

INTRODUCTION

In our recent parent survey you told us that you wanted to know more about how the academy is supporting the personal development of your child. As a consequence we're trialling this termly update which we hope will give you a better idea of all the activities taking place to support your child. This is a big newsletter, we've tried to capture as much as we can of the exciting activities that are happening every day. You may not have been aware of many of the activities that are happening. Seeing all this in one place we certainly feel really proud of and excited for the students with everything they are doing.

In the coming weeks we'll be asking for your views about this newsletter and if this is something you would like us to continue to send you.

THE TUDOR HABITS & VALUES

As you know supporting students to develop good character is one of our central aims. We want your child to flourish and we know how important good character is in living a happy and fulfilling life. At Tudor Grange we know that character development takes place both in and out of the classroom and our curriculum is designed so that character can be taught to, caught by and sought out by students.

TUDOR HABITS

THE LEARNING HABITS

- Positive Self Regulation
- Process Not Product**
- Open to Failure and Feedback
- Courageous and Gritty**

THE TUDOR VALUES

- Tolerance
- Unity
- Democracy
- Opportunity
- Respect

THE CHARACTER HABITS

- Honesty and Truthfulness
- Kindness and Empathy**
- Responsibility and Integrity
- Generosity and Gratitude**

Tudor Grange Academy Solihull

The infographic features a central illustration of three people in school uniforms: a male teacher in a suit, a female student in a green school uniform, and a male student in a suit holding a folder. The background is a light green with faint circular patterns.

CHARACTER RELAUNCH LESSONS

All year groups have recently completed two lessons, during citizenship and ethical studies time, relaunching the Tudor habits and Values. Through our discussions of character we've tackled topics such as preventing peer on peer violence and tackling misogyny, sexism and Andrew Tate. We're going to be sending out a student survey in the next couple of weeks to collect students' views on these relaunch lessons.

PRAISE AND REWARDS

We are always trying to spotlight great behaviour and examples of students showing good character. A big congratulations again to all the students who were involved in 'Prize Evening' and 'Sports Personality Awards' last term.

In the coming weeks we will be relaunching our praise and reward system. as you know we centre our praise and rewards around the Tudor habits and values. We will be sending out some further communication to you after half term.

CLUBS, TRIPS AND GROUPS

We have an ever growing number of clubs and trips that we run. we are really pleased with 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 TUDOR CITIZENSHIP AWARD

TUDOR CITIZENSHIP AWARD

How can you play a more proactive part in our community

 <p>REPRESENT OUR COMMUNITY</p> <p>This is your school and community. We want you to play an active part in making it a better place for everyone. We need students to help helping out at open evenings and even to sit on teacher interview panels.</p>	 <p>GO ON A VISIT</p> <p>At the beginning of year 7 all students have the opportunity to challenge themselves</p>	 <p>JOIN A CLUB</p> <p>There are clubs to suit every taste before school, during lunch and at the end of the day. Everything from subject specific clubs to sports, music, hobbies and interest. If you don't see anything you want to join make a suggestion to your tutor.</p>	 <p>FIND YOUR PURPOSE & CAREER</p> <p>Every year in RSH you will study a careers module. During this time you will have an assembly run by either an employer, employee or representative from a higher/ further education or training provider.</p>
<p>6th Form Executive Board • School council • Anti-bullying ambassador Equality and diversity group • Eco team Macmillan Coffee Morning • School Open Evening • Christmas Talent Show Year 6 induction Day helper • Open day tour guides • Sit on a student voice panel Be part of the Interview panel for new teachers and support staff • Sports day helpers • Music and lights events technician • Y11 Yearbook committee • Y11 Prom committee • Y12 Maths and reading mentors • Y12 Volunteering in the community • Join the Cadets • Sports personality evening • Christmas Panto Christmas Concert • Prize Evening • Spring Concert • Summer Show • KS3 Awards Evening • UKMT Maths Junior Challenge • UKMT Maths Intermediate Challenge • UKMT Senior Challenge • UKMT team Challenge • Maths Olympiad • World Class Schools accreditation day • National Dance Competition • Lord Mayors Quiz • Join a team in PE • Join a Music group Represent your form in Sports Day Represent your form in college competitions • Cadets Remembrance day Service • Compete in Junior MasterChef • F1 in Schools</p>	<p>Ski • Top Merit Scorers Reward Armónico Consort Music • Basketball Climate Conference • Barcelona Sports Tour • Condoover Netball Tour Year 7 Adventure Trip to Blackwell Year 7 Disco Year 8 & 9 Junior Cadet Camp Year 9 Curious Incident of the dog in the night theatre Year 9 & 10 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice and Final expeditions Year 10 Poetry Live Trip Year 10 Geography Field Trip Year 10 Blood Brothers Theatre Year 10 & 11 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice and Final expeditions Year 10 & 11 Senior Cadet Camp Year 11 Inspector Calls Theatre Trip Year 11 Alton tower Year 11 Macbeth Theatre Trip Year 11 Good Food Show Year 12 Visit to Girton College Cambridge Year 12 Youth Parliament Year 12 University Visits Year 12 Christmas Party Year 13 Geography Field Trip to Norfolk Year 13 PGL Brecon Beacons Year 13 Christmas Party Year 13 Prom</p>	<p>6th Form Band • Advanced Computing Art Club • Chamber Choir • Chess and Tabletop games • Choir • Code Breaking Club • Competitive Chess • Concert Band • Cooking Club • Cricket • Design Ventura • Discovery Jazz • Discovery Orchestra • Dodgeball • Gaelic Football Gardening & Wellness Club • Gardening Club • GCHQ MFL Club • Geography club • Girls Football • Guitar & Ukulele Ensemble • Handball • History Club Homework Club • Jazz Band • Junior Dance Squad • Key Stage 3 Basketball Key Stage 4 Basketball • Lego Club Lunchtime - MFL Club • Music Tech Club • Music Theory Club • Panto Band, Polytron Club • Prayer Group • Rugby Club, Senior Dance • Set Design Club STEM • String Orchestra • Table Tennis Tech Club • The art of literature • The last word - Debate club • Trampoline Volleyball • Wind Quartet • Year 10 & 11 Basketball • Year 10 Football • Year 10, 11 & Post 16 Netball • Year 11 & Post 16 Football • Year 7 & 8 Table Tennis • Year 7 and 8 Handball • Year 7 Football • Year 7 Netball • Year 7/9/11 Football Lunch Club Year 8 & 9 Netball • Year 8 Football • Year 8/10 Lunch club • Year 9 & 10 Table Tennis • Year 9 Football • Yoga Club</p>	<p>'An Introduction to the World of Careers' Guest speakers programme Severn Trent Water Encounter Alumni / Employee Assembly 'My Goals and Aspirations' Talk from a Pilot 'Skills and Qualities' Curriculum Choices Assembly Options Convention Options open Evening Careers Fair 'Workplace Experiences' Mock business interviews Work Experience days Career interviews NHS World of work day Midwife Encounter D&T employee encounter Arup Visit Rebel Business workshops 'Next Steps and Outstanding' Guidance Meetings 6th form Taster Day Visit to Solihull College Introduction to UCAS Evening Apprenticeship Fair Virtual workplace experiences Virtual Uni Fair UCAS Fair</p>

