

THE TCS Tribune

Achievement • Excellence • Integrity



Issue #25 - Summer 2025



Testbourne Community School

Achievement • Excellence • Integrity



Dear valued Parents, Carers, and members of the community,

Welcome to the 25th edition of the TCS Tribune. This is our termly newsletter dedicated to sharing the activities of the students and staff in our wonderful school with our wider community.

As always, the summer term has been dominated by the GCSE examinations for our Year 11 cohort, along with the events that celebrate and signify the end of their time with us. They demonstrated a great deal of determination and resilience in their exams, behaved impeccably and were fine examples of what it means to be part of the Testbourne Community. At Testbourne, our mission is to develop independent, resilient and responsible young people. We know that this will serve them well in their next steps in education and beyond. I reflect that this cohort of Year 11 have really embraced that philosophy so will reap the benefits when they collect their results in August, when they progress to college and in later life.

As usual, the Prom was an incredibly enjoyable event. There were a large number of staff in attendance, volunteering their time to give the students a proper send off. The students had a wonderful time, dancing all night with an energy I don't remember having in my youth. Staff could finally thank Tiktok for one thing: the presence of classic '80s and '90s music in teenagers' musical vocabulary. As always, the children demonstrated excellent behaviour and manners, with many making the time to talk to staff and many being thoughtful enough to thank us all for the event as they left. The evening was synonymous with this cohort's behaviour, attitudes and dedication over the past few years. I should like to record my thanks to the staff who make the leavers' events and Prom happen – if not for those dedicated volunteers, we would not be able to provide such wonderful events for our students.

We had very successful and well-received year 5 days and a wonderfully positive Year 6 transition day and evening. It was lovely to see happy, relaxed children at both events and to see proud, happy and relieved parents during the Year 6 evening. We have also been busy with the usual trips and visits and transition events this term too. You can read about the trips and visits that have happened in this term throughout this edition. Once again, my thanks go to our dedicated staff who volunteer their time, sometimes into the holidays or at weekends, to provide such incredible opportunities for our students.

We had our prestigious annual Prize Giving event this term too. Usually, this would take place at the Winchester Guildhall but due to a ceiling collapse there, we were grateful to be hosted by QMC. The smaller venue and reduced running order did nothing to dampen our spirits in a celebration event that was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It was wonderful to see the pride and pleasure of the children and their parents when citations were read out and certificates were collected. The recognition they gain is for demonstrating the Testbourne Standards of Excellence that underpin our culture and ethos: Kindness and Respect; Honest and Integrity; Ambition, and Leadership.

Every half term, I write Headteacher recognition letters for two children nominated in each year group for being fantastic examples of the Testbourne Standards of Excellence. This is always a great pleasure and gives me opportunity to focus on children who are very representative of Testbourne students: polite, kind, thoughtful, resilient and hard working. This term's Headteacher recognition letter recipients are:

Spring 2

William Allaker
Tomos Cottrell
Leila Mansbridge
Cameron Marrocco
Grace Smeeton
Finlay Tranter
Milda Zoromskyte
Catherine Eadsforth
Bihela Sapumanage

Summer 1

Eleanor Fowles
Axl Luckhurst
Gregory Bull
Felicity Hall
Grace Harper
Edward Hollis

Summer 2

Emily Griffiths
Alice Hutton
Sonny Joyce
Devesh Kumar
Alexis Minikin
Vanya Mykhailetskyi
Alfie Newman
Eva Rainbow

Additionally, you may be aware that we have "Hot Chocolate Friday." This event is a weekly recognition event for students who have demonstrated exceptional effort in their learning and in modelling the Testbourne Standards of Excellence. This term, the recipients of Hot Chocolate Friday have been:



Anna and
Oscar Andrews
Alexa Andrews
Phoebe Beckell
Susanna Benedetto
Chiara Benedetto
Ellie Binfield
Sam Bishop
Zach Brown
Emily Buckley
Gabriela Buczek
Olivia Couchman
William Curtis
Daisy Curtis
Annabel Davis
Harry Darcy
Bo Dowling
Lily Dowling
Jasper Eley
Maddie Ellis
Betsy Ellis
Charlie Forsey
Jacques Fortune

James Gilbert-Ashur
Olly Griffiths
Skye Hadley
Jake Hayes
Poppy Heywood
Olivia Hollis
Flint Hopkinson
Milo Hopkinson
Shengyou Jason
Aiden Jenvey
Archie John
Lucas Judge
Charley Long
India Lyons
Morgan Mason
Isla Mears-Cook
Madison Nash
Alfie Nixon
Gemma Orange
Nico Quiroga
Rosie Rhyder
Parker Rickman
Katrina Robinson

Gabriella Rugila
Ava Selwood
Owen Selwood
Daniel Smith
Alana Stafford
Falisha Tenga Arif
Asha Torrens
Shaun Michael Valderama
Aiden Veck
Archie Verney
Ted Verney
Arthur Warne
Lorcan Whiteley
Lewis Williams
Holly Williams
Lacey Williams
Jasmine Wilson
Xander Wright
James Wycherley
Axl Xander
Eleanor Young
Dominic Young

Finally, all that remains to be said is that I wish you a wonderful summer and hope that you get to spend some quality time with those who mean the most to you. We look forward to welcoming students back to school in September.

