

#weARE

Issue 4: 2 October 2020

Apologies to our students for feeling wet and cold during the awful weather we have experienced over the last week. From last Friday we instigated our wet weather approach when there is excessive rain. This means that students go straight to form on arrival and indoor spaces and rooms are open in the schools at break and lunch. When wearing PE kit please ensure students wear at least a sweatshirt or our new PE winter top which is now available to pre-order from Stevensons our new uniform supplier to help keep them warm.



We need to continue to ventilate all areas of the schools in continuing our measures against COVID-19, however advice has gone to staff that rooms need to have ventilation but windows do not need to be fully open. A marquee is arriving imminently for the Year 11 school for their catering area for them to use as well. The heating is now set to come on when the average daily temperature falls below 13.5° outside as recommended. If classrooms/teaching spaces are cold, staff have discretion to allow students to wear their coats.

With student support in staying out of the rain, wearing a waterproof coat when raining or forecast and the other measures in school we should all stay warm and remain safe as we move into the winter months, supporting everyone to 'engage' fully in their learning as they have been doing since we have returned this term.

P. Bignell

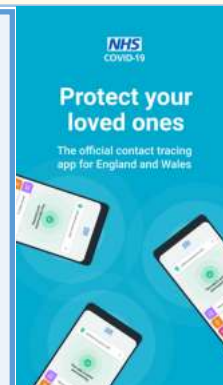
Examinations and Data

Year 11 students will have hopefully seized the summer, completing work set by their teachers. This work will have been recently assessed and this assessment will have helped staff to identify any areas of weakness (Diagnosis). Teachers will be moving forward with teaching new topics in lesson time, so it is important that students try to work on any weak areas (Therapy) using resources that their teachers will guide them towards. This then leads to another round of in class assessments that will start from Tuesday 24 November 2020 (Testing). This process of DTT - Diagnosis, Therapy and Testing (to see if the therapy has been successful) is an important process that all students will need to go through. Year 11 will then have formal PPE (Pre Public Examinations - Mock Examinations) planned for Monday 1 February 2020 to Friday 12 February 2020. Holiday time will be an important time for students to recharge their batteries but also using spare time to prepare for these planned assessments and examinations will be vitally important for future success. Good luck will not be needed if perfect preparation is in place.

Mr Pywell

The NHS COVID-19 app is free to download from the App Store and Google Play. It has been built in collaboration with some of the most innovative organisations in the world. The app has a number of features:

- **Trace:** find out when you have been near other app users who have tested positive for coronavirus.
- **Alert:** lets you know the level of coronavirus risk in your postcode district.
- **Check-in:** get alerted if you have visited a venue where you may have come into contact with coronavirus, using a simple QR code scanner. No more form filling.
- **Symptoms:** check if you have coronavirus symptoms and see if you need to order a test.
- **Test:** helps you order a test if you need to.
- **Isolate:** keep track of your self-isolation countdown and access relevant advice.



Chemistry Cafe

The Chemistry After School Cafe runs for Sixth Form students for an hour on Fridays, after school. It was primarily designed for students to voluntarily drop in to seek help and advice from teachers on topics they feel they need further help with. Future activities will include groups presenting and discussing recent scientific articles and advances in Chemistry or running tasks to stretch and challenge our already enthusiastic students. The main aim of this club is to educate, excite and enthuse our young people about the Chemical Sciences and hopefully inspire them to take up a Chemistry related career in the future.

Dr H Gopee



Thought of the Week

“Far away there in the sunshine are my highest aspirations. I may not reach them, but I can look up and see their beauty, believe in them, and try to follow where they lead.”



Louisa May Alcott

Remote Learning Survey Please can ALL parents/carers including Sixth Form complete the remote learning survey, it only takes five minutes to complete <https://forms.gle/JQUWSyatiUkGG8ao8>

This will ensure that we can support **all** students to access the remote learning provision should the need arise.

Mrs Wilkinson

Medication If students are feeling unwell but well enough to attend school and may need some pain relief during the school day, they are allowed to bring in **one dose only** of medication, either a Calpol sachet or paracetamol/aspirin.

Assessment - What does it look like? There was a time when an exercise book would have ticks all the way through it. Red pen, saying "Good work", "Good effort" or the dreaded "See me" but how useful was this? The "goods" never really told a student anything about their work or how to improve, and the "see me" was not always that informative either.

