



Newsletter

22nd September 2023

Welcome back to the Autumn Term

Welcome to our first newsletter of the school year!

We have all been busy getting back into the routines of school life, welcoming new pupils into the school and our current pupils back again. There are some changes, with each teacher having their own teaching space and some new staff and subjects being taught by different teachers. Pupils seem to have adjusted well and we are pleased to see them getting on with their learning and taking this all in their stride.

There is plenty to look forward to this term. Trips and events are already being organised, which add value to the education of our pupils and help them to develop a positive attitude towards learning.

You will find some pictures of lessons this week, as well as important information about being safe online, with the 'Digital Five a Day' section. There are also a few reminders of procedures, which help us to keep everything running smoothly.

If you have anything you'd like to contribute to the newsletter we are always pleased to hear about events and activities that the children engage with outside of school. Please contact Jo in the office if you have news to share or photos to show off.

Angela and Emlyn

LIFE IN THE JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

Key Stage 2 commenced the year with our new topic the Ancient Egyptians.



Our Stunning Start to our topic began with the children seeking to uncover the mystery of the stolen treasure on account of receiving a news report of a thief stealing historical artefacts. After much excitement, and careful surveying of the scene, the mystery was solved.

I'm pleased to report the hard work and enthusiasm of all the children - who are studious and diligent.

We are linking this theme with our music lessons, too. Today we were thinking about chromaticism and started to learn the 'Egyptian Dance' by Saint Saens on the keyboards. Here is Lily, walking like an Egyptian

YEAR 7 GEOGRAPHY

Geography pupils in year 7 taking advantage of the beautiful autumn



Year 7 and 8 Class

Our Juniors and year 7 and 8 class have been working together on Friday afternoons and have begun a project on weaving for this half term. As the Juniors are learning about Ancient Egypt this term their weaving has taken on a rather Egyptian tone with their very own papyrus in the making as well as some Egyptian style jewellery that will be coming up. The year 7s and 8s have begun with bookmarks and you will see some artistic creations emerging from the classroom in the near future, inspired by some museum exhibits. They will also be working on some newspaper basket weaving as we look at a variety of different ways that weaving can be used to create different objects and the vast contribution that weaving has brought to many human civilisations. Keep an eye on the boards in the main school block to see some of the pupils' creations and, of course, photos to follow!

Introducing our new book corner:



At TCST we love reading - come and see some book reviews from our staff to inspire your next book choice. We've created this cosy corner to come and read a book or an article in one of the magazines we have available.



Digital 5 A Day

Simple steps to a balanced digital diet and better wellbeing

Even though junk food tastes great, it would soon get boring if you ate it all day, every day and eventually it would probably make you sick. Just like food, a balanced digital diet is all about variety.

Having a healthy diet doesn't mean that you never eat pizza or chocolate again but it is important that you eat them in moderation – along with your 5 fruits and veg a day! In the same way, you don't have to give up your smartphone forever to have a healthy digital diet.

When phones, social media and games make us feel worried, stressed and a bit out of control, it often means that we haven't got the balance quite right.

Finding the right digital balance means enjoying all the fun, exciting and creative things about being online while making sure that we aren't caught doing the same things all the time.

To find out more download the link to **Digital 5 A Day [childrens-commissioners-office-digital-5-a-day.pdf](#) - Google Drive**

HOUSEKEEPING

Thank you for letting the office know when your child is running late, this helps us to keep everything right in our paperwork that we must complete. If you are dropping a child off and you have run late, please come to the office with your child to let us know the circumstances. If your child is travelling by themselves, please remind your child that if they are late, they need to enter the school via reception so that we know they have arrived.

STUDYBUGS

If your child is unwell our preferred method of letting us know is via StudyBugs. This can be downloaded as an App or can be accessed online. It's also now a link at the [top of our website](#), for easy access. Let us know if you have any queries about this.

UNIFORM

We are really pleased with the effort that is being made to wear the correct uniform. We are aware that there is still a delay at Fosters and are waiting for communications back from them to get a rough time scale for collections.

Important Dates for 2023 / 2024 Academic Year

29 th September	Good News Visitors assembly
29 th September	Speaking and Listening English Exam Year 10 and 11
6 th October	Harvest Assembly for Bishops Stortford Food Bank
19 th October	Open Evening
24 th October to 4 th November	Half Term Holiday
10 th November	Armistice Day
17 th November	Children in Need
Week of 27 th November	Mock Exams (Y10 & Y11)
11 th December	Christmas Bazaar
15 th December	Carol Concert
18-20 th December	Christmas Events
20 th December	Last Day of Term
Friday 5 th January 2024	Staff Training Day
Monday 8 th January	Pupils return to school
8 th January	Functional Skills Maths (Y10 & Y11)
9 th January	Function Skills English (Y10 & Y11)
11 th January	Upper Seniors Parents Evening (Y10 & Y11) -
31 st January	Intermediate Mathematical Challenge
8 th February	Junior Pupil Consultations (Y2 – Y6)
19 th to 23 th February	Half Term Holiday
February – TBC	Launch of Tenner Challenge
Week of 20 th February	Midyear Senior Reports (Y7 to Y11)
29 th February	Lower Senior Parents Evening (Y7, Y8 & Y9)
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day
March - TBC	School Open Day / Afternoon

TBC	Swimming Gala
26 th & 27 th March	Easter Concert & Play
Friday 29th March	Last Day of Term
Monday 15 th April	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 16 th April	Pupils return to school
25 th April	Junior Mathematical Challenge
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday
Week of 22 nd May	Junior Reports
Monday May 27 th to 31st May	Bank Holiday & Half Term Holiday
10 th to 14 th June	Senior Exams Week
Friday 21st June	Leavers Assembly
TBC June	MFL Picnic
Week of 1st July	Y10 Work Experience
TBC July	Sports Day
Week of 10 th July	Residential Trip / Activity Week
17th July 2024	End of Year

You can also support the school via Easyfundraising,
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