

Headteacher's Update

1st April 2021

Message from Mr O'Sullivan

We have finally made it to the spring term. The sun is starting to shine, trees are becoming greener, and daffodils are adding much needed colour to the world. Last week on both sites we held a minute's silence to mark a year of Covid 19. It seems madness to think that it has been a year since I told the current Year 12 that their year was over and that their time at THS had come to an end.

It still really grates on me that we were unable to hold a prom or celebrate in the usual way. Yet here we are, a year later facing the same prospect with the current Year 11. It's important to look forward during this time to the amazing school being built a few miles away which is getting closer and closer to completion. Last week I mentioned an exciting venture which is the purchase of a time capsule dated from 2021 to 2121 which we will bury at the new site. It seems odd to think that none of us will be around to see this which is even more reason to put the correct things in it. Very shortly an assignment will be issued on Microsoft Teams with a closing date of December 2021. Students who would like something placed in the time capsule should write me a simple letter, stating what they would like to put in there any why.

Ideas could be as follows:

- A local daily newspaper
- A videotape of the local nightly news
- A national newspaper

- A television guide
- Magazines
- Travel brochures
- Retail catalogues
- Ticket stubs (concerts, movies, sporting events, etc.)



- Sports trading cards (or other collectibles)
- A list of popular expressions (slang)
- A popular toy or doll
- A sample of product packaging
- An extended family tree
- A floor plan of your home
- Top 10 music hits
- A menu from a favourite restaurant
- Items from your job or school (business card, etc.)
- Messages/Letters to the Future
- Photographs of people
- Photographs of places
- The exterior of a fuel station (including price board)
- Suburban skyline and shop fronts

Dates for the Diary:

Return to School — Monday 19th April 2021 Yr 9 Diptheria and Tetanus vaccinations — Monday 19th April 2021

Year 11

Please remember if you have been offered a place in our Sixth Form to accept it by email to info@turinghouseschoolorg.uk

- A succession of cars traveling down the street
- Advertising billboards
- Scenes from your neighbourhood
- The outside of your favourite restaurant
- Cinema with films listed
- Anything that you think is likely to change
- Interior and exterior photographs of your home
- Photographs of your car(s)
- Photographs of school
- Holiday or fun-time photos
- Photo/Video of the new site including a video of the time capsule being buried
- Recordings
- A video tour of your home
- A video tour of your work
- A video tour of your daily life
- A 'Predictions for the Future' session with friends in front of the camera
- Family history interviews
- Video messages to the future
- Popular or favourite TV shows
- Year-in-review specials (usually in December)
- Major sporting events
- Major news events
- Music videos
- Awards programs (Academy Awards®, etc.)
- Popular cartoons
- Music
- Plus, something to really throw the aliens when they open the capsule



Turing House Friends: Save the Date Thursday 22nd April at 7pm

Everyone is welcome to join us remotely for our next meeting after the Easter holiday. Please come along and help us plan our activities for the summer term.

https://stmarys.zoom.us/j/87315336505?pwd=bjVLanJXOE 1IR1hkNGt3VDhjUU5EUT09

Meeting ID: 873 1533 6505 Passcode: 512291

World Autism Awareness Week

This week is World Autism Awareness week. We have several students in school with an Autism diagnosis and, for all of them, their autism affects their experience of school. We want to encourage our whole school community to understand, embrace and celebrate the different ways of thinking that comes with Autism. Autism is a life-long condition; it is not true to say that 'everyone is a little bit autistic', medical professionals are the only people that can diagnose autism and diagnosis comes after a lot of work and time spent with families and schools. Autism is 'hidden', in other words, it is not always possible to tell that someone has autism.

Autism can mean that young people are amazingly gifted in certain ways. For example, they might have a phenomenal memory and passionate knowledge of their favourite subjects; for example, history; or general knowledge. They can be incredibly kind, loving and thoughtful people. They are normally very truthful people and rarely judge those around them and are more accepting of difference. They also often live in the moment, really taking notice of the world around them. Autistic people can be creative people whose unique thought processes can lead to innovative ideas and solutions to problems.

As well as the good things that Autism brings, it also means there are some challenges at school to young people who have a diagnosis. The difficulties experienced can often result in feelings of anxiety and increased tiredness.

The main barriers at school are with sensory difficulties. People with autism can experience the senses in a much more heightened way than neurotypicals (people who do not have an autism diagnosis). Noises can seem much louder, uniform can be problematic and the general busy, hectic atmosphere that is sometimes found in school can be quite distressing.

