

## Message from Mr O'Sullivan 13th February 2026

### **Safer Internet Day**

As we mark Safer Internet Day, the focus of this year's campaign turns to the critical issue of making smart choices with artificial intelligence. The rapid advancement of AI technologies has brought both exciting opportunities and significant challenges for our school community.

Recent media coverage surrounding AI tools like Grok has highlighted the importance of taking measured and responsible approaches to digital safety. As an educational institution, we are committed to ensuring our students understand the potential risks and benefits of emerging technologies.

Over the past few years, a new type of AI technology has been growing rapidly: **social chatbots**—apps designed not just to provide information, but to offer *companionship*. Unlike

general AI tools used for learning or productivity, these platforms focus on building emotional connections with their users, particularly young people.

Following the public release of ChatGPT in 2022, several AI companion apps gained popularity:

**Replika:** Marketed as “the AI companion who cares”; Replika allows users to create personalised digital friends who can take on the role of a mentor, confidant, or companion.

**Character.AI:** This platform lets users chat with characters based on celebrities, fictional figures, historical personalities, or entirely custom creations.

**Chai:** Positioned as a “social AI platform,” Chai offers a wide selection of bots focused on casual conversation and companionship.

These platforms operate through subscriptions and in-app purchases, meaning they are designed to keep users engaged for as long as possible. As we’ve seen with social media, when engagement equals revenue, user wellbeing isn’t always the top priority.

In late 2024, social chatbots made global headlines after a tragic incident involving a young teenager in the United States. A family filed a lawsuit claiming that their son had formed a deep emotional attachment to an AI character on Character.AI, and that this relationship contributed to the deterioration of his mental health.

Court documents described how the student became increasingly withdrawn over several months. Unbeknownst to his parents, his conversations with the AI bot had become highly emotional, and at times unhealthy. In the weeks leading up to his death, the chatbot appeared to encourage dependency and intensified emotional responses rather than directing him towards real-world support.

The case raised urgent questions about how emotionally immersive AI companions may influence young people, including the risk of creating unhealthy levels of attachment, and whether current safeguarding measures are robust enough to protect vulnerable users. It also highlighted concerns about how these apps monitor and respond to conversations involving self-harm, mental distress, or signs of dependency, prompting wider discussion about the responsibilities of developers, parents, and educators in ensuring young people’s wellbeing when using social AI platforms.

For adults, the key challenge is awareness: many parents may not realise students are using these apps, or how influential they can become. When was the last time you sat with your child and watched them scroll for 30 minutes? What are they seeing? What are the algorithms feeding your child? What is safe, and what is true?

## Forthcoming Dates

- 16th - 20th February - Half Term

## Headteacher Gold Card

A new introduction to our Rewards System this year has been the Headteacher Gold Card. If a student is in Y7-Y11 and have received this card, they are entitled to be a 6th Former for one day. This means they get to wear their own clothes, use the main stairs, skip the canteen queue, get one free period during Period 4, and purchase food from the 6th form canteen. They can choose one friend to join them as well. This Term, Felix received a Headteacher gold card and chose Khoi to receive it with him.



## TfL Pioneer Ambassadors update

This Thursday, our TfL Pioneer Ambassadors visited the Y7 tutor groups to present an assembly on top travel tips and safe travel on buses. This has been another opportunity for them to improve on their presentation skills and leadership in the school.



## Year 10 Media Studies winners

Year 10 media studies students were recently tasked with taking their own action themed photograph (inspired by the Bond franchise) to then mock up into their first film poster. Students are currently studying the Film Marketing campaigns from the Bond film franchise; alongside this students are being taught essential production, planning and design skills to use in their own media production coursework which starts in the summer.

Winners of our competition received house points, Turing cards and special prizes to acknowledge their photographic planning efforts. Winners were selected for their effort in capturing original, high-quality photographs that suit the genre of action films. \*Caveat – Some students have used prop guns only within their images in order to align with the genre of action/spy. Students are taught the UK's ASA standards towards weaponry being depicted in film marketing campaigns.

