

THE TCS Tribune



JULY 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Valued Members of the Community,

As the summer term, and indeed the academic year, draws to an end, I welcome you to our third edition of the 'TCS Tribune.' This is our termly newsletter dedicated to sharing the activities of our incredible school with our wider community. Once again, we have a publication packed with the stories of the achievements of our students and events that have taken place.

This term we have been fortunate to welcome our new Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Sudds. It was a stroke of luck that Mrs Sudds was able to begin her time with us immediately after half term. She has proved to be an invaluable member of the team who will be making a significant impact on the education of your children in the coming weeks and months.

This has been another busy and interesting term for the school. Our Year 11 students have sat their exams, luckily before the current heatwave. They conducted themselves impeccably, organising themselves for exams and completing paper after paper in a gruelling march until June was finally reached. Students were generally confident and well prepared and we wish them luck when they receive their results in August. Our Year 10 students also sat formal exams, unfortunately during the heatwave that the country has been experiencing. Students were resilient and dedicated and completed their exams without too much complaint. They also organised themselves well and exhibited the best behaviour one could hope for. All of our other year groups have also had end of year exams. This term was packed with exams, visits and a huge array of sporting fixtures as always. You can read about these in detail in the pages of the magazine. The most significant of events this year have been our farewell assembly for the Year 11 students and their parents, the Ball and the Year 5 and 6 days.

The assembly for Year 11 was a wonderful occasion with an excellent turn from our Year 11 'House Band' Anatomy and some very talented singers and musicians to entertain a very warm crowd of Year 11 students, their parents and staff. The Ball was charming. The students behaved impeccably and, even though they needed to access the bar to get soft drinks at times, they integrated brilliantly and respectfully with members of the public, conducting themselves exactly how I would hope. A particular highlight for me was the fact that almost all of the students said "thank you" to staff as they left. What a testament to how amazing the students of TCS are.

July brought a hectic schedule of transition and taster

days. The Year 6 transition day was a hugely successful event, putting students' minds at rest and allowing

them to have some time to familiarise themselves with each other, our staff and our school. We took a unique approach to our transition evening that seems to, judging by the feedback received, have been extremely well received. Particular highlights were the student presenters, performers and guides who helped with all aspects of the evening. The Year 5 taster days have also been very well received and gave our Year 5 students an opportunity to get a sense of what things might be like if they were to join us in 2019.

I have been fortunate to be at the helm of such a fine school this year. I have continued to enjoy the positive interactions with students and parents that I have been privileged to be a part of.

My penultimate point is to introduce my 'Headteacher's Special Mention.' I should like to mention Harriet Barker and Dylan George in Year 9 who have stood out to staff for their efforts in helping at parents' evenings, Year 6 Transition or Year 5 Taster Days. They have come to the attention of senior staff amongst several other students who have been exceptional in their roles and responsibilities this term. I believe I could have filled a page with names of students who have made a huge contribution this term so congratulations to these two in particular. Finally, I would like to wish you all a happy and safe summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming your children back next term.

Best wishes,

Mr J Beck

Mr J Beck, Headteacher

TCS – *Achievement • Excellence • Integrity*



DATES & CONTACTS FOR YOUR DIARY

LAST DAY OF TERM

Friday 20th July

FIRST DAYS OF AUTUMN TERM

INSET - Monday 3rd Sept

Yrs 7 & 11 - Tuesday 4th Sept

All Years - Wednesday 5th Sept

USEFUL INFORMATION

Testbourne Community School
Micheldever Road, Whitchurch,
Hampshire RG28 7JF

School Office Telephone:
01256 892061

School Named Contact:
Mrs E. Santance

Community Tel: **01256 892261**
Fax: **01256 896796**

Email: **adminoffice@
testbourne.hants.sch.uk**

**The School Office is normally
open for telephone calls
between 8:30am – 4:00pm
on each school day.**

NEW DEPUTY HEADTEACHER



As our new Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Erin Sudds, started work at Testbourne this month, we thought we would do an interview feature with her.

Why did you choose to apply for the job at Testbourne?

I was impressed by the warmth I felt within the school community on my first visit so knew that Testbourne would be a special place to work. Testbourne is at the heart of its community and the fact that it is a relatively small school attracted me because I would be able to get to know all of the students and staff really well, enabling a really personalised approach to learning.

