



EDUCATION TO UNDERSTAND THE WORLD AND CHANGE IT FOR THE BETTER

Business Director update

Community Gardens

The community garden has come on in leaps and bounds since the initial discussions last year. The garden has been funded entirely by the PTFA's donation of £1000. Alongside this, Mr Baker has been able to get some fantastic donations of materials and plants/trees to move things along. He put in an extraordinary amount of time and effort into making the garden a success during the lockdown period and over the summer.

Mr Baker has submitted a separate report that goes into detail about what he has achieved so far and plans for next steps, including a plea for £1500 to fund an apiary.

Tech for Tallis

With the money raised via Tech for Tallis we secured 27 laptops and have earmarked them for students who were identified via AHT Mr Williams and his Heads of Year team.

There is a school wide survey being finalised currently and from that we hope to ascertain how many more pupils still need access to a device. We can then work with the PTFA to see how many more devices we hope to be able to secure to reach our goal of all pupils being able to access remote learning from home.

Sustainability

Sustainability featured on the school plan for the 2019/20 school year. Out of this a sustainability plan was formulated and put in place.

The plan outlined the vision for sustainability at Thomas Tallis, which is to move away from individual projects and develop a method of delivering a whole school impact - incorporating Curriculum, Environment and Culture.

Successes in the area of sustainability include:

- Installation of a Teracycle waste bin, paid for by the PTFA, that facilitates the collection of pens. Pens are typically classified as a hard to recycle item.
- Re-establishment of community garden project with named member of staff as lead person
- Water no longer provided in school in disposable plastic bottles
- Access to water dispensers in canteens

- Audit of curriculum to identify where sustainability features on the curriculum
- Inclusion of specific sustainability targets within specification for new catering contract. Targets are around food sourcing, plastic use and waste management.

The points discussed that are still outstanding are:

- Establishment of sustainability budget
- Provision of refillable water bottles to staff and pupils
- Installation of textile bin
- Installation of crisp packet recycling bin

Presently, I am working to produce a recycling strategy to share with G4S and work on the feasibility of being able to deliver this.

Ideas for fundraising

As with most schools, we have come under some financial strain due to Covid-19 but are still looking at measures we could put in place to normalise some of our new routines without too much compromise of our commitment to sustainability.

Ideas currently are around replacing water fountain spouts with bottle filler spouts and around looking into facilities for outdoor handwashing. We have also rolled over the suggestion of providing branded, refillable water bottles.

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