

27th October 2023

Dear parents and carers,

Here we are, at the end of another very exciting and productive half term.

It seems like an awful long time ago now but over the summer holidays we received our second ever set of GCSE and BTec results. As you would imagine, there were so many success stories, and the vast majority of our students went on to their first choice of college, 6th form or Post-16 apprenticeships. Thank you to all of the pupils and staff that worked so hard towards those richly deserved outcomes and good luck to all of our leavers on your future endeavours.



In the first week of term, we held 'Excellence Week'. This included a Careers Fair where students from Y5 to Y11 had the opportunity to speak to local businesses and find out more about what they offer, and which careers they may wish to pursue in the future. Our Y10 students were also given the opportunity of some formal interview practice from external volunteers, including members of our Local Governing Board, colleagues from across our Trust, and other community representatives. Whilst this is always a very daunting experience, it is one that our students embraced and gained so much from.

Our Y4 pupils enjoyed a trip to Pizza Express at Leeds Dock where they learned about healthy eating and practiced the Italian way of making dough before creating their very own delicious pizzas! Everyone engaged brilliantly and made fabulous pizza to bring home.



Well done to our Y6 pupils who successfully completed their bike-ability training earlier in the term. They progressed quickly through all of the skills and it did not take them long before they were safely demonstrating these out on the roads around the school!! We are very proud!

Mr Nolan organised and led a residential to London for some of our Hospitality and Catering students. Most of the capital's sights were seen by virtue of walking everywhere they went. As you know, London is a big place, as the step-counters and tired legs confirmed! A fantastic time was had by all and memories made for life.



The 'Dough Disco' event for parents and carers of our Reception children took place on 23rd October and enabled everyone to have some great family fun whilst developing their fine motor skills!

This year's Arts Council members have been selected - pupils put themselves forwards with a written application, a piece of artwork or a combination of the two and from this, 20 pupils from Y2 to Y11 have been selected to represent Art at TLA. They have been presented with a certificate and their Arts Council badge. Exciting opportunities for them to work within the local community beckon so watch this space!



On the 26th September, we celebrated European day of Languages. Pupils took part with language stickers and wristbands, short introductions to capital cities and some European cuisine for lunch.

This year's Harvest Festival on 12th October was another huge success. Once again, we were amazed at just how many incredibly generous donations we received from parents, carers and staff to support the Leeds South & East Food Bank so, thank you to you all for supporting such a worthy cause! Our Primary pupils also enjoyed a special Harvest Festival assembly which involved lots of loud singing in the Heart Space!

Yorkshire Ambulance Service came to school on 16th October for 'Restart a Heart' Day, which was a great opportunity for some of our students to learn CPR and ask the Ambulance Service lots of very interesting and important questions.



We recognised World Mental Health Day on the 10th October with 'Tea & Talk' events at the start and end of the day. Whilst the numbers that attended were low, those that did had a good chat over a cuppa and delicious cakes and cookies made by our fantastic catering team. We plan to make this a more regular event so please look out for the invites and come along next time.

To make absolutely sure that every last bit of energy is spent before we break for a well-earned week off, around 50 of our Y10s are setting off on a PGL Residential to Newby Wiske Hall (near Northallerton) this afternoon, where they will enjoy trapeze, giant swing, climbing and abseiling; I'm exhausted just imagining it!

Looking further forwards, there are plans for our Y5 and Y6 pupils to take part in an exciting project called "Reimagining Home", through Leeds 2023 'City of Culture' and The Story Makers Company at Leeds Beckett University. It is an opportunity for a unique, live, online, interactive project for our KS2 pupils to develop their story writing skills.

Finally, as we are all aware, we had a visit from Ofsted on the 19-20th September and, as expected, the inspection team were extremely impressed with what is going on at TLA and the progress that we are making. If you missed my letter explaining how Ofsted recognised how our pupils 'develop a deep understanding of how to lead happy, healthy and safe lives' and just what 'a positive and supportive place to learn' TLA is, you can find it along with the full report here [Temple Learning Academy - Red Kite Learning Trust - Ofsted](#). The team were so impressed with your children – as we are every single day.

We look forward to welcoming all children back to school on Monday 6th November 2023, and in the meantime please have a wonderful half term break.

Yours sincerely,



Stuart Huddleston
Principal