Exercise books should rarely, if at all be marked with ticks, because it tells us nothing about how well a student has done or how to improve and in a COVID safe school we should be minimising contact with books too.

So what does assessment and feedback look like? It often happens in the lesson, the teacher talks to the students about their work and their learning. It can also happen as part of "Whole class feedback" where a teacher will have taken a sample, or all of the work and seen some common misconceptions and some common areas of success which will be shared with the whole class. Sometimes assessment will be a PASS test, a "google quiz" in a google form, a self-marked knowledge test in class or a teacher marked assignment or examination paper. All of these assessments are important but they are not checking work in an exercise book.

Exercise books are where students practice their learning, literally where they exercise their minds! While we may check books from time to time, good assessment and feedback is not a tick or a "well done"!

You may ask the question "How can I help?" "If I do not see the marking, what do I do?". First of all, it is great that you are thinking about how to support your young person's learning! The best way to do this is to ask them. Maybe ask what types of feedback they have received in lessons? Have they completed any knowledge quizzes? Did they do well? How has this helped them identify next steps in learning and how can you support at home?

I am hopeful that this will help you understand what assessment and feedback looks like at our school and that this will help your conversations at home about school and learning.

Miss Allen

NCS at Thorpe Sixth Form

On Tuesday 8 September 2020 and Wednesday 9 September 2020, our Sixth Form welcomed the National Citizen Service (NCS) as part of our Year 12 students' induction programme. Here is what some students thought of the two days:

"I found the NCS experience really helpful as a way of settling into Sixth Form. They promoted team building and interaction in group tasks, making it a lot easier to converse with lots of new people and have a subject to discuss. I really enjoyed being able to make so many new friends whilst simultaneously learning about skills that are both educational and beneficial for the future. Overall I would definitely recommend this to anybody starting Sixth Form!"

Rachel Whiting



"I found aspects of the programme quite helpful and enjoyable, for example the team-building exercises such as trying to get water through several deconstructed pipes without the water escaping. I think doing such activities definitely helped me learn to collaborate with others as well as to communicate well."

Caitlin Saunders

Many thanks to the whole NCS Team who have offered a superb programme to our students who had great fun whilst learning some vital life skills.

Sixth Form

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80% of Success is Just Showing Up

This is the message from some of the most successful entrepreneurs. It is a message we have included in our daily messages to our students, too. It seems an obvious message, but it is worth reinforcing - you cannot learn if you are not in school!

Attendance at Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form is superb and during September our overall attendance figure stands at 94.1%. We recognise that sometimes a student is too ill to attend and we will support students who miss school because of illness. One way in which we do that is to post our lessons to a "Google Classroom". Students will have received a code for each subject and the Classroom will contain all the resources from our lessons. If a student misses school, they can catch up on missed learning by accessing the materials in the classroom.

All children who are absent from school are logged on our system. If we cannot account for the absence, a text alert is sent to your phone. If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact us to report their absence. This will avoid needless text alerts being sent out.

When children return to school, their form tutor will be there to welcome them back and to check that they are able to catch up on the missed learning.

Mr Dewar

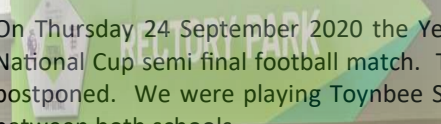
Extra Curricular Activities

At Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form we have always been proud of the huge range of after-school activities, ranging from the Bake-offs to the School Musical. This year, we are working hard to provide as varied and as exciting range of clubs and activities as we can given the current circumstances. All our activities will appear on the school calendar for you to see. We will take formal registers of each activity, so that you can be sure that your child is safe while on the school site.

Please encourage your child to take part in an after school club if they can. Often, the skills and qualities which our students develop when participating in after school activities turn out to be very important when applying for a job, an apprenticeship, or to University.

Mr Dewar

National Cup Football



On Thursday 24 September 2020 the Year 8 Boys' football team travelled to Northolt in West London to play their long awaited National Cup semi final football match. This game should have been played in March but due to the National lockdown it had been postponed. We were playing Toynbee School from Southampton and a neutral venue had been arranged approximately half way between both schools.

