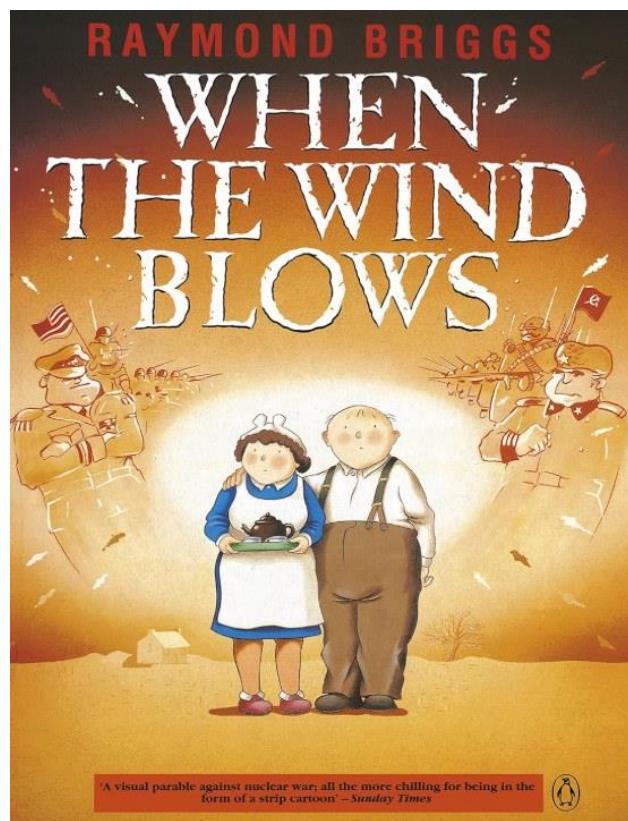


Message from Mr O'Sullivan 9th January 2026

I couldn't have been more impressed with the students this week who took part in our first ever lockdown drill. I have always felt that this sort of thing can be upsetting for children. This is perhaps a legacy from my own childhood. Parents may remember the 'Protect and Survive' leaflet that was dropped on households in the early 1980s that encouraged families to create a makeshift nuclear bunker by placing a door at 45 degrees to a wall and stocking it with cans of food. By 1986 students were being shown 'When the wind blows' on wheeled out TVs in classrooms. Even a soundtrack from Bowie didn't make this haunting (yet excellent) movie any less upsetting. However, preparing all public buildings is vital in ensuring that we can respond sensibly if a situation were to arise. I was particularly impressed by the feedback from students about how things could be even better. All the learning points have been actioned. Well done, all.



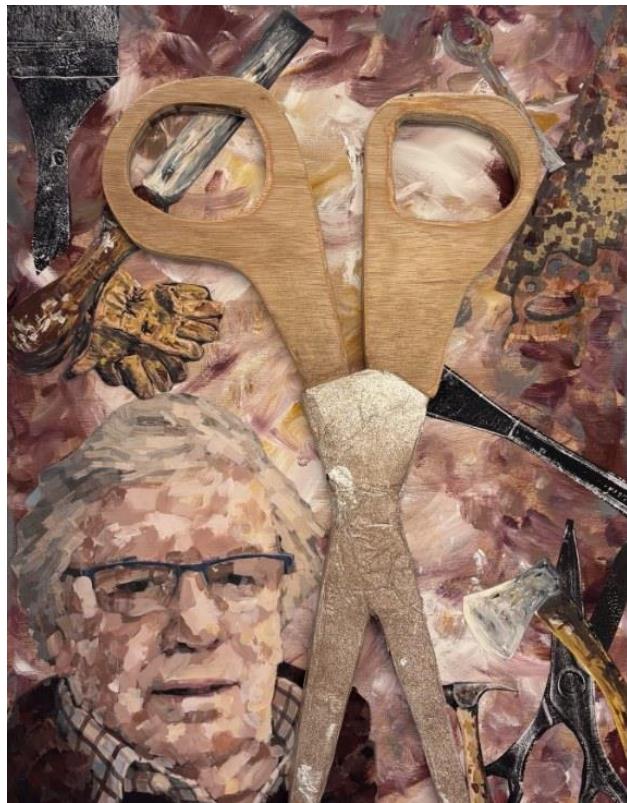
Forthcoming Dates

- 22nd January - DTP & Meningitis ACWY vaccinations
- 22nd January - Year 7 online parents' evening
- 12th February - Careers Fair
- 16th - 20th February - Half Term

GCSE Art

Freddie M and Xavier G completed these lovely final outcomes for their first project. Both were deeply influenced by their grandfathers, whose passion for working in the shed, crafting with wood and tools, sparked their own creativity.





