



Week 7 – 17 October 2014

Calendar

20 October – 24 October – Week B

Monday 20 October

Tuesday 21 October

AM Reg – Y12 Assembly

PM Reg – Y13 Assembly

After school – Y12 trip to Old Vic

Wednesday 22 October

AM Reg – Y9 Assembly

PM Reg – Y7 Assembly

After school – Year 7 Settling In Meeting

Thursday 23 October

AM Reg – Y10 Assembly

Friday 24 October

AM Reg – Y11 Assembly

PM Reg – Y8 Assembly

I hope that you have had a good week and continue to find our newsletter interesting and informative. Do let us know.

Our news this week is that Mr Greig is temporarily moving on. He will be Interim Head of Plumstead Manor School from Monday 3 November, probably for the rest of this school year. Plumstead's Head has had to retire, so we are pleased to share our strengths. I hope that this is the start of more partnership work with other community schools, so we can all learn from one another. We are proud that Mr Greig has been asked to do this, and certain that he'll do a great job there. We'll say more about this in next week's newsletter!

We have our Year 7 settling-in evening on Wednesday 22 October. If you are a Year 7 parent or carer, please come along if you can and meet the Year 7 team.

Thank you for your support for our non-uniform day for Nepal. It is such a good charity and very close to our hearts, with Mr Neupane's experience of school leadership in Nepal. As I write, young people are clustering around a rather gorgeous striped tent in the yard, where questions about Nepal are being answered and everyone is thinking about what they owe to their experiences at school. It is shocking to think that there is such a need for such basic things as readable whiteboards and basic stationery. We will give what we can.

Mrs Roberts, Headteacher

Education to understand the world and change it for the better

Excellence through challenge - Maths

Some of our most able mathematicians in the sixth form are really being put through their paces at the moment.

A small group of Year 12 and 13 students have just started attending the King's Factor, being held in the early evening at King's in the Strand. It is a widening participation initiative set up by the Department of Mathematics, giving students the opportunity to tackle challenging maths problems which enrich and develop mathematical thinking.

Three of our Year 13 further mathematicians will be spending two Saturdays at UCL, working on MAT preparation materials. The Mathematics Admissions Test is one of the necessary admissions requirements for students applying to Oxford or Imperial Universities to study maths, computer science or their joint degrees.

We have also just been allocated a place in the UKMT Senior Team Challenge heat being held at Queen Mary's in London. Two Year 12s and two Year 13s will be representing our school at this event. I will keep you informed as to how they get on.

This week Priyanka Acharya and Ruqiya Deria were presented with certificates from the Open College Network for two level 2 units they completed on Interview Skills and an Introduction to Construction Professions. This follows a three day course entitled Budding Brunels which they attended in the summer term, provided by the Construction Youth Trust. Priyanka and Ruqiya spent two days at the University of East London and a day at the Crossrail site. They had the opportunity to meet inspirational figures currently working in the industry in apprentice, graduate and senior roles and learnt about the routes of progression the industry provides.

Ms Harding, Deputy Curriculum Leader (KS5) Maths

Barriers to learning



What barrier to learning has this person overcome?

Ms Caseley, Deputy Lead LSA

Education to understand the world and change it for the better



Sports Results

Cross Country

Congratulations to the Year 8 girls team who won the Greenwich Schools Cross Country Championships.

A particular mention to Lily Newton who won the Year 8 girls race and Dylan Gilbert who came 2nd in the Year 7 boys race.

Mr Muirhead, PE Department

Performing Arts News

Trips

We have two exciting opportunities coming up before Christmas.

- 14 November – Years 9, 12 and 13 dance students will be going to the Royal Opera House in Convent Garden so see a matinee show by the Royal Ballet. The new Triple Bill featuring work by Kim Brandstrup, Liam Scarlett and Christopher Wheeldon.
- 21 November - Laban degree students will be performing commissioned works in the main hall from 3.20pm – 4.20pm for all Year 9-13 dance students.

Habits of Mind

The Habits of Mind focus this coming half term will be **Collaborative**:

A graphic with an orange background. On the left, the text "COLLABORATIVE:" is in bold, followed by "Co-operating appropriately", "Giving & receiving feedback", and "Sharing the product" in a smaller font. On the right, there is a circular inset image showing two hands shaking in a firm grip.

COLLABORATIVE:
Co-operating appropriately
Giving & receiving feedback
Sharing the product

Cooperation is very important across the Performing Arts. We use group work a lot, allowing students to solve problems through teamwork and discussion. They **share** their work throughout a unit of work both in small groups and in front of the class in order to **give and receive feedback**. This allows students to develop confidence through the use of performance skills and to concrete their use of specialist dance language. Our HW also follows this pattern with a mixture of written research task and rehearsal tasks. The dance studio is open at lunchtime throughout the week to allow students to rehearse, develop their **cooperation** skills and receive **support** from their teachers.

