



@TKASA

MAGAZINE AUTUMN TERM EDITION 2023



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■ GREGG MORRISON

It has been a hugely busy, but successful, couple of terms since we began the new academic year in September. Our three TPLT secondary schools continue to go from strength to strength in the way that they serve their communities.

You will probably be aware, both through your own children's experiences and the media, that schools nationwide are facing challenging circumstances. Pupil & staff absence, funding restraints and a lack of a support & intervention network for families experiencing difficulties, currently makes leading and working in schools a great challenge. Despite this, our schools continue to flourish and I know that you will want to join me in thanking and supporting the leaders and staff of your child(ren)'s school for the work that they have done in 2023.

Despite these challenges, our brilliant teachers continue to develop the learning experiences for our young people. In all three secondary schools, since September we have been focusing on developing our students' understanding of the curriculum that they are studying. How what is studied in Years 7, 8 and 9 (Key Stage 3) plays such a vital role in preparing them effectively for the qualifications that they will gain in Keys Stage 4 (Years 10 & 11). We are also unashamedly focused on improving standards of teaching and learning in all of our schools including further increasing the already high expectations that we have for our superb young people.

Thank you for supporting your child(ren) and their school across 2023. It is much appreciated and a healthy home-school relationship is essential for the happiness and academic achievements of all students. We wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and we look forward to working with you in 2024 and beyond.

Gregg Morrison
Director of Secondary Education
The Priory Learning Trust



■ CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON 2023

Thank you to Burnham-on-Sea Mayor, councillor Lesley Millard for switching on our Christmas lights.





MR MILFORD

Welcome to the Autumn edition of the TKASA newsletter.

This term has been a busy one, with lots of events happening in and around school as well as all the day to day lessons. In the following pages, you will be hearing from subject leaders and pastoral staff, as well as support staff, about all the great things that the students have been doing during the last two terms. I particularly enjoy seeing all the photos in the newsletter as they remind me of the vast array of opportunities we provide for our great students here at TKASA. Lots of smiling faces!

As always, I have been overwhelmed by the support we get from our local community. As usual this year, we joined in the annual Burnham-on-Sea Remembrance Parade and we were also joined by the Royal British Legion for our school Remembrance Service. We were also pleased to welcome the Mayor Lesley Millard who switched on our Christmas lights to kick off our Christmas activities. Our sixth form students have also been working on projects with the Mayor, such as the Youth Town Council and Climate and Sustainability groups. We have been thrilled again this year to link up with the local Burnham-on-Sea Rotary Club in competitions where we have celebrated some great achievements, including district, regional and national success.

I receive many emails and speak to parents regularly on the phone, as well as meeting parents in person. Often, ideas and improvements come from our parents and we are always open to discussion and suggestions. We have another Parent Forum arranged for January, where there will be the opportunity to discuss various items in a collaborative and productive way.

What a great Christmas Concert we had with the students taking part and just enjoying their craft! We held our Annual Awards Evening this month too, where we celebrated students past and present. Fantastic events that highlight what great students we have, who are both highly talented and mature. I am incredibly proud of all our students as I am sure that as their parents and carers, you are too.

My favourite part of the day though, is spent walking the school in and out of lessons, visiting assemblies and seeing students both in the classroom and out and about at social times. A particular favourite time of mine is Friday breaktime, when I present my

'Student of the Week' awards. Each day, I am so proud of how all the staff and students integrate and forge such strong, positive relationships. It is a real strength of TKASA.

As we move into 2024, we look forward to the Spring and Summer terms where a multitude of events and activities will take place, including Year 9 Options, Year 11 and 13 Mock exams, Work Experience, the annual drama production, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, Sports Day, formal GCSE and A Level exams, Leavers Day and Proms, RAG Week and a variety of enrichment trips. There really is so much to get involved in at TKASA!

You will see inside this newsletter the many activities that your children are a part of and I hope you will enjoy reading all about school life this term at TKASA. As we end another calendar year, one which has in many respects been a tough one for many of us, do enjoy the fact that TKASA is a great place to send your child, a place where they can flourish and grow over the time they are with us.

Finally, may I take this opportunity of wishing you a Happy Christmas and best wishes for a healthy and positive 2024; please enjoy some rest and relaxation with family and friends and we look forward to welcoming all the children back to school in January.

Merry Christmas
Dan Milford - Principal



TKASA Supporting the Foodbank
Thank you for your donations!





MISS CHARLES

It has been a fantastic start to the academic year. I have been overwhelmed over the last two terms with all of the amazing things that take place in our school on a daily basis. The students are studying a broad, knowledge rich curriculum where they have most recently completed learning cycle one. Our students recognise the curriculum language and they are very much involved with shaping the school's teaching and learning with their feedback.

We have had a real push this term on the quality of books with regard to presentation, stretch and challenge and evidence of feedback from knowledge gaps identified in their assessments and homework tasks/quizzes. Students should be able to use their books to talk about the curriculum journey that they are on as well as use them as a revision guide over their time with us. This will give students the opportunities to reach their fullest potential, opening doors for their futures.

Our students are brilliant and our staff are amazing. Together they make a strong team of committed, dedicated people working together striving for the best. I am proud of the effort that they are making both inside the lessons and during extra-curricular time. Our Year 11s 13's are now fully into their preparation for their exams. Going to lessons and looking at the work they are producing I am confident that the summer will be one of success and celebration. However, we will leave "no stone unturned" into making sure that all students are working to their full capacity and potential.

Celebrating achievements is so important to us, being able to share successes with families through classcharts and positive calls home. This term we also had our awards evening where students received awards from their subjects and other aspects of school life from the previous academic year. A lovely night was had by all.

I would like to finish by wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2024.



MR WALKER



Merry Christmas everybody!

As we near the end of another term and another year, it's a great opportunity to reflect on all the wonderful things that go on at TKASA and also looking forward to the future and things lined up in the terms ahead. It's also an important time of year to think of others, to reflect and to show compassion for others around us and others in our community.

This year at TKASA saw the re-launch of our House System after many years of it lying dormant in the history books of the school. It's been a truly brilliant start to an exciting future with the houses having a new lease of life with our 4 new House Leaders and Mr Shepard as our House Coordinator. We have had some brilliant events, competitions and assemblies over the last 2 terms, culminating in our own House Staff Quiz on the final Monday of term. There is lots more to come over the next term such as an events calendar, lunch time competitions and more prizes and rewards. Make sure you get involved in all the House System has to offer in 2024!

It is also a very poignant time of year to build on our brilliant community spirit and opening our school gates to support a wide range of events across the town. We welcomed our partners from the Burnham and Highbridge Food Bank over the course of a week of assemblies to hear how generosity in our community can really make a difference in people's lives, which is ever so important in these colder months over the Christmas period. In the last term we supported the Remembrance march with our partners at the Royal British Legion and also supported Eco-friendly initiatives across the town with our Sixth Form Student Union working closely with The Mayor, Cllr Lesley Millard to build a better and more sustainable Burnham and Highbridge.

I want to finish my short segment by asking our wonderful students to take time over the Christmas break to spend some quality time with family. Not just time in the same room, but quality time off devices, doing something different, sharing a new experience and sharing good memories or exciting thoughts of things to come in the future.

I wish everybody from the TKASA community and its families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

AWARDS EVENING 2023

We held our Annual Awards Evening on Wednesday, 13th December 2023. This is always a great event to celebrate students past and present. We were joined this year by our keynote speaker, Dr Jo Nurse, a former student of King Alfred School, now Strategic Advisor to the Interaction Council.

Awards were presented for excellence in their subject areas and amongst our winners were

George Whale - Head of Year Award KS3
Eleanor Partington - Head of Year Award KS4
Lucy Smith - Head of Year Award KS5

Harriet Hobbs - Helen Pardey Award
Kieran Blain - Julian Stearnes Award

Olivia Moores - D of E Award

Principal's Awards
Charlotte Avery - KS4
Emily Murphy - KS5

Tom Hicks - Community Service Award



HOUSES

We are very excited to bring you the first House Update via our fantastic Newsletter. It has been great to see so many students and their families engage in the gathering of House Points - long may it continue.

At the end of our first term we hosted the first House assemblies for nearly 40 years, during these assemblies we celebrated the successes and recognised students from each house.

Recognition for: * The Summer Challenge * TKASA Album Cover * Senior Maths Challenge * Young Geographer of the Year 2023 * The Cast of the School Musical Sister Act * All students that went on the Battlefield Trip as we received several pieces of outstanding feedback from members of the public.

We awarded points to staff and students who took part in those challenges as well as, Rotary Young Chef, 6th Form Open Morning Helpers and anyone who applied to become a Sports Leader.

Mrs Green (Stear) led some Staff Wreath Making so there have been points awarded for that too.

Our Pumpkin Carving challenge and House Monopoly over the October break engaged staff and students again and we are pleased to share the winners below.



Mrs Owen (Stear) Mr Ellis (Brent)



Mrs Ballard (Mendip), Dr Kirby (Brent) and Miss Lodge (Quantock)

1st



Sam Kilduff - Year 10 (Brent)

2nd



Max Mills - Year 7 (Stear)



Mr Maguire (Brent)



Mrs Semple (Quantock)

3rd



Isabelle Aylward - 6th Form (Brent)



Miss Milford (Mendip)

The overall scores as at 6th December 2023 are

Mendip 70,846, Quantock 68,165, Steart 64,987, Brent 63,505

We are yet to add in our 'Step in Christmas' and the eagerly anticipated Staff Christmas Quiz points. If you are on Social Media feel free to give us a follow on X and Instagram @TKASAHouses

Mr Shepherd, House Coordinator



■ MRS GIBSON—HEAD OF YEAR 7

What an incredible first term it has been for our new cohort of Year 7s. I can truly say that from the beginning of September I have been blown away by the commitment, resilience and kindness from this group of wonderful individuals. Our Team Building Days were a wonderful opportunity to get to know them all so much better and obviously an amazing experience enjoyed by all! I have been very proud of how they have begun their seven year journey with us and can't wait to see what the next few months will hold.



■ MESSAGE FROM MISS MOORE

I have to say what a wonderful cohort of Year 7 we have this year. Starting secondary school can be a challenging time of your life, but each one of you should be immensely proud of yourselves for how well you have handled the transition!

■ 7-K MR HARDIE

It is an honour and a privilege to be the tutor of the finest tutor group in the school. 7K is full of great people with equally excellent personalities and it has been a pleasure to lead this eclectic group of adolescents through the first third of the academic year up to Christmas. Highlights include the team building exercise at Clifton College where we were all put through our paces in various activities ranging from bushcraft to orienteering. My personal favourite was the "Battle Royale" with adapted bows and arrows. In this activity Ryan Smout excelled with a superb display of marksmanship by landing more shots on target than anyone else (including me!). Special mention must also go to the book monitors (Maddie, Aidan, Shae and Emilia) who have been a great help with the distribution and collection of the reading books in the morning and it would be rude not to wish Aston Cook (Mendip); Harris Abbas (Stear); Eliza Strickland (Brent) and Leon Senarath (Quantock) the best of luck in their new roles as house representatives for 7K - Good luck guys! Finally, after some significant pressure from Lorelai, I have softened my stance against mentioning Christmas until the last few days of term which means we now have a very small Christmas tree (with lights) on my desk which seems like a good time to wish you all a Happy Christmas and a fantastic 2024.