Turing House Friends Second Hand Uniform Sale

The Turing House Friends are hosting a second hand uniform sale this Saturday, 10th January, from 10.30am to 11.30am.

This is a great opportunity to pick up quality pre-loved uniform at affordable prices. The sale will be in the car park (or the canteen if too wet or cold).

Whether you're looking to stock up on essentials, find larger sizes as your child grows, or simply grab a few spare items, there will be a wide selection available. All proceeds go towards supporting Turing House Friends activities and initiatives that benefit our students.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Year 7 and 8 Reading Celebration Event

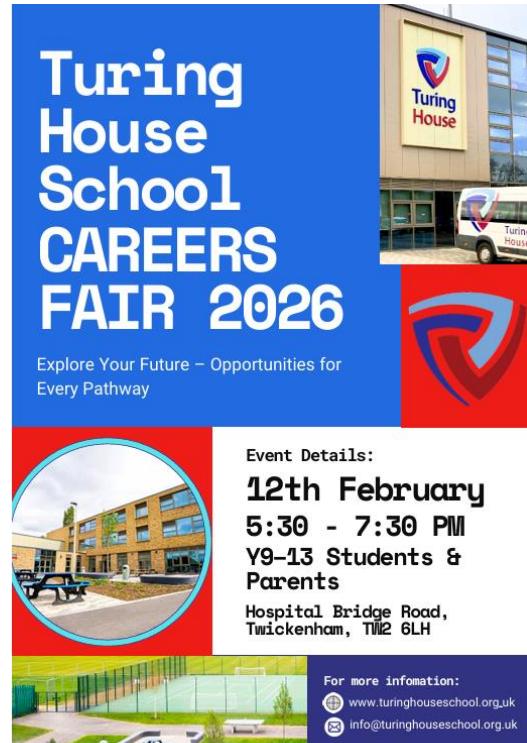
On Thursday 18th December, some Year 7 and Year 8 students enjoyed a celebration breakfast during which they discussed the books they've read with other students. Year 7 students who attended the Wimbledon Bookfest trip back in September discussed Paterson Joseph's '10 Children Who Changed the World', and attendees of the weekly Book Clubs shared their reflections about the following novels: 'The Deadsoul Project' by Dan Smith (Year 7) and 'Ghost' by Jason Reynolds (Year 8). It was really pleasing to hear the students share their thoughts about what they enjoyed (or disliked!) about the texts whilst indulging in some pastries and fruit. Mr. Tse-Laurence and I were particularly impressed by the leadership shown by the Amazing Leaders, some of whom produced pieces of work to demonstrate their completion of the text - well done to all involved!

Tutor Time Reading: Every Monday A reminder that all students are expected to bring and read a physical reading book during every Monday tutor time, beginning Monday 12th January. Amazing Leaders should read 'Escape Room: Game Zero' by Christopher Edge (which they received on the Wimbledon Bookfest trip), Book Club attendees could choose a different book

by the author of their Book Club book, and all other students could consult the personalised 'wishlist' they created using [Whichbook | A new way of choosing what book to read next](https://whichbook.com/) in English lessons before the winter break.



Careers evening



Opportunity from University of Cambridge

Please find an exciting opportunity from the University of Cambridge for students in Year 10. Please see Miss Sabharwal if you have any questions.

 HOMERTON COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

IS KNOWLEDGE DANGEROUS?

