

# SCHOOL NEWS



**MARS - 19730 EARTH - 19464 NEPTUNE - 19571 JUPITER - 19937**

ISSUE 9 - 15/11/2024

## DIARY DATES

**13/11/24-19/11/24** -Year 11 MFL Mock Oral Exams  
**15/11/24** -Non Uniform Day  
**27/11/24** -Year 8 Vaccinations  
**28/11/24** -Royal Air Force Visit Year 7 and 8  
**02/12/24-04/12/24** - Year 11 Art Mock Exam  
**04/12/24-06/12/24** -Year 13 Art Mock Exam  
**05/12/24** -Taverham Academy Awards Evening  
**10/12/24-11/12/24** - Christmas Lunches  
**12/12/24** - Year 11 Parents' Evening (Online)  
**16/12/24** - Tracking Point 1 published to parents via MCAS  
**18/12/24** - THS Christmas Fair  
**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

## REMEMBRANCE

A huge thank you to Jack in Year 12 and Ian Colman MBE for their moving performance of 'The Last Post' during our two-minute silence on Monday. The entire school gathered in year groups for this act of remembrance, honoring those who lost their lives in wars and conflicts around the world. It was a powerful and poignant moment for our whole school community.



## ATTENDANCE

### House attendance:

Mars 93%  
Jupiter 94.2%  
Neptune: 94.5%  
Earth: 93.3%

**93.6%**

Please remember to let us know if your child is going to be late due to a scheduled appointment, etc.

## 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>

## CHRISTMAS DINNERS

Christmas lunch will be served on Tuesday 10 December and Wednesday 11 December 2024. This is a lovely event where children sit at decorated tables set out in the main hall and are served their dinner by members of staff. A letter with all the details has gone out to parent/carers today.



## SPORTS NEWS

An amazing showcase of skills by our U14 Girl's footballers on Tuesday, great determination and grit! Well done to everyone, and a shout out to our goal scorers Sasha, Roisin, Kaya, Maisy and Eliza! ⚽



## LIBRARY NEWS

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!



# SIXTH FORM

## NEWS

There has been a lot happening this week to support our Year 13s with their post Sixth Form destinations. We held a competency-based interview workshop for students who have applied for degree level apprenticeships and there was also an online personal statement workshop held by the Higher Aspirations Scheme.

Year 12 and 13 Media students enjoyed a visit to Cinema City where they attended four media industry-related panels hosted by professionals exploring various aspects of filmmaking. Thank you to Miss Hague for providing this opportunity for our students.

Lastly, it has been great to see so many students attending the Sixth Form Get Active sessions over the last two weeks where students have been able to play pickleball, basketball and badminton. On its first session there were 25 students that attended, and the numbers continue to grow. I hope you all have a restful weekend.

Mrs L Robertson  
Head of Sixth Form



## STUDENT VOICE

Hi, my name is Sophie and I am the Fundraising and Events Leader. My role is to ultimately plan, coordinate, and oversee all fundraising initiatives and events. Although it may seem a bit early, the preparations for RAG Week 2025 are well underway! However, we need your help. Sixth formers should receive a small survey regarding the charity to support next year. We value their opinion, so please encourage them to fill it in ASAP!

Additionally, this month will also be the first ever social for our sixth form. On Friday 29th November, (3-4pm) there will be a sports competition so please encourage your child/ward to come along and have some fun. Any ideas for future socials will be appreciated. There are even more exciting events coming up such as the Christmas Fair, non-school uniform day, RAG Week, prom and many more. If anyone wants to volunteer for future events, please let us know. I hope to see as many of you as I can at the social and if you have any queries or concerns, we are always here to help, so just look out for a purple lanyard!

Sophie M, Committee Leader for Fundraising and Events  
Sixth Form Leadership Team

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN...

At KS3 in English, we have seen excellent levels of engagement. Year 7 have been studying *The Bone Sparrow* by Zana Fraillon. Throughout the scheme, students have been exploring the concept of empathy through the life of the main character, and many have shown an interest in reading other novels by this author.

On Wednesday, Y12 & 13 media studies attended the Norwich Film Festival 'Industry Day', held at Cinema City as mentioned above. Industry experts discussed a range of fascinating topics such as AI in filmmaking and the creation of sound/VFX in the technical aspects of production. Students were engaged and represented our school community brilliantly, particularly when asking questions to an award winning visual effects artist about their career.

We have some enrichment opportunities for students at KS4:

Macbeth Norwich Playhouse January 2025

If you would like to take your child/ward to see this production, tickets are still available on - visit the website <https://norwichtheatre.org/whats-on/macbeth/>

An Inspector Calls January 2025

There are still tickets available (limited availability) for this production at the Theatre Royal in Norwich. This is a GCSE set text. It would be a fantastic opportunity for Year 10 or Year 11 students to watch their text live. Please visit the website:

<https://norwichtheatre.org/whats-on/an-inspector-calls/>



## HOUSE VOICE

This week our House Council has been hearing from representatives from Earth, Mars, Jupiter and Neptune on the topic of rewards. Students have fed back on and shared ideas around their views on how we reward students and shared some excellent ideas for future rewards. Some examples include more rewards around food and lunchtime privileges, certificates and assemblies to increase and reward for academic success as well as sporting success. We are proud of students for sharing their ideas sensibly and thoughtfully with their House Representatives.

