

# #TNHA WAY



## May 2021

 TeamNHA

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# PROUDLY SHARING OUR NEWS

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

## PRINCIPAL'S POST

It has been brilliant to see how quickly and how well the students have settled back into life at TNHA this half term. It has not been without its challenges but everyone in the academy has risen to the challenges that they have faced, have met them head on and have done all they can to overcome them. This is been characterised by our Year 11 students who have shown a fantastic determination and resilience to get through their final assessments during the first half of the summer term and their attitude has remained positive throughout. In recent weeks, the academy has also experienced a Trust review, which only further highlighted the good work that has continued in the academy in spite of the difficulties we have all lived through during the last 12 months. Special reference was made by the review team about how well behaved our students were on the day and they were impressed by how polite and courteous they were. Whilst academic achievement is crucial and we want all our students to progress it is lovely to hear such positive feedback about the attitude of our students, which are the sorts of skills and attributes that we would want all young people to possess. I have no doubt that there will be further challenges ahead but I am confident that both our students and staff will continue to progress in overcoming these and together they will continue to help the academy to progress and move forward. *Mark Woodhouse*

## CHAIR'S CORNER

The Local Area Committee of governors met through Microsoft Teams on 12 May. Two new governors were welcomed: Carl Summers as a new parent governor and Daniel Christopher as a new community governor. Their clear support for the academy and their background skills will make them valuable additions to the team. The focus of the meeting was around a summary of the verbal feedback given to the Principal following a Full Academy Review (FAR) of TNHA, completed on 29 April by the Trust. The feedback provided was ahead of a formal written review, details of which will be scrutinised by governors when available. What the governors found most encouraging from the verbal feedback was the strongly held view given to the Principal by the reviewers of the progress made by the academy since the last FAR regarding the behaviour and general attitude of the students towards each other, which they now found to be good in all areas of the academy. Positive behaviour from students is recognised as a precursor for high quality learning to take place and the governors praised the work being done by the senior team to support staff and students to create a platform for progress. Governors were informed of the academy plans for summer school intervention sessions. Also, Governors asked questions concerning the Year 11 assessments for GCSE grades and discussed safeguarding issues that may have arisen because of the varied pressures on families during lockdown. The discussions during the LAC meeting highlighted again just how well staff have coped with the immense pressure and extra workload placed on them as a consequence of the pandemic. Apart from their own personal pressures, they have dealt with changing processes and procedures, additional administrative paperwork, additional assessments, and the provision of online and offline teaching materials. The governors acknowledge the tremendous work being done by the staff at the academy and recognise their determination to do the very best they can for the students. *Phil Anderson*

## GIVING IT THEIR ALL

Our Year 11s have approached their work, class assessments and coursework with an amazingly positive attitude and with great determination. Attendance at intervention sessions with subject teachers before and after school has been excellent. Here are a few of our stupendous Spanish students eager to put the time they have to good use and study hard to improve their grade. Excelente!



# THE CHALLENGE CONTINUES



Our challenge cup continues and Ben shared his accomplishment after taking part in the Captain Tom 100 Challenge, with 100 front flips in the pool, despite the thermostat failing miserably. He also raised a wonderful amount of money for the West Norfolk Branch of the National Autistic Society. What a great way to honour 'Sir Tom'.



Other students were busy working together to build towers as high as possible out of paper being a terrific example of teamwork and determination. There are some pretty amazing accomplishments here!





# AN ADVENTURE AFOOT

Our adventurers, who are taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award, are well underway in completing their physical, skills and volunteering parts of the award, albeit slightly different due to the restrictions COVID-19 has placed upon them. However, they are providing evidence from baking to walking, supporting neighbours, families and charities, litter picking and much more.

Work has begun on their practical skills training for their forthcoming expedition and they have covered map reading skills, orienteering, along with first aid, teamwork in pitching tents, packing kit for their 2 day expedition and following the codes of the countryside. We have captured them honing their skills around the academy.



## PROMOTING SPORT FOR GIRLS



We are very proud of this group of young female students taking part in a programme funded by Barclays and delivered through the FA and Youth Sports Trust.

This is aimed at encouraging more girls to take part in football.



An online interactive session gave students the opportunity to hear about how they can help with the project and bring their own mission and vision to the fore. 'Famous female faces' gave their perspective and experiences providing further inspiration.

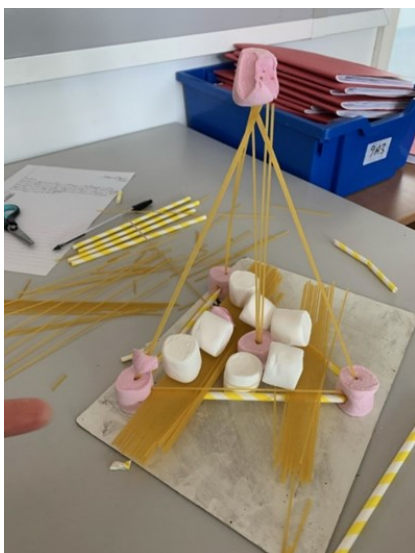


Our older students are partnering with Swaffham Football Club to help launch the Wildcats Football centre for primary aged girls and ultimately a women's football team.