Education to understand the world and change it for the better

Day	Lunch 1.30 – 2.00pm	Lunch 1.30 – 2.00pm	After School 3.20pm-4.20pm	After School 3.20pm-4.20pm
Monday	Junior Dance Company Yrs 7-8 <i>(G&T – by audition only)</i> In 0405 with AR	KS5 Dance Independent Work In 0404	Tallis Principle Dance Company All Yrs <i>(G&T* – by audition only)</i> In 0405 with AR	Boys Dance Company Starts for all yYrs Jan – July In 0405 with AR
Tuesday	KS3 HW support club In 0405 with AR	KS5 Dance Independent Work In 0404	Senior Dance Company Yr9-13 till Xmas <i>(G&T – by audition only)</i> In 0405 with AR	Step Into Dance Open In 0404 with external teacher
Wednesday	KS3 HW support club In 0404 with JK	KS5 Dance Independent Work In 0405		
Thursday	KS4-5 HW support club In 0405 with AR			
Friday	KS3-4 HW support club In 0404 with JK	KS5 Dance Independent Work In 0405		

The dance department will post all HW on Show My Homework along with support materials such as videos, music and key words to support students in producing the best work that they are able.

Mr Kelly, Curriculum Leader for Performing Arts

How to help my child in Science

There is a real focus on extended answer questions (The 6 mark questions) in the new GCSEs. These extended questions focus on scientific literacy as well as scientific content. Below are six tips to answering the 6 mark questions.



Ms Shaikh, Director of Science

Literacy across the Curriculum

Following on from last week's Latin root words, please find below some of the most common Greek root words. These words will help build a 'toolkit'; enabling your child to make links across disciplines, and expand their vocabulary. Here are a few ideas to try at home with your family. Have a competition to see who can create as many new words from the root/s. How would you use this word or words with your family? How could you teach it to your siblings/parents/carers? Have you discovered new words that you will now use when speaking to your family or friends, or can apply in your writing?

Kind regards

Alison Vitte

Literacy Coordinator

avitte@thomastallis.org.uk

Education to understand the world and change it for the better

Common Greek Roots

Greek Root	Definition	Example
anthropo	man; human; humanity	anthropologist, philanthropy
auto	self	autobiography, automobile
bio	life	biology, biography
chron	time	chronological, chronic
dyna	power	dynamic, dynamite
dys	bad; hard; unlucky	dysfunctional, dyslexic
gram	thing written	epigram, telegram
graph	writing	graphic, phonograph
hetero	different	heteronym, heterogeneous
homo	same	homonym, homogenous
hydr	water	hydration, dehydrate
hyper	over; above; beyond	hyperactive, hyperbole
hypo	below; beneath	hypothermia, hypothetical
logy	study of	biology, psychology
meter/metr	measure	thermometer, perimeter
micro	small	microbe, microscope
mis/miso	hate	misanthrope, misogyny
mono	one	monologue, monotonous
morph	form; shape	morphology, morphing
nym	name	antonym, synonym
phil	love	philanthropist, philosophy
phobia	fear	claustrophobia, phobic
photo/phos	light	photograph, phosphorous
pseudo	false	pseudonym, pseudoscience
psycho	soul; spirit	psychology, psychic
scope	viewing instrument	microscope, telescope
techno	art; science; skill	technique, technological
tele	far off	television, telephone
therm	heat	thermal, thermometer

Education to understand the world and change it for the better

Mentoring Begins!

This half term saw the launch of our new mentoring scheme. Year 12 students are mentoring a Year 8 across the year in a range of subjects, as well as supporting them to develop their literacy skills.

In September, Mrs Hodgson, Head of Year 8 spoke to the Year 12s about mentoring Year 8s. I am really pleased to say that 60 Year 12 students volunteered to help out and received training on how to be an effective mentor. The scheme began last week with a wonderful sight - Year 8s working closely with Year 12s to read, with some discussing current affairs.

Mrs Hodgson and I continue to work on expanding the scheme and look forward to sharing our progress over the coming year.

Mrs Odd (Head of Year 12) and Mrs Hodgson (Head of Year 8)

International Languages Day



Salut! Cześć! Merhaba! On Tuesday 14 October Thomas Tallis celebrated International Languages Day in order to embrace the many languages spoken by pupils and teachers in our school. We had lots of fun activities – Year 7s were served continental breakfast, took part in a language quiz and got their faces painted with international flags. At lunchtime, many pupils participated in language workshops such as Farsi, Italian, Spanish, Sign Language in French, Mandarin Chinese and Portuguese.

Ms Salci & MFL team

'It was fun! We got to eat pastries and drink apple or orange juice. We could even paint our face with different countries. After that we did a quiz, whoever finished in the top 15 had a prize. I enjoyed it very much, I hope we can do this next year again.' Crystal Hoang 7RM

'I learnt how to ask for a drink or food. It was fun and tasty! The food was lovely.' Sihan Ali 7AP

'It was fun and I got to learn things I didn't know before about Italy' John Zubair 7RM

Education to understand the world and change it for the better

Astronomy at Tallis



In the past 12 months astronomy has gone from strength to strength at Tallis and we currently have 12 Year 10s and 25 Year 9s studying for a GCSE qualification. The school has established close links with the Royal Observatory and we have attended some wonderful events. Last year the students attended a series of lectures by professional astronomers at the National Maritime Museum and also met an ex-space shuttle real astronaut!

