



Braveheart

24th March 2023

Few things have such a far reaching impact on our community than the senior drama production. The last few years have been strange, so much so, that Braveheart is the first live production for four years. Our (your) boys are so lucky to learn the skills needed when acting to camera; but nothing can replace the spontaneity (and nerves) associated with performing to a live audience. The results are stunning! Sitting on our new seating and looking down on a fantastic set, populated by brilliant actors was a real lump in throat moment for me.

The acting in Braveheart is on another level – the THS thespians have truly outdone themselves. It is (probably) wrong to single out any individual actors – but, Oscar Leonard, who plays William Wallace with such passion is surely worthy of a namecheck. I am sure all will repeat their excellence again tonight, as the run comes to an end – I know the capacity of our new theatre will



be tested this evening. Rest well, one and all over the weekend.

An army (literally) of helpers has helped Mr Geary's dream come to fruition. Once again, namechecking a few amongst many is dangerous – but, here goes.

The 'hometeam' trio of Mr Satt, Mr Hare and Mr Churches have given up untold hours in support of this show – without them, it wouldn't have happened – we extend our immense gratitude to them. Similarly, Andrew Webb, Vicky Singlehurst, Nicole Riad, Mariana Spears and Jane Bhandal have been invaluable aids to the cause –



Braveheart

providing costume expertise, set dressing skills and vital logistical support - and of course members of The Guild, headed up by Neil Haarhoff. We thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

Finally, I must leave space for a line on Paul Geary, the force of nature we have as a Head of Drama. The senior drama production is always a bittersweet moment for the Year 8 boys; they invariably have the leading roles - but they realise this is the last opportunity they will have working with the legendary Mr G. The other side of the coin is, of course, that our younger boys are enthused and excited to see the remarkable opportunities that lay ahead. The constant in all this is Paul. He is inspirational to pupils and adults alike - I think this is the seventeenth time I have said this in print

WE ARE VERY LUCKY TO HAVE HIM!





Have you ever seen the rain?

Year 1 tested the tear ducts last Friday with a jubilant assembly focussed on The Water Cycle. Not only is the subject matter the most important process on the planet - it provided perfect opportunities for the boys to show off their love of performing.

Complicated vocabulary (I am sure I didn't know the meaning of precipitation when I was 5 years old!), dynamic/colourful visual cues and rounded off with a Creedence Clearwater Revival classic. Parents and Grandparents started their weekends with smiles on their faces and springs in their steps - all thanks to a very special group of boys.





Do Something Funny for Money

Apologies to Year 8 for not mentioning their herculean efforts last Friday – the problem was we were still counting the generous contributions well into the evening! £1,300 in all (mostly in pound coins).

The school was abuzz with all manner of fun activities and many a red nose on display. Well done everybody!





Two big activities in one week!

Tomato Mummification...Part 1: Year 3 has been learning about Ancient Egypt in History. To better understand the process of embalming, the boys each mummified a tomato during this week's lesson. We went through a set of instructions that involved scooping out the insides of our 'body,' cleaning it carefully with 'palm wine' and then stuffing it full of natron (an equal mixture of salt and baking powder) to replicate the process. We have left our tomatoes to embalm and will open up their casings when we return from the Easter break to see if our embalming successfully preserved our fruit pharaohs.



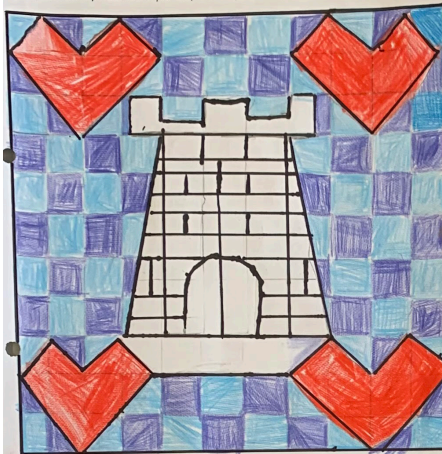


Two big activities in one week!

Y2 and Y3 spent the afternoon replicating the winning mosaic design for the base of a repurposed phone booth floor (it now houses a defibrillator) for our charity Community Heartbeat. The design they were creating came from a homework task the boys were set and from which 2 winners from Y3, 1 from Y2 and 1 from Y1 were chosen to make each of the four quadrants (see pic) Georgia, our charity representative, helped the boys' vision become a reality but she also taught them about how our hearts work, how defibrillators work, what CPR is and how it saves lives. Boys, who wished to, had a go doing chest compressions on a teaching dummy that lit up when they did them properly. Georgia will finish off our design by gluing the pieces down exactly where the boys wished for them to go as well as grouting the finished piece. We then aim to install our finished mosaic into a local defibrillator kiosk...watch this space!

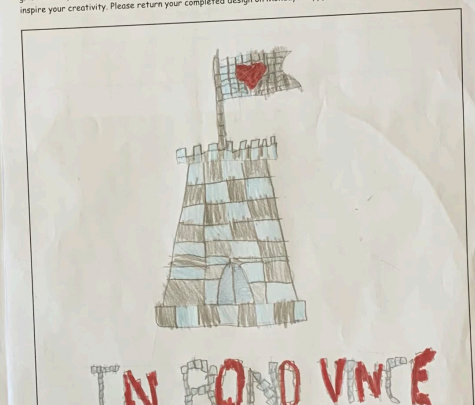


From coloured pieces of glass, tile or stones. Your mosaic can be a picture of something connected to our school or charity, a picture of something in nature, a pattern or design. For our younger boys, you may wish to use the gridded template overlaid rather than this more open-ended frame. There are some examples of mosaics to inspire your creativity. Please return your completed design on Monday. Happy crafting!



