

THE TCS Tribune

Achievement • Excellence • Integrity



Issue #18 - Spring 2023



Testbourne Community School

Achievement • Excellence • Integrity



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

Welcome to the 18th 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.

It has been a busy term as usual, with our students and staff involved in lots of exciting learning and activity.

We were finally able to get the Berlin trip off the ground after interruptions for Covid and rescheduling due to substantial flight-cost increases. You can read about the trip in this edition. It certainly looks like the students got a lot of out of it and we are so grateful to our wonderful staff who volunteer to organise such trips and volunteer to supervise children on their non-working days, evenings and weekends. Without them, these opportunities could not exist.

We have had other day and evening trips out of school. More than 70 Year 11 students attended the New Theatre in Oxford for “Poetry Live!” and our Drama students went to the Fortune Theatre to attend the famous show, “The Woman in Black.” These trips provide excellent cultural education for our students and bring alive their learning in Drama and English.

We particularly enjoyed the Dance Showcase where the GCSE Dance students performed their choreography examination pieces to an invited audience. The photos are excellent and a sample are included in this edition. Performance is a key part of GCSE Dance, Music and Drama and we are grateful for your support in attending these to watch your children perform.

We have hosted two information evenings for parents and carers, these being our virtual SEND information evening and our virtual online safety evening. We continue to hold many of these events virtually because parents and carers tell us that this helps them to attend if they have work commitments or difficulties in coming to school for a presentation. It also means that the recordings of these evenings can be stored on the website for anyone to access if they need to.

Our PTFA (Parent, Teacher and Friends Association) has been gaining momentum. The PTFA are a registered charity and help to raise funds for the equipment and facilities at the school. Recent purchases include benches, specialist science equipment and specialist design technology equipment, such as our laser cutter. All these items provide benefit for all children and help to enhance the learning experience. If you feel you can join the PTFA in their fundraising activities, even if you are only able to offer a small amount of time, please get in touch. Please see the article in this edition for other ways to help and to find out more about their activities.

We are also very excited to announce that our gym refurbishment is complete. We now have the latest equipment waiting to help you achieve your fitness and health goals. Details of how to join and the cost of membership can be read in the article in this edition. Joining the gym provides great value for you and helps to support the school.

We have a new chess club at Testbourne and we often see chess being played on the playground at lunchtimes. Chess seems to be becoming quite popular and is starting to attract younger students too. It has even become a lunchtime spectator sport! Games taking place on the playground often attract a cheering crowd, with all the associated spectator “oo-ing and ah-ing” with each twist and turn. My turn at some very speedy lunchtime chess resulted in a humiliating defeat! We are looking for donations of chess sets if you have one that you no longer use.

Every half term, I write Headteacher recognition letters for two children nominated in each year group. With every whole term, I host a small tea party for those in receipt of the letters. 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. The students are always a delight to talk to and really brighten my day. These are this and previous term's Headteacher recognition letter recipients:

Autumn 1

- Eden Larsen
- Ted Verney
- Benjamin Calvert
- Aimee Davis
- George Robinson
- Lily Ellis
- Grace Hitchcock
- Isaac Hodges
- Lucy Walters

Autumn 2

- Emily Piszton
- Oleksii Bilanov
- Ava Selwood
- Nathan Partridge
- Alfie Stickland
- Ruby Tatum
- Eva Kelly
- Michael Norman

Spring 1

- Devesh Kumar
- Lily-Joyce Betterton
- Fred Lomax
- Jaimi-Lea Bruckshaw
- Samuel Wigmore
- Saskia Burnett
- Angel Cao
- Oliver Tempest
- Ruby Lavender
- Rowan Phillips-Smith

Spring 2

- Francis Harding
- Ilona Khafizova
- Alfie McDonald
- Charlie Ball
- Molly-May Paddock
- Declan Cann
- Alexandra Rolfe
- Madi Noakes

Our congratulations goes to them for excelling in their demonstration of the Testbourne Standards of Excellence.

I wish you a peaceful and happy Easter. I hope you can spend some time with friends and family and we look forward to welcoming the children back after the break.

Best wishes,

Mr Jon Beck

Headteacher



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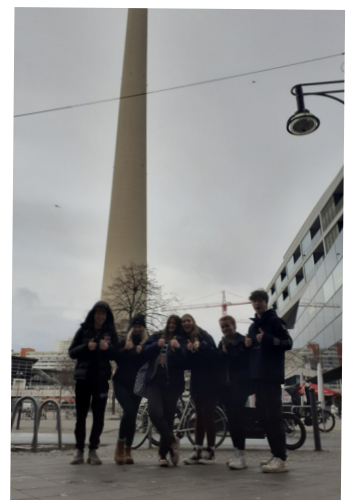
Berlin Trip 2023