We aim to promote girls' football via our 'football activators' to the academy cohort during the forthcoming National Sports Week in June.



## ENQUIRING MINDS



Our Year 9 Humanities students have been constructing earthquake proof structures using actual designs from different buildings around the world out of just spaghetti, straws and marshmallows.

They then tested them by simulating a quake to see whether their construction remained unscathed.





# MEANWHILE IN THE LAB



Our Year 7 scientists have been busy in the lab extracting DNA from peas.

As it rose to the top of the solution some described it as rather like clouds or a spider's web.



With Bunsen burners at the ready, and being mindful of safety protocols, students have been busy conducting flame tests in the lab. They were able to demonstrate that metal ions produce different flame colours when they are heated strongly.

Here we can see them identifying Lithium (red flame) and Barium (green flame).



Still in science, students were investigating 'flight' and were considering 4 basic rules:- flight is the process whereby an object moves through the atmosphere; for an object to be flying it must not have contact with a hard surface; the force which pulls an object to the ground is gravity; and the force which allows flight is lift.



They were in for a big surprise when suddenly they were joined by some rather cute looking ducklings and all were eager to say 'hello'.

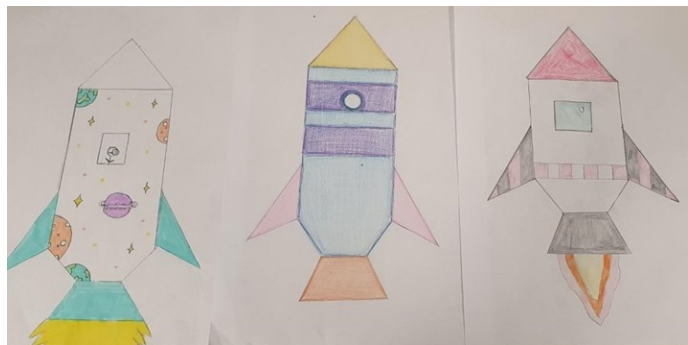
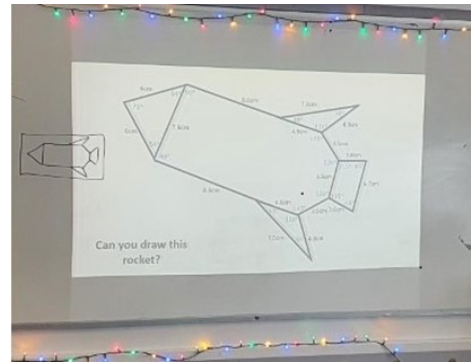
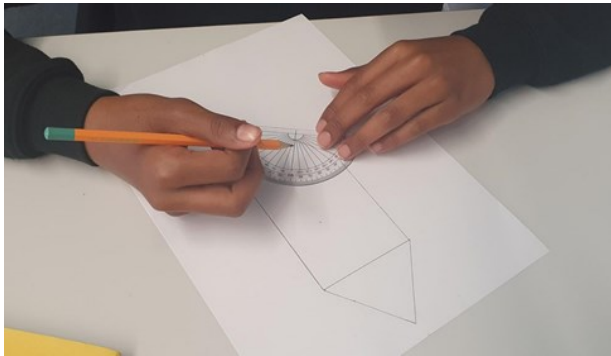
There were certainly no complaints that their lessons were dull or boring!



# SUPERSONIC MATHS

A visit to a Year 7 Maths class saw our younger students ready and eager with protractors and rulers to draw a space rocket practicing measurement and their geometry skills with angles.

They produced some great versions that were very accurate and clearly had fun!



# WELCOME ABOARD

We are delighted to welcome two new governors to our Local Academy Committee this month and include a short biography for each by way of introduction:-



"I have an extensive background in Information Technology in both the public and private sectors and I currently work as a security professional in data protection and cyber-security compliance. This role involves setting standards and policies and ensuring that they are achieved within the organisation that I work for. I have two children at TNHA and I hope that I can use my experience and knowledge to help the academy meet its ambitions. In my spare time I enjoy cycling, walking and generally spending time with my family, as well as being a classic car enthusiast and an avid movie watcher".

*Carl Summers (Parent Governor).*

"I grew up in Suffolk before studying degrees in Law at UEA in Norwich from 2007. Following graduation I have since qualified as a Chartered Accountant and now work for a local accountancy practice. I have lived in Swaffham since 2016 with my wife and 3 young children. I am a keen runner and enjoy exploring routes off the beaten track around the local area. I am grateful for the opportunity to fulfil the role of community governor with the academy to support every student to flourish and achieve their full potential".

*Daniel Christopher (Community Governor)*

# AND FINALLY...



## MAY HALF TERM

The staff at TNHA wish you all a restful Half Term Holiday and look forward to seeing students return on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 to Week A of the academy timetable.



Coincidentally it is also Garden Wildlife Week and we are all hoping that the weather improves so that we can get outside in our gardens and appreciate the natural world full of plants and the wonderful creatures on our own doorstep!