



Message from Mr O'Sullivan 28th November 2025

I have to start this week off with a huge thank to a small group of parents that have paid extra to ensure that a couple of English trips became viable. It was so impressive with the way our school community pulled together to raise enough funds to ensure that the Year 10 trip to see 'Macbeth' at the Orange Tree Theatre, and Year 11 trip to see 'A Christmas Carol' at the Exchange in Twickenham will go ahead. Both trips will support students in understanding these set texts, which they will be examined on during their GCSE English Literature exams in the summer. These trips will enable the students to see the texts come to life, helping them remember the key plot lines, characters and moral messages of the texts, and I'm sure students will enjoy these performances. The English department and I are so thankful for the kindness and generosity shown.

Cross Country Borough Championships

On Friday, some of our most dedicated and talented runners attended the Cross Country Borough Championships in Bushy Park. Turing House School students were excellently behaved, showed true grit and determination, and showed enthusiasm for their peers who were racing.

There were some outstanding performances, including Digby, Josh, and Lucas who all finished in the top 20 in the Y8/9 Boys.

Cross Country Club is on every Thursday morning at 7:10am and all students are welcome to join the fun.



Spanish students outing to the BFI

On Friday 21st November, Year 12 and 13 Spanish students enjoyed a day out at the BFI in central London. The day focused on the fantastic film they are studying, 'El Laberinto del Fauno', and delved deeper into the history of post-civil war Spain. The whole day was conducted in Spanish and Miguel Garcia Lopez (the speaker) also discussed topics such as women's rights, the treatment of children, and violence during the dictatorship. Furthermore, he highlighted key messages and interpretations of the film. The day ended with a screening of the film on the huge screen!



Christmas Concert

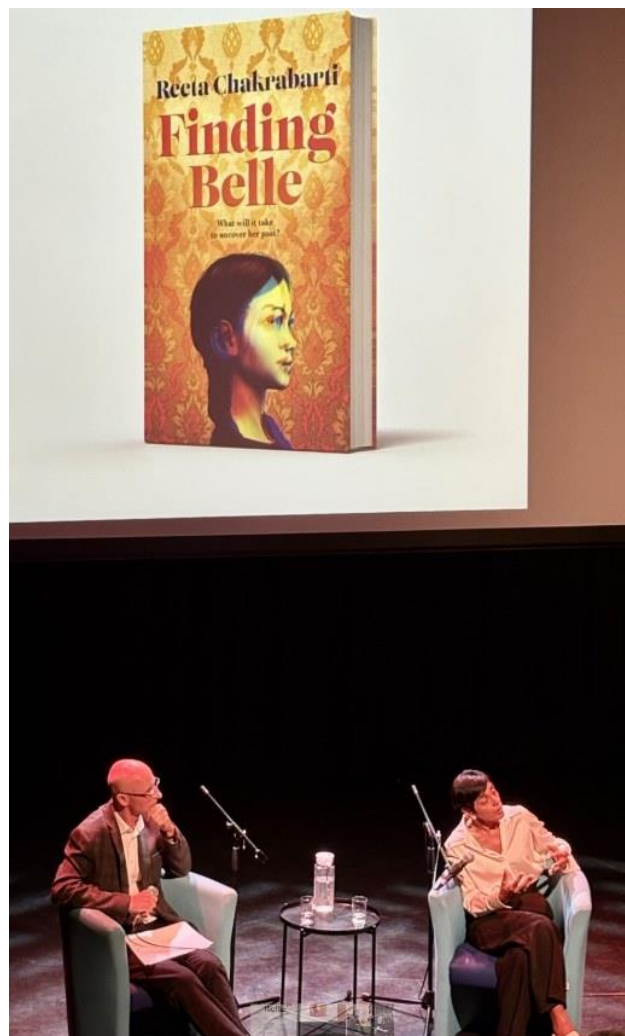


Year 13 Sixth Form trip to Richmond Literary Festival

Our Sixth Form students were privileged to attend the **Arts Richmond Literature Festival** on Wednesday evening, where BBC News anchor, broadcaster and journalist **Reeta Chakrabarti** discussed her new novel ***Finding Belle***. Born in Isleworth and having lived in Birmingham during the 1970s before reading English and French at Oxford University, Chakrabarti reflected on how her experiences and inspirations—particularly time spent living in Calcutta - shaped her writing. In discussing her creative process, Chakrabarti echoed her editor's distinction between “planners” and “seaties”—those who fly by the seat of their pants—offering students a memorable glimpse into the world of writing and journalism.

Our students responded to the Q&A with both attention and charm, asking insightful questions that steered the political debate.

