

Positiv



LETTER FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to the final edition of PosiTIV for the year, and my first edition as Headteacher.

It has been a pleasure to meet your children and some of you as well at the Parents' Evening a couple of weeks ago. There will be more of these events in the New Year and I look forward to meeting more of you in the Spring Term.

I have taken time to look through this edition of PosiTIV and what really stood out for me was the community spirit at THS. From the anti-bullying week events to the shoeboxes, to our Sports Leaders working with our primary school colleagues and pupils.

This has been a difficult term for the whole school community and so it is really heartening to see the school coming together for these causes. I think it's

important to also recognise there is work to do to improve most aspects of the school but there is so much potential and I am determined to make it a school the students, staff and community can be proud of.

It is great to see that staff and students have really embraced being PROUD and nominating students and colleagues for awards and to continue the celebrations, this week we have been giving out awards to students for their behaviours for learning and their subject awards.

I am very much looking forward to the coming term and really getting stuck into improving things at THS for the young people of the town, but for now, I would like to wish you all a safe and happy Christmas.

Mr J Lamb

WELCOME YEAR 7

The highlight to the start of any new academic year is the welcoming of our new year 7 cohort. This year students arrived with big smiles and an eagerness to begin learning and establishing new friendships and relationships with staff.

Students settled in quickly and engaged with the THS life from the very start. Staff have been quick to compliment the year group on their determination to work hard and try new things. Year 7 continue to be regular participants of our extensive Enrichment Programme and it has been lovely to see new friendships develop and them settle into their learning.

Well done year 7 on a great start to THS, we look forward to watching your progress and successes.



A NEW VISION FOR THS

Students were welcomed into the school and the new academic year to a fresh look and feel. In the previous 9 months, behind the scenes, we had been busy creating a new vision and values culture for the school.

Groups of students and staff had been involved with the evaluation of the 'old' values and strapline which had been created many years before. It was felt that we needed a new set of values to reflect our school and its place in the community. These groups began the process of developing the new set of values we use today.

Our vision is to provide a stimulating learning community for all, that fosters social, emotional, physical and cognitive growth, promoting individuals to be their 'best self'.

We pride ourselves in helping everyone to be lifelong independent learners

through an ambitious curriculum that inspires and challenges all to progress academically. We celebrate successes and achievements in their widest forms.

Everyone is welcome into our family community, and we work together to uphold high expectations of all within a nurturing and inclusive environment. We value the positive contribution individuals make in ensuring that THS is a safe and happy place to learn in.

The strapline of Learn Together. Grow Together. Succeed Together. Holds us all together as one and highlights the importance of development.

Our values uphold what we aim to be and do every single day and reflect not just our students but our staff and school community too. We now know these as our PROUD values. Prepared, Respectful, Ownership, United and Determined.

The graphic features the school's logo on the left, which includes a circular emblem with the letters 'S', 'A', 'X', and 'I' and the text 'THS TIVERTON HIGH SCHOOL' to its right. A vertical rainbow bar runs down the center. To the right of the bar, five values are listed in large, bold letters, each with a list of three descriptive bullet points below it. At the bottom, the school's strapline is written in a smaller font, with a horizontal rainbow bar underneath it.

THS VALUES
TIVERTON HIGH SCHOOL

PREPARED
Prepare for adulthood
Understand my next steps
Organise for the day ahead
Embrace the challenges of learning

RESPECTFUL
Show kindness
Value differences
Care for our environment
Respect yourself and others

OWNSHIP
Have a positive voice
Contribute to my progress
Accept support to be successful
Take responsibilities for my actions

UNITED
Achieve together
Overcome barriers
Support each other
Celebrate 'us' as individuals

DETERMINED
Persevere
Be my best self
Reach for ambitions
Embrace new challenges

Learn Together. Grow Together. Succeed Together.

TIVERTON HIGH SCHOOL'S EPIC FUNDRAISING WEEK



In recognition of Anti-bullying Week and Children in Need THS year 11 Ambassadors successfully planned and co-ordinated a week that the whole school community will remember for years to come.

Not content with just the usual non-uniform day the Ambassador team, with the assistance from the Anti-bullying Ambassadors planned a week of activities and events to highlight the importance of respect and showing kindness. Staff and students competed against each other in a hard fought benchball tournament and came to school in odd socks on Tuesday.

