



Christmas 2019

Dear Parents, Carers and valued members of the Community,

Welcome to the seventh 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 usual, there is a plethora of material and there has had to be some judicious editing to fit everything in!

The Autumn is always very busy for all aspects of school life. We have welcomed our new Year 7 cohort who have settled into Secondary school life with aplomb. We have had various trips and visits, including the exciting trip to Uganda and the visit to Berlin. I have always been impressed by the dedication and hard work of the staff at TCS who make these visits possible by giving up their own time at evenings and on the weekend. In addition, we have been on Geography fieldwork, to the Hampshire Book Awards, to the Basingstoke Gazette, the Silk Mill, AWE, the council Local Government Experience Trip and to a local Solicitors amongst others.

We have had many events such as the extremely well received Carol Concert at All Hallows Church, our well-attended open mornings and evenings that drew incredible compliments about our students, the Year 12 Certificate Presentation Evening, with our guest speaker Cate Leighton, and the moving whole school Remembrance assembly.

The mock exams were a pivotal point for Year 11 students. They behaved impeccably and experienced the pace and routine of the examinations period. Many will have learnt important lessons to stand them in good stead for the coming months.



Testbourne Community School

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(continued)

We always welcome feedback from parents and positive feedback genuinely makes us smile. I wanted to share some of the comments we have received throughout the Autumn Term.

Regarding the Year 7 First Day: *"I just wanted to pass on our thanks to you all for making our children have an outstanding first day! Even now, their (sic) both still bouncing round! What you do is an art."*

In response to our Open Evening: *"I wanted to thank you for a very enjoyable open evening tonight. I attended with my daughter, Evie, and was really impressed by the whole event. Clearly a lot of hard work went into the evening, and you all showed the school off very well."*

I especially wanted to give some feedback about a delightful young lady of a year 11 prefect, who showed us around. She was an absolute pleasure to talk to, she took an interest . . . and really knew her stuff when I asked her a whole range of questions. I really felt that she exhibited the core values that you install in your students, she was excellent and is a credit to the school."

There have also been many more general comments about the school:

"The feel of the school was relaxed but also very professional."

"The quiet working ethos of the school. The calm environment of the classrooms. All pupils seemed engaged in the tasks. A lovely tour guide who answered our questions."

"The excellent behaviour of the students in all the lessons. Quiet, getting on with the lesson, teachers interacting with the students. I was very pleasantly surprised. A massive improvement (particularly with the behaviour) from when I looked around with my son 3 years ago, when the children in many classes were noisy and disruptive and not getting on with their work."

I am very proud to be the Headteacher of Testbourne Community School and honoured to serve its children and their families.

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Yours faithfully,

Jon Beck
Headteacher



School Calendar

Last day of term	20 December
First day back after Christmas	06 January
Year 11 ELK Sessions	06 January
Year 11 PCE	16 January
One in Ten Project performance	17 January
INSET Day	20 January
Lorraine Lee evening session for parents	21 January
Year 10 Science Live	29 January
Year 11 Drama Scripted Performance for parents	5 February
PSC Interview	10 - 13 February
Year 8 Options Evening	12 February
Year 7 Theatre Trip - Matilda	13 February
Last Day of Half Term	14 February
Back to School	24 February
GCSE Music Performances	25 - 26 February

Testbourne Community and Leisure News

The Community Team put together a Grotto for this year's PTFA Christmas Fair. The children enjoyed their visit to Father Christmas as well as some festive crafts and biscuit decorating.

Our Friday lunch club has seen a large increase in numbers and is now at full capacity! This lovely club for older residents in Whitchurch is ideal for those who are lonely, isolated or vulnerable. A Christmas Lunch at the White Hart is planned as well as a Christmas themed afternoon tea and a carol sing-along with visits from Year 11 students doing PSHE.

We also help coordinate and organise trips for the Out and About Club which is a charity set up for older people in the area. We now have 75 members! This Christmas we have a special dinner planned and a trip to the Theatre in the New year.

Our Fitness Gym continues to offer low priced membership for the local community with bespoke programmes and a fitness instructor on hand to give advice and guidance. We also have a pay as you go Teen Gym every Monday 3.15-4.15pm for students aged 14-16 which costs only £2.50 per session and is fully supervised.

In addition to these groups we have lots of other courses and activities at the school such as Yoga, Badminton, Pilates, Mindfulness, Clubbercise and more! Testbourne Teapots are a friendly local toddler group based at the school and welcome new members throughout the year.

