

February Half-Term Update



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL MICHAEL FITZSIMONS



As we welcomed the new year at the start of this term many of us will have set ourselves a New Years resolution. I wonder whether now, six weeks later, we have stuck to our commitments. Most of us might not have, but there will be a select group that have, and I wonder what impact this will be having on their levels of self-belief and self-efficacy. Self-efficacy is a concept we introduced this term in our Year 13 'Having the NACH' assembly programme. 'NACH' relates to the McClelland's (1961) Need to Achieve theory which opposes Fear of Failure theory. We talked about self-talk, and how disruptive this can often be, of not learning helplessness like Seligman's dogs (a truly awful experiment) and of setting ourselves simple non-negotiables that we all must follow. Clive Woodward was known for judging his players on how they used their time and was clinical in his approach to punctuality. Johnny Wilkinson talked about engaging in every moment fully; 'All of me, in every moment,' and Ben Ainsley talks about the need to simply work hard. Our message in assembly was about finding simplicity and seeking only to control the things that we are in control of, and I hope it rubbed off. By way of reminder, our academy non-negotiables for everyone are to:

- Attend (which is linked inextricably to mental toughness)
- Attend on time (attention to detail)
- Hand in all independent study on time (work ethic)
- Be a nice person (integrity)

It seems overly simple, but it is so effective, and is the key, to success not only in A-Levels, but also in life. A lot has happened this term, for both Year 12 and Year 13 students, I will let my teams inform you through their articles below. As always, I will finish with an apt quote, this time from suffragette Lucy Mallory:

"Every thought a person dwells upon, whether he expresses it or not, either damages or improves his life."

Hope you enjoy the rest of your half term break.

DATES FOR THE DIARY, REMINDERS & UPCOMING TRIPS



Key Dates:

Y12 & Y13 SEND Parents Evening Weds 1 & Thurs 2 March
Telephone Appointments will be held and further details will be shared soon.

World Book Day Thurs 2 March.

Reminder:

Bursary - we are aware that some students have not yet signed up for bursary, who may be eligible. Please follow the below link to check the eligibility criteria and sign up:

<https://sixth.trinitymat.org/key-info/student-support/financial-support/>

Upcoming Trips:

Debating Competition in Manchester Thurs 23 Feb.

Technology Tournament - Rishworth School Thurs 2 March.

Y13 A Level Business Revision Conference at Leeds White Rose Weds 22 March.

Y12 & Y13 Spanish Theatre Trip to London Thurs 30 March.

STUDENT WELL BEING

This term we welcomed our new Student Wellbeing manager, Lisa:

"Hello, I am Lisa Armstead, the new Safeguarding and Welfare Manager at TSFA. I have worked in this area for about 10 years now and I enjoy working with the students and their families, to help them achieve and be the best version of themselves. I am also here to help with any hiccups along their journey. I am located in the student wellbeing office and students are welcome to drop in anytime."



SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

On 2 February, some of our Y13 students with additional needs attended a session with Leeds Beckett University about Student Finance and managing personal finances at university. Our visitor explained how the student loan application works and how they are repaid after university. It was also helpful to think about day-to-day costs for student life, and how to budget. Additionally, the students learned about the Disability Support Allowance, which is available when they attend university, to help with any extra costs related to their needs.



MRS. LUCY SMITH

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)



MRS. LISA ARMSTEAD

**Safeguarding & Welfare Manager
Deputy DSL**



MRS. DEBORAH MORSE

SENDCo



MR. JOE LYONS

Senior Data Manager

Student Wellbeing / Safeguarding Team



TRINITY SCHOLARS

Our year 13 Scholars group are celebrating after Eleanor Aedy, Sophie Carter and Will Darlington each received conditional offers from the University of Cambridge, and Lewis Mitchell received a conditional offer from the University of Oxford. We're still awaiting news of offers for some of our students who applied for medicine and law courses.

Some of our year 13 Scholars received disappointing news, after not quite being able to secure offers for their chosen Oxbridge courses. However, all of these students have been made offers to outstanding Russell Group universities, ranging from the University of Durham to the University of Manchester, Imperial College London to the University of Edinburgh. We're very proud of each and every one of our Scholars and we wish them all the best as they look to confirm their places on these university courses by attaining the excellent grades that we anticipate they will.

Year 12 Scholars have continued their development, enriching their understanding by following a programme of academic skills within college. A number of students have been accepted onto enrichment programmes including the University of Cambridge's HE+ programme, and the University of Oxford's UNIQ programme. Meanwhile, our medic students have begun to work with Medic Mentor to gain support and enrich their understanding of the diverse fields of medical practice.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Congratulations to Danny Marsh who is the first of our Year 13 students to sign off his Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Danny, along with his peers who are due to complete shortly, will be invited to one of the Palaces to be presented with their certificate by a member of the Royal family.

We also have a number of Silver Award students who are looking to complete their award in the coming months.

A great achievement from all Year 13 students during the past 18 months.

This term has seen our Year 12 students sign up to the Duke of Edinburgh Award. We have 23 Gold students and 19 Silver students who have now embarked on their Duke of Edinburgh journey.

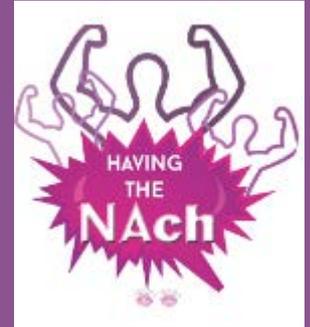
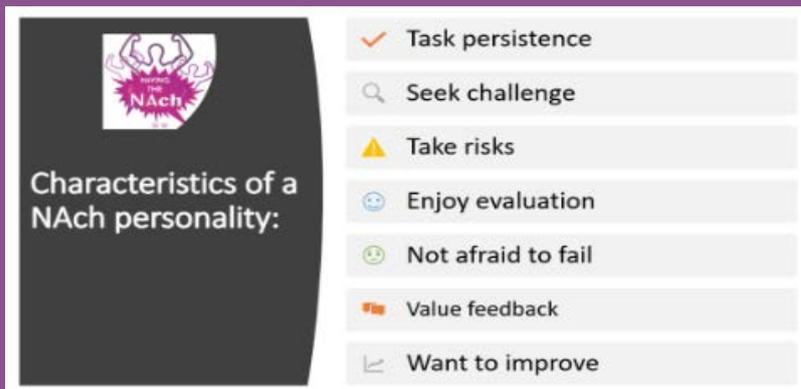
We wish them all the best for the year ahead.

EXAMS ASSESSMENT

As part of preparations for the summer examination series, Year 13 students are doing regular ICAs (In-class Assessments), these are carefully planned and designed by teachers to ensure students are ready for their examinations.

The next formal assessment for Year 13 is their Trial Exam week, which commences on 13th March. The aim of Trial Examinations is to replicate the examination experience. **During this week, students will only be expected to attend for their examinations.** Timetables will be sent out in advance and external invigilators will be brought in to supervise.

To help students prepare for their examinations, a series of 'Having the NAch (Need to Achieve)' assemblies, based on Atkinson's research (1960), have been introduced into their Trinity+ sessions, these sessions are designed for students to self-reflect on their own end goal and provide them with practical tips and support to help them get there. The characteristics of a NAch personality are displayed below.



For Year 12, PC2 was sat in the week commencing 9 January, the results have been released through the MCAS app. Their next assessment, PC3, will take place on the week commencing 24 April.

The summer examination series will take place on the week commencing 15 May, all Year 1 students will be involved in this series and any Year 12 students who study Criminology, IT or BTEC qualifications. Timetables will be sent to students in advance.

ASPIRATIONS

University applications:

A huge well done to all of our year 13 students applying to university. All students who submitted an application met the UCAS deadline. This is no mean feat, with lots of personal statement re-drafts to make and big decisions around course choices. All students handled the process with integrity and mental toughness. Students are now excitedly awaiting news of their offers. Please keep checking the UCAS tracker and emails for updates. A polite reminder that this can be an anxious time; PPTs are on hand to support and all students have received a copy of our Next Steps booklet, which outlines everything from decision making to student finance.