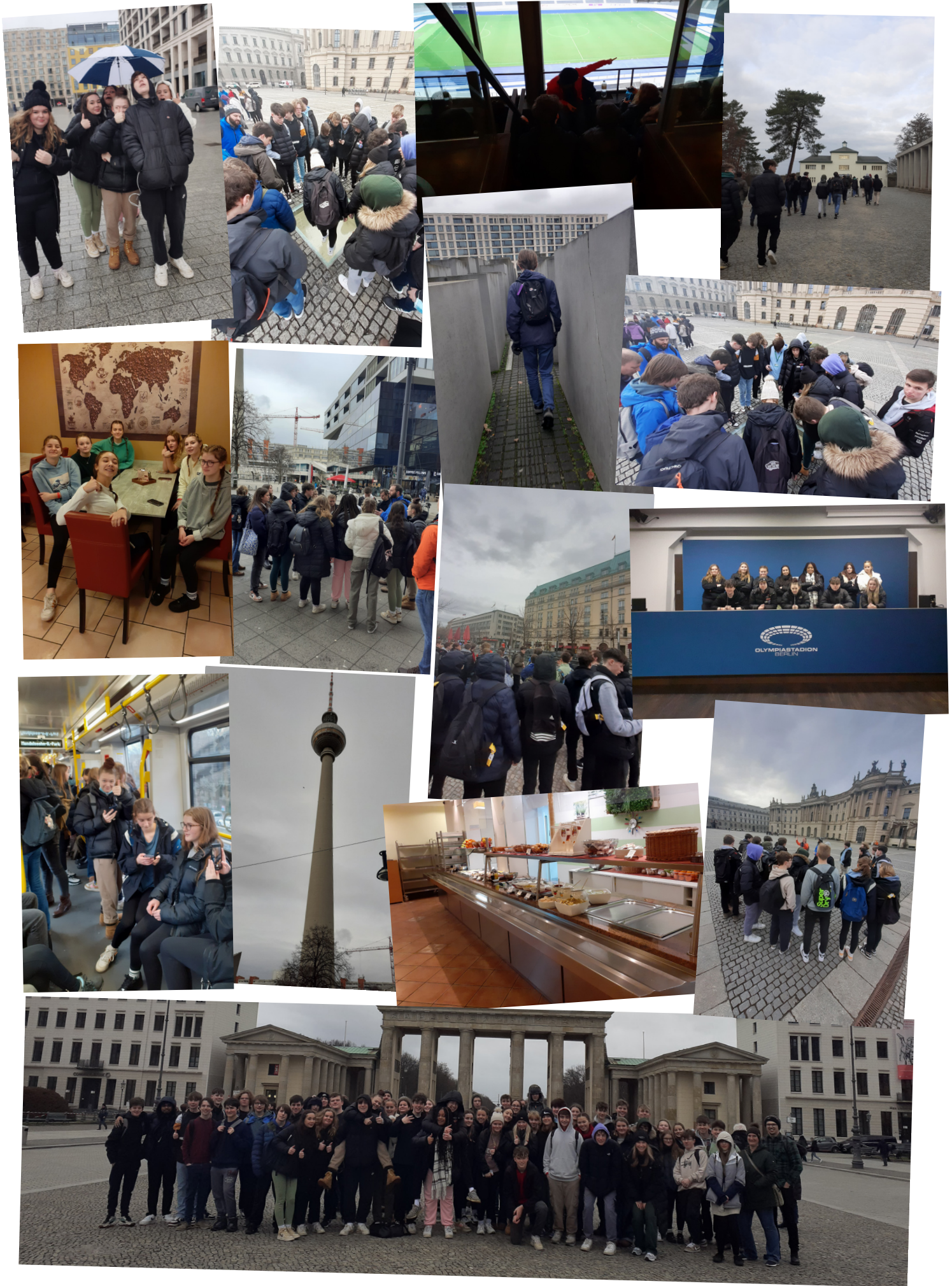
Testbourne students recently travelled to Berlin on a school trip to study German history from 1919 to 1945. The Olympic Stadium was one of the first places they visited. They learned that the building was built for the 1936 Olympics and, other than hosting the games, it was used to showcase Nazi Germany's power and propaganda. They also visited the Reichstag, the German Parliament building. They learned that this was where the Enabling Act was passed, giving Hitler the power to rule by decree. The glass dome symbolizes transparency and democracy, and the rebuilt version represents the reunification of Germany.



The students also visited the site of the Nazi book burning, where the suppression of intellectual freedom was symbolized. It has now been turned into a memorial, which serves as a reminder of the importance of preserving intellectual freedom and resisting censorship. Shortly after, they visited the Sachsenhausen concentration camp (which was another place that left a profound impact on them). It was there that thousands of people were imprisoned, tortured, and killed during the Nazi regime. The camp has been preserved as a memorial to the victims, and visitors can learn about the atrocities that took place.

Finally, the Memorial to the Holocaust was a somber and reflective experience for the students. The memorial consists of 2,711 concrete blocks representing the 6 million Jews killed during the Holocaust. These historical sites serve as a reminder of the dangers of extremism, the importance of democracy and the need to preserve human rights and intellectual freedom. The students felt privileged to have had this opportunity, and they hope that these sites will continue to be preserved as a reminder of the past and a guide for the future.





Online Safety Evening

On Tuesday, March 7th, Dr. Hall, our Senior Designated Safeguarding Lead, provided an Online Safety Information Evening with the objective of educating parents and caregivers about the various online threats that are prevalent today, while also providing guidance on managing precarious online scenarios.



