

Tudor Grange Academy Solihull

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER

Summer Term



INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the second instalment of our Personal Development newsletter. Like last time, this is an unashamedly large document. We are really proud of all the work that is going into personal development at TGAS and we want to share it with you. Many of the sections have specific year group breakdowns to help you get to the information you need to know about what your child will be doing. Hopefully, it is also helpful to see what sorts of things are coming for your child next year as well.

THE TUDOR HABITS & VALUES - SURVEY

We wanted to take the opportunity to thank all of those parents who took the time to answer our recent Tudor Habits and Values survey. At the final count we had 390 responses to the survey. It was great to see that there continues to be overwhelming support for the Tudor Habits and Values with 98% of respondents saying that they agreed with the importance of developing students' character.

Overall, you gave us a 3 out of 4 for the effectiveness of our provision. We think this is a fair assessment and this aligns closely with the opinion of our staff as well.

We wanted to thank you for the time you spent on completing the survey and the suggestions that you shared. In September we will be revisiting the Habits and Values with students and staff. Be on the lookout for more extra-curricular activities to get involved with, a renewed focus from teachers developing character through their subjects and further development of our Team TG activities.

THE TUDOR VALUES – EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

You will be aware that the Tudor Habits and Values are central to everything we do at Tudor Grange Academy. Our Tudor Values (Tolerance, Unity, Democracy, Opportunity and Respect) reflect our aim to support students to become active members of our democratic society. We use the description of 'active member of democratic society' because we believe that embodying values such as tolerance and respect is about action and not just words.

We hope that our culture and curriculum will encourage students to not only become curious about the different backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and experiences of all people in our community, but that they will use the knowledge they acquire to actively promote equality and diversity in our school and beyond.

We've worked with students and teachers over the last few years to reflect upon our curriculum and the things we do in our academy to better reflect and promote the diversity of our school and the community beyond. One of the things that has repeatedly been raised on many occasions is the lack of diversity in the individuals that were chosen to represent each of our colleges.

We wrote to you last term to announce that we will be changing the names of our colleges to better reflect our community and the wishes of the students at TGAS. These changes have already started and will be embedded across all aspects of school life over the next couple of months.



MIRZAKHANI



HAWKING



TURING



AUSTEN



DULEEP



OWENS



Tudor Grange Academy Solihull

PRAISE & REWARD

We are always trying to spotlight great behaviour and examples of students showing great character.

In February, we wrote to you about improvements we have made to our Praise and Reward system. We continue to endeavour to make praise sincere, targeted, and personalised. We made these enhancements to our systems to ensure that we spotlight success, motivate students to demonstrate the Tudor Habits and Values and boost confidence and self-esteem. Students continue to receive merit stickers, strive to achieve super merits, receive acknowledgements from Curriculum Leaders and Tutors and are then celebrated by their College Leaders. Some lucky students will have even received Principal's merits from Mrs Smith! In this recent communication we also explained we are bringing back the eagerly awaited praise and reward trips to Alton Towers. Students invited on these trips will be the 50 students in their year group who have obtained the most conduct points (conduct points are calculated by deducting behaviour points from merit points). In our recent launch assemblies, we shared the following questions with students. It would be great if you could follow these up with your child at home.

Have you received a super merit yet?

Have you spotted the merit posters around the school site?

Has your name been placed on your College office door after receiving a College merit?
Do you regularly share your merit planner pages with people at home?

DATES FOR PRAISE AND REWARD TRIPS:

Monday 10th July = Years 7 & 9 (Top 50 students from each year group!)

Tuesday 11th July = Years 8 & 10 (Top 50 student from each year group!)

COLLEGE COMPETITION UPDATE:

The college with the most conduct points at the end of the Academic year will qualify for an additional fifty places on the praise and reward trip! These places will go to students with the next highest conduct points in the college. All of the College Leaders and Tutor Teams are rooting for their respective colleges! Who do you think will be victorious?! It is not long until we find out!