■ 7-I MISS KEEBLE

What a brilliant start to TKASA 7I have had! Myself and Miss Howe have really enjoyed getting to know the group and learning all about them! It was great to get to spend a whole day with the tutor group in September at the team building day and bond together as a class. It has also been great to see many of the tutor group get stuck into all aspects of TKASA life, we had so many of the tutor group volunteer to be house representatives which was so lovely to see so many of them wanting to put themselves forward for a leadership role. Extra curricular has also been a huge success in 7I with Brett entering the album cover house competition with a fantastic recreation of a music album cover, Corey and Neveah joining sports teams along with a few others and lots of students taking up the opportunity to attend homework club to make the best progress possible in their studies. Each week myself and Miss Howe present our 'Fab Friday' prizes to students with top positives in the group for the week or for other reasons we think any students have been fab that week. A huge well done to Willow who received the most positives for the whole first half term for the group, closely followed by Harry and Leo. We are excited to see who may be our top positive earners for this half term! Keep up the great work 7I!



■ 7-N MISS BURGE

Wow! What a start 7N have had to secondary school. Since the beginning of September 7N have gone above and beyond to be the very best students they can be! Scott has accumulated the most positives for the whole of year 7 so far!! Hattie and Harry have become sports captains, Connor D wore his scout uniform to remember the fallen. Lauren, Imogen M, Jasmine and Hattie played in their first hockey match against Chilton and many of the boys in 7N have joined the rugby and football teams showcasing their amazing talent for sports. We have been on a literary 'journey' to Denmark in the mornings during tutor reading time, reading 'I am David' and felt all the emotions of the misery of war. We have now begun to read 'Wonder' delving into inclusivity, knowing that we have the power to make change. We have covered 'Living in the Wider World', thinking about your future careers and aspirations, and 'Health and Wellbeing' in PSHCE. We have been enjoying the weekly current affairs Quiz on Fridays, as well as the heated discussions that follow when reviewing the answers (I'm talking to you Harry and Alfie V!!). It has been a pleasure to have you all as a tutor group at TKASA, and I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know each of your unique personalities. A highlight for me so far was our team building day in September. Watching you all lead each other blindfolded around an obstacle course is a particularly favourite moment. Getting to know each and everyone of you has been lovely and I look forward to seeing what the rest of year 7 brings you!

■ 7-G MISS WOODMAN

You have blown me away with your first term in secondary school. You are a kind and caring group of students who have taken everything in your stride and are excelling. We have enjoyed our morning reading, starting our literacy journey with 'I am David' and have now moved onto 'Wonder' where we are exploring inclusivity. Friday mornings have been a particular highlight with the competitive nature of your teams to see who will win the current affairs quiz each week. The knowledge you have shown has been outstanding. Well done to Reuben and Charlie for topping our class charts positive leaderboard, a great achievement.

■ 7-A MR CLEMENTS / MS KING

A very bright and exciting start to Year 7 with 7A, it has been a pleasure for myself and Mr Clements to welcome you to TKASA. We started off with a bang with the team building days, facing fears, challenges and the odd spider. Building friendships within the group and learning a lot about each other and ourselves. Sonnie showed what a great communicator he was, Dixie was very brave with the spiders, while Anya led us all round wearing frog masks. In the Mr Clements half we had Poppy showing off her leadership skills, some serious creativity in the shelter building contest (including luxury imaginary glass panels!), and a battle in archery. It was a brilliant way to get to know you all and we both feel so lucky to start our day every day by greeting you.

We are starting to gain in the positives with five students showing great standards of work, effort and behaviour having over 200 positives so far for year 7. Hoping they are joined by many more to continue the positive point tally.

Finally, a special thank you to those that begin tutor the right way every day setting an excellent example. And each of you that cares for Mr Clements' Indian Stick Insects and Peruvian Fern Insects. They are very happy in their new enclosure with your premium food delivery service.





7-L MRS ROBERTSON/MISS EDGECOMBE

7-L have had a fantastic start to year 7, Mrs Edgecombe and I have been so impressed with how well you have all settled into life at TKASA. It was lovely to spend the day with you all on the team building days. We were all able to get to know each other better, make new friendships and face some of our fears. 7L have really embraced all of the extra curricular activities on offer this term - Jacob has joined the ruby team, Lauren is enjoying art club and Heidi, Ruby, Leo and Meg are improving their fitness at gym club. It was amazing to see Gracie awarded sports captain and Pippa, Rafi, Daisy and Taylor for taking on the role of House Captains. Leading the positive classcharts points for the tutor group with over 200 positives and no negatives is Daisy, Meg, Rafi, Tay and Maddie, huge congratulations to them.

7-R MISS GROVES

What a start to secondary school! From the off, 7R have got involved with lots of whole school activities! Sophie has become a Sports Captain and a House Representative, along with Ethan H, Neala and Tobias, Ivy and Harrison wore their Guides and Scouts uniform to remember the fallen and Pixie, Lola and Neala have started rehearsals for the school production! In the mornings we have 'journeyed' to Denmark, whilst reading 'I am David' and exploring the suffering and politics of warfare. In PSHCE, we have discussed Health and Wellbeing and Living in the Wider World. On Fridays, we have enjoyed the weekly current affairs Quiz! Well done to Ivy for overall highest positives in the tutor group! For me, it has been a pleasure to welcome you to TKASA. A highlight for me was our team building day in September. It has been wonderful to get to know you all and I cannot wait to see what the rest of Year 7 brings for each of you!

7-E MR JOHNSON

7E have enjoyed themselves throughout the start of their first year at TKASA. It is a pleasure to welcome them into the room each morning and hear about the things that they are excited to tell me! It is a joy to read to them throughout the week and they have asked me such insightful questions throughout their time with me. They all really enjoy the competitive task that is the Friday Current Affairs Quiz, with all members of the tutor group enjoying this time in the morning; always wanting to beat their best score of previous weeks! They all make me laugh when teaching them history or during our bi-weekly PSHCE lessons in which they continually show a salient fascination with the world they are going to grow up in. Lastly, it is worth mentioning how good this team is at accruing positives in all of their subjects! This has been a key part to their success and drive during this first part of their time here at TKASA, and I am incredibly proud of them.



■ MR BAIL HEAD OF YEAR 8

I have had the pleasure of being the Head of Year 8 since September. The year group has gone from strength to strength over this term. Some of the fantastic students have written the tutor reports below. This is how they see their tutor groups. I am looking forward to what 2024 and beyond brings. I hope you have a lovely Christmas and a happy New Year.

■ 8-K MR JOHN

In our tutor group 8k, we work together to achieve great things. We don't get homework support as often and we are slowly achieving less and less negatives by the day. Every Thursday we do the weekly quiz; the sixth former are very helpful and lead our tutor group quizzes! Each week our score increases to our highest with 18/20!! Being a part of 8k is a privilege. Our tutor representatives are Sienna Moores and Riley Francis. Our house reps are Jennifer Byrne (Mendip), James Farmer (Stear), Amara Gamwell (Brent) and Heneh Omoronyia (Quantock). Every morning, we love to watch Newsround as it really helps us with the quiz on Thursdays. In year 7 we had amazing academic attendance and won having the highest amount of positives many weeks continually.

■ 8-I MISS STANLEY

In 8I, we are achieving more and becoming a more positive tutor group. The best day of tutor is when we do our weekly quiz. When we do the quiz we work together and definitely don't cheat! We are almost always top of the leaderboard and our scores increase a lot. Our tutor representatives are Rogan Pike and Sophia Jay. After we do our quiz Miss Stanley sometimes lets us watch newsround to help us get better with our general knowledge for next time! Miss Stanley has had some great things said to her about our tutor group and she is very proud. In our tutor group we generally have good attendance and everyone is improving.

■ 8-N MR MAGUIRE

Doing the quizzes on Thursdays is always so much fun! We work together and competitively compete between all the tutors to get the best scores on said quizzes.

Another thing is reading. Reading is fun because we can just relax and read.

When we have some time left -or in the morning when not a lot of people are in- Mr Maguire puts Christmas music on and that's the best because it is relaxing and really fun!

The amount of positives and negatives has fluctuated over time, but recently, I believe we have gotten a few more positives as compared to the lesser negatives.

Evie, (from our tutor group) has been amazing in swimming competitions outside of school, this is amazing as it gets

recognised when showing her confidence and perseverance in school - as it is needed in swimming. Being a student in 8N is fun; due to the fact that we have kind and funny peers to help us learn in school.

We love to work together and share our ideas and thoughts. He also makes sure that we are sat next to or near one of our friends and one that doesn't distract us! If we don't feel happy he will take that into consideration and think of a solution that will make us happy and comfortable in 8N.

■ 8-G MRS BROWN AND MISS NEWTON

8G is really cool and we have a cool Tutor! Here in 8G, we have a loving and kind Tutor where we care about each other. We like to have what Miss. Newton calls a 'chin-wag' every so often in order to support one another and update the class on our successes and share any exciting news that we may have.

We have a super sporty tutor group and would like to share some of this with you; Fin, Jenson and Travis are incredibly talented at Rugby and it's great to hear about their games. Kitty, Lilly and Paulina enjoy netball after school and work really well as a team. They also earn us lots of positives for their extra-curricular activity which is great! Ellis and Olli really enjoy playing football for a local football team as well as an academy. Emilia enjoys updating us on her cricket that she plays out of school and it's so cool to know that she plays for Somerset. We also have a lot of musical talent in 8G; Isaac is a brilliant drummer and we have many brilliant band members in our Tutor Group! Maisie loves to sing and will be in the school performance this month - we will all cheer her on! Some of us will go to support her and we'd like to see you there! There is so much more to share but we will save that for our next newsletter!

We have been earning SO many positives and house points recently which is such an improvement and really exciting! It's nice to see the reasons that teachers give us these positives. Some are still getting negatives and detentions but we are trying really hard to promote a love of learning and good behaviour. It's nice to not see many names of 8G on the morning detention list and we will continue to support each other in making the right choices.

We are a really flamboyant tutor group (Fin would like you all to know that he chose that adjective!) and we enjoy the Quiz each Thursday in which 3 quiz masters take on the weekly role. Together, we try to work out the right answer but have found them quite challenging recently. However, we have a brilliant variety of knowledge in our group which is awesome! Overall, we are a really nice group and have welcomed new people recently in our tutor and are happy to have them here because we are '8Great'!





■ 8-A MRS SEYMOUR

In 8A we have been having no parkings recently, we have had lots of positives and attendance. Normally our tutor doesn't talk when they are not supposed to. On Thursday, we score high on quizzes and win as a tutor! We work well as a class and have welcomed new people in our tutor well and are happy to have them in our tutor! As a student, I feel proud of our tutor. Most people try their best to answer questions in class and try their hardest to get to the top of the positives board. Recently we had someone from our tutor win the raffle for year 8 for being in all the time and not missing any of the days. We always complete tasks well and most of the tutor completes their homework to the best of their abilities. I feel that when we have knowledge quizzes and almost no people get sent to homework support! We all work well as a team and I am so happy to say that I am in 8A. Only a certain few speak in class and nobody skips class and teachers most of the time give the whole class positives and rewards. Our positives have been sky high lately and our negatives are next to nothing!

