Turing House Headteacher's Update 6 November 2015

Official Opening

Turing House was formally opened by Shuna Hunt, niece of the mathematician and codebreaker Alan Turing, after whom the school is named. Mrs. Hunt unveiled a plague and spoke warmly of how excited her uncle would have been by the commemoration of his legacy. She felt he would have "just wanted to roll his sleeves up and say: come on, who's got some ideas for something interesting we can do?"



The school also welcomed the mathematics writer and broadcaster Simon Singh, who brought an original Enigma Machine and talked to guests about Turing's contribution to deciphering its wartime messages.



The ceremony was attended by students, some of whom sang and read poetry, as well as school governors and trustees, the Mayor of Richmond, local politicians and partners of the school.

We are proud to have Alan Turing's name associated with our school. The way that his great work has been recognised and also how his mistreatment society has been by acknowledged demonstrates the values that we want our students to aspire to.



'Sometimes it is the people no-one imagines anything of who do the things that no-one can imagine.'

Forthcoming Events

8 November: Remembrance Sunday 11 November: National Space Centre Visit 13 November: INSET Day

7 December: 'Spirit of Christmas' 7pm

Fixtures

12 November: Boys' Football 'C': (Hm) v The Mall **16 November:** Girls' Table Tennis Tournament 27 November: Mixed Cross Country: AWAY v Richmond Borough

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Remembrance Sunday – November 8th

Students taking part in the Remembrance Sunday parade in Teddington should meet in Kingston Lane at 10am on Sunday.

PE Lessons next week

Please remember that PE activities swap over on Monday next week. 7DA and 7EM will have rugby and 7PE and 7MO have swimming. Please remember the right equipment!

PTA

The PTA inaugural meeting was held on Monday evening. A constitution was adopted and officers elected. The official name is "Turing House Friends" (THF).

Plans for supporting the school's "Spirit of Christmas" celebration were discussed as well as other ideas to support the wok of the school. More details will be published soon and a social event for parents to get to know each other is being planned. Watch this space!

Literacy Fact - Connectives

A connective is a word that connects ideas because it links clauses or sentences. They can be words like 'but', 'when', 'because' (conjunctions) or 'however', 'then' (connecting adverbs). It is not usually appropriate to use more than one connective in a sentence.

I went to the shop because I wanted a packet of sweets.

'Because' connects two sentences together and is therefore a connective.

Admissions 2016

We knew that we were going to be a popular choice for next year after our exceptionally busy open evenings and mornings. We've now had more than 500 families name us as a preference for next September! I have no doubt that this is a result of the self-evident maturity, confidence and happiness of our founding cohort who conducted all the tours.

National Space Centre Trip – Reminder

On Wednesday 11th November, Turing House students will embark on a mission to the Space Centre, Leicester. To help us to make the most of our day and make the trip a success, students should arrive at school in full school uniform, at 7.20am. Students will need to meet their tutor in the playground and be prepared for the coaches departing promptly at 7.30am.



Students are reminded to bring a packed lunch for the day. They may also bring a small amount of spending money, should there be time to visit the shop but are reminded that they will not be using the shop without an adult present. Students will be allowed to use mobile phones on the coach and are requested to bring headphones, should they wish to listen to music. A strict no usage policy will apply at the Space Centre, as upheld during the normal school day. Students are reminded that anything they do bring with them remains their responsibility.

Whilst at the Space Centre, students will be experiencing a variety of different activities including, a visit to the Planetarium, a workshop on 'Life in Space' and will also have time to view the many exhibitions at the centre.

We hope the day will be a valuable and enjoyable learning experience which will enhance their understanding of the topics covered in Science and History this term.

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Code Breaker Challenge

A number of students are currently taking part in the University of Southampton National Cipher Challenge <u>www.cipher.maths.soton.ac.uk</u> which gives them the chance to win a top prize of £1000 awarded by GCHQ alongside a number of other prizes which are given out on a weekly basis. However, there is stiff competition with students from more than 500 schools entering from around the country.

The competition consists of 8 challenges, each of which has a part A and a part B. For each part, there is a code to be broken and students must try to work out which deciphering method to use. So far, they have had to use the Caesar Cipher and frequency analysis. Their submissions are then scored based on speed and accuracy. All the codes revolve around the story of Harry trying to track down the Reichsdoktor in post war Berlin.