CLUBS, TRIPS AND GROUPS

We have an ever growing number of clubs and trips that we run. We are really pleased with the student uptake of these opportunities. However, we want you to encourage your child to join as many clubs as they can. We've recently asked students if there are any new clubs they want to see run and staff are now reviewing those lists to see what we can add to our calendar.

THE 'TEAM TG' AWARD



At present we are working hard to log all the exciting activities that students have been involved in over the year. Our hope is that we will be able to provide students and parents with a certificate at the end of the year that outlines all the great things they have achieved during the academic year. Watch this space.

CLUBS

In the second week of every term, we republish our list of clubs on the website. You can follow [this link to find it](#).

WIDER CURRICULAR PROGRAMME



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
After School	Before School	Before School	Before School	Before School
HOCKEY All Years 3G 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	FOOTBALL Years 9 & 10 3G 7.30 am – 8.15 am	SENIOR DANCE Invitation Oak Hall 7.30 am – 8.15 am	SENIOR DANCE Invitation Oak Hall 7.30 am – 8.15 am	BADMINTON All Years Sports Hall 7.30 am – 8.15 am
ROUNDERS Years 7 & 8 Field 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	FOOTBALL All Girls 3G 7.30 am – 8.15 am	HANDBALL Girls Years 8, 9 & 10 Sports Hall 7.30 am – 8.15 am	JUNIOR DANCE All Years Gym 7.30 am – 8.15 am	JAZZ BAND Invitation Grade 5+ C1 8.00 am – 8.30 am
AMERICAN FOOTBALL All Years 3G 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	DODGEBALL / VOLLEYBALL All Years Sports Hall 7.30 am – 8.15 am	SOFTBALL All Years Field 7.30 am – 8.15 am	BASKETBALL Sports Hall 7 & 8 3G 7.30 am – 8.15 am	
CRICKET Years 7 & 8 Field 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	DISCOVERY JAZZ All Years C2 8.00 am – 8.30 am		FOOTBALL Years 7 & 8 3G 7.30 am – 8.15 am	
STRING ORCHESTRA All Years C2 3.10 pm – 4.10 pm	After School	After School	After School	After School
COMPETITIVE CHESS All Years MG7 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm	ATHLETICS All Years Field 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	THEORY CLUB Invitation C2 3.10 pm – 4.10 pm	ROUNDERS Years 9 & 10 Fields 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	DISCOVERY ORCHESTRA Years 7–9 C2 3.10 pm – 4.10 pm
THE WRITE WORD All Years OS7 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	KINBALL All Years Sports Hall 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	MUSIC TECH CLUB All Years C1 3.10 pm – 4.10 pm	TOUCH RUGBY All Years 3G 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	HISTORY CLUB All Years MF3 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm
THE ART OF LITERATURE All Years OS5 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	CHOIR All Years C1 3.10 pm – 4.10 pm	ART & PHOTOGRAPHY Year 10 P5 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	BASKETBALL Years 9 & 10 Sports Hall 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	COOKING CLUB All Years OF2 3.00 pm – 4.20 pm
AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL Week A only MF4 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	GEOGRAPHY CLUB Years 7, 8 & 9 WS1 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	COMBINED CADET FORCE CCF Building 3.00 pm – 5.00 pm	LACROSSE All Years 3G 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	ART CLUB Years 7 & 8 P3 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm
	ART & PHOTOGRAPHY Year 11 P4 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm	POLYDRON CLUB All Years OF6 3.05 pm – 4.00 pm	CRICKET Years 9 & 10 Fields 3.00 pm – 4.15 pm	MODERATIONS/ TRAINING Year 10
	LGBT+ CLUB All Years WG6 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm			STUDY SUPPORT Year 11
				CONCERT BAND Years 9–13 or Grade 3+ C1 3.10 pm – 4.10 pm
				THE DEBATE CLUB All Years OS9 3.00 pm – 4.00 pm

