



Message from Mr O'Sullivan 5th December 2025

This week, our Year 11 students took part in our 'Sixth Former for a Day' event, an important milestone in their journey as they begin to look beyond GCSEs and towards the next stage of their education. It was wonderful to see every student embracing the opportunity with such maturity, curiosity, and enthusiasm. The day was designed to give students a genuine insight into what it feels like to be a Sixth Former at Turing House School. They experienced a range of A-level and vocational-style sessions, explored new subjects, and spent time reflecting on the pathways available to them after Year 11. Whether they choose to stay with us for Sixth Form or move on to one of our excellent local providers, our message to students remains the same: your future is full of possibility, and your options are wide and open.

We were equally pleased to welcome representatives from local colleges and training providers. Their presence helped students broaden their understanding of the many routes available: academic, vocational, technical and beyond. For every young person, the day was about achieving their personal best, recognising their individual strengths, and beginning to shape a future that is right for them. To support these next steps further, we are delighted to introduce our new Careers Newsletter, which you will find linked in this edition. This resource signposts opportunities for students of all abilities and all aspirations, from university pathways to apprenticeships, from employment routes to enrichment and skills development. Our aim is to

ensure every student feels informed, supported, and empowered as they consider their post-16 choices.

Watching our Year 11s take this step is particularly meaningful. Each student has been on their own unique journey, and it is a privilege to witness the growth and maturity they have shown over the years. Their recent success in the early-entry GCSE Short Course in Religion & Philosophy is a clear indication of what they can achieve when they apply themselves, and we look forward to seeing how they continue to grow academically and personally over the coming months. 'Sixth Former for a Day' was not just about timetables and taster lessons, it was about possibilities, ambition, and the beginnings of each student's next chapter. I am confident that the experiences of this week have helped them to reflect on who they are, what they want next, and the many paths available to them.

The development of our Sixth Form students can be seen in the lovely image at the top of this newsletter showing four of our Year 12 students who are currently employed by our catering company on the tills. Miss Nicholson

Music Extravaganza

It's been an extremely busy week in the Music Department with students taking part in three performance opportunities both inside and outside the school involving students across Yrs 8 to 11.

GCSE Performance Recitals

On Monday, we had our first on-site concert where our Year 11 GCSE students performed and recorded their solo and ensemble work to parents, friends and other members of the school community. The audience was treated to a plethora of musical styles including Rock, Pop, Musical Theatre as well as classical numbers. Raffi P performed You'll Be Back from Hamilton, Ida O performed I Love You, I'm Sorry by Gracie Abrams. Louis N showed off his incredible skills as a drummer by performing Some Skunk Funk by Randy Brecker, whilst William B-D showed off his skill with a drum solo of Fluorescent Adolescent by Arctic Monkeys. Our "new to us" baby grand piano had its concert debut with Keaton R-M performing Rondo Alla Turca by Mozart as well a number of piano solos from Taylor T, Robbie H and Hattie R. The concert ended with a performance of Rosanna by Toto with some outstanding instrumental solos from Keaton R-M and Oli B. Well done to all the students involved.



Whitton Lights On

Our Band Club were invited to perform a set of songs during the Whitton Lights On festival, and Sophie M, Daisy S (both Y10), Oli B and Zorian F (both Y11) took up the challenge. The students managed to attract a sizeable number of people to their stand with event-goers commenting positively on tight drumming, the amazing and exciting guitarist and the singers who brought harmony and richness to the sound. Not only did they attract an audience, but people were coming out of nearby shops to hear them perform. An encore was demanded and was handled “beautifully”. We look forward to returning for the St George’s Day event in April.



Band Club at Heathfield Junior School

Our Band Club was invited to Heathfield Junior School to perform the songs they've been working on this term. Aoibheann L, Otilie S (both Year 8), Alex M and Lily F (both Year 9) performed Alive by Pearl Jam with Otilie making her debut performance as a singer. Riley S, Olyver B, Jack B and Thomas M (all Year 9) performed Yellow by Coldplay, a debut outing for this new band. Finally, Sophie M, Daisy S, Oli B and Zorian F performed a set of five songs, entertaining Years 3 to 6 throughout. We look forward to Years 3 and 6 coming to see our rehearsal of the Christmas concert in two weeks time.





