



# Tomlinscote School Newsletter

6th February  
2026



Dear Parents & Carers,

The end of an extremely wet week heralding the start of February comes to a close but that has not dampened the range of activities, clubs, trips and fixtures on offer and that the students have continued to throw themselves into. Thank you to all for their participation—the full clubs timetable can be accessed through the website.

The start of the Winter Olympics offers a great opportunity to talk at school and home about ambition, perseverance and teamwork—themes that run through our day to day work. On that note Year 9 receive their reports today—please do take the time to discuss exactly these themes with your child and we look forward to meeting you at the upcoming progress evening.

The theme of Safer Internet Day this year is “Smart tech, safe choices—exploring the safe and responsible use of AI”. Please do look at the related pages in this newsletter introducing our new student AI charter as well as a range of advice about understanding social media risks and advice on safety tips when using online platforms.

Please enjoy some of the highlights from the school show last week—The Addams Family—we are so proud of the students who starred so brilliantly in the production—rumour has it that next year’s show is already in discussion.

I hope you have a good weekend.

Miss Harrison

## Key Dates

### **Fri 6th Feb**

Year 9 report sent home

### **Mon 9th—Fri 13th Feb**

Mental Health Week

### **Tue 10th Feb 2026**

Safer Internet Day

### **Thu 12 Feb 2026**

Year 9 Progress Meetings

### **Fri 13th Feb 2026**

Year 10 projected grade reports sent home

### **Mon 16th—Fri 20th Feb**

Half Term



“In February, nature reminds us that even in the coldest moments, beauty can still flourish.”  
Gabriela Aleman

# Tomlinscote Team Results

Year 11 Girls Football	V	Weydon School	Score 1-3	Player of the Match Lexi Abbotson Madison Vallance
Year 7-9 Girls Basketball	V	Cove School	Score 63-11	Player of the Match Darcey Bacca
Year 9 Boys Basketball	V	Bohunt School Farnborough	Score 51-23	Player of the Match Finley Coulthard
Year 9 Boys Basketball	V	Courtmoor School	Score 45-22	Player of the Match Owen Mizen

## Year 7 District Sportshall Athletics Competition

### Girls Team — 3rd

Bethan Jackson

Ruby O Regan

Darcie Girvin

Ellie Mayes

Tina Louw

All Team fixtures and results can be accessed on our Sports System:

[https://sport.tomlinscoteschool.com/Fixtures\\_Teams.asp?id=4438](https://sport.tomlinscoteschool.com/Fixtures_Teams.asp?id=4438)

# AI AT TOMLINSCOTE

This week we are proud to share our new **Student AI Charter**, created by our team of Digital Leaders working closely with Mr Young. Their thoughtful work has shaped a clear, student led guide to using artificial intelligence safely, ethically and responsibly. The Charter is now being prominently displayed around the school to support all students in developing positive digital habits.

Our approach is grounded in the **WISE Framework** (Dr Sabba Quidwai), which encourages students to consider the **Wellbeing** of themselves and others, act with **Integrity**, strengthen their **Skills**, and use AI only when it enhances **Engagement** with learning. AI should *support* their thinking—not do the thinking for them.

Over the coming weeks, students will take part in workshops exploring:

- What AI is and how generative AI tools work
- How to spot inaccuracies, bias and “hallucinations”
- Real life scenarios that build critical thinking and digital judgement
- How to make informed, ethical decisions about when and how AI can be used

We encourage families to stay informed and involved: ask your child how they are using AI, what value it adds to their learning, and how they ensure it doesn't replace their own ideas or effort.

Together, we can help our students become responsible, confident and reflective users of emerging technologies.



# STUDENT AI CHARTER



## What is AI?

"AI" stands for Artificial Intelligence, and using it is like having a computer that thinks along with you.

Generative AI tools (such as ChatGPT, Microsoft CoPilot and Google Gemini) can write text, make art and create music by learning from data from the internet, but watch out - they can also make things up (*hallucinate*) and be *biased*.

## Being AI Fluent

### Thinking with AI

Use AI as a tool, not a crutch

Question the accuracy of AI generated content, and consider potential bias

Use AI ethically and transparently

Integrate AI into learning, *with purpose*

Develop confidence in your own thinking

(S. Kratochvil, 2023)



## How can you make WISE decisions with AI?

# W I S E

### WELL-BEING

How will using AI affect your, and others', well-being?

### INTEGRITY

Are you using AI honestly & fairly?

### SKILLS

What can you learn from using AI?  
What might you miss out on if you use AI?

### ENGAGEMENT

Does using AI help you to engage better with the task?



## If you decide to use AI, you must...

- Only use AI as a tool, not as a replacement for your effort
- Question and challenge every AI-generated output
- Reference when, where and how you have used AI:
  - Identify the tool used (URL)
  - State the date you used it
- Include a copy of the prompt and generated response(s)
- Briefly explain how you used AI to support your thinking
- Always check and edit anything that has been generated using AI
- Ensure outputs are accurate, unbiased and fair, to promote an inclusive community, before sharing
- If you are unsure about the appropriateness or use of AI, seek guidance from a responsible adult

## If you decide to use AI, you must not...

- Use AI tools with age restrictions (some are 13+ with parental permission, but most are 18+!)
- Feed personal information or sensitive data into AI
- Promote social inequality or bias through unchecked use of AI
- Upload your own work to an AI platform (it's your intellectual property!)
- Share personal information or work to free AI tools
- Replace your learning with AI use
- Use AI to dictate your decision-making



AI used for icon creation

### REMEMBER

**Misusing AI is cheating!**

Know the rules  
Talk to your teachers  
Reference clearly

# Understanding Risks

Social media can expose children to various risks. It is important to be aware of these specific risks.