National Apprenticeship Week took place the week beginning 6 February and the academy welcomed external speakers and exhibitors from several local businesses including:

- Covea
- Royal Sun Alliance (RSA)
- KPMG
- Solenis
- Amazing Apprenticeships

Next term we look forward to celebrating National Careers Week which will include a host of other opportunities that students can get involved in. Please make sure you look out for our weekly careers bullet in which is distributed every week via email.

SUCCESS STORIES

In partnership with the West Yorkshire Maths Hub, the Academy is proud to have hosted the Taste of A Level Maths Programme for the second year running.

Led by a variety of expert maths teachers from across the region, these practical, interactive sessions have provided a window into the A Level Maths course for over 30 year 11 students from 10 different secondary schools!

The students have all been fantastic, impressing the course leaders with their commitment, enthusiasm and thirst for powerful knowledge. They have thoroughly enjoyed their introduction to the A Level Maths course (not to mention the substantial pizza orders!) and we hope that this opportunity has helped them to make a decision about the courses they wish to study next year.

We wish all the students who took part the best of luck in their GCSEs this summer and hope to see them again in the future, studying Mathematics at Trinity Sixth Form Academy!

TRINITY ENRICH

Well done to all students taking part in the BSL Virtual enrichment. The course can be very intense, but you are giving it your all! Please ensure you are keeping up to date with your modules as a small handful of students have yet to complete more than one. Remember, enrichment counts towards your graduation and BSL is a level 3 certified enrichment.

Our TSFA sports teams have continued to be successful in their respective Association of Colleges leagues. The netball teams picked up another important win against New College Bradford to remain joint top of the league with New College Pontefract. The footballers lost a close game with Accord Sixth Form 5-3; however, they remained top of the league by two points. The men's rugby team also had a successful term working hard on the training pitch, whilst being involved in a training match with Calderdale College. Well done to all involved! Our running club have been training hard every week in preparation for taking part in the Shroggs Park run next half term – non running club members are free to join us in this event – see Mrs Ryan or Mr Baxter for more information.

A group of Year 12 Business students are currently taking part in an enrichment project with Franklyn's Jewellers. The process so far has involved a lot of independent research and creative thinking. Students pitched their marketing strategies to a panel from the jewellers this term, and all presentations were innovative, well researched and understanding of the current market and the vision of the brand. The external visitors were extremely impressed with all that took part, and an award ceremony will follow where the winning pitch will be awarded with a substantial voucher from the company, and a chance for their marketing strategy to be implemented in a real business.

Pupil Leadership Group:

This half term saw our Year 12 students apply to 'volunteer' with our Pupil Leadership Group to support our Year 13 students as their revision and studies ramp up in preparation for their exams. We had an overwhelming number of applications which really does show how highly thought of our Pupil Leadership Group are.

Congratulations to the following students who have secured a volunteer position for the coming months.

Earthshot: Heidi Jo -Wood, Jash Agbisit, Leejay Wilkins, Leigh Smith, Marcus Hodgson, Maya Mistry, Oliver Hirst and William Frampton

Physical Health: Anna Green, Beth Welch, Katie Brook, Lewis Kenny, Lucas Pearmain and Stanley Steele

Charity: Amelia Simpson, Billie-Jo Bone, Hermione Mear, Laibah Mahmood, Raese Rashid and Sophie Lamb

Diversity: Arzoo Ali, Chanelle Aiyenoria, Iman Mahmood, Millie Meadows and Nathan Stephenson

The official recruitment process for a new Year 12 Pupil Leadership Group to take over from our Year 13 students will start in April. Keep an eye out during Trinity+ for further information.

Student Ambassadors:

We would like to pass on our gratitude and thanks to our 150 student volunteers who helped out at our Open evening this half term. The feedback we received from prospective students and parents about our ambassadors makes us very proud. Our Open evenings would not be a success without your enthusiasm and professionalism. Thank you to all students involved.

The current House Leaderboard:

Position	Points	House
Joint 1 st	39	Shibden Hall
	39	Wainhouse Tower
	35	Piece Hall
Joint 3 rd	35	Halifax Minster
	33	Dean Clough

Enjoy the rest of your half term and see you Monday 20 February