

#TNHAAWAY



The
Nicholas Hamond
Academy



September 2024

 TeamNHA

 TeamNHA

 @TeamNHA

PROUDLY
SHARING
OUR
NEWS

welcome
TO NEW
SCHOOL
YEAR

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



PRINCIPAL'S POST

I can't quite believe that September is already behind us. The start of term in the academy has begun at a frantic pace but it has been really pleasing to see students return after the summer break as well as our new Year 7 students get back into good habits and behaviours of being at the academy. We have raised expectations around student behaviour, attitudes and culture and it has been brilliant to see our young people match these standards at the start of term. We have already had several visitors to the academy this year, all of them have commented positively about what they have seen from our students which has been fantastic to hear.

This is a term where hard work really does pay off for all. It is a long term, and lots will be expected of our students, but the way in which they have approached and tackled these first four weeks has been really positive. We have been shaping lots of our student messages already this term around some key values we think are important for our students to work towards; be ready, be ambitious, be safe and be kind. Again, it has been great to see students engage with these values, and this will be a theme that continues through the year.

This month's newsletter also makes reference to some of the things that happened at the end of last term and serves as a reminder where we are heading as the year progresses, but I wouldn't want to wish that time away! Thank you for all the support you continue to give the academy, and this unquestionably has played an important part in the positive start to the term.

Mark Woodhouse

CHAIR'S CORNER

As the new Chair of Governors, I wanted to introduce myself to you. I have been a Parent Governor at both The Nicholas Hamond Academy and Icen Academy for two years and from September this year I was appointed Chair, which is a great privilege. I currently have a son at TNHA, and a daughter who has just left Icen, so am in a good position to have knowledge of both schools. I am about to retire as a Police Officer after 30 years, so will have plenty of time on my hands to get into both academies regularly, and to ensure we are able to support and challenge, which is core to our role as a Governing Body.

I was so pleased with the number of parents/carers who applied to become governors both from TNHA and Icen, so thank you for stepping up. The Trust are in the process of confirming who was successful and looking at other options to grow our Local Governing Body to give us representation and visibility across both schools, and in turn increasing our visibility and links with the students, the schools and the wider community.

Going forward I plan on sending a questionnaire to all parents and carers to allow you to give us as an LGB some honest feedback on various parts of school life, and with the opportunity for you to raise anything else you feel relevant. My aim is that as a group of Governors we will be in and around school a lot more, we will attend parent/carers events and be on hand to chat with the students each time we are in, to capture their voice as much as possible.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and I hope to see as many parents and carers as possible during my time as Chair.

Simon Connor

LATE SUMMER NEWS

Just before our summer break students at the academy took part in a few end of term events which we are proud to share.

Sports Days at TNHA 2024

Two days of intense competition between form groups led to one of the closest finishes ever recorded in sports day history for three of the year groups. Winners from Y7's, Y9's and Y10's all finishing just two points in front of their nearest rivals. Y10's third place finishing just a further two points back from that. Meaning one or two places difference across all the events could have changed the results completely. Out of the hundreds of participants, we had 79 different winners across the two days but it was those that volunteered for events for their team just to get the points that made the real difference.

Undeterred by the changeable weather, participants raised their game to perform to their very best, resulting in six academy records being broken. Five in the field events and one on the track. New records were set in Year 8 javelin, shot putt & high jump, Year 9 discus and relay, & Year 10 shot putt. The final results for each year are as follows:

Y7 – 3rd BFA, 2nd BJA, Champions CCO

Y8 – 3rd MLL, 2nd SBR, Champions DMS

Y9 – 3rd CWR, 2nd GRI, Champions MBO

Y10 – 3rd PSE, 2nd STH, Champions SCN

Congratulations to all of those that took part and represented their form.



Strictly Foundation Dance Competition 2024

Our students have recently had the exciting opportunity of taking part in 'The Strictly Foundation Dance Competition'. This was across our partnership ATT schools and was open to all year groups in the academy. The theme of 'Friendship' was given to the students and they had to create a dance to tell their story around this theme. We had a fantastic uptake for this, with students across all year groups taking part. There was a real buzz around the academy while the students were rehearsing for this competition and great excitement. The judging involved each group performing on the stage and having their dance filmed for submission to be judged by our recently retired Chair of Governors, Helen Warrick-Evans. All the students involved should be really proud of what they achieved with some great entries being seen.



