

TOLWORTH SPOTLIGHT



YEAR 7

Attitude To Learning - Pizza Party

DANCE SHOWCASE

From Years 8 to 13



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HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers and Students

What a busy term this has been! Students have made positive contributions on all levels, whether in the classroom, in examination halls, on the sports field or on stage. They truly let their light so shine!

The Year 11 and Year 13 students have been beavering away preparing for their examinations. I have been very impressed with their hard work, drive and determination.

On the sports field our students have been a real credit to us, whether on the football field, netball court or at Borough competitions. Our students did incredibly well during our trampolining competitions and made us very proud with their amazing achievements! I was blown away by the talent despite feeling slightly seasick watching them tumble and turn in the air. We also had various interhouse football competitions which our students thoroughly enjoyed!

Our Dance show was absolutely incredible! I was in awe of the talent of our dancers. It was lovely to see how their effort, hard work and determination paid off.

Our Year 13 students did very well in their final Drama performances, and we are very excited to see some of them in the future on the red carpet.

Our Drama students attended a variety of theatre trips including Othello, Noughts & Crosses and The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. The feedback of their theatre experiences was overwhelmingly positive.

Our Year 10 students embraced the public speaking opportunity hosted by the Jack Petchey foundation and were very impressive in making their voices heard in an articulate, passionate fashion! Tolworth hosted the Regional Final, and we were delighted to host local schools for such a special occasion.

In addition to using their voice through speech, students have also taken part in the BBC School Report and produced some amazing pieces of writing on a wide variety of topics that they have spent time preparing for.

Reading has rocked! Year 7 students attended the MAGICAL Harry Potter book night! We also had lots of fun with World Book Day activities. Students took part in DEAR - Drop Everything And Read, which emphasises the importance and the joy of reading. I was impressed by the creativity of our students as they decorated their form room doors with giant versions of their favourite book covers. We were very fortunate to welcome the author Sufiya Ahmed to Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form to share her experiences with our Year 9 students in an assembly, as well as working with the students in writing workshops.

Our Year 9 students took part in the Royal Society of Chemistry Top Bench competition and the Year 13 Chemistry Olympiad Competitions and were a real credit to Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form!

The Year 8s had a very successful RS trip which was followed by a Holocaust Memorial speaker, which was incredibly moving.

A group of students attended the ISSP Music Day and the Hampton ISSP Drama Day, which were invaluable experiences.



HEADTEACHER

We had a fantastic Whole School Curriculum Day in March. The Year 7s had a brilliant time at Wisley and thankfully the weather was very kind to them! The Year 8 students had a busy day being very creative, doing a Local History Project as well as a Design and Technology Challenge. Year 9 had a very interesting and informative Careers Day, and Year 10 students completed a variety of activities in the Religious Studies department and visited a local church. Our Year 11 students focused on exam preparation in Maths and Science and our Year 12 students worked on their UCAS applications. Year 13 students did their Extended Project Qualification presentations, which was very impressive.

It has been a busy term on the Careers front! Our Year 10 students took part in the Women in Tech school trip, which was a fantastic opportunity for them to explore career options. They also took part in the Year 10 CV writing workshop. Our Year 9 students visited Roehampton University, which was an excellent experience! Year 12 students attended a very informative Medic Conference at Tiffin Girls' School, which they found invaluable.

It is very important to us to support our students with their mental health and well-being. We were therefore appreciative of the opportunity for Years 8 and 9 to be involved in the Finding Magic Play, hosted by The Grace Dear Trust. We also invited a visitor to our school to do workshops with all Year Groups, parents, and staff about mental health and self-harm, again hosted by The Grace Dear Trust. The sessions were very informative, and we received lots of positive feedback from students and parents. The SRP also hosted an ADHD Embrace parent coffee morning which was excellent.

Year 11 students were actively involved in fundraising events and showed real teamwork! Year 13 students hosted a variety of activities during RAG week, which was great fun, but with the purpose of fundraising for a good cause. Our students also donated a very generous amount of money to the Red Cross by donating money on Red Nose Day.

We celebrated the achievements of all our students throughout the term and I very much enjoyed attending the Year 7 ATL pizza party as well as the Year 8 doughnut party!

We ended the term with our very special Prize Giving ceremony. Huge congratulations to the students who received prizes for their achievements and effort.

Thank you to our PFA for the Easter treats and for donating money towards more benches for the students to use during break and lunch times. I know they will greatly appreciate it.

I hope that the students and staff going on the ski trip will have a fantastic time.

I would like to wish you all a wonderful Easter break!

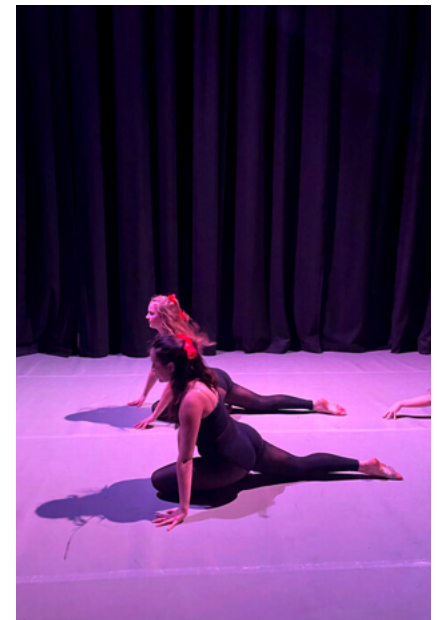
Yours faithfully

Jolande Botha-Smith
Interim Headteacher

DANCE SHOWCASE

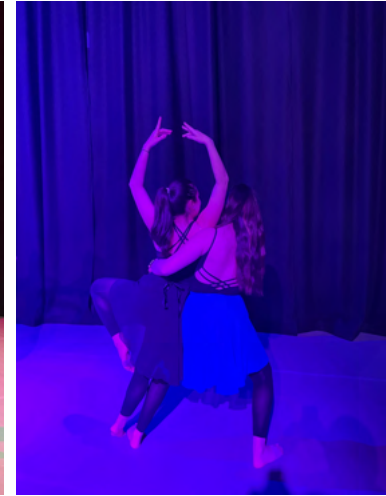


WELL DONE to all the dancers who performed in the recent dance show. The two evening show in February was a sell out! Year 9 and 10 GCSE Dance students had the opportunity to perform two contrasting pieces they have been learning in class. They performed with confidence and flair, and should be proud of the progress they have made this year. Our Year 12 and 13 A-level Dance students performed their jazz, contemporary and choreography pieces. Their excellent technical, physical and expressive skills were definitely showcased on the evenings.



They all performed with confidence and professionalism.

Year 7 and Year 8 Dance Club also had the opportunity to perform the pieces they have been learning and creating over the last year. For many this was the **first time** they have performed in a show or a theatre. Well done all of you.



DANCE SHOWCASE



Dancing in the choreographies were girls from **Year 8 up to Year 13** and they all performed showing projection, emotion and confidence.

Miss F Roberts
Dance

Finally, many of the Year 11 students performed their Component 1 choreographies. The students are required to **create a piece in response to one of the exam questions**, and it was evident on the evening of the shows many had researched their theme in order to choreograph very imaginative and thoughtful pieces. There was a selection of stimuli ranging from the different stages of sleep art work to the War of the Roses. Well done to our Year 11 choreographers: We are very proud of what you have achieved.



YEAR 7 NEWS

By Mr S Garnham, Head of Year 7

Year 7 have had a fantastic start to the calendar year so far. I have been very impressed with how well Year 7 have transitioned into life at Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form, and they are continuing to grow, learn and challenge themselves. This term the Year Group have been great at raising money through the festive foyer, to help our PFA. Hopefully it has given Year 7 ideas for when their charity raising month comes along next term. We also got to experience learning outside of the classroom on the whole school curriculum day, going on a Geography/Art trip to Kew Gardens.

A huge congratulation needs to go to 7 Opal for having the highest attendance and 7 Topaz for having the highest house point total out of every Tutor Group so far this half term.

Well done for all of your hard work so far this year, from everyone on the Year 7 pastoral team we wish you a relaxing Easter break, and we are looking forward to another exciting term upon our return.



WSCD TRIP TO WISLEY GARDENS

The Geography and Art departments took our Year 7 students to Wisley Gardens on WSCD for a day immersed in nature. The students really enjoyed visiting the vast glasshouse to study the types of plants that live in the different environments. They spent time drawing and photographing the exotic plant forms which will inform their current design work in their art lessons. We also visited the impressive new education centre, Hilltop where students were able to find more about our climate and the types of plants and wildlife it supports using the interactive displays. Students had a chance to explore the whole site, enjoying the walks in the gardens and alongside the river looking at the various sculptures along the way. This was the first whole Year Group trip for Year 7, allowing them to spend time with their friends outside of the classroom was invaluable.



YEAR 8 NEWS

By Miss H Clark, Head of Year 8



Reflecting over the past term it has certainly been a busy one for Year 8. Students have shown a great deal of maturity as they have worked hard to make careful choices as to what they would like to study in preparation for their GCSE exams in Year 11. As part of this process, we held the hugely successful Year 8 Options Evening, along with the supporting Careers Fair where it was a pleasure to see our students asking such well thought out questions to the visiting representatives of local businesses. Our thanks go out to Mrs Greenland for putting together such an invaluable opportunity.

It has not been all work however with nearly fifty students travelling to London's West End for a theatre trip to see *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*. Everyone who attended was left spellbound at the use of lighting, set design and performances.

This term has seen each of our Tutor Groups take ownership over the planning and running of an assembly themed around a topic they are passionate about. Topics we have enjoyed so far include the history of Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form, reflecting on our 90th Birthday, a celebration of our cultural heritage, a closer look at the sapphire gem stone and a reflection on the impact music has on each of us. With more assemblies to come after the Easter break, it has been a real treat to see the students share their passions and interests with others in the Year Group.

Our whole school curriculum day this term saw A, E, G and J take proactive steps into researching and discovering the wealth of local history that Tolworth and the surrounding areas has to offer, and representing this with some fantastic memorials produced to represent their findings. Alongside them O, P, S and T worked with Technology to solve problems through creativity, modelling and innovation.

Looking ahead to next term it will be our students' last with us studying our two year curriculum. We will be working with them to become 'GCSE ready' as they eagerly wait to see what their timetables will look like from September.

I hope Year 8 enjoy a well-deserved rest over the Easter holiday and that they come back ready to Aim High, Be Brave and Create positivity throughout their final term of this academic year.

THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

Year 8 were given the opportunity to see the last run of The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe at the Gillian Lynne Theatre. This was an absolutely magical night, and the show kept the girls spellbound throughout.



SYNAGOGUE TRIP

On Thursday 2 February 2023, the Religious Studies Department visited Kingston Liberal Synagogue in Long Ditton. We were honoured to listen to Mr David Wirth, who spoke with us about his parents' experiences of being Jewish during WW2 and of their time in concentration camps. It was a moving talk and we gained a lot of knowledge about the Holocaust and the difficult situations Jewish people faced during this time in history. After this we broke into groups to discuss our own thoughts and ideas on the theme of 'Ordinary People' which linked with our Religious Studies unit on Prejudice and Discrimination. We learned that events such as these begin and end with ordinary people, ordinary people like you and me who either ignore small acts of discrimination towards others or stand up and act to make it stop.

At the end of the visit, we each lit a candle to remember people who have suffered from acts of persecution and discrimination. Mr Wirth reminded us to be the light in the darkness. He said it is easy to look out for those we love and cherish, but it takes real kindness to look out for and stand up for those we do not know. Speaking out about mean and unkind actions and words when they first begin might stop small nasty actions from becoming powerful in our society in the future. This was a great trip that we will remember for a long time.



YEAR 9 NEWS

By Miss T Das, Head of Year 9

Dear Year 9 students and families

I hope that you are keeping well and looking forward to a well-earned Easter break.

Looking back at this term, it feels like it has both flown by and yet been jam packed full of a variety of experiences for Year 9s. From an academic perspective, well done to each of you who prepared for your first assessment fortnight in preparation for your GCSEs and BTECs in Year 11. This has been an opportunity for your subject teachers to review your progress - your overall attitude to learning is promising of a successful future and fills us with optimism.

Alongside your academic progress, Year 9s have continued to participate and lead in a rich mixture of activities and achievements. BBC Young Journalists, trampolining and other sporting success, creative World Book Day personas, author visits, visiting universities, careers day, the talent of our musicians, our drama students, our artists, participating in such diverse lessons ranging from Mandarin to musical theatre, a record number of DofE participants, PSHCE lessons focusing on challenging issues which we face day to day, developing resilience by tackling head on such important life experiences such as bereavement and grief. Most importantly recognising that our success is underpinned by kindness to others and ourselves - thank you.

I hope that you enjoy a lot of chocolate eggs/anything that makes you smile.

With best wishes

The Year 9 Team

AUTHOR VISIT: SUFIYA AHMED

On Tuesday 28 February 2023, our Year 9 students had the privilege of listening to Sufiya Ahmed, a YA author. Sufiya spoke to the whole Year 9 Group about her early career, working in the Houses of Parliament and how these experiences inspired her to write her first book: *Secrets of the Henna Girl*. Students listened intently whilst she discussed the challenges she faces as a feminist, both in her Muslim community as well as wider British Society. She referred to her previous careers working as a researcher in the Houses of Parliament and in the corporate world of advertising.

After the talk, a number of students worked with Sufiya throughout the morning in smaller workshops, creating their own writing inspired by Sufiya's books. Students had a brilliant morning and were appreciative of the chance to explore their own perspectives and experiences. They were able to produce some interesting pieces of creative writing that demonstrated a development of their writing skills. The students were excited to hear their work being read aloud: an excellent end to an engaging morning.



WSCD YEAR 9 STEP INTO THE NHS COMPETITION

Year 9 were introduced to the competition which aims to inform them of the three hundred and fifty various jobs within the NHS. Students had to create a fun and lively job advert.

All of Year 9 heard from a panel of staff who work within the NHS, many of whom were former students. They included :

- Jenny Fowler (Alumni): Midwife
- Britney Chinyanqrarara (Alumni): Radiographer
- Sima Pankhania: Pharmacy Technician
- Sara Thornhill (Your Health): School Health Practitioner
- Ella Davies (Your Health): Physio
- Laura Took: Specialist Physiotherapist (Your Health) Alumni
- Samantha Matthews: Registered Nurse / Urgent Response Service (Your Health) Alumni
- Kim Rosenberg: Registered Nurse / Palliative and End of Life Lead (Your Health) Alumni

There was a Q & A session. Students also had the opportunity to research their own possible careers using Morrisby. We have posted lots of amazing entries off and look forward to hearing if any have won.



ROEHAMPTON UNIVERSITY TRIP



Some Year 9 students visited Roehampton University on Tuesday 22 March, 2023. They had the opportunity to design a perfect university with courses and teachers, including comfy chairs. They had a campus tour, which seemed to be the favourite activity of the day, as there was lots of scenery, animals and nature. There was a carousel of:

- Living at University - students considered factors involved in living alone, including putting a duvet cover on in the quickest possible time
- Study Abroad - a quick run through of what studying abroad is, where students may be able to study and a quick game of matching up international universities
- Accommodation - this task looked at what it is like to live in university halls and how much students can expect to pay to live in university accommodation
- Budgeting - students discussed and considered the different costs associated with student life and had to guess the cost of several items grouped together.

They had a taster lecture on creative writing with an actual lecturer. Finally, a Q&A session with student ambassadors.

YEAR 10 NEWS

By Miss E Munt, Head of Year 10

The spring term has been a focused one for Year 10. Students returned from the Christmas break and immediately got stuck in to their first assessment fortnight of the academic year. Students have approached these assessments conscientiously and their reports have shown that Year 10 have an outstanding attitude to learning, and are working hard to achieve their potential.

Year 10 then channelled this focus into their careers unit. We spent 6 weeks during tutorial last half term covering everything from CVs and cover letters, to apprenticeships and universities, a programme which Mrs Greenland has expertly put together. Visiting speakers commented on how inquisitive and respectful our students were, and Form Tutors have reported how engaged students have been in their careers exploration through our online portal, Morrisby.

Students have been reflecting on their academic reports and, in addition to all students completing personal target setting, smaller groups have been working with Miss Di Mambro, the Assistant Head of Year 10, and their Form Tutors to improve their attendance, punctuality or attitude to learning. There have been some fantastic efforts of individual students and staff here. Well done to all.

The Year Group have spent this half term ensuring that they are prepared for their upcoming mock exams, after the Easter break. This is a nerve-racking time for Year 10, as these will be the first set of exams which they have completed in formal venues. Students have been calming these nerves by preparing as best as they can. Targeted revision lists have been shared with students via Teams, teaching staff have been supporting students by checking that they have completed all relevant work which they will need to revise and have been signing off students' study leave cards. Our Year 10 Form Tutors have also been providing study tips and revision techniques during tutorial over the past 4 weeks, to ensure that students are guided in their revision.

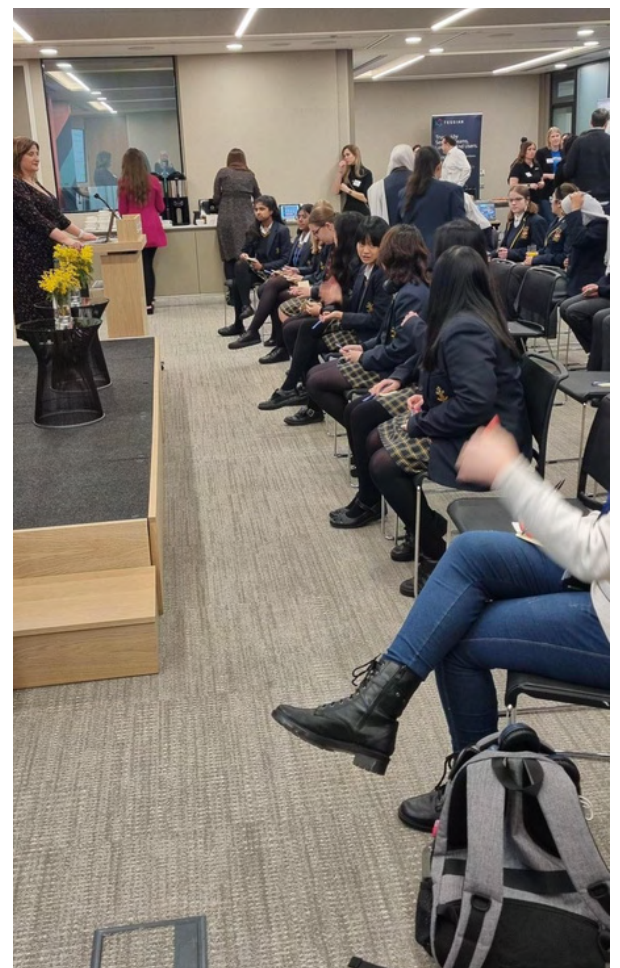
To motivate students in the lead up to mocks, staff have been awarding Year 10 'Mock Merits' when they display a positive attitude and mindset towards their exams. Each merit awards a student a house point, as well as a ticket in the end of term easter egg raffle in the last week of term. Hundreds of Mock Merits have been awarded and over thirty students have gone above and beyond by attending voluntary independent study sessions each week on 'Workday Wednesdays' in the Library. Year 10 are once again showing accountability for their own learning and an excellent commitment to their studies.

We are looking forward to seeing Year 10 when they return from the Easter break, and are confident that they will rise to the challenge that the mock exam period brings.

WOMEN IN TECH!



In support of *International Women's Day*, some Year 10 pupils attended Withers Worldwide Law, London, who hosted a morning on Thursday 9 March 2023 to promote Women in Tech. Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form students asked lots of questions.



The morning comprised of:

- An introduction to the industry - software and hardware. Learning the names of the different roles
- Opportunities available - post-18, graduate and apprenticeship
- Hints and tips on how to succeed

They had the opportunity to speak directly to senior staff in Zoom, Reuters, Vohkus, Intapp and Lenov and received some freebies along the way.

YEAR 10 WSCD WITH RELIGIOUS STUDIES

This term's WSCD was spent with Religious Studies and this was a really good one. We took part in a number of workshops to get us ready for our Year 10 exams. We learned about different revision techniques and why it is important to take charge of our own revision and find techniques that work best for us. We can use what we learned with our other subjects too, as the same techniques will work for lots of subjects. After this we revisited older topics from Years 9 and 10 by playing Connect 4, Pictionary games and escape rooms. This helped us a lot as some of us had forgotten the topics and the ideas from the older units. By the end, we took away sheets and tasks that we can use to help get us started with our revision. Our favourite part of the trip was the visit to Hook Church, a 15-minute walk from school. It was short but we got to see the inside of the church and meet some of the people who run it. They were so kind and open to us asking questions of them. We found out lots from how they worship, to all the different events that go on in their church throughout the week. We did a lot on this day and hopefully we will remember the ideas to use in our revision.



YEAR 11 NEWS

By Mrs J Saseen, Head of Year 11



Year 11 have had a busy spring term and students have been continuing to work hard, both in and outside of the classroom. Numerous interventions and extracurricular activities have taken place and students have now also undertaken elements of their practical GCSEs - making the GCSE season feel all that bit closer!



To keep motivation and spirits high, at the beginning of March we held 'lollipop drop' week. Members of Middle and Senior Leadership popped into lessons armed with lollipops. Classroom teachers were then able to award lollipops to students in that lesson who deserved some recognition. It definitely raised spirits and motivation, as well as the lower school asking how they could be awarded them too! Recently, we also held a Year 11 achievement assembly to recognise students' hard work with the study programme. Over seventy students were awarded 'study superstar' certificates, illustrating their strong work ethic and dedication to their studies. Classroom teachers also provided reasons for these awards, noting 'focus in lesson and working independently during intervention lessons', 'produced some excellent responses for her exam prep sketchbook', 'always completes all parts of the study programme to such a high standard! Is just so organised and so reliable; a constant pleasure to teach', 'diligent approach to the study programme, completing all tasks and correcting misconceptions to ensure work is accurate' and 'taking ownership over her own learning and progress'.



Finally, Year 11 students have also been collecting Tolworth Tokens throughout the year. Students could gain these tokens in numerous ways, such as contributing to school life, taking part in extracurricular activities, having excellent attendance and make great academic progress. On Friday, students were able to 'cash in' their tokens to gain the privilege of wearing their leavers hoodies.



YEAR 12 NEWS

By Mrs L Viola, Head of Year 12

The Year 12 students have continued to settle in well to being sixth formers, and it is hard to believe we are already over halfway through the year! This term we have been turning our attention increasingly towards future directions and post-16 options, with our Whole School Curriculum Day in March delivering some really thought-provoking and enlightening presentations on the many opportunities and choices which our Year 12s have to consider as they plan their futures. The students were absolute stars during this day - listening attentively to the presenters and asking some thoughtful questions. Following this, I have had some lovely conversations with students recently, which have shown me how mature and considered they are being in investigating options such as university, apprenticeships, internships and employment.

In addition, we have been exploring topics and skills in PSHE and tutorial to ensure our students are well equipped to face the 'real world'. We have covered a range of themes, such as banking and finances; personal health, wellbeing and safety; interview skills and building their profiles through supercurricular activities.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Year 12s on their excellent behaviour and focus during the mock exams. I hope this was a valuable experience in helping them to prepare well for the end of year exam series, and the A-level exams in the future.



MEDICAL CONFERENCE AT TIFFIN GIRLS' SCHOOL FOR YEAR 12

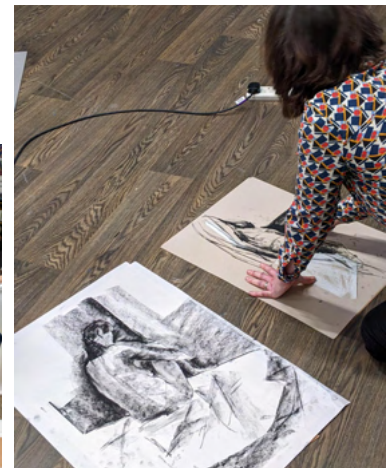
Year 12 students were registered to attend the medical conference at Tiffin Girls' School. It was a full day of presentations, hints and tips, advice on tests, applications and interviews.

We also got to have fun with a few attempts at diagnosis.



YEAR 13 LIFE DRAWING RETURNS

The Art Department held an after school life drawing session for the A-level Art students to gain experience of working from a nude model. Room 12 was transformed to a large studio space allowing for the students to view the model, working through a series of charcoal and chalk studies guided by Mrs Moon. For many of the students, it was their first time working from a life model, and all were engaged and focussed during the two hour session. Their drawings chartered their progression and confidence gained. We look forward to our next session with our Year 12 Art students later in April.



YEAR 12 TRIP TO AUSCHWITZ IN POLAND

Getting off of the plane in Poland, we had no expectations as to what Auschwitz was going to be like. We walked into a snowstorm and fully experienced how harsh Polish weather could be. We were fortunate enough to be on a coach with Rabbi Marcus, a Polish expert on Jewish experiences in the Holocaust. He spoke to us about the first types of gas chambers, which were in vans that went to villages to round up the Jewish people and disposed of their ashes in the river where children were swimming in, without any idea of what the Nazis were doing.



We then came to our first destination, a Polish village called Oswiecim. In this village at the time of Nazi invasion, half of the population of Oswiecim were Jewish, which was around 8,000 people, and there were more than twenty synagogues in the village. Now there are no synagogues remaining, as well as no Jewish people left. We went to the site of the biggest most sacred synagogue in the village and all that was left were floor tiles. A few weeks before we got there, archaeologists found hidden objects and prayer mats underneath the ruins which were buried when the Nazis first invaded the village. We then arrived at Auschwitz I and were given a personal tour guide called Luca. We were then led to the gates that read a sign 'works set you free' in German. All around there were rows upon rows of army barracks turned into quarters for the Jewish people to live and work. As we were standing there, we thought about the fear that the Jewish people felt as they walked underneath the gates and how they would not have known what the future would hold for them.

We then walked through rooms upon rooms that held the possessions of all of the Jewish victims that were brought to all of the camps. This included piles of suitcases, glasses, shoes of all sizes including children's prosthetic legs from German war veterans and disabled Jewish people, and a room dedicated to all of the hair that was cut off by the Nazis from the prisoners. Some of the hair was still in plaits and other decorative hairstyles. We then went to a room that had in its centre a massive book full of 4.8 million names of Jewish victims of the Holocaust. This is now known as the book of names and inside says the name of the person, the year they were born, where they died, how they died and the date they died.



YEAR 12 TRIP TO AUSCHWITZ IN POLAND

We then got shown to the kitchen where they used to eat their food. In front of it there was a wooden structure where the Nazis would hang the Jewish people if they were ever caught trying to escape. We then got shown into the last standing gas chamber which got converted into a bomb shelter for the German generals toward the end of the war. Walking in was an out of body experience. Our emotions overwhelmed us as we looked at the scratches on all four walls. Looking up at the holes of which the Nazis dumped the poisonous Zyklon B pellets we were shocked to see that they were still visible. We were then led into the crematorium where they used to burn the bodies of the victim to dispose of any evidence that the Holocaust happened. We then went into Auschwitz – Birkenau where we were given candles to lay at the memorial next to the remains of the main gas chambers. The train stacks were still intact leading up to the notorious opening of the concentration camp. This camp, unlike Auschwitz I was empty. No structure remained. All that could be seen were the replicas of the stables that the Jewish people were forced to sleep in, and the base of what used to be a place called ‘Kanada’ where they used to sort out the possessions of all of the Jewish victims. The snow started to come down again as we made the twenty-minute walk to the administrative building at the other side of the camp. Inside were rows upon rows of pictures of Jewish victims. These pictures were found in a few forgotten about boxes that were meant to be burnt in order to get rid of any evidence, however, for whatever reason they were left. Smiling faces of happy families were staring back at us on top of descriptions about what happened to them inside the camp.

The main reason for the display was to remind us that all of the six million victims were individual people with their own beliefs, own way of life and own family lives and backstories, that were all targeted for no reason other than they did not fit into Nazi ideology. We ended the day with a speech from Rabbi Marcus, in which he spoke about individual experiences of Jewish victims and ended with a Jewish prayer, which he prayed for all of the victims of the Holocaust. We then headed back to the coach, on the way placing down our now lit candles, reflecting on all that we had seen today.





CONGRATULATIONS TO SARAH & HOLLY



Congratulations to Sarah (Year 13) and Holly (Year 7). They were qualified to represent Great Britain in sailing in a double handed dinghy, called a Cadet, and competed in Melbourne, Australia.



CONGRATULATIONS TO TUESDAY

Tuesday has spent a weekend taking part in the British Short Track Speed Skating Championships in Sheffield. We are really pleased and proud to announce that Tuesday is now the British Short Track Speed Skating Ladies Junior D bronze medallist.



MUSIC PARTNERSHIP DAY



On Tuesday 14 March 2023, Lady Eleanor Holles School and Hampton School hosted a Music Partnership Day, where musicians from Hampton High School, The Hollyfield School, Orleans Park School, Teddington School, Waldegrave School and Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth form were invited to join them for Orchestral and Choral Workshops, followed by an evening concert in the Hammond Theatre.



For more pictures and videos, please [click here](#).



The twelve Tolworth students had an inspirational day where they learnt music such as Anvil Chorus from Verdi's *Il Trovatore* and Brahms' Hungarian Dance No. 5, alongside other musicians from across the borough.

The evening concert was outstanding with our very own Katie performing a piano solo. We are very proud of our young musicians to perform such a high standard of music in a short space of time!



JACK PETCHEY REGIONAL FINAL FOR KINGSTON

Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form hosted the Jack Petchey Regional Final for Kingston. It was a rally fantastic event! Genevieve, Flo, and Annabelle represented Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form and really did us proud. I am really pleased to announce that Flo came in 3rd place out of the twenty speakers, which really is a phenomenal achievement! Ariana in Year 11 helped to judge the contest and also spoke with real poise!

We also had some amazing talent on show with Derin and Ojaswini performing in the intervals - thanks to Lizzy for helping me organise this!

A big thank you to all the staff that attended and helped throughout the course of the evening!



ANNIE SUTTON – DRAMA WORKSHOP



A-level Drama and a selection of pupils from GCSE Drama took part in a 3-hour workshop with the fabulous Annie Sutton, focussing on Steven Berkoff and how to use his techniques to create work. The students really threw themselves into the creative process, working individually and as a part of team. Their focus and imagination was tremendous and they were a brilliant representation of the school.

THE BOROUGH TRAMPOLINING COMPETITION

On Tuesday 7 March 2023, Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth form hosted the annual Borough Trampolining Competition. All the schools in the borough were invited and the trampolining was of an extremely high standard. The girls represented the school excellently and we are extremely proud of them.

Team Results

Year 7 (Eva, Chloe, Ava, Molly) GOLD
Year 8 (Sopihie, Juia, Macie, Sophie) BRONZE
Year 9 (Abbey, Daisy, Maia, Isla) SILVER

Individual Winners

Ava - GOLD
Eva - SILVER
Molly - BRONZE



Year 7 Individual Winners



Year 7 Team



Year 8 Team



Year 9 Team

NETBALL BOROUGH TOURNAMENT

On Friday 10 March 2023, seventeen **Year 7** students participated in the Netball Borough Tournament at KGS - Ditton Fields and these students represented Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form fantastically with the highest positive qualities and sportsmanship.

A -

Player of the Tournament - **Molly 7O**

Coaches Player - **Ava 7P**

Special Recognition - **Nishka 7T**



B -

Player of the Tournament - **Olivia 7S**

Coaches Player - **Grace 7S**

Special Recognition - **Maisie 7O**



On Tuesday 14 March 2023, twenty three **Year 8 and 9** students participated in the Netball Borough Tournament at KGS - Ditton Fields and these students represented Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form fantastically with the highest positive qualities and sportsmanship.

Year 8 -

Player of the Tournament - **Sara 8P**

Coaches Player - **Chloe 8J**

Special Recognition - **Chloe 8J**



Year 9 -

Player of the Tournament - **Aashny 9T**

Coaches Player - **Alma 9S**

Special Recognition - **Belle 9O**



LITERACY UPDATES

Well, it has been a very busy term at Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form! We have had several events in the library such as **'Blind-date with a Book'** and **International Woman's Day celebrations**, as well as an author visit from **Sufiya Ahmed** for Year 9, which students found to be "interesting, because she talked about her books, and also about her life. It was really engaging". This was closely followed by **World Book Day celebrations**, and most recently **BBC School Report**. This year's World Book Day theme was 'You Are a Reader', and as a school we examined the importance of high standards of literacy for everyday life through our tutorial sessions. In the week of World Book Day our hardworking librarian Mrs Hawksworth planned a **big book giveaway** for our very lucky students, and unsurprisingly the books went very, very quickly!

On World Book Day itself we had a variety of exciting events happening to celebrate our collective love of books. There were many students and members of staff in incredibly impressive costumes. It was fantastic to see so many people expressing their passion for literary characters and worlds. During Period 3 we had a 15 minute **Drop Everything And Read** session, where students and staff were directed to stop what they were doing and read for pleasure. It was fantastic for everyone in the school to all be reading at the same time, sharing what they love to read in their own time. We also had our annual **'Decorate-a-Door'** competition, where Tutor Groups work together to decorate their door with a literary theme. Students in Years 8 and 9 said they "loved decorating the door because it is creative and everyone in the form gets to work together" and "you get to see the passion everyone has for their favourite books". There were some brilliant offerings this year from Frankenstein, to Winnie the Pooh to Captain Underpants. It was almost impossible to choose the winners.

WINNERS



Year 7: **7 Opal** with 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'



Year 8: **8 Jade** with 'Six of Crows'



Year 9: **9 Jade** with 'Winnie the Pooh'

LITERACY UPDATES

Then in mid-March, a group of **sixteen pupils** from Years 8 and 9 put what they had learned during the BBC Young Reporter's Scheme to the test and had a day off timetable for BBC News Day. Students enjoyed having the opportunity to "write about topics that [they] are passionate about" and "have enjoyed learning all the steps that go into creating a news article". Some of the articles included topics such as artificial intelligence, the smash TV sensation 'The Last of Us', and the recent teacher's strikes - some thoughtful and well researched articles were produced, which can be found on the [Tolworth Girls' School website](#).

Miss E Willis, Literacy Co-ordinator



CAREERS

We had over thirty employers attend the Careers Fair including the Army, Border Force, Chessington World of Adventures, ITV and Lidl. Students and parents learnt about various roles including lawyers, carers, nurses, marketing, technical account and much more. There was an entrepreneur Lucy Hitchcock from Sassy Digital as well as colleges and universities. Students had the chance to try and make sushi with Cucina.

Students completed cards to show how many of the employers they engaged with. The more meaningful engagement you have, the more employable you become. They were then entered into a prize draw. Congratulations Phoebe (9P), who won a Starbucks voucher.



All students are entitled to careers interviews; Mrs Greenland and Mrs Hewitt are happy to see students to help them plan for the future.

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

WHO WE ARE

Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form PFA are the parents, carers and friends of children who attend the school. Our aim is to provide additional facilities, equipment or items that support the school. These are things that the school budget may not stretch to, such as lighting equipment for the school theatre, benches for outdoor spaces and end of year proms.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We continue to need your support, whether it is taking time to attend PFA meetings, spreading the word, giving ideas and suggestions, taking part in events and helping to plan them or donating unwanted school uniform. We are hugely grateful for your support.

To find out about how to get involved or simply keep in touch:

- join the [PFA WhatsApp group](#)
- email PFA.TGS@gmail.com

VACANT COMMITTEE POSITIONS

We are still looking for a Chair to join and lead the committee. If you are interested we would be happy to have a chat with you about what the role involves.

FREE DONATIONS FOR PFA WHEN YOU SHOP

We have worked hard to be set up as a Registered Charity (no.1187806) so that we can raise funds more easily.

This includes receiving free donations for the PFA each time you shop at:

Easyfundraising

This is the UK's biggest charity shopping site with over 4,200 retailers that will make a small donation to your chosen charity each time you shop. To support the PFA, select Tolworth Girls' School Parents & Friends Association (Tolworth Girls' School & Sixth Form PFA) - Surbiton as your chosen charity and then shop at Easyfundraising as normal. You can also bookmark Easyfundraising on your web browser for future purchases.

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Help raise free funds
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Join easyfundraising today and search for
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Thousands of well-known retailers will give us a free donation when you shop with them - at no cost to you!

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Over £31 million raised Trustpilot 5 stars 1.8 million users

PFA NEWS

A lot has been happening with the PFA since our last update before Christmas, including a series of successful fundraising activities over the festive period that have raised over £4k for the school. These included our mufti days, Christmas hamper sales, Christmas Carol Concert refreshments, doughnut sales and our recent Easter Eggstravaganza. More details below.

With exam season just round the corner, our calendar of fundraising events is a little lighter for the April to June term, but keep an eye out for details of events including the Art Exhibition in June and the BIG Uniform Sale which is an important event in our annual calendar.

A big **'thank you'** to all of you who continue to support our fundraising activities for the school – it is always appreciated.

From last term to date the following events and funds have been raised:

- December mufti (minus hamper costs) £1001.00
- Christmas hamper ticket sales £1200.00
- School of Rock refreshments £349.00
- December refreshment sale £65.00
- January refreshment sale £90.00
- PFA Carol Concert £97.00
- PFA mufti money £1500.00
- Easter Eggstravaganza - £200.00

TOTAL = £4,502.00

We have asked the school to order 4 benches totalling approx £2,000.33 from our funds so that the students have more outside seating.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **BIG Uniform Sale (TBC)** – with the summer term fast approaching and the new Year 7s planning their step-up to secondary school, there is always huge demand for good quality, used uniform. Please dig into your cupboards and donate any surplus uniform to the school by dropping it at reception
- **Art Exhibition**
- **Next committee meeting (TBC)** – online Wednesday 26 April 2023



STUDENT CONTACT DETAILS

Please can parents inform the school immediately of any changes in your daughter's/son's contact details. These are very important and must be kept up to date in case of student illness or a school emergency.

PARENTPAY REMINDER

Please can we remind parents/carers to use ParentPay or PayPoint if you do not have a computer to pay for trips or other items the school requests money for. We will continue to send out activation letters to those who send in cash or cheques. Paying by ParentPay is a much more secure way of paying and also very convenient for parents to be able to pay at any time. We thank you for your cooperation.

The Finance Team

HEALTH AND SAFETY REMINDER FROM THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

All students in the laboratory must wear safety goggles. This includes when a student across the lab is still working on their practical task and you have finished your experiment for the day. This simple precaution can eliminate the danger of eye injury caused by you or your neighbour splattering chemicals or breaking glass. Another important protection for your eyes is to avoid rubbing your fingers in or near your eyes. Chemicals can easily be transferred from your hands to your eyes in this way. All students are required to wear a lab coat at all times when anyone is working with chemicals in the lab. A lab coat is more than a uniform identifying you as a scientist; it affords you some protection from spills of hot or corrosive materials as well as protecting your school uniform.

IMPORTANT REMINDER FROM THE FIRST AID TEAM

Parents are reminded to inform the school if there are changes to the following:

- Emergency contact details
- Medical conditions that can emerge as students mature
- Changes to medication
- We request that all parents whose child suffers from severe asthma or severe allergies provide the school with a named up-to-date inhaler or epipen
- If the medicine becomes out of date, you will be informed and you must replace the medicine immediately; we as a school will take no responsibility if you fail to provide a replacement

CHILDCARE – ACHIEVING FOR CHILDREN CHILDMINDER AGENCY, LEAP AHEAD

The Achieving for children Childminder Agency, Leap Ahead is registered and inspected by Ofsted. Childminders can choose to join the agency and be registered and inspected by Leap Ahead rather than Ofsted. In addition to registration, those who join our agency will receive individual support and guidance, meetings, training and an annual graded visit. The childminder's report is published on the website where parents can search for childminders in their area: <http://www.leapahead.org.uk/>

SCHOOL TERM & HOLIDAY DATES FOR 2022-23

SUMMER TERM 2023 MONDAY 17 APRIL – WEDNESDAY 19 JULY

Students Return	Monday 17th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 1st May
King's Coronation – SCHOOL CLOSED	Monday 8th May
Half Term Holiday	Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June
Students Return	Monday 5th June
Last Day of Term	Wednesday 19th July

NB Easter 2023: -

Good Friday falls on Friday 7th April
Easter Monday falls on Monday 10th April

KEY DATES FOR SUMMER TERM 2023

Compressed Day – Staff training	Thursday 20th April
PFA Family Quiz Night	Friday 12th May
WSCD	Thursday 25th May
INSET DAY – School Closed all day to students	Monday 3rd July
Sports Day	Friday 7th July
Last Day of Term – Early closure	Wednesday 19th July – Approximately 12:00

AUTUMN TERM 2023 MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER – THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER

INSET Day for Staff	Monday 4th September
INSET Day for Staff	Tuesday 5th September
Year 7 Induction – details tbc Year 12 Induction – details tbc	Wednesday 6th September
All Students Return	Thursday 7th September
Half Term Holiday	Monday 23rd October – Tuesday 31st October
Students Return	Wednesday 1st November
Last Day of Term	Thursday 21st December



REACH OUT

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email: ContactTheSchool@tolworthgirlsschool.co.uk

Tel: 020 8397 3854

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