If you are not yet taking part, it's not too late. Round 3, which takes place this week is the first round which is scored and answers can be submitted until midnight tonight (Friday).

School Show Rehearsal Schedule

The Witches' Rehearsal Schedule – Term 2

DATE	who is needed?
10/11/15	Grand High Witch, Grand High Witch's
	Assistant (MO)
	Grandma, girl, display witches, treehouse
	witch (SH)
17/11/15	Car-erash chorus (MO)
	Grandma, girl, display witches, treehouse
	witch (SH)
24/11/15	Car-erash chorus (MO)
	Bruno, Girl, Doorman, Mr Jenkins, Mrs
	Jenkins (SH)
1/12/15	Bruno, Girl, Doorman, Mr Jenkins, Mrs
	Jenkins, Grand High Witch, Grand High
	Witch's assistant
8/12/15	ALL CAST
15/12/15	ALL CAST

INSET Day – 13 November

Please remember that Friday 13th November is an INSET day. Staff will be learning more about how to use the Virtual Learning Environment and continuing with planning of the curriculum for this year and next.

Canteen

Our canteen has been serving hot food for a week now and the menus have been very popular. The meal deal of a main course with pudding for £2.25 has drawn a large queue at the start of lunch!

We are now working on the completion of the cashless catering system – more details for you soon.

Getting ready for Christmas

Now that we are in November we are starting to think about getting ready for Christmas – yes already! Some things you will have heard of already but others will be new; see below!

Dress your Form Tutor

Students in each form group have been asked to plan and provide fancy dress for their form tutors to be judged in assembly on the last day of term. Tutors have to be consulted and must consent so 7DA may need to re-think their plan of Elsa for Mr Day!

School Christmas Card Competition

The competition to design a Turing House Christmas card is well underway with many students getting started over half-term.

The winning design will be printed on A5 card but the entries can be A4 in size; portrait or landscape designs are fine. No glitter or sparkles please – they don't reproduce well!

Form Group Christmas Trees

Each form group has been asked to decorate a small Christmas tree for another end of term competition. The rules are that everyone should contribute and all decorations must be home made

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School Christmas Tree

We will have a school Christmas tree that Ms Sherry is organising the decoration of. In the spirit of recycling we will be auctioning the tree to the highest bidder (minus decorations) to take away on the last day of term.

PTA Christmas Presents to Turing House

The PTA are organising a way for families to give the school a Christmas present of a book to start of our library. Staff and students are compiling a wish list that will go on a popular book ordering website. The aim is to have books delivered before the end of term to go under our Christmas tree. More details soon.

PTA Christmas Craft Sale

Students are being asked and encouraged to make more of the decorations for their form group trees so that they can be sold for charity at "Spirit of Christmas". Other ideas for fund raising items are welcome.

Christmas jumper charity day



On the 18th December the school council have decided to hold a Christmas Jumper day for charity. This will be a lovely way to finish our term before we break up for Christmas. The arrangement will be as follows. Students will bring in £1 and will be allowed to wear a Christmas jumper, with jeans and trainers or with the rest of their school uniform. All hair, makeup and jewellery rules will still apply. More information on this event can be found here <u>http://www.itv.com/textsanta/about-text-santa-</u> 2015

Children in Need

The School Council have decided that they would like to celebrate this event by holding not only a bake sale but an inter-form bake off competition. Therefore on Friday 20th November (1 week after the event) students are encouraged to bake, buy and bring in cakes which will then be sold at lunch time. Each form will decide on their best home baked cake based on the following criteria: taste, design & originality. These form winning cakes will then be sent to the leadership team for final judging. Each tutor will also be baking a cake, however Ms Emerton will need some kind of handicap in the judging process. The winning form will gain points towards the inter-tutor competition.



Level 3 Cycle Training

Students who wish to take a 1:1 Level 3 cycle training session should see Mr O'Sullivan to get a permission slip. They will go out in pairs with an instructor for an hour and cycle the route or as close to it that they take to school.

Students will need their own bike and helmet and will be provided with hi-visibility jackets. Sessions will commence in the week commencing 23rd November. For those wishing to cycle to school this would be a good opportunity to complete a reconnaissance of their route.