And of course, our fantastic 3G pitch is also available to hire. There are still some evening slots available so if anyone wants to set up a team, get in touch!

The new Community website is due to launch in December. Here you can find out about all the different clubs and activities that are happening at the school <http://community.testbourne.school/>

All enquiries should be made to community@testbourne.school or 01256 892261

Building for the Future

We are very pleased to announce that major redevelopment works planned at Testbourne are due to commence in Summer 2020. The works are part of Hampshire County Council SCOLA recladding programme. The proposed work relates to the school's two-story SCOLA teaching block which was built in 1970. The recladding will not only give the building a new lease of life, it will give us the opportunity to significantly improve the internal building environment for the students and improve energy efficiency as part of our drive to be more environmentally friendly in our work.

Over the last few months we have been working closely with the architects to alter the location, size and configuration of a number of the teaching and ancillary spaces to better suit the requirements of the curriculum and the needs of the students. Some classroom spaces will be expanded to more comfortably accommodate our students, the dining area will be extended, a new lab will be provided and new modern toilet facilities will be installed. In addition, the recladding will include a more sympathetic use of windows and double glazing in conjunction with a new insulated roof to improve energy efficiency.

Jon Beck, Headteacher, explained, "We are very excited by the anticipated improvement to the educational facility and experience for our students that this project will provide. My team and I are working closely with highly experienced experts from Hampshire County Council to ensure that any disruption is minimised and that the full curriculum can be delivered throughout the project. The construction work will be completed in phases to reduce impact, with only one or two curriculum departments impacted at any one time."

The project, with an estimated cost of around £3 million, is expected to provide a lasting, high quality building for current students of Testbourne and those for many years to come.



We Will Rock You Performance

The smash-hit musical “We Will Rock You” was performed at Testbourne Community School for three nights on Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th December. The set and lights were provided by M3 Productions, a professional company, and, alongside a talented and enthusiastic cast and lots of epic rock anthems, this show was always guaranteed to blow your mind!

Featuring more than 20 hit Queen songs including “Another One Bites the Dust,” “Killer Queen,” “We Will Rock You,” “Somebody To Love,” “We Are the Champions,” “Don’t Stop Me Now,” and many more, “We Will Rock You” follows two young rebels as they try to restore rock ‘n’ roll to “the iPlanet” in a post-apocalyptic world. “We Will Rock You” is a musical for our time: a fist-pumping, foot-stomping anthem to individuality.

Please see pictures from our dress rehearsal. Congratulations to the cast and crew for their energy, determination, diligence and commitment, singing “we will, we will rock you!”



Uganda 2019

14 students and Mrs Penelope Horner (Chair of Governors) and I left Heathrow at 7am October 19th and returned at 10:40am 2nd November and we had an amazing time with our friends in Uganda.

After a good night's sleep at Banana Village, we visited the local community market where we sat and had a picnic after purchasing gifts for our family and friends. Grace Roche was the queen of bartering and Ben Thomson introduced everyone to magic money wallets.



At Mityana Secondary we met our buddies for the first time, although we had both written to each other before we got to Mityana. We loved our agriculture lesson and some of us enjoyed the lunch of poshu and beans. Everyone played football and netball, had a Luganda (a major language of Uganda) lesson and then came the big challenge of collecting water in our jerry cans and walking back with them full (or nearly or nearly empty!) Oscar Reid was our hero, he carried a full jerry can of water in searing heat!



At the Friday assembly, in Mityana Secondary School, we ate a fried grasshopper and then gave them our gifts we were surprised and humbled by theirs to us. All handmade, so special.

At the Disabled Children's hospital we were welcomed by our hosts but best of all there was singing and dancing by the students. When we were asked to join in, Charlotte Jones and Evie Oram led the way and then one by one, we all joined in; it was a very uplifting experience. After this, we made purses and sweet bracelets, it is definitely a place of hope for children and their parents.



We visited Kawoko Primary school (linked with Burghclere) and had a great day. We planted trees, told stories and played games, all good fun. At the kindergarten we invented a dressing up race and sang the hokey-cokey. All the kids joined in and loved the games. One group made a human bridge for the Three Billy Goats Gruff to cross. It was at Kawoko we visited families in the community and gave them food parcels.