Wednesday saw a staff sumo wrestling competition watched on by a vast majority of the school community and on Thursday students and staff fielded teams for the Big Quiz. Students heard from the Anti-bullying Ambassadors in their assemblies and also had a special assembly about RESPECT from John Gayle who gave them an insight into his life as a young person and the people who helped him learn respect and who supported him.

All week students ran a mile in their PE lessons with the aim of running the number of miles to get to Kenya and on Friday the week concluded with a 12-hour cycle event.



The Ambassador team and other staff and student representatives kept 8 bikes moving for the whole 12 hours only changing seats to hand over to someone else. During the day members of the wider community including representatives from Rotary, Tiverton Town Council and the Tiverton Town Twinning Association visited to lend their support and their legs! The aim – to cycle the miles to Tiverton’s twin towns of Chinon and Hofheim.

A combination of physical activity and fun, fundraising events has allowed the school to raise over £2300 which will go to Anti-bullying charities and Children In Need.



SPARX MATHS

Our students have been working hard over the last term to complete their Sparx work. The impact of Sparx has been very evident throughout the school. Students are buying into the culture of maths independent learning and it has raised the profile of maths in the students and also in the school. Students

who are committed to Sparx are becoming better mathematicians and the constant exposure to maths is making them better. It's not just about students' logging on and completing work. It's about developing mastery, and children's understanding of maths becomes more profound from using Sparx.

We would like to congratulate all the students who are committed and putting in the work.

The following students have been our top 5 from September in each year group in regards to independent learning completion and extra independent work.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Miley J	Nicole S	Koby D	Blessing K	James T
Jenson T	Makanaka S	Sophie T	Alice K	Tinotenda S
William W	Laya L	Demi F	Tanyaradzwa S	Luka R
Emi C	Nikolai L	Ruby G	Lily S	Darcy T
Holly C	Rowan C	Kaleb C	Tiana D	Liam S

YEAR 7 SMARTIES PROJECT

In the autumn term all of our year 7 Mathematicians took part in a 'Smarties Project'. As our year 7s were taught in mixed ability groups in the first half term, our goal was to introduce the data unit in a unique and fun way. Each student received a pack of smarties where we looked at collecting and processing different types of data. Students were able to collect and organise their data using a variety of averages (mean, median, mode & the range) and a tally and frequency table. The students then shared their smarties data and were able to present

their data in a variety of ways including: bar charts, dual bar charts, composite bar charts, and pictograms. At the end the students were able to eat their smarties!

We hope our year 7s will be able to transfer their newly acquired skills into their new classrooms and in real life situations.



SCIENCE NEWS

On the 20th November, 60 of our Year 10 Physics and Combined Science students took part in a Space to Learn Masterclass, run by The National Space Academy.

The topic was 'Asteroids' which investigated the science of asteroids, exploring how much energy they have and the possible outcomes of Earth impacts.

Our students learned about the research missions

carried out by agencies such as ESA and NASA, to ascertain if asteroids on a collision course with Earth (like that which ended the age of the dinosaurs), can be "knocked off course".

Newtons three laws of motion were discussed and applied in the students' attempts to make and fire their mini woosh rockets the fastest. The rockets were fueled by hydrogen and oxygen produced by the students

using chemical reactions involving magnesium and hydrochloric acid as well as by decomposing hydrogen peroxide.

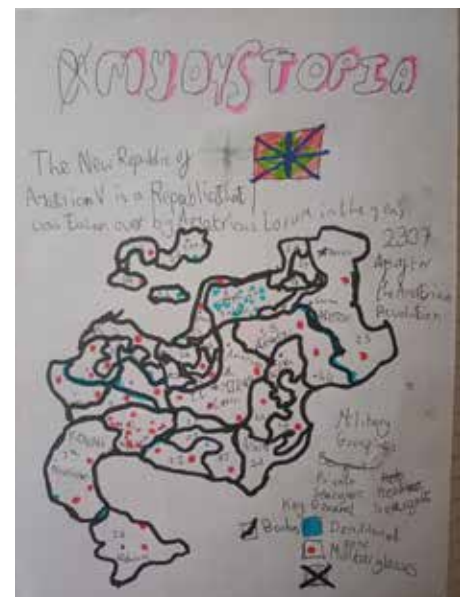
The sessions were a great opportunity for our students to engage with real science in action. We hope that the National Space Academy will return to THS for some further space "exploration" in the near future.



ENGLISH NEWS

Year 8 English students have recently wrapped up reading *The Giver* by Lois Lowry, diving into the world of dystopian literature. After exploring the themes of control, society, and individuality within the novel, the students were tasked with creating their own dystopian societies. This creative project allowed them to imagine and design unique, fictional worlds, challenging them to think critically about the structure of society and its rules.