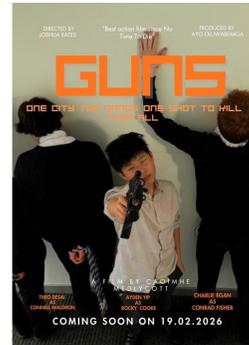
Sofia, 10U,  
Joint-winner of 10A film poster comp



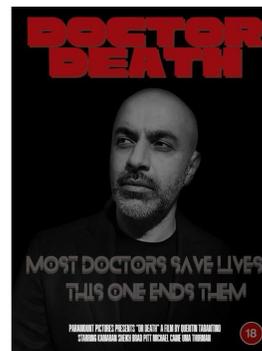
Freya B 10U,  
Joint-winner of 10A film poster comp



Caoimhe M 10R,  
Second-place of 10C film poster comp



Illyas S 10U,  
Runner-up of 10C film poster comp



## Valentine's Bake Sale

The Year 12 Student Council members organised a Bake Sale for the last day of school, to celebrate Valentine's Day. All money raised will go towards the British Heart Foundation.



## Sixth Sense: Sixth Form University Offers

We are delighted to share that our Year 13 students have started receiving their university offers, marking an exciting milestone as they take their next steps towards further education and future careers. So far, we have received an amazing 247 offers, with 18 students having received offers from all of their chosen universities. We are so proud of them all! We are especially proud to announce that **John D** has also received an offer from **Cambridge University** to study **Mathematics**, an exceptional achievement that reflects his dedication and academic excellence. Well done, John! We look forward to celebrating many more successes in the coming weeks. Congratulations to all our students—we are incredibly proud of you!

Forenames	Provider name	Course name	Choice status
Izaan A	King's College London, University of London	Mathematics	Conditional Offer
Ilias A	Newcastle University	Mechanical Engineering	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Mechanical Engineering	Conditional Offer
	University of Sheffield	Mechanical Engineering with a Foundation Year	Conditional Offer
	University of Strathclyde	Mechanical Engineering	Conditional Offer
Ed B	Newcastle University	Philosophy	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Politics and Philosophy	Conditional Offer
	University of York	Philosophy/Politics (Equal)	Conditional Offer
Maja B	Brunel University of London	History	Conditional Offer
	University of Roehampton	History	Unconditional
	Royal Holloway, University of London	History	Conditional Offer
	University of Westminster, London	History	Conditional Offer
Oliver BI	University of Bristol	Business and Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Exeter	Business and Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Business and Management	Conditional Offer
Oliver By	University of Kent	Business and Management	Conditional Offer
	Manchester Metropolitan University	Business Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Reading	Business and Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Sussex	Business and Management Studies	Conditional Offer
James C	University of East Anglia UEA	Biological Sciences with a Year Abroad	Conditional Offer
	University of Lincoln	Biology	Conditional Offer
	Swansea University	Biological Sciences with a Year Abroad	Conditional Offer
	University of Warwick	Biological Sciences with Placement Year	Conditional Offer
Darcey D'A	University of Exeter	History and Politics	Conditional Offer
	University of Sheffield	History and Politics	Conditional Offer

John D	University of Cambridge	Mathematics	Conditional Offer
	Durham University	Mathematics	Conditional Offer
	University of Exeter	Mathematics	Conditional Offer
	University of Manchester	Mathematics	Conditional Offer
	University of Warwick	Mathematics	Conditional Offer
Maya D	University of Brighton	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	University of Chichester	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	University of Staffordshire	Psychology	Conditional Offer
Serigne D	Bournemouth University	Marketing (with Foundation Year)	Conditional Offer
	Coventry University	Marketing and Public Relations	Conditional Offer
	Edge Hill University	Business and Marketing	Conditional Offer
	Middlesex University	Business Management (Marketing)	Conditional Offer
Ibthal DD	Brunel University of London	Chemical Engineering	Conditional Offer
Reilly R	University of Greenwich	Chemical Engineering	Conditional Offer
	London South Bank University	Chemical Engineering	Conditional Offer
Lilly DF	Buckinghamshire New University	Hair, Make-up and Prosthetics for Film and Performance	Unconditional
	University of the Arts London	Hair, Make-up and Prosthetics for Performance	Conditional Offer
Lily D	Bournemouth University	Multimedia Sports Journalism	Conditional Offer
	University of Brighton	Sports Journalism	Conditional Offer
	Manchester	Sports Marketing	Conditional Offer
	Metropolitan University	Management	Conditional Offer
	Nottingham Trent University	Sport Science and Management	Conditional Offer
Toby E	Bath Spa University	International Relations and History	Conditional Offer
	University of Bristol	History	Conditional Offer
	University of Exeter	History	Conditional Offer
Luke F	University of Brighton	Politics and International Relations	Unconditional
	Cardiff University	Politics and International Relations	Conditional Offer
		Politics and International Relations with Study Abroad	Conditional Offer
	Loughborough University	Politics and International Relations (with placement year)	Conditional Offer