At Afinnet, the vocational school we helped make the samosas, we had delicious pork for lunch and we had a lesson at using a treadle sewing machine. And then we painted the hairdressing classroom. England just lost the international netball match and as a thank you for the day we did all the washing up.

Suffice to say we had an amazing adventure and helped many local communities. We have memories and friendships that will last a lifetime. Our students were true ambassadors for our school. Therefore, my special thanks, for a memorable trip, go to William and Matthew Benke, Charlotte Jones, Grace Roche, Evie Oram, Iona Lethaby, Emma Bishop, Charlie Topp, Oscar Reid, Ruth Barber, Keira Jeffrey, Ben Thomson, Edward Rarok and Saskia Meyrick.

Thank you to Mrs Penelope Horner (Chair of Governors) for your help and support throughout the trip and Dodie Marsden and Jan Peterson for your exceptional planning and resourcefulness, the trip would not have happened without you.



Duke of Edinburgh Award

Testbourne's Duke of Edinburgh Award Group held its first training session on Tuesday 26th November. 30 year 10 students gathered in Mrs Brooker's classroom to meet the staff and volunteer leaders involved with the DofE Award Group, and to start planning the activities they will be doing as they work through their Bronze Awards.

To gain a Bronze DofE Award will involve taking part in four different activities – a physical activity or sport, a skill such as playing a musical instrument or learning circus or magic tricks, volunteering and taking part in an overnight walking and camping expedition. Students were buzzing with ideas of how they might work on achieving their Awards, from coaching younger footballers to playing the piano or baking excellent cakes.

Leaders also briefed the group on how to access the DofE's online system for tracking their progress through the Bronze Award, and it's encouraging to see that many students have already logged on and got started. The next meeting will see students start working on their map reading skills in preparation for the group's first day walk in December.

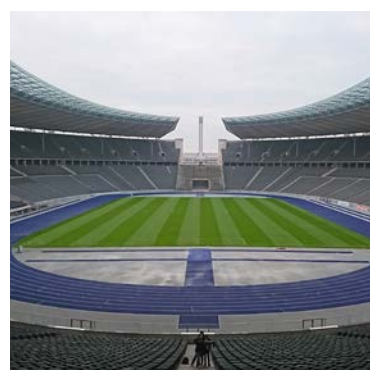
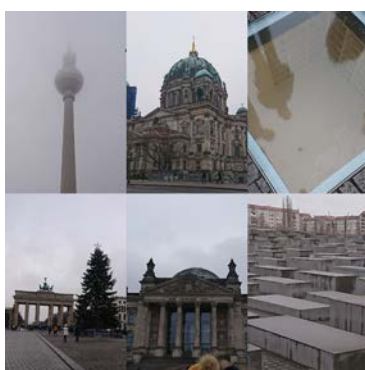
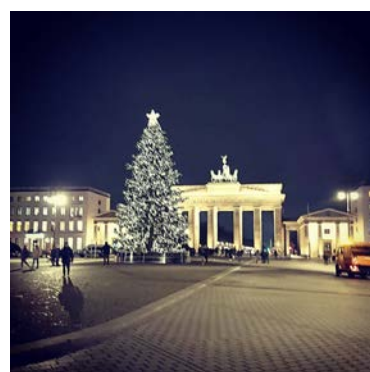
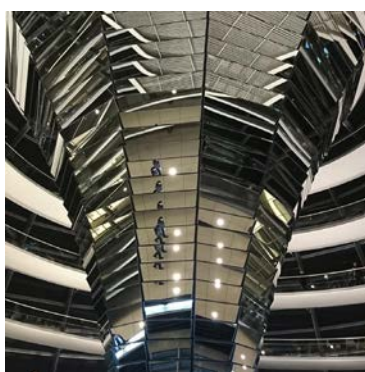
Berlin Trip

The Berlin trip was a great experience in which we learnt a lot for our GCSE whilst also having fun seeing Berlin. On the first day of the trip we went on a walk around Berlin to see many important places like: The Bebelplatz (the sight of the great Nazi book burning), The Reichstag building and many other famous places (like the Brandenburg Gate). It was nice to learn while exploring. After we went to the Olympia stadium to look around and have a tour. The tour was informative and interesting. We went back to our hotel for dinner before our final trip of the day; to see the TV Tower. We were able to go to the top of the building to see a view of Berlin at night.