Kindest regards,

Mr Jon Beck

Hengistbury Head and Rivers Fieldwork

The geography department had a wonderful time spending two weeks in June carrying out fieldwork.

We began the fortnight of fieldwork by taking Year 10 to Hengistbury Head so they could carry out their physical geography enquiry for their paper 3 exam which will take place next June. Students were investigating whether the coastal management at Hengistbury Head was controlling longshore drift (stopping sand being moved along the beach). Students measured the beach width and the drop either side of the groynes. They also drew a sketch of their findings. The students were super at collecting their data and have shown great maturity writing up their results in the classroom. Students have concluded that the groynes are working!

The following week, we carried out some Year 7 rivers fieldwork in the Millennium Meadow (Whitchurch) working with the Wessex Rivers Trust. We had a fantastic time learning about the river environment with them. Here are a couple of extracts from Year 7 to describe their experience.

“As part of our geography topic on rivers, we went on a trip to the River Test where we were met by the Wessex River Trust. I really enjoyed this day because the volunteers were very kind and patient and led us through some great activities.

Our first activity was measuring the depth and width of the river using measuring tapes and metre sticks. We also collected some rocks so that we could see how the size of the rocks vary depending on their location in the river. As our last task in that part of the lesson, we worked as a whole group to test the speed of the river flow using a tennis ball which I found really interesting.



After that we went on a walk around the river to see which features and wildlife we could spot, and we then got to do a sketch which was great!

The two volunteers and teachers worked really hard to help us enjoy our day which I am very grateful for. Being able to do practical work at an actual river helped a lot because it is more visual and we could have fun whilst doing it. This trip was amazing and I really hope there are more like it!”

- Beth, Year 7

“It was a sunny, warm day when we walked down from Testbourne to meet the Wessex River Trust for our very first geography trip. We were all excited as we gathered with the trip leaders, eager to explore the River Test and learn more about how rivers work. The walk to the river was short so we got there promptly.

When we arrived at the river, we split into two groups to begin the activities. Group One was the first to wade into the river to take measurements. We were asked to measure the width, depth, and length of a specific section of the River Test. It was interesting to see how these measurements changed along the river. For example, we noticed that the depth was much greater in the middle of the river compared to the edges. We also measured the velocity of the water flow at three different points: the near bank, the midpoint, and the far bank. By calculating the speed at these points, we could see how the flow rate changed depending on the river’s shape and the slope of the land. Additionally, we measured the sediment size at each of these points.

Meanwhile, Group Two took a more observational approach. Armed with a checklist, we walked along the riverbanks to sketch the river and observe its wildlife. We were encouraged to identify different plants, insects, and birds that we could spot in and around the river. It was fascinating to see the diversity of life, and we learned how rivers support ecosystems by providing food and habitats for many species. Some of us even spotted insects like mayflies and dragonflies, which are indicators of water quality. This part of the trip helped us see how important the river is, not just for its physical features, but for the plants and animals that rely on it.”

- Lexie, Year 7



The Eden Project

The Geography fieldwork continued in July, with Year 9 embarking on an educational adventure to the Eden Project in Cornwall. With an early departure time of 5am, the day began with bleary eyes and excitement as students and staff boarded the coach to make the long journey from school to the famous ecological attraction. Despite the early start, the journey was filled with anticipation, and by the time we arrived, the energy was high!

Nestled within the Cornish landscape, the Eden Project is home to some of the largest and most immersive biome structures in the world. Year 9 students had the opportunity to explore three main biomes: the Mediterranean Biome, the Tropical Rainforest Biome, and the Enchanting Outdoor English Garden. Each dome offered a dramatically different climate and ecosystem, transporting them across continents within a single day.

One of the highlights of the visit was a hands-on workshop led by Eden Project's experienced educators. The session focused on the vital role of tropical rainforests and the pressing need to protect them. Through interactive discussions and engaging presentations, students explored topics such as the impact of deforestation on local and global ecosystems and the process of everyday products that originate from rainforest resources, from chocolate to rubber. Several students shared their impressions of the trip:

"We've all learnt a lot. It was really hot and it all felt so real!"

"It was my first time being there and it was such a fun time!"

"We learnt about the impacts of deforestation and what we use daily from our rainforests. The Rainforest Biome was full of unique plants, tall trees and impressive watering systems."

'I found it very interesting, especially the rainforest biome. I learnt a lot of new things, for example, there's a massive connection between us and the rainforest in more ways than just palm oil and how much carbon dioxide it absorbs. I learnt about the scientific research surrounding medicine and adaptation. I enjoyed seeing all the interesting plants and flowers, some examples being a guava tree or a cocoa tree.'

It was a really great day of exploration, education and fun - an enriching fieldwork experience that connected textbook learning to the real world in a powerful and memorable way. Overall, we've had a fantastic time at Testbourne for our Geography field research this year, being out in the field and getting hands on with nature. We look forward to next year's fieldwork experiences! Thank you to our Year 9s for engaging so well with the work.