Awards Evening 2024

The end of the academic year saw the academy recognise the outstanding efforts made by our students. 'Determined to be the best that we can be' is the motto by which the academy operates and the young people who were celebrated during the evening embodied this notion in abundance. They also demonstrated the values that we hold the highest, such as kindness and resilience and we were delighted to share this evening with them to celebrate their achievements. Awards were presented for Outstanding Achievement and Outstanding Progress in each Key Stage for individual subjects together with two rather 'special awards' being The Archie Ramshaw Award for Achievement Despite Adversity and the Principal's Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Community. Well done to all our students receiving an award!



GCSE Results Day

Our Year 11 students arrived for their GCSE results during the summer holidays. It is easy to forget sometimes the pressure that surrounds these students and what they have gone through to get to this point. We were really pleased to see our students achieve what they deserve from what they have put into their exams but also to come through them with the determination, resilience and wider skills that will allow them to take on further challenges that they may face in their futures.



Special mention should go to the following students, Abria Johnson, Lucy James, Callum Palmer, Alex Morton-Smith, Annabel Clark, Jorja Banwell, Teddy Hutton-Woolford, Saskia Woodcock and Eleanor Boorman Sherwin, who achieved individually fantastic sets of results and have demonstrated significant progress in reaching the achievements that they have made through their education.

As an academy we are fortunate to have brilliant young people who have grown both academically but also as talented young adults in the time that they have been with us. They have demonstrated all the attributes that we would want to see in young people becoming valuable members of their communities and we wish all our students the very best and look forward to seeing them achieve further success in their futures.



Harvest & Scarecrow Festival

Our Year 7 students were delighted to receive an invitation to take part in the Harvest & Scarecrow Fayre run by the Swaffham Cultural Consortium.

After learning a little about the history of the scarecrow which began after the Great Plague of 1348 when farmers were unable to find enough children to protect their crops by scaring birds by banging clappers, waving their arms or throwing stones. Farmers then began making scarecrows by stuffing sacks with straw and carving faces into turnips or gourds. After WW11 however, many farmers decided that they could more effectively use pesticides to keep crops safe however many rural farming areas still use the age-old scarecrow.

We are pleased to share some of their efforts which were on show in the Assembly Rooms recently.



European Food Day

We always look forward to European Food Day each year and this time was no exception.

On 28th September our Modern Foreign Languages Department demonstrated a fantastic array of food from across Europe and students enjoyed the samples forming queues down the corridors!



The Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh Award was been launched to our Year 9 students with many taking a keen interest. The award involves students completing a volunteering activity to support their local community, a physical activity for improving fitness and a skill to learn or improve upon. Activities can include: playing an instrument, afterschool PE clubs, cooking, drama and dance, art, cleaning, helping neighbours, supporting younger siblings, walking, cycling, airsoft, martial arts, horse riding, photography, looking after wildlife, supporting in the library or local charity shops, banking and money skills, litter picking plus many more. In the summer, students will also complete a walking expedition in the local countryside, carrying with them everything they need for 2 days including, tents, sleeping bag and mat, stove and food and clothes.

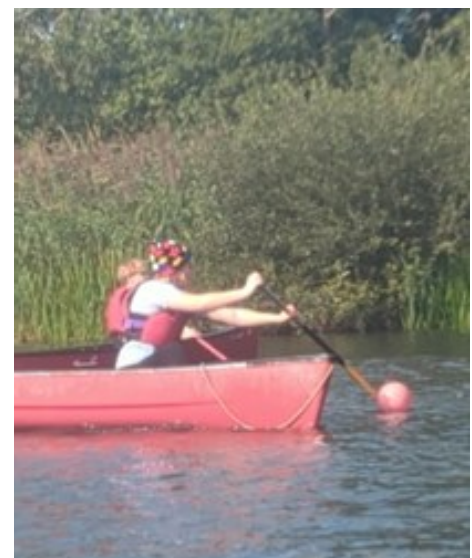
A group of our students undertaking their Bronze Award this summer, and who were lucky enough to enjoy some wonderful weather in July when they set off on their expedition, show an idea of what to expect. As you will see they thoroughly enjoyed their adventure!



Outdoor Canoeing

On Tuesday 17th September our Year 10 students studying PE as an examination subject took part in a canoeing trip to Whitlingham Adventure.

