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**PROUDLY
SHARING
OUR
NEWS**

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



PRINCIPAL'S POST

It has been another exceptionally busy month in the academy. It has been brilliant to see our students really getting to grips with all the opportunities that they have had this term so far. With lots of different learning opportunities, extra-curricular clubs and even the return of trips for our students it has felt like the academy is returning to more normal times. However, the one main difference is our students. It has been great the way in which our students have taken on the extra responsibilities that are available to them. The student leadership team is growing and the feedback from lots of visitors who have had the good fortune to meet our students is how fantastic they have been. Whilst without doubt student academic education is crucial and we will do all we can to support this and their achievements, it has been wonderful to see their wider skills develop which will also undoubtedly help with all they do in their futures.

Mark Woodhouse

CHAIR'S CORNER

This term has clearly been about setting high standards and applying these consistently across the academy - the governors will be seeking to verify these are met during their visits. Prior to the December LAC meeting the focus for Governors is on the application of the academy improvement plan during planned visits to their respective links and to talk to small groups of students about their learning experiences. In addition, Governors will be sampling the various events taking place; for example, Sylvia Grice (Community Governor) visited the Open Evening on 5 October where she fed back the following: "So much preparation goes into open evenings and it is such a long day; to all involved, site staff, administrators, technicians, support leaders, teachers, students, and everyone else who contributed - thank you for your tremendous effort in engaging the local community and showcasing TNHA so positively." The wide range of events taking place this term within and outside of the curriculum has been impressive; in combination these stimulate interest in learning and widen horizons for all our students. Phil Anderson

A BIG 'TNHA WELCOME'

We proudly opened our doors to prospective students and their parents & carers at our recent Open Evening. Our Student Leaders looked as smart as always in their academy uniform and were full of enthusiasm when showing our many visitors around the academy. Just a few of the things on show included making gruel in the English Department, an appropriately dressed Senorita and Senoria in the Spanish class, exploding jelly babies in Science and 'urine testing' in History! It was truly an opportunity to show that we are determined to be the best that we can be...

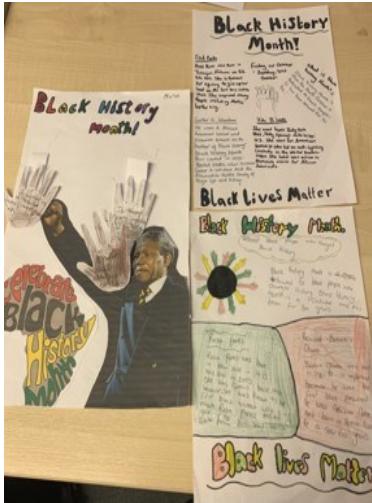
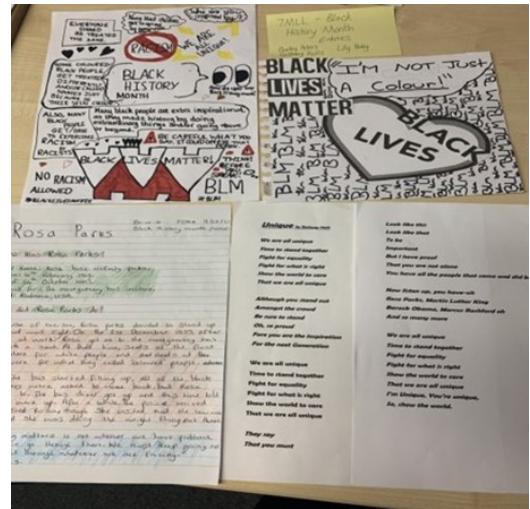
Our younger visitors from local primaries said that they most enjoyed the food on offer, seeing all the classrooms, trying new things and meeting new people. They were most looking forward to all the different subjects and clubs available, making new friends and joining a new 'big school' that is so friendly.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH



Our students proudly rose to the challenge of raising awareness of Black History Month learning about key characters of influence from the black community.



Their task was to then think about what they considered were the most important messages around this theme and demonstrate these however they wished. Here are just a few of the wonderful examples produced.

Included in their research were current and historical figures students such as:-

Lennox Lewis - Boxer (1965 – present day)

"It's been great honour to be the standard bearer for boxing in the last decade. Let the new era begin."



John Edmonstone (1793-1822)

Edmonstone was born into slavery, but when he gained his freedom, he moved to Scotland. He became a teacher at Edinburgh University, where he taught Charles Darwin. It could be said that Darwin couldn't have come up with his ideas without what Edmonstone taught him!

WE'RE GOING TO THE ZOO

Zoological Society of East Anglia

Zsea



Registered Charity No. 1150158

Whilst many of us love to visit the zoo as a chance to see the spectacular animals and many endangered species sharing our planet with us, we may forget that it must run as a profitable business in order to keep its doors open. Our Year 10 Business and Travel & Tourism students visited Banham Zoo to learn from the Education Officer exactly how this works as well as being able to see the wonderful creatures on show.

Amongst the interesting facts they discovered was that Banham Zoo started as a farm, with a small shop behind which kept a few animals. However, more people stopped to see the animals rather than buy from the farm shop, leading to them becoming a Zoo in 1968.

It is now home to more than 2,000 animals over a 50-acre site, has over 200,000 visitors a year and has been awarded the prize of Norfolk's Top Attraction. Costs are naturally enormous and those responsible for the running of the zoo must rely on donations, ticket prices, fundraising and other funding streams in order stay in business as well as paying out staffing costs, vet bills, etc.

ON THE SAND AT OVERSTRAND

After being postponed twice due to the pandemic, our Year 11 students were finally able to carry out coastal fieldwork as part of their exam course. Naturally, the first discussion was based around who would be sitting at the back of the bus... something the trip leader had 'missed' after 2 years of not being able to go out on visits...