The school has also purchased a Celestron telescope and we have held a series of wonderful observing sessions at Tallis where we have observed the M42 nebula (a region of star formation below Orion's belt)

and the gas giant planet, Jupiter. When saw Jupiter for the first time it was a real 'wow' moment! We saw the storm that is the giant red spot and saw the 4 Galilean moons in orbit as tiny pin-pricks of light.

The Year 10 students have completed their first 'naked eye observation' coursework charting the relative magnitudes of stars in three different constellations. They are currently observing the Moon with binoculars and telescopes. They have to chart how the features of the Moon vary according to its illumination, so over the next few weeks will be looking at places like the Sea of Tranquility where Neil Armstrong landed 45 years ago!



Education to understand the world and change it for the better



The past couple of weeks have been an especially busy period. Our students were asked to trial a new workshop on 'stars and electromagnetism' at the observatory and this week we took 30 students to a workshop and planetarium session at the Observatory. The students listened to cutting edge research on how supermassive black holes influence galaxy formation and how it's possible to discover exoplanets around distant stars. Within the next 20 years we think that alien life will be discovered on an Earth-like planet via spectroscopy.

Here are a couple of photos of the trips, one of which features one of our students in infrared!

Mr Smythe and Ms Bilham



Education to understand the world and change it for the better

Thomas Tallis School Library

All our Year 7 students have now visited the Library and had a Library Induction lesson where they have had an opportunity to explore the library resources and have been issued with a 'Quick Guide to the Library' leaflet to help them find both information and fiction books to aid their learning. Most students have been very keen to borrow books from the library and we would like this to continue throughout their time at Thomas Tallis and beyond. We are open throughout the day, as detailed below, including school break and lunch times. Please ask your children and their friends what they are reading and encourage them to explore the world of books.

Opening Times

The Library opening hours are as follows:

- Monday 8.00am - 4.30pm
- Tuesday 8.00am - 4.30pm
- Wednesday 8.00am - 4.30pm
- Thursday 8.00am - 4.30pm
- Friday 8.00am - 4.00pm

For any enquiries or suggestions please contact us.

Mrs J Hall – Learning Resource Centre Manager

Telephone: 020 8856 0115 Ext. 2003

Email: jahall@thomastallis.org.uk

Ms A Hatch - Assistant Librarian

Telephone: 020 8856 0115 Ext. 2003

Email: ahatch@thomastallis.org.uk



Education to understand the world and change it for the better



Computing Homework by Year 7 and Year 8 Students

This week's showcase is Year 7 student Perline Walsh computer science homework on Tallis 'Habits of Mind'. The task was to write the Tallis habits of mind both in binary and denary numbers using the ASCII (American Standard Code of Information Interchange).

For further information about our brand new computer science course, [please visit this link](#)

TALLIS HABITS

INQUISITIVE:
 Wondering & questioning
 Exploring & investigating
 Challenging assumptions

COLLABORATIVE:
 Co-operating appropriately
 Giving & receiving feedback
 Sharing the product

PERSISTENT:
 Sticking with difficulty
 Daring to be different
 Tolerating uncertainty

DISCIPLINED:
 Crafting & improving
 Reflecting critically
 Developing techniques

IMAGINATIVE:
 Using intuition
 Making connections
 Playing with possibilities

Ascii

Inquisitive	Collaborative	Persistent	Disciplined	Imaginative
I=00101001	C=00100011	P=00110000	D=00100100	l=00101001
N=01000110	O=01000111	E=01000100	i=01001001	m=01000101
Q=01010001	L=01001100	r=01010010	S=01010011	a=01000001
U=01010101	I=01001100	S=01010011	C=01000011	g=01000011
l=01001001	Q=01000001	i=01001001	i=01001001	l=01001001
S=01010011	b=01000010	S=01010011	P=01010000	n=01001110
i=01001001	O=01001111	t=01010100	l=01001100	a=01000001
f=01010100	r=01010010	E=01000100	i=01001001	t=01010100
l=01001001	a=01000001	n=01001110	n=01001110	i=01001001
V=01010110	t=01010100	t=01010100	e=01000100	v=01010110
e=01000100	i=01001001	E=01000100	d=01000100	e=01000100
	v=01010110			
	E=01000100			

B=00100010	P=00110000	W=00110111	7=111
Y=00111001	E=00100101	A=00100001	K=00101011
	R=00110010	L=00101100	A=00100001
	L=00101100	S=00110011	
	I=00101001	H=00101000	
	N=00101110		
	E=00100101		

Ms Zashan, Head of Computer Science

Barriers to learning: Bethany Woodward has Cerebral Palsy

Education to understand the world and change it for the better