



Academy Transformation

🄰 @TeamNHA

Trust

# **PRINCIPAL'S POST**

I hope the first newsletter of the academic year finds you and your families well. For me, the start of an academic year always brings with it a sense of anticipation for the year a head and what might be.

Welcoming our students back to the academy after the summer has been brilliant and it has been great to see them getting properly involved in all the opportunities that are available to them. Students in all year groups have approached their academic studies really positively and there have been many extra-curricular clubs and opportunities where we have seen more students than ever getting involved and trying something different. We know that there will be challenges in the months to come but what we also know is that our students have and are further developing the skills and qualities to overcome these challenges. If they then add to this the enthusiasm and positivity that they have started the term with they will have all the elements to not only being successful this year but beyond their time in the academy.

There should be no limit on what our students can achieve I look forward to seeing our students begin to recognise their true potential through the opportunities they have in the academy this year!

**Mark Woodhouse** 

### **CHAIR'S CORNER**

Here we are at the start of a new academic year with lots of exciting opportunities ahead at TNHA! You cannot imagine how proud I was after being on the LGB last year to be elected as the new Chair of Governors to replace Phillip Anderson. To follow in his footsteps is a privilege and an honour and I will endeavour to bring my skills in education to our governing body as he did over the years. Having taught in England as a Head of Department, Head of Year and Faculty, Deputy Head and Director of an International Baccalaureate Curriculum abroad in international schools has given me a clear vision and understanding of teaching at all levels.

The Ofsted inspection went so well last year and the crowning glory was being awarded the Norfolk School of the Year! What a fantastic achievement for everyone involved in making it happen and being the "best that we can be." So, how do we move forward and grow further in aiming for what we can achieve? Our role as Governors is to be the "eyes and ears" to question the "whys and the wherefores" of how the school is progressing in all that is involved in running an academy in a large trust. Rest assured that a broad, fair and balanced curriculum with your child at the forefront in a safe and caring environment will be our quest for the future.

**Helen Warrick-Evans** 

#### **A WARM WELCOME BACK**

We may have only been back to school for a few weeks but there is lots happening at TNHA. We of course welcome our new Year 7 students who have settled in admirably and our new senior Year 11 students to their last and most important year with us. We hope you enjoy reading a few snippets of our news.

The academy is now back in 'full swing' and we are into the autumn term with the expected change in weather and darker evenings this will bring. The start to the term saw all our students arrive back to their studies together something we have not been able to arrange since the pandemic.

#### **OVER THE SUMMER...**

You may have seen our entry to the Swaffham Scarecrow Competition over the August Bank Holiday whilst you were visiting the town centre. In our large window facing the road stood a local farmer in his field amongst his crops together with a student enjoying a sample of the reading materials in our well stocked library.

It was lovely to be able to join in the local community effort and the standard of entries seen in the town was extremely good and no doubt the judges



found it difficult to find a clear winner amongst the wonderful array of characters. We very much look forward to next year!

Two of our students have spent their time considering how to help others and we are proud to share their stories. Firstly, Carly has had an amazing 23 inches of hair cut off as part of her fundraising efforts for children and young people with cancer. This will be used to make a wig for someone who has lost their own hair due to this terrible disease. Secondly, Casper has been deciding how to mark his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday and has decided on a skydive in aid of M.E. research.

#### TRIBUTE TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Her Majesty The Queen

1926-2022

Staff and students were of course very saddened at the news of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II last month. Her dedication to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and to her other realms and territories, is unparalleled and we thank her for her service.

The Bank Holiday allowed staff and students along with other individuals, businesses and other organisations to pay their respects on the day of the State Funeral.

# **DETERMINED TO BE ... A 'GREENER' ACADEMY**

'Great Big Green Week' (24th September to 2nd October 2022) was an ideal time to launch our further efforts toward becoming a greener academy and to introduce our programme to include plastics, food, paper and general recycling. New style bins can be seen around the site for use by staff and students alike with a designated programme of collection. A grant from Breckland Council has allowed us to purchase signage and other resources which will help to ensure that this project gets off to a great start!

