


# #TNHA WAY



## May 2022

 TeamNHA

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# PROUDLY SHARING OUR NEWS



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



# PRINCIPAL'S POST

Despite being a shorter month than usual with Bank Holidays and May half term, there is still lots that has gone on in the life of the academy this month. Not least the start of the GCSE exams for our Year 11 students. They have been brilliant in the build up to their exams and have approached them with a real focussed determination and resilience that they should be proud of. One event that has really stood out for me this month has been the re-opening of our Learning Resource Centre (LRC). This is something that has taken many years to achieve but I am delighted we have been able to open the LRC and create a space for our students that will support all aspects of their learning. It will also support our focus on reading and literacy across the curriculum and I look forward to seeing further developments of the LRC that will impact all aspect of the academy over the coming months and years.

This month's Newsletter really gives a flavour of the diverse opportunities and experiences that are on offer to our students at the academy and it is great that so many students are, again, engaging in these following the couple of years of disruption that we have all had to endure.

*Mark Woodhouse*

# CHAIR'S CORNER

As governors, we are tasked by the Trust to observe and challenge all aspects of the workings of the academy. One area that is often overlooked but that is recognised as being of vital importance is cultural enrichment. By questioning the 'what and why' of the curriculum and asking about the learning experience provided to students we can explore not just their academic progress but also their cultural experience. Being able to equip our young people with the skills and confidence to participate in cultural life through a varied curriculum that is enriched with references to the arts, literature and music from across different cultures is vitally important in the quest to develop questioning, curious and creative minds. The reading and literacy initiative, the library, the range of lunchtime activities and the after-school clubs, are all indicative of the positive ways in which TNHA is addressing cultural enrichment. Over the next academic year, we will explore in more depth how the curriculum is incorporating cultural enrichment.

*Phil Anderson*

# CELEBRATIONS AS WE RE-OPEN THE LRC

We are delighted to announce the official re-opening of our Learning Resource Centre (LRC), by Mrs Judy Anscombe, Mayor of Swaffham, on what was her last official duty in the role before stepping down to Deputy Mayor.

Mrs Anscombe has a long association with the academy after acting as a Community Governor, then Chair of Governors, for a number of years. She continues to be an avid supporter of the staff and students and therefore it was particularly fitting that she joined us as our Guest of Honour at the event, along with representatives from the academy's Local Governing Body and the Hamond Educational Charity.



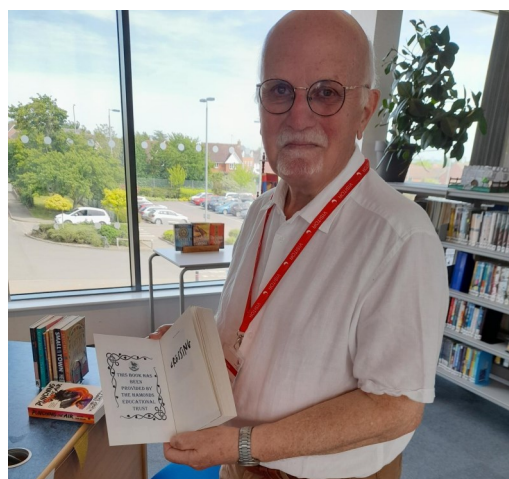
Student Leaders were proud to show off the new centre to those who came along and took the opportunity to browse the shelves themselves. The project is something that the Principal, is particularly pleased to see come to fruition allowing this excellent space to become a welcoming area where students can read, revise, research, attend various extra curriculum clubs and undertake homework if they wish, with the improved resources now on hand.



The addition of several brand-new fiction books has been made possible using a donation from the Foyle Foundation via the Norfolk Children's Book Centre and a generous grant from the Hamond Educational Charity.

These include the well-loved classics, gripping graphic novels and books focusing on societal changes and relevant topics. The range of improved non-fiction allows students to study around the topics that are focused on in the classroom as well as learning new 'fun facts' and improving their knowledge.

The addition of a 'Careers Corner' provides information on post-16 education and potential career paths.



A representative from the Hamond's Educational Charity pictured with one of the books provided.



As a surprise for the Mayor, the student leaders presented her with a cake to say a huge 'thank you' for all the support she has given TNHA during her term.

At the 'jam packed' re-opening for students, which followed shortly after the official ceremony, tension was high as the raffle was drawn with the winner being Lilly in Year 7. She is now the lucky owner of a bundle of books by Cornelia Funke, the world acclaimed writer of children's fantasy-oriented stories!





We welcome our new LRC Co-ordinator, Miss Whinnett, who has worked especially hard to ensure that the space is ready for everyone, is full of innovative ideas and greets all with a friendly smile and helpful manner.

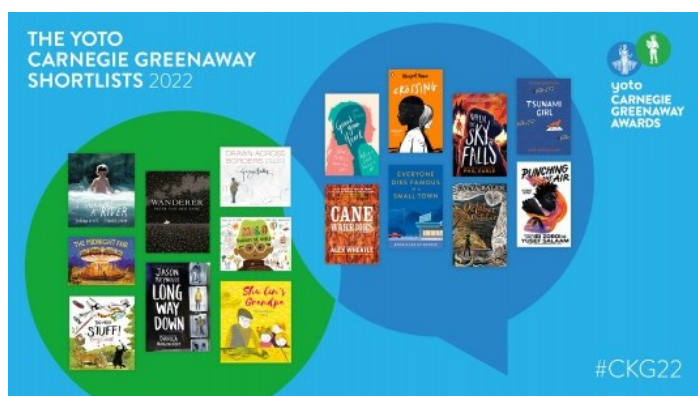
One of her introductions is the 'Feedback' Tree encouraging suggestions from students on their ideas from clubs and book recommendations etc. to make the space 'truly their own'.



