

Dear Mailing List Subscribers,

Merry Christmas! For those of you who don't already follow our [weekly newsletters](#), this round-up of the Autumn term at Turing House will give you an overview of yet another busy and enjoyable few months ...

Welcome to our new Year 7

In September we once again welcomed to our new Year 7 families with an induction and team building day at Thames Young Mariners, where they took part in various challenges including raft building and canoeing. This day allows both the students and staff to get to know each other and, as ever, was highly enjoyable and successful!



Exam Success

Congratulations to four of our students on outstanding GCSE and AS results! Eita (AS Japanese Grade B), Sam (GCSE Grade A* German), Kai (GCSE Grade A* Japanese), Nina (GCSE Grade A Modern Greek). Well done we are very proud of you all!

Richmond Community Awards 2017

Congratulations to founding parent and Governor Beverley Sanders for winning a [Richmond Community Award](#). Beverley worked tirelessly for 7 years to

establish Turing House. This was not an easy task but she had the vision and tenacity to keep going when things got tough and rallied a group of parents with the right skills to make it happen.

Farmers Market

A Farmers Market now runs at Turing House each Sunday from 10am to 2pm.

Come down and take a look! You can expect to find fresh fruit and veg, free range meat, eggs and poultry, artisanal London bread, fish straight from the coast and much more. Follow the link for detail:

<https://www.lfm.org.uk/markets/teddington/>

Staff Success



Congratulations to Mr O'Sullivan who represented Great Britain at the UCI World Amateur Time trial championships in Albi in France. He finished 38th in his age category and was 7th home from 18 British riders.

Music Assembly

At the beginning of term, musicians from Richmond Music Trust, who provide our instrumental lessons, came to Turing House to deliver a musical performance involving a myriad of different instruments. The performance was absolutely fantastic



and really showcased these instruments and what they are capable of. The students were thoroughly engaged and inspired by the show and were keen to find out about learning themselves.

We encourage the parents of any Turing House student who has expressed an interest in learning an instrument, to find out more from Richmond Music Trust website, or to contact the school for more information:

<http://www.richmondmusictrust.org.uk/applynow>

Dojo 4 sends its code into orbit (literally)!



At the fourth Turing House CoderDojo event on Saturday October 7th, fifty-nine young people, from more than 20 different schools, got down to some intensive coding, across 6 different activities (and lots of biscuits were eaten too!).

Our new Micro:bit activity was very popular, and led to the creation of interactive badges, a guide-the-wand-along-the-wire buzzer game, a reaction timer, and more.

Our Raspberry Pi group took part in the new [Astro Pi Mission Zero](#) project, which means that their code is *guaranteed* to be run on the International Space Station (though their Dojo Mentor Richard was not quite sure if everyone believed him). Each student wrote some code to measure and display the Space Station's air temperature using a Raspberry Pi Sense

Hat, along with their own personal message to the Space Station crew. They will each get a certificate to say that their code will be run in space for at least 30 seconds!

In the meantime, our younger coders were making games and animations in Scratch, several more young people learnt how to build their own website, and a record number of Python coders got to grips with projects such as Rock-Paper-Scissors, Turtle Races, Role Playing Games and Wall Ball.

Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who make this all possible; we get so many appreciative comments from parents, many of whom join in the activities with their children, and are inspired to continue at home.

To find out more about future Turing House CoderDojo events and to register on our Mailing List, you can visit the Dojo website here:

<https://turinghousecoderdojo.wordpress.com/take-part/>

Genocide Awareness Day 2017

On Wednesday the 11th of November, fifteen Year 9 students visited Hampton School for a Genocide Awareness Day. The students heard survivors from three different genocides speak.



Survivors had endured the Holocaust, and the genocides in Rwanda and Bosnia. In response to what they had heard, the students then took part in a range of workshop projects with industry specialists from the worlds of art, journalism, poetry, and exhibition designing.

It was an informative day for all, leaving everyone involved with a lot to reflect on, and student Eita, stated that "I think that it is very important for students to learn about this, as it will stop conflicts in the future".

For anyone interested in this topic, which all Turing house students study in Year 9 History, they may wish to read the testimony of one of the survivors that we heard speak. Ruth Barnett has published her testimony, in the book titled *'Person of no Nationality'*, which can be bought on Amazon for under £10. Ruth will be coming in to speak to all Year 9 students later in the academic year.

