



#WeAREbackBetter

ARE you showing you ARE?

Aspirational by being purposeful and calm at the end of lessons
Respectful by demonstrating basic manners by following instructions
Engaged by being punctual and attending every lesson

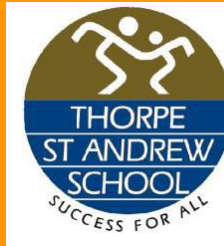
Thorpe Life Excellence for all

Issue 26 – 23 April 2021

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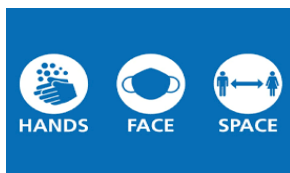
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We ARE Thorpe and #WeAREBackBetter

This week has seen the sunshine arrive which has been really positive for the school and the school community and for all our health and well-being as we are spending much more time outside. Students are behaving respectfully and need to continue to work on being in their close contact groups and maintain social distancing during free time. It is really encouraging that the number of positive cases in Broadland was last week only 11 per 100,000. We all need to continue to wear our masks, test twice weekly, wash hands and social distance to keep these figures low.



P. Bignell

SAFEGUARDING Students have been continuing to show excellent engagement and focus in their form time activities. Walking around the school, the Heads of Year and Heads of School have heard some mature and considered discussion around the topics discussed. This week they focussed on Healthy Relationships. Next week, two Sixth Form students, Evie Hincliffe and Kate Hodgson, have created a form time activity for the main school which re-visits the topic of Sexual Harassment. Thank you very much to them. Wednesday form times will continue with the same topics.

There is a disturbing new 'hoax' emerging on Tik Tok. Please contact the school for further information.

Mrs Veeren

Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening

Year 11 continue with their assessments this week and we are very proud of their continued motivation and engagement.

The Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening is on Tuesday 4 May 2021 from 3.30 pm to 7.00 pm. During this parent's evening teachers will be able to give percentage scores or grades for evidence that the student has completed so far. This may not include the latest teacher assessment percentage score and grades which students have sat as part of the teacher assessments window from Tuesday 13 April to Friday 14 May 2021. Teachers will not be allowed to give a final grade judgement at this time. Teachers will be able to give any last minute revision tips for the final assessments and discuss future options within their subject or pass any concerns you may have regarding next steps to Sixth Form, College or Apprenticeships.

We ARE Thorpe, and we ARE Back Better

Since the start of term our amazing students have been rewarded over 30,000 times. This is an amazing achievement, well done everyone! Our focus this week was Aspire: Being purposeful and calm. We have particularly focused at our end of lesson routine. Over 1,500 #WeAREbackBetter points have been awarded this week to recognise a positive return to school.

We reflected upon the thoughts of the American Anthropologist Margaret Mead who said "Human nature is potentially aggressive and destructive and potentially orderly and constructive." From this we explored the benefits that behaving in an orderly manner can bring about and the problems that can be caused by being disorderly. We believe that every student should aspire at school and that they can demonstrate their aspiration every day by being purposeful and calm. Well done to all our ARE+ Points winners this week, remember to aim high and dream big at all times!

Mr Lambert



United Adventure Camps are coming to Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form in the Summer of 2021 to provide holiday day camps for children aged 3 to 14 years. They create environments for children to learn, grow and prosper through a host of multi activity programmes. If you are interested in an adventure packed school holiday for your children please fill out this [survey](#).



Congratulations to Leavers 2020:

95% of our UCAS applicants gained a place in their firm choice of university against a national average of 75%. A fantastic achievement which they should be really proud of.

Ms Bernard

Upcoming Events

Year 11 Parent Consultation Evening - Tuesday 4 May 2021
Please follow this [LINK](#) to view the School Calendar



#WeAREbackBetter

Letter Writing Competition Congratulations to Noor Patel – Year 7, Dominic Higgins - Year 8 and Jashnuaka Sivasutharjanan – Year 8 for their fantastic entrants into the letter writing competition. They wrote thoughtfully and eloquently about what they would say to their future selves. We really enjoyed reading them and we were delighted to pass on to them a specially designed certificate awarded by their Head of Year.

Here are some extracts from their letters:

'It is a very strange time and I'm sure that you haven't forgotten it.....It's been very strange, we have to wear masks in school and the years are split up'.

Dominic Higgins

'Through out that time I learnt..... the importance of actually communicating with friends and teacher at school'.

Jashnuaka Sivasutharjanan

'I would like to say that you should always believe in yourself and be as supportive as you can to family, friends and even strangers'. **Noor Patel**

Talking Mental Health Talking about mental health!

Sometimes it's difficult to talk, and sometimes teenagers don't want to talk to us!

If you're worried about this and would like to learn more about how to support your child's mental health please view this [leaflet](#) which has advice and guidance for parents and carers about how to make conversations about your child's feelings part of everyday conversation. The leaflets are from the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families, a children's mental health charity. You can find more information about them [here](#).

Parking We have requested that students walk to school where possible but if parents have to drop off and collect their children we have asked that they use the Park and Stride scheme located at the Fitzmaurice Pavillion and Thorpe Recreation Ground car parks (supported by the Town Council). We will be monitoring the situation and continue to work to reduce congestion as much as possible to make the roads around our school safe.

We would like to remind Sixth Form students that they can park on the South Site car park near the astro pitch after applying to Mrs Wheatley for a parking permit. However, students will have to make their way, on foot, to the Sixth Form entrance so that they are not crossing other years' bubbles.

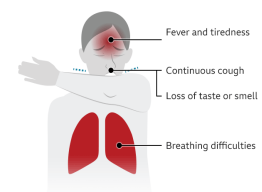
Thank you for your understanding, cooperation and consideration of the residents who live close to our school.

