

# Thorpe Life

Excellence for all

Issue 2 – 17 September 2021



**ARE you showing you ARE?**  
Aspirational by being neat and presentable  
Respectful by following instructions  
Engaged by being focused on your work

[www.thorpestandrewschool.org](http://www.thorpestandrewschool.org) |  
Twitter @tsas\_norwich |  
office-tsa@yare-edu.org.uk

It has been wonderful to welcome everybody back to school this week, engaging in all their subjects in the specialist areas across the school. We have all been finding our way! Students have certainly shown by their fantastic uniform, following new entrance and exit routes that at TSAS #WeAREready.



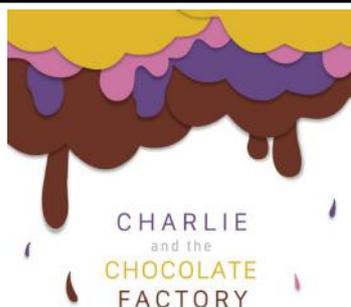
*P. Briggell*



We ARE Thorpe, and we ARE Ready!

This half term we are asking all students to be 'ready' for the learning they need to do in school. We have been bowled-over by the fantastic attitude to learning that has been demonstrated so far. Over 25,000 ARE+ have been awarded over the first week. This is our highest total ever! Over 11,000 of these were for focussing on work. Well done everyone, we are so proud of you.

Next week we will also be encouraging all students to look after their environment and we look forward to seeing how our students will rise to the challenge next week.



The Performing Arts Department are excited to announce that we are planning to stage a production of Charlie and The Chocolate Factory in December 2021. It has been fantastic to see so many students signing up already this week. It is not too late to get involved.

We are looking for students for on stage and back stage roles, so if you are interested in taking part, scan the QR code and fill in the Google Form. Auditions are being held on Tuesday 21 and Thursday 23 September 2021 so you will have to be quick!

If you have any questions, please speak to your Drama teacher.



The allotment is up and running again this year and we want it to be bigger and better than last year. Allotment Club is on Mondays and Thursdays 3.05 pm to 4.10 pm. All years are welcome. Team Green have already made a great start on tidying and planning for the year ahead. It will be a big part of the Year 6 opening event.

The allotment is situated near the Year 8 school.

If you have any of the following that you do not need and we could make use of, we would gratefully accept them:

**Bird boxes, hedgehog boxes, wood, garden tools, lawnmowers, screws, nails, benches, chairs, wood paint, plants, seeds or veg plants, drills and wheelbarrows.**

Any of the above would be amazing to support us. If you have any questions/queries please email me at [jcrcrane5kq@yare-edu.org.uk](mailto:jcrcrane5kq@yare-edu.org.uk).

If you require any more information regarding the charity that supports the allotment, please follow this [LINK](#). Many thanks for your support.

## The Thorpe Gateway

[Click here](#) to launch your Thorpe Life Transition Experience.

We are holding a bookable open event. Please [click here](#) or scan the QR code if you would like to visit us.



SCAN ME

# #WeAREjoining

Supporting transition to Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form



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**PE Kit** Please can you ensure that the correct PE kit is worn to school. Those in Year 7 now look very smart in our new kit, giving lots of choice across the range.

For those in Year 8 and above, students can wear the older style PE kit. This must be the maroon t-shirt with either black or navy leggings, jogging bottoms or shorts with a plain black or navy sweatshirt. **NO hoodies allowed.**

All students including Year 11 must now be wearing the pleated skirt in addition to other year groups, which was introduced in 2018. Please can you ensure that if choosing the skirt then the pleated one is worn. The pleated skirt can be bought at Stevensons via this [LINK](#) or at other stockists.

If finance is of a concern when purchasing uniform, please email the [school office](#) with a request for support.

Stevensons have reported high demand on school items, particularly the PE kit and have advised that any back orders will be fulfilled within the next 10 days.

## School Uniform Donations

School Uniform Donations of unwanted jumpers/ties/trousers/PE tops can be donated via South Site Reception. These will then be reused within the school environment.

## Well done to our Year 13 Leavers 2021

Our 2021 Leavers have done us really proud, not only with their excellent results, but also with their Post 18 next steps. Whilst students have secured either an apprenticeship or employment, 124 students secured a place at university. 95% got into their firm choice of university against a national average of 90%. This is a true reflection of their hard work over the past two years despite the pandemic and its consequences that they had to face during their Sixth Form studies. We are really proud of them.

