



Newsletter

Issue: 11

Autumn term

Wednesday 20th December



Heads Message

We had a great turn out at the Christmas Bazaar last Monday evening. Thank you to everyone who donated, made things, and came along. We feel blessed to have such a kind and supporting TCST Community.

We enjoyed our last day today with a whole school nativity play, which was very enjoyable. Last year's year 11s visited us and received their official GCSE certificates.

We return, hopefully full of energy, after the Christmas break on Monday 8th January.

THIS WEEK'S CONTENTS

- Christmas Wreath Workshop
- Christmas Carols
- Life in Key Stage 2
- Christmas Bazaar

Christmas Week

We have had a lot of fun this week with workshops, quizzes, and games. We kicked things off with a Christmas Wreath workshop run by Jo, our receptionist. Jo is also a florist and has run lots of wreath workshops before. She wanted to show the children (and some teachers) how to produce their own.

We went for a country walk and snipped some different types of hedging and foliage, which we were going to use to make our wreaths. Everyone was pleased with their finished wreaths.





Life in Key Stage 2

Each history unit is carefully planned with books to stimulate high quality learning. Our topic, Ancient Egyptians, begins in September with our stunning start (Break in at the museum). Throughout this unit, we have visited museums (Marvellous Middle) and concluded with a range of activities, including food tasting and Egyptian dancers.

Some of our students history comments have been:-

Lily *"My favourite part of the Egyptians was the fantastic end. We did a treasure hunt, learning different interpretations about the demise, we ate traditional goods and did two dances"*.

Ryan *"My favourite part was the going to the British and Fitzwillam Museums"*

Harry *"I liked the part when we got our laptops and searched in the museum to see what these objects are to the Egyptians"*.



The Juniors Egyptian themed art works! These are their Sarcophagi!



Juniors and lower KS3 bobble hats!

The children have been busy making mini bobble hat Christmas decorations to bring some festive cheer to their homes.



The Big Ambition

The Children's Commissioner has launched [The Big Ambition survey](https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition) to understand what children want ahead of the next General Election. Please share this link or QR code with young people so they can have their say: <https://childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition>.



Congratulations to Roseveare house for winning the end of term geography quiz.

Here is the link if you would like to play at home during the holidays:

<https://www.discover-the-world.com/study-trips/big-geography-quiz-2023/>



Christmas Carols

Our school carol concert is always a lovely occasion and this year's event which was held last Friday did not disappoint - thank you to everyone who came along and made it such a joyful time together. The children had worked really hard with Angela to learn some beautiful new songs and did themselves proud with their performances on the night, including a solo from Paige accompanied by Deborah and Ellie. Staff even sang one of the songs with the pupils joining in for a rousing chorus. Our readers also all did a wonderful job of retelling the Christmas story. Huge thanks to Angela for pulling it all together.





Christmas Bazaar

Thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas Bazaar and made it such a success - especially those who contributed delicious homemade goodies to sell and all the items that made up our "TCST Gift Shop". We hope to build on the lovely atmosphere we had this year and have lots more opportunities for you to come in for yummy refreshments and a chat while the kids shop in future years. We raised over £200 for the school - an amazing effort for our tiny school! The year 10s have made a good start on their fundraising for the year 11 leavers assembly with the sales of hot chocolate.



You can support the school via Easyfundraising,
or
PayPal using the QR code:



Information Corner



Homework club

Monday-Thursday from 3.35-4.30pm on the Stage. Come and complete homework before you go home! Sessions are supervised by a teacher and parental permission must be given in advance.

Homework club resumes on Monday 15th January 2024.

Attendance Stats for the week



One child equals 3.6%.

We would like to remind all parents and students that registration is at 8.45am. Pupils arriving after this time will be marked down as late. Please bear in mind that, in addition to predicted grades, attendance and punctuality are both areas about which sixth forms and colleges request information, when they ask for references.

12 Top Tips for Children and Young People to Enjoy a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

The Christmas holidays are tailor made for families to enjoy relaxed quality time in each other's company – but with distractions like pinging phone notifications, the lure of games consoles and online Boxing Day sales, that can be more difficult than it sounds. Staying off our phones, laptops and tablets, however, can really help us to appreciate the things that genuinely matter at this special time of year. Follow our 12 top tips for a tech-free festive season ... Yule be glad you did! Merry Christmas!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTING

Get out the paper, glue and scissors and have a go at hand-making cards or gift tags. You could also create your own decorations to add a uniquely personal touch to the Christmas tree.

NATURE QUEST

Try a scavenger hunt in the garden or your local park. Challenge yourself and your family to find natural treasures that are symbolic of this time of year – like holly or pinecones, say.

CAROL KARAOKE

Sing your hearts out with a Christmas carol karaoke night. Pick out your favourite tunes and enjoy a musical celebration with family and friends.

WANDER DOWN MEMORY LANE

How about making a scrapbook filled with your favourite memories from Christmases gone by? Unleash your creativity while you enjoy reliving those magical holiday moments.

TRY REFLECTIVE JOURNALLING

Jot down your thoughts, feelings and reflections on the holiday in a notebook or diary – you could also list some of your main goals for the new year.

WRAP IT UP

Take time to get inventive with some luxurious gift wrapping. Break out the wrapping paper, ribbons and bows to make parcelling up those presents into a creative adventure.

WALK IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

Delight in the great outdoors with some gentle walks over the holiday. The family can all wrap up warm as you add to your step count and savour the crisp winter air together.

BE A SEASONAL CHEF

Get the whole family working together in the kitchen for some Christmas cooking. Choose a recipe and whip up a festive feast that all of you can enjoy.

ENJOY A CHRISTMAS STORY

Christmas is a perfect time for sparkling stories. Get cosy and lose yourself in a brilliant book, from Dickens to Dr Seuss or a more modern favourite by Chris van Allsburg or Tom Fletcher.

SNOWY SCULPTURES

If we're fortunate enough to get a white Christmas this year, make the most of the opportunity by having a family snowman-building competition!

GAMES NIGHT GALA

Dive into some old-school fun with a tech-free games night. Classic board games and card games have stood the test of time for a reason!

GOODWILL TO ALL

You and your family could spend a day volunteering – perhaps at a food bank or helping a local charity. After all, kindness and thinking of others are part of what Christmas is all about.

Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

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20th 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
Thursday 28th March	Last Day of Term (amendment it did say 29th but that is Good Friday)
Monday 15 th April	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 16 th April	Pupils return to school
25 th April	Junior Mathematical Challenge
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday
Week of 22 nd May	Junior Reports
Monday May 27 th to 31 st May	Bank Holiday & Half Term Holiday
10 th to 14 th June	Senior Exams Week
Friday 21 st June	Leavers Assembly
TBC June	MFL Picnic
Week of 1 st July	Y10 Work Experience
TBC July	Sports Day
Week of 10 th July	Residential Trip / Activity Week
17 th July 2024	End of Year