Cartoon Success



Billy in Year 7 has been awarded the 'Young Cartoonist of the Year' title in the under 18 category! He was at an award dinner with all the top newspaper cartoonists and his winning entry will be on display at the Cartoon Museum. An amazing achievement!

GB Athletes visit Turing House



On Friday the 20th October, two athletes who have represented Great Britain visited Turing House School to speak to 8RI and the school Cross Country Team. Adelle Tracey, the British indoor 800m champion, who represented Great Britain at the World Athletics Championships this summer, spoke alongside

National Cross Country Champion and 3 x British Universities Champion, Rebecca Murray.

The athletes discussed their journeys towards becoming full time athletes, speaking about their experiences at school and other challenges which they faced to reach where they are today. The students also asked questions, and were able to have photographs taken. It was a highly enjoyable experience for all, and we are very grateful to Adelle and Rebecca for giving up their time to come and speak to us. Look out for them at big competitions in the future!

Rugby Jersey Design



CBRE Rugby All Schools Initiative hosted a day for 5 schools to design a rugby kit made by Canterbury. The captains and vice-captains of our Year 8/9 rugby teams spent the day at Twickenham Stadium to design the kit. The final result will be revealed during the Six Nations Championship in a half time show!

Poetry Competition

Congratulations to all of the students who entered our Freedom Poetry Competition. The standard was very high and judging them was very difficult. Well done to the winners: Spike M, Harley & Henry C & Luke W ...

WINNER - Freedom by Spike M

*Marching men, exactly in sync, perfect.
They are the engine, the lies are the fuel,
Their leader, the driver,*

*A smiling-fake, who above all, will rule,
Powerless . I stand watching this monster,
A million arms then arose,
I turned to look at the clouds above,
Moving steadily towards a land,
Where free people live in perfect disorder.
Freedom.*



WINNER - On Sunday

by Harley and Henry C

*On Sunday morning's there is no alarm that wakes me
my house remains silent until mum puts the Kettle on
and whisk the eggs for breakfast, then one by one we
appear round the table*

*On Sunday morning's I can choose what I want to wear
and where I want to go, I even have the prerogative to
change my mind and throw my onesie back on and go
back to bed if I want*

*Sunday afternoon's I am exempt for homework and
chores around the house*

*On Sunday afternoon's there are no rules, we just have
fun*

*Sunday lunch smells like roast lamb and apple pie, but
I'm captive round the dinner table with great nanny
Pat who smells like lavender and wants me to tell her
all about my week at school*

*By Sunday evening the feeling of freedom begins to
fade away and we can all feel that Monday is just
around the corner, Mum is ironing the uniform and
Dad is polishing his shoes*

*It's the beginning of a new week, compact with
routine, invisible chains and restraints until its Sunday
morning once again*



WINNER - The Ghost by Luke Wiggins

*He falls with rusted chains,
Enveloped in his pain,
He's wanting to escape
Escape to find his freedom,*

*Breathing long rasping breaths,
He saw the sad, sad death,
The serpents come to get,
To get him from his freedom,*

*It stares him in the face,
Pulls him to another place,
What's free and what is not,
What's not given its freedom,*

*They perish and they rot,
It binds him to the spot,
Here he's isolated,
Isolated without freedom,*

*For they were dammed to be,
Forever at the mercy,
Of bullets and the bombs,
The bombs to end their freedom...*



Oxford University Trips

Two groups of Year 9 students have enjoyed trips to Oriel College, Oxford this term. They each had a tour of the University, participated in an Ancient Greek lesson, met some Oxford undergraduates and had lunch in the Hogwarts-style college refectory.



Sporting Successes

Congratulations to all our Sports Teams on what has been another amazing term. They have had some superb wins against very tough opposition and should be very proud of themselves! Particular mention goes to our Year 9 girls' table tennis team who won the U16 London South Schools table tennis association championships!

Our weekly newsletters include match reports written by our team captains, and details of recent fixtures can be found on our website here:

<https://www.turinghouseschool.org.uk/fixtures.php>



Bletchley Park Trip



In November, Year 9 students had a trip to Bletchley Park, a place of exceptional historical importance. It played a major role in World War 2, producing secret intelligence that had a direct and profound influence on the outcome of the conflict.



Students had a guided tour of the Park along with code breaking problems to solve. They also visited Alan Turing's Office and saw the Enigma Machine that he helped to develop

Turing Titans Trip to Parliament

On the 7th November, our EEP Robotics Challenge Team were chosen to go to the Houses of Parliament to attend an event, showcasing all the fantastic work young people have done in recent engineering competitions.