On the second day we went to a World War II bunker, which it is now a museum. While walking around, we had an audio guide to listen to, as well as reading signs with many facts about Hitler and Germany. This was very interesting and extremely helpful, giving us information for our GCSE. We also went to another smaller museum: the Typography of Terror which was by the old SS headquarters. After getting lunch at the Christmas market / shopping centre we went to go on a boat trip around Berlin. We saw many interesting buildings and did a bit of sightseeing. Lastly we went back to the Reichstag and went to the top of the dome where we could see German parliament buildings.

On our final day we went to Sachsenhausen concentration camp and walked around. It was a moving, yet interesting, experience being able to see a real place that we've studied. Afterwards we stopped at the Berlin Wall and looked at the famous political graffiti. Overall the trip to Berlin was very fun but also interesting as we saw a part of Germany and learnt about its history.

- Article written by a Year 11 student



Presentation Evening

On Wednesday 27th November, we hosted our annual GCSE Presentation Evening here at Testbourne Community School. We welcomed our class of 2019 students and their parents for a celebratory occasion where they collected their GCSE certificates and some special awards and prizes. We were joined by Cate Leighton, who gave an inspirational talk about her role in the NHS and she also assisted Mr Alderman, Head of Year 11, in awarding the certificates. There was a lovely vocal performance from one of our current Year 11 students and departmental and etched glass awards finished off the evening. Our wonderful catering team provided delicious canapés and drinks after the ceremony where staff, parents and ex-students got a chance to catch up. Congratulations to all our alumni and we wish them all the best in their continued studies at college and beyond.



Year 7 Lepra Fund Raiser

Last half term students from Year 7 had the opportunity to take part in a fund raising event to support the charity Lepra. The opportunity gave students the chance to partake in a fundraiser to make a real difference to the lives of others, specifically the millions of people affected by leprosy.

Lepra are a UK-based charity working to beat leprosy, a disease that affects some of the world's poorest communities in India, Bangladesh and Mozambique where access to healthcare is often limited. Today more than 600 people will be diagnosed with this debilitating disease; at least 50 of these will be children. If left untreated it causes life-changing disabilities, but it is curable!



The benefits of this project were to learn about the importance of charities and the role everyone can play in supporting charitable work to support people living in very different circumstances. Following an initial talk by Amy, a representative from Lepra, students had the opportunity to plan, promote and undertake a fundraising opportunity of their choice. It is always fascinating and humbling to see and hear about all the wonderful ideas our students come up with and the time and effort placed into raising every pence they can. Some of the wonderful ideas undertaken this year were no technology for 7 days, painting fences, saying yes to everything for 24 hours and even creating and running a pop up shop.

To say a huge thank you to every student in Year 7 the event ends with a Street Dance session for everyone led by a professional instructor. As their Head of Year I was so proud to see everybody enjoying themselves, trying hard and persevering in something, which for many was brand new.

The students of Year 7 2019 in total raised the most amazing total of £ 1001.84 Well done and Thank you to everyone.



Remembrance Assembly

On Monday 11th of November, Testbourne Community School hosted its Remembrance and Armistice Day assembly in order to commemorate those who had fallen in conflict.

The Assembly was led by Dr Hall starting with a procession from the local Army Cadets and Patrick Furze on drum.

Dr Hall shared some of the last letters to his mother from a young 17-year-old Winchester boy who lost his life at Ypres, as well as explaining how the Unknown Warrior was chosen for burial in Westminster Abbey. Reflections were interwoven by war poems including 'In Flanders Field', 'MCMXIV' and 'Break of Day in the Trenches' and Mr Lovegrove shared the experiences of his ancestor. Jack Lee-Smith and Grace Leslie read 'The Soldier' and 'The Parable of the Old Man and the Young'.

To the melancholy and haunting strains of Barber's 'Adagio to Strings' each tutor group presented a handmade wreath in memory of those who had passed. As the cadets lowered their standards, Joe Baron played 'The Last Post' on the bugle and the school held two minutes silence in remembrance. The assembly ended with Binyon's 'For the Fallen'

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.*





Harvest Festival

On Friday 25th October, Testbourne Community School held our annual assembly for Harvest Festival. We had an amazing amount of food and toiletries donated for the Andover Food Bank by our students, 1186 items in total! Each tutor group was tasked to design a box to hold these items. The most interesting and creative design was selected as the winner and the most items donated in a house went towards a House competition. We had amazing creations such as a large tractor, a sparkly pumpkin, a pineapple and a moving train! The winner of the decorated box was 10-4 who designed a large green dragon for Oak House! The winner of the most items donated was Ash house with an astonishing 469 items donated! Thank you to all the students and staff at Testbourne for the donations to Andover Food Bank.