If you have any concerns please contact the school [here](#).

TESTING This week students have been issued with more tests. Please support your child to complete these tests twice weekly. Please email trackandtrace-tsa@yare-edu.org.uk if your child has a positive test, you must inform the school via this email address to enable close contact with other students to be identified and followed up and confirmed cases also need to be reported to Public Health England.

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](#).

Coronavirus: Key symptoms



Results must be reported to the NHS, so please follow the instructions in the booklet and report to www.gov.uk.report-covid19-result. If you get a negative result, continue as normal following National guidance including regular handwashing, social distancing and wearing face coverings. Please follow this [LINK](#) to see a short video on how we can all help stop the spread of the virus.

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

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.

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 a 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).

**DO NOT FORGET TO
COMPLETE YOUR COVID-
19 TEST TWICE WEEKLY**

PE ARE back better We are delighted to be able to offer the following clubs from the week beginning Monday 19 April 2021.

Monday - Year 7 - Tennis, Rounders, Cricket and Athletics.

Wednesday - Year 9 - Tennis, Rounders, Cricket and Athletics.

Thursday - Year 8 - Tennis, Rounders, Cricket and Athletics.

Clubs are open to all students and run from 3.15 pm to 4.15 pm. You will need to meet at the following venues:

**Year 7 - North Hall, Year 8 - South Sports Hall,
Year 9 - South Gym**

It is not too late to join a club, anyone is still welcome. Please sign up in your PE lessons, or come along on your designated day where we will take a list of names for track and trace purposes.



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School Uniform

Due to the cool weather and having to have windows open inside, certain aspects of the uniform policy became more relaxed to allow for this. Now that the weather is becoming warmer the school uniform policy is now reapplied in full. Students will be challenged on entrance to the school and if they are wearing incorrect uniform BEST will contact you to bring the correct uniform in for your child.

- Coat hoods should not be worn up in class. Coats will be allowed to be worn whilst some rooms remain cooler but hoods must be down at all times whilst indoors.
- Hooded jumpers and tops are not allowed at all in school and there has been a significant rise in this across the school but they are not acceptable even on PE days.
- Skirts and trousers must be worn at the appropriate length and not rolled up or shortened.

Please see the link to the uniform guidance on the website: <https://thorpestandrewschool.org.uk/parents/uniform-guidance/>

PE Kit

The PE kit that is able to be worn is a maroon t-shirt with black or blue track suit/ leggings or shorts. Once your child has grown out of their maroon top then the new PE uniform should be purchased. Other t-shirts are not acceptable. There has been a rise of students wearing other t-shirts of different colours which is not acceptable. The new PE uniform is a full uniform giving a choice of t-shirt, leggings, skirt and track pants with a warm mid-layer to go over the top which many students are now wearing. It all looks very smart and holds up the standards and image of our Outstanding School. This was also introduced to support parents with clarity so there is no debate to be had with students about what is or what is not acceptable.



- Students may continue to wear the maroon top until they grow out of it with leggings, track suit or shorts and a plain black or navy top but no hooded top and no top hooded or otherwise of a different colour.
- Financial assistance is available should you require it for purchase for the school uniform. Please email into the school office for more details office@thorpe-st-andrew.norfolk.sch.uk

Orbit

Well done to all our ORBIT students in Year 13 who sent applications in to either Cambridge, or to the Med Schools. We have heard that three of our Cambridge applicants have been offered places, which is brilliant news. We have also heard that offers to Medical Schools have been made – to date we have two successful applicants.



To be able to make an application in the first place is a remarkable achievement. We encourage students to aim high but it still requires that a student is achieving at the very highest standard before it is worth making an application. We are very proud of all our ORBIT students. We often receive feedback on unsuccessful applications and we use that information to help the following year's applicants. The Oxbridge colleges and the Med Schools receive a staggering number of applications every year, all of which are from students who are achieving the highest standards on a consistent basis. Competition is fierce!

The ORBIT programme is run to support our highest achieving students as they begin to prepare to apply to university. The programme is not a hothouse intended to push students into application - rather, we encourage the students to consider applying to the universities in the UK that are world ranked in their chosen subject and then to choose the university that is best suited to their interests, aptitudes and ambitions. In the past, Thorpe students have applied to and been offered places at, Cambridge, only to decide that their best route would take them elsewhere. Our students have also gone to Oxford and Cambridge as postgrads to study for their Masters and PhD degrees. The Orbit programme is extending next year to all years and to support all our highest achieving students in preparation for their futures.

We work closely with our link colleges, Gonville and Caius in Cambridge and Balliol in Oxford, to provide the right support for our students and to offer them a rich super-curricular programme of opportunities to build their expertise and interest in their subjects. We provide informed, detailed and robust advice to the student who we work with, to make sure they get the most out of their time in Sixth Form and are in the best possible place when they complete their applications.

We also work with the students in Year 12 and 13 who have decided to apply to Med School, or to train to be Dentists, or Veterinary Surgeons. Competition for places on these courses is the fiercest in Higher Education and we are always thrilled when our students are successful. Two years ago, two Thorpe students went to train as Vets at the Royal Veterinary College, which ranks number 1 in the world!

You can get a flavour of what is on offer in our ORBIT programme by following our Twitter account, @tsas_orbit.



The Class of 21 Prom has been moved to **Friday 17 September 2021**, it will still take place in the marquee at Sprowston Manor, any student wishing to attend please can they pay via Parent Pay as soon as possible so we are aware of the numbers. Please could students contact Mrs Allen on sallen6nre@yare-edu.org.uk with any dietary requirements.