

# Headteacher's Update

8th February 2019

## Year 10 Parents' Evening

This will be held on **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February** and will enable parents/carers to see subject teachers. In order to provide the opportunity for all parents to see some staff, the appointments are limited to 6 per student and will last 5 minutes.

To ensure the smooth running of the evening we have set the online booking system to ensure that appointments are booked with 5-minute gaps in between. Please book your appointments here: <a href="https://turinghouseschool.parentseveningsystem.co.uk">https://turinghouseschool.parentseveningsystem.co.uk</a>

The booking system will go live on 8th February at 7pm.

Unfortunately **Ms Harman (Spanish)** will not be available that evening; for parents of **Spanish classes 10A and 10C** who are taught by Ms Harman, if you wish to make a separate appointment with her the following week on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March between 15.00 and 18.00, please contact the school office.

Mrs Harper (AHT/SENCO) will be available on the evening to meet with parents of Year 10 students whose child is on the SEN register. If you would like to have a meeting with her, please contact the school office who will be able to schedule a meeting time slot separately from the online booking system.

#### **Forthcoming Events**

18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> February – Half Term Week

Mon 25<sup>th</sup> February – INSET Day

Tues 26<sup>th</sup> February – Students return to school

1st March – THS Comedy Night 7.30pm

4th February - Careers Talk

9<sup>th</sup> March - CoderDojo

14<sup>th</sup> March – Year 9 Options Evening

# PC Claydon Visits

Year 10 historians received a visit from PC Claydon on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> of February. As we are studying how crime and punishment has changed over time it was fascinating to learn of the work done by policemen in the present day. Amongst many topics, we learnt about how policeman are trained, how crime is prevented, and the equipment which police use.



PC Claydon encouraged any students who would be interested in a career in policing in future to join the Police Cadets. More information can be found out about the cadets at: https://vpc.police.uk/

#### **Fixtures**

12 Feb, 2019 Y7 Basketball St Richard Reynolds CC

#### Rwandan Genocide Survivor Visit

On Tuesday, Year 9 students heard the testimony of Rwandan Genocide survivor, Sophie Masereka. Sophie was joined by her husband for an afternoon which Kit believed he, and others, "will never forget". Sophie was prompted to tell her story as a result of her own experiences in 1994, and to try to address the problems faced by survivors who continue to be haunted by their memories of what happened.



After the moving and educational testimony many students chose to write messages to Sophie. Harley wrote that he couldn't thank Sophie enough for her inspiring words and story, and Raisharnai summed up how most of us felt when she wrote that "I admire your courage and emotion". Yasmin also thanked Sophie for "helping to educate young people to help prevent something like the genocide happening again". We are so grateful to Sophie and her husband for visiting, and in awe of both of their strength and character.

If you would like to find out more about Sophie, please use the following links:

- https://www.hmd.org.uk/resource/sophiemasereka/
- https://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/jan/27/genocide-survivors-cambodia-rwanda-holocaust-memorial-day

Sophie has also founded a charity to support children and young people who have been affected by the genocide and need help to start to rebuild their lives. If you wish to donate you can do so here:

https://www.sophiesurv.org/providingsupport/

# Important Information

We are currently seeing an increase in the numbers of students wearing black trainers to school. We understand that from time to time there may be a medical need warranting trainers to be worn but trainers such as those shown below, are not an acceptable choice of footwear for school.





As a reminder, the guidance for footwear is as follows:

Traditional flat, black sensible leather shoes. Lace up shoes preferable to Velcro, and lace up shoes must have black laces. No trainers or boots. No sandals, kitten heels, platform shoes or ballet pumps.

Similarly, there has been an increase in fashion bags being used by students in school. To ensure that all students conform to full uniform expectations, which includes the Turing House branded bag, we politely request that any damaged bags are replaced as soon as is feasible. Bags can be purchased from our uniform supplier, Stevensons (https://stevensons.co.uk/our-shops/).

#### Army Cadet Force

During Year 8 & 9 assemblies this week, Probationary Instructor Varney (one of our Support Teachers) and her sister Sgt Varney came into school to talk about the opportunities which the Army Cadet Force can offer students outside of school. PI Varney and Sgt Varney are in charge of the Twickenham Army Cadet unit.

In the Army Cadet Force, students can sign up to the cadets and participate in a variety of activities including: field craft, navigation, adventure training, rifle training, first aid and many more activities. Alongside this students can become involved in competitions such as football, rugby and swimming. Additionally, the Army Cadet Force offers outside qualifications that can be gained including CVQO (public services, team leadership, and young leaders), anti-bullying etc.



Twickenham Army Cadet Unit is open from 19:30 until 21:30 on a Monday and Wednesday evening. At the unit the cadets will carry out various classroom based lessons to gain the knowledge of the army cadet force and information needed to progress within their star squads, as well as physical training nights, command tasks to build on communication, confidence and team building, as well as rifle safety training, drill and turnout, first aid and various practical lessons based on their field activities which they will experience on our weekends away.

This is a great opportunity as it teaches each individual to become independent, develop their confidence, communication skills, team building and leadership in a variety of tasks. The Army Cadet Force offers everyone a safe and friendly environment where they can meet many new people, creating new friends which can last a life time. The Army Cadet Force is a youth organisation which operates under a military routine providing discipline, time management, but most importantly fun whilst doing so.



If you are interested in joining Twickenham Army Cadet Unit, please feel free to attend one of our evenings during the week where you can be provided more information regarding what we can offer, or alternatively make a visit up to the Plus office to speak to Miss Varney. The address for the unit is: London Road, Twickenham, TW1 1EJ.

## Congratulations

Well done to Joe Wiggins who recently passed his Grade 8 Piano exam with Merit.



