



# TALLIS 2014 2015 Newsletter

Week 9 – 7 November 2014

## CALENDAR:

10 November – 14 November

Week B

Monday 10 November

Tuesday 11 November

AM Reg – Y12 Assembly

PM Reg – Y13 Assembly

Y10 Care trip to Smart Kidz

Nursery

Wednesday 12 November

AM Reg – Y9 Assembly

PM Reg – Y7 Assembly

Y13 Business trip to Clifford

Chance for mock interviews

Y12 Government & Politics

trip to Southwark Cathedral

Thursday 13 November

AM Reg – Y10 Assembly

Friday 14 November

AM Reg – Y11 Assembly

PM Reg – Y8 Assembly

We are back and working hard after our break. My sincere thanks to those who supported students coming to revision sessions: we hope they found it useful.

What's been happening this week? We've had a visit from a delegation of Taiwanese headteachers, come to look at our creative learning. They left us some lovely gifts - and it's always interesting to see ourselves through others' eyes. We've just heard that our 23 Year 9 and 10 Artsmark bronze students have all passed, so that's a lovely end to the week. Well done them!

Next week we have a busy Tuesday. It's Remembrance and so we'll be having our silence on the concourse during break time. We do hope that this helps our young people understand how Remembrance is observed in the adult world, and that we can help them learn to respect such a tradition. We've been selling poppies in school too. On Tuesday evening we are having a concert, as advertised in this newsletter, our students with the violinist Michael Boehmann. That will be wonderful, for our young people to have the chance to work with such a performer. Do come if you can.

On Wednesday we are having a meeting about setting up a PTA or Friends of Tallis. That's at 7.00pm in the Gallery. Do join us if you would like to be involved in that happy venture!

School council is progressing well. Do please encourage your son or daughter to stand and be

counted in our democratic structures!

Mrs Roberts, Headteacher

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## Tallis Character

We are very excited to be starting the process of examining the idea of Tallis Character in school. We are beginning by consulting with a small group of students and teachers about what we value at Thomas Tallis and what character traits we think are most important. To do this work we are very fortunate to be hosting a process consultant from an innovative Danish university called [Kaospilot](#). This is just the start of an exciting project. If you would like more information please contact Michelle Springer, Head of Guidance on [mspringer@thomastallis.org.uk](mailto:mspringer@thomastallis.org.uk)

## Debate Mate

On Tuesday 4 November, 21 Year 8 and 9 students attended the 2014 launch of the national debating programme Debate Mate, held at the impressive Emmanuel Hall in Westminster. It was an energetic and thought-provoking afternoon where the students were treated to a demonstration debate from some of the best debaters in the UK, Europe and the World! We will be running this debating club in school from now until May, with a number of competitions against other teams across Greenwich and the country. The students are fortunate to be working alongside top university debaters, who will be training and mentoring them over the coming months. We will let you know how we go!

## Health Hut Launch

The Health Hut at Thomas Tallis School is a drop-in health centre where students can go to talk about any health issues that they might be experiencing or have questions about. It is a complementary system to our PSHCE programme and is designed to give young people a space they can go to talk, ask questions or be signposted to particular health services. The Health Hut is open to all students and takes place in the LSU in Block 3 on Thursday lunchtimes. A poster will go to all tutor groups to advertise the service to all students. The Health Hut is supported by our School Nurse, Julie Unitt, and the head of the LSU, Marie Smith. If you would like further information about the Health Hut or have any queries please contact Michelle Springer on [mspringer@thomastallis.org.uk](mailto:mspringer@thomastallis.org.uk)

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## Community Day

On 27 November Thomas Tallis School will be running its first Community Day of the year. The Community Days are designed to give students the opportunity to work in different ways and with different people on a particular theme. The theme of the first Community Day is 'Choices'. Each year group will be undertaking a series of activities that are relevant to their current stage in school and with this theme in mind. The day will also cover statutory elements of the Citizenship and PSHE curricula. Further information will be given as the day approaches but it is an exciting time and a chance to focus sharply on particular areas.



### Sports News

Tuesday 4 November

Year 8 Boys 4 vs 2 Ravensbourne

Year 8/9 girls 0 vs 9 Shenfield

#### Fixtures

Wednesday 5 November

Cross Country at Leathersellers Sports Ground Year 7 & 8 boys and girls teams

Thursday 6 November

Year 10 Boys Vs Corelli College Kick off 2.30 Home

Year 9.10 Girls Vs Crown Woods Kick off 3.15 Away

Friday 7 November

Year 11 Boys Vs St Bons Kick off 2.15 Home

Year 7 Boys vs St Richard Reynolds Kick off 2.15 Home

Mr Muirhead, PE Department

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## PTA

We are re-launching the PTA - the first meeting will take place at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 12 November in the Gallery. It would be great to see anyone interested in getting involved. Please email [shenderson@thomastallis.org.uk](mailto:shenderson@thomastallis.org.uk) for more details.

## Barriers to learning

What barrier to learning has this person overcome?



Answer on back page

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## *#findyourvoice*

### *For Parents and Carers*

*Student Council has taken off with force this week with each year group from seven to eleven nominating and electing their tutor group representatives, which will make up each year council. Nomination forms were filled in and manifestos written. It was great to hear what is important to the students and get a sense of what they would like to do with this forum in the future.*

*Students have attended assemblies on the importance of using your voice and your vote. We are keen to highlight to students that student council is for everyone not just a few. A great student council would benefit enormously from having members who have many different skills and come from all different backgrounds. Some students may not think that student council is for them but please encourage them to put themselves forward and make the leap into something new. Elections and nominations have just started so it's not too late to get involved in this very worthwhile activity as it will broaden their school experience and teach them valuable life skills for the future.*

### *For students*

*Joining student council is a fun way to get involved with your school and it's a great way to make friends and meet new people. Getting involved gives you the opportunity to improve issues and make your school a better place.*

*If you are passionate about politics, focused on a career in the government or just want to make a difference then get involved! It will look great on college applications and your Curriculum Vitae. It shows future employers that you can take initiative, whether its improving student life within the school or making links with the outside community. Give it a try and get involved.*

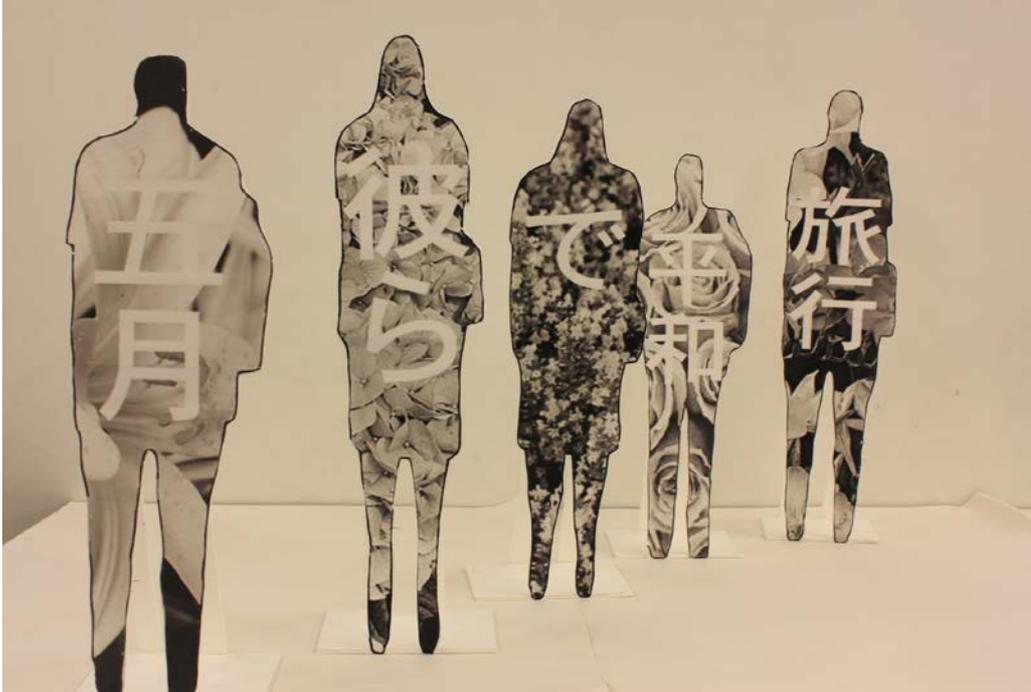
**FIND YOUR VOICE!!!**

*Ms. Kelly, School Council Coordinator*

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# ★ SHOWCASE ★

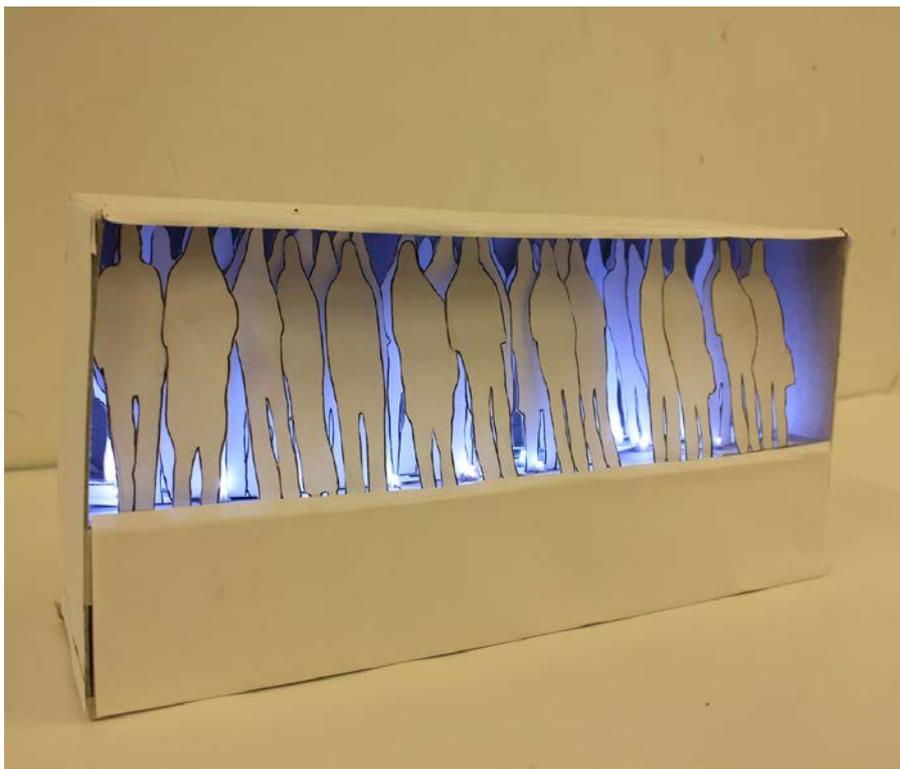
*May They Travel In Peace By Max Wyman*



*Max's final piece, focusing on the theme of 'rush hour', looks at the bombings across the London Underground in 2005. Using ghostly silhouettes, the symbolism of Japanese text and the significance of different flowers, Max has created a haunting, three*

*dimensional artwork that acts as a reminder of those lost and references our fragility.*

*Max's second piece, looking at the same theme, is a less symbolic, and perhaps*



*more somber representation of the lives lost. He has created a tomb like structure – similar to that of an underground carriage. He has placed 52 (the number of those that lost their lives on 7/7) silhouettes within the enclosed space, looking out at the viewer. Small lights have been placed inside the structure so that out of the dark within, a peaceful – or ominous light surrounds the figures.*

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## *Barriers to learning*

*Will Smith has dyslexia*

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