Prefect News

Year 10 students have recently applied to become prefects and will take over from year 11s in January so that year 11 can focus on their exams. Senior prefects have been tasked with a presentation and the final stage will be an interview with Mr Beck. Sport and house captains will also undergo a number of challenges. We will announce a new prefect team in the spring term.

Martha Monk Supports Kitty MacFarlane in Concert

Martha Monk, one of our talented musicians at Testbourne, supported Kitty MacFarlane to a sell-out audience on Saturday 9th November at the Gill Nethercott Centre in Whitchurch. Jon Wilks, local musician and avid folk enthusiast arranged for Martha to perform with Kitty. This opportunity allowed Martha to spend time with a professional singer-songwriter and to hear and share music together. Kitty thought Martha was incredibly talented for someone of her age.



Well done Martha and thanks to Jon Wilks and the Whitchurch Folk Club for providing such incredible opportunities for our talented musicians. Previous concerts have been supported by Eddie George who is now studying music at the Academy of Contemporary Music in London as well as Kai Wilks more recently, who is currently studying his GCSEs at Testbourne alongside Martha. Please watch out for future concerts with the Folk Club and hopefully future collaborations with rising stars such as Martha!

Step Into Law Experience Trip



On Tuesday the 19th of November a small group of year 11 students had the opportunity to visit Phillips solicitors in Basingstoke for a 'step into law' experience day trip. The idea was that students interested in a career in law could go and learn what skill set you need, what it's like in a solicitor's firm and learn about the various routes into these careers.

Once welcomed into the firm, we participated in a range of activities. First, an exercise to find out what we each knew about careers in law, then a networking session. This involved talking to

different employees (each with different roles within the firm) about their jobs and quizzing them on what they do, how they do it and their favourite aspects of their jobs. We then sat and listened to presentations from a commercial property solicitor and two trainees – extremely helpful for us students. This gave a greater insight into the jobs by providing examples of their recent tasks and explaining what their jobs entail. In particular, the trainees gave us lots of helpful tips on university and applying for training programmes.

At the end of the day we departed with the knowledge and insights into what it is like to work in a law firm and what you would need to do to get a position working for a law firm such as Phillips solicitors. We all thoroughly enjoyed the experience, and I'm sure some of us will be in careers involving law soon in the future. We would like to thank Phillips solicitors for this experience and giving up so much of their time to help advise us for free.

- Article written by a Year 11 student

Christmas Craft Fair

This year's Christmas Craft Fair was another great success. There were over thirty stalls in the Sports Hall with something for everyone - from Christmas wreaths to handmade jewellery and large jars of pickled onions.

Thank you to all the students who performed and entertained the crowds and to those parents and students who helped to run the fair and to create a lovely festive atmosphere.

This event, together with match funding, raised £3000 for the school. The PTFA will use this to buy much-needed equipment and resources.

If you are able to help the PTFA, offer match funding through your employer or would just like information about future events then please contact ptfa@testbourne.school.

- Article written by Penny Burt, PTFA Chair



Maths Ambassadors

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our year 10 Maths ambassadors who have given their own time to attend the Maths clinic in order to support younger students with work where needed. Our thanks go out to Cameron B, Ffion T and Jasmine P. It is always pleasing to see how dedicated and willing to help-out our students at Testbourne are. Merry Christmas from the Maths department.

Maths Help Club (an update)

As the first term comes to a close, the Maths Help Club has gathered a good following. For those who missed the September announcement or have maybe just forgotten that it is on offer, this is an opportune reminder that every Wednesday after school in Rm 29 from 15:10 to 16:00 the Maths department run an after-school help club. Any student who would like help in Maths with a tricky topic or maybe their homework, can just drop in and get help from the Maths team. We have had students from all years attending in order to revise, do homework on the laptops, or just to ask questions about work they have been doing in class. There are some very regular attenders as well as some drop ins each week. Feel free to join us any time.

Please note that for those students unable to attend after school, the Maths department do offer lunchtime help sessions on a room rota basis.