This was for part of their PE Theory Unit on Outdoor Adventurous Activities, where they were assessed in the skills required for canoeing. The students learnt about the equipment required, the safety precautions needed, the different strokes used to manoeuvre the canoe and also took part in some team building games on the water. Some even learnt what to do if the canoe capsizes and how to get back into it from the water.



The Banned Book Club

The English department is pleased to announce the launch of a Banned Book Club for KS3 students. This club will provide an opportunity to read and discuss books that have been banned in various countries over the years. Titles such as *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *Harry Potter*, and *1984* will be among the books explored, each offering unique insights into the reasons behind their censorship. The club will meet every Tuesday at lunchtime in Room 44, and students are encouraged to bring their cold lunch with them. Participating in the Banned Book Club will enhance students' understanding of historical censorship and the reasons behind the banning of certain books.



This experience will highlight the importance of freedom of expression and the role of literature in reflecting and challenging societal norms. It is also an excellent way to develop critical thinking and analytical skills. We encourage all interested students to join this unique learning opportunity!

Student Auditions

Auditions are currently underway for parts in the Christmas Musical Evening and the Christmas Pantomime (Aladdin).

Students interested should see Miss Brown and Mr. Hatfield to take part. We are all very excited and cannot wait to find out what is in store for us during the Festive Season!



It's Competition Time!

The Rotary Club have launched several competitions and invited our students to take part. There are some terrific prizes to be won and a lot of fun to be had! Students are encouraged to let us know if they are taking part and perhaps send us a copy of their entry so that we can celebrate their efforts! Competition packs can be found at: <https://www.rotarygbi.org/projects/>

Rotary YOUNG MUSICIAN COMPETITION

Calling all young musicians

Share your gift of unique melody at a musical extravaganza and perform live in the annual Rotary Young Musician competition. (Up to the age of 17)

For more information contact:
John Whelan: john.whelan@rotarygbi.com
Rotary Club of Southham
<https://www.rotaryclubofsouthham.org.uk/>

Download the competition information pack at: www.rotarygbi.org/projects/

Great Britain & Ireland

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Rotary YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION

Calling all young photographers

Show yourself by putting your photography skills to the test at the annual Rotary Young Photographer competition. (Up to the age of 17)

For more information contact:
John Whelan: john.whelan@rotarygbi.com
Rotary Club of Southham
<https://www.rotaryclubofsouthham.org.uk/>

Download the competition information pack at: www.rotarygbi.org/projects/

Great Britain & Ireland

Rotary YOUNG WRITER COMPETITION

Calling all young writers

Let your imagination run wild, and get creative with the written word by taking part in the annual Rotary Young Writer competition. (Up to the age of 17)

For more information contact:
John Whelan: john.whelan@rotarygbi.com
Rotary Club of Southham
<https://www.rotaryclubofsouthham.org.uk/>

Download the competition information pack at: www.rotarygbi.org/projects/

Great Britain & Ireland

Rotary YOUNG CHEF COMPETITION

Calling all young chefs

Put your culinary skills to the test and have your final course made judged by industry professionals as part of the annual Rotary Young Chef competition. (Up to the age of 17)

For more information contact:
John Whelan: john.whelan@rotarygbi.com
Rotary Club of Southham
<https://www.rotaryclubofsouthham.org.uk/>

Download the competition information pack at: www.rotarygbi.org/projects/

Great Britain & Ireland

Rotary YOUNG ARTIST COMPETITION

Calling all young artists

Show your creative talents by taking part in the annual Rotary Young Artist competition. (Up to the age of 17)

For more information contact:
John Whelan: john.whelan@rotarygbi.com
Rotary Club of Southham
<https://www.rotaryclubofsouthham.org.uk/>

Download the competition information pack at: www.rotarygbi.org/projects/

Great Britain & Ireland

YEAR 5/6 OPEN EVENING!

It is the time of year when we 'throw open our doors' and invite parents and carers along with Year 5 and 6 students from the surrounding primary schools to gain a flavour of TNHA. There are all sorts of exciting things to see with each subject showing just what is on offer. These events are always extremely well attended and successful and we are happy to give details below of our Open Evening and Open Mornings and hope all those interested will come along and see us at work!



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<https://tnha.attrust.org.uk>



Academy
Transformation
Trust

THINKING OF JOINING US IN 2025?
WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR OPEN EVENING
8TH OCTOBER - 5.30 TO 7.30PM



Open Mornings
9th, 10th & 11th October - 9am to 11am
Please telephone for an appointment

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

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