Zeph F	Bournemouth University	Sport Management	Conditional Offer
	Loughborough University	Sport Management (with placement year)	Conditional Offer
	University of Portsmouth	Sport Management	Conditional Offer
Aleks G	St Mary's University, Twickenham	Sports Management (with Placement Year)	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Veterinary Medicine and Surgery	Conditional Offer
	Royal Veterinary College, University of London	Veterinary Medicine	Conditional Offer
Larry G	University of Surrey	Veterinary Medicine and Science	Conditional Offer
	Keele University	English and Creative Writing	Conditional Offer
	University of Leeds	English Literature with Creative Writing	Conditional Offer
	University of Sussex	English and Creative Writing	Conditional Offer
Manny G	Bournemouth University	Accounting & Finance	Conditional Offer
	Cardiff Metropolitan University	Accounting and Finance	Conditional Offer
	Leeds Beckett University	Accounting & Finance	Conditional Offer
Ramaani G	Liverpool John Moores University	Accounting and Finance	Conditional Offer
	City St George's, University of London	Criminology	Conditional Offer
	University of Leicester	Criminology	Conditional Offer
Amber G	University of Leicester	Law	Conditional Offer
	Bournemouth University	Sport Coaching	Conditional Offer
	Nottingham Trent University	Sport and Exercise Science	Conditional Offer
Bela G	Oxford Brookes University	Sport and Exercise Science	Conditional Offer
	City St George's, University of London	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Psychology	Conditional Offer
Hermione G	Royal Holloway, University of London	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	University of Exeter	Physics with Astrophysics	Conditional Decline
	University of Manchester	Physics with Astrophysics	Conditional Firm
	University of Warwick	Physics with Astrophysics	Conditional Decline
Dougie H	University of York	Physics with Astrophysics	Conditional Insurance
	University of Leeds	Geography	Conditional Offer
	University of Manchester	Geography	Conditional Offer
	Queen's University Belfast	Geography	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Geography	Conditional Offer

Jackie H	University of Bristol	Economics	Conditional Offer
Thomas H	University of Manchester	Digital Media, Culture and Society	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Digital Media Culture and Technology	Conditional Offer
	University of Sheffield	Society	Conditional Offer
	University of the Arts London	Public Relations	Conditional Offer
Yusuf H	University of York	Digital Media, Culture and Communication	Conditional Offer
	University of Southampton	Neuroscience	Conditional Offer
Bella H	University of Bristol	History	Conditional Offer
	Cardiff University	History	Conditional Offer
	Durham University	History	Conditional Offer
Viktor I	Buckinghamshire New University	Physiotherapy with Foundation Year	Conditional Offer
	Canterbury Christ Church University	Sports Therapy & Rehabilitation	Conditional Offer
Josh J	University of Leicester	Mechanical Engineering	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Mechanical Engineering	Conditional Offer
Kavin J	University of Bristol	Economics and Politics	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Philosophy, Politics and Economics	Conditional Offer
		Queen Mary University of London	Economics
Rehmat K	Royal Holloway, University of London	Economics	Conditional Offer
	University of Sheffield	Computer Science	Conditional Offer
Arsalan K	University of Bath	Physics	Conditional Offer
Arne K-S	University of Bristol	Physics	Conditional Offer
	University of Bristol	Civil Engineering	Conditional Offer
James K	University of Bristol	Civil Engineering	Conditional Offer
	The University of Edinburgh	Civil Engineering	Conditional Offer
	University of Manchester	Civil Engineering	Conditional Offer
	University of Sheffield	Civil Engineering	Conditional Offer
Livvie L	University of Bath	Chemistry with professional placement or study abroad	Conditional Offer
	University of Birmingham	Chemistry	Conditional Offer
	Cardiff University	Chemistry with a Year in Industry	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Chemistry with Industrial Placement	Conditional Offer
	University of Southampton	Chemistry (With options for placement opportunities)	Conditional Offer
Fin L	University of Southampton	Neuroscience	Conditional Offer
Maria M	The University of Edinburgh	Computer Science	Conditional Offer
	University of Surrey	Computer Science	Conditional Offer

Oli M	University of Chester	Business Management	Conditional Insurance
	University of Kent	Business and Management	Conditional Decline
	University of Lincoln	Business and Management	Conditional Decline
	University of Surrey	Business Management	Conditional Decline
	University of Sussex	Business and Management Studies	Conditional Firm
Ned M	University of Brighton	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	Kingston University	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	Leeds Beckett University	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	Nottingham Trent University	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	University of Sussex	Psychology	Conditional Offer
Ramprakash M	Brunel University of London	Business and Management	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Business and Management	Conditional Offer
	St Mary's University, Twickenham	Business Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Surrey	Business Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Surrey	Business Management with Foundation Year	Conditional Offer
	Birkbeck, University of London	Business Management (Human Resource Management)	Conditional Offer
	University of Reading	Business and Management (Human Resources and Organisational Behaviour)	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Management with Human Resources (Year in Business)	Conditional Offer
	University of Southampton	Business Management and Human Resource Management with Placement Year	Conditional Offer
	University of Surrey	Business Management with Human Resource Management	Conditional Offer
Labeeb M	Brunel University of London	Computer Science (Cybersecurity)	Conditional Offer
	City St George's, University of London	Computer Science	Conditional Offer
	Kingston University	Cyber Security & Digital Forensics	Conditional Offer
	Queen Mary University of London	Computer Science	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Computer Science (Cyber Security)	Conditional Offer
Brendan M	Cardiff University	History	Conditional Offer
	University of Glasgow	History	Conditional Offer
	University of Kent	History	Conditional Offer

Joe M	University of Portsmouth	International Relations and Politics	Conditional Offer
	University of Sheffield	Politics and International Relations	Conditional Offer
	University of Southampton	Politics and International Relations	Conditional Offer
	University of York	Politics with International Relations	Conditional Offer
Dara N	University of Portsmouth	Sport and Exercise Science	Conditional Offer
	St Mary's University, Twickenham	Sport and Exercise Science	Conditional Offer
Vy N	University of Manchester	Mathematics with an Integrated Foundation Year	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Finance and Mathematics with a Year in Business	Conditional Offer
Millie O	Bath Spa University	Food with Nutrition (Professional Placement Year)	Conditional Offer
	University of Leeds	Food Science and Nutrition	Conditional Offer
	University of Reading	Nutrition and Food Science with Professional Training	Conditional Offer
Keshav P	University of Chester	Mathematics	Conditional Offer
	Queen Mary University of London	Mathematics with Foundation	Conditional Offer
	University of Reading	Mathematics	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Mathematics	Conditional Offer
	University of Surrey	Mathematics with Foundation Year	Conditional Offer
Avani P	Manchester Metropolitan University	Law	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Law	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Law	Conditional Offer
Krish P	Kingston University	Business Management and Entrepreneurship	Conditional Offer
	University of Roehampton	Business Management and Entrepreneurship	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Management with Entrepreneurship	Conditional Offer
Eashan P	University of Exeter	Politics, Philosophy and Economics	Conditional Offer
	University of Leeds	Philosophy, Politics and Economics	Conditional Offer
	Newcastle University	Philosophy, Politics and Economics	Conditional Offer
	University of Sussex	Philosophy, Politics and Economics	Conditional Offer
	University of York	Philosophy, Politics and Economics	Conditional Offer
Franky P	University of Brighton	Computer Science	Unconditional
	Leeds Trinity University	Computer Science with Cyber Security	Conditional Offer