Originally planned as a summer trip in June, but eventually having to take place in October, meant that staff and students expected to be bracing ourselves for cold and windy conditions. However, on arrival to Overstrand they couldn't have wished for more beautiful weather.



The purpose of the day was to give students an experience of coastal fieldwork and to consider their fieldwork title: "How does coastal management effect coastal processes and the community?" Students had the opportunity to complete a bi-polar analysis of the existing management techniques and ask members of the community their opinions on the rates of erosion and how this was managed in the village in which they lived. After a quick lunch they then headed down to the beach to carry out fieldwork techniques such as beach profiling, sediment analysis and wave frequency. The students were incredible and all got involved, with lots learnt, understood and experienced. A really fabulous and informative day!

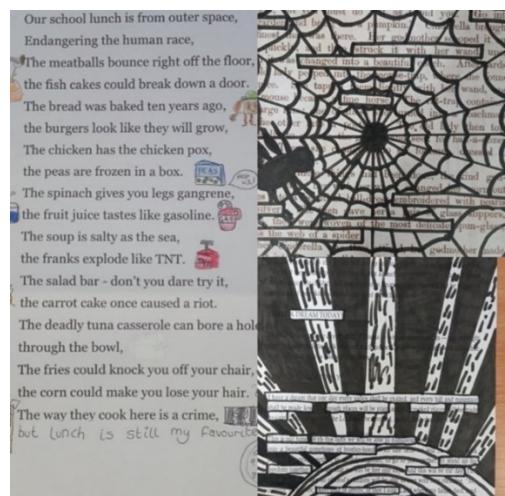
TALENTED BAKING ON DISPLAY

After the very successful celebrations on European Languages Day students were encouraged to take part in a competition to bake a cake with this theme in mind.

As you can see the entries were amazing and our young bakers certainly excelled themselves. We are certain that whoever has to pick a winner has a really hard task on their hands.



NATIONAL POETRY DAY



Along with the rest of the country we celebrated National Poetry Day at the academy. Students had fun working on blackout poetry where parts of piece of written text were redacted in order to come up with their own poetry. There were some amazing examples of work produced.

On entry to the canteen we were all given a 'smile' reading the poem displayed about school food – thankfully ours is amazing here at TNHA!

THOUGHTS TURNING TO CHRISTMAS

Whilst we may not want our thoughts to turn to Christmas just yet... there are certain things that do need to be organised early. Our Trust have launched their Christmas Card competition and we have invited all students to send in their designs.

Look out for our very own TNHA Christmas Card Competition coming shortly!



DOCUMENTING RECENT HISTORY

We were delighted to add our section to the Swaffham Heritage/Iceni Partnership COVID Diary reflecting on a time that will certainly go down in history, when the government took the unprecedented step of closing all schools in March 2020 due to the uncertainty and concern over the virus this country and many others around the world faced. Not only did schools close but so did many businesses with staff asked to work from home where possible, mandatory mask wearing, pressure on the NHS, shortages in shops leading to rationing of toilet paper (of all things) and other items which became in short supply. We were asked to leave our homes only for necessary trips to the shops for food, exercise and visits to loved ones were not allowed due to the rapid transmission of the disease and loss of life. The most vulnerable among us were asked to shield completely and not leave the house at all except in an emergency meaning that crippling loneliness and poor mental health was an inevitable result.

We were all riveted to the daily briefings from 'Number 10' with the government and various experts giving us the appalling death rates and measures put in place to try to stem the virus. The message 'STAY AT HOME – PROTECT THE NHS' was heard clearly by us all. We have added our TNHA Lockdown Diary to the front page of our website for everyone to read.

Here are a few comments from our students when asked to recall this period and asked how this affected their lives:-

"Lockdown was difficult for us all and it affected everyone in different ways. When we first went into lockdown I was scared and confused, all the new rules everyone had to follow seemed strange. Not going to school and doing online learning was also a shock. Not being able to see family and friends made me feel alone at times. It was a very uncertain time but slowly I got used to new rules and restrictions". Poppy

"The global pandemic changed my life massively as I couldn't do my every day activities such as going out with my family, going shopping, having a holiday, going out with my friends and lots more. It was extremely tricky to have to stay inside. It was however a perfect time to spend time with family and make memories with them. We spent a lot of time in the garden and watching films. My mum had to stay at home as she wasn't allowed to work in her salon but luckily my dad was classed as a key worker so he still went to work and was able to earn us money". Charlie

"Instead of being more active and going out to do things we did lots online from the comfort of home. Due to the multiple lockdowns and being forced to stay at home as much as possible the use of technology increased through things like Teams and Zoom. I think that because of the lack of face-to-face communication people have become more anti-social struggling to hold conversations in real life. The vaccine caused a debate of whether it was positive or negative but in my opinion it reduced the severity of symptoms and helped the NHS with their workload". Anabeth

"Before lockdown I was doing 3 sports every day but when we were in lockdown I couldn't do any and I felt very unmotivated. Christmas was affected because we couldn't have the whole family together and it was just me and my mum and dad and it didn't feel like Christmas". Evie

"I used to do football practice on a Tuesday and Friday after school and then had a game on a Sunday. I wasn't able to go any more during lockdown. I tried to play football in the house but got told off!" Alfie

HALF TERM

Finally, all that remains is to wish all our parents/carers, students & staff a good half term in which we hope will be bright autumn sunshine!



Just a reminder that the clocks 'go back an hour' on 31 October 2021 as British Summer Time ends.



We return on Monday 1 November 2021 (Week B) to lighter mornings and darker evenings & look forward to all that autumn has to offer.