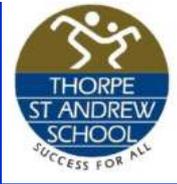


Thorpe Life Excellence for all



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

#weARE

Issue 7 6 November 2020

Thorpe St Andrew
Sixth Form
Excellence for All

Welcomes you to our
Virtual Open Evening
Tuesday 10 November 2020
from 6.30 pm



Start your Sixth Form
experience with us soon



Laundry Lane
Thorpe St Andrew
Norwich NR7 0XS
Telephone: 01603 497767
Email: sixthformtsa@yare-edu.org.uk



This week has seen a successful return to school despite the introduction of a National Lockdown. It is great that the school can remain open throughout this period of time and students' learning is not affected. Throughout next week we will be focusing on the impact of the National Lockdown on students in a daily Health and Safety briefing and how behaviours need to change particularly regarding social distancing.



It is extremely positive that our after school enhanced curriculum offer of intervention with the Raising Achievement Team and revision sessions for Years 11 and 13 can continue and we urge all students to attend these to support their learning. Unfortunately, our after school extra curricular clubs have been suspended in line with the school guidance.

These will restart from Monday 7 December 2020.

P. Bignell

Contact Details

Please can we ask all parents/carers to make sure that their contact details are correct.

THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION



Poppies are available within the Year schools where contributions will be collected.

At Thorpe We ARE

Students have earned over **110000 ARE+** Points! This is a fantastic achievement from the students of our school. Well done to all. Everyone in the school community is so proud of these achievements.

This week, our focus was on **Aspire**. We explored how working hard now can bring about rewards in the future and reflected on the thought of Og Mandino who said "Always do your best. What you plant now, you will harvest later." From this we learn that the present has a real impact on our future; therefore, we need to keep our **aspirations** high at all times.

Mr Lambert



Allotment News

Our Sixth Formers are continuing where possible to create some amazing woodwork for our allotment, whilst there is some light still after school. We are also planning our orchard for December planting! Our Year 8s love visiting at form time.

Year 7 Working Together Evening

Thursday 12 November 2020 will be our Year 7 Working Together Evening. Unlike in previous years this event will be held remotely and will be accessible from a link on the front page of our website (<https://thorpestandrewschool.org.uk>). The evening is shaped around three workshops about learning at Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form and will help adults at home work successfully with their children through their time with us.

The workshops are designed to be done by students and the adults they live with at home together and are 'hands-on', so get your pencils and paper ready. This has always been a successful and much appreciated event, although the medium is different this year, we hope that it will similarly be well 'attended' and beneficial this year.

Mr Lambert

Online Safety Newsletter - Please follow the link below:

<https://thorpestandrewschool.org.uk/>

School Uniform

We are very excited and pleased to announce that we have final confirmation that our school wear supplier is now Stevensons. We have made this decision following feedback from parents and students regarding availability and ease of ordering through John Lewis which led to many frustrations.

The details of our new stockist are:

Stevensons, 67 Ber Street, Norwich NR1 3AD

norwichbranch@stevensons.co.uk

<https://www.stevensons.co.uk/>

01603 622355

Monday - Saturday: 9.00 am - 5.30 pm/Sunday: Closed

Ordering - Parents often reported to us that the staff in John Lewis, Norwich were not fully aware of the correct items in our school wear range. Staff in store at Stevensons only work with school wear and are fully trained on all our items in the school wear range.

Website - Parents have reported to us that the website was confusing as in addition to our range, the website showed the items in other colours which parents inadvertently bought. When purchasing items from Stevensons you are required to register for an account and the only items that are shown are those relevant to our school.

Stock Levels - Parents also reported to us that items in some sizes would go out of stock which was very frustrating when ordering. Stevensons produce reports that they share with us regarding which items and sizes are most frequently purchased and are very responsive when stock levels become low. At any point we can contact Stevensons and be given a live report on the exact amount bought and available.

Please note the main school uniform has not changed. The pencil school skirt which changed in 2019 (which some students in our upper years continue to wear) is now no longer available or part of the uniform. All students in Years 7 to 9 are now wearing the pleated skirt (or trousers). Students in Year 10 who are wearing the pencil skirt must be in the pleated skirt by September 2021.

