



1 May 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Whole School Curriculum Day - Tuesday 21 May 2024 Year 8 - History and Design & Technology

On Tuesday 21 May 2024, Year 8 will be off-timetable and will be taking part in wider curriculum experiences led by the History and Design & Technology (DT) Departments. You may recall my last letter explaining the day, however, this time Tutor Groups will now reverse and complete the opposite activities.

Therefore, the History Department will be taking Tutor Groups Opal, Pearl, Sapphire and Topaz (OPST) and the DT department will be taking Amethyst, Emerald, Garnet and Jade (AEGJ). Both departments were incredibly impressed with students' engagement in both activities and I would recommend parents/carers and students to check the school's social feeds for an idea of how the day operates.

OPST will be using the day to consider and engage with how history is remembered and memorialised. This will be done with a local history focus in a Tolworth and Kingston context, while also looking more broadly at how history is memorialised on a national and even international scale. The day will culminate in students creating their own historical monuments/memorials to display in an exhibit that will be judged by fellow Year 8 students and staff. It is our objective that this will not only allow students to appreciate history in a more localised manner, but also allow students to engage with history in a more creative capacity.

As students will be on the school site they will be expected to be in full uniform. There is of course no cost to this experience for students, however the History Department would like students to start collecting materials that can be brought in to use for the final project of creating our own memorials and monuments. I will be talking to Tutor Groups in the coming weeks during tutorial and assembly and setting up a collection box in each form room to collect materials. This can be in any form, for example milk bottles/tops, cardboard, any form of fabric, plastics, etc. Please do wash these out before donating them to the department. Thank you in advance for your support with this. The more materials we can gather, the stronger and more creative we will be able to be with our projects.

AEGJ will be working with the DT Department and will be engaged in a range of problem-solving activities and STEM challenges. During the day, students will learn about structural and mechanical systems. They will then work in teams to take on unseen problem-solving challenges to test their STEM and work skills. The challenge is a fantastic opportunity for students from our school to learn about engineering and apply their knowledge whilst competing in teams against other students. Students are not required to bring any specialist equipment or materials other than their pencil case.

Timings for the day will follow the normal school day, including break time and lunch time, so students should plan for the day as they normally would. On the day itself students will register in their form rooms before heading to the classroom that will be confirmed closer to the date. This will be shared with Form Tutors and announced on Teams.

If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Miss Tembo via email at samuel.dixon@tolworthgirlsschool.co.uk and mercy.tembo@tolworthgirlsschool.co.uk respectively.

Yours faithfully

Mr S Dixon
Subject Lead History

Miss M Tembo
Teacher of Design & Technology