

4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another incredibly busy term at TLA, I would like to share some of the highlights once again.

On the final day before the last half term holiday, Mrs Quayle took four students from the Maths Club to Leeds Mathematics School (LMaS). Temple Learning Academy were one of 15 teams from the Leeds, Bradford and Harrogate area in four rounds of mathematics challenges: a group team challenge, a number cross, a shuttle round and finally a relay round. At the end of the event there was a talk by the UK Mathematics Trust based at Leeds University, and from the Head of LMaS around how we apply mathematics in everyday life and studying beyond school. Back at TLA we are continuing with the Maths Club for all KS3 students working towards mastery in Maths. We also celebrated Pi Day on March 14th!

During the first week back in February, Year 9 had an incredible opportunity to meet a practicing Barrister who shared her inspiring journey into law. She gave them an insight into what it's like to work in the legal profession and how she became a barrister. The students had the chance to ask questions about her career and experiences and, of course, we couldn't let her leave without trying on her wig and gown!



Her visit was in preparation for a Mock Trial that a group of our Year 9 students attended on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March at Bradford Magistrates Court - going head-to-head with seven other schools from across Yorkshire, our students brilliantly represented both the defence and prosecution, showcasing confidence, teamwork, resilience and dedication. They also had the unique opportunity to put questions to a Judge, Legal Advisor and Magistrate about their roles and career journeys. Although we didn't take home first prize, we're thrilled to share that one of our talented students won an award for asking the best question of the day. What an achievement!

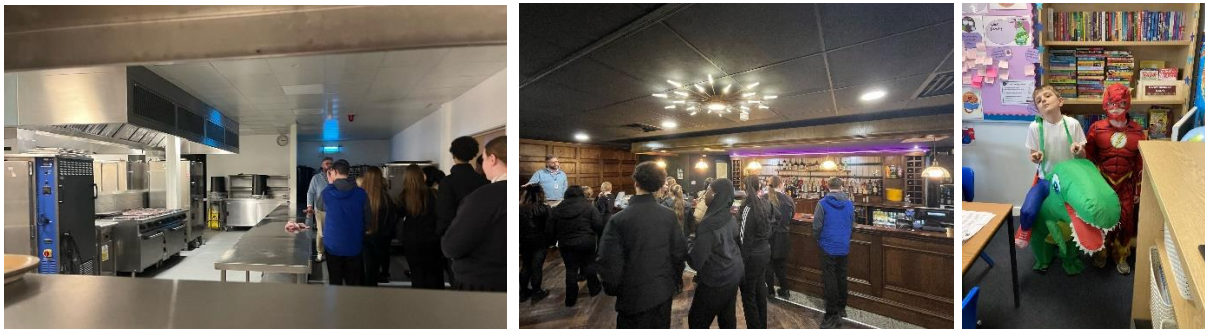
Continuing with the legal theme, Year 10 GCSE Citizenship students had a visit from Sarah Butters, Justice of the Peace, from the Magistrates in the Community. Students were introduced to the magistracy, examined a case and engaged in a sentencing exercise. Students were provided with an insight into the role of the magistrate and the types of cases they cover. This was a fantastic experience and opportunity to ask questions and understand how the magistrates court serves the community.

At the end of February, a group of Art pupils took the exciting opportunity of taking part in a webinar through the Victoria & Albert (V&A), from Mr Gav Strange, the Director and Designer at Aardman Studios, who are responsible for Wallace and Gromit, Shaun the Sheep and Chicken Run. Gav spoke about his job, how he got there, what he does and what has inspired him along the way. He had some really positive messages for the pupils and answered some of their questions that they had at the end.



On 5<sup>th</sup> March our Year 4 students set off on their first ever residential trip to The Deep! On their trip they identified many different animals including sharks, turtles, jellyfish and explored their characteristics and habitats. They had lots of fun - particularly with the sharks!

Our Year 10 Hospitality & Catering students have once again been embracing the opportunity offered to us from the Royal Armouries in Leeds – they have visited the facilities there, and also welcomed visitors from the Armouries to TLA, to learn key skills ahead of hosting their own event on 9<sup>th</sup> June!



