that her generosity of spirit and strength of character will take her far in life.



Less technology, better attendance

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



We are sure that you are aware of the ongoing discussions across the country, and even within parliament, regarding students and their use of mobile phones. This is an important topic that affects our children's health and academic performance.

Our school attendance team, along with the PLUS team, has been engaging in regular discussions with students. Many of them have shared that they are on their mobile phones until late in the evening. This habit is leading to late bedtimes and poor-quality sleep, which in turn affects their focus and performance in lessons.

To help our students achieve better sleep and improve their focus in school, we encourage parents to take the following steps:

1. **Limit Screen Time:** Set a reasonable limit on the amount of time your child spends on their mobile phone each day.
2. **Create a Plan:** Work with your child to agree on a plan for mobile phone use, including specific times when they should put their phones away.
3. **No Charging in Bedrooms:** Do not allow mobile phones to be charged in bedrooms overnight. This simple step can significantly reduce the temptation to use devices late into the night.

By working together, we can help our students develop healthier habits that will benefit their sleep, focus, and overall well-being.

VE Day

VE Day, the abbreviation of Victory in Europe Day, is a day commemorating the Victory of WW2 in Europe. In the UK it is commemorated on 8th May, marking Germany's unconditional surrender. Last Thursday the 80th anniversary of VE Day was commemorated. It is important not only to learn about the peace and freedom brought about by the war's end, but also to learn about the horrors of war. VE day is celebrated in many countries, under different dates and names, such as Liberation Day in Eastern Europe.

VE day was commemorated at Turing House when Year 9 and History Club students made bunting which was hung in reception, with designs celebrating peace and freedom. There was also a tutor session in which students learnt about VE Day and a minute's silence was held at 10:30am.

Written by Sandy in Year 9



Year 10 – Journey's End

Parents of students in Year 10 - if your child is studying 'Journey's End' in English (10X/EN1 and 10X/EN2), you may wish to take them to see this production of the play: Journey's End — RADA.



Student tickets are £12. The production on 26th May is followed by a Q&A which would be an excellent opportunity for students to ask questions about the play and hear the actors' and director's thoughts.

Sixth Sense



Week 1 of exams: complete!

Well done to the Year 13s who have completed their first week of exams!

Year 12 Professional Skills Day

It was an absolute pleasure to visit Turing House this week to run practice interviews with the Sixth Form. Students were asked to prepare for an interview for one of four roles. The one I interviewed for was as a Policy/Public Affairs Researcher for a (fictional) international media company. I asked the students questions that would be typical for a job interview:

- why are you interested in the role?
- what challenges do you think the media industry is currently facing?
- give an example of how you've approached a research project
- give an example of collaboration or team-working

I was really impressed by the students I met. They were well-prepared, professional, engaged and

welcoming - all really important qualities in the working world.

I was particularly impressed by some of the research projects the students were doing for their EPQs and their interest in current media issues: we talked about equality in sports, freedom of speech, artificial intelligence, immigration policy, Brexit, Trump's tariffs and the longstanding rap feud between Kendrick Lamar and Drake. Such great conversations! Careers support including interview prep is hugely important for building students' confidence so I am really pleased they had this opportunity and would encourage other parents to get involved with the careers programme at Turing House.

Joanna OS, Parent Governor.

Year 12 Professional Skills Day

I was able to take part in an amazing day on Thursday, 15th of May: a Professional Skills Day organised by the school for Year 12 students to prepare them for the world of university and work. Not only would it help us learn the skills, but we were given the opportunity to actively train them! Three sessions took place: a CV building workshop with the founder of Seeples, an innovative application to help anyone easily develop their CV; a personal statement workshop with a person from Royal Holloway University's Admissions Team to help us know exactly what we need to include to have the best chances of success; and last but definitely not least, a real-life interview with industry professionals representing various sectors such as Education, Finance, Media/Law and Publishing, to help us practise skills we had learnt. Overall, after talking to different students, we found this day insightful and intriguing and are grateful the school put something like this in place for us. We hope they can continue doing this in years to come!

Ella C (Year 12)



King's Trust

For those who haven't seen it yet, the Year 11 King's Trust group have planned, presented their plan, got the budget for and with enormous help from the site team begun to deliver on their amazing new outdoor space including a log circle, hammocks, new picnic benches and still to come a raised bed and vegetables to plant.

To add to this the Year 10 King's Trust group won a £300 grant to add another raised bed and vegetables, and both groups have been planting a huge number of trees!!



Year 7 Ecosystems

In Y7 Science, students have been learning about Ecosystems. This week, Mr Evans took his class outside on the school field to explore all the interrelationships of plants and animals. They found plenty of pollinators and discussed their importance. They also fine-tuned the knowledge of food webs, naming different producers and consumers. Turing House School have been developing an area around the boundary of the school field that supports wildlife

and Mr Evans' class were lucky to see a wide range of species.



