



#TNHA WAY



December 2021

 TeamNHA

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PROUDLY
SHARING
OUR
NEWS

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



PRINCIPAL'S POST

It never fails to amaze me the relentless pace with which the academic term continues to progress. Although December only brings a couple of weeks of time in the academy these weeks are packed with many different opportunities and activities. It is great to see our students being as generous as they are with their time and ideas about what they can be doing to help the local community. This was exemplified by the carol singing and gift boxes that we have taken to the local care homes over the last week. This time of year, is also a point when we often reflect on what we have achieved not only through the term but through the year. Given where we were in January and what our students have had to contend with, in another COVID impacted year, they have shown remarkable resilience and determination to overcome the many challenges that they have had to face. Whilst there will have been many difficult moments along the way our students have shown the character to come through these and still continue to progress both academically as well as becoming young people who should be proud of what they do and what they have achieved. Our students have without doubt earned their Christmas break and I wish them and their families a wonderful Christmas and an excellent New Year, which I hope is filled with optimism for a better 2022!

Mark Woodhouse

CHAIR'S CORNER

At the Local Governing Board meeting held on the 8 December it was agreed that for the Spring Term the governors would look closely at the SEND provision in lessons across the academy and also scrutinise the impact of interventions that are in place to support all disadvantaged students. We are looking forward to reading the findings of the recent Ofsted inspection when their report is published. Hopefully, the significant improvements that have been made since the last inspection will be recognised. As a governing group we were unanimous in support of the tremendous effort and progress that the academy has made and we expressed our appreciation of the huge contribution made to this by parents and carers. Our very best wishes for the holiday period go to the whole academy community. Happy Christmas and a Covid safe New Year.

Phil Anderson

SKILLS IN SCIENCE

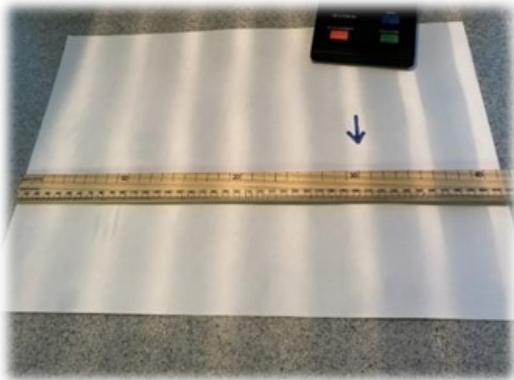
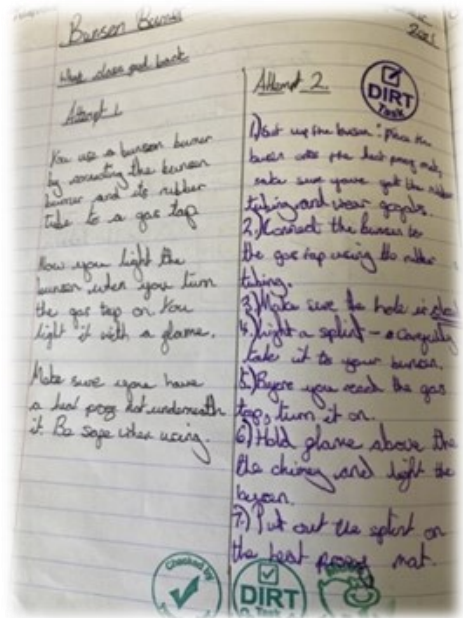
This term has been a very exciting busy period of time in the Science department. The new Year 7's have settled in well and started in September by learning how to stay safe in the laboratory, how to use a Bunsen burner and how to identify pH by using an indicator.

The second half of the autumn term has seen them develop their understanding of the structure of the earth, how resources are extracted and has developed their understanding of their place in the world around them and their responsibility as a global citizen to ensure materials are recycled as much as possible.



Year 8 have studied Science linked to farming including food chain, ecosystems and habitats. They have further built on their knowledge about microscopes from their previous learning by successfully making and viewing plant cell slides. They have also learnt about electricity, electrical safety and circuits.