No one really talks back to teachers or substitutes. Harrison, a student in our tutor, is extremely good at geography and can tell you every alleyway in the United States! And Ava is really good at art. So many students of 8A deserve to be noticed yet aren't. Another great student in our class is Maria, she always puts her hand up as much as often and generally has the most positives. Harrison, Caleb, Paul and Ashton are all house reps! We have achieved so much as a tutor group, 8A!

■ 8-L MR WHITEOAK, MISS MAPES AND MR FRANKS

In our tutor group, 8L, our numbers of negatives are going down, and we are seeing less of our names on the detention notice. I love the quizzes on Thursday. We have had good attendance recently and a good amount of positives. Recently, someone in our tutor group has won the attendance raffle. A lot of people in our tutor have activities in and outside of school and so far they are achieving their goals. We have been enjoying the school trips such as the trip to Watchet in year 7 and the experimental trip to the M-shed.

■ 8-F MISS WALLIS

In 8F this term, most of us have had 100% attendance! Things we have achieved are: Freya Slade, Grace Hackett and Savannah Watkins have entered the Rotary Chef competition, with Freya coming 3rd - we are very proud of all of them! Henry Edgell is a part of a big play, Cinderella. Keira Marlow, Elsie Moreno and Noah Phillips are officially Sports captains for Brent, Mendip and Quantock! It is a privilege to be a part of an amazing, award winning tutor group! Tutor representatives go to Freya Slade and Logan Flinders. We are a very efficient tutor when it comes to

positive points, we are nearly always in the top three. Miss Wallis always praises us every day, being the best tutor there is! Our house representatives for Mendip is Elsie Moreno, for Brent is Grace Hackett, for Quantock is Noah Phillips and last but not least for Steart is Henry Edgell. We are very proud of our tutor this term and the achievements we have made!

■ 8-R MRS RICHARDS

8R have had a fantastic start to year 8. Our students have embraced the House Competitions and many took part in the 'Pumpkin carving competition'. Our house captains are Joseph (Quantock), Kai (Mendip), Molly (Brent), Bella (Steart). There were some fantastic entries, well done! Many of our students have taken part in activities both inside and outside of school. The young chef competition ran across the school and Molly & Joseph from our tutor group took part. They both did really well and I am very proud of them! There have also been a variety of school trips that have taken place. Lucy was selected to take part in an art trip to Bristol and the History department went to M Shed in Bristol which Mason, Molly, Leah and Arthur said was excellent. Both Bella and Leah went to Secret World with the Jill Dando news team which they have been a part of since year 7. Kyla and Grace are part of a drama club outside of school and recently performed. Both Xander and Dougie entered swimming competitions where Xander won the individual race and Dougie's team came second in a gala - great team effort! Mason won 'player of the year' for his football club which is a fantastic achievement - well done Mason! Three of our fantastic students were selected by the PE department to be Sports Captains after some fantastic applications - well done Olivia, Xander and Kai on this achievement!

■ 8-E MISS BIRD

In 8E what's really good is that everyone knows each other and it's more of a friendship group than a tutor. We rarely have names for detentions in general. We also do really well in terms of positive points or house points. There are rarely ever arguments in lessons or lunch and break time. On Thursdays, we try our hardest on the quiz and get as high as a score as possible. We are really proud to be a part of this tutor group. Everyone is usually in perfect uniform on occasion someone might forget their tie but other than that it's perfect. Behaviour in general is always on a high level and very rarely do people get warnings, other than that everybody's very polite and respectful. A lot of the tutor attend after school clubs such as cooking club and sports clubs. 8E is always in the top five for attendance or behaviour points. 8E is very welcoming and will welcome anyone into the tutor group. In lessons our tutor is always working hard, and is always listening to the teacher. Nobody is disrespectful during lessons.

■ MRS PUZEY / MISS BULLOCK

What a term it has been yet again for Year 9, we have been so impressed with the effort being put into lessons and the wider life of school such as involvement in extra-curricular clubs, sports fixtures and the school musical rehearsals. It has been jam packed and we wanted you to hear from the students themselves. This term's Year 9 segment is brought to you by Hazel, Ellena, Curtis, Teyla, Daisy with Alek and Ellie being our editors. Thank you all for your hard work on this.

We are both incredibly proud to be Heads of Year 9 and look forward to seeing what 2024 brings. We are very excited to support students through the options process and more information will be coming about this soon.

We'd like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and new year.

■ SPORTS CAPTAINS and PE - Curtis

The PE lessons this year have been playing rugby, table tennis, hockey and netball; our inter tutor rugby went very well. It was touch rugby but we all came together and played the game properly. Similarly the hockey inter-tutor was quite fun as well as being successful! We are also looking forward to the clubs in Term 3. I think it will be a very fun experience since we are learning new games to play and as well as making new friends that we may not have met otherwise! Lots of year 9 were chosen as sports captains which they are really proud of. We are looking forward to seeing what they achieve as the year goes on.



■ REMEMBRANCE - Teyla

This year people who were involved in Girl Guides, sea, air or army Cadets and many more clubs were able to come into school with their uniform to participate in the remembrance day memorial that was held at school. The students who came into school laid down a wreath by the Fallen soldier by the front of the school. We did our 2 minute silence at 11 o'clock on the 9th of November to remember the soldiers who died in war. We had an assembly about it as well. In the assembly that Mr Smith led, he talked about different soldiers and what the poppy links to remembrance day.



■ TRIPS—All

At TKASA there are a lot of trips that students take part in. The school took the cast of the show to watch the sister act which was fun and a great idea for research on the show. We also had a wide variety of students attend the "Big bang fair" trip which hosted lots of fun experiments for students from many schools to have the opportunity to enjoy. Everyone who went on these trips said that they absolutely loved it and had an amazing time.



CLUBS - Hazel

There are a lot of extracurricular clubs in TKASA that so many students love! This includes Jill Dando, rugby, football, adventure and even music club. This is good for students so they can develop social and physical skills that they can have fun with. Our amazing school rugby team has been doing extremely well at training and working very hard! Even though we lost our last game, we still represent our school, TKASA, in the fact that we are resilient. P6 gym club is great fun too! A lot of people have been going to enjoy themselves there! Getting healthy and fit at the gym in TKASA is amazing. You have so much to do you will never get bored of it.



FAB FRIDAY and CELEBRATING POSITIVES—Daisy

In TKASA, we do a quiz every Friday in tutor time for a bit of fun and to find out some things we might not have known. A way we have found to celebrate positives is handing out prizes to the students each week such as: sweets, stationary, canteen vouchers and more! This encourages students to try their best and get as many positives as possible so that they can win! Sometimes we acknowledge acts of kindness and other good deeds. I think this is a great way for behaviour to be improved. The students love this and can even suggest their own prize ideas on what they would like to win each week.



SISTER ACT - Ellena

In TKASA, drama and music are very cherished hobbies. As a school we like to encourage stunning talent (little or big) and incorporation of all year groups (including 6th form) all styles : musicians, dancers, actors, technicians and singers. There's something for everyone to enjoy. Being part of this amazing team opens up opportunities for new friends , trips and experiences. We do a yearly student version of famous West End musicals. In the past we have accomplished with astonishing reviews :

- We Will Rock You
- Little Shop Of Horrors
- Guys and Dolls
- Grease

This year the department is creating and performing Sister Act the musical. We have lots of talented students taking part to produce our biggest musical performance yet. Our cast consists of many enthusiastic year 9s such as ; Lily, Violet, Beatrix, Kira, Miley, Ellena, Lola, Arlo, Filip, Crina, Hazel, Freya, Sofia, Tory, Emma, Esm, Holly ,Georgie-Mai and any many more. This term we have practised and brought to life Act 1 of 'Sister Act' - many songs, harmonies, scenes and dances. All thanks to our outstanding teachers in drama, music and tech preparing us for our production in March. Very EXCITING !



Thank you year 9 for an amazing term! We hope you have a great Christmas and a Happy New Year!



■ MRS HODGIN—PSO YEAR 10

What a great start to this academic year, well done year 10! I am very proud of the large amount of effort you have put into your chosen subjects. I have heard many positive comments regarding year 10. Keep up the good work! Remember if you can dream it you can achieve it.

■ 10-K MR SHREWRING

A brilliant start for 10K and well done for your excellent achievements. It's been really good to see the group grow academically and mature into their individual subjects with ease. I've really enjoyed seeing their names consistently on the positive charts during assembly and being able to listen to their individual success stories. Have a fantastic Christmas 10K and I look forward to catching up with you in the new year.

■ 10-I MISS MILFORD

Well done to all of 10I who have started this academic year with the continued positivity and enthusiasm they have each year! It has been great to see all students in the tutor group find a new love of learning within their chosen GCSE subjects and find out about their career prospects within PSHE. I am extremely proud to see the tutor group near the top of the positive leaderboard each week and I know they are working really hard on their attendance. I am thoroughly looking forward to the Christmas countdown with our tutor group Elf and yearly secret santa! Here's to a well earned holiday - well done again 10I!

■ 10-N MR MCBRIDE AND MISS MARKOUTSAS

As we approach the festive season Miss Markoutsas and I have been reflecting on how this first full academic term has flown by. The majority of 10N have settled into their GCSE subjects with only a few teething problems - they have amassed well over 3000 positive points in the process. 10N have been represented on both the Battlefields trip and the look around Oxford University. We have been reading *'A Kestrel for a knave'* by Barry Hines in the morning this term. Pupils seem to be enjoying this tale of Billy, a council estate lad treated as a failure at school, and unhappy at home, until he discovers a new passion in life when he finds Kes, a kestrel hawk.

■ 10-G MR GASKELL

Loved being with 10G again this term: very able students with eclectic interests and remarkably cheerful first thing in the morning! Reading 'A Kestrel for a Knave' afforded me the chance to give my rusty northern accent a run out too. Many of the students in the group are academically very strong so it was great to see a few of them visit the University of Oxford recently. Students in 10G also seem to love the performing arts - often rehearsing their songs in the tutor room - and it was great to see so many involved in the school production! I wish them all the best for 2024 and in the future!

■ 10-A MRS FLAMSTEED

Year 10 is flying by 10A! I only started as your tutor this September and you are a group that is already making me proud. You have started your GCSE subjects well and have been preparing for the world of work in our PSHE sessions with some brilliant answers and CV's. From what you have shown me, I am sure you will all thrive in your chosen work experience places next year.

So far this year you have earned a massive 3670 positive points for 10A, and leading the way for us is Jack Bettany, our very own quiz master, with 258. Well done to all of you who have contributed to that total though.

I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break and a well deserved rest so that we can hit the new year running!

■ 10-L MR MOORE

10L have had a really positive start to the year during our first term. We have maintained the high standards we set for ourselves at the end of last year. Although the term has flown by, as a group we have achieved a lot. All have made a positive start to their GCSE option choices and appear to be enjoying their courses. Mr Moore hopes that this will continue as we progress through the academic year.





10-F MR CLEMENTS AND MRS JEFFRIES

Well done to 10F on settling into your GCSEs with an impressive level of focus and application. Mrs Jefferies and myself have been very impressed. Your attendance has been excellent and as you know being in school is crucial to your outcomes. In PSHCE we have been looking at the world of work and preparing you for your work experience. You have been writing up your CVs ready to be used for your work experience applications. Remember these are ongoing documents and you should have a copy at home which you regularly update with evidence of your skills and experience. It's great to see so many of you already acquiring work experience placements remember the earlier you get an application in the more likely it is still to be available. Have a restful Christmas.