Turing Teaching Alliance

We are delighted to share that we are launching the **Turing Teaching Alliance** - an exciting new chapter for our school and our commitment to developing the next generation of teachers.

From October 2025, prospective teachers will be able to apply to train with us, with the first cohort beginning their training in September 2026. We hope that this alliance will allow us to grow our influence as a hub of excellence in education, providing high-

quality, school-based training rooted in the values and practices that make Turing House special.

We'll be working with a strong network of local schools and partners to ensure that trainees benefit from a supportive, well-structured programme that equips them for successful careers in teaching.

You can find more information here: [Turing Teaching Alliance](https://traintoteach@turinghouseschool.org.uk).

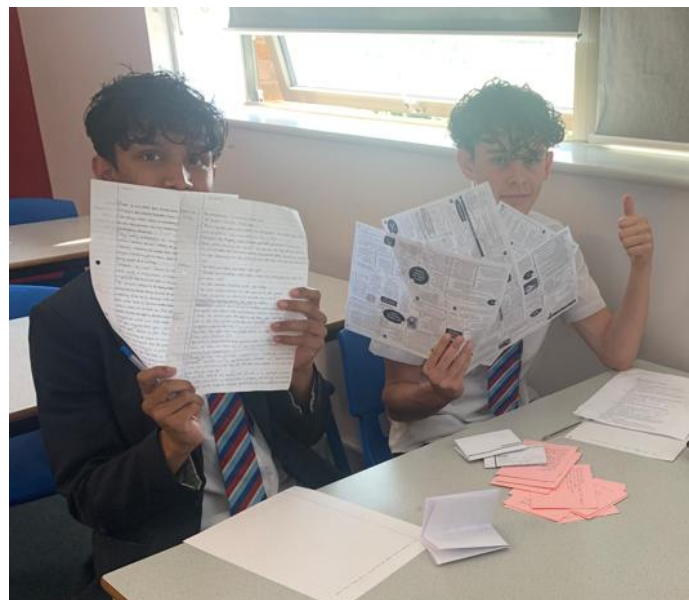
Please do help us spread the word - whether it's friends, family members, or former students who might be interested in a career in teaching. The more people who hear about this opportunity, the better!

It's an incredibly exciting development - and one that reflects the strength of our school and the culture we've built together.

Please get in contact via our new email account traintoteach@turinghouseschool.org.uk should you have any questions or suggestions.

Year 10 students

Well done to our Year 10 students who have been busy revising for their upcoming RP exam.



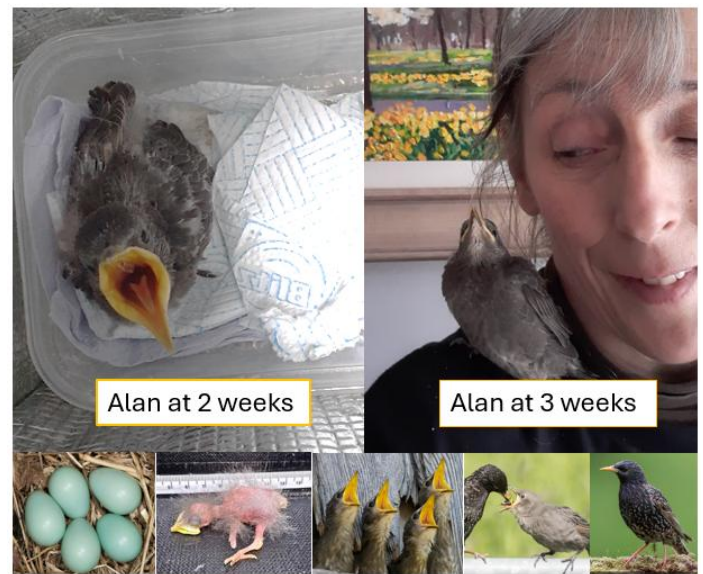


Alan the Starling

The growth of a starling chick from hatching to fledging is quite fascinating! I learned this when a colleague needed help in saving one that had fallen from the nest in the eaves and had been consequently abandoned by its parents. I have had "Alan" from about a week-and-a-half old. He has lived in the prep-room and demanded mealworms quite loudly when anyone has passed him. By the time this newsletter is published, he will have fledged. He has more than shown his willingness to survive – and I have learned so much about this fascinating species of bird. Starling (*Sternus vulgaris*).

1. **Hatchling:** Newly hatched starlings are blind, naked, and completely dependent on their parents for warmth and food.
2. **Nestling:** Within a few days, they start to develop down feathers. Their eyes open, and they begin to grow rapidly.
3. **Fledgling:** Around 18-21 days old, they develop flight feathers and start to leave the nest, though they still rely on their parents for food for a short period.