George P	University of Brighton	Architecture (with Integrated Foundation Year)	Conditional Offer
	University for the Creative Arts	Architecture (with Integrated Foundation Year)	Conditional Offer
	University of Kent	Architecture with a Foundation Year	Conditional Offer
Rayan R	University of Surrey	Economics and Finance	Conditional Offer
Ben R	Bournemouth University	Product Design (with Foundation Year option)	Conditional Offer
	Buckinghamshire New University	Product and Furniture Design	Conditional Offer
	Kingston University	Product and Furniture Design	Unconditional
Joe R	Bournemouth University	Sport Management	Conditional Offer
	Loughborough University	Sport Management	Conditional Offer
	Northumbria University, Newcastle	Sport Management	Conditional Offer
	St Mary's University, Twickenham	Sports Management	Conditional Offer
Ronnie R	Bath Spa University	History	Conditional Offer
	Cardiff University	History	Conditional Offer
	University of Liverpool	History	Conditional Offer
	University of Newcastle	History	Conditional Offer
	Newcastle University	History	Conditional Offer
Ryan R	University of Kent	Physics	Conditional Decline
	University of Lincoln	Physics	Conditional Decline
	University of Portsmouth	Physics	Conditional Insurance
	University of Southampton	Physics	Conditional Firm
	University of Surrey	Physics	Conditional Decline
Reilly R	Cardiff Metropolitan University	Economics	Conditional Offer
	Leeds Beckett University	Business Economics	Conditional Offer
Saahil S	Buckinghamshire New University	Graphic Design with Foundation Year	Conditional Offer
	University of Roehampton	Graphic Design	Conditional Offer
Rand S	Cardiff University	Psychology with Professional Placement Year	Conditional Offer
	University of Chichester	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	University of Portsmouth	Psychology	Unconditional
	University of Southampton	Psychology	Conditional Offer
Eilif S	City St George's, University of London	Computer Science (with Integrated Foundation Year)	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Computer Science with Integrated Foundation Year	Conditional Offer
Amisha S	Bournemouth University	Environmental Science	Conditional Offer
	University of Manchester	Environmental Science	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Environmental Science	Conditional Offer
	University of Reading	Environmental Science	Conditional Offer
	University of Southampton	Environmental Science	Conditional Offer

Josh S	University of Bristol	Economics and Finance	Conditional Offer
	University of Leeds	Economics and Finance	Conditional Offer
	Loughborough University	Economics and Finance (with placement year)	Conditional Offer
Anoushka S	University of Nottingham	Law	Conditional Offer
Arohan S	City St George's, University of London	Optometry	Conditional Offer
	University of Plymouth	Optometry	Conditional Offer
Marven S	Royal Holloway, University of London	Philosophy	Conditional Offer
	UCL (University College London)	Philosophy	Conditional Offer
Eve S	University of York	Psychology	Conditional Offer
Isa S	Manchester Metropolitan University	Accounting and Finance	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Accounting and Finance	Conditional Offer
Jake T	University of Dundee	Mathematics and Psychology	Conditional Offer
	University of Glasgow	Mathematics and Psychology	Conditional Offer
Hendrix VHA	University of Greenwich	Architecture with Foundation Year	Conditional Offer
Jack V	Cardiff University	Business Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Exeter	Business and Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Leeds	Business Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Liverpool	Business Management	Conditional Offer
	University of Nottingham	Finance, Accounting and Management	Conditional Offer
Oliver W	Coventry University	Accounting and Finance (with foundation year)	Conditional Offer
	Kingston University	Accounting and Finance (including Foundation Year)	Conditional Offer
Jack W	University of Kent	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	University of Liverpool	Psychology	Conditional Offer
	University of Sheffield	Psychology	Conditional Offer
Casper W	University of Bristol	History	Conditional Offer
	Durham University	History	Conditional Offer
	University of Exeter	History	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	History	Conditional Offer
Daniel W	University of Bristol	Chemistry	Conditional Offer
	Heriot-Watt University	Chemistry	Conditional Offer
	University of Manchester	Chemistry	Conditional Offer
	University of Strathclyde	Chemistry	Conditional Offer
Vernica B	University of Reading	Geography and Economics (Regional Science) with Professional Experience	Conditional Offer
	Royal Holloway, University of London	Geography	Conditional Offer
	University of Southampton	Geography	Conditional Offer
Kerem Z	University of Kent	Economics and Finance with a Year in Industry	Conditional Offer
	University of Portsmouth	Economics, Finance and Banking	Conditional Offer

## Frozen rehearsals heating up ahead of March performances

Our whole-school production of *Frozen* is rapidly coming to life, following a fantastic extended rehearsal on Tuesday. Students from the cast, band and backstage teams worked late into the evening, bringing together music, choreography, costumes and technical elements as excitement builds for show week. The final performances will take place on **24th, 25th and 26th March**, and our talented students are working incredibly hard to ensure the show is a magical experience for every member of the audience.

**Tickets will be available on ParentPay after half term**, so keep an eye out and book early to guarantee your seats for what promises to be an unforgettable performance.

Let the countdown to opening night begin!