10-R MR DAY

10R have had a really positive start to the year. I have been impressed by their efforts in lots of subjects, old and new. The praise and the positive Class Charts points from a variety of teachers has remained consistently high. 10R as a group, have often achieved the most weekly points and we have also had some individual highest scores. In PSHCE we have recently covered the world of work, discussing work experience, CVs and interviews. Morning reading, we are currently reading our second book of the year, 'Brave New World'. We recently completed 'A Kestrel for a Knave', the English Literature classic, involving the sad story of Billy and Kes. I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas, and a well-earned rest over the holidays!



■ MR BRITTAN—HEAD OF YEAR 11

This is such an important year for us as a year group and as always I am both proud and pleased to say how the vast majority of year 11 have really stepped up to the challenge. This really is a tough year for them with mock exams only 20 school days away (as I type this) and the real exams just on the horizon beyond the mocks. Time is flying by and soon we will be enjoying the leavers assembly and prom etc. However, there is still so much to do between now and then. It really is fantastic talking to the year 11's about how they are preparing for the exams (I was shown a full colour, day by day, planner the other day that must have taken ages to do - hope they weren't avoiding actual revision!! So I'll keep them nameless) the P6 sessions they are going to - which I have been often told how amazing they are, and the support they are giving each other through these stressful days. It was a real pleasure to be able to pop my head through the door during the food exams - I have seen some amazing cooking skills as well as some more interesting creations (I think it was meant to be a bread roll). Slightly separate (obviously not part of the exams) but the chocolate cake I was given yesterday was fantastic! (thank you to that student) On top of this there are all the clubs and activities they are doing; swimming, dance, sporting competitions and so on. A brilliant year so far and not even half way through it yet...

■ MESSAGE FROM MRS HODGIN

What an amazing start to this important academic year! I am very pleased with all the hard work that students in year 11 are putting in. The amount of students that are attending P6 is outstanding. Keep up the hard work, you should all be very proud of yourselves. This year is flying by and it will be leavers day and prom before you know it. Remember if you dream it you can achieve it!

■ INTERVENTION GROUPS

One of the main changes this year for the students has been the introduction of intervention groups. The students still have assemblies in tutor groups on Monday morning, PSHCE in tutor groups on Wednesday afternoon and then Friday together in their tutor rooms. The rest of the week they are in intervention groups, focusing on key work, targeted to support them making the most possible progress in each subject. So this newsletter, to give you a flavour of the work, I have asked the tutor team to add a few comments about how the intervention groups are going rather than the tutor groups ...

■ MATHS

Within the maths intervention group this cycle, we have been looking at the common topics that appear both on the Foundation and Higher papers, the crossover topics, for example, solving simultaneous equations and fraction arithmetic. The sessions have helped to build students confidence ready for the mocks in January. Many of the students have worked really hard in the sessions, however, I have been particularly impressed with both Clea and Jacob, who have engaged in the sessions fully and made progress. Well done!

■ ENGLISH

English intervention this cycle has been focused on explicit Language Paper 2 skills: comprehension, inference, analysis, comparison, writing to persuade and technical accuracy. Students have worked diligently through a series of snapshot activities that have led to extended writing opportunities. All this hard work will have prepared them well for the mock (Language Paper 2) in January. Each student has been gifted their own CGP workbook from which to work, these are theirs to keep as they have other activities and a unique code to access online resources - please make sure these have been collected! Thank you for all your efforts this cycle!

■ HISTORY

I have been incredibly impressed with my intervention groups. In the first cycle, my group worked hard to master Interpretations of Appeasement and the origins of the Cold War, ably supported on a Thursday by our Year 12 experts. So far, my new intervention group have been aiming for success in the January mock exams. I am writing this straight after an intervention session led by one of the students, Ryan, who was the teacher for 20 minutes. He skilfully revised the Nazi's consolidation of power 1933-34. What an amazing group of young people, all striving for success which they definitely deserve.

■ FRENCH

My group worked very well during these few weeks. I must say that they have made very good progress and that they feel more confident in speaking French. Before changing groups, they had a speaking mock exam in order to get an idea of what the real exam will be like. Most students did very well and some students have decided to continue with French at A levels.



■ SCIENCE

(Dr Butler) My intervention group has engaged well with both the theory and practical components of their lessons. We have explored concepts including density and salt formation in practical lessons and chemical calculations in theory lessons. Harrison has worked brilliantly with Jude who studies Year 12 Chemistry and this is really helping Harrison with his learning. I have been particularly pleased with many students, including Rosie and Charlotte who have really improved over recent weeks. Well done.

(Mr Suchecki) Our science intervention group has worked hard with physics equations during tutor time. Not only recalling the equations, but also rearranging and applying them to exam style questions. We have also had the opportunity to practise a few required practicals. With the help of our sixth formers several students have made excellent progress during this period.

■ GEOGRAPHY

The geography intervention group started learning cycle 1 with an overview of the three exams, then completed a questionnaire to let me know what to focus on next. We looked at how sequencing is vital in many answers, starting by making coastal landforms using play dough before answering 6 mark questions. Whilst reviewing the Kampala case study we developed skills for breaking down questions. Thank you to the group for their hard work.

■ STUDENT LEADERSHIP (Miss Groves)

It has been great taking on the role of Student Leadership Coordinator with this year's cohort of Year 11 Prefects. When I think back to the summer term and the interview process, I am still blown away by the confidence and commitment of the candidates who interviewed in front of Mr Milford, Mr Brittan and I. Our successful Head Students were of course: Olivia, Ryan, Evie and Jasmine who head the Student Leadership Team - made up of 11 Senior Prefects and 36 Prefects. The Head Students have pushed themselves, overcoming nerves and developing skills such as communication whilst speaking publicly at the Year 6 Open Evening, in September, and the Burnham-On-Sea Remembrance Parade. All Prefects supported Year 6 Open Evening, playing a pivotal role as they toured the site with potential parents. December has been pleasantly busy, from singing carols at the Christmas Tree Light Switch on, to supporting Sixth Form with Reverse Advent collections, to our Head Students hosting Awards Evening and finally our Senior Prefects being engaged in a project run by Barnardo's. Looking forward to Term 3, the Student Leadership team plans to run more student-led projects under their 4 main areas of interest: diversity, climate, mentoring and community.



MR RADNIDGE
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
HEAD OF SIXTH FORM



The TKASA Sixth Form Centre has celebrated remarkable achievements during the 2023/2024 academic year, marking it as a highly successful period. Academic excellence was demonstrated through an improved pass rate, setting new records for Year 12 student enrolment. Open Evenings and Saturday Open Mornings garnered strong attendance, reflecting the community's interest and engagement. Field trips across various curriculum areas proved productive, enriching students' learning experiences. Notable student accomplishments include success in the Miss Teen GB contest, securing the West Country Champion title, and reaching the National Quarter Finals in Amateur Boxing. The launch of a new Young Enterprise company showcased the entrepreneurial spirit of the centre. Furthermore, achievements in mathematics, hosting diverse guest speakers, and recognition as the 'Best local school for both Oxbridge and Russell Group University Admissions' underscore the exceptional efforts of Libby Silmon and Mrs. Semple in guiding students toward post-18 success.

Our Final Destination figures for the previous academic year are:

- 62% - University
- 15% - Higher Level Apprenticeships/
Workplace Employment
- 23% - Gap Year

The successful Pastoral Day was a transformative experience, offering a diverse range of empowering workshops. Morrisons led an insightful session on CV writing, equipping attendees with invaluable skills for professional success. In collaboration with In Charley's Memory, a workshop addressed coping strategies for exam stress, promoting mental well-being. The A to Z Sexual Health workshop fostered a safe space for open dialogue, enhancing awareness and promoting responsible choices. The Driving Awareness workshop imparted crucial knowledge, emphasising safety and responsibility on the road. This comprehensive event left participants inspired, armed with practical skills and emotional resilience, making a lasting impact on their personal and professional journeys.

The impending Sixth Form Application deadline on December 20, 2023, marks a crucial milestone for aspiring students seeking enrollment at the TKASA

Sixth Form Centre. This period is a gateway for individuals aiming to shape their academic and professional future. Following the submission deadline, prospective students can anticipate interviews scheduled for January/February, serving as a platform for them to showcase their potential and discuss their aspirations. Successful candidates will be issued conditional offers, solidifying their path to join the esteemed TKASA Sixth Form Centre in September 2024.

For those keen on gaining insights into the centre's environment and offerings, the invitation to visit is extended to all.

Contacting doug.radnidge@tkasa.theptl.org.uk opens the door to exploring the facilities, interacting with staff, and gaining a first hand understanding of the vibrant educational community awaiting those embarking on their educational journey at TKASA Sixth Form Centre.

Finally, it only leaves me to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Very Best Wishes for 2024.





■ PASTORAL DAY DECEMBER 2023

On 7th December, we launched our very first Pastoral Day. As the first of three planned Pastoral Days due to be taking place over the course of this academic year, curriculum was collapsed for the day, allowing the students time out of lessons to engage with a combination of curriculum and pastoral based activities.

For our Year 13 students, we reserved the day for Personal Statement and UCAS support along with advice for those considering entering into an apprenticeship following the completion of their A Level studies. With qualified members of staff available all day, general careers advice and guidance was also available for those students who are undecided on their Post-18 next steps. All of the students who engaged with this opportunity and sought out career advice or UCAS guidance have commented on how beneficial this was for them - results of which we have seen through the influx of completed applications and personal statements that we have received from students since!

A day of collapsed curriculum was also the perfect opportunity to make sure that the Year 13s are fully prepared for their upcoming Mock Exams, with students encouraged to spend the day in the Independent Study Room, focusing on revisiting topics within their chosen subjects and creating revision materials to utilise in the coming weeks. Ensuring that our students are given both encouragement and support in equal measures throughout their studies, support and advice on coping with exam stress was also delivered by In Charley's Memory.

In Charley's Memory also featured amongst the workshops that were delivered to our Year 12 cohort. Carefully considered, and selected based on the pertinence of the topics to the students, we were able to offer a broad range of topics for our students to engage with, including an A-Z of Sexual Health and Relationships, a CV Writing and Employability Skills delivered by Morrisons' outreach team and Somerset Road Safety delivered an eye-opening session called Learn2Live - an interactive and varied session highlighting the many dangers on the road, whilst also educating our students on how to avoid accident or injury when driving. From the feedback that we have received from our Year 12 students, this was amongst the most beneficial and popular workshops of the day.

It is hoped that all of the students found these sessions engaging, thought-provoking and beneficial to reflect on as they move through their Post-16 education and beyond.

As a brand new feature of the Sixth Form Centre's annual calendar, our first Pastoral Day was a huge success! We are very much looking forward to planning and delivering the next one, due to be taking place in March 2024.



