

SCHOOL NEWS

Taverham High School
An 11-18 Academy
Inspire | Empower | Achieve



MARS – 30206 EARTH – 29748 NEPTUNE – 29688 JUPITER – 30065

ISSUE 14 – 20/12/2024

DIARY DATES

20/12/24 – Last Day of term – Students finish 1:10pm
21/12/24-06/01/25 – Christmas Holidays
07/01/25 – Term Begins (Week 2)
16/01/25 – Year 9 Parents' Evening (online)
20/01/25-24/01/25 – Year 13 Mock exams
22/01/25 – Year 11 Poetry Live trip
22/01/25 – Parent and Community Event
23/01/25 – Year 10 Trip to Macbeth
28/01/25 – Year 11 visiting speaker: Action Jackson
30/01/25 – Year 9 Options Evening
04/02/25-06/02/25 – Year 11 Hospitality Practical
GCSE Exams
05/02/25 – Community Music and Movement Event
10:20-11:20
06/02/25 – Year 11 Revision Evening
13/02/25 – Year 10 trip to Gonville and Caius
Cambridge University
14/02/25 – Last day of term
15/02/25-23/02/25 – Half Term Holidays
24/02/25 – Term Begins (Week 2)

SAFEGUARDING AT TAVERHAM HIGH SCHOOL

The School's Designated Safeguarding Leads – Ms R Ricketts, Mrs G Killington, Mrs A Reynolds, Mr S Blowers.

Emergency contact number: 0344 800 8021

NSPCC- Run Helpline for Victims of Sexual Abuse in Schools: 0800 136 663

Wellbeing and Mental Health Referral Form:

If you are worried about the wellbeing of one of our students, please complete a referral form; this can be used as a self-referral form or as a referral for someone else. It can be found on our school website on the 'students' page and can be accessed via this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/jwPTkVYnYz>

WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

As we approach the end of 2024, looking after our physical and mental health remains incredibly important. Christmas is a wonderful time to focus on mental wellbeing and create meaningful memories with loved ones. Here are five practical ways for students and parents to nurture their mental health during the festive season based on the '5 ways to wellbeing'.

<https://shorturl.at/jpV3P>

Mr J Day

Assistant Headteacher

ATTENDANCE

House attendance:

Mars 92.4%
Jupiter 93.7%
Neptune: 93.6%
Earth: 92.8%

93%

If your child has an appointment during school time, please call 01603 860505 or email office@taverhamhigh.org with the name of the student, date and time of the appointment. Students will make their own way to reception to sign out to be collected by parents/carers.

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week we held a celebration event for 250 students who achieved an amazing 100% attendance during the Autumn Term. The students were served a drink and a festive treat.

Our school attendance is 93% which means we are 1% above the national average for secondary schools.

Congratulations to our Year 7s who currently have the highest attendance in the school with 96.3%.

Year 7: 96.3%
Year 8: 92.9%
Year 9: 91.9%
Year 10: 93%
Year 11: 90.7%

SPORTS NEWS

Harry J in year 7 has been selected to represent Norfolk (under 13 boys squad) at the Sportshall Regional finals in February.

Congratulations Harry!



REWARDS

Year 11 Rewards

This term, Year 11 have been working hard to attend as many revision and intervention sessions as possible! They have collected signatures on loyalty cards and received an entry into our prize raffle for each completed card. We are proud to announce that the following prizes have been drawn this term:

- Sam R – Free ticket to prom
- Davashree P – Lunchtime movie and food with friends

Well done Year 11 – keep up the hard work!

House Rewards

This half term the winners of the 'early lunch and free cookie' reward were MARS HOUSE! Congratulations Mars! All students in Mars house enjoyed an early lunch and a free cookie yesterday to celebrate achieving the most house points this half term – Mars also won the house competition scavenger hunt and collected the most contributions for our food bank, with an amazing 138 items collected. Well done Mars for demonstrating our school values of compassion and resilience this half term!



Student Leadership

A huge thank you to all our student leaders for their creativity, dedication, support and enthusiasm this term. I have been in awe of your hard work to build a greater sense of community in school, running events, helping students and putting on competitions for other students. Some of our highlights include:

Christmas Carolling (if you can call our monotone droning 'carolling'!) at Two Acres Care Home

Christmas Quiz making

Scavenger Hint creating

Fundraising planning

and... many... many... chairs put out for assembly!

Well done Prefects, House Council, Sixth Form Student Council, ELFs, H2H Leads and H2H students – you are all amazing!