Students also discussed possible interhouse competitions - we were delighted with the range of ideas! From Rubix Cube competitions, quizzes and 'readathons'. We can't wait for some of this to be made into a reality this half term!

## EVENTS

### Parent/Carer Community Event

On Wednesday, we held our first Parent/Carer Community event of the year - thank you to all those who attended and listened to talks on IT use, reading, and its importance and to those that took part in our Q and A.

We are always looking for ways to engage and work more closely with our community and parents, so thank you again to those that took us up on this opportunity. We are already looking forward to our next event on Wednesday the 15th of January - our focus will be mental health and wellbeing.

Make a note in your calendars now!

## AND FINALLY...

The weekend is upon us again, which means we're another week gone – I'm reliably informed by one of my daughters that we're now inside 50 days to Christmas, a truly terrifying statistic, I'll be sure to keep you updated with the countdown!

We've had a fantastic week here, the usual mix of brilliant things happening in classrooms and interesting and exciting things outside of them. In terms of classroom practice, our lesson observation and feedback process is starting in earnest this week. This is where we spend time in colleagues' lessons watching them teach then meet later to analyse the lesson and have a professional coaching discussion about the excellent practice seen and any areas that need further improvement. This is one of my favourite times of the year as I get to see our incredible teachers in action across a range of subjects!

On Monday we recognised the work our country's armed forces have done and continue to do in protecting our freedom at enormous cost and sacrifice through our Act of Remembrance. Seeing our students in their cadets uniforms and listening to the buglers playing is always such a special moment in our community, and our students were excellent in demonstrating their respect for those involved.

Wednesday evening saw our first of several planned community events, with a small but enthusiastic group of families joining staff from various departments to discuss the school and to learn more about key areas such as SEND, student leadership, IT use at home and how our library supports students and families. We're really grateful to those families who were able to attend, they provided us with lots of useful perspective on areas such as the school website, how we communicate with families and how we can better support parents/carers with difficult areas such as how to ensure your child/ward uses their mobile telephone in a healthy and responsible way. Parents and carers were really complementary about how useful the event was and how important it is that we provide opportunities like this for us to work together to better support the young people we are all working with. The event also included a really interesting talk on reading for enjoyment and its importance. This piqued my interest as we learned in a professional development session this week that the average reading age of GCSE exams is 15 years and 7 months (it's 17 years for GCSE History!). This means that even if a child has brilliant subject knowledge, if their reading level isn't at this level they will struggle to access the exams.

Moreover, although behaviour in our school remains excellent overall, where it does fall short of our expectations, we are seeing an increasing correlation between students with low reading ages and poor behaviour in lessons or work avoidance. We think this is because these students are finding it difficult to access the learning, which makes sense. Therefore, I write to you today with a plea – we are doing everything we can at the moment to promote and encourage reading, but we are limited by resource and time. Please could I ask, therefore, that you take any and every opportunity to encourage your child/ward to read? This can include reading in all formats, in fact the wider the better. They can read fiction, non-fiction, paper-based, e-books, online blogs, newspapers, magazines, anything really, as long as it's reading! Any time your child/ward says they have no homework to do, please get them to read something. If you're stuck with what to read, please contact our fantastic librarian, Miss Heydon ([s.heydon@taverhamhigh.org](mailto:s.heydon@taverhamhigh.org)) who will happily support you and your child/ward to find something appropriate and engaging. This day-by-day, little-by-little improvement will pay dividends in the long run, so please support where you can.

Today was a non-uniform day raising money for the local charity 'Little Lifts', who support people starting treatment for cancer. This charity was picked as it is one that has supported some of our own Taverham families. Thank you as ever for your support with this, with hope to send off a sizeable lump of money to this very worthy charity shortly.

Finally, from me, a couple of reminders. Firstly, we still want to hear of the amazing things our students are doing outside of their time in school – it's so important for us to be able to celebrate successes within our wider school community – please send any of these to [celebrations@taverhamhigh.org](mailto:celebrations@taverhamhigh.org). Lastly, we're still looking for kind alumni or community members who may wish to support the school and its students by sponsoring a specific area of our wider offering. If you are able to offer anything, however large or small, we'd be delighted to hear from you – please just click this link <https://forms.office.com/e/6RF2mREseM> and we'll get in touch with you.

Wishing all our community a restful weekend, when it arrives.

Mr G Yassin  
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](http://www.youngminds.org.uk)
- **NSPCC:** Support and tips to help you keep children safe: [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk)
- **Thinkuknow:** Helping you to better protect your children online: [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)
- **Children's society:** Advice pages offer help on a range of topics for young people. [www.childrenssociety.org.uk](http://www.childrenssociety.org.uk)
- **Ownit:** Help, support and advice on how to be safe online.: [www.bbc.com/ownit](http://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://staying-safe.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-childrens-self-harm-you-are-not-alone>