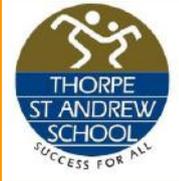




# Thorpe Life

## Excellence for all



ARE you showing you ARE:  
Aspirational- Adapting to new surroundings  
Respectful - Supporting others to do so  
Engaged- Making effort in learning

Issue 22 – 12 March 2021

[www.thorpestandrewschool.org](http://www.thorpestandrewschool.org) |

Twitter @tsas\_norwich |

[office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk)

**We ARE Thorpe and #WeAREBackStronger** We have been amazed at how well our students have returned to school. Attendance has been fantastic and students have adapted to the new surroundings of school impeccably. We are not surprised though because we could see how well our students had performed during lockdown. Students earned over 100000 ARE+ Points during that time and we now have students who will receive their Silver (110 ARE+ Points), Gold (200), Platinum (300) and even Palladium (450) Awards. These are incredible personal achievements.



At Thorpe, we expect students to **aspire**; to aim high and dream big. Students demonstrated this brilliantly during lockdown. Students completed work to the best of their ability and met deadlines, they remained purposeful and calm and presented their work neatly. Since we have been back our students continue to show their **aspiration**, they have stuck to the deadlines for COVID-19 Testing, remained calm whilst queuing and look smart in their uniform. They need to continue to adapt to being back at school in a positive way.

We also expect our students to **respect**; to behave and be nice. We saw this so much during remote learning as students attended their sessions on time, kept focused on their work and joined in when needed. On return, our students have continued to show their **respect** by wearing their face coverings all day and following social distancing and staying in groups of no-larger than six. They need to keep supporting others around them, so we all stay safe, feel support and achieve.

In addition, we expect our students to **engage**; to turn up and work hard. Throughout lockdown our students did an amazing job of following instructions, being kind and considerate and therefore looking after their immediate environment. During their first three days our students have really engaged with learning. They have returned excellently to the classroom, listened well to their teachers and got on with the tasks they have been given. They need to continue to put the effort in because: the more we put in, the more we get out.

We are able to move forward positively because our students never stopped showing who they ARE. This has given them the edge they need and allows us to say "We ARE back stronger." Here's to a fantastic rest of the term.

**Home Testing Starts Next Week.** The engagement with Assisted Testing has been fantastic with 93% participation in completing the tests in school. We now move to Home Testing for the school community to help keep us all safe.

Home testing kits are due to arrive on Monday 15 March 2021. Students then need to complete the test that evening to meet the Government requirements and testing every 3 to 5 days. We recommend that students take the next test on Saturday. Students need to take the test on the same days the following week. Tests do not have to be taken during the holidays until Sunday 11 April 2021.

Students know how to perform the test and information will be provided in the kit available, you can also watch a short video demonstration on how to take the test via this [LINK](#).

Results must be reported to the NHS, please follow the instructions in the booklet and report to [www.gov.uk.report-covid19-result](http://www.gov.uk.report-covid19-result). If you get a negative result continue as normal following National guidance and the school rules including regular handwashing, social distancing and wearing face coverings and attend school the next day.

If you test POSITIVE it means you could be infected with Coronavirus and risk infecting others. When you report your results you will be provided with further information on the next steps to take. You will also need to 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 PHE.

You and anyone who lives with you and anyone in your support bubble must self isolate in accordance with current National guidance for 10 days. All positive results from rapid tests undertaken at home do need to be confirmed with a standard PCR test. This is because these tests are not conducted in a controlled environment and will not have trained staff on hand. Following positive LFD test at home, a confirmatory PCR test should be booked online or by calling 119. Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the student and their close contacts should self-isolate. If the PCR test is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test (at home only) and a child can return to school.

*P. Bignell*

**PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THE SCHOOL GATES DO NOT OPEN BEFORE 8.00 AM**



# Thorpe Life Excellence for all



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## #WeAREbackStronger

### #BuildBackBetter

Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form is currently reviewing our school structures in order to better support every student. The COVID-19 situation necessitated changes to Year Groups to help create a COVID-19 secure environment at school.

Our experience gained in the current situation has provided the opportunity to evaluate the ongoing needs of the school and to reflect on how the school is organised. To build back better we are proposing to continue with the Year Group structures. This is because:

- Relationships have developed with new Form Tutors.
- Year Group identities have been established and can be developed further as opportunities as well as competition opportunities.
- Leadership opportunities for all Year Groups are developing rather than just for Year 11.
- Larger specialist Pastoral teams are developing to better meet the needs of all students in each Year Group.
- Targeted age appropriate Pastoral support will be provided for each Year Group including personal development and careers guidance.
- Form times and communication can be directed to meet needs of specific Year Groups.
- Pastoral teams will be able to ensure greater consistency, monitoring and support for attendance, punctuality, tracking, rewards and sanctions.

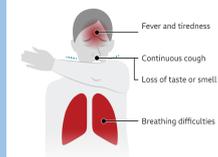
We would welcome your views on this proposed permanent change to the organisation of the school. Please complete the Google Form via this [LINK](#) to share these with us. Students will have the opportunity to comment on our structure via their Year Group.