In their booklets, students detailed the setting of their dystopias, outlined how society was organised, and developed a set of rules that governed their imagined world. They also had to come up with creative punishments for those who broke these rules, pushing them to consider the consequences of societal control. The result was a fantastic collection of original and thought-provoking ideas. Well done, year 8!



JUST GIVING PAGE SUCCESS

Year 7 students set up a successful Just Giving page

Jameela and Ellie, set up a successful 'Just Giving' page following a lesson about Period Poverty during the recent Development Day.

Inspired to help by the stories they heard about young people and women struggling to afford sanitary products the two girls thought they would see if they could help in some way. After research they found a charity Bloody Good Period to support.

Within a few days the girls received donations in excess of £200 and are very near to reaching their £300 target. Their tutor Mr Hart nominated them for a PROUD Award writing 'After discussing Period Poverty



during Development Day the girls felt compelled to help and set up a just giving page to help a charity that tackles Period Poverty'.

I am very PROUD of the two girls what a fabulous achievement which really

does highlight the care our students have for others. Jameela and Ellie are fantastic role models for others. Well done girls!

Mrs Pritchard, Assistant, Head of Year 7

YOUNG CARERS' CINEMA TRIP

The Tivoli Cinema in Tiverton was the place to be on Friday 8th November when Mrs Morrell and Mrs Southcott, along with 52 students were treated to a premier viewing of the newly released, "Paddington in Peru".

We were joined by Mrs Sweetland, Mr Feeney and Mrs Hirst - some of our amazing Exam Invigilators, and we had the WHOLE cinema to ourselves!

The students were Young Carers and their nominated friend, and this was a trip

chosen by them, as part of our Young Carers Club events.

Once we were all settled with our popcorn and drinks, it was time for the iconic countdown to the film and it definitely did not disappoint. Paddington in Peru is highly recommended to young and old alike, a lovely feel-good film. The students represented Tiverton High School superbly, and showed one of our values, "Respectful" towards each other and the public.

One of our Young Carers in Year 8, said afterwards, "it

was an amazing film! I loved it. We had great care and support from the adults, it was a really fun afternoon".

If you are a Young Carer, please come along to room 39 every Tuesday breaktime for snacks and chats... and you could be part of helping us choose our next exciting adventure - spoiler alert, it won't be to Peru!

For further details, please contact ksouthcott@tiverton.devon.sch.uk or cmorrell@tiverton.devon.sch.uk

FESTIVE CELEBRATION AT ST PAUL'S CHURCH

Our annual Christmas Celebration concert was, once again, enjoyed by a friends, family and members of the community including the Mayor and several Town Council members. St Paul's church in all of its festive glory provided the perfect setting for an evening of entertainment and, at times, moving performances and

readings. The bells of St Paul's rang out in welcome with peals by student bell ringers who usually ring at Bampton and St Paul's. A wonderful start to the evening.

Our Interact students provided the welcome refreshments and a raffle with proceeds being shared between their chosen

charities this year. Head Boy James and Head Girl Ciara along with former student Neda provided a reflective message to draw the evening to a close. As always this event brought together staff, students and our wider THS community in celebration and great voice. Have a very merry Christmas and New Year everyone.



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Students at Tiverton High School marked Remembrance Day with a whole school 2 minute silence. The school welcomed students who were members of a service, scouts or guides to wear their uniform for the day. These students took part in a parade before the act of remembrance.

Over 30 students, lead by year 11 student Luka who has recently passed her 3 stars and has been promoted to Sergeant, represented their services in a short parade before Head Boy James and Head Girl Ciara laid a wreath in the Peace Garden. The Last Post was played before the whole

THS community respected the 2 minute silence.

Every year students across all year groups recognise this act of remembrance through assemblies, which this year featured local stories, and tutor time activities leading to the whole school 2 minute silence.



SPORTS LEADERS UPDATE

Sports Leaders have been involved in a number of festivals this year leading year 5-6 Tennis, year 3-4 Handball, year 5-6 Girls Football and are looking forward to a year 1-2 Multi-Sports Festival in December.

On Monday 10th Oct, year 5-6 Students from TCLP schools were led by the year 10 Sports Leaders and Ian Winstanley, Bounce Back Tennis Coach. The children were introduced to the basics through a

range of fun activities and games through a Multi-skills circuit at THS courts.