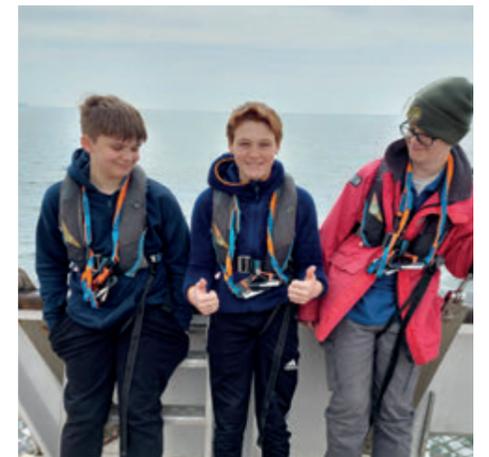
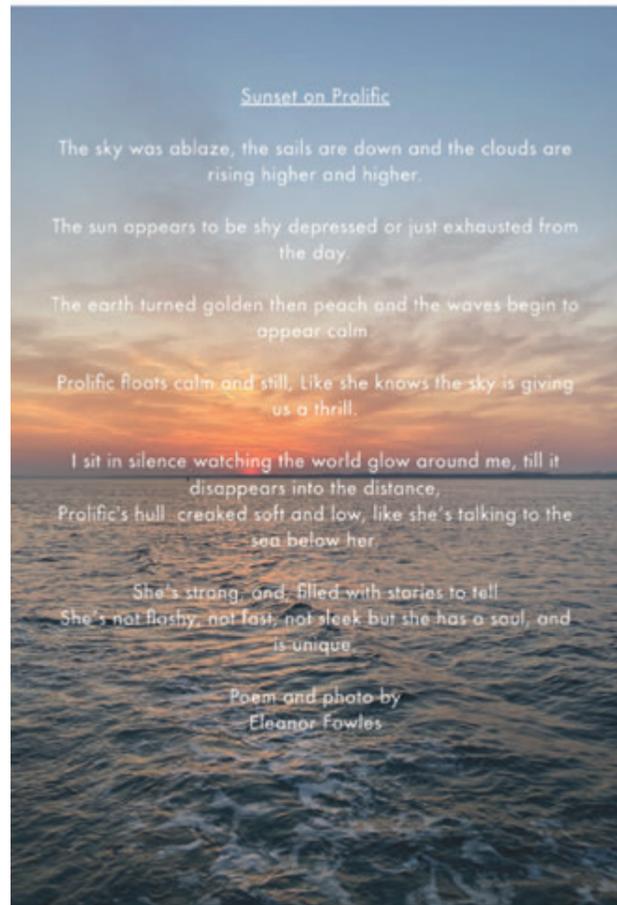


Sailing on the Prolific

For the third year running, a group of Testbourne students set sail for four days on the Ocean Youth Trust's sail training yacht, the Prolific, during the Easter holidays. They were led by a crew of OYT 'sea staff' who helped everyone to learn about sails, navigation, safety and how to live on board the boat. All those on the trip earned their RYA Start Yachting Certificates after voyaging to Portsmouth, Cowes, Poole, Yarmouth and back to Southampton. Well done to the whole crew: Nolly, Frankie, Aiden, Briony, Jess, Lewis, Harry, Maisy, Grace-Eleanor, Elizabeth, Eleanor, Olly, Ava and Mrs Backhouse. Two students have written beautifully below about their experiences. Many thanks to Eleanor (following her second OYT voyage) and Briony.

Another voyage sets off in October 2025 (which is already fully booked) but if you'd like to join the crew in future, there will be another Testbourne voyage on the Prolific in April 2026. Watch out for more information in the autumn term.

Briony: *I really enjoyed the sailing trip on Prolific and got to enjoy amazing new experiences with new people. Some highlights were: going on the bowsprit, the extreme washing up, having hot chocolate on bean bags beneath Spinnaker Tower, steering the ship and the beautiful sunset on the last night. Hoisting the sails was challenging but fun, and some of the knots were hard to learn and/or remember. Adapting to the boat was also quite challenging as it was obviously very different from everyday life, but everyone aboard, all the crew, were supportive and kind. From the trip, I learnt how to adapt to new environments, how to connect with new people, how to tie plenty of new knots and many more things important to sailing. It helped me get used to being away from home for a long time, as everyone was super supportive, and you were always engaged in something to distract you. I learnt many new things about sailing I never knew before, and enjoyed it loads.*



VE Day

In May, Testbourne commemorated the 80th anniversary of VE Day, where students completed activities in tutor that looked at the personal stories of people that lived through VE Day, and observed a 2 minute silence at 12:00. Cadets also spent the school day in uniform, as well as attending the Methodist Church in Whitchurch with the Executive Student Leadership Team. During literacy sessions in the library, our KS3 students have listened to an extract from 'Anna at War,' by Helen Peters, a story about the experience of Jewish Germans during the outset of WW2. In the library we have had a display of fiction and non-fiction WW2 books for students to browse and borrow.

Thanks to your kindness and generosity, we raised over £468.00 for the Royal British Legion and PTF. We are incredibly grateful for all contributions. Thank you to all students for their respectful behaviour throughout the day, and we hope everyone enjoyed the activities and learnt more about VE Day and Great Britain's part in WW2.





EV Chargers!

TCS has recently installed 4 EV Charging points in front of the school for the community to use. Powered by Bright Green, charging can be managed easily via an app on your phone or directly on the kiosk screen. These chargers make it easier than ever for parents and the wider community to ensure their cars are always topped up.



Visit from Kit Malthouse

In May, Testbourne got to showcase our fantastic SEN (Special Educational Needs) and Return to Learning Provision to Kit Malthouse, who visited for the day. We're incredibly proud of the inclusive and supportive environment we provide for all our students, so this visit was a great opportunity.