MPs and engineering professionals were there. While we were setting up our stand, we were congratulated on being the only school chosen from the EEP Robotics competition to attend the showcase! Andrew Smyth, the

youngest finalist of the Great British Bake Off (and also an aerospace engineer), asked to look at our stand and congratulated us on winning the Tomorrow's Engineers Award! **By Raisharnai K.**

Holocaust Survivor Visit

Turing House recently welcomed Holocaust survivor Cirila Lewis to speak to Year 8 students. Cirila lived through the Holocaust years of the Second World War in Belgium, where she was hidden by Catholics. She recalled her experiences as an innocent Jewish child, incapable of appreciating the enormity of the tragedy unfolding around her. Her testimony was poignant and



moving.

Several students reflected on her talk stating that:

"I really enjoyed listening to her story and I feel very lucky that we didn't live in that time. She told us about her very moving personal account and we learnt lots about what it would have been like to be in hiding."

"This made me feel lucky to be alive in this time. It is shocking to think that a whole part of a culture was nearly wiped out. Any person going through this is so

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brave. You were fighting for your life – it gives me perspective in comparison to my daily struggles. I applaud the survivors and will never forget the dead and what they went through".

"Her story was intriguing and made me now want to learn as much as I can about the Holocaust. I enjoyed her testimony very much".

"During her speech today, I felt heartbroken that she had been through so much and that many members of her family – including her father – were killed during the Holocaust. I am going to remember this lady and her story for many more years".

Jack Petchey Awards Night



In November, Richmond Theatre held the annual Richmond and Kingston Jack Petchey Awards Celebration. Recent award winners from local schools and community clubs were presented with medals celebrating their achievements! Well done to Maria, Will, Finn, Yasmin, Zoe, Jake and Dan.

There are more details about the Jack Petchey award scheme on our website here:

<https://www.turinghouseschool.org.uk/jackpetcheyp>
[hp](https://www.turinghouseschool.org.uk/jackpetcheyp)

Try Dive

Several more of our students have benefitted from reduced-price trial scuba-diving sessions at



Turing House School

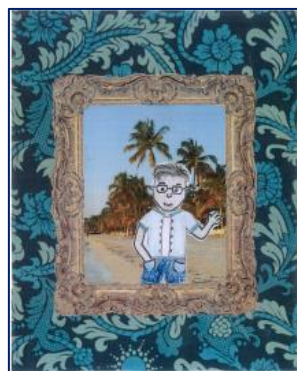
info@turinghouseschool.org.uk

Teddington Pool. These sessions can be arranged with Teddington Sub-Aqua Club through the school and are proving to be very popular and enjoyable.

Lauren Child Themed Work

Miss Parsons recently wrote to Lauren Child writer & illustrator of the Charlie & Lola books to show her the amazing work our students had done. We studied Lauren's work and created self-portraits in the style of Charlie and Lola. We received a lovely email back:

"Many thanks indeed for your email. The work is fantastic and Lauren is absolutely delighted to see this."



Turing House Calendars for sale



Over the summer holidays, we invited students to enter a photography challenge, taking photographs under various subheadings such as food, sea life and adventure. We have taken a range

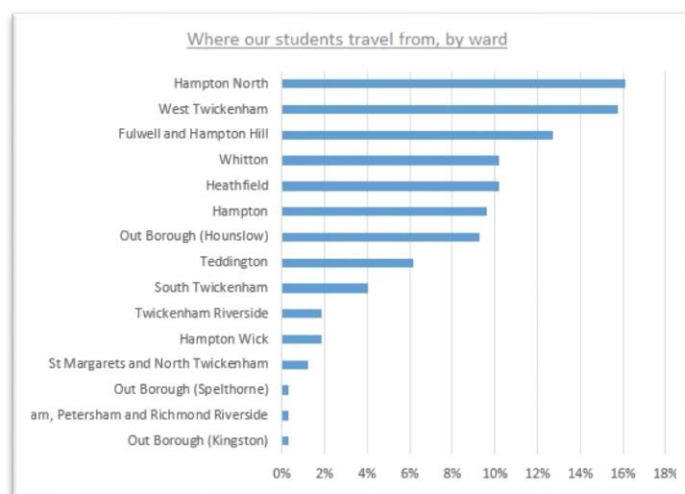
of these photographs and created a limited edition Turing House calendar, available from the school for £8. All proceeds will go towards purchasing photography equipment. Congratulations to Will W, Daniel W, Ollie H, Sol S, Louis SJS, Luca D and Freddie B who all have photographs in the calendar.