## Unwanted Contact

Children may encounter people online they don't know.



## Exposure to Inappropriate Content

Children can come across harmful material



## Distorted Body Image and Unrealistic Standards

Social media can promote an idealized version of reality



## The Pressure of Likes and Comments

Online validation can lead to feelings of anxiety

## Safety Tips

# Platform Safety Tips

### Essential Resources for Online Help

#### Snapchat Safety Features

Use 'Family Centre' to monitor who they message and interact with online.



#### YouTube Kids Safety

Utilise 'Restricted Mode' and disable comments for safety.



#### TikTok Safety Measures

Enable 'Family Pairing' to filter content effectively.



#### Contact Resources

NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000 for adult concerns.

#### Instagram Bullying Prevention

Use 'Supervision Tools' and 'Hidden Words' to block harmful content.

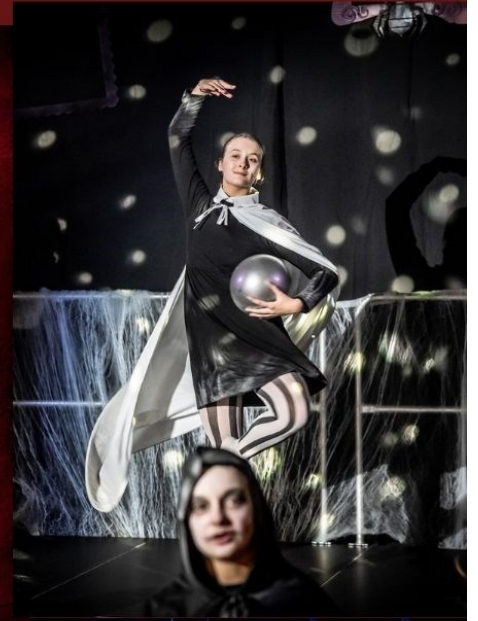


Tomlinscote School Presents



# The Addams Family

SCHOOL EDITION





## Scholastic Book Fair 2026

The LRC will be hosting the Scholastic Book Fair from Monday 9th February to Thursday 12th February 2026. There will be over 200 books available, with the prices of the books ranging from £3.99 to £14.99, as well as stationary. Students will be able to purchase books during break and lunch times.

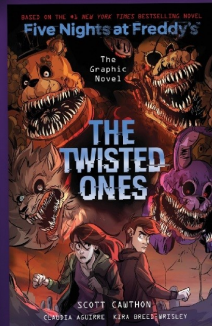
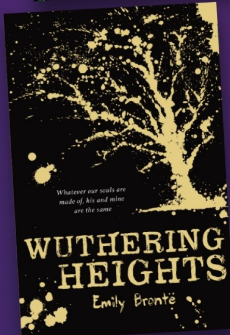
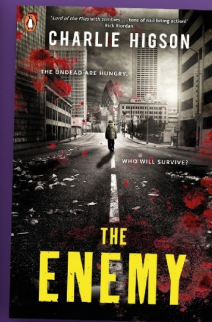
Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via their Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting.

A letter about this event has been sent home to parents & carers. Please see attached flyers for more detail.

OVER 200  
BOOKS  
TO CHOOSE  
FROM

 SCHOLASTIC  TRAVELLING BOOKS

Your **NEXT**  
**FAVOURITE**  
**READ** *is waiting*



DATE: 9th - 12th FEBRUARY

LOCATION: LRC

**GO  
ALL  
IN.**

National  
Year of  
Reading  
2026

Continued...

# What's **NEW** and **TRENDING?**



All books subject to availability.



**DISCOVER MORE BOOKS ONLINE!**

[www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases](http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/bookcases)

## Payment at our Book Fair

Please check with your school for the best way to pay for your books

- You may pay by card at the Fair via card reader machines if your school has one or by using the online payment link at [www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay](http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/pay) and simply selecting your school from the drop down menu.
- Pre-paid gift vouchers are available in £5, £10, £15, £20 and £25. Go to [www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers](http://www.bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/gift-vouchers) to buy vouchers for your child before the Fair.
- If you can't attend the Fair in person, your child can order books via a Wish List – please ask your school for details.

## HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £5.3M worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.



\*Free books are subject to terms and conditions. Please contact your Book Fair Organiser or Scholastic Book Fairs for details.  
All books subject to availability. Book range may vary. ⚠ Warning: Not suitable for children under 3. Small parts.

Introducing  
Tomlinscote's first...

# Poetry Club

Mondays lunchtimes

Room C39

Years 7 and 8

Bring your lunch  
and your friends!  
It will be a blast!

Join our poetry adventure, where fun and engagement are at the heart of every session! This exciting journey will delve into a wide array of poetic styles, offering you the opportunity to explore the rich world of poetry. Not only will you discover and analyse classic and contemporary works, but you'll also have the chance to unleash your creativity by crafting your own original poems. With the flexibility to cancel at any time, you can enjoy an enriching experience that fuels your passion for poetry.

The key to  
creativity!



Tomlinscote  
School

# UNIFORM STATION

*...your stop for free schoolwear...*

12 March – 6:30-7:30pm in main hall



Planning a half term uniform clear-out?  
Donations of good condition newer logo  
jumpers, polo shirts, kilts, trousers, ties and PE  
kits gratefully received in preparation for our  
Uniform Station evening.

Please drop off at Reception between  
8:15-3:15 until **Friday 6 March**.

Visit **Tomlinscote Uniform Station** Facebook  
group for more information...