What is your background and experience?

I grew up in Southampton and attended Peter Symonds Sixth Form College. In fact, Mr Beck (our Headteacher) was actually one of my Science teachers at secondary school! I gained a first class Law Degree at the University of Greenwich and during my studies, became involved with some outreach work at local

schools, which is where I found my passion for working with young people. I have held a variety of senior leadership roles, most recently as Head of a small school within a large academy provider in London.

What do you hope to bring to Testbourne?

I will bring passion and enthusiasm for education and for developing the whole child, as well as building on existing community links. I bring a lot of experience of embedding a scholarly attitude and love of learning within my previous schools and look forward to building on the, already excellent, provision here at Testbourne.

What are your interests outside of work?

I'm a keen singer! In fact, I previously sang with the Hampshire County Youth Choir and Children's Choir. I also enjoy reading, Pilates and I also have a two year old, which takes up a lot of my time!

MATHS DEPARTMENT NEWS

YEAR 8 UKMT JUNIOR MATHEMATICS CHALLENGE 2018

The Junior Mathematics Challenge is a popular mathematics competition with participants from schools across the UK. Forty students in Year 8 at Testbourne enter the competition and nationally over 300 000 students take part each year. Pupils with scores in the top 40% of participants are awarded bronze, silver and gold certificates in the ratio 3:2:1.

The Junior Mathematics Challenge is run by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust. It consists of a challenging and intriguing set of multiple-choice questions that are designed to stretch students and to stimulate an interest in mathematical problem solving. There are 25 multiple-choice questions that get progressively harder. Guessing the answers is discouraged as penalties for incorrect answers are given in certain sections of the challenge. The challenge has to be completed within one hour and it is sat in school under normal exam conditions.

The UKMT's aim is to advance the education of children and young people in mathematics. They organise national mathematics competitions and other mathematical enrichment activities for 11-18 year old UK school pupils.

A good proportion of those entered from Year 8 achieved the standard required for gold, silver or bronze awards.

Congratulations to all those who participated.

Morgan	Taylor	Gold and Best in School	Lucy	Routledge	Bronze
Henry	Furze	Gold	Saorla	Walsh	Bronze
Toby	Crapper	Silver	Jacob	Williams	Bronze
Maddie	Walters	Silver	Drew	Bingham	Bronze
Harrison	Pritchard	Silver	Noah	Scholtz	Bronze
Harvey	Cook	Silver	William	Robson	Bronze
Alice	Skidmore	Silver	Daniel	Perceval	Bronze
Louie	Morris	Silver	Arran	Topham	Bronze
Louisa	Rosevear	Silver	Tosha	Reeves	Bronze
Ffion	Timmins	Silver	Ben	Wingham	Bronze
			Juliette	Rivans	Bronze
			Isabella	Zolotuhin	Bronze

YEAR 6 DAY

Year 6 were welcomed to TCS on Thursday 6th July, and their parents joined us in the evening to meet some key members of staff. The whole day provided our new students with a taste of learning at Secondary school: they had lessons from the Maths, English, Science, Geography, History, Technology and Music departments, to name only a few.

We have high expectations of our new intake, the largest we have ever had, and we look forward to welcoming them in September.

SCIENCE NEWS

NATIONAL TEEN TECH FINALISTS

On Monday 25th June Elyse Kenny, Lauren Armitage and Mia Paganuzzi travelled to the Royal Society in London to participate in the national finals of the Teen Tech Awards. The girls entered the Design and Construction category with a project called 'Elm Town', which involved researching and planning the development of an Eco-town to promote sustainable living. The town included cob and underground houses, independent shops, renewable energy supplies and a poo-powered bus.

After months of work designing and perfecting their project the girls did themselves and Testbourne proud in their 5-minute pitch. This was followed by a question and answer session with the judges, after which the girls explained their ideas to the other schools and special guests, including Professor Jim Al-Khalili and Dr Suzie Imber.

Unfortunately the girls did not win the competition, but with over 1500 students entering projects across all categories, they did amazingly well to reach the finals and they hope to act upon the feedback given and enter again next year. Mia Pagauzzini, one of the students involved in the project, said: "We were very excited and proud to have been selected for the national finals as we put a lot of work into the project using our break times and after school sessions for many months now. It was good to work on it with my friends and I learnt more about presentation skills than I thought I would and feel like I could enter mastermind using my knowledge on eco-towns from all the research we did!"