Overton Skatepark Renovation Fund Raiser

Sports presenter and Strictly Come Dancing star Mike Bushell lent his support to a group of year 10 boys raising money to renovate Overton Skatepark on Saturday 30 November. We ran a stall on Overton Christmas Market day, where we raised money selling a variety of cakes, mulled wine and wooden Christmas trees, ran a tombola and held a sponsored bike ride, cycling on a rolling road for the four hours duration. Over £600 was raised, and there is still a Justgiving page for more donations. The current skatepark is more than 20 years old and is in a sorry state of repair. When renovated, the new one will be for use by anyone using skateboards, BMXs or scooters and should be a fantastic resource for the village of Overton. The group has the support of the Parish Council and we hope to apply to the Borough Council for some further funding. We have recently visited several skateparks in other areas to gain an understanding of how our wishlist can be realised. We would love anyone who is interested in using the skatepark to get in touch; the more people who want to use it the better.



Hampshire Book Award

As a culmination of the 2019 Hampshire Book Award, our group of 12 Year 9 student judges attended the HBA Ceremony at the Middle Brook Centre in Winchester on 15th October. The award is organised by Hampshire School Libraries Service, and offers a great experience for our students to get involved in choosing the winner. They had to critically analyse six books on the shortlist; judging them on enjoyment, enrichment and engagement. Their votes were combined with votes from schools across Hampshire, and the winning book, *Shell*, was very popular. The students were delighted to meet the winner, Paula Rawsthorne, at the ceremony, and listen to her talk about what inspires her to write for teenagers.

AWE Engineering Challenge

On Monday 21st October, four year 9 students were involved in the AWE engineering challenge at AWE Aldermaston. The students were tasked with engineering their own turbine for use in a hydroelectric dam. The students enjoyed designing and building their turbine and ultimately putting it to the test, competing against other schools. The TCS team did not win the competition, however the students were rewarded with a £10 Amazon voucher each for their efforts. Overall, the students had a fantastic day applying their science knowledge to a real world engineering problem.

Tap Dance World Cup Gold Winner

In June of this year, I was lucky enough to be selected as part of Team GB, to represent my country in the International Dance Organisations Tap Dance World Cup. Training took place every weekend at our training centre in Swindon. The World Cup took place in Riesa, Germany in November. The competition was a week-long with quarter and semi-finals to negotiate before qualifying for the finals at the end of the week. It was a truly global event, the USA and Canada had the largest teams, and most of Europe was very well represented, but it was lovely to have teams from all corners of the globe – Japan, South Africa, Brazil, Mexico, Russia and the Ukraine to name a few. The week was exciting, but gruelling, getting to the stadium before 9am and leaving between 10pm and midnight. Fortunately, we had a team doctor to monitor our diets and our rest times – keeping us fit mentally and physically. Our hard work paid off and I won a Gold Medal as part of the Junior Formation Team. Standing on the podium to receive my medal and listen to our national anthem was a very proud moment. Above all, Team GB won best overall team – awarded for teamwork and sportsmanship as well as dedication to excellence in Tap Dance.



- Article written by a Year 10 student

Eco Action at TCS



The Eco action team strive to make the school a more environmentally friendly site. As a community school we not only have to look after the local area but also the wider environment. Scientists suggest we have already reached some environmental tipping points (the point of no return) this will greatly affect all of us, especially the students at school because they have their whole lives ahead of them. For these reasons, the Eco action team has put into place many projects to help reduce the school's impact. We now have stationery recycling wallets in all the classrooms, where we collect and then send off pens, highlighters, glue sticks, etc. to be recycled.

We now have an online presence, with our own site on the school's office 365 system for students to access information about how they can reduce their impact and find out what we are doing. We're also putting into motion a project to put plants in all the classrooms to make the school environment a greener and happier place.

Going forward, we would like to thank everyone who has co-operated with us in projects such as the stationery recycling, and we would like to emphasise the importance of maintaining this Eco Mindset at home as well as school. Especially with Christmas coming up, we all need to think a little greener when making our decisions.

- Article written by TCS Eco Team

Testbourne Sport - Netball

Year 11's finished off the season very strongly with 3 wins on the trot against Wellington, Test Valley and Winton. The final game against Winton was with a depleted team due to the Berlin trip but the girls were very chuffed to play their last ever netball game at Testbourne, finishing with a 16-0 victory.

Year 10's also finished their season strongly finishing second in the league despite losing to the eventual winners John Hanson but wins against The Clere and Winton ensured this second place position. Team player was Poppy Targett and players player, as nominated by the opposition was Amelia Gray.



