



# Tower House School

1931- 2022

## Fresh Beginnings

11th November 2022

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The two week half term break gave an opportunity for a concerted final push with our new development; it stayed dry enough (for a few days) to pour the playground and we finally received practical completion last Friday. Hurrah!!

The whole THS community should be thrilled and very proud of the results. It seems inconceivable that we have developed so much usable space and such amazing facilities in, let's not forget, an adjacent residential plot.

I was delighted to welcome Gay Search (Gardeners' World royalty) to the school last Saturday when we completed the softer landscaping with a rich array of plants with unpronounceable names. We thank Gay and her team for being so generous with their time.

When do we move in, I hear you cry? Well, we already have. The multi-purpose hall was immediately brought into action on Monday for PE and Games - then as its name suggests it was repurposed on Tuesday to house our Year 8 students to sit their mock Common Entrance exams (don't they look happy).

We are slightly disappointed in the extent of the 'snagging list' - not least the delay in the manufacture of the canopy which will (eventually) link the multi-purpose hall and the dinner hall - this may need to wait until January! However, other 'snags' are relatively minor, and we should have pupils luxuriating, whilst doing their learning, in shiny new classrooms next week.

The move across the playground will, of course, vacate areas previously occupied. We will take time to pause, reflect and plan - then our attentions will be directed at 188 - watch this space!





# Tower House School

## Butser Farm from Mrs Hogan



On Wednesday, Year 3 travelled to deepest, darkest Hampshire to visit Butser Ancient Farm and experience what life was like during the Stone Age. We stationed ourselves in a traditionally built replica of an iron-age house and then travelled back in time to the Stone Age. We sat on animal skins around a centre fire to learn more about this historical period. The first activity we took part in was using flexible hazel saplings to construct wattling fences. We then tried our hands at chalk-carving. We were each given a chunk of locally sourced chalk to colour green with a naturally available 'dye' that we made from leaves and then carved a picture using a piece of sharp flint. We returned to our house and enjoyed our packed lunches round our fire.







## Butser Farm (cont..)

Afterwards, we visited other shelters in prehistoric styles before exploring fabrics and materials to see how ancient people kept warm. Finally, we took part in an archaeological dig. The boys used trowels to unearth bones, shells, antlers and flints before trying to work out what the discovered artefacts were and also consider what they may have been used for. We had a brilliant day out and the boys came away covered in mud and chalk but with a much better understanding of the Stone Age from practical experience.







## Remembrance

With war still raging in Europe this year's Remembrance Assembly took on particular significance.

The school community gathered together this morning to pay respects to those killed or injured as a result of conflicts, past and present. I know The British Legion will be delighted with the contributions from THS, the poppy collection box was filled to overflowing - remarkable generosity in the name of a very worthwhile cause - thank you, to all.

Meanwhile, we sang hymns with gusto; James Earl recited In Flanders Fields; Wilf Singlehurst recited a very moving self-penned poem and two minutes of silence were impeccable observed following Ed Clement playing a note perfect Last Post on his trumpet.

An essential time for reflection - hoping for a peaceful future for all.







## Year 2 Visit to Holly Lodge

In Science, the boys have been learning about living things and their habitats and enjoyed a great outdoor session at Holly Lodge learning about various animals that live in the park.

The boys looked at some man-made animal homes for various birds, bats and insects. We then pretended to make an ant farm with aphids and thought carefully about food chains. The boys went off into the forest and took part in some fantastic activities including pond dipping, building habitats for squirrels, mice and foxes and looking closely under logs for various minibeasts. Great learning Year 2!

[Mrs Montague](#)

I really liked pond dipping and seeing my first newt! - [Charlie Hogarth](#)

I really enjoyed looking for creatures and making a habitat. - [Nicholas Edward-Moss](#)







## Bullying Awareness Week

This year, Tower House School will once again be joining in with Bullying Awareness Week. The week is organised by the charity Anti-bullying Alliance and the theme for this year is, 'Reach out!' Every year, nearly 70% of schools in the UK take part and the week will start on Monday 14th November with odd socks day.

Odd socks day designed to be fun. It's an opportunity to encourage pupils and staff to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique. All you have to do is ditch the grey socks for a day and put on something different. You could choose stripy socks, pink ones, fluffy ones, very long ones or just plain red ones! Your socks - your choice. Please remember, it's only the socks that are different for odd socks day. Pupils will need to wear the rest of their school uniform as usual, including the shoes.

