

#TNHA WAY




The
Nicholas Hamond
Academy



NOVEMBER 2020

 TeamNHA

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PROUDLY
SHARING
OUR
NEWS

Determined to be...
'the best that we can be'

PRINCIPAL'S POST

Welcome to the first addition of our #TNHAWay Newsletter. It has without doubt been an interesting term and one like no other. 14 weeks ago we were reopening the academy as we hoped the coronavirus pandemic subsided. 14 weeks later we are coming through the end of our second national lockdown and all wondering what our Christmases will be like. Despite the challenges that we have all faced in this time what has been great is the way that our students have taken on board the challenges in front of them. They have shown adaptability, resilience and determination to tackle all that they have had to deal with. They have also shown compassion and empathy and all of this whilst worry about what their futures might look like. Through all this there has still been much that has been happening in the academy and hopefully this newsletter will give you an insight into this. I hope that you and your families keep safe,
Kind regards, Mr Woodhouse (Principal)

WE REMEMBER...

Despite the lockdown we were determined to commemorate the sacrifices made for our country during both World Wars and later conflicts. Wreaths were laid at the Swaffham war memorial and in the church on Remembrance Sunday as part of the town's tribute. At the academy itself students made giant poppies which were displayed in our windows and also wrote messages on their 'handprints' to thank those that have served and continue to serve in our armed forces. Chloe, one of our students, answered a plea from Westfield Care Home for decorations and promptly went to work making this amazing picture with sequins.



Marking Armistice Day, on the 11th month, at the 11th hour, the lone sound of a trumpet playing the Last Post could be heard whilst students and staff stood in a two-minute silence marking the end of WW1 and remembering those who died in all wars.



INTRODUCING OUR NEW STUDENT LEADERS

We are pleased to take this opportunity to introduce TNHA's new Student Leadership team. The candidates were selected after writing an application and then being short listed for interview. It was a very tough decision due to the high quality of applicants and we were exceptionally proud that so many wished to take on this role across all year groups. This new team has the task of increasing the student voice across the academy, so that we can work as a team to make life at the TNHA a rich and fulfilling one. Their first task is to expand the leadership roles with the selection of Form Representatives who will work closely with the Heads of Year to raise issues which students feel are important, together ensuring that the 'voice' of all students is being heard and incorporated into our daily lives.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Despite the challenges of lockdown and a global pandemic, four students at the academy have completed the volunteering, physical and skills components of their Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Our students completed various components, both pre and during lockdown.

- ♦ Building a pond in the back garden
- ♦ Running 5K
- ♦ Baking an array of delicious cakes
- ♦ Volunteering with the local Park Run
- ♦ Hiking across the county
- ♦ Honing skills at the local rifle and pistol club
- ♦ Volunteering at a local children's' nursery
- ♦ Playing hockey with the local team
- ♦ Photographing flora and fauna



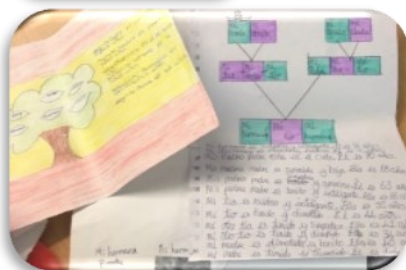
All have been recognised and awarded a Special Certificate of Achievement for aptitude and adaptability. An amazing example of determination and resilience! We look forward to the expedition section to complete the award when circumstances allow.

NEWS FROM OUR YEAR GROUPS

Year 7



This term we have been studying the culture of European countries. Geography students were asked to complete a project comparing two countries in Europe finding out as much about them as they could and comparing them to each other. Some chose to show their results by posters and models and one student even chose cake! In Spanish our linguists created their family tree and the work produced was truly excellent showing a good grasp of the language whilst having 'fun'.



As part of World Kindness Day students chose to give a 'Shout Out' to staff. These included 'thank you notes' to the cleaning staff for their hard work and *"keeping us safe around the building"*, various teachers for *"making lessons fun and exciting"* and their tutors and the pastoral team for *"making us feel secure and looked after"*.



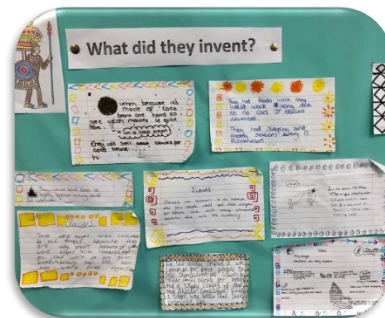
Although we were unable to celebrate Children In Need quite as we had been used to, a 'Pudsey Challenge' was sprung on form representatives who were given balloons, masking tape and coloured pens, with the task of creating Pudsey bears in 20 minutes with excellent results.

As part of the ATT Corporate Induction in the New Year two of our students featured in a short film discussing "what they want to do when they grow up". Noah is keen to be a lifeguard and Tiffany a marine biologist!



Years 8 & 9

Our students in Y8 have been researching how ancient cultures may have influenced our modern society, studying Aztecs, Incas and Egyptians. This made them consider the positive impacts of a multicultural society taking influences from all around the world. One of the main research points was finding out which inventions came from which culture and how some of these are still in use today. Their findings were put up on display in their form rooms.



Inspired by the work of Marcus Rashford in helping the disadvantaged students of the UK get free school meals during holidays and as part of the Black Lives Matter movement, our Year 9s researched other sportspeople who may be black role models and looked at the reasons why. This led them to discover the black power protest at the 1968 Olympics by Tommie Smith and John Carlos all the way up to modern day with Colin Kaepernick taking a knee in silent protest during American Football matches. A vast range of black sportspeople were role models for the students ranging from athletes, gymnasts and footballers.

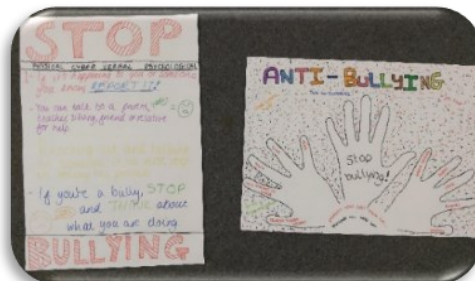


Our young scientists have been busy in the labs investigating the effects of streamlining by taking modelling clay, making different shapes, tying it to string and dropping it through a measuring cylinder of wall paper paste. During this messy, but 'fun' experiment they found the smoother, more streamlined shapes moved the quickest.



Years 10 & 11

Our Year 11 students have begun their programme of targeted mentoring with a focus on their progress, rewards, attendance and behaviour for learning. The programme is run with the students and their mentor in a tiered system including their pastoral support and senior leaders, including the Principal. Students are allocated a mentor that we feel is a 'best fit' for them and regular mentoring meetings are adhered to where targets are set and students are expected to meet them. Students have responded very well to the programme and it has been great to see so many of our mentors praise the engagement of our students, as well as so many targets met and progress made. In other news, students are expanding their work outside of their GCSE studies to include lessons on what is needed to be excellent people, as well as ambitious learners. Tutor time sessions that explicitly teach students the skill of self-regulation challenge students' pre-conceptions about what is the right way to interact with others, not because anyone is watching, but because it is the right thing to do in a variety of situations.



Students in the Prince's Trust Award programme have created posters for the younger years on how to stay e-safe online and these have been put up around the Academy for our students to see. Similarly, in anti-bullying week, students created posters in their tutor times, the most eye-catching of which have been replicated and displayed around the academy to highlight the prevention of bullying in all its forms.

Our Art rooms have certainly been very busy this month. Year 10 artists have been learning how to mono-print using materials which can be etched and reprinted.