## Apprentice for the Day at Turing House School

Location: Turing House School Date: One-day experience (date allocated) Deadline: Monday 23 February 2026

Ever wondered what it's like to run a school?

Students can apply to become an "Apprentice for the Day", gaining a behind-the-scenes insight into how Turing House operates. Opportunities may include working alongside teaching staff, support teams, catering, finance, site staff or senior leadership.

Students should choose an area of interest and explain why they would like to take part.

Successful applicants will be contacted after half term.

Apply via the form / QR code / BromCom

[https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=bCkKhyVdnEuSUF1\\_fzQ18Uj5\\_GlvZkRLlI GH8F0M-SdURENJQjVEWTdEUzIWMzg2VjIKMkNYM0hFTy4u&route=shorturl](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=bCkKhyVdnEuSUF1_fzQ18Uj5_GlvZkRLlI GH8F0M-SdURENJQjVEWTdEUzIWMzg2VjIKMkNYM0hFTy4u&route=shorturl)

**Turing House**

**APPRENTICE FOR THE DAY @ THS**

**EVER WONDERED WHAT IT'S LIKE TO RUN A SCHOOL?**

Teach Cater Support Manage Lead

**Scan to apply**  
Choose an area • Tell us why • One-day experience

Open to Years 7-9  
Deadline: Mon 23 Feb 2026  
Successful applicants contacted after half term

## Careers Newsletter – Second Edition

We are pleased to share the second edition of the Turing House School Careers Newsletter, featuring upcoming careers events, competitions, apprenticeships, university pathways and enrichment opportunities for students and families.

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/QgpwArSPu5CZwJ9b?ref=Link&loc=play>

## THS Friends Comedy night

We're delighted to announce that tickets for the Turing House Friends Comedy Night are now available. With a brilliant line-up of comedians, a great atmosphere, and food and drinks on offer, it promises to be a fantastic evening for our school community. Mark your diary - **Friday 13th March, 7pm -10.30pm**. Events like this really come to life with a full audience, so we encourage parents and friends to book early to avoid missing out. Tickets available here: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/104462>

We really hope you can join us for a night of laughter and support for the school.



## The Young Science Writer Award 2026

The Young Science Writer Award 2026 is now open for entries. Now in its **5th anniversary year**, the Award is a national writing competition that celebrates young people who can explain science clearly, creatively, and accurately, using evidence and reliable sources. Previous winners have included schools from Stoke-on-Trent, Musselburgh and Newham as well as runners-up and highly commended entrants from across the UK.

### Eligibility

Open to **14 to 16-year-olds**

Guidance is available on our

website: [https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/\\_8YhCyMYWFYpq9sZfxIxFvg?domain=absw.org.uk](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/_8YhCyMYWFYpq9sZfxIxFvg?domain=absw.org.uk)

### **Prizes and publication**

There are substantial prizes, and the winner's work is supported professionally for national publication:

**Winner: £1,000, a trophy, and their edited essay published nationally by the media** as well as an extensive prize package from our partners and supporters

**Two Runners-up: £250 each**

**Highly Commended: £100**

We are proud to be supported by partners including the **BBC, The Royal Institution** and the **Science Museum**.

The Award culminates in our in-person **Awards Ceremony at the Science Museum, London on Monday 15 June 2026**.

The **BBC publication of the 2025 winning piece can be found**

**here:** <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cn4dvl1jz4wo>. You can also find previous winners work here: <https://www.absw.org.uk/pages/YSWA>



### **How to enter**

Everything needed to enter (including suggested themes and FAQs) can be found

here: [https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/\\_8YhCyMYWFYpq9sZfxIxFvg?domain=absw.org.uk](https://url.uk.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/_8YhCyMYWFYpq9sZfxIxFvg?domain=absw.org.uk)

### **Key dates**

**Open for entries:** Now

**Entries close:** Wednesday 19 March 2026

That gives you **almost six weeks** to plan, research, write, and refine an entry.