Any pupils interested in finding out more or entering Teen Tech Awards 2019 should see Mrs Romain or visit www.teentechevent.com



TCS LIBRARY NEWS



On 28th June twelve Year 8 students went to Harrow Way School for the Hampshire Book Awards. Before the trip our job was to read all six books on the shortlist and to rate them on "Enjoyment, Enrichment and Engagement".

Whilst we were there we discussed all the books we had read; everybody had different opinions on each book. We then voted for the one we thought was best. The results were very tight, however the winner was "Instructions for a Second-hand Heart".

I recommend this to all next year's Year 8 students who really love reading and want to do something for the school and, if you don't like reading, I still would do it because it will make you like reading.

I would like to say a massive thank you to the teachers who took us: Mrs Bates and Mrs Harvey.

It was a really good experience. I recommend all the books on the shortlist, especially the winner.

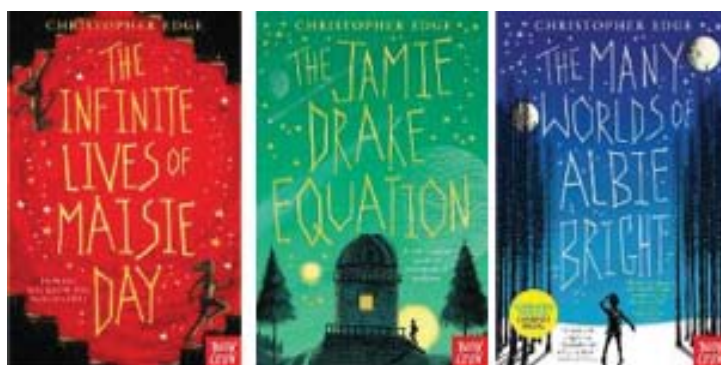
Saskia Meyrick and Kaci Mullins

YEAR 7 & 8 students met the author Christopher Edge at Whitchurch Primary School on Tuesday 22nd May 2018

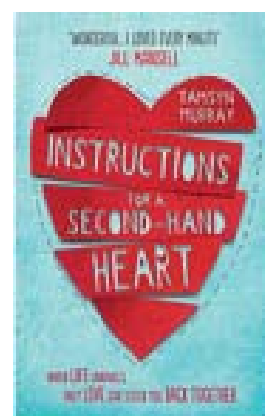
Christopher is an award-winning children's author who grew up in Manchester. He spent most of his childhood in the local library dreaming up stories, but now lives in Gloucestershire where he spends most of his time in the local library dreaming up stories!



His most recent books use well-explained scientific theories to tell exciting stories which explore themes such as grief, family relationships, chaos theory and more. Christopher talked to us about his latest books and we learnt how to travel through time and space using a banana and a cat!



A group of Year 8 students attended the Hampshire Book Awards 2018 judging day. Having read all six books on the shortlist, we voted for our favourite. The winner was.....



Instructions for a Second-Hand Heart
by Tamsyn Murray

STUDENT NEWS

ADAM TURNER - First Class Honours from Oxford

Former Testbourne student Adam Turner graduated from Worcester College, Oxford University this summer with First Class Honours for a BA in Music.

Over the last few weeks, since finishing his finals, Adam has been working with Surrey Opera as repetiteur (rehearsal pianist) for *Candide* and plans to freelance on similar projects in the London area.

He would like to audition for the Repetiteur Professional Diploma at The Royal Academy of Music in London next year.

Congratulations Adam and best of luck in your future career as a professional musician!



Sisters Sophie and Saskia Meyrick both competed in the Junior National Outdoor Archery Championship at Lilleshall on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th July.

Sophie shot a metric 3 on Saturday and a Bristol 3 round on Sunday. She came 2nd both days in the junior ladies under 16 Compound.

Saskia shot a metric 4 on Saturday and a Bristol 4 on Sunday. She placed a respectable 12th each day.

Congratulations to both girls for their achievements!



Laura Leigh spent a week at Easter with the Hampshire Youth County Orchestra on a residential music course which was then followed by a concert at the Royal Albert Hall in London.