EVENTS

Pathways to Work Advisor

On Monday we welcomed Sophie, a Pathways to Work advisor from Norfolk County Council, to the Sixth Form. She delivered lots of information to Year 12 students relating to apprenticeships including where to look, how to apply and what to do to ensure that you are a strong candidate in a competitive field. We encourage all our Sixth Formers to use this information to inform the decisions they make relating to their next steps after their A-Levels.



Bebras computational thinking and problem-solving competition

We had lots of students compete in the Bebras computational thinking and problem-solving competition this year, it is a world-wide competition, with over 80 countries taking part. There were a range of suitable for all questions that utilised different skills sets.

Our Juniors (Year 7) did a great job, with the average score of those at Taverham higher than the rest of Norfolk. Our Inters (Years 8 and 9) averaged significantly higher than the rest of the country – well done you bright bunch!

All those that entered will receive a certificate in the new year – everyone gets a participation award, the top 25% of our school got a gold certificate and the next 25% got a merit award. The top 10% of the country got a gold award – these have been given out in the end of term assembly, and this year we had 37 students in the top 10%, in the past the most we have had is 7.

Norfolk County Council Libraries Parent/Carer Cafes

There are a number of parent/carers cafes run by various libraries in and around Norwich for families to attend over the Christmas period, please see the event posters at the end of this newsletter.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

Computing

In Computing, the Year 7s have been looking at computers and how they work, recognising the hardware and software needed to run a computer and identifying computer systems around us. They are working in groups to create A3 information pages showing us what they have learnt, but also remembering how to email and print.

Year 8s are busy coding websites using HTML about how to stay safe online - they have been learning the new language and applying it creatively. Year 9s are also being creative, they have finished off their Introduction to Photoshop unit, spending their time designing and editing a book cover.

GCSE and A-Level Computer Scientists are plugging away at the content and developing their love of programming in Python. A well earned rest is nearly here.

Modern Foreign Languages

Five staff and 45 excited students set off for Aachen at 4am on Wednesday 11th December. After a ferry crossing to Calais and many more hours of driving we arrived at our first accommodation for 2 nights in Aachen. The next day students appreciated the beauty of Aachen's cathedral and really enjoyed the many sights, sounds and food that Aachen Christmas Market had to offer. After a second night in Aachen we made our way to Köln for the final night. We packed a lot into our last day, including both the chocolate and sport museums, a visit to the famous Gothic cathedral, another chance to enjoy a Christmas market, and a popular opportunity to visit McDonalds! We arrived back tired but safe and well late on Saturday night. Thank you to Miss Havunen for her organisation.



History

On Friday 13th December we were involved in an online lecture and Q and A from the British Library, led by historian and writer Janina Ramirez. This was part of the British Library's "Medieval Women: In Their Own Words" exhibit that runs until March 2025. 35 students from Years 7-9 joined the session from Taverham High School and were able to find out more about the lives of influential medieval women as well as submit questions for Professor Ramirez to answer as part of a live interview after she had concluded her talk. It was a fantastic chance for our students to hear from an expert historian and find out more about some fascinating and often overlooked people, including Margery Kempe from near Kings Lynn in the 1300s. Thanks to all who signed up to join this event, and we are hoping to offer more of these sessions in the new year.

Geography

The Geography department would like to wish everyone in the Taverham family a wonderful Christmas break. Those of you hoping for a white Christmas should keep an eye out for northerly or easterly winds, these are most likely to bring snow in the winter months.

Santa is going to be extra busy this year as the world's population has grown by an additional 68 million people since January 1st. As a result, he has had to upgrade his sleigh to ensure he makes it to all of the 200 million children living in 800 million homes around the world. Luckily for him, he gets an extra 24 hours to make his deliveries due to the different time zones, this means he can easily make all his deliveries and be back at the north pole before sunrise on Christmas morning



SIXTH FORM

NEWS

We have reached the end of not only a busy first term, but also my first term as Head of Sixth Form at Taverham so I would like to take a moment to reflect on everything that has been achieved to date. I am incredibly proud of our Sixth Form students and how well they have settled into the year.

Year 12 have quickly established friendships and are making good progress in their new A Level subjects while Year 13 have been working hard preparing for their mock exams as well as applying for university courses and apprenticeships. There have been several enrichment events including university visits, apprenticeship talks and subject specific career sessions that have supplemented students' academic learning this term.

Alongside this, our Sixth Form Student Leadership team have been busy delivering speeches, putting on social events and laying the groundwork for RAG week in February. Our student subject leaders have supported at Open Evenings and held numerous information sessions with Year 11 students to help them make informed choices about their next steps.

