



This week we have focussed on students being ready to learn as soon as possible (ASAP) as one of our in lesson routines.

They are asked to show they are ASAP in the following ways:

Engage = ASAP

Attention to the speaker
Sit up straight
Arms on the table
Pens down/chromebook closed

SIXTH FORM

Aspire Aim high
Respect Be kind
Engage Work hard

When students are showing they are ASAP they are ready to learn without distraction. When a routine becomes habitual it frees up working memory for learning. This in turn helps our students remember more over time as they know what is expected of them in class during teacher instruction or when another student is speaking. Of course students will not be using ASAP across a full lesson, there will be time for group work, or discussion and independent practice across a whole lesson.



For some of our students who struggle to give full observable attention we recognise this and reasonable adjustments are made that do not distract others, for example having a soft fiddle toy, or not making eye contact. All of our students have responded well to this routine.

P. Bignell

"The more you read, the more you know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."

Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*

Dr. Seuss could have been talking about the students at Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form with this quote as reading has become a core part of our school's everyday life.

In form time twice a week, students in Years 7 to 9 are read to in their Tutor Groups. We read a range of texts from different cultures, traditions and time periods, as well as a careful selection of important nonfiction works.

By reading to them, we are able to supplement the text with valuable context that boosts student knowledge and understanding. In addition to providing our students with access to some of the best fiction and non-fiction ever written, the Tutor Group Reading Programme is also designed to complement the curriculum, drawing links to ideas, themes and figures studied in lessons.

By the end of the Key Stage, our students will have read a number of books with challenging themes and vocabulary. When you walk around the building during Form Time, there is a sense of calm and focus as students enjoy their latest book but do not be surprised if you see staff touched by the emotion of the books like *Wonder* by *R. J. Palacio*.

You can access our literary canon [here](#):



Safeguarding and Well-being - We have been promoting our Extra Curricular programme, with an emphasis on the benefits that involvement brings for our students. Whether they are a part of **Private Peaceful**, they compete in one of our fabulous **Football Teams**, or they help to care for the amazing **Allotment**, there is something for everyone in the programme.

The benefits for Well-being and good Mental Health are clear. Students who engage in extra curricular activities develop:

- Self esteem and resilience
- Social Skills, teamwork and communication skills
- Strengthened friendships
- Experiences that can lead to amazing opportunities later in school.



The Scottish Independent Schools Council published an interview with the Assistant Rector of a famous Scottish School, in which he highlighted the benefits of a rich extracurricular programme - [you can read the interview here](#).

Attendance Matters - #WeAREHere

We have been analysing our Year 11 and Year 13 results from last summer. We compared groups of similar students and looked to see what difference a poor attendance rate had on their GCSE results.

Students with poor attendance rates in Year 10 and 11 missed important subject messages. They were not in class when useful advice was given to help with the exams. They missed deadlines and fell behind with their work, but do not take our word for it - here is something from the Department of Education's blog:

- Pupils who did not achieve grade 9 to 4 in English and maths GCSEs in 2019 had an overall absence rate of 8.8% over the key stage, compared with 5.2% among pupils who achieved a grade 4 and 3.7% among pupils who achieved grade 9 to 5 in both English and maths.

So, the more a student is in school, the better their chances of getting the grades they need to progress.

Parents and carers can help their children get the best start in their education and training by fostering a good attendance habit. There is clearly no substitute for being in class, learning from a teacher.

Thorpe Life



#WeAREThorpe



Thorpe St Andrew School and Sixth Form



would like to invite all Parents and their Children to attend our

Black History Month Community Event
On Wednesday 11 October 2023 at 4.00 pm

If you would like to attend, please complete this [form](#) or scan the QR Code below.



Congratulations to all students taking part in House Chess



Great numbers at our Rugby Club, with different age group sessions on the go across the field



Really great atmosphere on the netball courts with 8 schools competing in a Smash Up Event



Harvest Day at TSAS Allotment and it did not disappoint!



Great opportunity for Thorpe Football Academy to visit a professional club at Peterborough (POSH)



U13 Girls' Football Team in the National Cup

Thursday 28 September 2023 - Uni Insight Day - UEA

Year 11 Engineering Careers Visit, Thorpe Careers Fair for Year 11s and 13s, 6pm-8pm, North Site Hall/Gym

Monday 2 October 2023 - Spanish Students in School, Year 11 PPEs, Celebration ARE Events

Tuesday 3 October 2023 - Senior Mathematical Challenge (SMC), Year 9 Netball Smashup, Years 7 to 13 Meet the Form Tutor, please follow this [LINK](#) to book your appointment

Thursday 5 October 2023 - Year 7 and 8 Netball at Open Academy

Monday 9 October to Friday 13 October 2023 - Year 11 PPEs

Monday 9 October 2023 to Thursday 12 October 2023 - Year 9 Performing Arts Spotlight Event

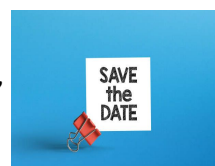
Monday 9 October 2023 - Year 11 Netball at UEA, Year 9 GCHQ Virtual Outreach Session

Wednesday 11 October 2023 - Year 9 GCHQ Virtual Outreach Session, Year 8 Netball Smash Up,

Black History Month Community Event, to book a place, please follow this [LINK](#)

Thursday 12 October 2023 - Year 7 Happy Puzzle Company Day

Check out our [website](#) for future dates.



SIGN UP TODAY

All our exciting new clubs can be found by following this [LINK](#).

DO NOT DELAY JOIN A CLUB TODAY

SIGN UP TODAY