Whitchurch Folk Festival

Back in May, our Folk Club represented the school performing at Whitchurch Folk Festival, helping to keep our local folk music traditions alive, passed down just as they have been for generations. That Saturday evening saw a performance by the Imperial Balalaika Orchestra of Overton (made up of past and present Testbourne students), supporting professional touring band The Budapest Cafe Orchestra.



Knife Crime Assemblies

In May, TCS held assemblies presented by the police about knife crime to raise awareness about the dangers and consequences of knife-related violence among young people. We hope that students found the sessions informative and they help to keep them safe.



Social Media Student Takeover

As part of careers week, groups of Year 10 and 7 students hosted a student takeover on our Facebook and Instagram pages in order to learn more about digital marketing and content creation. They took photos and videos using various cameras, and edited their posts however they saw fit. Using the various analytics provided by the social media platforms, students could see the demographics their posts reached and how many clicks they received. Check out their content on our pages!



Mental Health Awareness Week

This year's Mental Health Awareness Week theme was 'Community', where students explored what this means, how community is linked to Mental Health and the benefits of being part of them. We hope the activities and discussions students participated in during this week helped with their mental health awareness for both themselves and others around them. Please remember to visit the Student Wellbeing page on SharePoint for Mental Health resources, activities and support, or speak to your tutor if you feel you need assistance.



Meducators Andover Trip



ABRSM Music Theory Exams

TCS is now an approved ABRSM music theory exam centre and we look forward to more students sitting music theory exams in the future. A big congratulations to Jacques, Asha and Toby for being our first students to get a pass or higher in their ABRSM music theory exams. We are all very proud here at TCS.

Photographer and Videographer

June was a busy month for media here at Testbourne as we had visits from a professional photographer and videographer to update our images for the school's website and publications. Thank you to all the superstar students who volunteered to be part of our new promotional video and took part in the photoshoots - keep an eye out on our website and Social Media for all new photos and content!



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Year 10s and Year 11s taking part in the DofE Award scheme have been out and about since January on DofE training days and expeditions.

In January, the Bronze and Silver group spent a day to start their training for expeditions which are a big part of the DofE Awards. The Bronze group of Year 10s used the school orienteering course for navigation practice and had a taste of campcraft skills before heading off site for a walk. The Silver group of Year 11s also set out to improve their map reading skills on a local walk, as well as working together for the first time as a team.

In March and April, the Bronze group met three times on Sundays – first for a busy First Aid and campcraft training day at school, then for a walk in the Hampshire Downs and finally for a training walk around St Mary Bourne. Students learned lots of new skills to prepare for their expeditions.

In May, Bronze Award students enjoyed a successful training expedition in the New Forest. Seven teams navigated their way to their overnight campsite, with training along the way from their team leaders, and the next day had more independence walking from checkpoint to checkpoint.

July has seen three expeditions. The Bronze final expedition involved four minibuses, a van, several leader cars, ten leaders, 30 tents and 46 students! The logistics all worked and all seven teams had some amazing experiences finding their way and completing the expedition. Well done to all of the students.

After GCSEs and the Prom, the team of seven Silver DofE students were ready for their practice expedition in the Chilterns. The heatwave was in full force, but by getting up very early (6am!) and setting off early, the team showed their resilience and determination.

As I write, the final Silver expedition in the Mendips is fast approaching just before the end of term – the team will be walking the West Mendip Way from the Bristol Channel coast to Wells Cathedral. Thanks as ever to all the fantastic volunteer DofE leaders for taking charge of teams, teaching navigation, First Aid, campcraft and also some life skills along the way! We couldn't run the DofE programme at Testbourne without them and we owe them a huge thank you for giving up around 100 hours per year to help the DofE students achieve their Awards.

If any current Year 9 parents are interested in volunteering next year when their child is likely to be doing their DofE Bronze, please do get in touch by **emailing Mrs Nottingham, DofE Manager at s.nottingham@testbourne.school**.

