

TWICKENHAM Talk

Dear Parents, Students and Colleagues

We have come to the end of the first term this year and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone associated with the Academy for their help and support over the previous months. Every week sees progress being made in some aspect of Academy life.

Inevitably there will be challenges along the way and times when we need to work together to solve problems. There is one issue that is causing me great concern and I would be very grateful if you could speak to your son or daughter on this matter.

Over the past few weeks, we have had two instances where a student, when crossing the road, has been hit by a car. I am relieved to say, that in both cases, the students concerned were not seriously injured but clearly the outcome could have been much more distressing.

Above all, we want our students to be safe, so Base Group Tutors have raised this issue in tutor time and have asked all students to think carefully about road safety and getting home safely. With dark evenings and mornings, it is also the time of year where planning a safe route to the Academy and travelling to school with a friend can eliminate risk. We have asked students to be aware of this as well.

We will continue to have staff on duty outside the Academy at the end of the day but this patrol cannot extend away from the immediate vicinity. Both accidents mentioned above happened a short distance away from the Academy. It is also important that students follow the direction given by staff on duty and I would be grateful if you could reinforce this message. A small minority of students feel that, when they are outside the Academy site, they no longer have to conform to requests made by teaching and other staff. This is not the case, and I would like to make you aware that we have authority over students outside the Academy day, especially where the health, safety and welfare of students is concerned. This authority is clearly stated in guidance from the Department for Education.

I would like to close by thanking you again for all for your support over the course of this academic year. We have so many wonderful, talented students and members of staff who contribute greatly to making Twickenham Academy a rewarding and enjoyable place to be. Together they have enabled the Academy to move forward over the last few months and I believe that we are building a powerful learning community. I hope that everyone has a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break and I am sure that we will go from strength to strength in 2012.

Nick Jones, Principal



DATES FOR JANUARY

Thursday 5th January 2012 - Start of Term— 8.30am

Monday 16 January 2012

Yr 11 Parent Consultation Evening

Wednesday 25 January 2012

Yr 9 Introduction to Key Stage 4 Evening. Based around 'Choices'.

Tuesday 31 January 2012

Yr 9 Parent Consultation Evening. Based around 'Choices'.

CONSULTATION ON CHANGING THE ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2013

Following on from the Sixth Form consultation, Twickenham Academy is conducting a consultation on changing the admission arrangements for 2013. The main change is to reduce the number of students admitted in Year 7 from 210 to 180. Details of the change and a response form can be found on the Academy website.

www.twickenhamacademy.org.uk



THE CHOIR PERFORM AT TRAFALGAR SQUARE

On Monday 12th December the choir sang carols at Trafalgar Square, London in aid of the Stroke Association. It was great fun and the choir drew in a large audience, helping to raise over £270 for the charity. Thank you to staff, friends and parents who came along to support and a special thank you to Miss Clark and Mrs Sharp who also sang along with us! Congratulations to the following students who have worked hard to learn the carols and who were a credit to the school: Ella Annon, Jared Belsher, Paige Bradley, Kathryn Carey, Rachel Carter, Chelsie Heward, Shivani Jaswal, Taroush Jethwa, Saskia Kelleher-Moon, Cayson North, Anjela Pashaji and Millie Smith. Please also see an account from Taroush Jethwa below. Miss Palmer

“My trip to Trafalgar Square to sing carols”

We left school and walked to the station. When we got to Trafalgar Square station it was very busy. On the way to Trafalgar Square we saw the London Eye, The Houses of Parliament and Big Ben. When we got to the stage, I didn't feel nervous, I felt excited. It was going to be an experience of a lifetime! While I was singing there were many people watching. The experience was mind-blowing! By Taroush Jethwa.8S

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION

Congratulations to Alex Gosling, 7W who was the winner of our Christmas card design competition for 2011 (Card pictured here) . His card has been professionally printed and sent to many contacts of the Academy. His eye-catching design also won the overall Learning Schools Trust competition beating Hampton and Ipswich Academies designs to be chosen as the Christmas card for the Learning School's Trust!



CHILDREN IN NEED FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The grand total for the Children in Need fundraising was £822. Many thanks and well done to everyone for a fantastic effort.



RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Twickenham Academy is a member of the RFU Education Partnership

TO REPORT STUDENT ABSENCE TELEPHONE 020 8894 4503 EXT 202

YEAR 8 THEMES: THE OLYMPIC GAMES

'What Happened Here' :The Year 8's have been working hard in their Themed lessons and PE to celebrate London hosting the 2012 Olympic Games. In this unit they celebrated the sporting activities that took place last time London hosted the games in 1908 and 1948. They have been learning about the history of the games and the countries who take part and even creating their own Olympic medals. Activities included tug of war, weightlifting, hand tennis, wrestling and Tchoukball.

Each class was assigned a country that as an Academy we are linked to. Each country then had to get the team organised, create flags to cheer each other on and take part in the epic closing ceremony. A huge well done to all competitors and performers but the biggest well done goes to the teams as a whole, who each demonstrated fantastic team work in the spirit of the real Olympics. Well done Year 8!



YEAR 11 GCSE DRAMA

The Year 11 Drama students have been working hard on their GCSE Coursework. The students have been exploring the play 'Find Me' during their exam. The play focuses on mental illness in teenagers and how we as nation deal with the issue. The original director of the play Sam Walter paid the students a visit this week to talk about his experience with the play. This was a fascinating insight into how a director works and gave our students an extra dimension for their coursework.

All Drama coursework Unit 1 : 'War' and Unit 2: 'Find Me' is to be completed over Christmas if not already handed in. Miss Hart

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Heathfield Team Whitton and Heathfield SNT
41 London Road
Twickenham
TW1 3SY

Email: Heathfield.snt@met.police.uk

Phone: 020 8247 7191

Ward Mobile 07879 432925



Cricket Trials



Sport stars needed to help Team Richmond retain the Jubilee Trophy in 2012.

What's happening? London Youth Games Cricket trials

When? Wednesday 11 and 18 January (attendance at both trials is preferable)

Girls: 5.00 – 6.00pm
Boys: 6.00 – 7.00pm

Where? Orleans Park Sports Centre, Orleans Park School, Richmond Road, Twickenham.

How do I take part?

Players must be born on or after 01/09/98

Fill in the online form at www.richmond.gov.uk/londonyouthgames

Email: elaine.cahill@richmond.gov.uk

Phone: 020 8487 5156



EXTREME WEATHER CONDITIONS

In the event of extreme weather conditions we will always endeavour to keep the Academy open. Closure would only be on Health and Safety grounds. This could be because we were unable to staff the Academy at an acceptable level or the playground and/or buildings became unsafe.

How to check whether the Academy is open:

- Every effort will be made to post a message on the Academy website. Please check the website for regular updates www.twickenhamacademy.org.uk
- Please ensure the Academy has your correct email address on our system enabling us to send an email message to you from the Academy.
- Check the OpenCheck website which gives information on all schools. This can be accessed by telephoning 0208 408 7508 or log on to map.lgfl.org.uk/opencheck. This site will be updated during the day by the Local Authority. There is also a link to this site from the London Borough of Richmond website.
- A message will also be placed on the school answer phone.