● Wider Curricular Sports ● Wider Curricular Programme ● Wider Curricular Music

TRIPS SO FAR THIS YEAR

27/11/2004	YR7-11	Eco Committee Climate Conference - Solihull
11/11/2022	YR9	English Theatre Trip - Of Mice and Men
24/11/2022	6th Form	UOB - Lord Mayors Quiz
30/11/2022	YR11	English Theatre Trip - Inspector Calls
02/12/2022	YR11	Yr11 Trip to Solihull College
06/01/2023	YR8	CCF Basic First Aid / Nav / Fieldcraft & 1 Star SAAI
17/01/2023	YR10	Poetry LIVE
29/01/2023	YR7-11	British Basketball League Cup Finals
02/02/2023	YR11	Geography Fieldwork - Longbridge
05/02/2023	YR12/13	DofE Gold Training Weekend
17/02/2023	YR9	CCF 1 Star Fieldcraft
20/02/2023	YR12	CCF Senior Cadet Instructors Cadre
07/03/2023	Various	The Great Dance Off
24/03/2023	YR12	Uni & Apprenticeship Fair - Edgbaston
25/03/2023	Various	Solihull Public Speaking Competition
28/03/2023	YR12	Oxbridge Network - Cambridge University

29/03/2023	YR12	A level PE A day in the life of a PE University student
30/03/2023	YR10	DofE Silver Practice Expedition
31/03/2023	Y9/10/12	CCF 3 & 4 Star Fieldcraft / Nav / LFMT
22/04/2023	YR9	DofE Bronze Training Weekend
06/05/2023	Various	Rugby Trip - Leicester vs Harlequins

UPCOMING TRIPS

14/05/2023	YR8	Conover Netball Tour
23/05/23	YR7-10	Girls cricket game and meet and greet with players
28/05/2023	Various	Barcelona Sports Tour
05/06/2023	YR10	Tate Gallery London
08/06/2023	Various	Armonico Consort Africa Concert
16/06/2023	Various	CCF Junior Rose
23/06/23	YR7	Girls Netball Trip
26/06/2023	Various	The Great Dance Off Finals
10/07/2023		
& 11/07/23	YR7-10	Praise & Reward Trips to Alton Towers
25/09/2023	YR13	Geography Fieldwork Residential - Norfolk
04/10/2023	YR13	Visit to Conservative Conference
04/11/2023	YR7	Blackwell Adventure Day



STUDENT COUNCIL

We really value the views and opinions that students share through the council. All students have always had a voice through our student council tutor time sessions. However, this year we have remodelling the school council with a new structure that should mean that every student in the school gets the opportunity to play an active part sitting on their college council meeting at least every two years.

RECENT STUDENT COUNCIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Something that came through very strongly in our Spring 1 student council was students' desire to have a way of communicating with us digitally to report any concerns or worries they might have. In the first week of the Summer term we launched 'My Voice'. We're really pleased to be able to provide this additional safeguard for students.

Here is [the link to the 'My Voice' section of the website](#) which will give you more information about this important addition to the ways that students can communicate with us.



Improvements to the catering offer: Food seems always to be a big topic of conversation with teenagers. As a result of students' suggestions, the catering team are looking at improving their communication about what food is on in

each venue. We've already split year 9 lunch to reduce queues and pressure on seating and we are now looking at how we might create additional seating outside.

WORKING GROUPS AND COMMITTEES

In addition to the school council, we are in the process of establishing committees and working groups for students to join. Our hope is that these groups can make a real difference to what we do at school and also to our local community.

THE ECO COMMITTEE

Formed by Mr Tabberer in September this group have shown a fantastic level of dedication to improving the sustainability of the school and have already involved themselves in a great many projects in a short space of time.

Not only have the group engaged with teachers across the school and compiled curriculum links to sustainability and ecological issues, but the committee have also embarked on numerous projects related to transportation, litter and waste.

The committee recently represented the school at the Active Travel Ambassador conference at the Solihull Civic Suite and made a tremendous pitch which secured £200 of funding for their chosen project. The Eco-committee are looking forward to launching this, and other, projects over the summer term.