The game began quite evenly but Toynbee soon started playing some very nice football and scored 3 very quick goals in the first half. We fought back towards the end of the first half and managed to score a goal through Dylan Thompson to make it 3-1. Toynbee came back right away though and scored a fourth goal just before half time.

The second half was a much more even affair with both teams having further chances to score. Halfway through the second half Dylan Thompson scored his second goal of the afternoon with a sweetly taken free kick which flew into the net. No further goals though were added for either side and the final whistle blew with the result being 4-2 to Toynbee School.

It had been a fantastic achievement for our team to get to the semi finals of this competition, as 618 teams had entered the competition so to get down to the last 4 was an excellent achievement. They were the first boys' team from Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form to get to the semi final stage.

On the day we were beaten by the better team but I am sure there will be more chances for this talented group of boys to show what they can do in future competitions.

Year 8 Boys' Football Squad – George King, George Coldham, Sean Duggan, Micky Dunham, Josh Whitehand, Theo Marsham, Sam Llewellyn, Hayden Bradely, Lucas Densley, Leo Smith, Harry Varvel, Woody Ellison, and Dylan Thompson.



Mr Bowman

Thorpe Life Excellence for all



www.thorpestandrewschool.org | Twitter @tsas_norwich | office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk

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First Aid Course

Thirty three Year 12 students studying the Advanced Specialist Qualification in Health and Social Care and the T-Level in Education and Child Care, successfully completed a Level 3 First Aid qualification over two days. The intense course delivered by Anglian Training included the responsibilities of a first aider, prioritising treatment for life threatening conditions, performing resuscitation, managing choking and seizures as well as dealing with minor injuries. Students fully embraced the practical work within the context of social distancing. They all passed the practical and written assessments and feel competent and confident to cope with emergency situations enabling them to support staff when in placements and enhance their understanding of course unit content. Praise must be given to the students for their professional attitude during the whole course.



Mrs Tonkin-Brown

At Thorpe We ARE

What an amazing achievement! Our students are showing how committed they are to our new approach to rewards by collectively receiving **52000 ARE+ Points** so far this year. That is a fantastic average of 26 ARE+ Points per student! Many students should be receiving their Bronze certificates over the coming weeks for reaching 50 ARE+ Points. Well Done!

50000 ARE+ Points



Turn Up
Work Hard

This week, our focus was on **Engage**. We explored what it means to be **engaged** with learning and how success is often linked to how hard someone tries. Students learnt some ways in which they could learn to **engage** and found out how the examples of Michael Jordan, Elizabeth Garrett Anderson and Vincent van Gogh can teach us about the importance of being **engaged**. Students should work to **develop good habits, expand their responsibilities and maintain perseverance**. We also reflected on the thought of Kenneth Blanchard who said "There's a difference between interest and commitment. When you're interested in doing something, you do it only when it's convenient. When you're committed to something, you accept no excuses; only results." and how **engaging** fully is often difficult. We want all our students to **engage** with their learning as we know this will help them reach excellence and be the best that they can be.

Mr Lambert



Anguish's Educational Foundation is one of the 4 Registered Charities in the [Norwich Charitable Trusts](#) group of Charities. The Charity makes grants to individuals and to other charities for educational purposes.

The Charity makes grants to individuals as a contribution towards the cost of:

School clothing and footwear, Residential school trips, for approved educational purposes, Fees for further education and vocational training, including necessary equipment, University maintenance, Further Education courses which run for at least two terms, Personal tuition in music, the arts and sport where the beneficiary is likely to reach a professional standard in the field, Specialist glasses not available through the NHS

There certain criteria you have to meet but please visit the website below for more information.

<http://www.anguisheducationalfoundation.org.uk/>

Upcoming Events



2020 Greater Norwich Opportunities Fair

Students can find out more about Post-16 options in Norfolk on Wednesday 7 October 2020 - Students will see and hear from Sixth Form providers, be able to ask questions and get the most up to date information to plan their next steps. Join them live on Instagram from 3.00 pm on Wednesday 7 October 2020 @noa_careers_

Thursday 8 October 2020

Sixth Form Cyber Café Workshop

Every Friday After School

Sixth Form Chemistry Cafe

At Thorpe we ARE:



Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form

Year 6 Online Open Event

Wednesday 21 October, Launch Time 6.30pm

Start Your Journey With Us Here



Contact Details: 01603 497711

office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk