

19th January 2024

Tomlinscote School NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to the Year 11 parents who attended the revision evening on Wednesday night. The feedback has been very positive and I hope the information provided by each Head of subject helps you, as parents, to navigate the next few weeks more comfortably. I will circulate the PowerPoints for English, Maths and Science that were used on the night. Year 11 have all received their mock exam results via a special assembly. All students had a separate envelope with their results and it gave them a taste of what they will experience in August 2024. Following the analysis of data, the focus is now on targeted tutoring subject interventions and drop-in sessions to support with their revision programme. Information about these strategies will be shared soon with Year 11 parents.

The student prom group and a few additional parents are visiting the prom location next week and will start to plan that exciting event over the next few weeks as well.

Year 10 parents and students have the Post-16 Progression & Work Experience meeting on Monday. It is already time to start thinking about the next stage of the student educational journey and we have several Post-16 providers presenting on the night. Furthermore, we are setting up the Work Experience week that all Year 10 students will be engaged with in June 2024. I hope to see as many people there as possible.

On Page 9, Mr Henry has provided some attendance information as school attendance is a huge national issue at the moment. We would always encourage our young people to come into school even when feeling slightly under the weather. Our attendance data is very good overall and our big focus is upon punctuality to school. Students should arrive promptly at 8.30am every day!

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

Mr Major

Key Dates

Mon 22nd Jan

Year 10 Work Experience & Post -16
Progression Evening 7.00 - 8.00pm

Tue 23rd Jan

Year 9 Diversity Day

Thu 25th Jan

Year 11 Progress Meetings
(online)

Mon 29th Jan

Year 9 Options evening
7pm Main Hall

Tue 30th Jan

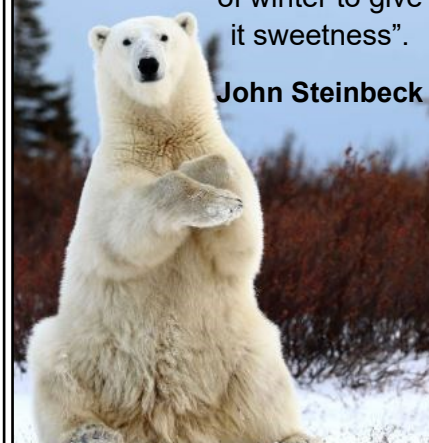
Year 9 Student Options Assembly
8.30am

Fri 9th Feb

INSET DAY

"What good is the warmth
of summer, without the cold
of winter to give
it sweetness".

John Steinbeck



Year 9 Personal Development Day

Year 9 students have recently benefitted from a day dedicated to providing them with a wealth of information. The day was designed to help them make the right decisions in life and to provide help and advise them on issues they may come across in their everyday lives. The topics covered were:

Binge Drinking

Body Image

Gambling Awareness

Gang Exploitation

Media Influences

Students really enjoyed the day and learnt a great deal about topics that dominate today's society.



Key Questions

- Are extremism and terrorism the same thing?
- What types of extremist groups are there?

- Not all terrorist groups are Islamic
- USA there is the KU Klux Klan
- Animal rights groups
- Climate change activists
- The IRA Brighton bomb 1984
- Homophobic groups David Copeland Bomb at The Admiral Duncan Pub in Soho



Medway PSHE Association



As part of an experiment, two scientists asked a group of people to walk around a room in random directions without communicating with anyone else. They called this Group A.

They also chose a much smaller group (Group B) and told them exactly where to walk.

As they watched, they noticed that the random-walking people (Group A) started to follow those who were walking more confidently (Group B).



They found that it only took **5% of people to start doing something in a convincing way** in order for 95% of others to start doing it too. We call this following "herd mentality", and there are examples of it all around us.

Binge drinking - what is it and is it really that bad for you?



Lara works very hard in her job as a plumber. She doesn't drink during the week, but really looks forward to going out and drinking all night with friends every Friday. She thinks she has a lot of fun, but can never quite remember any of it.

1. What do we call this type of drinking pattern? Why?
2. Are Lara's drinking habits healthy? Why / why not?
3. Why do you think Lara can never remember her nights out? What might this indicate about the effects of mass alcohol consumption?

Title: Body image and the media

Learning Outcomes (key questions)

- How are people represented in the media?
- What impact does this have on young people?
- What is your own opinion about these issues?

Why is gambling so addictive and how do online gambling sites hook us in?

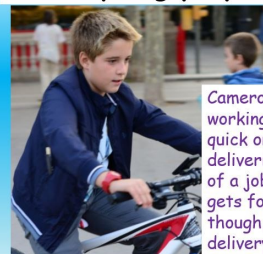
Tom has fallen out with his mother. She found out he's downloaded an online gambling app. He says it's 'just a bit of a laugh' and he uses it mainly to chat to his mates.



Tom said to his mother, 'it's no different to you going to bingo with Nan!'

1. Who is at risk of a gambling addiction here?
2. Which is more dangerous, online gambling or high street gambling? Why is this do you think?

County Lines - What is this and how are young people being exploited?



Cameron, 13, feels pretty grown up to be working for the K10 Krew. He's pretty quick on his bike and doesn't mind making deliveries. The money's good at the end of a job - not to mention the respect he gets for doing it. Cameron is worried now though, as he's been mugged on his delivery - and they've taken everything.

1. What is Cameron doing? Who are the K10 Krew?

1. What is likely to happen to Cameron 1) in the short term from being mugged on delivery 2) in the long term joining a gang.

What is 'mass media'?

(in pairs, think of as many forms of mass media as possible)



Tailor-Made for Tomlinscote

Ebere, in Year 11, our Tomlinscote Poet Laureate, was tasked with writing a poem for Tomlinscote. She has written a beautiful piece which sums up the Tomlinscote ethos perfectly. The separate House verses can be added to 'personalise' it to each House.

In addition, students were asked to design a 'motto' to accompany the poem. Korel in 7X created this stunning logo which captures the roots of the "great oak tree" and the bees referred to in the poem. Korel explained that the creatures at the base of the tree were part bee and part lion, a reflection of feeling small like a bee when you start your journey at Tomlinscote, but leaving as strong as a lion.



While I stand at the root of a great oak tree,
my success is a seed in the hand of me;

A thousand winds may blow,
The soil may doubt I'll grow,
But I'm the seed I want to be:
There is no seed that's quite like me;
So no one else can tell or know
Quite how far I'll go.

After all, who can stop a seed:
That keeps fighting like a lion,
Is driven like a bee,
Has no plans to stop growing,
Was planted to succeed.

I stand at the root of a great oak tree,
my success is a seed in the hand of me
A thousand winds may blow,
The soil may doubt I'll grow —
But no one else can tell or know
Quite how far I'll go.

Ebere - 11G



Attenborough - Community

Wherever you look,
You can feel a hand on your shoulder;
Like the branches of a tree; extending
And reaching out so that you can go even further.
The distance you would have gone on your own;
You can reach further when you're not alone.

Pankhurst - Character

Wherever you are,
You're an example to the outsider;
Like a mirror with two sides; those who look in
Can see the face of a lion: proud, strong and noble.
Your reflection shines through, whoever you choose to be;
On both sides of the mirror you're someone worthwhile to see.

Rowling - Progression

Wherever you turn,
There's nothing holding you back;
Like the compass in your heart; always turning
To find the path that leads you to greater success.
No matter what changes life swings your way;
You're still moving at the end of the day.

Mandela - Perseverance

Whenever you fall,
You've never got too far to climb;
Like a pebble on the shore; (somehow) still arriving
Further up the beach when the tide finally ebbs.
Whatever wave it is that comes to wash you down;
You can ride the swash back up next time it comes around.

Hawking - Excellence

Wherever you go,
You can always strive to succeed;
Like a bird of prey in hunting; soaring
High above the crests of challenges and distress.
In/and all the goals, targets and aspirations you possess;
Are monuments to decorate your path of success.

Compewter-aided design!

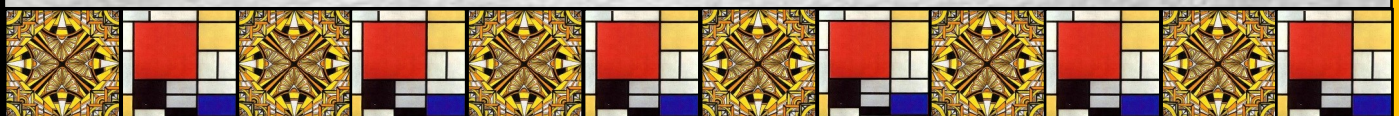


Year 7 students have been enjoying their latest Design & Technology project. Their current topic has culminated in students making their own piece of jewellery in pewter having studied various historical design styles, namely Celtic, Art Nouveau, Modernism and Art Deco.

Students based their designs on one of the styles, they then produced a large scale drawing of their final piece which was then scaled down ready for the next process. Once happy, they used CAD to produce their 2D designs. Having completed their designs students were ready to manufacture their mould. They saw their designs appear in the wooden blocks, which were then ready for casting.

Using an open back mould, students watched molten pewter being poured into them, the process took seconds and before their eyes the moulds were dismantled and their designs unveiled. Once cooled, all of the runners, risers and sharp imperfections were removed with files. The final stage was to polish and embellish with beads, if desired and thread onto cord. For students to see their products 'come to life' over the course of a few weeks was really rewarding. In addition they learnt about the numerous stages involved in creating a product from the first stage right through to the last.

Congratulations to Year 7 students who produced some really eye-catching pieces.



Careers News



Year 10 'Post-16 Progression and Work Experience Information Evening'

(Mon 22nd January 7-8 pm)

A final reminder about our upcoming Year 10 information evening for Year 10 families regarding our in-school support for Post-16 progression and the launch of the Year 10 Work Experience programmes. This is in the Main Hall 7-8 pm on Monday 22nd January next week. The post-16 providers (Farnborough 6th Form College, Farnborough College of Technology and ASK Apprenticeships) will be available on stands from 6.30pm, before the presentation and again afterwards. We hope to see as many Year 10 families there as possible!

Could you help with work experience?

A plea to all parents - do you work somewhere or run a business that would be willing to host Year 10 Work Experience students? We are always looking for local businesses to support our official Work Experience programme – if you would be willing to host students or would like to find out more about what this would involve, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Ms Livesey on the email at the bottom of this article.

Do you have a career in the Legal Profession?

If you have a career associated with the legal profession, we would love to hear from you. We would like to welcome you to Tomlinscote to help out with a Careers Insight Talk to interested students on Wednesday 7th February, during the afternoon. If you are able to offer any help, please contact Ms Livesey on:

hlivesey@tomlinscoteschool.com

Musical Maestros

Students recently entered a House Competition to create a piece of music using GarageBand that best represents Tomlinscote School.

(GarageBand is a software application by Apple for macOS and iOS devices that allows users to create music or podcasts).

The variety of musical pieces that students submitted was amazing and the quality of the musical pieces very high.

Mr Frater, Head of Music, took great pleasure in judging the pieces and the results are as follows:

1st Ebere 11G - Attenborough

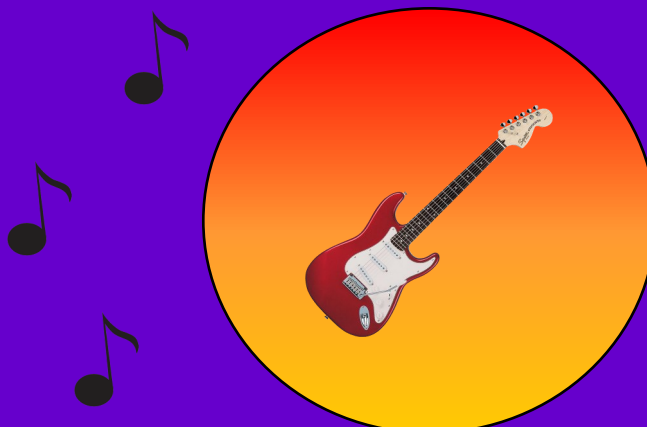
2nd Issy 8K- Rowling

3rd Rayyan 7R - Rowling

4th Emma 8M - Hawking

5th Hannah 7G - Mandela

Attenborough House gets 100pts!



Believe in Yourself!

Having been involved in one of the Outdoor Education days previously organised by Wellington College, 17 Tomlinscote students saw the opportunity on Tuesday to take part in a follow-up interactive two-hour workshop with motivational speaker [Steve Beckles-Ebusua](#) ("the speaker in the orange tie"). Steve makes regular interventions with Wellington students and indeed students from other schools supported by the college, and he always receives great feedback for his inspiring sessions. Through practical activities, students learn how to believe in themselves and are provided with a 'tool kit' to become more confident and achieve more aspirational goals. Tuesday's workshop was no exception and students came away having learnt a great deal.

Thank you, Steve, for a truly inspirational and enjoyable session!



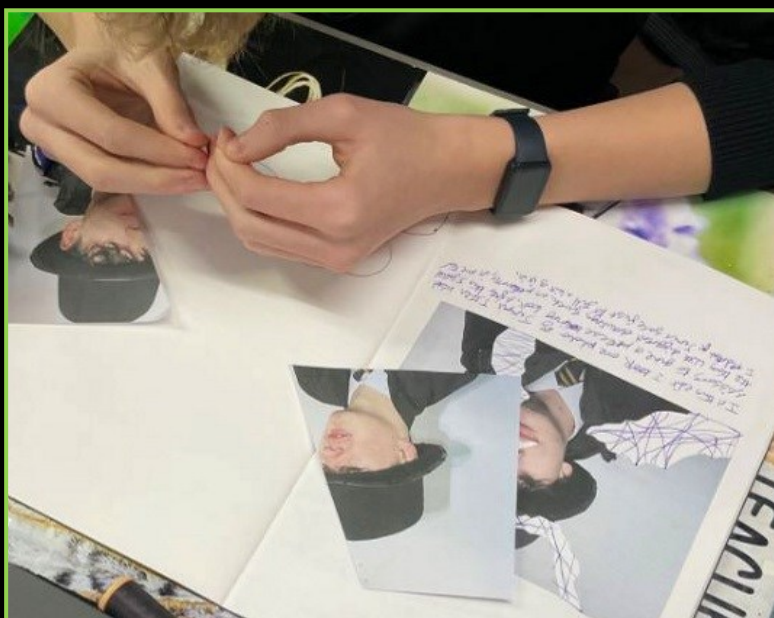
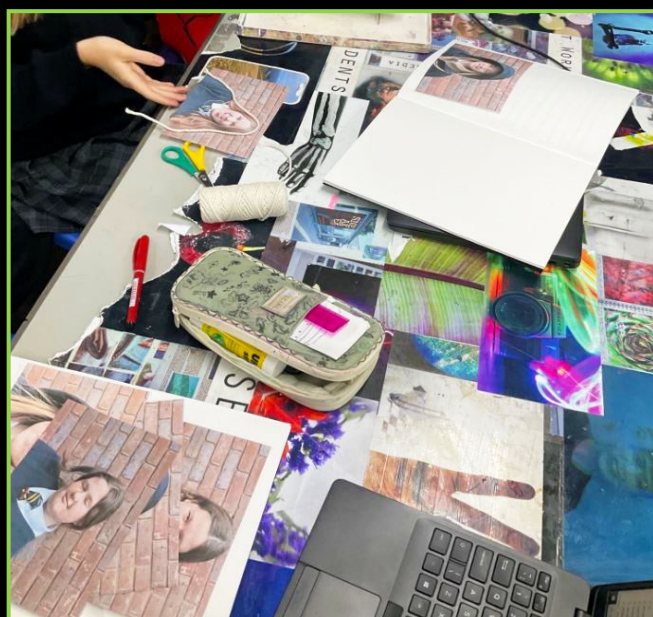
Year 7 'rise' to the challenge and 'prove' their worth!

At a time when we are all turning to comfort food to cheer us during this cold snap, Year 7 students cooked up a firm favourite with their pizzas this week. While learning the techniques of making dough and the kneading process, students baked some delicious smelling pizzas. The aim was to take them home, however we're not sure how many made it!



"That's torn it!"

Year 10 students have been creating manual edits as part of their distortion project. To date they have been experimenting with portrait photography using the studio light and diffusers. Students were then introduced to the artist 'Rankin' who destroys portrait photographs in various ways such as; ripping, cutting, drawing and sewing onto the photographs.





Wellbeing Woofers



We are very sad to say goodbye to our therapy dog Luna who is now working her magic in schools a little closer to her home. She will be missed by us all as she always brightened our Mondays and made a difference to so many of our students. We know she has made Denise a very proud Mum with the impact she made to so many in our community. We would like to say a big thank you to them both and wish them well in their new ventures.

We are very happy to announce that we have a new Wellbeing Woofer, Stanley. He is an 18 month old cockapoo with a lovely curly coat and lives with his owners Layla and James and their three children. Stanley is a cheeky, affectionate bundle of fun who loves to spend time with people and other dogs, especially cockapoos.

Stanley had his first day with us last week and enjoyed a lot of attention when he met our students and staff during break time. Stanley will be joining us once a week to meet with individual students in a safe, supervised environment with his handler and owner Layla. He will also be out and about during break times and loves meeting new people so students should come and say hello if they see him! Research has proven that petting a dog releases happy hormones in your brain so if you're having a difficult day, spending 10 minutes with Stanley could boost your mood greatly.

If you think your child can benefit from time with Stanley, please contact their Form Tutor, Head of Year or Student Support.

Parent/Carer Information

Sickness & Attendance

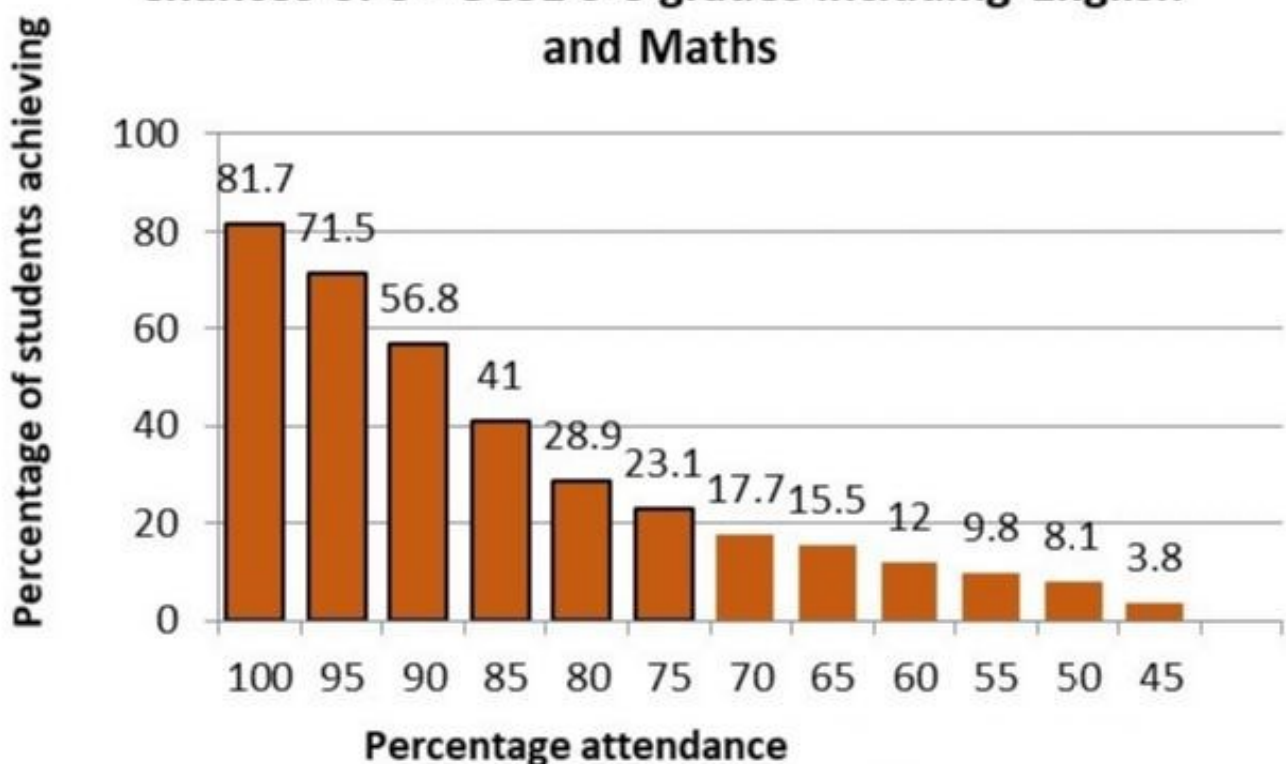
We know there is a strong correlation between good attendance to school, achievement, and progress, yet sometimes we will all fall ill. It can sometimes be very difficult, as a parent, to judge when it would be appropriate for their young person to stay off school, and when to encourage them to attend school and persevere whilst they are feeling poorly. We would always encourage our young people to come into school even when feeling under the weather. If they struggle during the day, they can report to our medical co-ordinator in student reception (Mrs Elliott) where they can receive some help and support.

If your child has a high temperature, the NHS advise to keep them off school until it goes away. However, there are many other ailments where students can safely attend school.

If you are unsure whether you should send your child to school, or keep them off when they are unwell, you might find the guidance in the following NHS article helpful:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/#:~:text=It's%20fine%20to%20send%20your,to%20wash%20their%20hands%20regularly.>

Chances of 5+ GCSE 5-9 grades including English and Maths



Fortnightly Thursday House Competition

Every fortnight Mr Taylor and Mr Wells will be running a mini House competition on the playground or sports hall (weather depending) This is open to all year groups - just come and join in. Your House will be awarded a House point for every person that participates on top of the points given for each place (see below)

1st place - 100 points
2nd place - 80 points
3rd place - 60 points
4th place - 40 points
5th place - 20 points

If two Houses are tied for a place they will share the points for the 2 places. For example, if 2 Houses tie for 2nd they will both share the points for 2nd (80 points) and 3rd place (60 points). Each House will awarded 70 points each.



Fortnightly Thursday - Basketball Free-throw Results



2nd place
80 points

PERSEVERANCE



5th place
0 points

CHARACTER



3rd place
60 points

COMMUNITY



5th place
0 points

EXCELLENCE



1st place
100 points

PROGRESSION


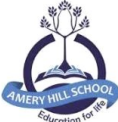
Thursday 25th - House competition Standing Long Jump

Can you jump the furthest for your house
in the standing long jump competition ?

(outside A-block/ playground)



Tomlinscote Team Results

Tomlinscote U12 Boys A team	v	All Hallows School 	Score 4 - 1	Scorer & Player of the Match Luke Glassar
Tomlinscote U12 Boys Basketball League	v	Amery Hill 	Score 19 - 21	Player of the Match Nathan Monshall-Ryan

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