Another area of difficulty could be with social communication and interaction. Friendships can be difficult as social cues are not easily understood and miscommunications can happen, people with autism can sometimes be too honest! And this may come across as bluntness or rudeness even though this was not the intention. People with autism can also have a literal understanding of language meaning that nuance and even humour can be missed, and this can be very disconcerting for everyone.

Problems can occasionally arise in the classroom situation for students with autism because of a greater difficulty with understanding other people's points of view and differences between contexts; what is OK to do at home is often not OK to do in a classroom. Added to this, with a mind that tends to get firmly stuck on a particular idea, belief or opinion, when teachers and peers do not seem to understand things in the same way, school can seem like quite an isolating place.

Of course, every person with autism is an individual and not all people with autism experience the same traits, or experience traits in the same way. For example, females with autism can experience their traits very differently to males. Everyone should be treated equally and with respect and a level of empathy is required in trying to appreciate the difficulties that people with autism can experience. If their behaviour is sometimes unexpected, there will be a reason for this. At school, we support all students with autism to have a positive educational experience and support their emotional well-being.

If you have any questions about autism, or are concerned, please contact me at info@turinghouseschool.org.uk and we will get back to you. You can read about Autism Awareness week here:

https://www.autism.org.uk

https://www.wsh.nhs.uk/Staff/Health-andwellbeing/Calendar/Disability-Network/World-Autism-Awareness-Week.aspx

Mrs Harper; Assistant Headteacher and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo)

Sixth Form Good News!

This week's 'Good News' story, comes from Deputy Lead Student, Eita Shibazaki.

With the Easter holidays beginning and lockdown easing, we can finally get a sense of normality. During the Easter holidays, I'm sure many of us are going to end up 'hermiting' again, while others can't wait to get a break from school already and enjoy the amazing weather. As spring begins, we should start to think about sustaining the environment and supporting our local communities. One way we can do this is through the app 'Too Good To Go', where we can reduce food waste by helping our local small shops by rescuing food that would otherwise be thrown away. The app will advise

which shops are part of the scheme and, for a small cost, you turn up and receive a magic bag of delicious food!

Million Word Challenge

Here are some of our students receiving their certificates for the Million Word Challenge. A special mention to Molly E, 7U, who finished the challenge first and earned herself a book token for doing so!



Country File



Save the date: 18th April, please tune in to country file where our stable saviour Louis will be making an appearance!

Huge thanks & Well done

Thanks to Mariyah in Y7 who donated some of her Jack Petchy prize money to the Drama department. We bought another set of Trestle masks so that we have a more diverse range of skin tones.



We can't wait to use them in lessons next year.

Well done to Y11 drama students who completed their practical exams over the past two weeks. Students performed heart-warming scenes from Blood Brothers, dramatic scenes from 4:48 Psychosis and Macbeth, and emotional scenes from Five Kinds of Silence and Like a Virgin. The standard was exceptionally high, and we are really proud of all of our students who have persevered with rehearsals through lockdown.

Ashford Town (Middlesex) FC Girls Under 13

Ashford Town (Middlesex) FC Girls are looking for players to join the newly formed under 13s team. Training will take place once a week (Friday 5:30-7pm) and competitive matches will be played on Saturday mornings.



Physics Olympiad

Despite the numerous lockdowns the year 11 Physics students have proudly represented Turing House School in the Intermediate Physics Olympiad. The Olympiad took place the first week back in classes after the latest lockdown on Friday afternoon AFTER a full week of classes. Four students won Silver awards (Lilu K., Alex L., Ralph W., and Josi G.) and 8 students won Bronze awards (Marwan A. Connie B, Leah K, Balrohan A, Maggie M, Charlie H, Charles K and Maxwell B.)

The competition involved 204 schools with 4710 participating students. The competition is very demanding for students at this level, both to push them and encourage them to see their physics as a challenge in terms of what they believe they know. The competition is designed to show them that there are depths beyond the question they are commonly asked about with respect to the topics they have

studied. It certainly removes complacency from some able students. This test was to encourage them in their interrupted studies and to help them realise that they are amongst a cohort of able students and that they are able to mix with the best of them. Well done Year 11 Physics students!

A Level Chemists



The A level Chemistry students started with cyclohexanol that they refluxed with phosphoric acid and then changed their set-up to distil to recover cyclohexene. It is a tricky and very fiddly set-up that they handled like well-seasoned university students.