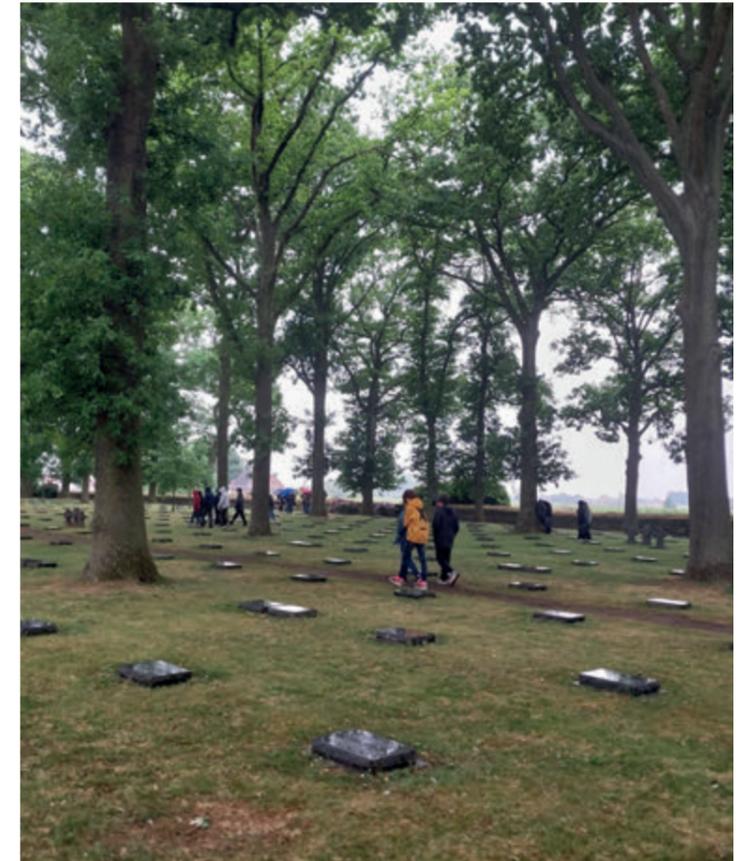


Belgium Trip

Our school trip to Belgium last month was an unforgettable journey through some of the most significant sites of World War I. We began our adventure by departing from Whitchurch and heading to Dover, where we crossed the Channel to Calais. Our first stop was Essex Farm, a poignant site where John McCrae wrote the famous poem *In Flanders Fields*. After this reflective visit, we continued on to our accommodation at the Peace Village in Messines. Without missing a beat, we jumped straight into some fun with a lively evening of bowling, which was a great way to unwind after a long day of travel.



The second day of the trip was packed with more historical exploration. We visited Vimy Ridge, a powerful symbol of Canadian sacrifice, and then travelled to the Somme, where we explored the Wellington Quarry Tunnels—an underground network used by soldiers during the war. We also visited the Thiepval Memorial and the Lochnagar Crater, both stark reminders of the scale of the conflict. The day concluded with the deeply moving Last Post ceremony at the Menin Gate in Ypres, a tribute to the fallen soldiers. On our final day, we visited Tyne Cot Cemetery, the largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the world, and the Langemark German Cemetery, offering a contrasting perspective. The trip was both educational and emotional, giving us a deeper understanding of the war's impact before we made our way back home.



Mr Carrington stars in a play - Treading The Boards

Mr Carrington from the Drama Department, recently spent some time practising what he preaches by taking part in the Maskers Theatre Company's production of the Bill Bryson novel 'Notes from a small Island', an adaptation of the autobiographical book of his travels around the British Isles.

Selling out three weeks prior to the start of the run, the performances were well received and according to Mr Carrington, "The punters seemed to really enjoy it". Although rewarding, he says that it was tiring as he was playing the part of Bill and was on stage for virtually the whole show. First, he narrated his way around the UK as a university student, and then twenty years later revisiting the characters and places that had left such an impression on him. It was also a lesson in focus, because he had to keep up an American accent for over two hours!



Harry Massey's Long Hike

This year, Harry in Year 9 completed an incredible challenge for charity, and has provided a short summary of this amazing feat to share with everyone:

Earlier this year, we decided as a family to undertake a challenge for charity. We decided on a 'long hike'. I wanted to raise money to support a marine charity - as I want to protect nature and fragile marine habitats. We decided to hike the Wayfarers Way from Combe Gibbet near Newbury to the Wayfarer Way finish at Emsworth on the south coast. The Way is over 100km long.

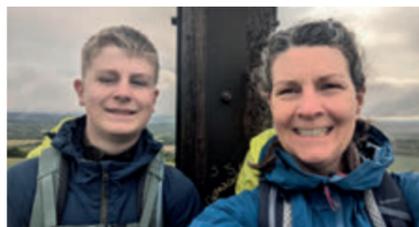
On Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th June 2025 we completed the hike, totally 28 hours of hiking over two days and covering a total 119km each. We finished late Sunday night in Emsworth.

Collectively we raised over £1250 with at least £650 for my chosen charity.

It was a big challenge, and I am also counting this as my personal challenge for my Gold Scouts Award which I am aiming to get in the summer.

Harry Massey, Year 9

We are all very proud here at Testbourne, well done Harry for this inspiring achievement!



Prizegiving 2025

On Thursday 10th July we held our annual prizegiving event which was a fantastic celebration of our wonderful students. Due to the ongoing repairs at the Winchester Guildhall, we had to find a different venue and were extremely grateful to QMC who came to the rescue and were able to accommodate us at short notice. Guests were welcomed by our pianists playing in the foyer and we later enjoyed musical performances from the TCS Brass Ensemble and soloist Grace Smeeton, singing "Quiet" from Matilda the Musical. The evening began with inspiring speeches from Mr Beck and our guest speaker, Kate Broadribb, who later presented the certificates and trophies to students. We were fortunate to be joined by sponsors, representatives from the Governing body and the PTFA who also presented awards.

Students across all year groups were recognised for their effort and achievement in each subject. Heads of Year also read personalised citations for students who received awards for demonstrating the Testbourne Standards of Excellence. After the certificates and trophies had been presented the Executive Student Leadership Team gave the vote of thanks to our guests, speakers, school staff and all award recipients.

Congratulations to all our students who received awards at Prizegiving 2025!



Goodbye Year 11!

On Thursday 19th of June our Year 11s came together to look back on their time at TCS, celebrate their achievements, and enjoy some well deserved ice cream in the sun. Here's to unforgettable friendships and lessons learned - both inside and outside the classroom - and to the incredible futures ahead of each and every one of you. We are incredibly proud of you all here at Testbourne and wish you well on your next steps. Thank you all for being wonderful students!



Student Artwork Spotlight



Daniel, 11~3



Archie, 11~2



Rose, 11~1

Provenance Trip to Binley Farm

As part of their GCSE Food Preparation & Nutrition course, our Year 10 students recently embarked on a 'farm to fork' educational visit to Binley Farm, designed to deepen their understanding of food provenance and the journey ingredients take before reaching our plates.

During the visit, students explored how wheat is cultivated in the local area, learning firsthand about the agricultural processes involved. They even had the opportunity to grind their own wheat and produce flour, gaining practical insight into the transformation from raw ingredient to finished product.

The trip also sparked thoughtful discussion around sustainability and the vital role that local producers play in our food systems. It was an inspiring and enriching experience that brought classroom learning to life in a truly memorable way.



International Swimming Gala in Stuttgart

Grace was a member of a team of 28 junior swimmers (ages 11–14) selected to compete in the 49th Stuttgart International Swimming Competition in Germany for Winchester City Swim Club on weekend of 21st -22nd June 2025. They raced against clubs from around the world, including Nigeria, France and Austria.

Over the two days of competition Grace swam in 8 events across a variety of strokes & distances. She secured 6 personal bests, no mean feat given the different country, outside location & language, and also won a silver medal for coming second overall in her age category for female 200m breaststroke. An amazing achievement!

The team finished an impressive 3rd place Bronze overall (out of 22 teams) topping all visiting clubs despite being an age-group squad! They broke multiple event records, won numerous medals, and demonstrated incredible teamwork and resilience.



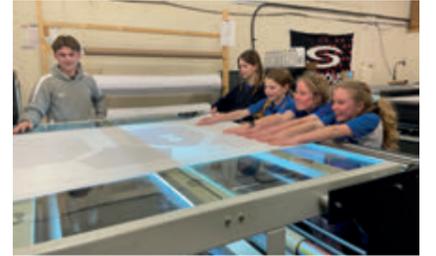
New Girls Football Kit

The girls TCS Football Team have wanted their own football shirts for quite some time, and earlier this year that wish came true! This has been made possible with special thanks to parent J.Booth, a generous donation from Editorial Office (Alice Ellingham and Gill Smith) and the Testbourne School PTFA.

The girls were invited to come up with ideas for the shirt designs. The designers produced several designs and the most popular one included an ombre effect symbol to represent the heritage of the local silk mill in Whitchurch. They also cast a vote on colours for the shirts and goal keeping tops.

It was kindly organised for some of the students to go along and see the production of the tops at a local printing business in Dummer. From artwork on screen, to the shirts being printed, the girls fed the print into the sublimation machine - which is nearly 200 degrees! The ink was then printed onto the fabric, peeled from the paper and ready to be cut and sewn together.

And here they are, the teams wearing their brand new playing shirts! The team is thrilled and really appreciate the organisation that has gone into the shirts. Thank you from Testbourne!



GOLD Sports Mark for the PE department

We are delighted to announce that Testbourne have achieved the School Games Gold Mark Award for the 2024/25 academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

With many students competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year. A special thanks to the Physical Education Department and teachers, staff and parents across the school who support the running of clubs and events. We look forward to applying once again in 2026!



Year 9 and 10 District Athletics

30 of our Year 9 and 10 students attended the district athletics event that was held in May. Testbourne finished in 4th place overall out of 8 schools, which the students were pleased with considering we had a slightly smaller team than other schools. Several of our students performed amazingly in their individual events. Below are the names of all the students who have qualified for the County event in June, placing either 1st or 2nd.

Year 9 Girls	Year 9 Boys	Year 10 Girls	Year 10 Boys
Celeste - 800m/1500m	Archie - 1500m	Gemma - 800m/1500m/	Quentin - Jav
Ava - Jav/800m	Jack - 1500m	Ziva - TJ	Ed - LJ/200m
Lily - Dis/Shot		Emily - 100m	Noah - TJ
Emily - 200m		Eva - 300m	Ted - 800m
Lily - LJ/200m			

- Lily set a new record in the discus from 24.30m to 27.02m.
- Ed set a new record in the Long Jump from 5.86m to 5.92m. This record has been in place since 2013.
- Ava set a new record in javelin from 24.55 to 27m.
- Archie set a new record in the 1500m 5.01 to 4.44.79.

There were only 5 records broken all day from all the athletes who attended. Year 8s can participate despite being underage, so for Jack and Emily to perform like this was an exceptional achievement for them, with Jack's time beating the previous record in the 1500m!

County Athletics

Junior Girls

On Saturday 14th June, several Testbourne students had been selected to represent Andover at the County Athletics Championships in Portsmouth. We had some outstanding results throughout the day, and it was very exciting to be there to witness their success!

Lily jumped a massive 5.25m to win the long jump and gain the qualifying distance required for English School selection. The next best jump in this competition was 4.45m showing just how outstanding Lily's performance was! At the same time, Lily was performing in the discus, and she too finished in 1st place gaining a new PB of 27.48m meaning she achieved the qualifying distance needed to be considered for English School's which is due to take place in a few weeks' time. Both girls now need to wait to see if they gain a spot on the Hampshire Team.