On Monday 21st October, year 3-4 students took part in an introductory Handball coaching session and tournament, organised, coached and refereed by the Sports Leaders. Well done to all who took part in the friendly event with Halberton winning 2-1 vs Two Moors in the B League Final, and Castle winning 3-1 vs Halberton

in the A League Final.

On Monday 11th November, year 5-6 girls from TCLP schools took part in a Girls Football Festival which involved coaching sessions from the Sports Leaders followed by friendly games and a round robin tournament. Wilcombe A were triumphant and top of the league, with Castle A coming 2nd overall.

Mr Thorne



INTERACT UPDATE

The autumn term is always a busy one for Interact with many events to focus on. We're really thrilled that, in increasingly difficult financial times for many of our families, we were able to send 48 shoe boxes to Ukraine. The boxes which are filled with simple

pleasures like sweets and toys, or period products and winter clothing are really appreciated by the families who receive them and it is a great privilege to know that we at THS have been a part in making the day a little brighter for a fellow human in need. As

usual, Interact students put in hours after school to ensure our gifts were well organised and packed – well done team and especial thanks to ex-President Ellie-May C who made a surprise appearance to help with the work after a long day at college!



Straight after the shoe boxes, planning started on the Christmas Craft Fair, our annual fund raiser where we welcome the community to the school to buy and sell crafts. This is always a special event where the students really come into their own, giving up their Friday evening or Saturday to transform the

sports hall into a glittery hub of creativity! I'm so proud of the young people who brought and sold cakes or raffle tickets for showing off the best of Tiverton High School students; special thanks to so many local business establishments who generously donated an amazing array of raffle prizes

again this year. The lovely Take Note Community Choir sang beautifully and the array of Christmas jumpers really jump started the festive season. Well done all, we raised £1500 for Interact's chosen charities of The Teenage Cancer Trust and Alice Wambui's Days for Girls Sanitary Pad programme.



“It was amazing, it was wonderful, it was lively. People seemed to be enjoying themselves. It was interesting because there was a lot to remember about prices for drinks and cakes, but the team was really fun to work with. There was a Polish cake stall which looked really lovely.”

Scarlet G

“At our Interact meeting December 4th we were discussing one of the charities we were fundraising for with a visitor who was helped by the charity (Teenage Cancer Trust). Hearing her story was deeply moving, the trust helped her through her time of need. Hearing about the charity makes me proud to fundraise for them this year. I hope that our donation at the end of the year will allow them to help more teenagers in their time of need. Thank you to those miracle workers.”

Emily S

PROUD AWARDS

Celebrating success has always been a strength of THS and we have made sure that we provide many opportunities to celebrate the successes, however small, of our students and staff.

Positive points have become PROUD points for example and we now have a weekly PROUD Award where staff can nominate students and staff members for one of the values. Every Friday

we randomly select a winner for each value. The winners receive 10 PROUD points and nominees 5.

Seeing students receive these awards has been fantastic, they really appreciate every single nomination and the excitement shown by their peers really does highlight how good we are of supporting each other and our sense of pride in our community.



CELEBRATING SUCCESS – TUTOR AWARDS

In a continued effort to recognise and celebrate the efforts of our students our tutors across all of our year groups nominate two tutees who have demonstrated commitment towards the school PROUD values.

At the end of the half term these awards are presented to students in their weekly assembly. During the assembly each tutor explains their reasons for choosing these particular tutees.

It is a lovely celebration of success and achievement for the whole year group. We are always so PROUD of how the students in the year group celebrate each other's successes. There is such a sense of pride and camaraderie shown in each assembly as well as a lot of guessing as to the winners



as the reasons are read out!

The Tutor Awards form an important part of our celebration of success programme. Recognising the hard work and success of students and staff is extremely important. Each year we build on ways

to recognise students' contributions to school. Currently we have Tutor Awards, Subject Awards, weekly PROUD Awards, staff Bloomin' Marvellous, PROUD points, Celebration Evening and a host of other personal ways such as postcards and phone calls home.

HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL EXPERIENCE THEIR FIRST TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

James and Ciara our Head Boy and Girl attended their first Town Council meeting of the year.

Their presentation, which they confidently delivered jointly with their Blundell's School counterparts was extremely well-received and followed by lots of questions from the councillors. A valuable learning experience in local democracy and a fantastic opportunity to hear the student voice.

Well done, Ciara and James!



ALTERNATIVE PROVISION UPDATE

We have started the term really well with clearing the garden after the summer break. The garden was a little overgrown having not been touched during the summer holiday. Students have been busy preparing the raised beds for the next range of vegetables that will be planted.