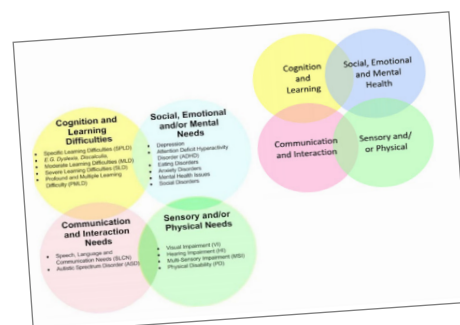
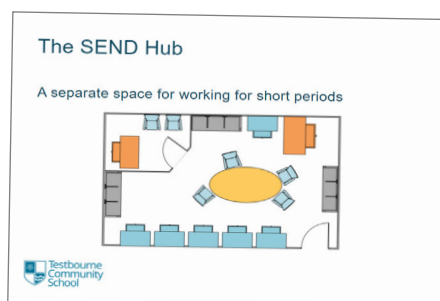
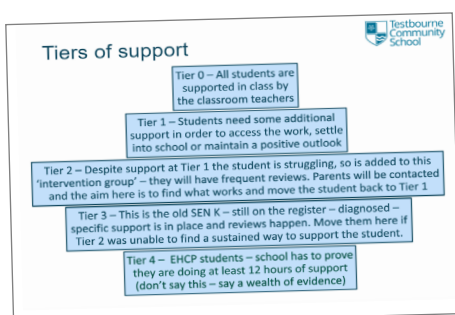
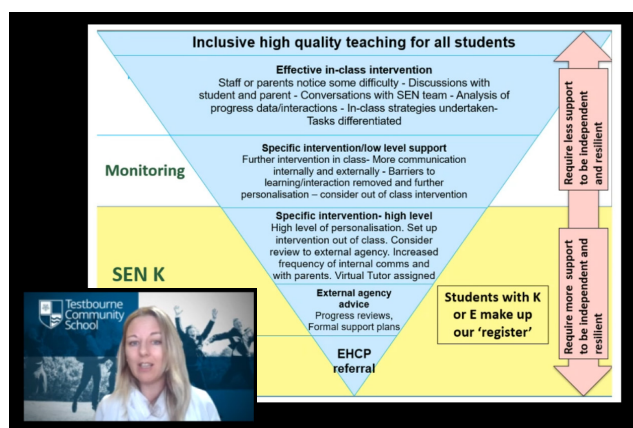
The event covered the content below:

- Knowing where the potential risks may lie: the 4 Cs of Content, Contact, Conduct and Commerce.
- Understanding the potential risks around social media applications.
- Understanding the law – particularly in relation to sharing of images, cyberbullying and related online behaviour.
- Looking at the potential risks that technology may have – phones, tablets, laptops, smart speakers, and games consoles etc.
- Advice on how to talk to your child about online safety – in general or if you are concerned about what they are doing.
- Signposting resources that are available from experts in online safety.
- What to do if you are worried that your child is at risk of harm.

If you would like to watch a recording of the event, then please visit our website, where the video can be found in our Latest News page.

SEND Evening 2023

On 28th February we held our annual SEND Information Evening, a virtual event hosted on Teams with all parents invited. Our SENDCo Mrs Gray and Assistant SENDCo Mrs Sykes talked about the support TCS gives to students to overcome learning barriers. Parents were invited to submit questions, and many were answered on the evening. The rest are covered in our 'Frequently Asked Questions' available via a link on this page of the Testbourne website: <https://www.testbourne.school/home/curriculum/send/>. Parents who were unable to join us for the Information Evening can access the recording via the same web page given above. If you have any questions about SEND at Testbourne Community School please email our dedicated email address on sen@testbourne.school.



Options Evening 2023

During the Spring term, Year 9 students have been busy thinking about their options choices and what they might want to do when they leave Testbourne. Options Evening took place on Wednesday 22nd February, where parents and carers had a chance to find out more information about the Options process whilst Year 9 students got to visit the subject marketplace in the Sports Hall. Subject specialists and GCSE students were on hand to help answer questions and promote their subject, and there was a real buzz from our Year 9s about the subjects they might choose to study next year. Year 9 students have until Friday 31st March to submit their choices and comments using the SIMS Options website - www.sims-options.co.uk



Mind Kind

Testbourne's Mind Kind Team has been working hard and one of our Mental Health Ambassadors has created some lovely, colourful posters to be displayed around the school. These posters focus on positive thinking, gratitude, and resilience.

On Thursday 23rd February we hosted an information evening for parents and caregivers that was facilitated by The Molly-Rose Foundation. The feedback from attendees was very positive:



"Despite not having a child who is struggling, the session opened my eyes to look for signs and hit home how quick things can change."

"The workshop was brilliant, so informative and positive."

"Very emotive and motivating for all the attendees."



We plan to host another mental health information evening in the summer term.



Delta – Oscar Foxtrot – Echo 2023 Update *

Testbourne's Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award group 2023 is well underway with students completing two Day Walks in January and February, getting to grips with map reading and walking up to 10 miles. During the Day Walk near St Mary Bourne, one group also visited some alpacas and helped to feed them!

Students have also practised putting up tents, communicated across the school site using radios and the NATO phonetic alphabet, and started learning how to use camp stoves for cooking. On the last Saturday of term, they spent a very useful day learning First Aid to prepare them for anything that might happen on their expeditions in the summer. Hopefully these will be skills for life as well as for DofE.



Leaders Andy Key, Caroline Orange, Mrs Nottingham and Dr Wilson have been running the training sessions and enjoying getting out on walks with groups of students, and thanks also go to parent volunteer Tony Reid and to Mrs Kay for taking part in walks and training to help the group out. Another Testbourne parent, Alex Cruickshank, came along to give an excellent presentation about the Countryside Code and the New Forest recently too. Many thanks to all of them!