### Remote Learning Now We Have Returned

Students have worked very hard and engaged in their learning during lockdown and we have enjoyed having them back in school.

As our curriculum continues in school it is important that we are fully prepared for the possibility that an individual student or small group of students may need to self isolate due to COVID 19.

#### Coronavirus: Key symptoms



If any student experiences symptoms of COVID-19 they **MUST NOT** attend school until they have had a negative test. Please follow the [LINK](#) for COVID-19 symptoms and what you will need to do.

If a student needs to self-isolate at home we will follow our planned remote learning procedure as detailed below.

In the event of an individual, a group of students or a whole bubble/year group having to isolate, work will be set remotely. When this happens we will:

- Set all work remotely to be completed on the **Google Classroom**.
- Use lessons from the [Oak National Academy](#) (The online academy set up by the government and subject experts).
- Record lessons where appropriate and upload them onto Google Classroom.
- Provide PDFs, PowerPoints or narrated lessons and worksheets to support learning as appropriate.

Dependent on the year group and subject there will be a blended approach to this and your child will receive their learning in a variety of ways. The work will be set promptly on **Google Classroom** and follow the planned curriculum to ensure that no learning time is lost and when your child returns to school, they will be where they should be in terms of their progress.

If students are self-isolating at home and are **well**, they should follow their normal timetable and access work via Google Classroom. They can communicate with their teachers and submit work via the relevant classroom. Please be aware that subject teachers will be following their normal timetable in school and are unlikely to be able to contact students until the end of the school day.

It is therefore important that students return to school **immediately** following a negative COVID-19 test.

At the current time we are not recalling laptops and chrome books that Years 8 to 11 students have been loaned by the school during the period of school closure. This is to ensure that all students can access the remote learning provision if they have to self-isolate and stay at home. They will also be very useful to access homework, finish classwork and ensure all students are fully engaged in their learning.

Thanks for getting the balance between encouragement and support right and for making the shift to remote so quickly.  
Brilliant job .

The live lessons are amazing my son is doing so much better this time both academically and mentally.

It is easier to learn when it's being explained by a teacher and it gives the motivation to get up and get on with the lesson.



# Thorpe Life Excellence for all



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**Back to School** The sight of almost 1935 Thorpe Students arriving for school from 8.00 am on Wednesday was awesome. **97.5%** of the students were in school from Wednesday after 8 weeks of learning from home and it was great to see them all!

With all the measures in place to keep everyone safe onsite, from handwashing on arrival, to our on-site testing facility, to our Year Schools, to wearing face masks, students felt confident and optimistic about restarting in-class learning. There was a real atmosphere of positivity.

Some students were understandably nervous about the restart, and BEST were on hand and ready to provide encouragement and reassurance. This has included maintaining contact with home and we will continue to make well-being checks with families in the coming weeks.

**90%**  
**OF SUCCESS IS**  
**SHOWING UP.**  
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE COUNTS  
**DON'T BE AN**  **BE**  
**EMPTY SEAT** **THERE**

The Government has been clear that every student is expected to be in school unless:

- They are self-isolating following a positive test or showing symptoms of COVID-19
- They have been directed to shield by the Department of Health
- They are physically too unwell to attend.

This is a great opportunity to reset the attendance clock after an 8 week period of home learning, and to begin to build a good attendance record ready for job and college applications at the end of Year 11.

Building good attendance habits right from the start is an important preparation for the world of work. Having a good record is key to getting the best start in a career. It is brilliant that so many Thorpe students have made such a positive start in this new phase of in-school learning.

## My Languages and Me:

A Heritage Languages Competition organised by New Routes, Old Roots (Anglia Ruskin University)

My Languages and Me is a one-off competition for pupils of all ages at primary and secondary schools in the Eastern Region to create a piece of artwork on the theme of 'My languages and me'. This could be a poem, a written song or a story, a painting or a drawing. Please translate any text written in other languages into English and submit the translation as a separate document. The aim of the competition is to celebrate the linguistic diversity of our region.

Prizes will be awarded to the best 3 entries:

- 1st Prize £75 National Book Token
- 2nd Prize £50 National Book Token
- 3rd Prize £25 National Book Token

All entries will be published on the New Routes, Old Roots website: <https://newroutesoldroots.com> Competition Winners will be announced during Refugee Week: 14-20 June, 2021.

**Organisers & Jury:**

Dr Jeannette Baxter, Director New Routes, Old Roots  
Karin Lightfoot, PhD Researcher (Heritage Languages)  
Abhishek Meherjee, Undergraduate Researcher (Language & Linguistics)  
Dr Sebastian Rosinger, Researcher New Routes, Old Roots  
Professor Michelle Sheehan, Researcher New Routes, Old Roots  
Wahid Hussaini, PhD Researcher (Heritage Languages)

Please email submissions to:  
[mylanguagesandme@gmail.com](mailto:mylanguagesandme@gmail.com)  
by no later than **Friday 16 April 2021**

New Routes, Old Roots is an AHRC based online research hub for students, schools, museums, artists and communities exploring heritage, migration and transnationalism through the arts.