Ms Bernard

Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form will be attending this event on Tuesday 21st September 2021

Norwich Schools Have Changed, Find Out More At The Following Free Events:

Silver Road Community Centre, Silver Road, Norwich NR3 4TB  
**Tuesday 21st September 3pm-4.15pm.**

The Phoenix Centre, 132A Mile Cross Rd, Upper Hellesdon, Norwich NR3 2LD  
**Wednesday 22nd Sept 3.30pm-5.30pm.**

Harford Community Centre, 10 The Lastings, Hall Rd, Norwich NR4 6ET (Park at ASDA)  
**Thursday 23rd Sept 3pm-4.30pm.**

**SCHOOLS INCLUDE:**

Hellesdon, Thorpe St Andrew, Sewall Park Academy, CNS, City Academy, The Hewett Academy, Sproutston Academy, Notre Dame High School, Ormiston Victory, Open Academy, and Jane Austen College.

Please note, not all schools will attend all sessions



**Rapid Covid-19 testing twice a week will help us stay ahead of the virus**

Report your test result each time, whether it's positive, negative or void.

Test at home, report online and keep life moving. **GET YOUR TESTS FROM SCHOOL OR COLLEGE**

[www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result)

**IS YOUR CHILD IN YEAR 6?**

Then Come To A **FREE** Local Event and

- Meet Your High Schools,
- Talk To Admissions
- Find Out Your Options

**Friday 17 September 2021 - Class of '21 Prom**  
**Tuesday 21 September 2021 - Year 6 Admission Event - Silver Road Community Centre**  
**Monday 27 September 2021 to**  
**Friday 1 October 2021 - Meet the Form Tutor**

Please follow this [LINK](#) to view the School Calendar.

**kooth**

**Kooth information session for Parents and Carers**

Find out how Kooth can help your child with their Mental Health and Wellbeing.

**Next bite-sized sessions:**  
 Monday 16 August & Wednesday 20 October at 12pm to 12.30pm.

**Register at:**  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/discover-kooth-parent-carer-bitesize-sessions-tickets-163865069835>



Dear Parent/Guardian

We are contacting you with exciting news from The Friends of Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form (FOTSAS).

In the last year due to restrictions, opportunities to fundraise have been few, and also many Thorpe parents' line of work have been significantly impacted. There is a great opportunity here to support our young people who have missed out on so much thanks to this pandemic and help on both the other issues - our first ever FOTSAS online auction!

- Do you want to support our fantastic young people at such a tough time?
- Are you or anyone you know running or working in a business that would benefit from publicity at this time? For example, cake making, dog grooming, gardening, craft making, book keeping, tuition or beauty industry.
- Can you donate an auction item/service in return for publicity and helping the school?

You can promote your business and help support the young people at school at the same time by donating an auction item. In return we will post on our social media about your donation and a short business profile with links to your business. The auction will run later this year in October but we want to begin preparing for it now by starting to collect offers of auction items.

FOTSAS exists to provide equipment and opportunities to young people at school, they may not otherwise have had. You will be able to follow the auction via our Facebook page and Twitter account (@FotsasS).

Please email [thorpefriends@gmail.com](mailto:thorpefriends@gmail.com) to donate or for further information.

## BAG 2 SCHOOL

FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school or organisation



Thorpe St Andrew School



Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school. All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school.



PLEASE USE YOUR OWN BAGS, OR BAG 2 SCHOOL BAGS (THERE IS NO LIMIT)

When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

*We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE:*

**Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.**

*(No uniforms, workwear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please)*

**The more we weigh the more we pay!**

*Extra bags are welcome - there's no limit*

**Please return your Bag2School on:**

Thursday 23 September 2021 BY 9:00AM



01609 780 222



[www.bag2school.com](http://www.bag2school.com)



[helpdesk@bag2school.com](mailto:helpdesk@bag2school.com)

**Remote learning Procedures for Sixth Form and Main School** - In the uncertain times that we are currently living in, it is important that we are fully prepared for the possibility that students may have to learn remotely depending on the local COVID 19 situation.

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](https://www.oaknationalacademy.com/) (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 work sheets to support learning as appropriate.
- Depending 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. What is important to note is that the work will be set promptly on **Google Classroom** to ensure that no learning time is lost and that when your child returns to school they will be where they should be in terms of their progress.