Year 9's had a tough start to the season but also managed to finish strongly with an 11-11 draw against Wellington and 12-12 against The Clere.

Well done to all girls for their fantastic commitment at training and matches this season especially with WWRY rehearsals going on. We now look forward to the year 7 and 8 league which starts on 29th January with matches every Wednesday after school and training will move to a Monday lunchtime.

Outside News - Rosie, Year 8, Wins Gold

This term Rosie Wragg in year 8 has achieved an incredible feat by passing her black belt assessment in Karate. She has been kind enough to write her own article about how she got into the sport and her recent achievements.

"I recently entered the British National Championships for Kung Fu and won gold in my age category..."

"I first became interested in Karate after watching the movie 'The Karate Kid' with my dad in early 2013. I decided it was something I wanted to do, and so joined the Shin Gi Tai Martial Arts Academy in Basingstoke. Karate was mainly developed in Okinawa, Japan and is a martial art of defensive and counterattacking body movements. I have been training at my dojo for 6 years and have also entered a number of national competitions.

Over the last 12 months I have been working hard towards my Black Belt and have been training on average 5 hours a week, learning Kata's, forms, as well as fighting. On Sunday 8th December I was invited to grade for my black belt. Grading is like a physical test and I had to perform various Karate disciplines and fight numerous people of my age or older and obviously beat them. After 3 exhausting hours I finally learnt that I had been successful in my grading and was awarded the world-famous Black Belt in Karate. Six years of hard work, dedication, training, fighting & competing has been amazing, and I am proud to be a 2019 British National Champion and a Black Belt in Karate."

Well done Rosie, we at Testbourne are so happy for you!

Testbourne Sport - Boys Football

The 1st XI have continued their impressive start to the season, where they have remained unbeaten in the league however they were unfortunately knocked out of the county cup by Mount Batten School, 3-0.

Looking forward to next term, they have one more game in the league. If they were to win that then they would be the district league champions which would be an amazing achievement. Good luck boys!

Year 9 boys have played 3 matches this half term where the highlight was a 7-2 win over The Clere School. They were unlucky to lose the other 2 games. The boys will look to get back to winning ways in the new year with games against Harrow Way and Rookwood still to come.

Year 8 are now out of the county cup after an excellent match against a very strong Purbrook Park team. The game was a really close encounter which we lost 2-0 after extra time. It could have been very different if a last minute free kick had gone in rather than off the post and out. Unlucky boys!

Some amazing news for Calum Lamb who has represented the district in the U13s football team on several occasions. We look forward to sharing more news regarding this next year.

Year 7 have had a very busy half term having now played in 7 different football fixtures. They have played in two tournaments; in the first they became the Andover district development football champions and they finished in 3rd in the district 5-a-side tournament. In their league fixtures they have had mixed results including 8-8 against The Clere and a 6-0 win against Harrow Way.



Testbourne Sport - Boys Rugby



We have had two rugby fixtures this half term, both against John Hanson. The year 9 & 8 team fought hard in their first competitive match but were undone by a more experience team in the end losing 35-10. The year 7 match however was a run away victory for the boys who showed real composure and togetherness even though for some it was their first time playing, winning 40-5.

Boys rugby will continue to train on a Wednesday after school and it is great to

have seen numbers increase over the past few weeks. In the new year, we still would welcome those who are interested regardless of their playing experience.

Testbourne Sport - Girls Rugby

As part of our extra- curricular timetable this year, Testbourne girls have been attending Rugby Club on a Monday after school. The sessions are run by Russell and Michelle Amos who are fully qualified coaches from Basingstoke Rugby club. They have been leading fun and engaging sessions to help develop the girl's physical and mental skills.

On Tuesday 12th November, our Year 7 and 8 rugby team attended their first development tournament. The session was aimed at developing the girl's skills to enable them to play full contact rugby. 4 local schools took part in the event and all students enjoyed the opportunity to learn together, play together and develop respect for each other through playing rugby.

The session was held at Basingstoke rugby club and our girls had so much fun and learnt so much throughout the afternoon. Well done to all the girls that took part.



Testbourne Sport - Girls Football



On Wednesday 20th November, a group of six Year 7 students travelled to Rookwood School to participate in a girls' football tournament. There were seven teams at the competition with two separate pools.