PROVISIONAL TRIP DATES TO EXPLORE POST 18 OPTIONS

Cardiff University: Campus visit day	Wednesday 6th March 2024 Year 12 only
UCAS Discovery University & Apprenticeship Fair	Tuesday 12th March 2024 Year 12 Only
Further details will be given next term	



GUEST SPEAKERS

We welcome Guest Speakers to our Sixth Form assemblies regularly and we aim to promote Post 16 opportunities and inform all students regarding Post 18 options. We would like to focus more on careers in Industry, so if any local or national employers can support us please contact;

lisa.semple@tkasa.theplt.org.uk

Marie Howard: Skill up south west	Year 13: Degree Apprenticeships
Hannah Grant: University of Exeter	Year 12: Exeter Scholars, University Outreach
Lucy Bailey from UHBW	Year 12: NHS Extended WEX Program
Bethan Heir	Year 12: Social Mobility Foundation: Uni outreach
University Centre Weston	Year 13: Undergraduate Degrees, UCW, Finance and Bursaries.
Cardiff University	Year 12: Introduction to Higher Education

YEAR 13 SPORTS STUDIES—UNIVERSITY OF ST MARK & ST JOHN

In November, Miss Shire took Year 13 Sport students to the University of St Mark and St John for the students to experience what University life, and education is like. The day started with a practical Coaching and Development session, where the students adapted activities to make them inclusive for various user groups. We then spent time in the state of the art Sport Science lab. Here students completed a practical on knee stability, where they practically completed an activity, then analysed results. The day concluded with a tour of their campus with visits to; the student accommodation, library and wellbeing centre.

Students were impeccably behaved throughout, and the lecturers commented on the high levels of engagement and enthusiasm of our students.





TKASA SIXTH FORM & NHS EXTENDED WORK EXPERIENCE PARTNERSHIP SCHEME

Having established a strong partnership with University Hospitals Bristol and Weston (UHBW) and their Volunteering scheme, for the second year running we have been able to offer our students the unique opportunity to secure an Extended Work Experience placement within the NHS. In October, Lucy Bayley, Manager of Voluntary Services with the Experience of Care and Inclusion Team, visited the Sixth Form Centre to deliver an assembly to our Year 12 students about the opportunity. Students heard from other young volunteers about the different roles available to them, and how participating in the programme has enhanced their personal and academic profiles, and career prospects. Last year's applicants are now well settled into their roles, with aspiring Midwife Jodie saying this about her role as a Meal Times Volunteer:

“The opportunity to participate in this scheme has allowed me to gain the experience of working within a hospital environment, which is really important for my next steps. Knowing that I am comfortable working in a hospital setting, I am even more determined to pursue a profession in Midwifery. The placement has boosted my confidence in interacting with patients and I genuinely look forward to every shift I have there.”

For students with medical aspirations, ample and relevant work experience is key, yet one of the most difficult industries to obtain placements within; age restrictions, limited spaces and long waiting lists are all obstacles that stand in the way of many young people securing the work experience that is needed for post-18 Medical applications. Forming this partnership with UHBW means we are able to ensure that our students can gain the vital experience that will act to boost their profiles when applying for medical courses. Equally, this is a fantastic opportunity for any student that is interested in other careers within the Health and Social Care sector.

Lucy's assembly sparked a significant amount of interest amongst the Year 12 students, many of whom have applied to participate in this unique scheme. Following a number of successful applications, students have now been invited to attend informal interviews and training sessions to ensure they are fully equipped to begin their new roles. We are very proud to be able to offer our students an opportunity like this, and look forward to continuing to grow our working relationship with UHBW and the wider NHS.

TKASA Sixth Form & Weston General Hospital's Extended Work Experience Programme

NHS University Hospitals Bristol and Weston NHS Foundation Trust

Proud to be part of **#TeamUHBW**

Inspected and rated **Good** Care Quality Commission

6TH KING ALFRED SIXTH FORM

TKASA THE KING ALFRED SCHOOL An Academy

Ofsted GOOD

■ YEAR 12 UNIVERSITY OUTREACH

Year 12 & 13 have been very successful in securing University access courses which will enable them to experience university and undergraduate study, as well as access support to enable them to make competitive applications at Post 18.

If they successfully complete outreach courses, some universities lower entry requirements and, in some cases, guarantee you a place or interview depending on the course.

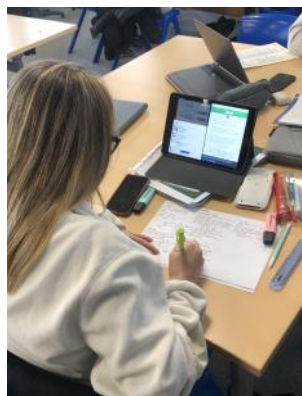
Year 12 & 13, Access to Bristol successful placements gained this year;

Medicine, Law, Dentistry, Psychology, English Literature, History, Childhood & Education Studies, Geography, Film & TV.

Congratulations to all those involved and enjoy your time at the University of Bristol.

If you applied to Exeter Scholars, you should hear any day if you have been successful in the online or in person program.

HE+ Programme is another outreach programme which is provided by University of Cambridge and it's Colleges, working together with groups of state schools and colleges in 19 regions of the UK. They provide access to super-curricular activities designed to stretch and challenge the students academically and their outreach practitioners also deliver a comprehensive programme of information, advice and guidance. They also support with study skills in order to help ensure that students make both a successful application and also a successful transition to highly selective universities. Congratulations to those successful applicants who found out this week. The face to face events are listed below;



*.Launch day
Thursday 25 January 2024*

*Conference day
Wednesday 20 March 2024*

*Opportunity to visit
Trinity Hall, Cambridge,
1st to 2nd July 2024*



■ UCAS, UNIVERSITY & APPRENTICESHIPS



The Application deadline for Early entry was in October for Dentistry, Medicine, Veterinary Science or if applying to the University of Oxford or Cambridge. Due to the selective nature of these courses, the Interview selection process can take a while, but universities must respond by Thursday 16th May 2024.

We already have had two successful candidates invited to interview, one for Oxford and one for Cambridge. We wish them luck!

UCAS standard admission applications are underway and two students have already had offers from all their chosen universities. The internal deadline for UCAS standard cycle submission is 15th December. This allows the application to be checked, ensuring entry requirements are within reach and ensure that a reference to support the application is completed.

Thank you to Jodie Silmon, our new Career Adviser and UCAS support Officer, for guiding our Year 13 students with personal statements this year.

Please keep a close eye out for new apprenticeships that are released daily. Higher & Degree Apprenticeships are very sought after and competitive, so apply early and make sure that you are the best applicant by listing the super curricula activities you have undertaken. Also include all relevant work experience that you have completed and list those transferable skills.

If you would like a careers appointment to discuss your Post 18 options, Jodie Silmon our Post 16 Career Advisor, is located in the Sixth Form Centre every Wednesday.





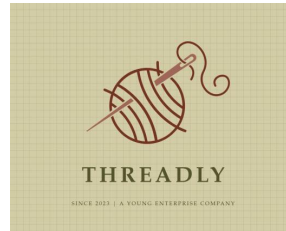
YOUNG ENTERPRISE

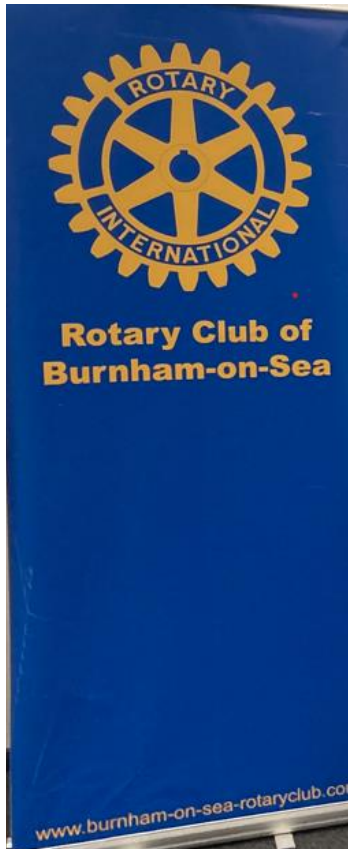
As part of the Young Enterprise scheme, a brilliant group of Year 12 students have been working hard to create their own business, a crocheted goods company named 'Threadly'.

Threadly aims to create a variety of crocheted gifts that appeal to anyone and everyone. Made from reused and locally sourced materials, Threadly is making an effort to not only increase sustainability, but to support other local businesses too.

The group, led by CEO Isabelle Williams, have already begun to sell their crochet products just in time for Christmas, with a festive selection of Christmas cards, decorations and earrings. Currently their stock is being sold in 'Silver Shores', a well loved jewellery shop in Burnham High Street; however even more exciting selling opportunities and products are on the horizon. Look out for posters around the school detailing their social media- there you will be able to keep up with all things Threadly!

Written by Lucy Falber Year 12



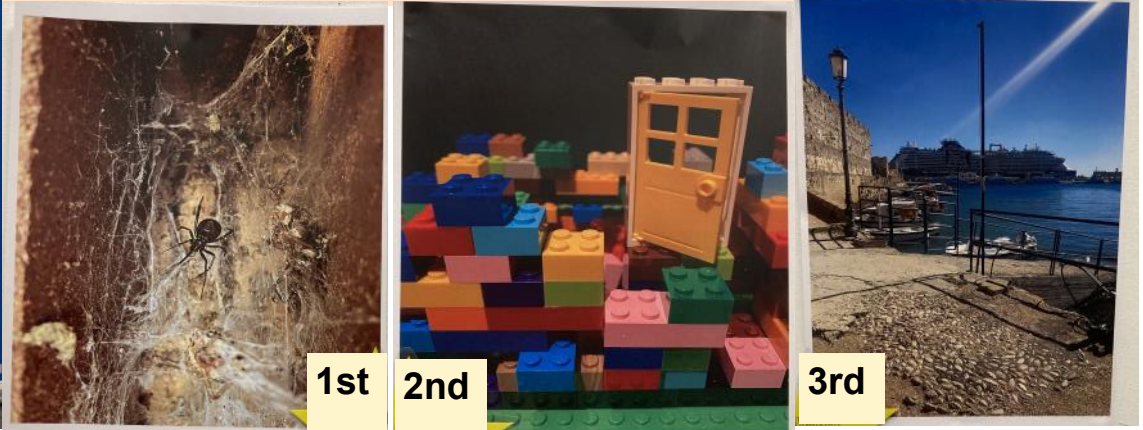


ROTARY YOUNG ARTIST AND YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION

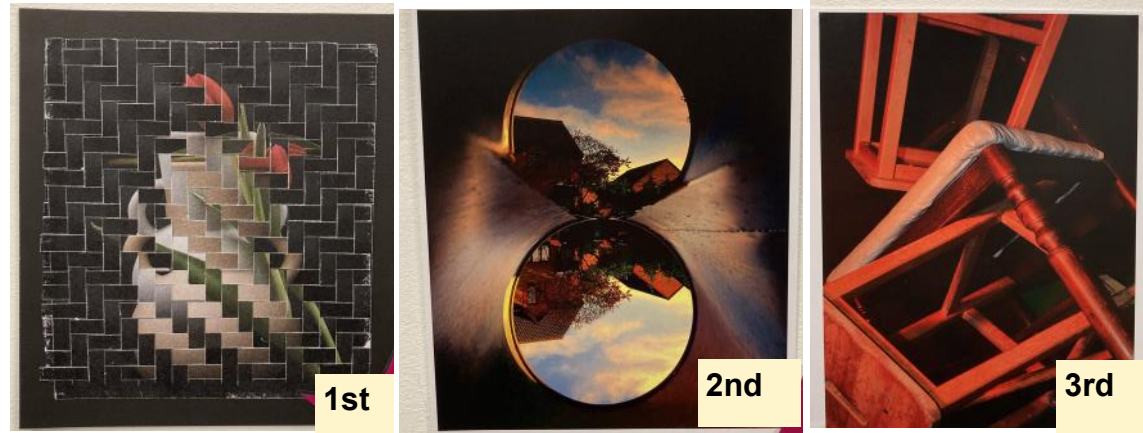
This year's theme was 'Rebuild'. There were over 70 entries and judging took place on Thursday, 14th December 2023

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Burnham-on-Sea, judges and participants who made this such a successful event.

