

Thorpe Life Excellence for all



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

#weARE

Issue 12 11 December 2020

The school phone will be staffed on Monday 21 December 2020 until 1.15 pm, so please contact us if your child has a positive test result over the weekend to enable close contact with other students to be identified and followed up.

During the school holiday please can we ask that you follow all the national guidance, we have included some helpful bullet points and web addresses below. It is everyone taking individual responsibility to follow this guidance, that we can together manage a safe and secure return to education in the new year.



- If your child is unable to start the new term because of COVID-19 or any other illness please let us know via email trackandtrace-tsa@yare-edu.org.uk, stating the reason and date of return to school. School reopens on Monday 4 January 2021.
- If your child lives in the same household as someone with coronavirus, your child must stay at home for **10 days** from the first day the person with coronavirus had symptoms or had their test.
- If your child develops **Symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19)** <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> they must get a test and they should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared (or from the date they received a positive result). From Friday 18 December 2020, please email the school at trackandtrace-tsa@yare-edu.org.uk with information of a positive test and the start and end date of self isolation.
- **COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance?priority-taxon=774cee22-d896-44c1-a611-e3109cce8eae> - **GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)** has information for households with possible coronavirus infection including easy to read guides in a number of languages.
- **Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person—GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person> has information for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus infection including an easy to read guide.
- If your family is in need of support to help you through a period of isolation, please see the **Norfolk Assistance Scheme** <https://communitydirectory.norfolk.gov.uk/Services/NotFound>
- **www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk**
- Some residents are also entitled to a self-isolation support payment of £500. To help someone apply for this, or to find out more <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/care-support-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/adults-health/coronavirus/community-support-for-people-at-home/test-and-trace-support-payment>
- Please remember; there are three simple actions we must all do to keep on protecting each other
1. Wash hands 2. Cover face 3. Make space.
- If you need a test, make use of drive through testing to avoid delays through mail delivery.

Although the festive season will be different this year as we all continue to try and keep each other safe and healthy, we do hope that you can all enjoy this period and we wish you a safe and happy new year.

We know many young people and their families are facing increased hardship this winter, including many of the young people that we are working with and we need your help to ensure they can access the support that is on offer.

NCC is working with *Pink Orange*, a scheme that delivers free meal kit boxes directly to families. This can either be via the weblink: www.pinkorange.co.uk or they can text or call **07553 894233**. *Pink Orange* will then contact them to put together a box that reflects their family's needs.

There is no cost to them and this offer can be taken up at any point over the winter.

Please note: This support is in addition to the Norfolk County Council COVID-19 Winter Support Scheme that was launched this month.

Details about the wider support on offer can be accessed via: www.norfolk.gov.uk/covidwintersupport

Mr Hookway

Sixth Form Charity Events The Sixth Form Charity Ambassadors held a very well organised COVID safe Staff Hot Sauce Eating contest last week, with a number of teachers taking part. The winners are still secret for now, until a short video of the event is shown in Personal Development (PD) time, as each PD group backed a teacher to win for potential Class Charts points. Students are asked to bring in a small donation for the pleasure of watching the video.

Also, Year 12 and 13 Personal Development groups are holding their own small charity event this week and next, ranging from quizzes to 'Guess the Baby' photos. All funds raised will be donated to MIND, our Sixth Form Charity of the Year, voted for by our students.

We are looking forward to our Sixth Form Christmas Jumper Day on Tuesday 15 December 2020. All donations will go towards the "Save the Children" charity.



Ms Bernard



Thorpe Life Excellence for all



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

#weARE

Issue 12 11 December 2020

At Thorpe We ARE Our fantastic students have worked hard to show their **engagement** this year and so far over **95000 ARE+ Points** have been awarded for **engagement**. Thank you to all our students for this brilliant effort!



This week, our focus was on **Engage**. We reflected on the words of Mokokoma Mokhonoana, who wrote “You cannot respect someone but disrespect their time.” From this, we explored how important punctuality and attendance is in showing your **engagement** to learning and with school. We asked students to think what being late demonstrates to others and reflect upon how we feel when someone is late to meet us. We also gave some tips on how people could be more engaged by turning up on time to all lessons.

Mr Lambert

Summer Examinations The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) have confirmed that Summer 2021 examinations will take place between the 7 June - 2 July 2020, with the exception of one Mathematics and one English GCSE examination which will be held just before the May half-term, giving any Year 11 students who are affected by COVID-19 the best possible chance of still sitting a paper in each of these core subjects.

The recent government announcement regarding the new measures for Summer 2021 examinations, include the following:

- more generous grading than usual, in line with 2020
- students receiving advance notice of some topic areas covered in GCSE, AS and A-levels, to help them focus their revision
- examination aids – like formula sheets – provided in some examinations to give students more confidence and reduce the amount of information they need to memorise
- contingency examinations – held shortly after the main examination series – so students can sit a paper if they miss all their assessments in a subject because of illness or self-isolation
- even if students miss one or more examination due to self-isolation or sickness but have still completed a proportion of their qualification, they will still receive a grade

The new measures complement the existing changes for next summer which include:

- reduced content in many subjects
- a delay to the start of examinations and changes to the timetable.

