

THORPE ST ANDREW SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM NEWSLETTER

Thorpe St Andrew
Sixth Form



Current Government Advice



Many of you will have heard of the story of King Cnut. The arrogant Anglo-Saxon king who ordered that his throne be set on the shore so that he could demonstrate his power to his subjects by holding back the tide. Of course, he failed and he ended up looking weak and mortal.

Modern historians have reinterpreted this story and have suggested that Cnut sat in front of the tide deliberately to demonstrate his weakness. To dispel the myth, common at the time, that kings had supernatural powers handed to them by God. To show that he was not all-powerful and infallible, but human and imperfect.

I think it is timely to reflect on this story at the moment. Sometimes in life there are events that occur that are difficult to control. At these times, the tide seems to rise uncontrollably, the current rushes around our feet and drags us unnervingly out into seemingly deeper water. This is exactly what Cnut knew those around him would see, the all powerful King subjected to the power of the tide, unable to stop it.

Cnut also knew, however, that the tide would turn and that he may be dampened by the waters but he would endure. We need to be resolute at this moment, just like that old king. We need to stand firm together as a community knowing that the tide will change.

Current Government advice is that we should all continue to follow our normal routines. In this spirit, we all need to continue to turn up, be nice and work hard. I know everyone is concerned about the best course of action to take but, at the moment, this remains the official Government position.

We are planning for a range of scenarios that might have an impact on the school (for example, we have emergency plans in place to facilitate learning at a distance and supporting students remotely) and we will continue to evolve our plans as the situation changes to ensure that we are doing everything possible to support students, staff and the community.

Thank you for the continuing support you have shown.

Mr Lambert

New Reading Well for Children Booklist



Due to the recent children's Mental Health Week, Norfolk Libraries are celebrating by launching the new Reading Well for children booklist from the Reading Agency. The list covers areas such as anxiety, bereavement and bullying, with books by Michael Rosen, Tom Percival, Zanib Mian and Joseph Coelho, selected by leading mental health experts to support the mental health and wellbeing of children. You can find the full list in their children's catalogue, along with Norfolk Library's own feelings book collection. All children's books are free to reserve .

<https://norfolk.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/KIDS/title?HOMEPRMS=GENPARAMS>

Norfolk School Games - Dance Final

A huge congratulations to our Year 7 dance group on their efforts at the Norfolk Dance School Games Final on Friday 14 February 2020. They did a fantastic job and came second out of eight groups.

Lily Mainwaring

Nneka Gray

Ellie Garrod

Macy Shaw

Olivia Archer

9 March 2020

Easter Holiday OPEN Programme - The West End Experience

West End Experience offer the ultimate in musical theatre training. After five days of intensive training with West End professional actors, choreographers, directors and musical directors, students will have the opportunity to perform with them in the 'Grand Finale Concert' with the stars! As well as this exciting live performance, students will also have the opportunity to do screen acting and the films made will be shown on the big screen at the end of week concert. For more information please see the flyer attached or visit <https://opennorwich.org.uk/youth-activities/west-end-experience/>

The course costs **£225**. Please see Mrs Veeren if you require more information.



World Book Day Tokens - The Learning Resource Centre will have tokens available for students. These can be used to get £1 off any book purchased from bookstores and supermarkets and there will be special edition books available in shops for £1. These are valid until Sunday 29 March 2020.

Book, Bingo, Reading Challenge - The school library invites students to take part in this challenge which is organised by Scholastic. Cards are available from the Learning Resource Centre and there are a number of challenges set by authors and illustrators to complete. This will run until July when all completed cards will be entered into a national competition for a chance to win great prizes.

Blind Date with a Book - After the success of this activity on Valentine's Day, it is being extended to World Book Day. Students pick a book to read based on just a few details from the blurb and the book will be in recyclable wrapping paper so they cannot judge it by the cover! A good way to discover a new genre.

Radio 2 500 Words Competition - Thank you to the many students who sent me entries for this competition, they have all been submitted to the national competition so fingers crossed! I hope to have the school part of the competition judged by Thursday 12 March 2020. Winners of this will have their work displayed in the Learning Resource Centre and will be taken on a creative writing visit to the UEA in the Summer term.

Finally, please remind students that they have an amazing, well stocked school library. Fiction and non-fiction books are available to cover all subjects. There are current event displays and it is open all day from 8.25 am - 4.00 pm, so please encourage your child to pop in if they have not been for a while!

The Allotment Project



The allotment project has had a huge input from Matt Willer's Papillon Project. He has saved us hundreds of pounds with the movement of large bulky materials and the school has not had to spend any money due to his efforts and contacts. Matt is leaving us at the end of March, therefore we are at a precarious point of ensuring the growth is sustained with lunchtime support from four members of staff and therefore are looking for enthusiastic school and community support, especially for the growing season.

Currently we are looking for donations of time/leadership as well as the following: Ideas for creating the project, compost, sinks/baths for raised beds, bamboo cane, watering cans, storage facilities, pots, netting, polythene, seeds/fruit trees, wellies and gloves for the students and any other gardening material including ideas for water collection and natural watering systems.

We would like to truly thank the following for their time and donations:

Mr Grand for his tyre donations, Mrs Best for her Water Butt donation, Mr Jameson for his tools and seeds, Jack Taylor for designing the logo for our project and an anonymous donor for two large IBCs! Also, all the students who have donated their lunchtime. Further allotment times will be announced to students via daily notices once a regular time has been established.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 17 March 2020 - Year 13 Parent Consultation Evening

Tuesday 25 March 2020 - Year 12 UCAS Evening