

# Message from 11th July 2025

# Mr O'Sullivan

A bittersweet Week and a brilliant Sports Day - As many of you know, this week has been a difficult one for our school community as we mourn the loss of our dear Alannah. Her kindness, spirit and presence touched so many lives, and she will be deeply missed.

In the midst of this sadness, we found a moment of joy and unity during our Annual Sports Day — an event that Alannah truly loved. She would have been amazed by the energy, enthusiasm, and excellence on display.

Thanks to the dedication of our PE staff, Sixth Formers, and staff volunteers, the day was a resounding success. A special thank you goes to Mr. Quigley, whose lively commentary over the loudspeaker kept everyone entertained and energised throughout the day.

Our students outdid themselves this year, with several school records being broken! Their determination and talent were on full display, and we couldn't be prouder. You can view our new school records page here.

What truly made the day special was the incredible camaraderie among students. Whether it was cheering each other on or celebrating victories in events like the tug of war, the support and togetherness were inspiring to witness.

Next year's Sports Day promises to be even more exciting with the introduction of our House System. This new structure will allow entire houses to rally behind their athletes, creating even more school spirit and friendly competition. Personally, I'm looking forward to seeing May House take the crown!

Thank you to everyone who made this day so memorable. Let's carry this spirit forward as we continue to support one another and celebrate our school community.

#### 2026 School Show – it's confirmed!

We are delighted to announce that (by popular demand) the school show 2026 will be Disney's 'Frozen'.

Rehearsals will start on Tuesdays in September for Y9-13, then in January for Y7-8.

We will also be running a Performing Arts Club on Wednesdays for Y7-8 in Autumn Term to get members 'school show ready'.

The thought of snow, ice and snowmen has certainly cooled the Performing Arts Office down in the recent heatwave and it's been lovely to be met with renditions of 'Let it Go' or 'Do You Want to Build a Snowman' in the corridors from students (and staff!). The show will take place on 24th, 25th and 26th March - save the date!



#### Lost Property – last chance to collect your items!

We have endeavoured to return all clearly labelled lost property items to their owners. However, several unnamed items including water bottles, pencil cases, caps, umbrellas, shoes, jumpers

and winter coats are still being held in the office. Please remind your child to check during break times if they are missing anything.

In addition, a table will be set up near the student gate after school on Wednesday and Thursday next week. If your child has lost something, please encourage them to take a look.

Any unclaimed items will be disposed of or donated to charity over the summer holiday.



#### RoundHouse Youth Theatre

There are still some places left to join Mr Coombe's Acting and Stage Combat Workshops this summer holiday. Please email <u>Roundhouseyouththeatre@gmail.com</u> for further information.

## **ROUNDHOUSE YOUTH THEATRE**



# **Acting and Stage Combat Workshops**



#### Venue: Turing House School, Hospital Bridge Rd, Whitton, Twickenham

Please get in contact via email for price breakdown and future dates!

TW2 6LH

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## **ROUNDHOUSE YOUTH THEATRE**



#### What to expect...

Day 1 – Unarmed Combat	Day 2 – Renaissance Swords	Day 3 – Sword, Shield and Axe	Day 4 – Light Saber Dueling	Day 5 - Fighting for Film
Hand to Hand Fighting Techniques – Dramatic Deaths and Safe Falls	Rapier Sword Skills and Beginner Weapon System Introduction	Intermediate Weapons Systems	Light Saber Lore	Crossing the Line and Landing the Hit for Camera
Devised Scenarios Cards	Shakspearian Text Analysis	Fighting with Sound Scape and Battle Formations	Fighting styles and choosing a Path	Previs fight Rehearsal
Boxing Sequence Fight Performance	Shakspearian Text and Rapier Sword Fight Performance	Viking Battle Re-enactment	Fight Performance – Duel, 2 v 1 or 2 v 2	Video content Creation and Camera Operation





Action Through The Ages - International Fuse Festival Performance

#### Year 10 Astronomy trip

On Friday 4th July, the Year 10 astronomy students travelled to Greenwich for a trip. First was the National Maritime Museum where the students were able to see the close connections between astronomy and early maritime navigation with equipment such as the quadrant on display, as well as a look at the use of the transit of Venus to calculate the astronomical unit. The Greenwich Observatory was next where we saw Harrison's chronometer, crucial in calculating a ship's longitude, and were lucky to see the time ball at 1 pm which was once used to synchronise a ship's chronometer before it left on a voyage. We finished with a planetarium show which delved into the complex lifecycle of a star and builds on their work on Solar Astronomy in the last few months.



#### Year 8 MENSA testing

Last Friday, the results from the second round of MENSA testing were given to the MAGT students in Year 8. All students who took part were invited to a celebration event to receive their results and their certificates! Well done to all of the students who got involved and a special congratulations to Arran T, Ruby R and Digby Y who were offered a membership by MENSA with an IQ in the top 1% of the world!





