



Message from Mr O'Sullivan 5th January 2026

A rather belated Christmas Edition of our newsletter arrives as the sun is shining on a cold January morning. We have managed to find a workaround for the newsletter and hope that Microsoft Sway will iron out the glitches soon. We hope that you had a restful Christmas break and the staff at Turing House School wish all members of our school community a successful 2026. The start of a new year, whilst not the start of a new academic year, is a good time for our students to reflect on the previous year and make a conscious effort to move things forward, with a specific focus on ensuring that at the end of the year they are reaching if not exceeding their academic potential. The key to any change is to start small and stay realistic. Big changes begin with simple, achievable steps. Here are some examples of what might help reach our goals:

- **Stay Organised:** Declutter your study space, use a planner, and keep assignments in order
- **Be Present in Every Class:** Commit to being present and engaged
- **Manage Time Better:** Complete assignments early to avoid last-minute stress
- **Set Specific Goals:** Commit to your target grades, if not better them
- **Read More:** Challenge yourself with books above your level or set a reading goal

- **Improve Memory Retention:** Strengthen this skill across subjects
- **Connect with teachers:** They want you to do well

Being successful is about having a balance. Remember to look after yourselves by eating healthily, getting enough sleep and exercising. For our Year 11 and Year 13 students there are around 80 days left until the formal exam period starts so committing to some positive resolutions is in your best interests. Good luck in 2026.

Bake-off Competition

A massive well done to all those who took part in the first ever house bake-off competition that ran during the last week of term. Students, representing their house, were teamed with a member of staff and tasked with baking something delicious in the theme of Christmas. The judging panel then did a taste test, scored each bake and the results were announced. Attenborough House were the ultimate winners but all students (and staff) did brilliantly and fully embraced the festive competition.





THS Music

Christmas Concert

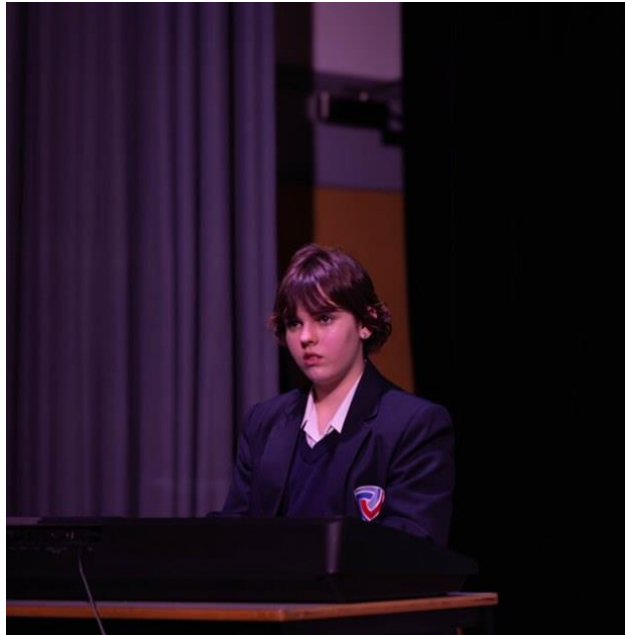
On Tuesday 16th December, we held our annual Christmas Concert to a sold-out audience in the evening as well as to students in years 3 and 6 at Heathfield Junior School. There was some outstanding musicianship on show throughout the hour-long show, including numerous instrumental solos, some excellent vocal numbers from pop and musical theatre as well as several ensembles and bands. Sam O'B, George G, Joseph B and Rock R-S (all Y10) all performed

Piano pieces they'd been working on this term with Lily F (Y9) performing Scott Joplin's Maple Leaf Rag, whilst Teodor I (Y8) made his concert debut by playing music by Beethoven. Raffi P (Y11) became King George III by performing You'll Be Back from Hamilton whilst Cleo R-W (Y9) and Holly T (Y10) impressed with strong vocal performances on their concert debuts. Our Band Club ensembles performed renditions of several well-known pop and rock songs including Yellow by Coldplay, Iron Lung by Radiohead and Alive by Pearl Jam. One of the highlights was Mr O'Sullivan performing with students and other staff with 'Twist and Shout'. The concert ended with Turing Singers (fresh from their performance at Disneyland Paris) joining our Year 11 GCSE musicians in performing Africa by Toto. Well done and congratulations to every single student involved, whether a soloist, band member or a singer.