During this time, Laura and the orchestra worked intensely on hugely challenging music which this year included Britten's *Simple Symphony* and Stravinsky's *Petrouchka*.

The County Youth Orchestra will also be taking *Petrouchka*



on their summer tour to Germany and the Czech Republic this summer.

Well done Laura on this achievement and we wish you all the best of luck on the Music Specialist course at Peter Symonds College.

MUSIC NEWS

On Saturday 7th June, in an unlikely collaboration, two choirs came together to perform a harmonious concert of vocal music at Longmeadow Sports & Social Club in Whitchurch, Hampshire. The concert of the renowned Treorchy Male Choir has become a biennial fixture in the calendar for Whitchurch, but this year they were joined by Testbourne Community School's 'Bella Voce' choir.

The collaboration was the brainchild of local impresario and club manager, Paul Driver, who said: "I love the sound of the Treorchy Male Choir; it takes me back to my roots and I wanted to share that passion with our local choir, Bella Voce, which I had heard so much about within the community."

Treorchy Male Choir have been established in the Rhonda Valley in Wales for more than 130 years and are one of the best known from the area, regularly performing in the UK and abroad. They have collaborated with some of the world's finest musicians, including Tom Jones, Shirley Bassey, Russell Watson and Jon Bon Jovi, and frequently perform at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff for various Rugby Union international games.

This joint concert featured a diverse range of songs from both choirs, including Welsh hymns and folk songs through to showtunes and popular songs. The concert culminated with both choirs singing an arrangement of "You Raise Me Up", which prompted a standing ovation from the audience, and was followed by an encore of both the Welsh and British National anthems.



The Music Department staged its Summer Concert on Wednesday 27th June in the Theatre Hall featuring performances from the Concert Orchestra, Bella Voce choir, Woodwind and Brass ensembles and 'Anatomy' band.

We would like to congratulate all of our talented musicians for reaching a high level of playing through their continued hard work and commitment.

Thank you to everyone who came to support this concert and to the PTFA for providing refreshments.



A VISIT TO THE GLOBE

On Tuesday 10th July, a group of year 7 students went on an exciting trip to the Globe Theatre in London.

We were given an incredible tour from one of the ex-actors. He explained about how the structure of the building affected the plays. For example, there was an open roof for natural light to come through from. This is what they used as a substitute for artificial lighting. He then explained that nowadays there are many difficulties with this as there are often aeroplanes passing overhead so the actors have to project their voices. In the workshop, we acted out a scene from a play by William Shakespeare called "Twelfth Night".

During the workshop, we placed our partners into positions for what we thought was appropriate for their lines.

Overall, it was a great opportunity and I hope that I can do it again sometime soon.

Hetty Sentance year 7 WJC



YEAR 5s DISCOVER SOMETHING NEW AT TESTBOURNE

On Monday 9th and Wednesday 11th July, Year 5 students from local schools (both feeder and non-feeder) came to Testbourne for an experience day.

The theme was discovery and the students spent the day discovering new skills, knowledge and facts about Testbourne.

They took part in 4 sessions from a choice of Art, Dance, Drama, DT, Food, Music, PE, Science and Textiles and were expertly guided through the day by our Year 9 helpers.



BELGIUM BATTLEFIELD TRIP

From Wednesday 11th to Friday 13th July, 48 GCSE History students from Year 9 visited the Flanders' Battlefields where the British and Commonwealth forces spent much of the First World War fighting.

The trip was for the students to experience first-hand the historic sites and be guided on the realities of war by hearing accounts of what the soldiers had to endure, expertly guided by our trip historian Dave Allen. Included in the trip were excursions to the battlefields and cemeteries at Vimy Memorial Park, the Somme and Ulster Tower. At the Wellington Quarry Tunnels (a staging ground for the British assault on Arras) the students had an opportunity to see first-hand the cramped, damp and dull conditions of the underground tunnels that the soldiers had to live in during their battles.

The crater at the Somme was caused when the British detonated sixty thousand tonnes of explosives under the German positions. The mines were triggered as part of a coordinated detonation that was loud enough to be heard in London, and the resulting crater is estimated to be around the depth of two coaches end to end.