#### Children's Mental Health Week



New research released by Place2Be for Children's Mental Health Week 2019 (4-10 February) suggests that children with less sleep are more likely to struggle with worries.

Children and young people who usually get less than the recommended 9 hours sleep on a school night are more likely to feel that worries get in the way of school work (32% vs 22%), according to a survey of over 1,100 10-11 year-olds and 13-15 year-olds carried out by Place2Be.

More than half (56%) of children and young people say they worry "all the time" about at least one thing to do with their school life, home life or themselves — and those getting less sleep are less able to cope with worries, saying they often don't know what to do when they're worried (22% vs 18%), and once they start worrying, they cannot stop (36% vs 28%).

For Children's Mental Health Week 2019 (4-10 February), Place2Be is taking steps to be 'Healthy: Inside and Out'. Because our bodies and minds are very closely linked, simple things that we do to improve our physical wellbeing – like eating healthily, being active and sleeping – can help our mental wellbeing as well.

#### **MENSA PUZZLE**

What number should replace the question mark?

4 - - - 22

28 - - - 154

38 - - - 209

24 - - - 132

18 - - - ?

Last week's answer: Silver, White, Red, Black, Green, Grey, Blue

#### Careers Talk



Thank you so much to Sarah Houghton from the Ministry of Defence for coming in on

Monday and leading a presentation on careers in the Civil Service. It was highly informative and students were also grateful for the leaflets which Sarah handed out about apprenticeships in the Civil Service.

Year 10 student Freddie Martin stated that "I found the talk very educational and I really think it will help with my present government and politics studies".

#### Year 7 Basketball - Congratulations



Well done to the Year 7 Basketball team who beat Twickenham 30 – 0!

A brilliant performance from all the girls.

Muhra from 7MD won the Player of the Match Award!

## Year 7 Football – Congratulations

Well done to the Year 7 Football Team who beat Hampton 1- 0



### Year 10 – English Students

Peter Jackson's incredible WWI documentary film, 'They Shall Not Grow Old', is available on iPlayer for 24 days. As advertised on the iPlayer website:

"Driven by a personal interest in the conflict, Jackson sets out to explore the day-to-day experience of its combatants. Immersed for months in the BBC and Imperial War Museum archives, Jackson created narratives and strategies regarding how this story should be told. Using only the voices of those involved, the film explores the reality of war on the front line: their attitudes to the conflict, how they ate, rested and formed friendships in those moments between battles, as well as their hopes and dreams for the future. Each frame of the film has been hand-colourised by Jackson's team, the footage 3D-digitised, transformed with modern post-production techniques, enabling these soldiers to walk and talk among us.

Reaching into the mists of time, Jackson aims to give these men voices, investigate the hopes and fears of these veterans that survived and were able to tell their stories, and detail the humility and humanity of those who represented a generation forever changed by the destruction of a global war."

The English department highly recommends that all of Year 10 (and everyone else, for that matter!) should watch it; please be aware, however, that it contains some upsetting scenes. It's a brilliant piece of film making but will also massively aid your understanding of the context of WWI and *Journey's End*.

https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b0brzkzx/they-shall-not-grow-old



#### Second – Hand Uniform Sale – Can you help?

We will be holding a second-hand uniform sale on 4 April at the Y7 Parents' Evening. Please pop it into your diaries and if you are able to help sort out the uniforms or supervise the sale, please email us at thf@turinghouseschool.org.uk

But the most important thing is, we need stock to sell! If you have any items you can donate to the sale, please label them for "Turing House Friends" and drop them off at either site. Thank you!

#### Comedy Night – Buy your tickets now!

Don't forget to get your tickets for the Turing House Friends Comedy Night on 1<sup>st</sup> March. It's a terrific line up from the Bearcat Comedy Club, including award-winning comedian and writer, Dominic Holland. It's a great way to support the school and meet other parents! Tickets are available from:

turinghouseschool.org.uk/thf.php



#### **AS Government & Politics**

Our politics group have been incredibly busy over the last few weeks. Not only did they take part in Radio 4's 'Any Questions', they also had Hounslow councillor Tom Bruce in for a question and answer session.



Both events were hugely successful with Brexit dominating both discussions. Crime rates, political participation and domestic abuse were also hot on the agenda. Jack L had his question (on how politicians are dealing with allergy-related deaths) picked for discussion. Sadly time ran out he was not able to go live.



Students were fantastic for both events and are now looking forward to their next event: a trip to the Houses of Parliament.

#### Science Museum Trip – Year 7

Feedback from the students after their visit to the Science Museum last week.





# Happy 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the Periodic Table!

This year, the periodic table of chemical elements celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. The United Nations has designated 2019 as the International Year of the Periodic Table to celebrate "one of the most significant achievements in science". How good is your knowledge of the Periodic Table? Take the quiz below to test your knowledge!

#### Periodic table quiz

Would you like to know more about the Periodic Table? Here are some videos that will help you understand the ingenuity of the Periodic Table!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPnwBITSmgU

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-48znAg7VE

#### Congratulations!



The 'father of computer science', Alan Turing, has been named the greatest and most influential person of all time on BBC Two's programme *Icons: The Greatest Person of the 20th Century*.

Turing played a hugely influential role in the development of computer science, and his Turing machine was considered to be the model for a general-purpose computer.

Alan Turing played a crucial role as a computer scientist during World War Two. Working at Bletchley Park, his ability to crack coded messages enabled the Allies to defeat the Nazis a number of times, and contributed to our victory in the war.



However after the war, Turing was prosecuted for his homosexuality. Given the choice of chemical castration or imprisonment, Turing chose the former. He died aged 41 in 1954.