Stuff of Legend

"Since her death in 1979, the woman who discovered what the universe is made of has not so much as received a memorial plaque. Her newspaper obituaries do not mention her greatest discovery. [...] Every high school student knows that Isaac Newton discovered gravity, that Charles Darwin discovered evolution, and that Albert Einstein discovered the relativity of time. But when it comes to the composition of our universe, the textbooks simply say that the most abundant atom in the universe is hydrogen. And no one ever wonders how we know."

Jeremy Knowles, discussing the complete lack of recognition Cecilia Payne gets, even today, for her revolutionary discovery. (via alliterate)

Cecilia Payne's mother refused to spend money on her college education, so she won a scholarship to Cambridge.

Cecilia Payne completed her studies, but Cambridge wouldn't give her a degree because she was a woman, so she said to heck with that and moved to the United States to work at Harvard.

Cecilia Payne was the first person ever to earn a Ph.D. in astronomy from Radcliffe College, with what Otto Strauve called "the most brilliant Ph.D. thesis ever written in astronomy."

Not only did Cecilia Payne discover what the universe is made of, she also discovered what the sun is made of (Henry Norris Russell, a fellow astronomer, is usually given credit for discovering that the sun's composition is different from the Earth's, but he came to his conclusions four years later than Payne—after telling her not to publish).

Cecilia Payne is the reason we know basically anything about variable stars (stars whose brightness as seen from earth fluctuates). Literally every other study on variable stars is based on her work.

Cecilia Payne was the first woman to be promoted to full professor from within Harvard and is often credited with breaking the glass ceiling for women in the Harvard science department and in astronomy, as well as inspiring entire generations of women to take up science.

Cecilia Payne is awesome, and everyone should know her.



Year 7 Easter Egg Competition

This week year 7 were challenged to make/decorate an egg in an Easter theme. With over 45 students submitting entries we were absolutely blown away by the level of artistry and creativity produced. They have set a very high bar for next year's competition! Entries included hand-drawn pictures, chocolate-moulded designs, painted shells, origami, chocolate creations, hydro-dipped eggs, hand-sewn bunnies and decorated biscuits. Special shout-out to the slightly less Easter-themed, but still brilliant, Baby Yoda and Storm Trooper entries.

Mr O'Sullivan had a very tough time deciding the winners from such an egg-cellent collection. Well done to everyone who entered, we hope you keep up the cracking work in future competitions!





1st - Alice V (Bag also hand-made!)



2nd - Lucas M



3rd - Beatrice P



Runners up: Emilia S and William SI-S





Honourable mentions: Marivah S and Annie S





Sporting Headline of the Week

The new format of the Women's Six Nations is likely to only be for 2021, organisers have confirmed. This year's tournament is split into two pools of three teams, with a final round of games on 24 April pitting teams against their equivalent in the other pool to decide final positions. It is usually a six-team round-robin tournament.

Sporting Fact of the Week

Did you know.....?

Ski ballet, in which competitors perform balletic and acrobatic movements on the snow, was an official freestyle skiing discipline from the 1960s until 2000.

PE Reminder

After the Easter holiday, all core PE lessons for years 7-11 will be outside for the remainder of the year. Please ensure you have appropriate footwear and the correct clothing for outdoor activity. This should include a spare change of clothing in case it rains (this can be spare PE kit or your school uniform). We look forward to seeing you in PE after the holiday, where we will be doing volleyball, athletics and striking and fielding.

Generation2Generation Online Events

The story of Eric Murangwa Eugène MBE - Monday 10 May 2021 at 7pm

Join us during the Kwibuka27, the 100 days of commemoration of the Tutsi genocide in Rwanda. Eric Murangwa Eugène tells his story of survival during the Tutsi genocide; how his status as a footballer and his teammates saved his life. Eric is CEO and founder of the Ishami Foundation.

The stories of Eva Wirth and Istvan Wirth - Wednesday 16 June 2021 at 7pm

David Wirth tells the stories of how his Hungarian parents survived the Holocaust after separately enduring ghettos, camps, slave labour and death marches.

The story of Sabina Miller - Wednesday 14 July at 7pm

Sandra Miller tells the story of her mother who escaped from the Warsaw Ghetto, hid in a forest, was imprisoned and then took on the identity of a Polish girl and worked as a slave labourer.

To book one of these events, please click here: Events -**Generation 2 Generation**

Table Tennis Donation

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Woolaghan for donating a table tennis table to the school. The students are already making use of it and enjoying table tennis lessons on it. Thank you from Turing House School.

