

#TNHAAWAY



The  
Nicholas Hamond  
Academy



September 2021

 TeamNHA

 TeamNHA

 @TeamNHA

PROUDLY  
SHARING  
OUR  
NEWS

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

# PRINCIPAL'S POST

It has been a brilliant start to the academic year and it has been wonderful to have all our students back in the academy working in near normal circumstances. For the staff in the academy it has not just been the positive way students have approached their studies but, as things have started to open up, also the way students have engaged with many of the re-emerging opportunities to do things beyond their daily curriculum has been great to see. This has been highlighted by the recent ATT Sports Afternoons where more students than ever have been able to represent the academy in a variety of sports and have done so with huge amount of pride and enthusiasm. A message we regularly convey to our students and staff is, "it is not just what you do but also how you do it". The positive and determined attitude that we have seen from our students this month has been fantastic and I look forward to seeing our students have further successes through this academic year! *Mark Woodhouse*

# CHAIR'S CORNER

The Local Area Committee met on 29 September. There is now a full complement of committed governors who have a wide range of skills and interests, and the meeting was an opportunity for many governors to meet in person for the first time after their recruitment and the relaxation of lockdown. Prior to the meeting governors had completed online Safeguarding training and all the mandatory documentation required. During the meeting the Designated Safeguarding Lead, Katie Ogden, provided governors with training to update them on changes to the Keeping Children Safe in Education document. The main purpose of the meeting was to elect the Chair (Philip Anderson) and Vice Chair (Sylvia Grice) positions and to agree an Action Plan for the coming academic year. In the lead up to the next full meeting in December it was agreed that governors would focus 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. The mandatory key areas of scrutiny for the LAC throughout the year relate to Safeguarding, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Careers Education and Guidance, Disadvantaged and Specific Groups including Pupil Premium. These will be monitored across all the link areas that governors have responsibility for. In addition, planning is in place for an in depth examination during the Spring and Summer Terms (a so called 'deep dive') into 3 areas identified as key areas within the improvement plan: SEND, Reading and Literacy, Pupil Premium. *Phil Anderson*

# WELCOME BACK STUDENTS

Firstly, we hope everyone had a lovely summer holiday (despite the weather being a 'little hit and miss'). TNHA's doors were open during August for our summer school aimed at getting to know some of our Year 6 students before they joined us in September.



They spent time in the nature area, preparing bug habitats for the winter, visited the Swaffham Museum learning about Howard Carter and Tutankhamun, finishing the week with afternoon tea (which the students prepared). There were many friendships made, some excellent learning undertaken and most importantly lots of happy faces.

We were also pleased to provide a base for summer activities for invited students aged 5-16 years in partnership with Norfolk County Council and Norwich City FC Community Sports Foundation.



# CELEBRATING WITH THE CLASS OF 2021



August inevitably brings excitement and nerves as students receive their GCSE exam results all over the country. Here at TNHA we opened our doors early and students arrived eager to open their envelopes containing their grades which were the culmination of 11 years of work,



the last two of which have been significantly disrupted by the impact of the covid pandemic. We saw some truly outstanding results from students and perhaps most pleasing was seeing our students become the incredibly talented young adults that they now are. They have shown not only resilience but the determination to succeed and they have all demonstrated the wider skills that will enable them to be successful in their futures.

Our students should be proud of the grades and everything else that they have achieved through their formal education but they should equally be proud of the way that they have faced and overcome the challenges with which they have been presented. We wish all our students the very best and look forward to seeing them achieve further success in their future endeavours.

Many of the students met up again at their prom, delayed until early September due to the pandemic, however this did not dampen their enthusiasm.

Lynford Hall saw a wonderful array of vehicles deliver our VIPs dressed in their formal attire on the evening ready to celebrate together.



## WE WELCOME OUR NEWCOMERS



As one group leaves us we welcome a new cohort being our new Year 7 students who have settled in amazing fashion into TNHA life. We have been very impressed with how smart they all look all wearing their uniform with pride.

Students have spent time together as a tutor group getting to know one another, learning more about their academy and completing a 'treasure hunt around the site'.

Each form group has been working on creating a motto and emblem which they feel best represents them. They have also taken part in their first 'Challenge Cup' which involved them competing to gain the highest scoring words created from a boggle grid and rising to a challenge set to form groups which involved the longest flight by paper aeroplanes judged on aesthetics, design and flight ability. Well done Year 7!

# INTRODUCING OUR STUDENT LEADERS



With students at the heart of everything we do here at TNHA we are excited to launch our new student leadership and student voice teams. These students will be an integral part in driving our academy forward, sharing the students' voice, supporting students and implementing new exciting student led ideas. In addition, they will learn important life skills such as teamwork, communication, organisation and leadership to support them when they leave us. Our student leadership team will meet regularly to discuss any ideas or issues raised by the student body and look at ways to continue to improve the academy. We look forward to working closely with them this academic year.

We were delighted to welcome them, along with their parents and carers, for an evening of celebration when they were presented with their unique badges and ties.



## THINGS EGYPTIAN

We are delighted to answer a plea from a former member of staff who is currently working with Swaffham Heritage on the Tutankhamun Exhibition in the museum.

It was a fascinating process during which the vacuum forming machine was used to wrap a 'mummy' in gold and make the death mask representing one of the young Egyptian King's children found buried with him.



# GENEROUS DONATIONS



We have been lucky enough to received donations to the academy from some extremely generous people. Our Music Department are most grateful for the gift received from siblings in the town (both alumni of the academy) who thought of us when clearing their music collection donating their guitars and equipment for our use by our musicians. This made an extremely welcome addition to our array of instruments.

Additionally, a member of the town made the wonderful gesture donating to the World Land Trust enabling the purchase of half an acre of rainforest in Argentina in the name of the academy. This raises the profile within the student body of the devastating effects of deforestation and will enable them to receive up-to-date information by way of a regular magazine.



# GIRLS FOOTBALL

Following on from our previous newsletters you will have seen that our Football Activators have been working hard to encourage more female students to play football.

We were therefore extremely proud to host the first girls' event of the year to include teams from the academy, KES, Springwood & Downham Market Schools.



# CARPENTRY SKILLS ON DISPLAY



Themes included animals, football teams, characters from TV shows and children's books.

What a fantastic display from our young carpenters!

Keen to hone their skills students in our DT Department students have been hammering, sawing and painting these excellent chairs now on display in the foyer at the academy.





# OPEN EVENING/MORNINGS

Finally, looking forward to September 2022, we are delighted to invite all parents and carers along with their child/children in Year 5/6 from our local primaries to our Open Evening & Open Mornings.

These events are designed to give a flavour of life at TNHA where we are truly 'determined to be the best that we can be'.



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

## THINKING OF JOINING US?

Parents & Carers of current  
Years 5 & 6 students

are invited to join us at our

### Open Evening

Tues 5 Oct 2021 (6pm to 8pm)

*(all welcome no appointment necessary)*

and/or our

### Open Mornings

*(by appointment -Tel: 01760 721480)*

Wed, Thurs & Fri

6, 7 & 8 Oct 2021 - (9am to 11am)



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