Year 9 have moved into a new exciting period where they start to stream science into the traditional strands Biology, Chemistry and Physics. They have started looking at the fundamentals of each strand for Chemistry this includes atoms, atomic structure and bonding. For Biology this is cells, specialised cells and movement of particles and for Physics the importance of Energy, transfers and its conservation.



Science staff are now successfully using technology to dictate personalised in-depth feedback to students. All students have been given specific responses from staff which means they are all able to improve their work, something which they have made excellent efforts in doing. The quality of their work and presentation is very high, students clearly take a lot of pride in their work.

Finally, the KS3 Science club has been building a strong student following; students attend during lunch time to perform additional exciting science practical experiments. This extra opportunity is really enjoyed by many of our students who are excited to see what they are going to do each week.

HISTORY HOMEWORK CHALLENGE



Year 7 students were set a homework challenge to build a castle as part of their studies about William the Conqueror and the Norman Conquest of England.



There were certainly some fantastic specimens amongst those brought in to the academy made of all different types of materials ranging from Lego to the edible kind!

'TIS THE SEASON

December at TNHA has been full of activity. It is of course a month where charitable endeavours are at the forefront of our minds and we have certainly been busy in this regard. We were delighted to host the Swaffham Lions Senior Citizens Christmas Party at the academy. Our group of volunteer staff cooked, organised the site and collected 'party goers' in one of our minibuses. The Swaffham Mayor and local MP Liz Truss also joined the festivities.



Our main charity drive this year has been Christmas Cheer boxes to senior citizens in our community as students voted to 'keep things local'. We visited the Swaffham Cottage Hospital and local care homes - The Paddocks, Westfields, The Maltings, Meadow House, Icen Care Home & Holmwood House over two days. Our group of Student Carol Singers, organised by the Music Department, visited each of the venues bringing festive cheer with some well-known songs, along with the gift boxes, to our most vulnerable and valued members of the community. We had the most amazing time and without doubt the TNHA version of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer was one to be remembered!

Remaining on the charity theme students raised in excess of £200 towards the 999 Cenotaph Appeal which will see a statue raised in Whitehall, London, in honour of the NHS and emergency services. The Emergency Services Cenotaph will include six figures stood back-to-back wearing the uniform they would wear when responding to a 999 call. They are a police officer, firefighter, paramedic, a maritime officer, a search and rescue worker, a dog to represent service animals and an NHS nurse in scrubs.





As part of our ongoing Academy Challenge Cup, students were set a task to decorate Christmas trees following traditions from around the world and looking at how other cultures dress these.



From strings of popcorn in the USA, candles on the tree in Germany, sparkly spiderwebs and spiders in the Ukraine, shells in Australia, straw 'himmeli' (a geometric shape traditionally made from rye straw) in Finland, delicious kerstkransjes biscuits in the shape of Christmas wreaths in the Netherlands and origami birds in Japan, students were certainly full of many ideas to inspire them.

Meanwhile in one of the Science Labs we have found this rather inventive specimen—nothing other than a 'Chemist-tree'



Our traditional Christmas Lunch for students is always an event to look forward to. This year was no different with students being treated to a fun, prizes and good food!

We also took the chance to 'don' our Christmas Jumpers just to add to the occasion!



SPRING TERM

A reminder that due to the developing COVID situation the DfE have asked schools and academies to test students on their return to the academy from the Christmas break in January. The Government have allowed schools and academies to stagger the start of term to facilitate this. As a result, the start of term for different year groups will be as follows:-

Tuesday 4 January 2022:

Years 7, 8 and 11 return at 8.45am.

Wednesday 5 January 2022:

Years 9 and 10 return at 8.45am alongside the Year 7, 8 & 11 students.

CHRISTMAS WISHES TO ALL

**All that remains, is to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.**

**We hope you all stay well and look forward to seeing our
students rested and ready for the Spring Term in
January 2022!**