Intermediate Young Photographer

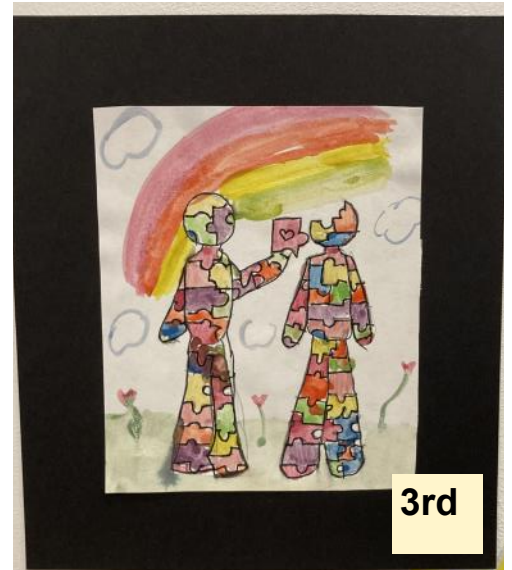


Senior Young Photographer

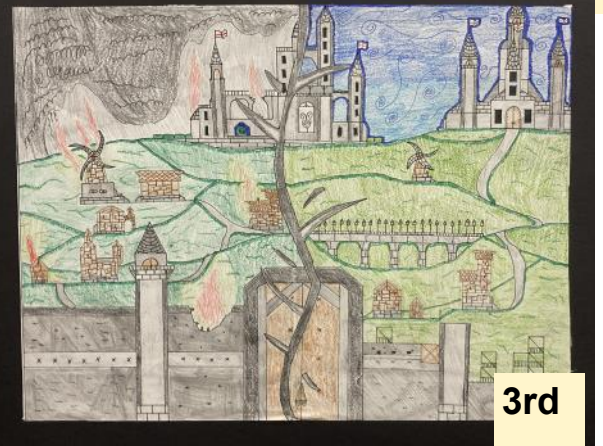
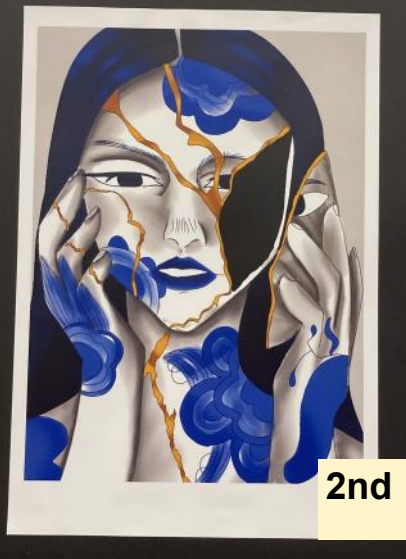
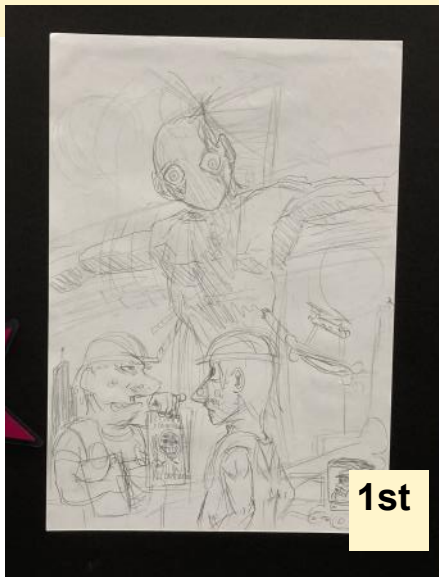




Intermediate Young Artist



Senior Young Artist





KEY STAGE 4 & 5 PHOTOGRAPHY

'The Westonbirt trip was a great experience, it is not only for nature lovers but also excellent inspiration for art and photography students. Nature is something which is a primary source in many artists and photographers' artworks. Overall I am glad I went on the trip and I recommend people to explore Westonbirt for themselves.'
Chantelle, Year 12





■ BUSINESS STUDIES

In Business Studies Year 10 students have made a great start to their GCSE course. They have completed the first unit (Business in the Real World) and have learnt about the purpose and nature of business, what it takes to be an entrepreneur, different types of business ownership, different stakeholders, business planning and how to grow a business. They are currently studying the importance of external influences on business such as e-commerce, the economic climate, globalisation, ethical & environmental issues, legislation and competition, and how businesses change in response to these influences.

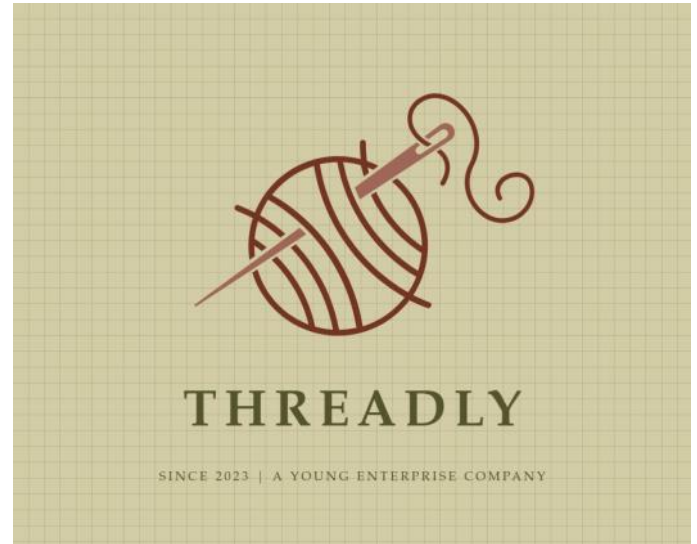
The Year 11 Business students have completed the fifth unit of the GCSE course (business marketing) and have just begun studying their final module which looks at business finance. We plan to have completed teaching all the curriculum content by February half term which will leave us with plenty of time to revisit some of the trickier areas of the course and work on developing expert exam technique.

The provisional dates for the two final exams are 14th May and 5th June. A reminder that all students have been issued with a revision guide that covers the entire course content, which they can keep until they have completed their final exams at the end of year 11. They will also be issued with a revision workbook once we have finished teaching the final unit. Students also have access to useful revision material through the student shared google drive and the Seneca website.

The sixth form business students are working hard on their A level studies. The Year 13s are currently studying the final unit of the course: Managing strategic change. The dates for their three final exams are 14th May, 21st May and 6th June. Meanwhile the Year 12 business class have made a great start to the course and are currently studying the marketing functional area, having already learnt about business aims and objectives, different ownership formats, management and leadership styles, decision making and the relationship with different stakeholders.

We have also introduced A Level economics this year and the Year 12 economists have also made a great start to the course beginning with the microeconomic concepts of how markets work and market failure.

Several business students from the sixth form are also involved in the new Young Enterprise company called Threadly. They have sold shares to finance their start-up costs, allocated roles and responsibilities and have been discussing a range of business ideas.



As always, I encourage all business students to follow business news stories on a daily basis so that they can relate what they are learning in the classroom to the real world. The impact on businesses of the war in Ukraine and the cost of living crisis have been regular topics of discussion this term. Students can also follow me on X (formerly twitter):

@TKASAMrKing.



COMPUTER SCIENCE

A fantastic first term from all students engaging really well with their computer science. Year 7 are currently building their skills of understanding the infrastructure of a modern computer. Students have impressed with the skills and understanding of computer infrastructure and have been sharing their expertise in the classroom. Year 8 are beginning their creative project by understanding the elements of a graphic image and will soon begin to develop their skills on Photoshop. We are very fortunate to have the latest software installed on all machines at TKASA, allowing students to gain experience on this industry standard software. Year 9's, also engaging with their business element to give insight into the world of business which lays the foundation for students wishing to pursue the course into year 10 and 11. In the last week our KS3 students will work on a digital festive design. Hopefully students will be able to share some festive creations with friends and family over the holiday period.



We have been tremendously impressed with the focus and dedication from the year 10 and year 11 cohort this year for computer science and iMedia. Year 10 have stepped up to the challenge of GSCE exceptionally well and we are enjoying some outstanding committed study from all of KS4.



Our creative designers in iMedia are also showing some fantastic Photoshop skill and are currently working towards completing their design units. Our year 11's are creating an interactive multimedia product. We stopped for a little festive detour with year 10 who created some fantastic designs for the Christmas song released by the Music department.

This year, we have launched our coding club for years 7-11. So far, the pupils have been engaging in developing their programming skills by creating text based games such as Zork. The pupils have been engaged with creating their own story and planning decisions the player needs to make when in certain parts of the game. More recently, we have had our hands on the Arduino Education kits. These are little devices that pupils can use to program anything they wish, whether that would be controlling motors, LEDs, speakers etc. This has been very received by our pupils and have used this to create all sorts of projects. The coding club is available for all skill levels and is a fantastic opportunity to develop coding skills and share ideas with other keen programmers.



Our year 13 are working hard to complete their NEA with some exciting projects beginning to take shape. All of our 6th formers continue to impress with their focus and dedication at this important time in their studies.

Earlier this month we were also delighted to welcome staff from London games design company Splash Damage who spent a whole day talking to our computer science and iMedia students about the range of careers available in the computer gaming industry.

The computer science department wishes all of our students, parents and carers a restful and Merry Christmas and a prosperous new year.



YEAR 12 MOCK EXAM PERFORMANCES

Our wonderful Y12 students worked very hard on some devised pieces of work as a mock exam this term. Later in the year they will complete the real exam for this component and we were so pleased to see them all really enjoying the devising process. All three groups took on very different practitioner styles to base their original work on and we were so proud of them all!



YEAR 10 GCSE PERFORMANCE EVENING

Our Y10 GCSE students performed their scripted pieces in a wonderful performance evening last month. Our performers and designers worked hard to put on great performances aided by innovative lighting and costumes. For lots of them this was their first public performance. We are so proud of them!



YEAR 10 PERFORMING ARTS CYCLE 1



Our Year 10 Performing Arts students were challenged to cycle 1 to learn and perform a scripted duologue and a piece of choreography for assessment. The students worked so hard on perfecting their characters in drama and their technique and performance skills in dance.





WHOLE SCHOOL PRODUCTION 2024

We have made the very exciting decision to change when our school production is this year! The Musical will move from July to **March 2024!**

We are so excited to announce that our annual whole school musical 2024 is:



Auditions absolutely blew us away with our biggest amount of students auditioning yet!

It was such a hard decision trying to cast the show but we have been so pleased with the excitement and all of the students have been raring to go!

Rehearsals have been well underway and information on tickets will be released very soon!



SISTER ACT TRIP

We were very lucky to get to take most of our Sister Act cast and band to see the show in Cardiff in November. It was so great to get to have the whole company there to bond and experience the amazing show together. It was lovely to see the student's excitedly watching the parts they will be playing in just 3 months time!



TALENT SHOW coming soon.....

Watch out in the new year for the announcement of our 'TKASA Talent Show' which will be held in February!

We want lots of students coming to be involved to show off their talents for a live audience and a panel of judges.

Lots of House points to be earned!





YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY FIELDWORK IN BRISTOL



Once again, our year 10 geographers headed to Bristol by train to research whether the regeneration of Temple Quarter is sustainable. They were a pleasure to work with, completing excellent environmental quality surveys as they walked from Temple Meads, sketching well-designed buildings at Paintworks and investigating land use along a transect in Temple Quay. The students wrote up their findings in their lessons at the end of learning cycle 1 and will use this information in their Paper 3: Geographical Applications exam in year 11.



YEAR 12 FIELDWORK

Our year 12 geographers investigated infiltration rates on the slopes of Holford Brook in the Quantock Hills in October, working superbly as a team to collect useful data. This investigation is designed to develop their skills of data collection, data presentation, analysis and evaluation. These skills will be necessary to achieve success in their individual investigations which contribute 20% to their A level grade and will be completed in year 13. Thank you to Mr Clements for giving the class the opportunity to carry out this physical geography fieldwork.



YEAR 13 FIELDWORK

Our year 13 geographers have designed their own investigations to carry out for their Non-Examined Assessment, which is worth 20% of their final A level grade. Each student spent two days carrying out research in the local area, ably supported by Mr Clements. Their investigations include exploring the impact of new housing estates, researching the relationship between infrastructure and opportunities for local people and measuring infiltration rates to draw conclusions about flood risks. We look forward to reading their investigation write ups in the New Year.



■ VISIT BY GEOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



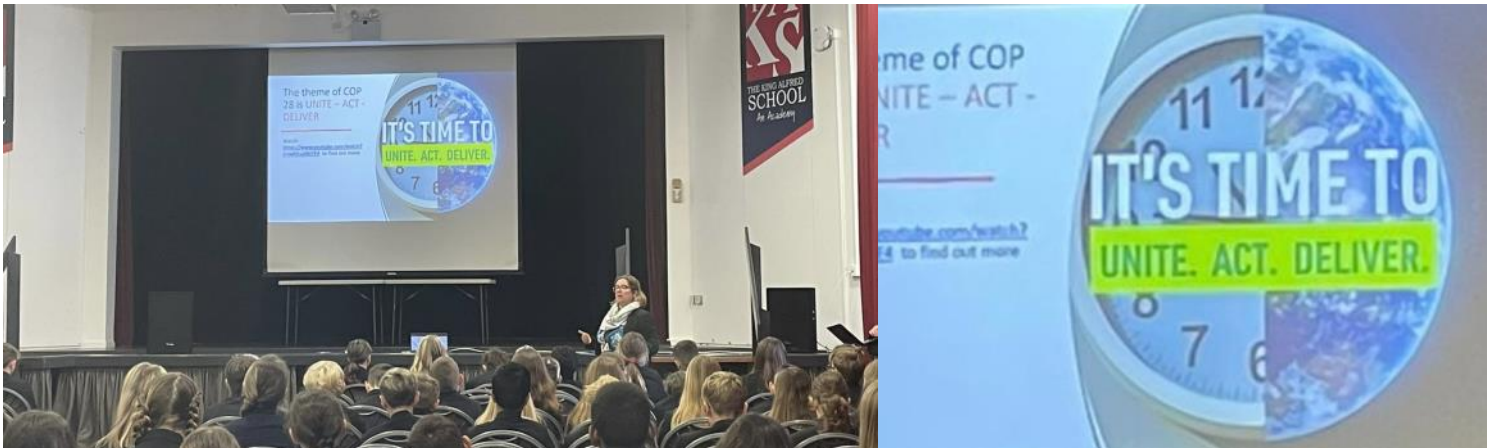
In October we were delighted to welcome Denise Freeman, President of the Geographical Association, along with a group of her students from Oak's Park High School in Ilford. Several year 12 geographers gave up their evening to take the group on a walk from TKASA to Apex and on to the seafront, where we all enjoyed chips and then took refuge from the rain in the Pavilion. The next day all of the year 12 geographers and the Oak's Park students carried out fieldwork in Highbridge, using data collection software to record their perceptions of the area by the Frank Foley statue. On their return to TKASA, the Oak's Park students met with our Principal, then presented to the year 13 geography class about their local area, drawing comparisons with Burnham on Sea and Highbridge. The Senior Prefect team made our visitors very welcome at break time, chatting to them and sharing chocolate brownies. The visit was a wonderful opportunity for students from contrasting communities to learn from each other.



■ ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS

The geography department continues to play its part in keeping students abreast of environmental issues and giving them opportunities to get involved in practical projects to make a difference. In September Mrs Owen presented assemblies to encourage students to be citizen scientists, becoming involved with the Great British Beach Clean and the Big River Watch. Mrs Owen returned to assemblies in November to alert students to the upcoming COP 28 Climate Change Conference and to introduce the Students Operating for Sustainability (SOS) climate change and wilding projects with which TKASA is engaging.

We are excited to see how this project develops in the coming year.





■ BATTLEFIELDS OF WW1

Our last visit to the Battlefields of the First World War was in 2019. At one point during the pandemic I thought that we would never be able to take a group again. But, on 6th October 2023, we travelled to France and Belgium, to the killing grounds of Ypres and the Somme on what was again a poignant and thought provoking visit.



Our group of over forty Year 10 students and two Year 13 students were a credit to our school. At each site visited they paid their respects to the fallen of the Great War on both sides of the conflict. We visited the magnificent memorial at Thiepval, the sunken lane on the Somme and the Sheffield Memorial Park where we literally walked in the footsteps of the Sheffield Pals on 1 July 1916. We visited the frontier salient town of Ypres and saw the high ground of Bayernwald which the Bavarian Regiment held for the majority of the conflict. We paused at Tyne Cot, where 11,000 British and Commonwealth soldiers have their final resting place; we shed a tear or two here.



And, of course, we made time to stop at the Belgian chocolate shop in Ypres where many euros were spent.

On our return, we as a staff were so very impressed and proud to hear from a member of the public who was at the Menin Gate Ceremony on Saturday 7th October. He wrote to Mr Milford:

'Just a short note to compliment your students who were at the Menin Gate ceremony this evening (October 7th). My wife (age 80 and quite short) was behind a group of your students who had a prime view of the ceremony. They insisted that she came in front of them which gave her an excellent view.'



'In this day and age, when students are often criticised, it's nice to be able to compliment them for their thoughtful behaviour.'

No member of staff told those students to do that; they did it because of their kindness and thoughtfulness. This visit is all about remembering the sacrifices of others, including the ultimate sacrifice. On that cold night at the Menin Gate, some of our students chose to give up their view of the ceremony for others. I think that says it all about the success of the trip.

Martyn Ellis
Head of History





SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGE



In October, 15 Year 12 and 13 students took part in the Senior Maths Challenge. The challenge is a 90 minute, 25 multiple choice question challenge where the problems are designed to make students think. Stimulating problems for both beginners and experienced problem-solvers.

Well done to all the participants for taking part, and congratulations to the following for receiving a certificate.



Josh D



**Max A
Luke B
Jonathan B
Athul J**



**Seth B
Will H
Jude W
Libby H**

Josh Davies (Year 13) achieved the best in the school and gained a gold certificate and enough points to go onto the next round which took place on the 15th November. We look forward to hearing how he did in this round.



Sparx Maths

Sparx Maths is an online Maths learning platform in which students can consolidate their learning from lessons at home. So far this year, students at TKASA has complete 1,727 hours of personalised learning on Sparx.

Well done to the following students for gaining the most XP on Sparx this year (so far):

Year 7 – Demi F & Gracie H

Year 8 – Anold C

Year 9 – Kira N & Emily A

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

YEAR 7

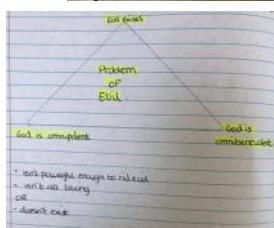
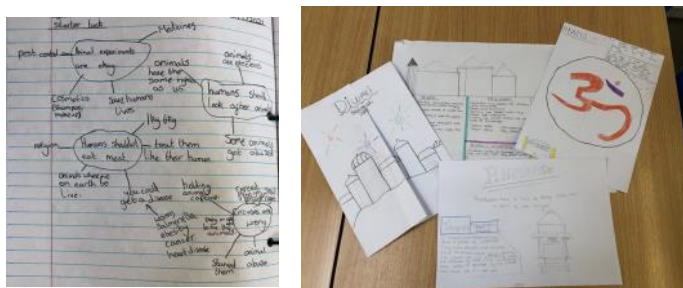
Year 7 have had a fantastic start to Religious Studies at King Alfred's. They have studied a variety of ideas within the Animal Rights topic, including whether it's permissible to eat meat and whether testing on animals for medicine is acceptable or not. Students are studying Judaism throughout cycle 2 where they will study Shabbat, Bar Mitzvahs and the importance of the Synagogue. The effort shown by our year 7 students has been fantastic.

YEAR 8

Year 8 have continued to develop their knowledge of religious Studies. Year 8 focuses upon Eastern Religions including Hinduism, Buddhism and Sikhism. The year group have created some fantastic work, including creating a leaflet for a Hindu Mandir.

YEAR 9

Year 9 have begun studying Philosophy and Ethics this year which has allowed for lots of discussion, debates and opinions to be shared. Students have studied a wide range of philosophical ideas such as the inconsistent triad and Paley's analogy of the watch. The ethical side of study that will continue during cycle two will include gender equality, human rights and the death penalty. Year 9 have put absolute effort into their religious studies lessons this year and we are looking forward to welcoming many students to studying GCSE RS next year.



YEAR 10

Our year 10 students have made a fantastic start to their GCSE course. They have shown commitment to their studies, engaging with the topics in class and attending afterschool revision sessions. Year 10s have begun to study the Christianity sections of the course before moving onto Islam. Next year, students will study Philosophy and Ethics, they will study the different viewpoints on war and weapons of mass destruction; racism; the death penalty; and marriage. We are looking forward to developing students' knowledge of religion, philosophy and ethics in preparation for their GCSEs.

YEAR 11

Our year 11 students have shown absolute dedication and resilience as they make their way through the final year of the Religious Studies course. The hard work they put into their studies is admirable outstanding and as their RS teacher, I am extremely proud of them. Our year 11 students have sat a set of PPEs and I am very impressed with the effort our students put in. Over the coming year we will continue to study Philosophy and Ethics including topics such as the death penalty, euthanasia, war and weapons of mass destruction.

YEAR 12

Our year 12 students have made a brilliant start to their A-Level. Our students have shown passion for the subject and have worked really hard throughout the course so far. Our year 12s have been working really hard both inside and outside of class. Mr Ellis and I are looking forward to further developing students' knowledge of Religion, Philosophy and Ethics as they go into year 13.

YEAR 13

What an incredible journey our year 13 students have had! They have been outstanding and dedicated to their studies and continue to show drive as we work up to the summer exams. Over the next few months students will continue to develop their knowledge in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics.



YEAR 7 TEXTILES

Year 7 Textiles book bags using hand sewing techniques and sewing machines. These bags are used to keep morning registration reading books clean and tidy until the end of Year 10!



YEAR 8 BOXES AND TEALIGHTS

A selection of great boxes made by Year 8 pupils. Learning a variety of woodworking skills. Fantastic work from Year 8. Learning about wood lamination and how to manipulate sheet metal.

A great Christmas present for anyone!