THE EQUALITY DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION WORKING GROUP

The Equality and Diversity Working Group is open to all students and meet regularly with Mr O. Choudhury. The team is brimming with exciting ideas and the group are planning some fantastic events and working hard to find new ways to celebrate our community. Notable plans include:

The team are about to start work with Caterlink, our catering company, to explore the possibility of a regular slot - 'cuisines of different international cultures' - to give students the opportunity to try food and learn about culinary cultures that they might not have met before.

We will soon be advertising our first international movie night. Expect the night to be themed around the movie. The team are also working on some whole school EDI surveys. They would be very grateful if you would fill them in when they are sent out.

Continuing with the emphasis on celebration of culture that the working group have been supporting, Miss Prabhakar and Mr O Choudhury will be leading assemblies focused on the 'World Day for Cultural Diversity' to explore the rich and diverse cultures that make Tudor Grange unique.



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL GROUP

One of the key themes explored through our Citizenship curriculum is Human Rights. We want to encourage our students to get involved and use their voice to make a difference in the UK and the wider world, and one way of facilitating this is through our new Amnesty International Youth Group which is open to all students. As part of an

Amnesty youth group students will develop great skills and experience for their future career and job or university applications. Amnesty aim to protect people, defend their right to freedom, truth and dignity by investigating and exposing Human Rights abuses, educating and mobilising the public, and helping to transform societies to create a safer, more just world (<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/issues/about-amnesty>).

ASSEMBLIES AND TUTOR TIME

We use assembly and tutor time as a key moment each day to help students to reflect on what it means to have good character and to live a good life. We try to cover a range of topical issues, annual celebrations and content linked to the Tudor Habits and Values.

Spring Half Term 2

- Character Habits: What do we mean by 'Honesty and Truthfulness': College Leaders
- Launch of the new College names: College leaders

Summer Half Term 1

- Keeping everyone safe in our academy & 'My Voice' Launch: Mrs Smith & Mr Pole
- Learning Habits: What do we mean by 'Failure and Feedback Hungry': College Leaders
- Safeguarding: Mrs Thompson
- The King's Coronation: Mr Fleming
- Mental Health Awareness Week: Mrs Thompson
- World Day for Cultural Diversity: Miss Prabhakar and Mr Choudhury
- Safeguarding: Mrs Thompson
- Character Habits: What do we mean by 'Responsibility and Integrity': College Leaders

READING IN TUTOR TIME

We recognise the importance of reading for students' emotional and academic development. As a result, we are committed to giving students as many opportunities as we can to read during the school day. For the past few years we've been using two tutor times a week for our Register, Read, Respond programme. To develop students' personal development, we often choose texts that expand students' horizons, tackle social issues or that challenge stereotypes. Please encourage your child to continue reading texts that they enjoyed the extract from and any other fiction or non-fiction texts they show an interest in. The Digital Library we have subscribed to gives free access to a wide range of books.

Spring Half Term 2

- 'Foul Play 3: Offside' by Tom Palmer: Looking at the connection between football in Ghana, development and Fairtrade
- invisible women by Caroline Criado – Perez: Why the world could be argued to be designed for certain groups and not others. What progress has been made with this and how we can go further?
- 'Jurassic Park' by Michael Crichton: Should we procrastinate in discussing the potential moral/ ethical implications of genetic engineering?

Summer Half Term 1

- 'A Bigger Picture' by Vanessa Nakate - The impact of climate change on African nations, particularly Uganda, Kenya and other nearby country

RSHE

We cover much of the practical elements of personal development curriculum in our RSHE lessons. Following feedback from students and staff we've recently made the decision to extend our RSHE provision to one hour a week. This will be happening from February half term. Here's a summary of the topics that each year group has been, and will be, studying this term.

In section below we have included the blurb at the top of the student learning journey for this term. We encourage you to look at your child's book and the learning journey as this will give you an even better understanding of the exciting work they are doing.

Year 7:

This half term you will be introduced to the world of work and some of the possible careers you might consider for your future. You will think beyond the "every day" jobs and consider some of the once-in-a-lifetime roles that exist. You will self-reflect on what is important to you and consider how these interests/strengths can play into your future. It is never too early to ensure the experiences you have support potential Post-16, Post-18 or job applications. You will also consider some of the gender stereotypes that still exist in the world of work.