A great day was had by all for the first lighting of the Pizza Oven and it is wonderful to start using the AP garden for cooking the produce that has been grown there.



Another interesting task this half term has been germinating seeds in the polytunnel to increase the range of herbs that we have. The student's reactions to seeing the seed starting to germinate and grow has been great. They are really interested and excited about the process of growing something they have planted and tended to.

Mr Broadley,
Alternative Provision Manger



AMBASSADORS IN ACTION TO REPRESENT THS

Members of our new Ambassador team represented THS at the 'Perambulation of the Leat'. This is a tradition dating back to Mediaeval times when the town was granted the right to use the water from a stream six miles away.

Every seven years members of Tiverton's community walk the length of the water course and make proclamations along the way. In the modern world the water course now runs across gardens and private property.

As the event only takes place every seven years it is a great opportunity for



our students to be involved and they enjoyed being a

part of such an important part of our town's history.

CREST AWARD SUCCESS

Students who took part in the CREST Award last year were awarded their Bronze and Silver certificates this term. This is an amazing

achievement and reflects the hard work and hours of effort the students put into their projects.

Their projects included; scale models of the solar system to comparing conditions for decomposition, the effects of smell on the human brain to optimising a model rocket.



Typically the Bronze Award takes a minimum of 10 hours and the Silver a minimum of 30 hours.

We are very PROUD of the achievements of these students and look forward to the new group of Scientists designing their projects.

The CREST Award is an enrichment activity for year 9,10 and 11 students run by Miss Turner.

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

Always a really popular event in the calendar this year students took part in a quiz to find out all the teachers who could speak another language and the school was treated to an Italian feast in the refectories.

Our amazing catering team made a delicious spread of pizza, pasta, lasagne and some rather lovely Tiramisu!



FUNGI EXPERT EBEN

We are very PROUD of Eben in year 7 who recently found out that he had won the 'Roger Phillips Award' for Young Mycologist of the Year.

This is a national award and he was over the moon to have been shortlisted and even happier to be named the winner!

He collected the award and hosted a book signing for this latest book 'Eben's Book

of Fantastic Fungi'. Eben's first book 'Eben's Book of Bampton Mushrooms' was written during lockdown and raised over £2000 for Devon Wildlife Trust.

His latest book is available at Ilznojan with profits again going to the Devon Wildlife Trust.

If this was not enough of an honour Eben has also received a letter



from David Attenborough himself congratulating him on his book.

What an achievement Eben!

CREATING A SENSE OF BEING UNITED IN KEY STAGE 4 PE

Students taking Key Stage 4 courses in PE and Sports Studies had their PE uniform updated with the course name this half term.

The Sports Leaders also had their responsibility added to their kit too. We think they look really great!

“Students are PROUD of their commitment to their course and by adding these details, not only do they look smart, but it also allows younger students to look up and aspire to be a part of the same ‘team’ in the future”, says Mr Heeney, Head of PE.



Thank you to our school PE uniform supplier, local company, Stitch2Print for coming in to add the course names.

THS BAKERS EXCEL ONCE AGAIN!

In support of World Mental Health Day and HelloYellow we invited students, and staff, to join in with our annual Bake Off.

We have never seen such brilliant baking by our students and staff. Brownies and cupcakes, tray bakes and cookies were proudly delivered before school before the winners chosen by visitors.

It was so hard to judge the visitors decided on a four-way tie between year 7 students Emi, Josh, Jake and Lily who had baked and decorated absolute masterpieces!

A big thank you to all who

took part by wearing an item of yellow with their school uniform and those who took part in the Bake Off. It was

a fabulous day which raised £200 for young people's mental health services.



YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING SUCCESS

Families flocked to our year 6 Open Evening last week. Despite a very wet and windy day our year 6 Open Evening drew in large crowds and the hall was packed.

Families were able to tour the school to visit all of the departments as well as try the refectory food during their visit.

Current students worked alongside staff to show

families all of the wonderful opportunities THS has to offer. We are proud of how our current students spoke to visitors and helped answer their questions. There was a great community feeling throughout the evening.

Following visiting all of the departments visitors could return to the refectory for refreshments and to collect their THS goodie bag.

As well as the delicious samples of food families were able to find out more about summer transition programmes, look at the school uniform and speak to the SEND department.

Feedback about the event was very positive with many parents commenting on the positive engagement from students and teachers throughout the evening.



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