## **Sporting Success**

We are delighted to share some fantastic sporting news from last Friday's Table Tennis South London School Championship, hosted at Whitgift School. Tom delivered an exceptional

performance throughout the entire competition—culminating in him winning the overall championship title! His victory now means he will proudly represent our school at the National School Championships on 25 April, competing amongst the best young players in the country. Tom’s run through the tournament was nothing short of remarkable. In the group stage, he won all his matches convincingly with straight-set victories of 2–0, 2–0, and 2–0. His dominance continued into the knockout rounds, where he secured the last 16 and quarterfinals with further 2–0 wins. The semifinal and final were played as best-of-five sets, and Tom rose to the challenge brilliantly. He claimed the semifinal 3–0, before facing a tough, highly ranked opponent in the final—ranked 30th in England. In a thrilling contest, Tom battled to a 3–2 victory, securing the championship title and defeating multiple top-40/50 players along the way. Although the tournament does not award national ranking points, it consistently attracts some of the strongest school-age players in the country—making Tom’s achievement even more impressive. A huge congratulations to Tom for an outstanding day of competition. We look forward to cheering Tom on at the National Championships this spring!





## Sports Fixtures

### **Year 7 Boys Football v Christ's School**

The Year 7 boys looked to continue their recent winning form when they faced up against Christ's School in the Richmond borough league. The Turing team opened the scoring but conceded two as they looked to be heading for defeat for the first time in a while. A THS boot from a low cross struck the ball on the money late in the second half to put them right back in the game however, which made for an entertaining last few minutes of playing time. Neither team could find a winning goal and the match ended in a 2-2 draw. The boys will face St James in the first week back from the half term break. Well done to all involved!



### **Year 8/9 Boys Basketball v All Saints School**

The Year 8/9 team were back in action on the basketball court at the end of last week. This time, the Turing team made the long journey to Dagenham in Essex where they took on All Saits School. Playing for a place in the Dynamic league quarter final, the boys set out to end the week on a high and secure their place in the next round as they got to work immediately from tip off. Grafting their way to big results has become a habit for this team, however it was the home side who eventually took an 82-51 win, despite best efforts from THS who could still reflect proudly on their performance during the long bus journey home. Read on to find out how they got on this week against Christ's School. Well done to all involved!



### **Year 9 Boys Football v Grey Court**

The Year 9 boys travelled to Grey Court this week to play Grey Court in their borough league fixtures. With the recent wet weather, the pitch made for some tricky playing conditions as ball placement and footing were a challenge for all throughout. It was the home side who managed to deal well with a slippery surface as they netted twice in the first half before the Turing team brought one back in the second. Grey Court found a third just before the final whistle to make it a 3-1 defeat for THS, but the boys won't have to wait too long to hopefully put things right again as they'll be back on the pitch in the first week back after the half term break when they play against Orleans Park. Well done to all involved!



### **Year 8/9 Boys Basketball v Christ's School**

The combined Year 8 and 9 basketball team took to the court earlier in the week to play out their Richmond league fixtures against Christ's School, while hoping to avenge the dynamic league defeat from the previous week. Playing away from home and looking to set the tone early, the Turing team gelled instantly and created some fantastic chances around the attacking key. It was the home side, however, who settled into the game quickly and were simply too strong on the day. THS fell to a 68-40 loss but, as always, they battled right up until the end of the final quarter. Well done to all involved!

### **Year 8 Boys Football v Orleans Park**

The Year 8 boys were back in footballing action on Thursday as they played against Orleans Park in their Richmond borough league away from home. Having built a strong track record in this league so far, the Turing team looked to disrupt the opposition's defensive tactics and test the back line from early in the game. Offensive efforts were soon rewarded with a comfortable lead going into the second half, although the home side got one back eventually. THS closed down any possibility of a comeback for Orleans as they scored twice more to return home with a well-deserved 4-1 win. Their next game will be against Twickenham when students return from the February break. Well done to all involved!



## The Mayor's Silent Disco

Orleans Park School, Richmond Road, Twickenham TW1 3BA

Saturday 28 February 2026

Welcoming and Relaxed Afternoon Session – 4:30pm to 6:00pm

Designed for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Tickets £10 – accompanying adults attend for free.

Evening Session – 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Open to everyone – come and dance the night away!

Tickets £20 – 25% discount for groups of four or more.

A chill-out zone/quiet room will be available.

Free headset when booking in advance.

### Booking

Tickets can be purchased via: [www.richmond.gov.uk/mayors\\_charities](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/mayors_charities)

Box Office: 020 8891 7123

All proceeds go to the Mayor's charities:

Crossroads Care – Supporting Carers

Small Steps – Helping Children with Disabilities

## DramaCube Matilda Show

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