



Thetford Grammar School

Independent School for pupils aged 3 - 18

Friday 7th September 2018

Dear Families and Staff of TGS,

I hope that you are ending the first week excited by the promise that a new term has to offer. As the school settles into routines – some familiar, many new – the potential is there for us all to achieve extraordinary things. On Wednesday morning, I asked the community to consider what goals we are setting for ourselves and, perhaps linked to those goals, what ways we will seek to improve our school. Some pupils have already stopped me to share their personal aims and to offer excellent ideas. Keep them coming!

Throughout the summer, many pupils took a break from holidaying to pursue a wide range of accomplishments. I would like to celebrate as many of these successes as possible in future assemblies and, going forward, to recognise notable achievements each week. Where pupils have done something remarkable, inside or outside of school, I would appreciate families dropping an email containing the key details to Mrs Reynolds via scsec@thetgram.norfolk.sch.uk so that I can share this information with the whole school. Of course, some may prefer less conspicuous recognition, let me know if a quiet ‘well done’ would be more appropriate.

Tomorrow sees Old School open to the public as part of Thetford’s Heritage events. Feel free to bring friends and family along between 10.00am and 1.00pm to see the place where Thomas Paine received a revolutionary education and perhaps even meet the man himself.

Further ahead, plans are already underway for our Sixth Form open evening on Thursday 4th October. For pupils in their GCSE years this will be an excellent opportunity to consider A level choices and to discover how our teachers are achieving an Oxbridge acceptance rate 20% higher than the national average. Further details will be sent out very soon.

Finally, a reminder that the Friends of Thetford Grammar School are hosting a coffee morning at 9.00am on Wednesday 12th, I look forward to meeting as many parents there as possible.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Mr Brewer



OVERVIEW

Sports Congratulations	Lost Property
Library News	Allergies – Packed lunches/snacks
Heritage Day	Congratulations
Remembrance Poppies	Match Results
Uniform Shop	Forthcoming Events

SPORTS CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to the following TGS pupils who have gained a place in one of the Suffolk Netball Performance Academies.

Sophie Peace and Cassie Clements have been selected for the County Futures Academy and Fearn Bourne, Ailish Jenner and Abby Clements have all been successful at Satellite level. The academies are part of the England Netball Pathway and have been introduced to assist the development of talented netball players. With hard work and determination players can progress through the Pathway and gain a place in a Super league team or even the England Netball team.

Our Head Girl, Kudzi Garikayi, was selected into Mavericks Futures last season, along with past pupil Eleanor Pringle. Both of these students started at Development Academy level and progressed through to Satellite, County Futures (Talent), County and then Mavericks Futures. Next step is a place in the NPL Squad, (National Performance League), then Super League and finally a place in the England Netball Squad.

All of the girls have represented the school in netball and they have all been part of Thetford Netball Club. Thetford Netball Club hold their U14 training on a Tuesday evening at Thetford Academy from 6.30 – 8pm and U15/Senior training on a Thursday at Thetford Academy. New players are always welcome.

LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome to TGS Libraries. Attached are Library Welcome Leaflets with information about using the Prep-School and Old School Libraries. I would encourage all parents and pupils to have a look through these and please do have a look at the section on online resources available from Norfolk Libraries. Discover what subscriptions are available (free) from your local library to help with homework and research.



Do you love reading? Mrs Vincini-Smith and myself will be offering Lit Club on Tuesday lunchtimes in Old School this year for pupils in Years 7 - 10. So, if you enjoy reading, quizzing and talking about what you've enjoyed please do join us! This term we will be



concentrating on putting together teams to enter the Norfolk heat of the International Kids' Lit Quiz. It's always a fun outing with the opportunity to meet local authors.

If you would like to find out about being a Student Librarian or volunteering in the library for Duke of Edinburgh then do come and talk to me.

Mrs J Settle
Librarian

HERITAGE DAY

From the 6th - 9th September hundreds of Norfolk venues, organisations, private homes and gardens are throwing open their doors to reveal and celebrate our rich history and heritage. We will be opening the doors in Old School on Saturday from 10.00am- 1.00pm. Entry is free.

Mr and Mrs Brewer will both be attending the event; Mrs Settle will be showing her Thomas Paine display and Mr Stuart Wright will be making an appearance as Thomas Paine himself.

Mrs Cathie Reynolds
School Secretary

REMEMBRANCE POPPIES

As part of this year's Remembrance celebrations marking the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, like many towns and villages across the region Thetford will have buildings and structures around the town decorated with thousands of knitted, crocheted or hand-made fabric poppies. We plan to participate in this important commemoration by arranging a swathe of poppies to adorn Old School.



We hope our students and families would like to contribute by knitting, crocheting, or crafting a few poppies to help us make a striking decoration. You can use any bright red wool/material with black for the centre – why not team up with friends to share a ball of wool or a spare piece of fabric? The poppies can be as simple or as elaborate as you like.

Attached are two knitting and two crochet patterns but do feel free to be creative and plan your own. Our poppies don't need pins but it is very important that they have a couple of tails of wool/cord/string which can be used to tie them onto netting. You can find many other patterns and tutorial videos on the net.

If you've never tried to knit or crochet before this is the perfect opportunity to have a go at something small! Please bring your poppies into the School Office week beginning 29th October.

Mrs Cathie Reynolds
School Secretary



THE UNIFORM SHOP



The uniform shop will be open during term time on Tuesdays, from 3.45pm until 4.15pm. We have many top-quality items for sale including blazers, sweaters, and sportswear. If you have any spare time to help with the shop, please let us know. You don't need to be a member of the Friends of TGS to volunteer.

Mrs Billie Lawler
Friends of Thetford Grammar School



ALLERGIES – PACKED LUNCHES/SNACKS

Due to allergies, I would be grateful if you could refrain from sending in nuts or products containing nuts as part of a packed lunch or for snack. We do encourage children to bring in healthy snacks for playtime and would appreciate your support. Many thanks.

Mrs Nicki Peace
Head of Preparatory School

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday 12th Sept	9.00am– 10.00am	Friends of TGS Coffee Morning
Friday 14th Sept	1.00pm – 3.00pm	Speech Day, St Edmundsbury Cathedral
Monday 17th Sept	4.00pm – 5.00pm	Prep School Parent/Tutor Meetings
Wednesday 19th Sept	4.30pm – 5.30pm	Y7 – Y13 Parent Tutor Meetings

FIXTURES

Tuesday 18th September	U14 Netball League v Wymondham College (A) 3.15pm. Pick up 5.30pm
Wednesday 19th September	U13 Rugby v Brookes (A) 2.00pm. Pick up 4.30pm.
Thursday 20th September	U16 Hockey v Hethersett Old Hall (H) 3.30pm. Pick up 4.45pm
Tuesday 25th September	U14 Rugby v Fakenham (A) 2.30pm. Pick up TBC

ATTACHMENTS



Library Welcome Leaflet – Prep School Library

Library Welcome Leaflet – Old School Library

Knitted Poppies Pattern

If you would like a printed copy of this newsletter please contact the office.