

Dear Parents and Carers,

As Spring term draws to a close I would like to share some of the highlights with you and also share key information for the busy Summer term ahead.

During this term I've been delighted by our pupils continued commitment to engaging positively with school life and the varied enrichment activities on offer.

This has been best demonstrated by Culture Week, which truly brought the school community together to not only learn and celebrate, but also show our creative and competitive sides.

I'm also very pleased to see the progress our Community Hub Cafe and Great Minds Therapy Service developing are making.

Upcoming Exams:

As we approach examinations for our Year 11 and 6th Form pupils, it is now the time for revision. We are extremely proud of their achievements thus far and we will continue to support their learning. This year we have more learners sitting exams than previously, across subjects including Maths, English, Science, Spanish, Humanities, Art, Music and PE.

Our first exam is scheduled for 16th May and a personalised exam timetable will be sent to the families of those pupils sitting these exams.

Our Therapy Team have provided strategies on how to manage exam stress, create revision schedules, and ways to promote mental well-being during a critical time in their education. Please see attached 'Coping with Exam Pressure - Guide for students.'

Careers update:

All pupils took part in National Apprenticeship and National Careers Week this half term. There was a



Mr. Ishamar Blake, Headteacher

mixture of workshops in school, such as the Skills for Security apprenticeship talk, and online events for our young people to find out more about careers and prepare for the world of work.

Upcoming events:

- **TCES Annual Football competition - Wednesday 24th May**
- **TCES Celebration Day - Tuesday 20th June**
- **Exams for Year 11/12/13 - Starting 16th May**
- **Graduation for the Year 11's - 20th July**
- **INSET Day - 17th April**
- **Pupils Induction Day - 18th April**

Key updates and reminders for Parents and Carers

A gentle reminder for Parents and Carers that the school day runs from Monday - Thursday 8:45 - 3:10 pm and Friday 8:45 am - 12:30pm. Our aim is for your child's attendance to be above the national level and with your support, we can achieve this.

Our school has set high expectations for pupils to wear the correct uniform during the school day, details of which can be found on the school website here www.tces.org.uk/parents-carers/info

All that remains for me to say is that I wish you all a wonderful Easter break and look forward to welcoming all our students and staff back.



LGBTQ

We are an inclusive school, and we are committed to ensuring that this school is safe and fun. A place where everyone can be themselves, learn about each other, and embrace differences. To build awareness and show that although we have differences, we can unite as one big family, respecting and appreciating everyone. We designed this poster as a reminder of our inclusive values.

Saatchi Gallery trip

Our students visited the New Vanguard photography exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery. The exhibition presents artists whose vibrant portraits and conceptual images fuse the genres of art and fashion photography in ways that break down long-established boundaries. Our GCSE students used the visit to inspire their art projects. They were excited to engage with and examine the artwork.



The images on display opened conversations around the representation of the Black body and Black lives as a subject matter. The works and discussions were used as a starting point that fed into a workshop where young artists developed personal responses to the ideas discussed; an exercise of visual activism that advocates for diversity and new ways of being in the world. This starting point will support



young artists' art projects in embracing new perspectives on notions of race, beauty, gender, and power.





World Book Day: 2nd March Storytelling Through Art

On World Book Day pupils and staff celebrated their love of books and reading. Our art classes were invited to produce art as a form of storytelling, whilst in the studio pupils read the story of 'The Boy Who Finally Listened' by Alan Scofield and created these wonderful pieces to show their understanding of the story.

Chinese New Year- 22nd January

Chinese New Year 'Zhōngguó xīnnián'
'中國新年'

To celebrate and welcome the 'year of the rabbit', pupils were treated to a special lunch that included beef stir fry, chicken egg fried rice, spring roll, and prawn crackers.

The staff presented an 'All about China' assembly where the pupils learned the history and the celebrations of Chinese New Year. They participated in activities such as guessing how long the wall of China is and learned greetings in mandarin.



Celebrating National Governors' Day at The Community Hub - 27th February

On National Governors Day our Post-16 students hosted the TCES Board of Governors in the Hub Community Café for a 3-course lunch.

To host the event, alongside the delicious menu, the students curated an exhibition showcasing art made by GCSE students inspired by the New Vanguard photography exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery (which they had visited on a school trip previously).

The students did us very proud!



Culture Week 2023

Wow! This year's Culture Week Showcase on Thursday 30th was probably our School's best ever! Every classroom was transformed with decorations and displays and then brought to life with music, dancing, singing, history lessons, games, food and drink.



As the judging panel toured the school they found themselves being transported around the world, with our pupils guiding them. The judging panel were blown away by the lengths each class had gone to to embrace and celebrate their chosen cultures.

Parent feedback

So after visiting NWLS as a judge for Culture Day I am happy to report that as a parent given the opportunity to have 'behind the scenes' access, and seeing all the hard work, effort and teamwork that every class put in, I was blown away! It was an overall success.

I would like to say congratulations to Mexico, Oceana and Jamaica but also well done to every single child. You should be proud of yourselves. In my eyes you are all winners!

Teri, Parent judge

Family council

'Genuine pupil, parent, and staff voice and participation' is a value that runs through our schools and services. We recognise that the empowerment of parents through real parental voice and engagement can be a very effective way to form a strong school community.

Parents and carers of all TCES pupils are welcome to join their school or service's Family Council, in which they can actively participate in all elements of their child's school life and connect with other parents/carers of complex ASC, SEND, or SEMH pupils.

JOIN THE FAMILY COUNCIL

- Get involved.
- Make a difference.
- Have a voice.

Find out more information [here](#)



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www.tces.org.uk

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TCES is committed to safeguarding vulnerable children and young people and safeguarding is the responsibility of us all.