We will be back with a more detailed round up of events in next week's newsletter but here is a brief roundup of what to expect:

Over the course of the week, the Senior boys will have visits from Richmond MIND and our Safer Schools Officer, PC Mick Mitridate. Also, the Junior School will all have the opportunity to attend a theatre performance and workshop.

Throughout the week, Year 8 will be selling special wrist bands for £1.00. If you don't catch Year 8 on the gate in the afternoon, the wrist bands will also be available in the school office.

As parents, If you are worried about bullying, please do not hesitate to contact any member of school staff school. Advice and information for parents is available from <http://www.kidscape.org.uk/> and there is a parent information pack on the anti-bullying alliance website <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/attachments/Anti-Bullying%20Week%202022%20-%20Parent%20Pack.pdf>







### Ceramics

Our Year 3 potters have been at it again! Visitors to the Junior School are treated to this display of ceramic mugs as they walk down the stairs. Ms Whiting's clubs have produced some amazing works of art over the last year or so - I think these are some of my favourites!



Orange and Yellow  
Marvellous Mugs

Year 3 Pottery Club  
Summer Term 2022

## CHRISTMAS FAIR DONATIONS

**We would be very grateful for:**

### Toys and Books

(new/nearly new, suitable for THS age group)

### Jam Jars

(empty, clean and odourless; decorated if you like!)

### Little Toys, Sweets and anything else to fill the Jam Jars

(remember no nuts; wrapped sweets only)

### Decorative Materials for the Jam Jars

(stickers, glitter, wrapping paper etc)

### Bottles for the Tombola

(any bottles - shampoo, nail polish, wine, olive oil, spirits etc)

**Donation boxes under the stairs by the Office and at the Junior School Entrance**





TOWER HOUSE SCHOOL

is delighted to invite you

# PROXIMA

Thursday 24th &  
Saturday 26th November 7pm

**The New School Hall**

**6.30pm Doors open**

**7.00pm Screening starts**

Drinks and snacks on arrival

Go to <https://www.foth.org.uk/proxima-school-screening> to buy tickets @ £15 each







## Happy Couple !

The Blue Calendar will have a new name in the staff list when it is next published. Mrs Renuhausay and her partner, Sam, married at half term and is now Miss Ren is Mrs Bolton. I am sure the whole community will join me in congratulating Izzy and Sam and wishing them the very best for the future!

We will try our best, but I am pretty sure Izzy will still be Miss Ren to our younger boys for some time to come

## Visiting Music Teachers

Silva McQueen, Tower House School's new singing teacher, will begin teaching on Tuesday 15th of November. Mrs McQueen knows Julian Smith well and has been given information on all of his past students including contact details. However, if you would like you son to start singing lessons then please do contact Mrs McQueen at:

[silva.mcqueen@googlemail.com](mailto:silva.mcqueen@googlemail.com)

Andy Miles, Tower House School's new guitar teacher, will begin teaching next week. Mr Miles will teach individual guitar lessons, run the guitar ensemble and two rock bands. All parents previously learning with Mr Pollard have already been contacted, however if you would like to discuss anything guitar related then please email Mr Miles at: [ajmiles59@live.co.uk](mailto:ajmiles59@live.co.uk)





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Bullying Awareness Week – Reach Out

PSHE & form times dedicated to bullying awareness workshops and discussions.

#### **Monday 14th November**

Odd Socks Day- wear your odd socks to school to show we are all unique and different, let's be kind to each other and respect each other's individuality.

- 8.40: JS bullying awareness assembly with Open View Education, theatre show, followed by drama workshops in ART Room;
- 10am: Year 1 Forest school
- 10.40: SS bullying awareness assembly with Y8
- 2.45: 1st/2nd/ 3rd v Ibstock (H)

#### **Tuesday 15th**

- AM: Y4,5,6 workshops with Richmond 'MIND' team
- 2.45: U9 A/B/C v Ibstock (H)

#### **Wednesday 16th**

- 10am: Reception visit from dentist - people who help us topic.
- 2.45: 1st/2nd/3rd/4th v Eaton House (H)
- 2.45: U11 A/B/C v Hornsby House (A)

#### **Thursday 17th**

- 11am: Y7/8 workshop with local police education officer – New Hall

#### **Friday 18th**

MUFTI Day – Children in Need – (suggested donation of between £2-£5)

- 2.45: U10 A/B/C v St Philips (A)

#### **Saturday 19th**

- 4.45pm & 5.00pm: Coaches leave school for London premier of 'Proxima'

## Have a lovely weekend!

Mr Gregory Evans, Headmaster