At the last post ceremony under the Menin Gate, the students were surrounded by the names of thousands of fallen British and Commonwealth soldiers causing them to fall silent. Many students commented on how the whole town of Ypres seemed to go quiet, which is something that has happened almost every evening since 1928. There was, of course, time to be normal teenagers and watch the England football match at a bowling alley, time for shopping and of course sampling Belgian chocolates!



LEAVERS ASSEMBLY

Our Year 11 Leavers Assembly took place on the afternoon of Thursday 28th June and was a significant and jubilant occasion featuring music, awards, photo slideshows, readings, speeches, certificates and a balloon release.

Year 11s were entertained with music as they entered the Sports Hall from our Year 11 band 'Anatomy' featuring Eddie George, Issy Harrop, Ryan Goodridge and Abigail Sarginson.

Picture slideshows were also shown throughout various parts of the assembly featuring pictures of their Year 7 photograph alongside their Year 11 ones which caused many laughs. Mr Lovegrove, Assistant Headteacher, presented some funny anecdotes from stories he had witnessed over the years from our Year 11 students and gave them excellent advice on how to live a happier life and avoid common frustrations with a reading of Baz Luhrmann's 'Sunscreens'.

A more reflective moment came just before the presentation of certificates with a beautiful rendition of the song 'Somewhere Only We Know' performed by Holly Baird on vocals and Laura Leigh on Piano.

One of the highlights this year was the showing of the Leavers Music video which was created for the Year 11s by Testbourne staff who lip synched to 'Trouble' by Taylor Swift!

As has become Testbourne tradition, a balloon release marked the end of the ceremony when students wrote a message attached to a (biodegradable) balloon which was released into the sky.

We hope that all the dreams and aspirations of our Year 11s come true and look forward to celebrating their results at Presentation evening on Wednesday 28th November where they receive their GCSE certificates.

MITYANA 2019

Dear parents and carers,

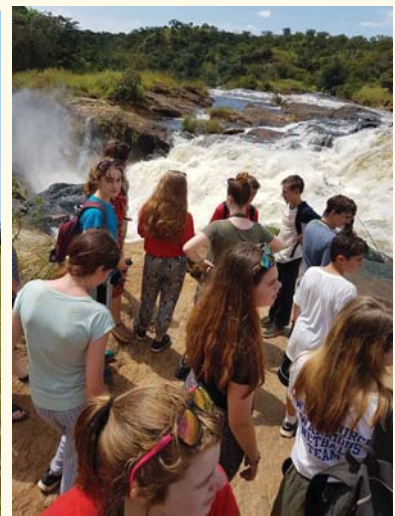
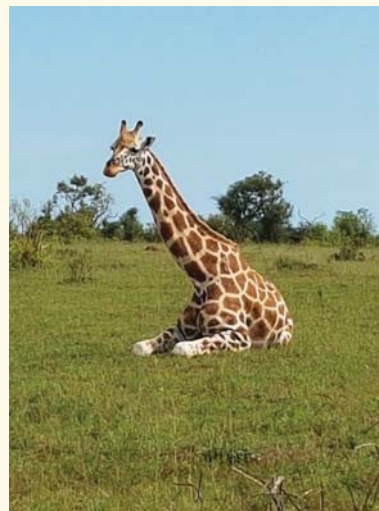
I am very pleased to announce that Dodie Marsden and I are working in partnership this year and keeping with tradition, have planned an educational, exciting and memorable trip to Mityana in October 2019 that will be filled with opportunities for our students to experience new cultures and make lifelong friendships. Through assemblies at school, the students will be informed of the application process and we will be taking year 9 and 10 students; that is our current year 7 and 8 cohort so please take the opportunity over the summer to discuss this with your child / children, because we are holding a launch meeting in September.

We have planned a 'bring them back' visit in January 2019 which will offer school families the opportunity to host a student from Mityana Secondary School to start the friendship and the journey of teaching and learning about cultural difference. To assist their decision making about applying, your child / children would benefit hugely from speaking to students who have previously accompanied us.

We will be sending more details at the start of term but for now, please start talking to your child / children about this fantastic opportunity to gauge their interest in accompanying us in October 2019.

Kindest regards

Helen Brooker



SUCCESSFUL CHARITY LUNCH

Miss Kent's PSE class 80 raised an astounding £153.70 for Mind and Cancer Research UK by organising a charity lunch on Thursday 12th July. The students all took on a great deal of responsibility and were mature in their approach; they should be proud of their achievements!