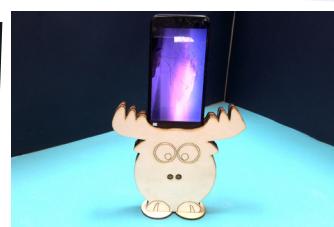
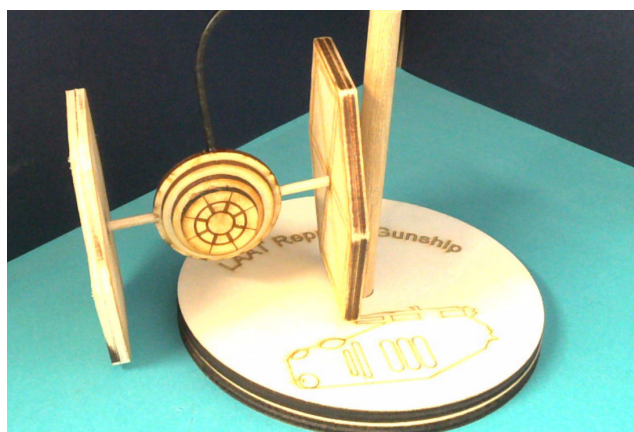
Meanwhile the first ever Silver DofE Award group has also launched, with seven students in Year 11 busy not only with GCSE preparations and mocks but also with their Physical, Skill and Volunteering sections. Their expeditions will be after GCSEs in July. Huge thanks to parent volunteer Caroline Orange for taking on the organisation and logistics of the Silver Award, so that we can support students in gaining their Silver Awards.



*Delta - Oscar Foxtrot – Echo are the NATO phonetic alphabet words for DofE

STEM

STEM provision at Testbourne has been continuing to develop and evolve over this year. We now offer a STEM Club, which runs every Thursday after school; participating students have been producing solutions to a range of STEM challenges. The STEM site on SharePoint has now been updated so it is even easier to find out about how Testbourne has been developing its STEM offer. The site also incorporates a section on STEM news, where students can find out about what new features and events are happening locally as well as nationally and globally. Other STEM opportunities are also featured, enabling students to enter a range of competitions and to develop their STEM and creative skills well as encouraging them to consider innovative solutions. There is also a diary of forthcoming events, including the STEM Day for Year 7 (which is going to happen just after the Easter break) as well as a 'Race for the Line' event happening in the summer term. For more information regarding STEM, please get in touch with Mr S Homewood.



GCSE Dance Showcase

On Thursday 23rd March the GCSE Dance students performed their choreography exam work to an invited audience. The students were able to select their own stimulus, music and lighting for this component as well as choreograph the movement. They were extremely professional, and everyone was extremely proud of their hard work.

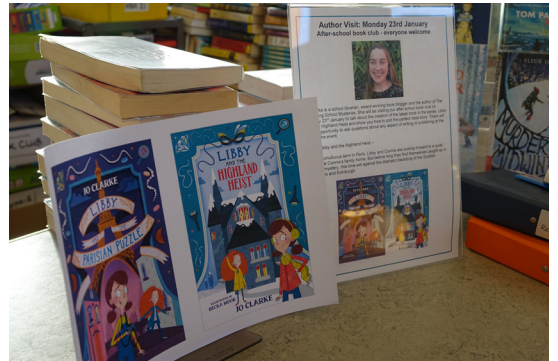


News from the Library

We have had a busy term in the library, starting with a visit from local author Jo Clarke to our TCS book club. Mrs Clarke spoke to our students about her newly published book: *Libby and the Highland Heist*, sharing the ups and downs of her writing journey. She gave students advice and encouragement to craft their own heist stories, inspiring them to create imaginative scenarios along with providing helpful hints for how to make a successful mystery story work. We are immensely grateful to Mrs Clarke for giving up her time to visit us and helping to enrich our students' literary environment.



We also had a virtual author visit from the writer of the ever popular *Murder Most Unladylike* series, Robin Stevens. This was a pre-recorded interview that she did for the Hampshire School Library Service, and Robin answered questions that schools had sent in advance, including one from TCS. We are fortunate to have copies of all the *Murder Most Unladylike* books in the library, including a copy of her newly published book, *The Ministry of Unladylike Activity*, for students to borrow.



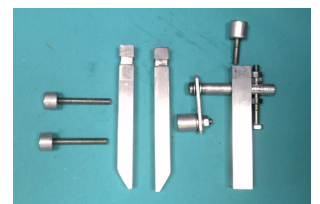
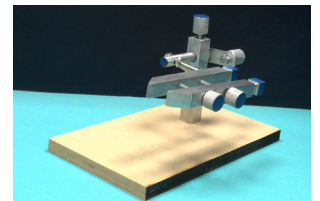
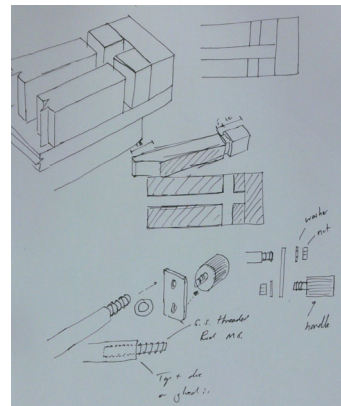
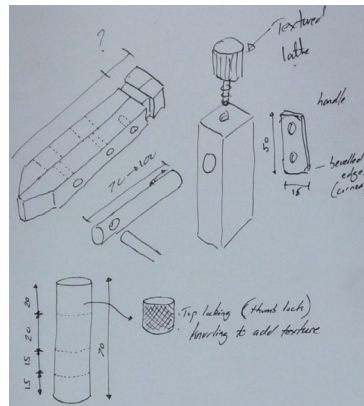
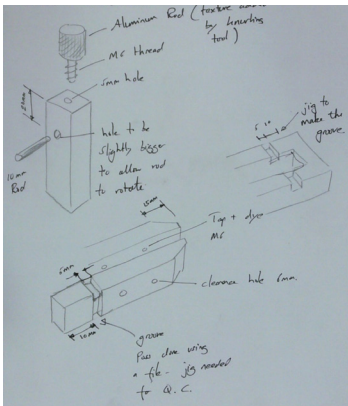
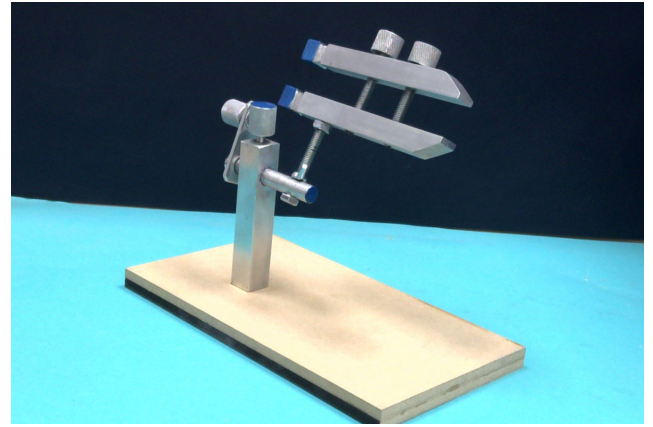
World Book Day was celebrated in March, with staff dressing up with book related accessories and a scavenger hunt around school for students to take part in. They had to find pictures of book characters and fill in an answer grid to work out an anagram of a book related sentence. It was quite tricky, but plenty of students successfully completed it to win a small prize and recognition points. We ran an illustration competition where students were asked to recreate a picture from their favourite book or illustrator, or to redesign the front cover of a book of their choice. There were some strong entries, with two winners, Jasmine and Evie, both Year 8, and two runners up, Alyssa in Year 11 and Hannah in Year 9.



Don't forget that the Sora app is available for ebooks, audio books and magazines and is accessible throughout the Easter holiday. If you are spring cleaning and come across any "lost" library books in your child's bedroom, please ensure that they are returned to school as soon as possible. There are currently a huge number of overdue books that are waiting to be read by other students.

Engineering Technical Award

Engineering Technical Award Students in Year 10 have been manufacturing their Unit 1 practical piece out of aluminium and steel. The product is a small hobby clamp which can hold a variety of small objects but will also tilt and lock to any desired position. Students must manufacture all parts and use a wide variety of practical techniques including use of tap and die, filing, drilling, cutting, and using a lathe, as well as measuring and marking using a wide variety of hand tools. The course enables students to produce very high-quality finished products as well as design and plan how they will realise the result.



MFL Revision Conferences

On Friday 24th March, all Year 11 Modern Foreign Languages students were invited to masterclass conferences.

These conferences were an opportunity for our Spanish students to have a masterclass with our new Head of Department, Miss Matthews, and our French students to have a masterclass with Miss Norris, who is sadly relocating at Easter.

The conferences focused on the four key skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Pupils discussed questions from the recent mock exams and were provided with a range of revision tools and tips to help them with exam skills such as deciphering questions, identifying tenses, improving accuracy and clarity and developing and extending ideas.

Both Miss Matthews and Miss Norris were delighted to see pupils so engaged and showing real dedication and diligence in their individual sessions. Pupils found the oral exam practice to be most beneficial given that the speaking exams commence in less than a month. Pupils left feeling motivated and inspired, and with plenty of resources to aid their revision in the run up to the exams.



PTFA Updates

Fund Raiser

The Parents Teachers and Friends Association (PTFA) work with the school to raise funds. We are a charity and every penny we get helps our children. Currently our main aim is to raise enough money for a new shelter to be installed, most likely on the main school playground. This will provide students with additional protection from the elements during morning break and at lunchtime.

The PTFA's most recent fundraising events have gone a long way to making the shelter a reality. We've had two recent events, the Christmas Fair and involvement with the school production of 'Footloose'.



** photo used for illustrative purposes only*

Christmas Wishes Come True

The Christmas Fair is always a crowd pleaser, and it certainly didn't disappoint this year. The Sports Hall was transformed into a wonderful winter wonderland - everyone thoroughly enjoyed the festivities, the amazing sense of community, and bucket-loads of Christmas spirit!

Prizes galore were donated by businesses far and wide for the ever-popular raffle, including from the Anvil, Bombay Sapphire, Café Pueblo, Caviste, Overton Co-op and Whitchurch Co-op, Clacy's Garage, David Manning & Co, English Rose Salon, Hardy's Plants, Honesty, Kudos Café, No1 George Street, Renasci Designs, Rosebourne Garden Centre, Ryan Dickinson Plumbing & Heating, Sarah Dutton Photography, Tesco, and Turners Butchers of Overton.

Thank you to all who worked tirelessly to make this fantastic event happen, from members of the PTFA, to the stall holders, students, teachers, local businesses, and of course our wonderful community.

The PTFA are thrilled to share with you that the Christmas Fair made a total of £4,200. This was made possible, in part, by Match Funding from Debbie and Mike Crapper via Vodafone, and from Adele Thorogood via Barclays; matching funds of £1,828. If you work for a large company who offer Match Funding, read on to find out more about how you can help us.



Footloose, School Production

The drama was high in December with a dazzling production of 'Footloose', which heralded the return of mass-participation live performances at the school. The staff, students and PTFA pulled out all the stops to make it a real event to remember.

Our wonderful community responded to the promise of great entertainment with a full house every night, and the PTFA's provision of refreshments raised another £185 towards the shelter.



So far we have raised an incredible amount for the shelter – about £17000! – and we are well on our way with getting final quotes for the work: but we still need your help. Can you donate some money to help us secure this shelter? We have recently set up the facility to make a donation via Scopay. Parents can log on to Scopay and give us a direct donation of £10, £5 or even just £1 towards the shelter. Every penny counts and we are aware that lots of parents do not have much time but do want to support us.



How else can you support the PTFA?