After playing two games in our pool, Testbourne went onto play in the final for overall first place. They put up a great fight with the game even going into extra time. Unfortunately, the opposing team scored in the last minute, meaning that Testbourne came second. It was a great tournament and a brilliant result for the team in their second fixture of the year. They

have all come on really well individually and as a team. We are looking forward to playing many more fixtures together over this next academic year. A massive congratulations all who took part.

Calling All Girl Cricketers

The annual indoor cricket tournaments for girls will be taking place at the end of January so any interested cricketers in year 7-10 need to attend lunchtime training on Wednesdays starting in the new year. All abilities welcome whether new to cricket or have played before.

Christmas Carol Concert

The Music Department staged their traditional Carol Concert at All Hallows' Church in Whitchurch on Tuesday 10th December at 7.30pm. This wonderful evening of music in a glorious setting saw over 80 musicians representing the school incredibly well and demonstrating high levels of responsibility and commitment to their musical studies. The concert saw a variety of music performed from traditional carols to more popular Christmas classics and featured Bella Voce and Year 7 choirs, Brass, String and Woodwind Ensembles, a Flute Quartet as well as soloists.

The evening started with a joint performance from the Woodwind and Brass Ensembles who played a dynamic rendition of Carol of the Bells from the back of the church, which allowed the sound to resonate. Robert Simpson played the organ for our congregational carols and it was wonderful to hear the sheer brilliance and power of this incredible instrument. Soloists performed with real confidence and conviction and performances included an original song written and performed by Martha Monk, as well as a Partita for solo violin by Bach, performed by Finlay Housham. Both performances were stunning and mesmerising. Many other soloists performed, far too many to mention individually, and sounded magnificent in the acoustics of the church.

It was lovely to see the church packed out with parents and people from the community. The PTFA provided us with refreshments afterwards and everyone at All Hallows' Church made us feel incredibly welcome; special thanks go to the Reverend David Roche and the administrator Claire Fryer. The retiring collection raised £160 towards the church fund. Many thanks to those who came and to all the students who performed!

Please find below some quotes from members of the public who wrote to us about the concert.

"I want to say how much I enjoyed the carol concert last night. The musical talent at the school is fantastic. It was really well organised with a great mix of performances. Well done to the music department and obviously the children!"

"I had the opportunity to go to the Testbourne Carol Concert at All Hallows' last night. I had not been before and was blown away by just how good it was. I was not expecting such variety - a true concert - and was really impressed with the talented students, and how smart they looked and how polite they were. Please pass on congratulations to all involved - students and teachers. It was marvellous."



Business Studies £1 Investment Challenge

Year 9 have been working incredibly hard over the past term to turn their £1 into as much money as possible. In teams they have successfully carried out a number of tasks in their Business Studies lessons, allocating business roles, designing logos and planning their investment and returns. Teams have been fruitful in their activities and have organised house 'garage sales', held stalls at local Christmas fairs, designed, created and produced their own Christmas cards, offered animal care services, asked the support of local business to promote and sell their products, and held many a bake sale.

Their final 'sell off' took place on Friday in the Sports Hall. The teams were given 30 minutes to sell as many products as possible. The Teams lived up to the challenge and are now busy finalising their balance sheets and repaying shareholders and producing their final accounts. The winning team will be announced in January and will be the lucky winners of an equal share of their team profit. All other profits made will be given to a local charity, which will be decided in January by the Year 9 students.

Lots of lessons have been learnt and I look forward to announcing the winners in the New Year.



TCS Alumni

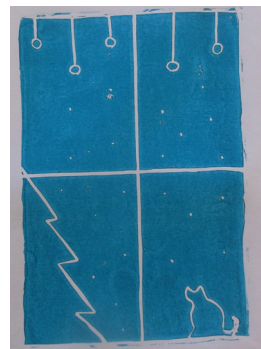
Do you remember your school days? Did you go to Testbourne Community School? If so, please get in touch with us by visiting the alumni page on our school website (<https://www.testbourne.school/alumni>). We'd love to hear what you are up to now!

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you for all your efforts with the Christmas jumper day! It was a positive day with students really embracing the Christmas spirit to raise money for Save The Children. In total we have managed to raise £842.32!!!

AR@T Club

The KS3 AR@T club that meets every Wednesday lunchtime have been busy printing Christmas cards from their lino cuts. 4 of the designs were chosen by Mr Beck and will be sent out as the Testbourne Christmas card this year. Well done AR@T club!



Testbourne Community School

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