Christmas Concert

Our Christmas Concert on Tuesday 16th December has now sold out! Thank you to everyone who has purchased a ticket and we look forward to a special evening of music-making.

We're delighted to share that the department has been awarded the Music Mark for this academic year in recognition for our dedication to improvement.



Christmas Card Competition

Congratulations to Ruby R in Year 9 who is this year's Christmas Card competition. Well done, Ruby!



2025 Finalists



Felix CH
Daisy S



Nick N



Florence M
Jasper B

Year 8 Students' Sonnets

Taking inspiration from Akala's protagonist in the novel *The Dark Lady*, here are some of their creative sonnets.

My Holiday by Thomas RJ

My break began with a perfect wedding,
A flawless pair my aunt and uncle make.
Years of pleasure is where this is heading.
The star of the party? A divine cake.
Following this, we visited a farm.
At lunchtime, chickens caused massive drama,
Wondering around I felt huge alarm,
Consequent of an aggressive llama!
Next, a place of natural history,
Having mammals to find and things to see,
We saw dinosaurs, full of mystery,
And finished with a panda called Chi-Chi.
However, even after all this fun,
The best part is sleep, when the day is done.

The War Sonnet by Henry W

Cannons firing and setting ablaze
Treasure of the Atlantic shines like jewels
The toughest fortress was built like a maze
Even the bravest nations ran like fools
The slim lizards hiding in the small cracks
Like the soldiers hiding in the great fort
Tanks sitting there waiting to move their tracks
And next the French soldiers were tied and caught
The narrow alleys perfect for a fight
The swords in their sheaths are ready to strike
As they shot their muskets they sparked alite
And the losers head landed on a pike
The victors celebrated with fine wine
The prepared for battles another time

Ski Trip by Matthew F

Driving to France for the thrilling ski trip
Journeying over the thin-laned mountain
Hoping and praying that we don't slip
Eating delicious food for thermos tins
In the chalet we get ready to ski
Up the gondola so we can have fun
Whilst going up we see nice scenery
So we can ski down the super fun run
Skiing down the run in the sun's bright light
Harsh winds or weather don't stop anyone
So we can have a massive snowball fight
Calm winds or weather just make it fun
Yet going back to England weapy
Hoping next school all teachers are sleepy

The Day of Joy by Daisy

The tide retreats with whispers soft and low,
The setting sun begins to show,
Sea gulls fly above the waves below
The sea shines with the sunsets glow,
You can hear gentle waves,
And voices echoing around you,
As the evening hums along the seaside lane,
The stars came out to share their view,
Voices fill the fairgrounds sound,
The mirror maze reflects a thousand ways,
Bright lights bounce all around,
And a crowd moves through a golden haze,
As dawn breaks the next day,
It begins with skies of softened hue.

The Greek Jewel Sonnet by Rufus E

*We travelled to Greece
We swam in the pool
I was so at peace
Sea as blue as a jewel
I drank my juice
And ate my fries
In the home of Zues.
Under clear blue skies.
I'm drinking my Coke
As I sit on the beach
Man, this holiday is dope
It's really a peach
Back home it's so cold
The memories still like gold.*

My Half-term Holiday Sonnet

By Thomas O

Today it is the first day of Half term.
Driving to Wells to our holiday home.
No more school whistles, no more books to learn.
I'm excited for Cheddar Gauge and Frome.
All breathless as we climb Jacob's Ladder.
As we ascend, we see a mountain goat.
It's sunny as we look over Cheddar.
A strong wind blows; I'm glad I brought my coat!
We then descend down into Goff's dark cave.
Where the bones of the Cheddar Man were found.
Water drips down the rocks onto his grave.
Fantastic rock shapes are formed all around.
We go to Bath, and it is my highlight.
Shopping, lunch, then pizza for the last night.