Students were fascinated by her insights into the “economy of language” required in news reading, her growing empathy and sensitivity in storytelling, and her candid thoughts on recent controversies at the BBC. She described the inner workings of the BBC’s news studio, complete with autocues, new tech and Daleks that all support her delivery of the daily headlines. She shared anecdotes from her milestone reporting from Lviv and the decision process she faced when being asked to replace Clive Myrie in Ukraine two weeks after the war broke out. Our students responded to the Q&A with both attention and charm, asking insightful questions that steered the political debate. Thomas H began by asking **Chakrabarti** about how she contends with her own political values whilst maintaining the BBC's Royal Charter values to report news from an impartial perspective. Followed by Ronnie R's inquisitive questioning on relationships within the BBC asking had she ever fallen out with anyone! A great evening spent with our Media, English, Politics and History students who all left with new knowledge on the inner workings and responsibilities of a news journalist.





What is life at University like?

We currently have Alice Ingram with us two days a week at Turing. Alice is on a Work Placement with us from St Mary's University, as part of one of her modules. Alice has written a piece about her University experiences to give students more of an insight into further education:

I had always found the idea of going to university appealing. With support from my sixth form, I was able to understand that financial support existed to pay for tuition loans and accommodation. While I was still nervous, I couldn't wait to go to university.

I decided to take a gap year before starting university. I have never regretted a choice less. Whether you spend the time gaining life experience by working or volunteering, or travelling the world, a gap year is valuable to your experience in so many ways. During university, finances can be a worry, however government loans can support you through university. Most universities also allow you to have a part time job. During my gap year, I had a full-time job where I was promoted once. I then kept that job as a part time one during my first year of university. Since then, I have been promoted a further time, and I now work as a part time manager during the time I am not at university. Having a job while being at university can provide that extra financial support if you need it.

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I was quite lucky to know what I wanted to pursue at university; however, it is very normal to not know. Just because you are unsure of your "career plan" at 17/18 years old, it doesn't mean you can never go to university. There is no rush to go to university straight after sixth form. Going a bit later in life does not diminish the amazing achievement.

If you choose a university further away from your home, I highly recommend living in student accommodation. This way, you can form new friendships with people who aren't just on your

course and learn new skills such as independent living. I further recommend visiting the universities you are looking at going to, to make the transition even more smooth. Transition to university can be intense so making sure you take the steps to make it easier is important.

I'm currently studying Psychology, which I really enjoy. At university you can choose exactly what course you will find the most fulfilling, you'll gain specialist knowledge and be able to learn about a subject you are genuinely passionate about. It enhances your understanding of what you are passionate about. However, university life isn't just about the degree. It's about personal growth, life skills, and creating memories with new people in a new place. Going to university unlocks a plethora of new opportunities to explore new places, make new friendships, living away from home if you decide to live on campus, and experience new things.

New Careers Newsletter launched!

We are pleased to share our new termly Careers Newsletter, designed to support students and families with up-to-date information on pathways, opportunities and career development.

Inside this edition, you will find:

- University, college & apprenticeship guidance
- Employer webinars and careers events
- Work experience & enrichment opportunities
- Useful resources to help students plan their next step

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/P5wzLi305D9VzgDM?ref=email>

Richmond Carers Centre

Young Carers and the parents of Young Carers in our school community can seek advice and support from Richmond Carers Centre. If you think that your child qualifies as a Young Carer, there is support available to help them and you. Please scan the QR code below to find out more about the Young Carers service that Richmond Carers Centre offers. Alternatively, the Young Carers Leads for our school are Ms Gaunt (PLUS) and Miss Smith (Geography) who are always available to offer advice and support. Keep an eye out for more Young Carers announcements in future newsletters and in school.



Richmond Carers Centre supports equality of opportunity.
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A Network Partner of





Lots of young people help look after someone in their family who is ill, disabled, has a mental health problem or an addiction.

“ It made me feel better about my sister and her ASD. The mentoring gave me a safe place to talk about my problems and I enjoyed meeting other young carers at all the events and activities ” **young carer registered with Richmond Carers Centre**

Your child may be a young carer, and there is support available to them.

Whether you are looking for advice, support, or just someone to talk to, get in touch with the Young Carers Lead at School:

Find out more about your local Young Carers Service

SCAN ME



Collaboration with St Mary's University

This week Mr O'Sullivan presented at a MA Education Keynote event run by St Mary's University called 'Talking Heads'. For those who attended it was a brilliant opportunity to hear school leaders from diverse contexts reflect on their experience and style of leadership followed by a Q & A panel session.

Sports fixtures

Year 9 Boys Rugby v St Richard Reynolds

The Year 9 boys took on St Richard Reynolds on the rugby pitch this week in their borough league fixture. Hoping to keep their title chances alive for a third consecutive year, the Turing team were a converted try ahead going into the second half, but the match had been an otherwise incredibly even contest with impressive levels of physicality from both sides. The opposition managed to score but didn't convert the kick so THS remained ahead by just two points, until a second St Richard Reynolds try put them three ahead. One last THS attack in the dying moments of the game provided a final chance and some hope for the home side, but the

ball was knocked on 5 metres from the try line and the final whistle went. It was a hard loss to accept but, as always, the efforts and determination from everyone were nonetheless impressive for the entire game. Well done to all involved!