Although we have raised thousands of pounds towards the shelter, we need to do more, as this is a huge project. The PTFA are a fun and hard-working group of parents and teachers that really feel passionate about getting the very best for the school. Can you help us? Here are a few ideas that mean you can contribute.

1. Time / Skills: If you can offer your time or skills to support the fundraising efforts of the PTFA, please contact the PTFA team on ptfa@testbourne.school.
2. Just Giving Page: Make a donation, and if possible, we can also claim Gift Aid on your donation of 25% if you are a UK Taxpayer. See the link for more details: <https://www.justgiving.com/ptfa-testbourneschool>.
3. Match Funding: Does your employer offer Match Funding? Maximise your fundraising efforts by securing pledges to match donations made to the PTFA. Please get in touch if you would like more details – the school can provide a letter of support that you can present to your employer to help with your donation.
4. Easyfundraising: Make money for the PTFA whilst you shop online! Sign up via: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/> and visit our Testbourne Parents Teachers & Friends Association page.

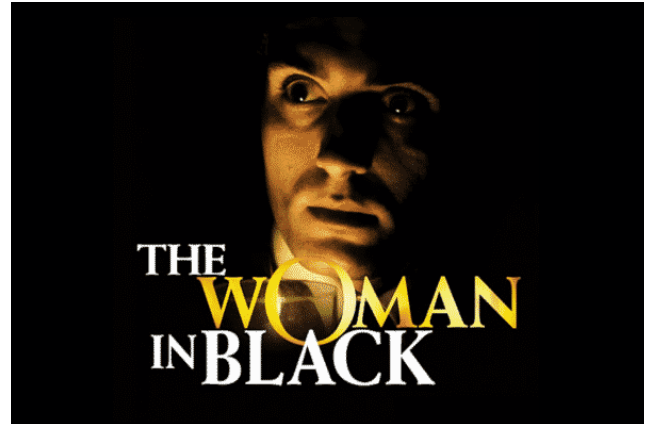
For more information about the PTFA, check out the PTFA page on the school website: <https://www.testbourne.school/home/parents/ptfa/> or join the PTFA Facebook Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TestbournePTFA>

- Louise Clark and the rest of the PTFA

The Woman in Black Drama Trip

Recently, a group of TCS Drama students had the opportunity to visit the Fortune Theatre, London and attend a performance of the famous stage show “The Woman in Black”. The excursion was not only enjoyable, but also provided an educational experience for the students... and it was very scary!!

“The Woman in Black” is a compelling theatrical piece, based on the novel by Susan Hill. It is known for its intricate plot, suspenseful atmosphere, and powerful performances. Watching the play allowed the students to experience a different art form, one that relies on storytelling, stagecraft, and the collective imagination of the audience. The production also gave them an insight into the world of theatre and the complexities involved in putting on a successful show.



The trip allowed students to broaden their horizons, learn about different cultures and art forms, and develop critical thinking skills. There was plenty of discussion on the way home about which moment was the scariest!

The students behaved admirably throughout the trip, showing respect and courtesy towards their peers and the teachers who accompanied them. Their behaviour in the theatre was perfect and set the standard for how schools should behave whilst watching a live show.

Overall, the school trip to London to watch “The Woman in Black” was a resounding success. The students had a memorable experience and gained valuable insights into the world of theatre... and they ‘jumped’ loads!

Poetry Live!

‘Poetry Live!’ is a touring study conference arranged in concert with the exam boards. Authors of some of the set poetry texts perform readings of their work, with the aim of bringing the poems alive off the page and helping to demystify modern poetry for students. This year, Testbourne students were offered the chance to join nearly a thousand other pupils at the conference in Oxford, as outlined below by Charlotte Vickers, Year 11 TCS student:



At the end of February, Year 11 students visited the New Theatre in Oxford. We were lucky enough to watch poets such as Poet Laureate Simon Armitage, John Agard and Imtiaz Dharker, who performed many interesting poems, which were extremely useful as part of our GCSE revision. They also introduced us to new poems we had not heard before and taught us about the context and connection they felt to their poetry. There were talks from GCSE examiners, who explained common misconceptions and mistakes that many students make, and how to improve our grades. The day was a very valuable and enjoyable day, and we came home with a booklet full of annotated poems, which will be brilliant to revise from and look back on.

Lego Club

Students at Testbourne Community School are getting a chance to exercise their creativity through a unique after-school programme - Lego Club. The club, which meets once a week, has been running for the past month and has proved to be a popular way for students to unwind and socialize. The Lego Club is organised by Mrs. Sykes, who has recently completed her Lego Therapy course and has been instrumental in bringing the programme to the school. The benefits of the club go beyond just having fun with Lego; creative play is essential for developing problem-solving skills, spatial reasoning, and critical thinking, and it's a great way for students to express themselves. Each week, students gather in a classroom that is transformed into a Lego wonderland, with boxes and boxes of colourful bricks and accessories. The students are free to create whatever they want, whether it's a miniature city, a spaceship or a sculpture of their favourite animal.



Mrs Sykes has recently organised for a Lego Play Specialist, Leonora, to spend time with the Lego Clubbers; Leonora very kindly donated a huge box of brand-new Lego which came hot off the production line from the Lego factory in Denmark! Students can sign up to attend the club by visiting Mrs Sykes in The Hub. They are always happy to welcome new members and see what amazing creations they make each week!