We raised
£153.70
for
Cancer Research
and Mind

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AWARD

A huge congratulations to Head of Science, Dr Richard Wilson, who won in a Gazette Education Award in the Science and Technology category. The awards ceremony, held at the Apollo Hotel in Basingstoke on Friday 13th July, was attended by senior education chiefs from the local area and was initiated by the Gazette newspapers (Andover and Basingstoke) and sponsored by a number of companies including Waitrose and Basingstoke and Dean County Council.

A parent who nominated Dr Wilson said: "The Head of Science at Testbourne is an amazing Science teacher who really inspires the children. He has completely engaged my daughter and made her believe that anything is possible for her to achieve in her future career and she just loves science now. He organised a science evening for all the parents and children to attend and this was in his private time which was fun and inspiring. This country needs more teachers like him, especially in the sciences and especially ones who inspire more girls to choose it as a career."



Thank you to our local community for nominating Testbourne teachers in these awards, we know a large number of our staff were also nominated for an award and those messages meant so much to our teachers.

STAFF JOINING US

Ryan Mead - Science Teacher
Ruth Amigo - Languages Teacher
Rebecca Elkington - RE Teacher
Haroon Khawaja - Business/Computing Teacher
Eun Jung Lee - Maths Teacher
Chloe Reeder - Geography Teacher
Michele Horner - Art Teacher
Paul Johnson - Science Teacher
Tracy Beach - Science Teacher
Richard Appleton - Geography Teacher
Janet Appleton - English Teacher
Anthony Golden - ICT Teacher
Ian Wingfield - Business Manager
Phil Allen - Exams Officer

STAFF LEAVING US

Alex Ayling – Science Teacher
Jack Burge – PE Teacher
Georgina Kent – Art Teacher
Russell Burton – Exams Officer
Dean Hill – Science Teacher
June Haslam – Science Teacher
Karl Byrne – Head of Business and Computing Teacher
Anna Carvisiglia – Business Manager
Lorraine Hamlin – Catering Assistant
Tracey Wiltshire – Catering Assistant
Carrie Swan – RE/English Teacher
Simon Johnstone – Business and Computing/Geography Teacher

PTFA NEWS

The PTFA (Parents, Teachers and Friends Association) would like to give a huge thank you to all parents and families for supporting the school through PTFA events this year.

The money raised has been spent on purchasing the following:

- New books and furniture for the School Library
- Equipment for the Science Labs
- PE equipment
- Printing press for Art Department
- RE books
- Maths books
- Equipment for the Music Department.

If you are interested in joining the PTFA committee, please come along to the AGM on 2nd October 2018. In the meantime they can be contacted on ptfa@testbourne.hants.sch.uk or tel. 01256 892061

ROUNDERS ROUND-UP

We have had a wonderful rounders season this summer with some very hot games!!

Year 7s have had wins against Wellington, Test Valley, The Clere and Harrow Way, only narrowly losing out to John Hanson.

Year 8s were put into a tough league with Rookwood, John Hanson and The Clere, losing 2 of these games but beating the Clere with a massive 17.5 - 4!

Year 9s were also in the same league and faired some very strong competition against all 3 teams losing out narrowly on all games.

Year 10s have had a mixed season winning games convincingly against Wellington, Test Valley (20-4), but narrowly losing out to John Hanson and Winton.

Thank you to all who have played and carried on regardless of some of the hot conditions.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CONTACTING US

We are fortunate that the vast majority of our parents and carers are extremely courteous and helpful when contacting us to express concerns. Our supportive families have been a tremendous selling point when trying to recruit staff in what is a very challenging environment. There are a small minority, however, for which this is not the case. We have a duty to safeguard staff and look after their wellbeing. With this in mind, we have launched a new Code of Conduct for contacting the school. The Code of Conduct is nothing that would not be expected in any mutually respectful and professional environment and will not need concern most of our parents. For reference, however, it can be found on our website. A new complaints procedure is now also in place and can also be found on our website. We greatly appreciate your co-operation and support as it helps us to assist you as efficiently as possible.

Achievement • Excellence • Integrity

Mr Jon Beck BSc (Hons), NPQH. Headteacher, Testbourne Community School

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