As you may be aware our uniform is already very eco-friendly as we 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.

Our 'Student Green Team' will ensure that everyone receives our message that we must try our best to look after the environment and this is a simple but valuable way for us to contribute

### YEAR 11 ACADEMIC EVENING

In order to support our Year 11 students through the exam period, parents, carers and students were invited to an information evening giving details of the examinations system and key activities for our senior year arising over the next two terms.

Sessions included: - Maths, English and Science Examinations, Mental Health and wellbeing during the exam period, Careers and Post-16 options.

Staff from each faculty were also available to answer questions on specific subjects and give details of revision information.

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We take this opportunity to remind our Year 11 students to look out for information specific to them on their bespoke social media platforms (this is where the current intervention timetable can be found - as well as on our website).



@TNHA\_Year11



tnha\_year11

#Team11 #youvegotthis #TNHAway

### LET'S TALK LANGUAGES

There were queues along the MFL corridor on The European Day of Languages as students were eager to sample foods from different parts of Europe and signage appeared around the site in various languages.

First celebrated in 2001, the aim is to draw attention to and to celebrate Europe's rich linguistic and cultural diversity.



Here at the academy and in our local community we are lucky to have the opportunity to welcome students and staff from various different countries who share their customs and heritage with us.

Our Languages Café has reopened this term with the first session on Poland delivered in excellent fashion by Nikola in Y8. Students are encouraged to look out for many other exciting lunch time events at the café (next stop - Turkey!).





A reminder of the careers where a knowledge of a MFL can take us:-

# LET'S HEAR IT!

What a lovely surprise to receive a photograph from a member of the public showing the School Band in 1976 to 1977. We certainly enjoyed this!

#### (You may recognise someone here).



We are always looking to expand the number of opportunities for students to get involved in Music. Covid made it impossible to put on shows and difficult to conduct rehearsals but this year we are determined to keep growing and offer many options for students to showcase their talents.



In the Music Department, practice rooms are bookable on three lunchtimes a week as well as offering an 'Open House' opportunity for all in the main classroom. On Fridays we have a karaoke club where students can sing with their friends or on their own - we saw a lot of talent last year as well as having lots of fun! We also have over 30 students having weekly one-to-one or paired instrumental lessons in the academy - please get in contact with Miss Brown if you would like more information about these.

We are trying to establish more bands this year (in addition to our Year 10 group who performed for the first time at our Student Awards Evening just before the summer holidays). The Creative Arts Department are currently seeking Student Ambassadors to help us encourage students to get involved and raise awareness within the academy. A Music Technology Club will also be established later on in the year where students can make music using computer programmes and applications.

# CARTS AMBASSADORS

- Creative arts includes ART, DRAMA & MUSIC
- CARTS Ambassadors will be the student leaders for the Creative Arts Faculty. The job will include...
  - Feeding back from students to CARTS staff what is going well and what students would like to see more of...trips, clubs, events, performances...
  - Organising clubs, rehearsals, trips
  - Ensuring communication between staff and students is clear and timely

Who can become one?

• Anyone in year 7, 8 or 9 can apply.

How do I apply?

- Collect an application from your Creative Arts teacher.
- You must return your application to Mr Hatfield by Friday 7th October.

The 'big' news this year is our performance coming up in December at our Music Showcase and more information about how to get involved will be coming out to students soon.

There will be opportunities to perform as well as to help with stage setting and sound engineering.

#### **Exciting times!**

# **EXTRA CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES**



Sign up by 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022

Please see Mr. King for further information



Sign up by 21<sup>st</sup> October 22

Further information available from Mr. Hatfield.

# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE!

Finally, our students and staff look forward to showcasing our academy to parents, carers and potential students thinking of joining us in September 2023.

