

26th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow! Has it only been six weeks since we returned from Easter? Another half a term has passed; one that seems to have provided countless bank holidays and, with the Coronation of our new King, it is likely to be one that we will never forget. More expectantly, all children have continued to embrace lots and lots of exciting opportunities to learn and, in doing so, continue to make impressive progress in every aspect of their school lives.

Our Year 6 students had a memorable few days on their Herd Farm residential. It is always so inspiring to see our children embrace the challenges and have the courage (one of our school values!) to push themselves and try new things, including a giant rope swing, raft building and archery. On top of that, they just about walked their legs off on a night-time hike to Eccup, home of Emmerdale, and back. Just brilliant!



Our Year 5 children followed that up with a residential trip of their own to Whitby. This follows them learning all about the seaside town in class over the last few weeks, enabling them to see for themselves what they have learned so much about. Again, we are sure that the memories they have created and the things they have learned will stay with them forever.



Closer to home, there has also been lots going on in school. TLA celebrated the Kings Coronation with royal-themed edible treats and lunch in the canteen. I personally enjoyed a visit to our Reception classes where our youngest and incredibly enthusiastic children showed me their very impressive writing about King Charles III.

Horrible Histories Day in Primary was also a great success. Our children dressed as characters from nursery rhymes and learned about how they link to history and how they have changed over time. The children also created our very own 'TLA Museum', where they set up exhibitions of artefacts such as paintings, historical objects and written accounts of historical events.



As part of their Mayans History topic, Year 3 enjoyed a visit into school from the Cocoa Works from York. They explored how chocolate is made, where it comes from and even did some chocolate tasting (it's a hard life!). A great day was had by all, and they all very much enjoyed their chocolate creations!

Not to be outdone, our Year 10 Hospitality students were treated to a full-day visit from some Royal Navy chefs who spent the day together cooking meatballs with spaghetti and mini pavlovas – all absolutely delicious! I suspect that we have a budding MasterChef of the future right here in TLA!



James 'The Gangman' Riley joined us during the first week back after the Easter holidays to deliver knife-crime and gang-related educational sessions to some of our students. The sessions were incredibly well received and, as usual, our students asked some very insightful and intelligent questions.

Our Year 2 and Year 6 students have done themselves proud in their respective SATS tests this half term; we are so very proud of them all. Similarly, our Y11 students have reached the 'business end' of their school careers. They are two weeks into their GCSE exams and I have nothing but respect for the maturity with which they have approached them. Students have been arriving to school from 8am for a 9am exam, so that

they may enjoy breakfast with their peers and receive last minute tips and support from their teachers and friends. Whilst we do 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 that 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.



Our talented artists have continued to create wonderful pieces. Impressively, this term for the first time, some of the winners of 'artist of the week' have been our Primary pupils. The future of Art at TLA is in safe hands!



Our Primary phase held another book swap shop this half term where 157 books went home with very excited children who were eager to read them! There will be another swap shop before we break up for summer so, please do keep a look out for further details closer to the time.



TLA's Green Team visited our local Recycling Plant in Leeds this week to learn more about the importance of sustainability – yet again, giving children the opportunity to actually experience what they have been learning about in class.

As part of the Leeds Year of Culture 2023, on 11th of May, Year 5 spent the day at the WOW Barn in Leeds trying out new skills, celebrating the achievements of women and raising awareness of gender equality. A great time was had by all and, as always, the children were a credit to TLA!



Out of school, Aaron Cooney (Year 6) played in the Under 21's Pool competition for East Leeds. As you might imagine, Aaron was the youngest person that competed yet he successfully reached the semi-final and brought his trophies into school to show his very impressed classmates. Well done Aaron on such an incredible achievement!



Finally, I think that all of our children need a very well-earned rest so 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 5th June 2023.

With my very best wishes,



Stuart Huddleston
Principal