Sixth Sense

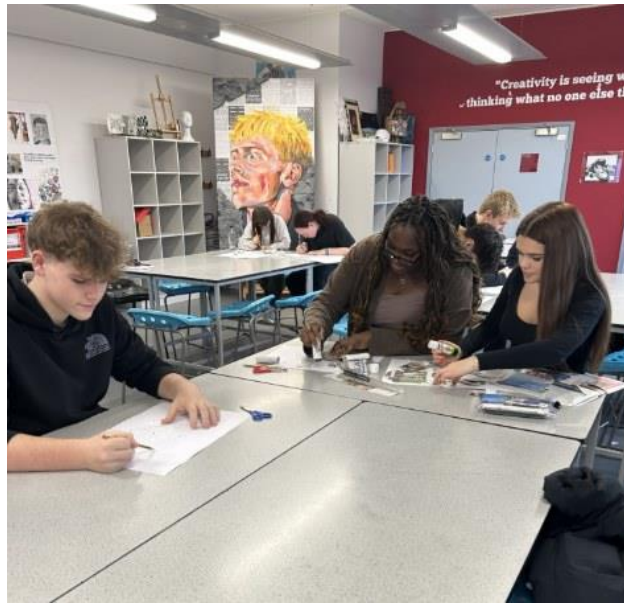
Sixth Former for a Day 2025

On Wednesday 3rd December, Year 11 participated in our exciting Sixth Former for a Day event enabling them to experience what life is like for a Sixth Former at Turing House. Students pre-selected subjects to attend from a range of A Levels and BTEC options (taught by staff at Kingston College) and were given a taster of KS5 teaching and a brief introduction to the content that they would be studying next year. Students enjoyed a new style of teaching, in smaller class sizes and with students who share a similar interest in their subject specialisms. A major plus for the day was certainly the fact that students could come in their own clothes and use the Sixth Form facilities - as well as the free lunch and Sixth Form quiz too!

They also sampled the dynamic world of media careers through a specially designed taster session designed to encourage their interest in A Level Media Studies. The highlight of the lesson was the visit from James Cuthroys, a TV Producer at Sky with expertise in sports broadcasting, who shared insights into the fast-paced industry and the importance of engaging diverse audiences. Inspired by his talk, students were challenged with a creative brief: to design innovative social media campaigns and experiential marketing events that could strengthen Sky's connection with different demographic groups. Working collaboratively in small groups, they explored ideas ranging from influencer partnerships to interactive fan experiences, gaining a real taste of how media professionals craft strategies to captivate audiences in today's competitive landscape. The session not only broadened their understanding of media but also gave them a glimpse into the exciting career pathways in TV the subject can unlock.

There was a real buzz across the day from both staff and students, all wholly enjoying this new experience. We hope that this has served to inform our Year 11s in their Post-16 choices, and we look forward to seeing them enrolling into Turing House Sixth Form in August.





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>

Building Bug Houses in Eco Club

Eco Club have been making plans to improve our school environment and diversity for wildlife. They are planning to build bug houses and this week they were busy in the workshop building bird houses. If you have any items that will be useful for the bug homes - old guttering or plastic pipes, old small flowerpots or small branches, do bring them to Ms Smith or Mrs Wigglesworth. If you want to get involved, come and join the club on Wednesday lunchtime and/or Tuesday after school.



Sports fixtures

Year 11 Boys Rugby v St James

The Year 11 boys travelled to St James in Ashford this week to play them in a friendly rugby match. A physical encounter played out over two halves which saw the Turing team take an early lead. St James made something of a comeback in the second half, but THS held up a try on their goal line to deny the home side and see out the game with a 24-14 win. The team will be switching codes next week in one final rugby fixture of the year, when they are back playing at

the same school, but this time taking part in a rugby league tournament. Well done to all involved!