Attendance to the Sixth Form Get Active sessions continues to grow each week and a group of our Sixth Form students not only organised the school Christmas hamper collection for the local food bank but also gave up their time at the weekend to support the local church and community to deliver these. At the Christmas Fair on Wednesday, a parent commented on how lovely it was to see the Sixth Form actively involved in the school and wider community, to which I completely agree. I would like to thank all the students, staff, parents/carers and the wider community for your continued support and I wish you all a very merry Christmas.

Mrs L Robertson
Head of Sixth Form

STUDENT VOICE

It has been a busy last week of term at Sixth Form with the Christmas Fair taking place on Wednesday, university applications being sent off as well as the planning for our Raising and Giving Week.

The Christmas Fair went amazingly well on Wednesday with a great turn out to support local stalls selling goods (and even sweet treats) and live music happening all night. A huge thank you to the leadership team and volunteers who helped out with this! I hope everyone has an amazing Christmas and a happy new year, hopefully to be refreshed to start back in January.

Kaitlyn H
Committee Leader for Community and Whole School Outreach
Sixth Form Leadership Team

CHRISTMAS WRITING COMPETITION WINNERS

With a very strong field of over 90 entries to our Christmas Writing Competition, we are very pleased to announce the winners:

1st Place:
Faith O (Year 8)

Key Stage 3 Runners Up:
Maddie J (Year 8)
Emma K (Year 8)

Key Stage 4 Runners Up:
Maddie S (Year 10)
Roxanne M (Year 10)
Ethan B-B (Year 10)

We would like to thank all students for their entries - all will be receiving house points for their efforts! You can view the winning entry at the end of this newsletter.

Please look out for future competitions from the English Department.



MUSIC NEWS

Peripatetic Music Lessons

We currently offer lessons in piano/keyboard, vocals, drums, guitar, flute, and saxophone. A huge thanks to our peripatetic team for their fantastic work in enhancing our music provision.

If you're interested in lessons or advice on buying instruments (we often arrange discounts!), please see me for details and forms. A huge thank you to our singing teacher, Ms C Sayer, for leading the school choir in the festivities at the Christmas Fair.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Jacob in Year 8 for earning a merit in his grade 3 piano examination - an excellent achievement! We look forward to seeing him progress further in the years ahead.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Interested in joining a music club or activity? Speak to me - we'd love to have you involved!

Spring Concert - Thursday 27th February

Celebrate the incredible talent of our students at the school music concert. Enjoy an evening of inspiring performances showcasing their hard work and passion for music. Don't miss it!

Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

Mr D Timbers
Head of Music

AND FINALLY...

The final week of school for 2025 has been busy with lots more celebrations.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, we held celebration events for students with 100% attendance for the term. We look at, and praise, attendance every week but with all the coughs, colds and bugs around at this time of year having 100% attendance is something that should be acknowledged and celebrated. Attendance is an important part of education; we know that not only does good attendance have a positive impact on outcomes, but it also supports to develop good social skills and enables students to access extra curricular activities which, in itself, can support them to find a love of learning for things beyond the curriculum. Throughout the week, Heads of Year have been celebrating successes in Awards Assemblies and, once again, it was lovely to see students receiving awards for our school values and their contributions to school life.

Following a last-minute flurry of House Points for a range of events including the recent house quiz led by Earth, and Mars' scavenger hunt, the totals were calculated and Thursday saw the winning house for this term MARS have an early lunch. With so few House Points between them will they maintain this winning streak after Christmas?!

Some Key Stage 3 classes (Years 7-9) were lucky enough to attend a sustainability workshop entitled 'Plants, Animals and Our World' on Tuesday organised by Mrs Warwick and delivered by Shanice Harrison from EVERFI and Vattenfall. The workshop introduced students to the concept that our world is made up of interconnected systems, governed by natural principles, and the impact that their choices have on these systems. Students were positive about the experience with some looking to develop this work further by accessing some follow-up online workshops.

Thank you to all of you who were able to attend the annual Christmas Fair on Wednesday - it was such a friendly and fun event. Hopefully you were able to get some last minute Christmas gifts and soak in some of the festive spirit. A big thank you to Mr Derrick and Mrs Eastick Biggins for all their efforts in putting this event together.

It is far too easy to get caught up in bad news stories and negativity so when we receive positive feedback about our students, we are always keen to share the good news. Last week we heard from the bus company who took our students to the German Christmas markets, they went out of their way to contact Mr Yassin to express on how well our students conducted themselves on the trip, saying what an asset they were to the school. Carrying on with this positive note the Taverham, Thorpe Marriott and Drayton Community Food Bank team also emailed us to thank the school for donating so much to their cause and, in particular Jess M, Sam W, Emily W-B and Jake W from our Sixth Form for organising it and giving up their weekend to attend an event at St Edmunds church on Sunday 15th December.