Check out this link for all you need to know! [Baby Starlings: Description, Pictures, & Fun Facts](#)



Sports Fixtures

Year 7 Boys 7-side Football Tournament

At the start of this week, it was the turn of the Year 7 boys to take part in the small-sided football tournament at Hampton High. Playing 7-side, the Turing team were up against Richmond upon Thames, Teddington, Twickenham, St Richard Reynolds and the hosts Hampton. Three losses - two of which were marginal - one draw and one win made for an afternoon of mixed emotions as the boys did very well to play at such a high intensity in back-to-back games in the heat. Their one draw also came against the team who finished second overall, so a small consolation prize was taken back to school. Well done to all involved!



Year 8 Boys 6-side Football Tournament

The Year 8 boys travelled to Hampton High to state their intentions at the annual 6-side football tournament. As with the Year 7 team who had played earlier in the week, the Turing team came up against

some fine competition as 8-minute matches were played in quick succession, allowing no time for errors or big second half comebacks. Off to a flying start, the boys managed the pacey games very well and fitness levels ensured they didn't take their foot off the gas (or the ball) for a single moment. They came agonisingly close to finishing in first place, but one loss dropped them to the runners up spot. It was still a performance that the boys could be very proud of, especially knowing that they managed to beat the team who finished in first place. Well done to all involved!



Year 7/8 Girls Cricket v St Richard Reynolds

The Year 7 and 8 girls began their cricket fixtures this week when they took on St Richard Reynolds. Playing away from home, the girls did battle on the green for 11 overs in one inning. Batting first, the Turing team scored 62 runs and were determined to hold onto a lead when it came to their turn to bowl and field. A number of wide balls proved to be costly as the hosts bypassed the THS score to claim a win, but the girls did well to stay competitive throughout the match. Their next game is against Waldegrave where they will be looking to improve their bowling in order to unlock the full potential of their fielders. Well done to all involved!

Girls NFL Flag Football

The girls had one last run out on the flag football field as they took part in the grand finals day, where the top four teams from each pool came together all with the aim of taking the top spot and being crowned champions. Working their way through the initial competition, picking off teams and racking up more wins, the Turing team earned a spot in the final showdown against last year's winners. The game was another superb display of offensive tactics but the girls were narrowly beaten. The fact that the final match was the first ever game the girls had lost throughout the entire season was impressive enough, but losing in such close fashion to a team who had a number of experienced players just shows you how well the THS girls did to get that close to being crowned champions. Second place overall was still a brilliant achievement and one they could be very proud of. Well done to all involved!



ADHD Embrace



ADHD Embrace are running a post-diagnosis workshop at AfC in Twickenham this Wednesday 14th May.

These workshops are NHS funded and provide an invaluable support to our ADHD families and carers.

They signpost a lot of services within our community during the event, and families who are awaiting a diagnosis can also attend.

Please click on the link below to book:

<https://adhdembrace.org/civicrm/event/info/?id=351>

Action through the Ages



About the show - Step into a world of history, heroism, and hilarity with our family-friendly play! Watch as Hercules battles the fearsome Hydra, Napoleon takes on daring pirates, and Emperor Augustus reflects on the London Riots in comparison to Nero's fiery reign. Expect epic battles and dramatic deaths as Round House Youth Theatre in collaboration with Turing House School, takes you on a journey through the ages!

About the company - Roundhouse Youth Theatre is a dynamic Stage and Screen Combat Company dedicated to training young actors in the art of fight choreography and performance. Founded our very own Mr Coombes, who is also an independent stunt artist for theatre, film, and TV, the company offers an innovative approach to inspiring young people to explore the arts through the exciting medium of stage combat.

Turing Friends, Families and Teachers - Please come and support a night of Theatrical Battle Re-enactment – Turing House's First Ever International Fuse Festival Entry – to book tickets follow QR CODE below.

BOOK NOW

BOOK

19:30 – Sat 28 Jun 2025

Location:

ACT Main

Running time:

80mins

Accessibility:

Wheelchair Access
Accessible Toilet
Step Free Access

Content:

The show contains violence, haze, gunshots, audience interaction and an artillery soundscape.

Price:

£12

Share this event



Football Club recruitment

2025/26 Season Club info: www.heartssoftdtdlothian.com

Hearts Pumas U16s Boys Are Recruiting



- Year 11 from September (Current U15s, Year 10)
- Play Saturday Mornings, Train Tuesdays
- Home games at St. Mary's, Teddington Lock
- East Berkshire League Div 3*

*8 leagues total, Hearts teams also in Div 4 & 6

Please ask your parent or guardian to contact:
heartspumascoach@gmail.co.uk

Rowing Club

Give Rowing a Go

No rowing experience necessary
Free of charge



Twickenham Rowing Club, Friday, 30th May

For information, or to apply, email ben.reed@britishrowing.org

School Space



Hire spaces at Turing House!

SCHOOL SPACE

We're open for bookings in the evenings, weekends and school holidays, welcoming a wide range of community activities.




Book via School Space today!

Visit www.school-space.org or contact
info@school-space.org | 0203 369 3269

With excellent communication and a desire to help, the team at School Space helps us provide reliable and consistent venues for our classes.

Dan McAteer, Matt Fiddes
Martial Arts & Dance