Other stockists do supply the non-logoed items such as the trousers, pleated skirts and shirts.

PE Uniform - It has been recognised by our PE department through feedback from student voice that our PE uniform needed to change. Students felt it was outdated and not smart enough, particularly when attending events where PE uniform was worn outside of school. There has also been feedback from parents confused by the clarity of what students can wear. This is also really important now students are attending school all day when they have PE. We have had all manner of items appearing in school including hooded tops, grey trousers, non-sports wear leggings so we recognise that there needs to be more clarity but giving students and parents choice.

The new PE uniform is navy to link with the school colours and includes a variety of items, including a warm top for those colder days. This uniform is currently being uploaded by Stevensons onto the website and will be fully available in the next week.

Please note we do recognise that parents have already purchased the maroon uniform in preparation for this academic year. Therefore, the new PE uniform can be purchased as your child grows out of the old one. We are however, encouraging parents to purchase the warm midlayer to wear as there was not such an item in the old range. We know many parents already have this on pre-order!

We recognise that some of our parents are experiencing financial difficulties at this time and we do have a hardship fund available that can support with the purchase of uniform if required. Please email the school office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk with your request if you require financial support.

Mrs Veeren

Upcoming Events

Year 7 Working Together Evening - Thursday 12 November 2020
Year 9 Parent Consultation Evening - Wednesday 18 November 2020

Thought of the Week

“Every day is different, and some days are better than others, but no matter how challenging the day, I get up and live it.”

Political Awareness at Sixth Form On Tuesday 13 October 2020, our current Year 13 students had their annual politics assembly.

Before half-term, Year 13 students had an assembly on the main political parties with videos from The Green Party, Labour, Conservatives and Liberal Democrats; each briefly explained their policy and how they plan to help Norfolk. They predominantly focused on the environmental impact and how the climate change situation will be improved over the coming years. Year 13 students took part in a mock vote after watching the videos to create results from a younger demographic.

This was the outcome: Labour - 39, Conservatives - 16, Green - 31, Lib Dem - 4, Other - 7 and Will Not Vote - 6.
Tyler Carter Year 13 (applying to study Journalism at university)

We send our thanks to all parties for the effort they went to in recording videos for our students. It was pleasing to see them engaging with political matters. They thoroughly enjoyed the session and found it extremely informative.

The Sixth Form Team

School Attendance During the New Lockdown As parents, you will of course be concerned about recent announcements from the Government regarding a National Lockdown.

We have been following the announcements closely and we regularly review the operation of the school in the light of the latest advice and guidance from the Department of Education and from Public Health officials.

With the new announcement about a National Lockdown, the Government has been clear that they expect schools to remain open and for students to be in class and engaged with their learning. If a student misses even a couple of days from school, they risk falling behind their peers. Missing only a couple of days per half term can represent more than 60 lessons missed over the year! This message went to the students in their Morning Briefing on Wednesday.

Parents should be aware that we monitor every student's attendance carefully and will contact families where we have concerns. The school will follow the County and National guidelines regarding absence from school. Ultimately, non-attendance can result in a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Our Bubble system is working well in keeping the Year Groups separate and we have worked very hard to make this new system a success. In the light of the new guidance and the developments in the pandemic, we are introducing some adjustments to the system. We will continue to review our system and to keep students fully aware of the expectations we have of them.

The expectations are reinforced every morning in the new AM Form Time. We expect:

- Students to wear masks while moving around the schools and when they arrive at the school gates in the morning.
- Students to wash their hands, or to use approved hand-sanitiser, regularly and often. We have installed hand washing facilities and placed hand sanitiser across the schools.
- Students to respect social distancing as far as possible. Where school buildings make this difficult, we have instituted one-way systems so students are facing the same direction at they move around the school. In class, we have turned the desks to face the front of the class and teachers have a 2 metre "exclusion zone".

These expectations will need reinforcing at home and we are grateful for your ongoing support.

COVID symptoms are a new, persistent cough, a high temperature and a loss of taste and smell. If you, or anyone in your household, experiences these symptoms, you are required to follow the Government regulations and to obey the directions of the Health Professionals.

Mr Dewar