[Year 10 Boys Rugby v Richmond upon Thames](#)

The Year 10 boys got stuck into their first rugby game of the Richmond borough league when they hosted Richmond upon Thames. The visitors took an early lead right before the Turing team fought hard to get themselves back into the match, dominating at the breakdown at times and defending the midfield effectively. The second half saw a slight drop in THS concentration as the foot came off the gas momentarily and RTS were sure to take advantage, eventually securing a 29-14 win. Despite the result, it was great to see so many students wishing to get stuck into rugby matches for the first time. There's a bit of a wait now for the boys for their next game, but the same level of enthusiasm can be expected when it comes around. Well done to all involved!

[Year 9 Boys Football v Cheam High School](#)

The Year 9 boys took to the road at the beginning of this week to play their Surrey Cup football fixture against Cheam High in Sutton. Some difficult playing conditions were being battled and the Turing team tried and tested different ways to unlock the opposition defence and open up the upfront players. The home side, however, were first to get on the scoreboard and the THS boys somewhat struggled to settle into the game from there. Cheam scored two more later on in the game and recorded a 3-0 victory in the end. The Year 9 boys were given plenty to reflect on and learn from, and they'll be able to test themselves again in some friendly matches coming up. Well done to all involved!



[Year 10/11 Boys Basketball v Richmond Park Academy](#)

The year 10 and 11 boys' basketball team kicked off their Richmond borough league matches this week. The Turing team travelled to East Sheen to take on Richmond Park Academy where they recorded a convincing 103-72 win and managed to stave off the possibility of a third and fourth quarter comeback from the home side. The high scoring game is a reflection of how

active both sides were on the ball as counter-play and accurate shooting were aplenty that afternoon. The boys will be able to take a big confidence boost from securing triple digit points and carry that momentum forward into their next game, which is against Christ's where they will look to continue their winning form. Well done to all involved!



[Year 8/9 Boys Basketball v Harris Academy](#)

The Year 8 and 9 boys were playing away from home in their Dynamik league match this week. They travelled to Peckham in London to face Harris Academy. With just one sub available, the Turing team pulled out the stops for one another on the court and gave a dominating performance as a result. The boys covered the court like it was no one's business and came away with a huge win in one of the most convincing THS performances we've seen on a basketball court this year - impressive stuff! Well done to the Year 7 boys who were playing up an age category too and held their own superbly. The Year 7 team will be able to put their skills to the test in a tournament in a few weeks' time at Hampton Boys School. Well done to all involved!



Turtle Key Arts

If anyone is interested, please sign-up via the [application form](#) on Turtle Key Arts' website where you can also find more information as well as a video about the project.

TURTLE
KEYARTS



"It was amazing
and I didn't want
it to end!"

Aaron
Turtle Opera participant
2025

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Dates **Tue 17 - Fri 20 Feb**



Time **11:00am til 3:30pm**



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South Kensington
London SW7 2RL

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TO JOIN.



☐ Scan the **QR code** to reach
the registration page.

☐ Submit the **online form** and
we'll send you a reply.



Call us on **020 8964 5060**



Email ellie@turtlekeyarts.org.uk

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Kinship Care



For family or friends who
step up to raise a child.



Buckingham Primary School Kinship Peer Support Group

Join Our New Peer Support Group

We invite you to be a part of our newly established peer support group! Enjoy a cup of tea while connecting with fellow kinship carers in your community.

2 December
First Tuesday of each month
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM

***Note:** Available during term time only.**

Join us for our coffee morning – a wonderful opportunity to connect with fellow Kinship carers in your community. Come together to chat, share experiences, listen, and offer support to one another.

- All kinship carers and special guardians are warmly invited.
- Tea and coffee will be available, along with a play area for younger children.

To secure your spot, please confirm by emailing inclusion@buckingham.richmond.sch.uk.

Buckingham Road Hampton TW12 3LT

We'd love to see you there! Visit kinship.org.uk to find out more about free training, advice and support for kinship carers.

Charity Registration: 1093975

AfC Virtual School
"Together we can achieve!"

Are you raising the child of a relative or a friend?

Whether you have a special guardianship order, child arrangement order or no legal order in place, you and your child are eligible for support and advice to help with education.

This could include:

- Pupil Premium funding
- advice and support from AfC Virtual School
- advice and support from other organisations



For more information, please contact Rebecca Lloyd at AfC Virtual School or the designated teacher in your school.
Email: rebecca.lloyd@achievingforchildren.org.uk

 **achieving
for children**

What is Kinship Care?

Sometimes, families need a helping hand. Kinship care is when a child is cared for by relatives or close family friends because their parents can't look after them for a while. This arrangement helps children stay connected to the people and places they know best. Kinship care can take different forms – for example, children might live with grandparents, aunts, uncles, older siblings, or family friends. These arrangements can be **informal**, agreed within the family, or **formal**, such as **Connected Persons Foster Care**, **Special Guardianship Orders**, or **Child Arrangements Orders**. Please see the posters above for support offered within the local community, and please also reach out to us at THS if you are a carer in a Kinship arrangement.