In half term 2 you will be looking at topics linked to personal safety, first aid, CPR and defibrillators and also in health and wellbeing, anxiety.

Year 8:

Topics this term will focus first on personal safety (Offensive weapons, social media and gangs) and then we will look at topics linked to the 'Everyone's Invited' campaign (Up-skirting, explicit material)

Year 9:

In the first half term we will be looking at topics linked to relationships. You will begin to discuss the ways in which we can all communicate with each other respectfully and effectively as well as the reasons that this is important. You will look at the role that things like body language, facial expressions, tone of voice and proximity play in communication. You will use your self-reflection and empathy to role-play different forms of communication and see how these can be more or less effective.

Year 10:

The first half term is focussed on Core Computing topics (Right to access, The filter bubble, protecting ourselves online and Fake news). The second half term is sex education (HIV and Aids, STIs,)

HEALTHY LIVING

Our healthy living curriculum complements many of the topics we cover in RSHE lessons. In addition our healthy living lessons give students the exciting opportunity to put some of this theoretical knowledge to practice, preparing meals and treats for them and their families. We are proud that we are able to provide this curriculum runs throughout the whole of Key Stage 3.

In section below we have included the blurb at the top of the student learning journey for this term. We encourage you to look at your child's book and the learning journey as this will give you an even better understanding of the exciting work they are doing.

Year 7:

This half term the focus will be on the importance of looking after your gut health. We will discuss strategies on how to maintain a healthy gut and importance of a diet high in fibre. In relation to gut health, we will cover the journey of food when digested and how looking after your gut can affect your general health.

Gut Health (Ratatouille, no oven pizza, Oreo truffles)

Year 8:

This half term the focus will be on the importance of preparing meals based on one of the governments dietary guidelines-The Eatwell Guide. Protein, carbohydrates, and fats are recommended macronutrients within the diet. Recipes selected are based on utilising basic ingredients that most households should store.

Eatwell Guide recipes (Risotto, meatballs & tomato sauce, Oreo truffles)

Year 9:

This half term the focus will be based on individual nutritional needs of different individuals. We will cover nutritional needs of children, teenagers, adults and pregnancy. Practically, students will learn how to make shortcrust pastry when preparing a lemon tart. Students will have the opportunity to be creative when modifying a basic pasta dish.

Individual nutritional requirements (Lemon tart, pasta challenge)

CITIZENSHIP

We want all students to be able to play an active and positive role in society. A couple of years ago we made the decision to introduce citizenship lessons into the curriculum. With the appointment of our new citizenship coordinator Mrs Richards we are now looking to expand our provision and we are looking at extending the range of trips and volunteering activities that we can introduce to the school to enable students to play a more active role in their community. Watch this space.

In section below we have included the blurb at the top of the student learning journey for this term. We encourage you to look at your child's book and the learning journey as this will give you an even better understanding of the exciting work they are doing.

Year 7:

This half-term we will be continuing to think about the topic of rights, justice and the law. We will build on our previous learning about rights and responsibilities by focusing on crime and why it happens. It is important to recognise that by breaking the law, a person is taking away the rights of someone else - all crimes have consequences. We will also find out how the police deal with crime and what we can do to make our communities safer. This topic will be revisited in year 8 when we will examine how young people are treated by the criminal justice system.

Year 8:

We start this term by looking back to our learning on Human Rights and thinking about how rights and responsibilities cannot be separated. We will develop the idea of rights further by looking at crime and the impact it

has. We will consider crime from different perspectives to help us develop empathy and better understand the consequences of crime on the victim, the offender and those whose job it is to deal with crime. We will finish the term by considering what global events are making the news, what people are concerned about, and what our response should be to the big stories hitting the news.

Year 9:

We start this term by looking back to our previous learning on Human Rights and thinking about how rights and responsibilities cannot be separated. We will consider the impact of discrimination on people and how we can make a difference and work together to ensure we have a fairer society. For the second half term, we will build on these key ideas by thinking about how we can be part of the democratic process in bringing about change – especially in our local area.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & ETHICAL STUDIES

We are really proud of our how diverse our school and local community is. Our Religious studies & Ethical studies lessons are designed to give students the opportunity to explore the views and beliefs of people from different religions, cultures and backgrounds through important and topical issues.