Travel Survey

The results of our recent student travel survey are now on the school website here:

<https://www.turinghouseschool.org.uk/studenttravelsurvey.php>.

It's great news that so many Turing House students are using public transport and active travel options to get to school. At the moment, the proportion of students travelling in private vehicles is in line with the London average for secondary schools, and we would like to see this reduce further. Through our Travel Plan we are working towards this goal with students and with TfL, and we are asking parents to support us in this.



Interestingly, the survey results also show that our planned move to Hospital Bridge Road in 2020 is likely to reduce average journey times rather than increase them. This shouldn't be a surprise! We know some people assume that, because our opening site is in Teddington, that most of our students are from Teddington. However, Turing House was set up in response to demand from across the Middlesex side of

the borough as a whole. Our central admissions point is helping us to cater for this, whilst also making sure that students who live furthest from other mixed community schools have priority.

Christmas Card Competition 2017

We received a wide variety of entries to this year's Christmas card competition; the standard was very high, and it was great to see entries across all three year groups. The winner for this year was Charlie H in Year 8, whose design you can see below. Charlie will get to see his artwork in print, and receive tutor points.

Nine runners up were also chosen for their creative designs and interesting use of Art media.



Amazing Craft Fair!

Thank you to everyone who supported our first Turing House Christmas Craft Fair. The evening was a resounding success, with music from the school orchestra, hot turkey and cranberry rolls from Harrisons and a wide range of stall from students, charities and local crafts people. A special mention to Miss Parsons, Turing House Friends and Mr Jones for the superb organisation to ensure this event was a success, alongside all the



volunteers who gave up their time to help on the evening.

Prevent – Votes for Schools Live

Going to Extremes – Press Release from Votes for Schools

The only way to counter the threat of extremism is to educate children at a younger age about the dangers of grooming - particularly online. That was the stark message from a panel of experts to school children at an extremism event organised by the national debating and voting platform, VotesForSchools.



The pupils at Turing House Free School in South West London were among 175,000 students from 235 schools nationwide who took part in a debate on extremism and then voted on the question: Can you ever understand why someone would become an extremist?

Those pupils who voted 'yes' won by a narrow margin, with 51.5% for and 48.5% voting against.

Before the live vote at Turing House Free School in Teddington, 100 Year 9 pupils heard from a former Taliban fighter, Hanif Qadir, who is now the chief executive of anti-extremism group, the Active Change Foundation. He warned the children that they may fall victim to people who want to brainwash them into blaming others unless they learn to question information - especially material on the internet.



Also on the panel were Mohammed Khaliel from Islamix, Usama Hasan of the Quilliam Foundation,

Muslim commentator, Mohammed Shafiq and behavioural psychologist Nick Daines. Dr Hasan told the 13 and 14 year olds that open discussions - such as the Turing House debate - were the key to fighting extremism among young people.

The co-founder of VotesforSchools, Kate Harris, said: "The passion and motivation is taking student voices beyond the walls of the school and into communities, helping to give young people the skills to be active citizens and voters of the future. Using thousands of votes we can share these with decision makers to give them an insight into the hearts and minds of children and young people.

"This is an amazing way of making politics accessible to children and engaging them in democracy and showing them their voice matters and can make a difference. We hope to have a whole generation of 18 year olds who have no barriers to voting and are habitual in debating and making informed decisions.

"Seeing students engage in conversation and debate so openly & thoughtfully on such a difficult and controversial topic was a real highlight for me. It shows what we always knew was possible at VotesforSchools - that children and young people can have an informed voice and can provide the solutions & be the change we want to see in the world."

Sir Vince Cable MP visits Turing House

Sir Vince Cable MP came to visit the students from the EEP robotics club, as they reached the final of a National competition last year for designing and programming robotics to complete different tasks based on a Space theme, and won the Tomorrow's Engineers award for creativity and passion towards a future career in engineering.

The students gave a presentation and live demonstrations to Sir Cable and they had the opportunity to ask him about life in Westminster and his viewpoints on Engineering and Design for the UK.



Christmas Jumper Day in aid of the NSPCC

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas from all the staff and students at Turing House School!