As we wind up for the Christmas holidays, just a few things to be aware of. Students will return on Tuesday 7th January 2025 which is a week 2. If your child wears the new school uniform, we have been made aware that items are now coming into stock. Please do support us in having a successful start to the new term by sending your child in the correct uniform and if you are still looking for cheap stocking ideas maybe consider refreshing their stationary supplies for the new year- I am sure they will really appreciate it!

Wishing you all a magical Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all in 2025!

Miss R Ricketts
Deputy Headteacher



Useful Contacts and Websites

- **Young Minds:** Resources to help young people care for their mental health, empowers parents to support them: www.youngminds.org.uk
- **NSPCC:** Support and tips to help you keep children safe: www.nspcc.org.uk
- Thinkuknow: Helping you to better protect your children online: www.thinkuknow.co.uk
- **Children's society:** Advice pages offer help on a range of topics for young people. www.childrenssociety.org.uk
- **Ownit:** Help, support and advice on how to be safe online.: www.bbc.com/ownit
- **Just one number Chathealth:** Secure NHS approved text messaging service.: <https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk/our-services/chathealth>
- **Nelson's Journey:** Support children and young people following a bereavement.: <https://nelsonsjourney.org.uk/>
- **MAP:** Ensure young people have the access to information, advice, counselling and support they need.: <https://www.map.uk.net/>
- **Kooth:** Access support from other young people and professionals.: <https://www.kooth.com/>
- **Staying Safe:** Help keep people safer from thoughts of harm and suicide: <https://stayingSAFE.net/home>
- **Guide for parents and carers, coping with self-harm:** <https://www.ox.ac.uk/news/2015-12-01-new-guide-parents-who-are-coping-their-childs-self-harm-you-are-not-alone>



Expand your reading adventures! Students - Scan the QR code to download the eReader app and access your school's library anytime, anywhere! Students will receive training at school, but feel free to log on now!



Merry Christmas

no to to to

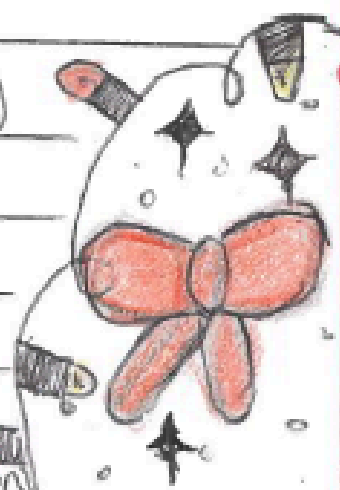
Faith
on our

On the 12th day of Christmas MY
highschool gave to me 12 days of
spirit, 11 Happy faces, 10 motivational
speeches, 9 ~~depressing~~^{crazy} students,
8 hours of learning, 7 hard
homeworks (NO hard feelings),
6 seconds to change (for and
from PE), 5 SCHOOL TRIPS!,
4 easy (*wink wink*)
assessments, 3 Fire drills,
2 Toilet breaks
(Lunch & break time)
and a brilliant team
of Teachers.

JOLLY GOOD!!

85

50193
12 days of
Christmas (my
version)



Parent & Carer Café

Warm and welcoming atmosphere where you can share experiences and seek information & advice.

Information & Advice for:

- ❖ Supporting Positive Behaviour
- ❖ Special Educational Needs & Disabilities
- ❖ Family Relationships

Sprowston Library Lego Club

15th January 2025
5–6.30pm

Family Hub Team
Schools & Communities Team



Parent & Carer Café

Warm and welcoming atmosphere where you can share experiences and seek information & advice.

Information & Advice for:

- ❖ Supporting Positive Behaviour
- ❖ Special Educational Needs & Disabilities
- ❖ Family Relationships

Taverham Library After School Autism Friendly Activity Group

14th January 2025
3.15 – 4.15pm

SENDIASS
Family Hub Team
Schools & Communities Team



Parent & Carer Cafés

Warm and welcoming atmosphere where you can share experiences and seek information & advice.

Information & Advice for:

- ❖ Supporting Positive Behaviour
- ❖ Special Educational Needs & Disabilities
- ❖ Family Relationships

January 2025:

7th Wroxham Library 3.15–4.15pm
(inc. SENDIASS)

14th Taverham Library 3.15-4.15pm
(inc. SENDIASS)

15th Sprowston Library 5-6.30pm

16th Hellesdon Library 3.15–4.15



Family Hub Team
Schools & Communities Team