In section below we have included the blurb at the top of the student learning journey for this term. We encourage you to look at your child's book and the learning journey as this will give you an even better understanding of the exciting work they are doing.

Year 7:

Does religion divide or unite? This term, we will be focussing on an examination of the last days of Jesus' life. You will be taking on the role of detectives and exploring the different people involved within Jesus' life and analysing whether they were responsible for Jesus' death and if so to what extent.

Year 8:

Is there an Afterlife? This term we will be developing an understanding of different answers to the question of what happens after death so as to address a question which many have wondered to themselves. You will consider your own viewpoints in regard to the key question and have the opportunity to question other and different views of afterlife. We hope that you will become more emotionally confident with discussions regarding the issue of death and what may/may not come after and be able to express your own views in respectful ways.

Year 9:

What is the future of Faith? This term we will explore the theme of secularisation and its impact on society. We will examine the decline of religion and changing societal attitudes towards issues such as abortion, gender, sexuality, and euthanasia. You will also have the opportunity to learn about the reasons for the secularisation and how it has affected society.

Year 10:

Transplantation & Euthanasia: You will learning about the key religious and moral issues surrounding these topics and reflect to draw your own conclusions regarding this.

CAREERS

Each year every year group has a dedicated half term of careers lessons during their RSHE time (you can find the themes and lessons [here](#)). Over the last term we've also run a number of exciting events careers events and experiences. Below are a few examples of what's been going on.

CAREERS FAIR

In February we invited a range of providers to come to the school to speak to Years 10 – 13 about their future careers. We had ... providers attend the very successful event. Students said about their experiences:

"The University of Bath explained the Architecture course in great detail and explained what it would be like to be a student in that course."

"I enjoyed the BCU stall, as they had virtual reality goggles that showed off their campus."



Year 11 – Employer Assembly: Tony Elvin, General Manager of Touchwood

Tony has become a regular fixture on our Year 11 careers calendar. As always he gives a motivating and uplifting talk to the year 11s about future careers and making the most of their upcoming revision time in readiness for their exams.

"It demonstrated the range of opportunities available to me and was applicable to anyone's career path. It made me consider managerial roles and his assembly was interesting and engaging." (Student feedback)



"Tony is a very confident speaker and has an element of honesty and being engaged with the audience he's speaking to. This makes what he's talking about feel more engaging and relevant. Similarly, he highlighted the varied path a career can take before you get to something you want to do or something you stay in. Very honest and believable." (Staff feedback)

Year 8 – MakeUK Teams Assembly

For National Apprenticeships week representative from 'Make UK', a locally-based but internationally recognised business, kindly offered to speak to year 8 about apprenticeships. As well as hearing from their CEO students met a number of apprentices and were able to ask them questions directly about their own experiences.

Apprenticeships

Make Money
You earn while you learn, you have a wage from day one and this increases incrementally as you gain skills and qualifications.

Make Skills
You will be working with industry- standard equipment and machinery and receive training you can take anywhere in the world. You will practical skills and theoretical qualifications.

Make Friends
Your first year will be based at the Make UK Tech Hub, you will make lifelong friends with people with similar interests to you. You will also make friends at your company with a whole range of people.

Make a Career
Ultimately this is a doorway to your Future. Qualified Engineers are extremely sought after and Manufacturing is a huge sector, the UK is the World's Ninth Largest Manufacturer.

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT

Aisha



- Design Engineering Apprentice
- SECO Tools
- Second year Apprentice

Year 8 – Maths: Encounter with a Pilot

We're always really interested to hear from our alumni to find out what exciting things they've been up to. We're very proud of Luke Donaldson who is fulfilling his dream to become an airline pilot. He recently recorded a video to explain the mathematics of flying to show to our year 8 students.



To see more about the events that have taken place this year in Careers [please follow this link.](#)