Bass Guitar for Jasmine

It was an exciting day in the music department as we took delivery of Jasmine's new bass guitar. This has been purchased with a full grant from the Michael Hurd Fund for Young Musicians. Michael was a local musician and the fund supports young musicians up to the age of 25 in the Hampshire area. We are thrilled that the Trustees agreed to support Jasmine, who will now be able to use her new bass guitar for her GCSE music performance, and hopes to be able to play in her church worship band in the future. The Trustees have asked us to report back on Jasmine's progress and we look forward to sharing her musical journey with them. We are so grateful for their support, and Jasmine has almost been lost for words at their generosity.



Prom Fundraiser

The Prom Committee has been hard at work preparing for the upcoming Year 11 Prom, and recently they hosted a 'Prom Fundraiser' at school. The fundraiser was a huge success, thanks to the dedication and hard work of the Committee members.

The Year 11 students baked their hearts out in preparation for the event, bringing in over 200 baked goods to sell during breaktime. The delicious treats included cookies, cupcakes, brownies, and more. Students and staff alike were excited to sample the tasty treats and support the Prom Committee's efforts.



In addition to the baked goods, the Committee also organized a fun activity to raise further funds. Students had the opportunity to throw wet sponges at their teachers, with each sponge throw costing a small fee. The teachers were great sports and volunteered to participate, getting soaked in the process. The students had a blast, and the activity was a huge hit. They also had a penalty shootout competition in the Sports Hall, with the winner getting to pick their selection of baked cakes.

Thanks to the hard work of the Prom Committee and the generosity of the wider school community, the 'Prom fundraiser' was a great success and raised £244!



Chess Club

A new club has started for Year 10s who like to play chess. Up to a dozen students can now be found working out their chess moves on a Thursday lunchtime in Room 54. We only have 5 chess sets, so if anyone in the Testbourne community has a spare one that they no longer use, please do drop it in at Testbourne's Reception so we cater for more players.



News from the PE Department

Rugby

With over 20 students turning up regularly to training, we have come a long way this term and have played several matches and tournaments in this time. Notable results have been a win against Harrow Way School in our first match where we won 6 tries to 1. The boys (and girls) have shown great commitment and ambition to learn the game of rugby and we look forward to having them continue their progress in January 2024!

Well done for excellent organisation and captaincy from Ben Calvert and Kit Weyman.

Our Year 7 Rugby 7s team were crowned district champions at Andover Rugby Club. They went undefeated in the round-robin competition. All the boys played brilliantly with some great attacking rugby and good defence when they needed it. A fantastic effort was given by all, but especially from Morgan Mason, and the team was captained well by Greg Blackburn.

Due to the weather, COVID and other unforeseen circumstances the U15s season has been short with 4 matches being cancelled. However, the boys had an exceptional match against John Hanson on Wednesday 28th March.

It was an excellent game of Rugby with both sides being fiercely competitive. However, with some great performance from Isaac Hodges and Ollie Spinks to name just a few. Testbourne won 24 - 7. Excellent captaincy was shown by Henry Lloyd through out the match

Basketball

In the Andover District Basketball Tournament at the start of February we managed to enter 2 teams who represented Testbourne excellently. Against tough opposition the two teams managed to finish 6th and 8th which was respectable given the large majority of our players were Year 7s in a Year 8 tournament.

The Year 8 team and Year 9 team were actually playing in the Year 10 tournament, so again found themselves against tough opposition. Both teams managed to play their way into some form with both teams picking up wins regularly in the round-robin format.





Basketball

The Year 9 team finished in 5th place and the Year 8 team finished in 6th (having beaten the Testbourne Year 9 team in the process). The boys played in a great spirit and the resilience and leadership they showed was excellent to see.



Year 7 Netball

The first 2 games of the league saw narrow defeats by John Hanson and Harrow Way. It has been a good learning curve, allowing us to try everyone out in different positions, and this has made the team very versatile. We are now looking forward to games against Wellington and The Clere.

The Year 8 team got off to a flying start when they won their first game of the season against Test Valley School 11-3. Some excellent defending from Emily and Jess during this game showed just how much they had progressed from training over the Autumn term.



They had a nervous start against Harrow Way whereby HW scored 2 goals in the first 2 minutes, but some excellent defending saw us 5-3 winners. Gemma Orange received player of the match for her 4 goals. Unfortunately, we then came up against a strong John Hanson team, losing out to them 14-4 but managed to win the last quarter by a goal. Remaining games against Wellington and The Clere will hope to see them in a strong position in the final league table.

Cross Country

On March 7th, ten Testbourne Students in Years 7 and 8 attended the Hampshire Schools Cross Country Championships at Down Grange in Basingstoke. The students had qualified to run for Andover earlier in the year, and we saw some outstanding individual performances.

Celeste Vickers won the Year 7 girls' race. There were over 100 students competing and she led from the start. It was amazing to be there and see such an impressive performance. We are very proud of what she achieved! Celeste was supported by Lily Gray (67th), Alaia Wells-Mariezcurrana (85th), Gabby McCloud (97th) and Indigo Targett (98th).



The next race was a fast and furious Year 7 boys' race, with Archie Burniston finishing in 5th place, just 7 seconds after the winner! This is another outstanding performance and Archie should be incredibly proud of this race: well done to you. Archie was the only Year 7 boy who qualified to run from Testbourne.

In the Year 8 races, Testbourne students all worked incredibly hard to achieve their best. In the girls' race, Aimee Davis finished in a respectable 55th position. In the boys' race, Jake Oakley finished 77th, Benji Johnson 99th and Noah Johnson finished 100th. Well done to all our competitors: it was fabulous to be able to take 10 students to such a competitive event. Archie and Celeste were selected to represent Hampshire in the Inter-Counties race held on 25th March in Tonbridge, Kent.