# Gold D of E expedition

Seven Year 12 students are completing their gold Duke of Edinburgh qualifier expedition in the southwest Lake District. They've completed a night wild camping and are in good spirits. One day still to go!







#### 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.



#### Year 7 Humanism assembly

This Wednesday, Year 7 had an assembly on Humanism centred around 'What makes a Good Life?' This assembly was led by our guest speak John Rivett-Carnac who is part of the organisation called Humanist UK. Students explored the idea of doing good because it is the right thing to do, the Amsterdam declaration and the use of rational in decision making. This was a great opportunity for our students as they had the chance to look at religious and non-religious worldviews. The assembly concluded with a Q&A and a number of eager Year 7 students asked thoughtful questions such as:

- Can a person be humanist and believe in God?
- Is humanism the same universally or are there any differences?
- Can a humanist marry someone who is religious?
- How is humanism different from atheism?



#### Sixth Sense

#### Year 12 Mock Results Day

Congratulations to Year 12 who took part in their first Mock Results Day on Tuesday, following their End of Year 12 exams. As well as being a marker for progress, the results envelopes also included the students' first set of Predicted Grades which will help inform their research into their post-18 pathways. With results in hand, most of the students took to the playground to open their results in the sun and celebrate with their friends; it was a lovely atmosphere. Well done, Year 12!





#### Year 10 Sixth Form Speed Networking Event

On Thursday afternoon, Year 10 students were welcomed into the Sixth Form Common Room having signed up to partake in a Sixth Form Speed Networking event, hosted by the Year 12 students. The premise of the networking event was to allow the Year 10 students to meet with Year 12 representatives from different A Level subjects find out anything they wanted to know about the course, but also Sixth Form life. It was lovely to watch the two year groups engaged in conversation and to see the Year 10 students taking such an active step in considering the next stage of their educational journey.





#### **Career Opportunities**

#### Royal Navy

The Royal Navy offers funding and scholarships to support students from A-level through degree-level study. Alongside financial help, students gain valuable Naval training through evening, weekend, and summer courses to prepare for a rewarding officer career.

#### **Forvis Mazars**

Forvis Mazars offers a four-day work experience for Year 12/13 students to explore accounting and professional services. Held in their UK offices in April and October, it includes team shadowing, skills workshops, and application training. Participants receive lunch, travel, a laptop, and fast-track access to school leaver roles. Forvis Mazars | Careers | Future Choices: Access Accountancy

#### **RBH Hospitality**

RBH Management offers a wide range of hotel and leisure roles across the UK - from front-of-house and kitchen teams to housekeeping, events, and finance. With 90+ vacancies and year-round opportunities, it's a great sector to explore for students interested in hospitality and customer service. RBH Management

#### **Bright Horizons**

Bright Horizons offers flexible working and structured training through a wide range of apprenticeships, from Early Years Practitioner to nanny and corporate support roles. With over 300 settings across the UK and year-round recruitment, they are an excellent option to recommend to students exploring careers in early years or education

Employer profile: Bright Horizons, a leading early years and childcare provider: Know-how library

**THS Careers Team** 

#### Sports fixtures

#### Sports Day 2025

That's a wrap on another successful Sports Day - a massive well done to all Year 7 - 10 students who got stuck into this year's day of sports competition and participation! It was a big day in the sun where form groups competed against one another in track and field events as well as team sports including tug-of-war. Efforts from everyone were huge and we were blown away by the positive attitude and level of competition on show. Thank you and well done to all staff and Sixth Form helpers too! Results for each form will be revealed in next week's end of year awards assembly.







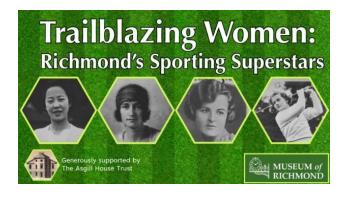


#### Museum of Richmond Exhibition

Trailblazing Women – Richmond's Sporting Superstars

Visit the Museum of Richmond this summer for free, to learn about some of the sporting superstars, Kitty Godfree, Pamela Barton, Gem Hoahing and Betty Nuthall, and their connections to Richmond.

https://www.museumofrichmond.com/whats-on/trailblazingwomen/





# **Horror** Workshops 14+

≝ EXCHANGE

Unravel the secrets behind horror theatre with Thunder Road, creators of the spine-lingling productions, Shock Horror: A Ghost Story, and The Void, visiting The Exchange, Twickenham this Autumn.



#### Workshops available on:

Fri 12 Sep (The Void) and Thu 30 Oct (Shock Horror) in the daytime ahead of the 8pm shows

The FREE 2-hour workshop is available to any group of 10+ who book tickets to see either show. The workshop will take place at The Conservatory at The Exchange.

- Workshop includes:
  Techniques for building suspense in horror theatre
  Puppetry with human-sized objects (led by War
  Horse puppeteer Alex Moran)
  Devising your own short horror story using the
  methods and techniques learned

Contact the Box Office to book: 020 8240 2399 exchangetwickenham⊕stmarys.ac.uk



#### Pickleball event