FUTURE READY! STUDY SKILLS AND UNIVERSITY PREPARATION PROGRAMME FOR Y10/ S3 STUDENTS



WHAT?
Create your own essay on this year's topic:
IS KNOWLEDGE DANGEROUS?

While developing skills to prepare you for GCSEs/ Highers, and for university!
Prizes will be awarded for the best essays.

WHEN AND WHERE?
Online on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00-6:30pm from 3rd to 26th March 2026.
Ends with a Celebration Event at Homerton College, University of Cambridge!








APPLY HERE

DEADLINE:
12pm 13th January 2026



CONTACT US
Twitter: @HomertonSLO
Instagram: homerton_outreach
access@homerton.cam.ac.uk
01223 747293

Animate History: Aardman Academy Workshop

An exciting opportunity for families! The National Archives is hosting a stop-motion animation workshop with **Aardman Academy** – the team behind Wallace & Gromit and Shaun the Sheep.

When: Saturday, 7 February 2026 (10:30 – 16:00)

Where: The National Archives, Kew

Who: Ages 11-14 with an accompanying adult. In this full-day workshop, families will learn stop-motion animation techniques from Aardman professionals, creating animations inspired by historical documents from The National Archives' collection. The young person (11-14) must be accompanied by one adult ready to join in, plus there's space for one additional family member.

How to apply: Places are limited and allocated by ballot. Complete the application form, and successful applicants will be notified by email on **21 January**. Places must be confirmed by **28 January**. <https://forms.office.com/e/h9yUGe4JX3>

Don't miss this unique chance to combine creativity, animation, and history! *Note: Submitting an application does not guarantee a place.*

South Thames Colleges Group Open Events

This term we will be hosting five Open Events, details below, as well as a [Group Apprenticeship Information Evening](#), when young people will be able to meet employers offering Apprenticeships, find out how Apprenticeships work and take a look at our current vacancies.

Spring Term Open Events for September 2026 Entry

Kingston College	Saturday 24 January, 10am-1pm	<u>Register here</u>
Carshalton College	Wednesday 25 February, 5pm-7pm	<u>Register here</u>
South Thames College	Wednesday 4 March, 4.30pm-6.30pm	<u>Register here</u>
Merton College	Wednesday 11 March, 5pm-7pm	<u>Register here</u>
Kingston College	Wednesday 18 March, 4.30pm-6.30pm	<u>Register here</u>

For further details on the Group Apprenticeship Information Evening, hosted by Carshalton College on Thursday 12 February, and to register, please click [HERE](#).

Parent Network invitation

Family and Carer Network for Girls with ASD at THS

Supporting girls to thrive in mainstream secondary school



Why focus on girls with ASD?

- Girls often mask difficulties and may go unnoticed
- Social pressures can feel very intense in secondary school
- Challenges often include friendships, sensory overload, organisation and mental health difficulties
- Early understanding, timely intervention and tailored support makes huge impact to overall success and wellbeing

Increase awareness and understanding in how ASD can present in girls to help families and staff identify needs early

Purpose of the parent network

Strengthen home - school collaboration

Create a supportive community to share experiences and challenges

Share practical tools and resources - signposting to strategies, local services, workshops and support groups

What the network provides:

- Termly meetings in person or online dependant on group preference
- Guest speakers
- Resource sharing
- A communication channel for updates, ideas and support
- Opportunities for parent - school collaboration on policies and wellbeing initiatives

Simple Home Strategies for Success in School

Routines - consistent morning and evening routines; visual planners to outline homework, downtime, expectations

Emotional Support - identify early signs of overload (withdrawal, irritability, need for solitude), use calm down strategies (deep pressure, quiet space, breathing routines), validate feelings with simple, direct language

Social Navigation - practice scenarios (friendship issues, group work), encourage structured social opportunities aligned with interests, support recovery time after school

Executive Functioning - break tasks into steps, use timers for short, focused work periods, provide choices to encourage autonomy

Strengths-Based Approach - celebrate special interests, talents and achievements, give opportunities for success and leadership

to be added to the Parent Network, please email FAO: Mrs Hicks to info@turinghouseschool.org.uk