



February 2022

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Academy Transformation

PROUDLY SHARING OUR



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



PRINCIPAL'S POST

As hopefully you will see from this month's newsletter there are a number of events that have happened and will be happening over the coming months. What is nice to see is that the easing of COVID restrictions have meant that we can begin to plan and get back to doing all the things that we have wanted to do for the last couple of years but haven't been able to. Whilst there will be some positives that we will take from that period in how we work it will be great to really get things going and provide lots of the opportunities that have been missing over the last few years simply because logistics have not allowed.

You will also read there is a piece in the newsletter about our growing commitment to making the academy 'greener'. Our student leaders have taken a real lead in this and we hope to see many new student-led initiatives that will hopefully mean a greener approach to many of the things that we do both now and in the future of the academy! *Mark Woodhouse*

CHAIR'S CORNER

Governor visits are on-going and will be reported at the next Local Governing Board meeting on 16 March, so there is little new to update you with this month. However, one item from the Ofsted report that is being discussed by governors is the parental feedback analysis by Ofsted. By comparison to similar schools, the parental view did not seem to reflect equally with the actual progress and achievement being made by the academy.

It is clear from the regular communication and support that emanates from the academy that considerable effort is now being made to inform and celebrate the multitude of initiatives, interventions and events that take place every week. I know that many parents are acknowledging the efforts of the staff using a variety of communication processes on offer and that this is greatly appreciated by the staff. *Phil Anderson*

OUR 'GREEN PLANS' EXPAND!

We are excited to inform you that we aim to go much 'greener' shortly! After Easter our recycling programme will be in full swing with new bins around the academy for paper, food waste, plastic and mixed recycling. Our students intend to set up an Eco Council who will take further responsibility for ensuring that our 'green' message is heard loud and clear throughout the academy.





Dry Mixed



Paper





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However, on the uniform front, you may be interested to hear that we already use suppliers with commitments to using 100% recycled polyester in all our academy blazers (with each saving 46 plastic bottles from landfill). Additionally, all trousers, academy skirts, shirts and blouses ordered via our uniform supplier's website use 100% recycled polyester and responsibly sourced cotton via certified yarn suppliers (Trutex and David Luke items).

We are currently designing a new 'eco tie' for introduction in September. Not only is this a brand-new design, with input from students, but each item will be made up of two 2-litre plastic bottles.

The recycling process, as described by the David Luke website, saves thousands of plastic bottles from landfill, and is as follows: -

Step 1: Plastic bottles are collected from recycling centres and brought to the re-processing factory. Here, they're sorted into type and colour.

Step 2: The bottles are compacted into bales, before being stripped of their labels and washed ready for shredding.

Step 3: Each bottle is then shredded and passed through a processor, where it will be formed into uniform strands.

Step 4: The resulting strands are then cooled and cut to form a standard size chip. These chips are then packed and delivered to the yarn mill.

Step 5: The yarn is created through a process that produces a special eight-sided continuous filament, making sure there is the smallest amount of light reflection.

Step 6: Finally, the yarn is woven into an extremely durable twill, ready to make Eco garments.

Further information can be found via their websites: https://www.davidluke.com/eco-system/eco-uniform-explained https://www.trutex.com/nurture-the-future

More news to follow as our plans develop!

CELEBRATING NATIONAL AWARENESS DAYS!

Our Science Team were keen to celebrate National Periodic Table Day and certainly 'looked the part' wearing t-shirts inspired by the various elements.





Periodic Table Day this year celebrated 151 years of **Periodic Law.**

in us in the World Book Day brations by taking part in our

ho is your favourite book character?

Id like you to decorate a vege (Yes - you heard right... a vegetable!!)

our favourite book charact

ng your decorated vege into school on

Tuesday 2nd March. rm tutor will bring your ent

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to the Foyer for judging

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WORLD

BOOK

DAY

3 MARCH 2022

YEA

Coming up shortly is World Book Day and we have a 'dressing up day' with a twist! We are asking our students to decorate a vegetable (yes, a vegetable!) as their favourite character from a book.



We will also welcome 'Wally and his friends' to the academy that day where they will be hiding around the site for the students to find.

LANGUAGES AT LUNCH

As you will remember from our last edition, the MFL Department recently launched their International Language Café. We are pleased to report that it is a huge success and there has been 'standing room only' in some sessions as they have been so popular.

The café welcomed George, from Year 11, who delivered an awesome session on Mexico and its language and the students played loteria bingo a traditional game similar to our version but played with pictures



cards rather than numbers.

Last week saw another packed session on Mandarin with students

Mandarin in the Café this Thursday!

listening to authentic audio, practicing conversational expressions and writing Chinese characters 'topped off' by fun making paper lanterns!



A WARM WELCOME AWAITS OUR NEW STARTERS!

We are already thinking about our new students joining us in September from our local primary schools and parents/carers will soon receive our 'transition bundle' containing lots of useful information.



'One Team' Determined to be the best that we can be

This will include plans for parent & carer/ student meetings allowing for the opportunity to ask any questions that parents/carers and their children may have.

Our two transition evenings in June are when our new students will meet their new form groups and current student leaders.

This is followed by 2 days at the end of June when they will be welcomed into the academy in order to become familiar with TNHA life. The aim is for them to feel confident and excited about joining TNHA in September.



IN OTHER NEWS

Finally, a quick round up of some of the other news from the academy during February, a short month for us which included the half term week.

In the Maths Department, things looked a 'little fishy' when students combined their art and mathematical skills to study and demonstrate tessellation.

Our Year 7 students took a look around the world and made a display showing the different methods of maths calculations used in other countries.





If you happen to be in the town on Tuesday 2 March you will see a group of our students at the Buttercross taking part in the pancake race organised by the Swaffham and District Lions. They would appreciate a cheer from the side lines as they tackle the challenge of running whilst flipping pancakes!





Our students have been given the opportunity to join a trip to The Theatre Royal in Norwich to see 'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time' on 4 May. This follows the investigation, by a young autistic boy with an extraordinary brain, as he uncovers a variety of family secrets whilst he struggling with his own personal and developmental limitations.

Should your child be interested please note that the parental consent forms must be in by Friday 1 April (after which names will be drawn for places on the trip should it be oversubscribed).

Lastly, we turn to our senior students who have been busy planning their major social event at the end of the summer. They have decided to hold their Class of 2022 Prom at Lynford Hall on Friday 1 July and family are welcome to watch arrivals as usual.





We also wish to acknowledge their hard work during the mock examination period. Since they have returned after the half term these have been in full swing and will continue over the next few weeks. The exams take place under exam board conditions moderated by a team of invigilators.

They are demonstrating tremendous pride, maturity, resilience and fortitude as they prepare for the 'real thing' in the summer!

There are a great many revision tips available on their Social Media Pages including advice on keeping up revision, prioritising subjects they are most concerned about as well as the need to take time off with regular breaks.

They are also reminded of 'The Pomodoro Technique' which is a great way of organising revision time.

#youvegotthis #team11.



Decide on the Task That You Need to Do

> Set the Timer to 25 Minutes



THE POMODORO TECHNIQUE

Work on the Task Until the Timer Rings



Take a Short

5 Minute

Break

After 4 Cycles Take a 15-30 Minute Break