Earlier in the day, Ava chose to compete in the Javelin, having qualified in both the 800m and Javelin at Districts. Battling strong winds that caused many fouls, she secured 2nd place with a throw of 26.54m and will now join both Lilys in representing Hampshire at the Inter Counties event in Crawley this Saturday. In the 800m, Celeste took on a two-run trial format. Against a tough, fast-paced field, she showed great perseverance, finishing 8th out of 14 with a time of 2:32. Well done, Celeste!

Emily, in Year 8, has recently started competing in school races. In the junior girls category (Years 8 and 9), she qualified for the 200m event, ran an excellent heat, and reached the final. After a focused wait, she gave it her all and finished 6th with a time of 29.40s. A brilliant start, Emily should be proud of how much she's achieved!

Junior Boys

Congratulations to Archie, who qualified for the boys' 1500m but couldn't compete due to injury. We wish him a swift recovery so he can return to the sport he loves. Jack also qualified and, in a large field with the winner clocking a speedy 4:24, held his own and finished 10th with a time of 4:52. It's a brilliant result for someone new to the 1500m, setting a personal best each time - keep going, Jack!

Intermediate Girls + Boys

Poppy made the 1500m look effortless, steadily climbing through the pack to win in 4:48. Already having met the English Schools qualifying time, she now awaits confirmation -alongside both Lilys- for a spot on the Hampshire team. In the meantime, she'll represent Hampshire again at the Inter County event next Saturday.

She was supported by Emily in the 100m, who placed 3rd in her heat and earned a 'faster loser' spot in the final. Emily finished 4th overall, matching the 3rd place time of 13.2 in an exciting race - something to be proud of!

Ed had a busy day, competing in both the long jump and 200m. With no recovery time after placing 2nd in long jump (6.17m, just 22cm from first), he pushed through and qualified for the 200m final. After resting all afternoon, Ed powered through the last race of the day to finish 2nd again, setting a new PB of 23.20. He'll now join the girls at the Inter Counties event in Crawley this Saturday.

Quentin, back after missing out last year, earned another shot at County level with a 2nd-place finish at districts. He competed very well and placed 11th in javelin (29.86m). He's now joining an athletics club to keep growing his talent and passion - exciting times ahead!

County Athletics

Such a hot day for the athletes and all the Testbourne students showed resilience in this strong competitive event. A couple of highlights to share are Jack who finished in 3rd place with an amazing time of 4.45! This is expectational for his first year on the track! Jacob made it through to the final of the 200m and finished in 6th place with a time of 27.9. Olivia finished 4th in the javelin with a distance of 17.74 earning a great number of points for Andover! Well done, Team!



Track Knockout Competitions

This is the second year that we have entered this competition for the U15 age group and the first time for U13's. It is a fun track competition that attracts several schools in the Hampshire area. It leads to a final competition that all schools aspire to achieve. It is run separately for boys' and girls' categories.

U15's Team:

Boys: Morgan, Ted, Jacob, Harrison, Max, Zack, Jack.
Girls: Lily, Emily, Ava, Celeste, Charlotte, Alana, Freya.

U13's Team:

Boys: Toby, Joe, William, Leo, Josiah, Archie, Ralph.
Girls: Flora, Scarlett, Neave, Willow, Catherine.

Testbourne competed at Robert May's School, with the boys finishing 5th and the girls 3rd - earning the girls a place in the Semi Final in Portsmouth two weeks later. In a close contest, the final results hinged on the relay, where we placed 3rd and John Hanson 2nd, just edging us out of the finals. I'm incredibly proud of the team's effort and commitment throughout the competition.

The first round took place at Lords Wandsworth School in May, where both teams faced tough competition. The boys placed 4th and the girls 5th, with the boys advancing to the semi-finals at Winchester track. Ralph placed 3rd in the 600m and Josiah won the B string category, helping the team finish 6th overall. We'll be entering again next year - if you're keen on athletics, join our club when it starts in the summer term!

Year 7 and 8 District Athletics

Overall, Testbourne finished in 2nd place in the Year 8 event and 3rd place in the Year 7 event - a great improvement on last year's positions. Several students finished 1st or 2nd in their individual results, and weather conditions were perfect, leading to a very successful day. The following tables list the students who qualified for the county competition, and the final overall scores from the day:

Year 7 Boys	Year 7 Girls	Year 8 Boys	Year 8 Girls
Archie - LJ	Flora - LJ	Jack - 1500m	Belle - Discus
	Scarlett - 600m	Jacob - 200m	Alana - LJ
			Lena - LJ
			Ottavia - Jav/Sho
			Emily - 200m

Year 7	Winton	JH	HW	Dan	RW	Clere	TB	Year 8	Winton	JH	HW	Dan	RW	Clere	TB
Total	73	217	146	32	40	71	90	Total	62	165	112	28	47	69	82
Position	4th	1st	2nd	7th	6th	5th	3rd	Position	5th	1st	3rd	7th	6th	4th	2nd

Emerging Athletes Event

Well done Team Testbourne for attending the emerging athlete event at Winchester. It was so lovely to have the opportunity to take some students who have not had the opportunity to represent Testbourne in an extracurricular event. The students supported each other and had fun experiencing athletics. This hopefully is the start of many events for them to compete in.



Rounders

Year 7

The Year 7 rounders team had a fantastic debut tournament against Andover District schools. On a hot June afternoon, they played with great energy and skill, narrowly losing their opener to Rookwood by one rounder. With strong batting from Flora and Scarlett Rose, they won their next two matches. Despite a final loss to Harrow Way, their tactics and teamwork continued to improve. Winning two of four games, the team finished 3rd overall - a brilliant achievement and a strong foundation for next season. Huge congratulations to all!