Poppy Taylor in Year 9 was selected to represent Hampshire in the English Schools Cross Country Championships. This was held in Nottingham. Poppy started at the back of the pen and had to work her way through the field. She finished in 51st position and was the first Hampshire girl home in the team. Well done to Poppy for an excellent result!



Celeste Vickers represented Hampshire in the Schools inter Counties race which took place on March 25th in Tonbridge, Kent. It was a high classed field and Celeste finished in around 50th position. We are still waiting for the official results to be published. Well done Celeste this is an excellent achievement at such a young age.



Archie Burniston in Year 7 took part in the in the UK Inter-Counties Cross-Country Championships in Loughborough on Saturday 11th March. He came second in his Under 13 age group, narrowly missing out on first in a tough sprint finish after a gruelling 3000m race in very muddy and windy conditions.

Unfortunately, Archie sustained an injury in this race and was unable to represent Hampshire at the schools inter Counties race that Celeste competed in.

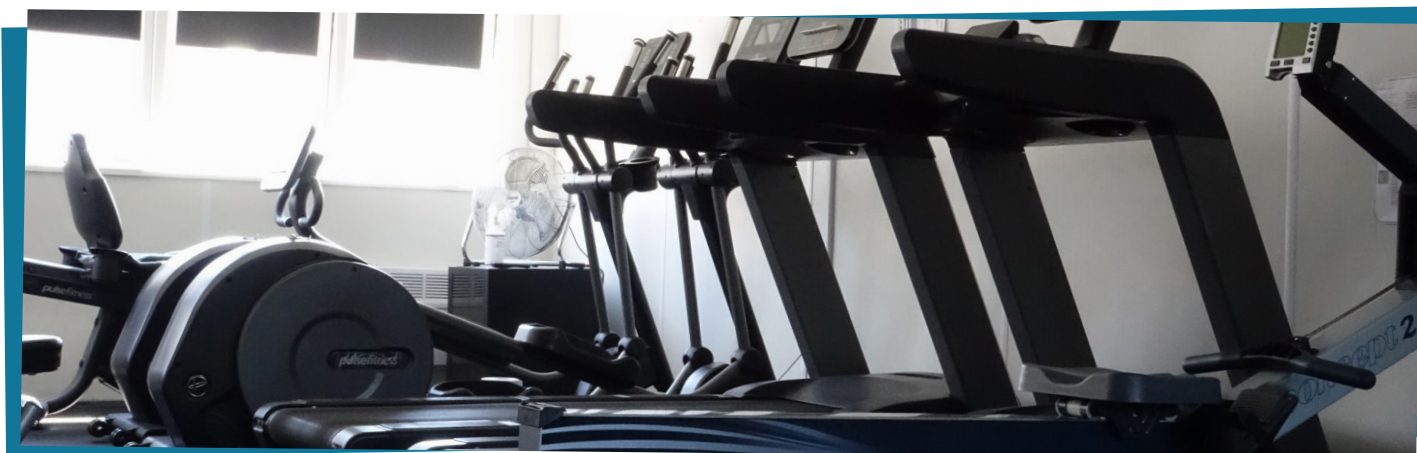


At the same Inter-Counties Cross Country event, Charlotte Vickers represented Hampshire in her Under 17s race. Charlotte's race was an even tougher 5000m on a very muddy course. Charlotte came 192nd out of 258 girls in in 25m54s.



Well done to the Testbourne students who were representing Andover in the Hampshire County Bowl on Sunday 19th March. They managed to beat Bognor RUFC 22-15. Well done to Thomas Wilson, Cam Marrocco and Ashley Pearce.





Testbourne Community Fitness Gym

We're excited to announce that our gym refurbishment is complete! Whether you're an avid gym-goer or just starting out, we invite you to join our community gym and achieve your fitness goals.

We've upgraded our equipment to ensure that you have everything you need for a great workout. Our old Pulse resistance machines have been replaced with new, state-of-the-art 'GymGear Dual Series' machines, along with a dual adjustable pulley and a functional rig. You'll have access to a range of equipment to help you achieve your fitness goals, whether you're looking to build strength, improve your cardio or increase your flexibility.

Membership prices start from just £20 per month and our friendly and knowledgeable staff are on hand to assist you with any questions or concerns. They can provide you with guidance and support as you work towards your fitness goals.

If you're interested in joining our gym, we encourage you to book a tour with us today. You can visit our website at <https://testbourne.schoolhire.co.uk/gym-membership/15361> to learn more and schedule your tour.

TESTBOURNE FITNESS GYM

The gym has a variety of cardiovascular, resistance, functional and free weight equipment for a complete workout. A fitness instructor is on hand to guide you and assist you to achieve your fitness goals.

| Opening Hours | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Monday - Friday | Saturday |
| 06:45 - 21:30 | 09:00 - 14:00 |



| Joining fee: £10, with no minimum contract, then a monthly Direct Debit of: | | |
|---|------------|--------|
| | Individual | Joint* |
| Standard | £26 | £42 |
| Concession** | £20 | £35 |
| Family*** | £67 | |

* two members of the same household
 ** includes: students, over 55s, NHS workers, or members of the armed forces
 *** four members of the same household

All new members must first have a safety induction before you use the gym equipment, which includes an opportunity to discuss your fitness goals and programme requirements.

Contact gym@testbourne.school, or phone 01256 892 261 for more details.



Teen Gym for school students aged 14-16.
 Every Monday, 15:15 - 16:15
 Book at: go.testbourne.school/teengym



Free to gym members, £5 to non-members.
 Most Wednesdays, 18:00 - 19:00
 Book at: go.testbourne.school/bootcamp



Testbourne Community School



www.testbourne.school



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