Students are now able to engage with and enjoy this incredible facility, whether that is by unwinding with a good book, or exploring their creativity and challenging their limits to be 'the very best they can be'.



## CARNEGIE AWARDS 2022



Our English Department are excited to be taking part in a shadowing scheme for the Carnegie medal, an annual book award that champions the best literature written for young people.

They are seeking a group of students from Years 7 to 10 to take part in the scheme. As well as reading and reviewing the shortlist, students will have the opportunity to complete a range of creative activities and be involved in promoting their favourite book with the national judges before the winner is announced on 16<sup>th</sup> June.

What a wonderful opportunity to engage with modern day literature!

# ADVENTURES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

Our ever-adventurous Duke of Edinburgh students have been practicing their skills out in the countryside for a weekend preparing for their forthcoming expedition as part of their Silver Award.

On the Friday evening they made camp at Two Mile bottom where they enjoyed a variety of culinary delights from bacon, sausages and even black pudding to chilli 'non' carne followed by 'dessert in a bag' and hot chocolate.



A slow start to Saturday morning saw the group setting off in high spirits on a walk near the Little Ouse river to Brandon and back, completing a loop on their first day. Saturday evening again saw some lovely 'boil in the bag food' including sticky toffee pudding followed by hand-made skewers for toasted marshmallows and even some S'mores (toasted marshmallows in a chocolate digestive!) and of course some old-fashioned campfire songs.



It was a cold night with a few trains 'rumbling the ground' followed by a 9:15am depart heading through Croxton and on to Stonebridge. Everyone shared responsibilities and took turns at navigating successfully to check points along the routes. A small diversion at the very end did not deter our dedicated bunch and saw them grateful to see the finish line.

All in all, a very successful practice run.

## HOME TO THE MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT TEAM

We are delighted to announce that TNHA will become a hub for the Mental Health Support Team working in Breckland from June 2022. Their aim is to provide mild to moderate mental health support, facilitating the development of a mentally healthy school community.

Over the next three years we will be working closely with them to develop a bespoke package of support, tailored to the needs of staff, students and their families which will include: -

- Supporting our Senior Leadership Team to develop a mentally health school ethos and culture
- Staff wellbeing and resilience training (workshops and ongoing support)
- Staff and student's wellbeing audits - to identify what is going well and to support with improvement
- Transition workshops
- Bespoke psycho education workshops
- Supporting students and staff in group sessions and / or 1-2-1s.





# THE LOVE OF LANGUAGE AT THE MFL CAFE

Our MFL Language Café continues to be a wonderful success with recent 'visits' to Portugal and Romania. Both sessions were led by our students and were extremely popular and well attended (in fact, it was 'standing room' only). Some of our proud Student Language Ambassadors came along to show support.



Sofia and Nicole 'took us' on a journey to Romania and we 'accompanied' Dominic and Lucas to Portugal. We were introduced to the culture, language, history and enjoyed sweet treats from the respective nations.



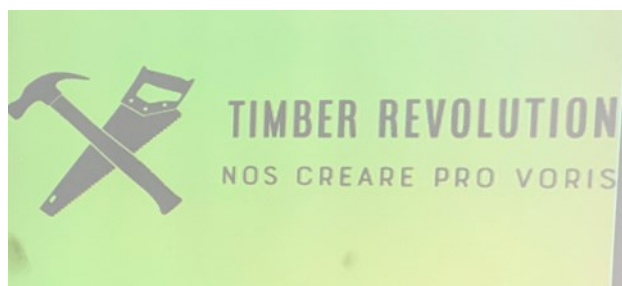
## AND FINALLY ...

Lastly, we take this opportunity to share just a few pieces of news from around the academy: -

We welcomed guests from Swaffham Climate Action at one of our assemblies, educating students on the effects of global warming and what we can all do to help reduce this.



This was just one of the fantastic 'Dragon's Den' style presentations by our Business Enterprise students featuring 'Timber Revolution' (a bespoke prospective furniture business with items made with traditional tools).



One of our Maths lessons featured intricate work with a compass aimed at developing observational and analytical skills whilst learning how the instrument works.



A 'Behaviour for Learning Display' gives a reminder of what is expected at TNHA to be ready to learn.



A trip to the musical Chicago is on the calendar for 14<sup>th</sup> July at The Theatre Royal, Norwich – 'it would be criminal to miss it!'



## Notable Dates for June



1 <sup>st</sup> to 29 June:	Annual LGBT Celebration Month
5 <sup>th</sup> June:	World Environment Day
6 <sup>th</sup> June:	Trip to Norwich University of Arts
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Student Leadership Presentation Evening
10 <sup>th</sup> June:	Jubilee 'Afternoon Tea' for Senior Citizens within the community (by invitation from TNHA & Swaffham Lions)
13 <sup>th</sup> June:	Jubilee Street Party for students
15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> June:	Transition Evening for Year 6 students
20 <sup>th</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> June:	Physical Activity Week at TNHA (Sports Day 20 <sup>th</sup> & 21 <sup>st</sup> June)
27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Transition Days at TNHA

## Half term holiday – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June



**We return on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June to Week A**