YEAR 9 BUBBLE GUM DISPENSER

Some fantastic bubble gum dispensers from Year 9 in cycle 1. Developing 2D design skills



YEAR 7 BIRD BOXES

We have now celebrated making more than 1000 bird boxes here at TKASA. Here is a nice photo of some Year 7 ones taken in November when it wasn't actually raining!





KS4 HOSPITALITY AND CATERING

It has been fantastic to have some many students choose Hospitality and Catering, with a staggering four groups in year 10 and another four groups who moved up to Year 11. Two hour cooking lessons enable students to practise more challenging cooking and presentation skills.



COOKING SKILLS CLUB

Cooking skills for the beginning of the school year saw year 8 smash it, learning new skills as well as developing others and having lots of fun while doing it.

We look forward to launching the new year group soon!

Keep an eye out for the posters in the Food rooms.

ROTARY YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION 2023/2024

The Rotary Young Chef competition launched again for the new year, with 7 students going head to head to create a two course meal for two people. Students from year 8, 10 and 11 showed amazing skills and knowledge in a high scoring competition, making the judges really work for their meals picking the winner.

1st - Poppy M Year 11

2nd - Jocelyn L Year 10

3rd - Freya S Year 8

We would like to thank all the students and parents, it truly was an amazing evening with over 50 teachers, students, parents and Rotarians in attendance for the competition.

A big shout out goes to the year 8 students who were amazing in the youngest to enter, showing great skill for students who may have only had 9 weeks teaching on our D&T carousel. I look forward to future competitions, building on this one.





■ YEAR 10 CONSTRUCTION

Year 10 students have been busy this year producing two-way lighting circuits and ring mains as part of their electrical body of work. Students will be replicating circuits in June 2024 as part of their coursework proper – worth 20% of their grade. For now though we have moved onto carpentry.



■ YEAR 10 ENGINEERING

A selection of the great work that Year 10 has created so far during their new engineering course.



■ CAREERS

It has been a great few weeks. We hosted an awesome careers fair in the hall in October. More than 20 employers spoke to students and families about their businesses and different career pathways. Lots of local colleges, universities, apprenticeship training providers and our own 6th form also exhibited to promote their offers. THANK YOU to all students and families that attended.

We also hosted a range of assemblies in November. We talked about further education, apprenticeships and the importance of maths in future careers. We also helped to break down barriers with Jade and Courtney from ATM who talked about their careers and blazing a trail as women in construction. The awesome Ellise also spoke to year 7 students about not letting her disability get in the way of leading a happy life.

We took a small group of students to Exeter College Oxford to explore one of the world's oldest and most prestigious universities. Just like Hogwarts apparently!

Moving towards the end of term, year 11 students attended progression 121s to explore their plans beyond year 11. Such fantastic conversations with a great year group.

Year 10 students have also begun to find their work experience placements ready for the summer. THANK YOU to students and families for supporting this.

We have also been speaking to lots of previous TKASA students who have taken so many different career paths to help show our students that there is a world of opportunity just around the corner.

Next term? More support for year 11 students. Year 10 work experience planning. National Apprenticeship Week! National Careers Week! Year 9 options and lots lots more!

Happy Christmas! James.wilmot@theplt.org.uk





■ HOCKEY

Hockey this year has had a committed group of students regularly attending training with a fantastic attitude. It has been great to see some new faces, from our year 7 students, who have embraced getting involved in Hockey fully and have even represented TKASA at fixtures. Some of our year 8 students have also grown in confidence in officiating, attending training sessions and taking control of matches within an officiating role. The year 9 students have been fantastic role models to our younger students, being consistent leadership figures. Overall, it has been great to see so many new faces at Hockey this season and I look forward to see students further develop in the 24/25 season.



■ BASKETBALL

Basketball club has been running on Wednesdays after school this term and has had a dedicated number of students attend every week. The group ranges from Year 7 through to Year 10 and it has been fantastic to see these year groups get to know one another by playing in mixed teams. We have looked at specific drills to improve on the core skills within Basketball as well as putting these into practice through competitive play. The level of skill and understanding of the game has improved greatly over the term and above all else, students have been able to enjoy all the benefits that come with taking part in extracurricular sporting activities.

■ GIRLS FOOTBALL

Term 1 & 2 Has had a great start this year with girls football, many people joining in and having fun. We have had an amazing opportunity to be joined by Berrows footballs coach Kerry Pantelli who has helped us out alot. We have been coaching year 7's and 8's since the beginning of this year and throughout that time we have been able to see such a huge performance in the skill and decision making, especially when put under pressure. The girls have always come with such energy and effort levels making training enjoyable for everyone.

Girls football is growing to such levels now and we would love to get more girls involved to enable the possibility of fixtures and further training practices. We run Mondays after school 3:10 till 4:10, open to all year 7, 8 and 9 girls.

■ RUGBY

Another rugby season has flown by. It has been fantastic seeing so many Year 7s attending Rugby club, especially as so many are playing the sport for the first time. In their tournaments they have represented the school proudly, playing well and learning lots. Year 8 to 10 have had a core of committed players who have attended all of their practices and matches, looking to put what they have developed into competitive games.





■ PRIMARY OUTREACH

Since September, Mr Moore has been delivering a Primary School Outreach Programme in Pawlett Primary, East Huntspill and West Huntspill every afternoon. The programme was introduced to provide students with additional PE opportunities and Primary Teachers with additional PE CPD. Every class in each school has received at least one PE lesson from Mr Moore each week and he would like to thank every student for their enthusiasm, engagement and development over the last three months.

Term 1 began with a 6 week block on football where students developed their fundamental football skills (passing, dribbling and shooting) and eventually applied these skills to small matches within lessons. Football proved to be a very popular activity with all year groups in all three schools.

Term 2 began after half term. Our activity switched to tag rugby. Much like football, it has proven to be a very popular activity within all three schools. We began by developing our fundamental rugby skills (throwing, catching, running with the ball) and just as we did with football, progressed into playing small sided tag rugby games.

We have had a real focus on developing students' resilience and confidence within PE lessons and Mr Moore is pleased to say that the confidence of all students has grown, along with their understanding of the activities we have completed.

■ SWIMMING

It was an absolute pleasure for the PE Department to take a number of students to Millfield on 27th September to compete in the ESSA National Swimming Relay Divisional round. With representation in both the Junior and Intermediate events, our students demonstrated what hard work and dedication they put into swimming training outside of school to compete against some of the top public schools in the country. Their impeccable behaviour was even commented on by other Teachers. Although no teams qualified for the National Round, it was a fantastic experience and all students should be incredibly proud of themselves.

■ PRIMARY TKASA

TKASA have hosted various afternoons for our local Primary Schools to attend and take part in physical activity. It has been fantastic to have students from Churchfields, St Andrews, East & West Huntspill & Pawlett up with us, being able to use our facilities throughout term 1 & 2. All activities have been led by some of our 6th Form Sport students, where they have been professional and enthusiastic throughout, using their skills learnt in their Coaching & Leadership module and putting it into practice.

We aim to run these events throughout the year, and can't wait to welcome more young people up to experience the facilities at TKASA!



■ FITNESS

Our Fitness Club has allowed students the opportunity to use our gym regularly throughout the Autumn Term. It has been fantastic to see the facility being used. Every week we have been full to capacity with students looking to develop their physical fitness and knowledge of how to exercise safely. The PE Department hopes that students continue to enjoy using the facility.



SPORTS CAPTAINS

The Sports Captains 23/24 initiative was rolled out in early September, with members of the PE Department delivering assemblies to year groups 7 - 11. We were overwhelmed with the amount of applications we received, nearly 140!! The PE Department had a hard job in reading through the applications and selecting students to represent their house. I am pleased to say that we selected 85 students to be this years' Sports Captains.

On Wednesday 13th December all the Sports Captains took part in a 'Leadership Academy'. During the day the Sports Captains met with Alex Caird, from SASP, where they completed a session looking at professional behaviours of a leader, appropriate communication of a leader and the importance of effective communication. It was great to see all the Sports Captains develop and think about leadership and their leadership style. I am looking forward to watching them put this theory into practice in the New Year.



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Details of TKASA Duke of Edinburgh Award can be found on our school website. Scan the QR code or click the code if you are reading online to go to our TKASA DofE web page.

Anyone interested in doing The Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze (Year 9), Silver (Year 10) or Gold (6th form) will need to complete the appropriate online application form and payment made via Weduc.

There is also a Somerset Duke of Edinburgh's Award Committee Bursary Fund for anyone who would like to do DofE and needs help with the cost of the Award.

If you have any queries regarding the Award please contact Mr Swaine via the website contact button.



 DE <small>THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD</small>	 DE <small>THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD</small>	 DE <small>THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD</small>
BRONZE	SILVER	GOLD
Volunteering 3 months Physical 3 months Skills 3 months Expedition 2 days 1 night	Volunteering 6 months Physical one section for 6 months, the other for 3 months Skills one section for 6 months, the other for 3 months Expedition 3 days 2 nights	Volunteering 12 months Physical one section for 12 months, the other for 6 months Skills one section for 12 months, the other for 6 months Expedition 4 days 3 nights Residential 5 days 4 nights
 £125 Year 9	 £175 Year 10	 £195 Sixth Form



TEACHER TRAINING

If you are looking to train as a teacher, The Priory Learning Trust offers an alternative to traditional university-based teacher training at both primary and secondary level. With our School Direct teacher training programme you train in two schools in the Weston and Burnham areas, learning on the job, while working towards a Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) and Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). If you'd like to find out more please contact Denise Hurr, Head of Training School via email: tsa@theplt.org.uk



TKASA communication and finance system.

If you have not yet registered please contact the school for the enrolment details

Label it!

Please label items so we can return lost property!

Especially water bottles, ties, blazers, jumpers and PE kit!

Any unclaimed items will be used to help those who need it or recycled.

**To claim any lost property please contact the school.
Thank you!**

Support Signposts

We understand that the cost of living crisis is affecting so many people, and so we have pulled together some links across North Somerset and Somerset, with the aim of signposting available support.

If you are reading this online please click the QR code to go to the website or alternatively scan the code.



MEDICAL REQUESTS AND REMINDERS

Don't forget to update the school on any medical conditions your child may have.

The only medication we keep in the school for students to use is paracetamol in tablet form.

If your child requires any other medication during school e.g. inhaler, hay fever medication, Calpol then please bring these into school at the beginning of the new term and complete a medication form at reception.

If your child has brought home any blue gel ice packs or purple fleece heat packs this year please return them to the school.

If you have any outgrown/unwanted uniform e.g. trousers, skirts, shirts, PE kit or new tights and new underwear please consider donating them for the medical room. These items are a real help to students in emergency situations.

Have a safe and happy holiday!
Mrs Butler

TERM DATES 2024

Term Days
 INSET Day
 Holidays
 Bank Holidays

January 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2024						
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26	27	28	29			

March 2024						
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2024						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2024						
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

June 2024						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2024						
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August 2024						
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September 2024						
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30						

October 2024						
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28	29	30	31			

November 2024						
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December 2024						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



TERM 3	Starts Thursday 4 January 2024 Ends Friday 9 February 2024
TERM 4	Starts Monday 19 February 2024 Ends Thursday 28 March 2024
TERM 5	Starts Monday 15 April 2024 Ends Friday 24 May 2024
TERM 6	Starts Monday 3 June 2024 Ends Wednesday 24 July 2024