THS Music Clubs

| Music Extra-Curricular Clubs: January-March 2026 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
| Before School 7:45 – 8:20 | Music Closed | 0.13 and practice rooms available | Grade 5 Theory Open to all wishing to enter the exam 0.14 | | Music Closed |
| Break | 0.13 and practice rooms available | 0.13 and practice rooms available | Music Closed | 0.13 and practice rooms available | Music Closed |
| Lunchtime 12:40 – 1:15 | 0.13 and practice rooms available | 0.13 and practice rooms available | Brass Band Open to all Brass Players 0.13 | GCSE Composition (Y10-11 Only) 0.14 | Music Tech Club Student-led 0.14 |
| After School | Turing Singers* Open to all 3:10 – 4:30pm 0.13 | Show Band (invitation Only) 3:10 – 4:30 0.13 | Band Club Student-led Pop/Rock groups 3:10 – 4pm Music Dept | Show Band (invitation Only) 3:10 – 4:30 0.13 | Music Closed |

Co-curricular Lessons with Richmond Music Trust

Students are always welcome to enrol for musical instrument lessons and the new year is always a good time to start. If your child is expressing an interest in learning a musical instrument, please visit Richmond Music Trust's website to register for lessons as well as an up-to-date list of fees and musical instrument hire. Currently, we have tuition for piano/keyboard, acoustic and electric guitar, drum kit, voice, upper strings (violin and viola) and brass (trumpet, baritone and trombone).

<https://www.richmondmusictrust.org.uk/site/tuition/learn-with-us/apply-now/>

School Uniform



A Christmas Carol

Year 11 very much enjoyed their trip to The Exchange Theatre in Twickenham last term, to see the one-man performance of 'A Christmas Carol'. This week in class, they've been writing reviews of the show. Here are a selection:

What really stood out to me was how accurate the play was. When watching the play, every key part in the novel is executed perfectly and comes to life when watching. Sacha B

What do you call a solitary old man on stage for 90 minutes? Magnificent! This was Vincent Franklin's outstanding performance last week at The Exchange in Twickenham. His solo performance of "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens was engaging and eventful throughout. He stayed in character for the full 90 minutes, perfectly portraying the gritty character of Scrooge. The story shows Scrooge's redemption, as in the beginning his character is seen as solitary and greedy, but by the end he is seen as giving and kind. Luciano D

There wasn't an interval in the 1 hour and 30 minutes performance but that did not bother me, I was glued to my seat. His multi rolling shows his incredible acting, from acting like a grumpy Scrooge to an uplifting Bob Cratchit. This shows 'A Christmas Carol' in a deeper way and showed the little things you would have missed in the book. Tom H

Don't be a Scrooge at Christmas! Vincent Franklin (The Thick of It, Happy Valley) is the perfect role for Scrooge (and the 20 other characters he plays!) and creates a new take on an old classic. Franklin portrayed the characters well, with various accents and defined facial expressions, creating characters who are so opposite from each other, yet have lines one after another. Amber S

Year 9 Charity Project: First Give in Action!

Last term, our Year 9 students took part in the **First Give charity project** during their tutor times. Each tutor group selected a charity close to their hearts and worked hard on social action projects to either raise funds or increase awareness for their chosen cause.

Selected students from each tutor group attended a **public speaking workshop** run by First Give. The session was designed to help them refine their presentation skills ahead of the exciting **final showdown in the New Year**.

The workshop was a fantastic opportunity for students to showcase their knowledge and passion for their charities. Every participant spoke confidently about the incredible work they've done so far, and it was inspiring to see their commitment to making a difference.

We can't wait to see these talented students present their projects in the upcoming competition after Christmas. **Well done Year 9 – you're making a real impact!**





Christmas Food Hampers & Christmas Fair

Our Christmas charity initiative was a wonderful success. Students across all houses worked together to create Christmas boxes filled with donations for our local food bank. House points were awarded for the highest number of items donated as well as for the most creative box designs from each house. We were truly impressed by the fantastic designs and generosity shown, and we are delighted to say that a significant amount of food was collected to support those in need. Thank you to all students and families for your kindness and support.



We also celebrated another very successful event with our Christmas Fair. With over 50 stalls, it was our busiest fair to date. Students showcased incredible creativity and enterprise, selling everything from delicious food to handmade items. The event was a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their entrepreneurial skills.

A huge thank you to all students and families who supported the fair and helped make it such a memorable occasion.



Sixth Sense

Sixth Form Panto

Last month, the Sixth Form waved its magic wand and brought Cinderella to life in our very first Christmas Pantomime! Featuring a fantastic mix of staff and student performers, the production had everything from outrageous costumes, many mishaps, the Macarena and lots of laughs. Our student audience really got into the spirit and joined in too. We all had a lot of fun, and we are excited to make this a beloved annual tradition in the Sixth Form. Our next year's cohort have a lot to live up to!