As students work through the two week timetable, teachers will ensure they are invited to Google Classrooms and model the location of the remote learning with them. Teachers will post Google Classroom codes onto Class Charts so that students can join the Google Classroom.

If students are isolating at home and are **well**, they should follow their normal timetable and access all school 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.

Remote learning is no substitute for classroom teaching and it is therefore important that students return to school immediately following a negative COVID 19 PCR test.

At the current time we are not recalling laptops and Chromebooks that students have been loaned during the period of school closure. This is to ensure that all students can access 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.

We will shortly be sending a remote learning survey to all parents and carers to ensure that all students will be able to access the provision should the need arise. It is especially important that this is completed by Year 7 parents who are new to the school. For Years 8 - 13 please inform us if circumstances have changed and access to remote learning would be difficult for your child.



## Year 11 Post-16 Options Greater Norwich Opportunities Fair - Keep the date free - Post-16 event for Year 11 students and their families

After a successful launch in 2019, the Norwich Opportunity Area Team is delighted to announce that the Greater Norwich Opportunities Fair will take place from 3.00 pm - 7.00 pm on Wednesday 6 October 2021 at the Top of the Terrace, Norwich City Football Club, Norwich.

This free event will help Year 11s learn about their future options by giving them a chance to meet representatives from different companies, Universities, Sixth Forms and Colleges. We hope the event will help motivate your child as they go through their important final GCSE year and inspire them to choose a Post-16 route that is right for them.

This event is open to all 15-16 year olds and their families in Norwich.

More details soon, including how to book a place. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 restrictions, the only way to attend this event is by booking a timed slot.

### Higher Education

**FREE event - Take Your Place: Parents and Carers Higher Education Information Evening**

**When: Wednesday 29 September 2021 - Time: 6.30 pm – 7.15 pm Where: Zoom (link provided during registration) Register [here](#):**

Parents and carers - You are invited to join our team of experienced Parent and Student Ambassadors and Higher Education staff for an information evening to help *you feel prepared for your young person's journey after A Levels or college.*

This will be a challenging year for your young person as they prepare for the future, and, as a parent or carer you are an integral part of that journey. This event will be shaped by your needs and a chance for you to ask any burning questions you have. The panel of parents and students can help you build your knowledge of UCAS, Apprenticeships, Student Finance, career opportunities and more.

When registering for the event you can submit any questions or topics you would like to be discussed.

Take Your Place offer free and impartial information so you can give your young person the support they need to make the right decisions about their future.

**Mr Fish, [careersadvice@yare-edu.org.uk](mailto:careersadvice@yare-edu.org.uk)**

Dear Parent/Carer

September 2021



### Attendance at school and legal intervention

Research commissioned by the Department for Education shows missing school for even a day can mean a child is less likely to achieve good grades, which can have a damaging effect on their life chances. At Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form our aim is to work with parents to ensure that all our students receive the most from their education and reach their full potential.

This letter is to remind all parents/carers regarding the law that requires them to ensure that their child attends school regularly. The Government remains very clear that no child should miss school apart from in exceptional circumstances and schools must continue to take steps to reduce absence to support children's attainment.

In the DfE policy document entitled, 'School Attendance: Guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools and local authorities' it states, '*Head Teachers should not grant leave of absence unless there are exceptional circumstances. **The application must be made in advance and the head teacher must be satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances based on the individual facts and circumstances of the case which warrant the leave. Where a leave of absence is granted, the head teacher will determine the number of days a student can be away from school. A leave of absence is granted entirely at the Head Teacher's discretion.***'

If the school does not receive a request for leave, the Head Teacher will be unable to consider your individual circumstances and the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. There will be no obligation on the Head Teacher to reconsider authorising the leave if an application has not been made in advance.

The Local Authority operates a system where any student will meet the criteria for legal intervention where they have:

- at least 9 sessions (4.5 school days) lost to unauthorised absence by the student during the last 6 school weeks.

The intervention could be in the form of a fixed penalty notice. Any student at Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form who meets the criteria, will be referred to the Local Authority for action to be considered.

If a fixed penalty notice is issued the arrangement for the payment will be detailed on the penalty notice. The penalty is £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days of the receipt of the notice. The fixed penalty notice is per parent per child. You should be aware that failure to pay the total amount within the timescale will result in legal action being taken.

I hope we can count on your support in this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely  
Principal