There will also be adaptations to vocational and technical qualifications to make sure there is parity with general qualifications. The Government will set out further details on adaptations to examinations, in the new year.

The full announcement can be read here: https://www.gov.uk/government/news/extra-measures-to-support-students-ahead-of-next-summer-exams?_cldee=ZXhhbXMtdHNhQHlhcmtZWR1Lm9yZy51aw%3d%3d&recipientid=account-1028a1361209e3118b6278e3b519b0a5-667a16b3bd8344ef8e25ade91edcc766&esid=4cfdc800-f224-eb11-a813-000d3a385a1c

Mr Hookway

Guidance for Parents Please follow the link below for the updated guidance for parents and carers during coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak. As a school we have acted on and implemented the relevant guidance in our Risk Assessment and actions have been taken.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term>

Mrs Bignell

One-to-One Mentoring with AIM Apprenticeship for Sixth Form Students

Our link to The AIM Apprenticeship group, Federica Bocchetti-Dunn, has offered our Year 13 students who are keen to secure a Higher or Degree apprenticeship on completion of their Sixth Form studies, an opportunity for one-to-one mentoring.

Students will have the chance to ask for advice on how to search for an apprenticeship or how to secure an apprenticeship; she will cover Curriculum Vitae support, application and interview tips alongside apprenticeship assessment guidance.

To secure this fantastic opportunity students need to email Miss Woodcock, Head of Year 13, at kwoodcock3nrq@yare-edu.org.uk.

Ms Bernard

School is open until Friday 18 December 2020 at 1.15 pm

Happy Holidays

Happy Holidays

Thorpe Life Excellence for all



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

#weARE

Issue 12: 11 December 2020

A Virtual Visit from Gillian Keegan to Thorpe Sixth Form

On Thursday 26 November 2020 Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form had the pleasure of hosting a virtual visit from Gillian Keegan who is the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Apprenticeships and Skills at the Department for Education. Minister Keegan met virtually with the staff and students involved with the delivery of T Level Education and Digital as they had been selected to be a pilot provider to deliver the T-levels starting in September 2020.

T-Levels are new Technical Level 3 qualifications, which are equivalent to three A-Levels. They combine classroom theory, practical learning and an industry placement to make sure students have real experience of the workplace to gain the required skills to move onto a Higher Apprenticeship or University.

At Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form, we are the only school in the eastern region offering the T-Level Digital and Education. Brigitte Bernard, Deputy Principal - Sixth Form, said: "We feel very privileged to have been selected as one of the very few schools to pilot this exciting new T-Level qualification. It will provide our students with the skills that so many employers crave for when young employees start their first job. Equally, we welcomed the fact that universities will consider this qualification as equivalent to A-Levels. This shows how valuable the T-Levels are, whether our young people will choose to go straight onto employment, higher apprenticeships or undergraduate degrees".

Kate Woodcock - Assistant Head of Sixth Form and T-Level Coordinator for the school explained to Minister Keegan the reason behind the Sixth Form introducing T-Levels as a wave one provider. "At Thorpe Sixth Form we are always passionate about what is right for our students and vocational education is needed and a vital pathway for young people" and teacher of T-Level Education Leonie Atkins added that "It is a great opportunity to be part of a new and exciting course".

The T-Levels are an excellent opportunity for students as they provide students with the ability to add value in the workplace and help them become industry ready. As part of the T-Level courses students partake in an industry placement. Neil Tiddy Curriculum Leader - responsible for the T-Level Digital - informed the Minister: "We feel the T-Levels are an excellent opportunity for our students as they provide students with not just theory but also relevant industry experience and skills to prepare them for the world of work".

Minister Keegan also had the opportunity to discuss with the students how they were finding the course and was impressed by how passionate they were. Hollis Sayer explained that "Choosing a T-Level has really helped broaden his horizons and would 100% recommend the course to others". **Minister for Apprenticeships and Skills Gillian Keegan said:**

"It was wonderful to visit Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form and speak to some of the pioneering young people studying our new T-Levels.

We've worked with over 250 leading businesses to make sure the new qualifications give students the skills they need to get ahead in the workplace, while also providing businesses with the talent they need for the future.

It was fantastic to hear the students' enthusiasm for where the new qualifications will take them, opening new doors to a wide range of exciting career paths. I wish them every success as they continue on their journey ahead."

For more information about the T-Levels visit the Thorpe St Andrew Sixth Form Website. Applications are still open to study these courses in September 2021.

Ms Bernard

Charity money was donated to the air ambulance from Altair house students last academic year.



SPORTS

All clubs will start after Christmas from 3.15pm - 4.15pm

Football (boys and girls), Netball (everyone), Running club (everyone)

Mondays - Year 7
Wednesdays - Year 9
Thursdays - Year 8

Miss Harriet

In PE classes next week we will be running a Santa Dash, so please bring along Christmas hats to take part in the festive fun!

Miss Turner



Sixth Form Consultation Event

Thank you to the 313 parents/carers who have attended our Sixth Form Consultation Evening. We hope that the event was useful and informative.



Friday 18 December 2020 - In Aid of Save the Children - wear your best Christmas jumper and donate £1. Please note this is not a non-school uniform day

Thought of the Week - Peace on Earth will come to stay, when we live Christmas every day - Helen Steiner Rice