A huge thank you to everyone who performed, helped behind the scenes, and supported the event. Our Sixth Formers were wonderful both behind the scenes and taking on main roles. Toby R (Y11) also did an amazing job photographing a few of the performances.

A glass slipper? More like a dirty white trainer! A review by Erin L, Year

How do we entertain a large group of teenagers who are begging for the Christmas holidays to begin? Well, the answer is simple. Sit them in front of a Gen Z adaptation of Cinderella, performed by their own teachers who probably just want to go home.

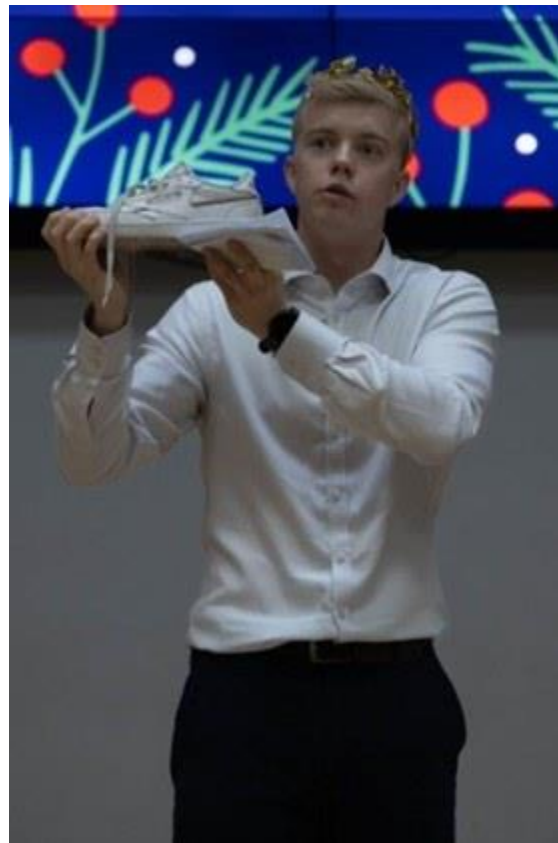
The slightly embarrassed but fantastic Mrs Lamb played the young Cinderella, who just wanted to go to the Prince's party and give him her snap. Noah S and Mrs Johnson's imaginative script was set in the 'magical land of Whitton', where a smartly dressed Buttons (played by Caelan D) makes us laugh with his overexcited nature and love for Cinderella. That is until the one and only Prince Charming (played by Mr Newman) waltzes in and steals Cinderella's heart with his 'awesome' Macarena skills and his 'premium rizz'.

I think the Ugly Stepsisters really set the scene. With their blinding yellow wigs and practically bald feather boas, you really couldn't miss them. And we mustn't forget the one and only Evil Stepmother, who really was convinced that her daughters were the most beautiful girls in the world. But let's be honest, they were more like pigs in lipstick.

While you might imagine the actors reading off scripts and forgetting their lines would ruin the pantomime, I believe it really added to the comedic nature of it all. Not to mention the utter dread in Mrs Lamb's face when reading the so called 'Gen Z slang'. The lack of set design was slightly disappointing, but to be fair, there is only so much you can do with a Henry Hoover and broom stick.

Overall, the panto was a great way to enjoy the final week of the Christmas Term. Erin L,





Sky Academy Sky Up Film Experience

On Tuesday 9th December, Sixth Form students had the fantastic opportunity to take part in the Sky Academy *Sky Up* Film Experience, where they immersed themselves in a dynamic workshop, explored exciting career pathways, and enjoyed a short but inspiring tour of Sky Studios Elstree. The day was filled with energy and creativity, as students gained first-hand insight into the world of media and broadcasting while being guided by Sky's talented professionals. Their enthusiasm and curiosity shone through, making the most of every moment and demonstrating the confidence and ambition that will carry them into future success.

A highlight of the experience came when the students split into two teams to deliver their own film pitches, showcasing originality, teamwork, and a flair for storytelling. Their ideas impressed and reflected the high standards of imagination and presentation expected in the industry. Adding to the excitement, they were joined live via Zoom by leading Sky Sports journalist David Garrido, who shared his expertise and inspired students with his career journey. The combination of Sky's world-class facilities, expert guidance, and the students' creativity made the event a truly memorable and uplifting experience for everyone involved.