Year 7/8 Girls Football v Uxbridge

The combined Year 7 and 8 girls team made their way to west London to face Uxbridge in a friendly football match this week. Hoping to put their skills and teamwork to the test against a less familiar opponent, the girls have been on positive form in their recent borough league matches. The home side seemed to have the slight edge over the Turing team, however, who were a little off the mark by their own standards. The girls went 1-0 down in the first half before a second was added to a 2-0 defeat. It was a good test for them all to be involved in which was enjoyed despite the loss. Well done to all involved!



Year 7 Boys Middlesex Rugby Tournament

A team of Year 7 boys took part in the Middlesex rugby tournament at Grasshoppers RFC last week, coming up against a range of schools from the county. With games being played in a shorter format, it's often hard to come out on top in each match and a pacy start is always required. The Turing team did well to play in two games back-to-back against Grey Court and

Teddington which were very close games, then followed by a draw against Christ's. In the second half of the tournament played in the afternoon, THS lost to Halliford but saved their best performance for the end as they finished the day on a big win against Ealing Fields. Well done to all involved!



[Year 10 Boys Football v Hampton High](#)

The Year 10 boys got their league campaign underway in the Richmond borough football fixtures this week. The Turing team were playing away from home against Hampton High and what a close and exciting game it was. Neither side looked like scoring due to solid defensive back lines at either end of the pitch, until a Turing goal put them 1-0 late on. The boys continued to defend effectively and chased a second to increase their lead, but then Hampton levelled the scoreboard at a crucial time in the match. With not much time left, it became increasingly difficult to find a winning goal and the two teams had to settle for an otherwise hard-fought draw with a goal each. Their next game will be against Teddington at home where the boys will look to make it two games from two undefeated. Well done to all involved!

[Year 10/11 Boys Basketball v Christ's School](#)

The Year 10 and 11 boys played their borough fixture against Christ's mid-week. It's a fixture that needs no introduction as these two teams are often battling it out for top spot and the occasion never disappoints on the competitive front. Knowing this could well be the final time

the Year 11 boys get to play a competitive match on the court at THS, they put on an 'all or nothing' show and pulled out the stops for this showdown. Dominating under the basket and winning rebounds like a wound-up Jack Russell, the Turing team soared to a 60-21 victory, delivering one final crushing blow in the face of this familiar opponent. Magnificent. Stylish. Poetic. These were just some of the words heard by Miss Johnson who was watching on in awe. Well done to all involved!

Year 8 and 9 Football Tournament

The past few weeks have seen THS attend two football tournaments at Orleans Park, one for Year 8 and one for Year 9 students. The tournament is running for the second year and is designed to give students the opportunity to play and compete in a competitive and inclusive environment outside of the regular Richmond borough fixture schedule. Both Turing teams who attended their respective tournaments put in a fantastic effort on the pitch, showing cohesion and grit in the cold conditions. The Year 8 boys set the tone by winning their tournament, and then the Year 9s matched that performance by taking first place in theirs too! Well done to all involved!



Calling all cricketers

The London Borough of Richmond upon Thames Sports Development Team are looking for talented U13 boy and girl cricketers (School Year 8 and under) to represent Team Richmond in the 2026 London Youth Games Indoor Cricket Cup.

This event is open to cricketers who either live, or go to school, in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames and who were under 13 on 1st September 2025 and selection is open to all boys up to but not including County level and all girls up to and including County level.

We will be running two trial days on Saturday 10th and Saturday 17th January 2026. These trials will take place at Whitton Sports and Fitness Centre. The boys' trial will be between 2.00 – 3.30pm and the girls will be between 3.30 – 5.00pm. You can only attend one trial.

Successful trialists will attend training sessions on Saturday afternoons from end of January up until qualifiers takes place on Saturday 7th March 2026.

The training sessions will be free and will be led by experienced ECB coaches.

If you are interested, please sign up with Team Richmond at the following link - [London Youth Games - London Borough of Richmond upon Thames](#)

Spaces are limited due to the capacity of the sports hall so please sign up early if you are interested.

If you have any questions, please contact The Sports Development Team at londonyouthgames@richmond.gov.uk