My Languages and Me is kindly supported by the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences at Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge

Please follow us on Twitter: @NewRoutes



**That's what we call initiative** Arwen Given, Year 12, has certainly made the most of this third lockdown by setting up her own mini business, which sells environmentally-friendly vegan soap gifts. We are really impressed with such entrepreneurial skills!



You may have seen reported in the press, concerns regarding the increasing use of the site 'Omegle'.

Omegle links up random people for virtual video and text chats. There is increasing concern about predators using the site to gather self-generated child sexual abuse material.

Please follow this [LINK](#) for an information sheet from the National Online Safety in regard to this.

To ensure that your child remains safe online please discuss online safety with your child and monitor their use of mobile phone and other devices.

## T Level Education

Romilly Horner, Year 12, currently studying our T Level in Education, was approached by the Department of Education to be a T Level Student Ambassador. This week has brought about two exciting opportunities for her as she has been interviewed by the Eastern Daily Press and appeared live on Radio Norfolk on Tuesday 2 March 2021. They were keen to find out about her experience on this brand new Level 3 T Level in Education. We are very proud of Romilly who is a real credit to our Sixth Form.

You can view the full article [here](#).

## Intermediate Maths Challenge

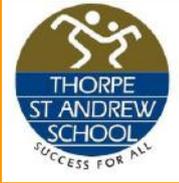
Congratulations to our Year 9 students Isaac Gaches, Ella Girling, Holly Grant, Charlie Sadler and Hiten Umarnani who have all been successful in qualifying for the 'Grey Kangaroo' the next stage of the Intermediate Maths Challenge. Well done and good luck.

The way my teachers explain it is clear and concise and they can talk us through concepts that we otherwise could not master with just the book/worksheets alone. It's also really useful to be able to ask questions and have class discussions.



# Thorpe Life

## Excellence for all



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Kooth is a free online counselling and emotional well-being support service for young people. It is a safe, secure and anonymous means of accessing support with their emotional health and well-being needs from a professional team of qualified counsellors as well as other support, such as discussion boards and magazines with peer to peer and community elements, all of which are safe and secure and pre-moderated.

Kooth are offering webinars to help parents understand how Kooth can support their Child with their mental health and well-being.

The webinars are about an hour long and include :

- Kooth Parents Presentation
- Live tour of the site
- Questions and Answers

Please see below for the times and link to the webinar. Please register on the link below.

**Please ensure you register for the workshop of choice. If you need to use the Zoom Meeting ID, it is the number at the end of the web link. All enquiries to [callright@kooth.com](mailto:callright@kooth.com).**

	Time	Webinar Link	Registration Link
20 April 2021	6.30pm - 7.30pm	<a href="https://zoom.us/j/93443057696">https://zoom.us/j/93443057696</a>	<a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ujKxHkTO7oy2oTXg6nr3amsNkbl0SFmfGZsn_KXi63c/edit">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ujKxHkTO7oy2oTXg6nr3amsNkbl0SFmfGZsn_KXi63c/edit</a>
19 May 2021	7pm - 8pm	<a href="https://zoom.us/j/92816481930">https://zoom.us/j/92816481930</a>	<a href="https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ujKxHkTO7oy2oTXg6nr3amsNkbl0SFmfGZsn_KXi63c/edit">https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ujKxHkTO7oy2oTXg6nr3amsNkbl0SFmfGZsn_KXi63c/edit</a>

Mrs Veeren

**Examination Boards** Examination Boards are beginning to release more information to schools regarding requirements for evidence to allow grades to be awarded this year.

We will be updating you shortly with a summary of the next steps for students.

Year 11 and Year 13 leaving dates are not currently confirmed, we are awaiting guidance and will inform you as soon as possible.

Mr Hookway

**Catering** School will be operating as normal with hot and cold food and snacks at break and lunchtimes. We are operating a cashless service and therefore money needs to be uploaded to ParentPay.



We will be restarting Sixth Form catering from 1.20 pm to 1.35 pm for snacks.

Please follow this [LINK](#) to see what is on the menu.



Please follow this [LINK](#) for more information.

## Thank You

Thank you to the Thorpe Development Trust Fund for the donation of water bottles to keep us all hydrated in these times. Do not forget to bring yours filled up each day to school.



If you wish to donate to the Thorpe Development Trust that buys extra resources for the school community, please follow this [LINK](#).



Please follow the link below to watch a YouTube video on how beneficial it can be to put on subtitles when watching the television, it can really help students with their vocabulary and grammar.

[Turn on the subtitles](#)

**Geography - the centre of everything** Our very own Mathematics teacher Mr Scoggins has won a Geography competition run by UK Antarctic Heritage Trust and the prize is that we will receive a postcard from their Scientists who are going on an expedition to Antarctica. His winning Haiku (a Japanese poem) was:

A place so remote  
Even the penguins need post  
That's Antarctica

