

# Thorpe Life Excellence for all



[www.thorpestandrewschool.org](http://www.thorpestandrewschool.org) | Twitter @tsas\_norwich | office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk

## #weAREStillYourSchool

Issue 19 - 12 February 2021

A big well done and thank you for the amazing engagement of students this half term in remote learning.

We had a fantastic Well-being day. All our students **aspired** to make the most of the day, **engaged** with the tasks given and showed **respect** for others all day.

The day included "The Great Thorpe Breakfast", Yoga and HIIT sessions, a whole school livestream with Ms Bernard and Mrs Veeren, a Scavenger Hunt, Well-being Sessions, Online Safety Alliance training, Telephone or FaceTime call and reading a book.

The special day did not go unnoticed because of the high levels of **engagement** with the Online Safety Alliance, we broke their website! The local press has been really interested in what we have been up to and have printed an article in the EDP [LINK](#), look out to see if you have a mention.

Thank you once again for all your support and encouragement over this half term. We hope that you also enjoy a break from home learning over the next week.



*P. Bignell*

"I think that a well-being day is a good idea because it means students don't feel like they are repeating themselves and spend time away from their computers or devices."

### THE GREAT THORPE BREAKFAST

Well done to all our students who joined in "The Great Thorpe Breakfast", over 800 students took part.

"It is good to look forward to getting away from your computer screen for a while. I am especially looking forward to getting some fresh air and going outside".

**Half Term Wellbeing** Two simple words that mean so much. It is important that the first thing we do is show our gratitude towards you. This term has provided many challenges and we have been amazed by how well you and your children have risen to them.

We would like students to spend the holiday concentrating on their well-being. The NHS suggests there are 5 steps necessary to improve mental health and well-being. We ask that you help encourage your child to take these 5 steps over the break as this could help them to get the most out of their return to school.



To help with this, your child can find a presentation that has 'well-being challenges' in their Year Group Google Classroom.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Years 7 to 11</b>	 What can you do today for someone else?	<b>Be active</b> A set of 10 challenge. You could do some star jumps or go for a brisk walk.	Try something new - take a virtual tour of a library or a gallery. 	Take notice, be curious. 	 Connect - make time to spend with your family.
<b>Sixth Form</b>	 Monday 15 Feb Share an inspiring quote or video on social media to inspire others #inspire	 Tuesday 16 Feb Check in on your neighbours. Do they need anything #bekind	 Wednesday 17 Feb Message an old friend you've lost touch with #timetotalk	 Thursday 18 Feb Go for a walk in your local community. Smile and say hello to make someone's day #emerginginfectious	 Friday 19 Feb Reminiscence: Find some old pictures & share with your friends #keepthetimeroyal

**The School will be closed to all students and staff from Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 February 2021.**

School will reopen on Monday 22 February 2021 to all staff, key worker's children and vulnerable students. Please make sure you email the provision by Sunday at 6.00 pm if you would like to book a place - provision21-tsa@yare-edu.org.uk.

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**We ARE Thorpe** The theme of the week was **Engage**: keep focused on work. Since January, students have received over 10000 ARE+ Points for being focused. This is a fantastic achievement! Students equally demonstrated this engagement on our Well-being Wednesday when, as a result of the volume of traffic, our students brought the Online Safety Alliance website to its knees.



**Engage**

We have also reflected on the words of T.D.Jakes, who said "You cannot conquer what you are not committed to" because this makes us understand that in order to achieve our aspirations we have to 'stick with it' (or show resilience), particularly if times get tough. Our students continue to demonstrate that engagement to their learning because this is who we ARE.

#WeAREStillYourSchool

Mr Lambert

**Tuesday Form Time** Throughout the week we have been highlighting some of the brilliant opportunities that are out there for students interested in apprenticeships. On Tuesday, during Form Time, we shared some of them with the whole school.

Tuesday Form time is also the time when we show students some techniques that are proven to help to learn key knowledge. So far, we have looked at Flash Cards, Knowledge Wheels, Revision Grids, and the Fold Out Strip.

Throughout the next half term, we will showcase Apprenticeship Case Studies, as well as further Study Skills Techniques.

These will all appear in the students' Form Time Google Classrooms on Tuesdays.

Mr Dewar

**PSHE@TSAS** As you may already be aware Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) will soon be forming part of the statutory National Curriculum. As a school with a forward-thinking curriculum this new status will not mean a great deal of change for your child and the majority of the new statutory objectives are already being met by our wider Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) programme - full details of which are available on the school's website.

This has however required us to audit our existing curriculum and to develop our policies accordingly. Parental voice is a vitally important part of this process and, to this end, we have created a short survey in order to help us gauge your thoughts and opinions about our RSHE provision here at TSAS, please follow the link below. There will also be an opportunity to register your interest in finding out more about this exciting curriculum area.

[LINK](#)

Thank you in advance for your time and please do not hesitate to contact the school on [RSHE@yare-edu.org.uk](mailto:RSHE@yare-edu.org.uk) should you have any specific questions or concerns about the subject.

Mrs Wilkinson and Miss Page

**Our Survey Said** "I enjoy having time to learn something new and then time to independently research, do an activity how we want etc. Easy to talk to teachers and ask questions if needed."

"Learning is still like a timetabled day so time management is a lot easier."

We have been really pleased and excited to get feedback from 425 students. You have told us what is going well and how we can improve.

As with many things, one size does not fit all! We need to provide the best we can in the current situation for all students. However, 91% of those that responded have said that they are satisfied with the blended learning that is being offered. We will not get it right all of the time but we are trying.

So what next? Those students that stated they have not been contacted are on the top of our list for a well-being check in. We have called everyone, perhaps we had to leave a message or speak to a parent, so we are trying again.

The areas that have been raised as concerns are being addressed. The guidance for your home learning and taking a break over half term is an example of that.

The take home message is that for many of you, you may be missing the classroom, but it is going well. For some of you, we can do more and do it better. We are working on this. Please ask specific teachers, or talk to BEST or Heads of Year if you have any specific concerns.

Miss Allen

## Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening

As you are aware we are awaiting the conclusion of the Ofqual consultations regarding examinations in the summer. In light of this we have taken the decision to postpone the Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening until Tuesday 4 May 2021. This is to allow more constructive conversations to occur with teachers who will by then have the information to help with enquiries.

The Year 8 Parent Consultation Evening will now take place on Wednesday 17 March 2021.

Mr Hookway

**COVID-19 Test** If any student displays symptoms and tests positive for COVID-19, please email [trackandtrace-tsa@yare-edu.org.uk](mailto:trackandtrace-tsa@yare-edu.org.uk) to inform the school as confirmed cases need to be reported to the PHE. This email will be checked daily at 9.00 am over the half term.

Please follow the [LINK](#) for COVID-19 symptoms.