

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another incredible half term since we returned from Easter, as our children continue to embrace all the opportunities offered to them to gain memorable and meaningful experiences.

'Team Green' have been extremely busy this half term – they have prepared raised planters and begun to plant flowers, herbs and vegetables. They have made some bird feeders for our Forest School area and, over the next few months, they will be having a huge focus on recycling as well as creating a wildlife pond within the forest area, where we have tadpoles and hopefully the frogs will return annually to spawn - exciting!! The team also visited the recycling plant at Cross Green, where they explored the plant and it's living wall, which is a breeding ground for much wildlife – including nesting Kestrels.



Well done to all our Primary pupils who entered the Easter House competition. There were some amazing entries - so creative and inventive. Egg-cellent all round!!

Our Year 9 Netball Squad visited Sheffield Canon Medical Arena on 25<sup>th</sup> April to watch Leeds Rhinos Netball vs Nottingham Forest. The students were lucky enough to meet the team as well as Ronnie the Rhino himself. It was such an exciting game, and the girls came away feeling very inspired with some top tips to improve their own game in the future.



As part of their Amazing Animals topic, Reception had a visit from David the beekeeper this half term! The children listened attentively to lots of information about bees and they were fascinated by the videos and pictures he shared. The children tried on beekeeper suits and looked at some of the tools the beekeeper uses to look after his bees. The children were also given some yummy honey to taste that had been made by David's very own bees!

Our Reception children also visited Temple Newsam Farm on 7<sup>th</sup> May. The children were an absolute pleasure, so interested and well-behaved. They saw so many animals and new baby animals, had a play on the park and enjoyed a picnic in front of the house.



On 9<sup>th</sup> May, some of our Year 8 Girls attended the 'Girls in Technology' day at Asda House in Leeds. Our students had the amazing opportunity to collaborate with businesses on real-world problem solving, connect with leading tech companies and hear from inspiring keynote speakers in the digital sector. They represented TLA like true superstars — confident, curious and full of great ideas. We're so proud of how they stepped up as brilliant ambassadors for our school!

Year 5 had the most incredible time on their residential in Whitby this half term! They did a town trail, had a visit from a storyteller, went fossil hunting and played games on the beach, as well as enjoying ice creams and picnics! They even managed to convince Miss Horsley and Mr Tumilty to take a dip in the sea! An amazing time was had by all and made memories to last a lifetime.



On 15<sup>th</sup> May, some of our Year 7 Scientists represented TLA at the Red Kite Science competition at Lawnswood School. They built boats, extracted DNA and showed off their fantastic science knowledge — and made us very proud!!

We supported Mental Health Awareness Day on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May, by wearing green and sharing positive strategies to help staff and students cope with everyday life.

Well done to Year 6 who have approached their SATs with such a mature and confident attitude. Their reward was a trip to Temple Newsam Park with pizza, doughnuts and games to unwind after an intense week! We are so very proud of them all.



Year 11 students have approached the first two weeks of their GCSE exams with incredible maturity and effort. So many of them have been arriving to school early to revise and enjoy breakfast with their peers and receive last-minute tips and support from their teachers and friends prior to an exam, and even more have remained in school after hours to benefit from further optional revision opportunities. Whilst we try to do everything within our powers to keep students calm, there is no doubt that external exams can, for some, raise levels of anxiety. If this is the case, and you feel that your child could do with some additional support, please do let us know and we will do everything we can to help further.

Today, we have proudly celebrated Culture Day at TLA — a vibrant and joyful event that honoured the rich diversity within our school community. Students and staff have embraced the occasion by wearing cultural dress or colours that reflected their identity, enjoyed a special lunch menu featuring a variety of world cuisines, and taken part in a house quiz focused on global cultures. It has been a fantastic opportunity to learn from one another, celebrate our differences, and showcase the inclusive spirit that makes our school so special.

This half term we have been highlighting the importance of attendance by encouraging our students to attend every day to get their '23-day TLA learning streak'. This is so that students can joyfully build on their learning lesson-by-lesson with their expert teachers, spend social times with their peers, and have the opportunity to take part in exciting extra-curricular activities and trips. To reward our students and families who have developed strong routines at home to encourage attending every day, we have given out 20 sets of vouchers - congratulations to all our winners!

Next half term, we will be focussing on the reasons why TLA is unmissable - we would like to hear why your child loves coming to school! Perhaps it is because they have a favourite subject, or a favourite adult at school who makes them feel special? Maybe it is an extra-curricular club that is their passion, or an amazing experience on a trip? We would love you to share these on our upcoming Facebook post, so that we can celebrate why every day at TLA is unmissable!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful half-term break and we look forward to welcoming all of our students back on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025.

With my very best wishes,



Stuart Huddleston  
Principal