Year 8

Well done to our Year 8 Girls Rounders Team, Andover District Schools Champions! With impressive wins over Harrow Way and Winton, they earned their spot in the final, where they held their nerve to beat John Hanson 9 - 4.5. Their skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship were outstanding, especially after last year's runner-up finish. They returned more focused and determined than ever, and it paid off.



Year 9

The Year 9 Girls Rounders Team put on a brilliant display at the Andover Schools Tournament at Harrow Way. With standout performances including a draw against John Hanson and dominant wins over Danbury and Winton, they topped their group to reach the final. In a competitive showdown against the hosts, Harrow Way, the girls gave it their all but finished runners-up with a score of 9 - 18.5. Their grit and teamwork were outstanding and they should be incredibly proud of how they represented the school.

Year 10

Some fantastic hot weather early in May saw us take a combined Year 9/10 team to the district Year 10 tournament. WE were first up against Harrow Way and after the first innings scores were level. Some great hitting by them in the second innings saw us with a score we couldn't chase. We were then next up against Danebury and some fantastic hitting from Betty and excellent fielding by Eden saw us win by 7 rounders. We were pleased to finish the day with a win!

Girls Cricket



U13s (LVA/JSP)

We have had so many girls come to cricket club this term, both players already part of clubs outside of school and students new to cricket, meaning we have been able to enter 3 hardball teams for the first time in a number of years.

We entered the Hampshire Hardball Knockout for the first time in years at this age group, facing a tough first-round match against Farleigh, who chased down our 81 for 6 from 20 overs. In the Hampshire softball tournament at Trojans, we won our group convincingly and reached the quarter-finals, where we met a strong Thornden side who later advanced to the final.

U15s (LVI/JSP)

Thanks to strong participation, we entered two hardball teams in the Hampshire Knockout. Year 10 faced Bohunt at Old Alresford. We were put in to bat and made 102 (Gemma 33, not out), but Bohunt chased it down in the 14th over. Year 9 batted first against Thornden, scoring 77 - despite solid bowling, the target was reached in the 16th.

In June's Hampshire softball tournament, both teams competed again. Year 9 faced a tough draw, losing to eventual finalists Priestlands and Bohunt, though Alaia impressed with first-over wickets in both games.

English School Profiles



It was a fantastic weekend of athletics! Lily started Friday morning with a brilliant throw of 29.89m - a new PB and 3rd place in her first English Schools appearance. Later, in soaring heat, she reached the top 8 in long jump and improved to 5.19m, finishing a strong 5th, just 18cm behind the winner.

Poppy competed in the inter girls' 1500m, staying with the lead pack for the first 1000m. She finished 5th -just missing out on the finals- but it was a determined performance. As Poppy moves on to sixth form, we wish her all the best and hope she keeps in touch! Lily and Poppy have both answered some questions below to share today:



What inspired you to start competing in athletics?

Poppy: "Watching the 2012 Olympics and going to the commonwealth games in Scotland."

Lily: "My mum, who was a Great Britain thrower."

How do you stay mentally focused before a big event like this?

Poppy: "A structured training routine keeps me focused and continuous positive thoughts and reassurance of my ability."

Lily: "I have a set routine that I do every competition to calm my nerves."

What advice has stuck with you from your coach or mentor?

Poppy: "There is always another race."

Lily: "Reap what you sow."

What are your long-term hopes in athletics beyond this competition?

Poppy: "Being able to compete at a national level has **always** been my dream."

Lily: "To go to Esaa next year, come first in the integers, and receive an England vest to hopefully go on to GB like my mum."

Super Stars Y7, Y8 & Y9 Competition

This is a competition held at QMC that includes a number of skill-based activities where students compete individually. Their scores go together to form a team score overall. I have included some pictures from the day of the students in action. Some individual success included:

Year 7:

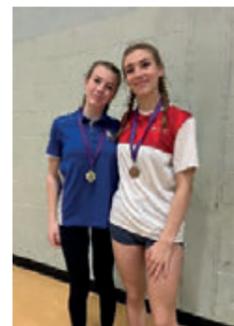
- Flora finished in 1st place in the skill shot and rowing challenge helping her to win the whole competition!
- Lexi finished in 5th in skill shot and the fitness challenge.
- Archie won the fitness challenge and came 4th in the swim, row and the cycle challenge, finishing in 4th place overall.
- Ollie finished 2nd in skill shot and 3rd in the cycle challenge.

Year 8:

- Evan finished 1st in skill shot, 2nd in sprint & archery, and 4th overall.
- Jack finished in 5th place in the swim.
- Belle finished in 4th in the rowing challenge and 5th in the Swim.
- Tilly Finished in 4th place in the skill shot.

Year 9:

- Lily finished 1st in the 30m sprint, 2nd in the cycle challenge, 1st in fitness leading to her 1st place overall!
- Freya finished in 1st in the 25m swim and 3rd in the cycle challenge and finished in 3rd place overall.
- Morgan finished 1st in archery & cycling, 4th in the swim and 3rd place overall.
- Ted finished 1st in the sprint and fitness challenge and 2nd In the swim and finished 2nd overall.





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