On 7<sup>th</sup> March, TLA celebrated World Book Day with a whole host of exciting activities, including a 'masked reader' competition! Staff hid their identities to read their favourite books and children had to guess who the reader was. There was also a treasure hunt and special assemblies on reading.

We welcomed our Year 1 parents & carers into school in March to attend a phonics event – this gave parents the opportunity to find out more about phonics, and how to support their children with the upcoming phonics screening check. They also had the opportunity to meet Amber the TLA reading dog, who works with our children on phonics every week!





Our Reception children had a lovely afternoon in the spring sunshine at the beginning of this term for our annual Pancake Pandemonium event. They enjoyed showing off their physical skills and loved having their parents and carers there to cheer them on as they flipped and flopped their pancakes.

Our reception classes also enjoyed a trip to Corpus Christi Church this half term - they went on a scavenger hunt to find lots of different items within the church and listened to a very interesting talk from Father Pat.



We celebrated British Science week across school with a 'BANG!', with hands on experiments and activities every lunchtime and assemblies each day. Particular favourites were setting fire to teachers using methane bubbles and dissecting eyeballs (see picture below)!!

Our Primary pupils took part in a Spelling Bee house competition with Mrs Spurr on 11<sup>th</sup> March – where their resilience and knowledge was amazing. They represented their houses in a mature way and really impressed everyone with their spelling skills. Well done to all competitors!

Twelve of our KS3 students recently attended the annual Design Technology Rotary Competition to proudly represent our school. The students had a fantastic time showcasing their creativity and determination as they took on the challenge of building an electronic four-wheel car. The competition provided a great opportunity for them to develop essential skills in teamwork, communication, and problem-solving. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and the enthusiasm they demonstrated throughout the day!



Ten of our Year 10 students attended a Motor Sport UK Day at the University of Leeds on 19<sup>th</sup> March, where they had an exciting and inspiring experience. Throughout the day, they enjoyed a guided campus tour, giving them a glimpse into university life, and took part in a thrilling race challenge that tested their skills and determination. They also participated in a design activity, where they learned about the engineering and innovation behind motorsport. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to develop their passion for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) subjects and gain valuable insights into higher education and career possibilities.



Hundreds of our Secondary students have enjoyed rewards trips to Hollywood Bowl over the last 2 days, to celebrate excellent attendance and attitudes to learning over this term. Keep up the good work as rewards trips will be back again next term!

Our Year 9 students have been considering which GCSE and BTec options they are going to choose to study into Year 10 and 11, whilst our current Year 11's continue to work hard towards their summer exams, with an abundance of support from TLA staff, revision sessions, interventions and forthcoming Easter school sessions. Year 6 are also committed to their SATs preparation, participating in Masterclasses, boosters and additional support to ensure that they all reach their potential ready for the next stage of their learning.

As you are aware, attendance is our number one priority at TLA. This is because we know that attending every day at TLA benefits your child in so many ways: helps your child feel confident and enjoy school; gives them opportunities to take part in exciting trips and extra-curricular activities; builds their social skills by giving them time to socialise with their peers; and most importantly, supports them with their learning



which leads to high outcomes in Year 6 and Year 11 - equipping them for a successful future in their chosen career. This has recently been backed up by some government studies which show that every day attended at school leads to better outcomes and to better life earnings. To support this, we are offering Year 11 students the chance to win £50 vouchers to go towards Prom outfits and accessories if they attend every day.



Your child's future is extremely important to us and we also want to make their time at TLA unmissable. Next half term is just 23 school days long, and we are making sure that TLA is the place to be! Each day will see a reward or exciting event taking place for both Primary and Secondary pupils who attend - please keep an eye on our Facebook for more details. We will continue the chance to win £50 vouchers each week on a Friday for those who attend all week - and will build up to rewarding those with a full 23-day streak with the chance to win one of four £100 vouchers at the end of the half term! All you need to do to be in with a chance to win is to Attend Every Day At TLA!

As usual, after the Easter break, Secondary students have the **option** to wear the summer-term polo shirts (with the TLA logo), in place of the shirt and tie. All other uniform expectations remain the same.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful Easter break and we look forward to welcoming all our students back on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025.

With my very best wishes,



Stuart Huddleston  
Principal