Junior School Homework: Mosaic Challenge

Please use the space below to draw and colour a mosaic design. A mosaic is a picture or pattern which is made from coloured pieces of glass, tile or stones. Your mosaic can be a picture of something connected to our school or charity, a picture of something in nature, a pattern or design. For our younger boys, you may wish to use the gridded template overlaid rather than this more open-ended frame. There are some examples of mosaics to inspire your creativity. Please return your completed design on Monday. Happy crafting!





Cross Country Message from Mr P

Cross Country Details Monday

We are hoping to see lots of you on Monday afternoon in Richmond Park to cheer your boys on as they compete for their house and also raise lots of money for so many fantastic causes.

Details:

- ALL boys come to school in PE kit and MUST wear tracksuit tops (recommend layers under PE polo shirt too such as school skins)
- Boys will walk up to the park to start at 2.30pm. The course is supervised by staff at regular intervals all the way round.
- The start lines are all staggered but are all easy to see as you come into the park gates at Sheen gate.
- Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 all run a smaller loop through the middle of the park and back to the start/finish line. These boys run for approximately 30mins. If parents want to run round with younger boys they are very welcome to do so.
- Year 4 & 5 run one large lap as their class race & then run for 45 minutes to complete as many laps as possible for charity/house.
- Year 6, 7 & 8 run two large laps as their race and then run for 45 minutes to complete as many laps as possible for charity/house.
- Not only are all boys raising money for their charity every lap completed goes on their house lap total with the winners announced in Friday's final assembly.
- All boys may go home with parents after the event is finished and they sign out with their form teacher or Head of Year. If this is not possible boys will return for collection at their usual pick-up time.
- There are no after school clubs on Monday.

Please note - DOGS - although we are in the park where many of you will be used to letting your dogs have the freedom to run around for the purposes of the day we ask that all dogs are kept on leads please. Boys should not run with dogs, sadly not all children are comfortable around dogs and we'd like to make sure they can all enjoy the event as much as possible.



Old Rugby Kit

Now that the final whistles have blown on this season's rugby matches and with the new kit coming - please do not throw out old THS rugby shirts/shorts. While some will no doubt be put to use (worn out) at home, we thought it would be a good idea to do a mass charity donation to East Sheen Mind, who will be able to raise funds for their work supporting people's mental health. Please don't worry if kit is damaged/well worn, as long as it is clean they can take it! In terms of collections, please do drop off at school or 33 Sheen Common Drive, TW10 5BW ahead of the 2nd hand uniform sale on Thursday next week. We will also run another collection next term. Thank you! You can find out more about the charity here: About Us - [About Us - Mind](#)

Racquets Cubed Easter Donation - Thursday

As mentioned in last weeks newsletter we are once again supporting this local Food Bank to help families most in need over the Easter period. Specifically we would love our boys to bring to school **Easter Eggs, vegetable oil** and **washing detergent** which will all be collected and given to families over Easter. Please send your son to school with any of these items on Thursday morning and on arrival we will collect them in the new Hall.

Thank you very much for your support.

Swimming lessons in the holidays!

For all Junior school parents please note that as part of our contract with the fantastic SwimWay, who are our swimming lesson providers, the school pays for lessons that extend outside the school term dates.

So please note if you would like to take your son for his swimming lessons on the week before we come back to school (week of 17th April) then his instructors will be there ready to teach him. Please just take him along to the pool at his usual lesson time, 1st lesson is at 2pm and second is 2.30pm. The boys will know if they swim first or second each week. This also includes a second lesson for the year 3 boys on Monday 24th April, the day before the start of term.

Library books

As we are nearing the end of the Spring Term could all overdue library books please be returned as soon as possible. Many thanks, Mrs Maxwell



TOWER HOUSE SCHOOL

Music Theory Easter Camp



Monday 17th April - 9:30am – 13:00pm

Tuesday 18th April - 9:30am – 13:00pm

£35 per day

What to expect?

- Personalised workbooks for age & ability
- Ukulele and Boom-whacker play along
- Chance to perform and play with friends
- Open to Year 3 to Year 8

Limited places available

Please contact Mrs Minter to reserve a place
minter@thsboys.org.uk



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday 27th March

- 2.30: Whole school Cross- Country – Richmond Park
- Please see details above. Boys can go home from the park when done or return to school for normal collection time.
No after school clubs

Wednesday 29th

- 8.40: Year 6 & 7 Trip to Natural History Museum & V&A
- Boys will need coats / blazers and a packed lunch

Thursday 30th

- 8.30: FOTH second hand uniform sale – lunch hall
- 8.10: **Easter Eggs, vegetable oil** and **washing detergent** charity collection for Racquets Cubed Food Bank
– New Hall

Friday 31st

- 10am: Whole school end of term awards assembly
- 11.45: YR/1 COLLECTION
- 12pm: Y2/3 COLLECTION
- 12.15: SS COLLECTION

Have a lovely weekend!

Mr Gregory Evans, Headmaster