To further encourage students to join in with extra-curricular activities, to participate in community activities and to represent our community in performances and competitions we will be launching the 'Tudor Citizenship Award' in the Summer term. 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 all parents with an annual record of the great things their child has achieved during the academic year.

CLUBS

Not all clubs in the picture above run throughout the year. If you want to find out about the which clubs from the list above are running at present please follow [this link to the website](#).

TRIPS

We've already run a number of exciting trips this year including the Year 7 Blackwell outdoor adventure day, the Eco-Committee visit to the Solihull Climate Conference, the Year 10 visit to poetry live at Symphony hall, the Year 11 visit to Solihull College and the Year 12 trip to the Lord Mayors Quiz and finally the Year 13 Geography fieldtrip and residential to Norfolk and Conservative party conference . There are many more opportunities for students to go on a trip this year. For example, Year 11 will soon be going to see An Inspector Calls. Students in Year 9 students will be going to watch 'Of Mice and Men'. The PE department are running a Year 8 Netball weekend at Conover Hall and a Key stage 4 Sports Tour to Barcelona. Geography students working towards their GCSEs will be heading out to Longbridge to complete their fieldtrips. Finally don't forget that Year 8 students and above have the opportunity for students to join our DofE scheme and Cadet programme which include numerous trips, visits and challenges throughout the year. We will keep you updated about any upcoming opportunities in this newsletter and through our correspondence.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Last year our student council made a number of really impactful decisions about the running of the school. 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 in a college council meeting at least every two years.

RECENT STUDENT COUNCIL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Employing more lunchtime supervisors. We know that students feel safe when they are adults around during social time.
- Refurbishment of Oak boys toilets to make them open to the corridor. This was to make sure that students were more visible to staff when in this area.
- Introduction of the [digital library](#). Development of a physical library is planned but this will take some time. In the meantime, we have introduced the digital library in response to feedback from students about wanting to access more books.
- Changes to college names. This was suggested by students who were asking for the college names to better represent the diverse community we serve. We have been working hard on this and plan to share the new college names with you over the coming weeks.
- Improvements to the catering offer. Students are constantly providing feedback and many of their suggestions have already been incorporated into the break and lunchtime offer.
- Use of the 3G pitch at lunchtime. Based on feedback from students, we have been able to open the pitch to students at social times, allowing them to play football in a dedicated sports facility.

SCHOOL COUNCIL DISCUSSION POINTS FOR THIS HALF TERM

- How can we improve our communication with students? Who can you talk to in school?
- What are your views on the current catering provision?
- Your ideas and questions to take to the leadership team.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY WORKING GROUP AND ECO COMMITTEE

In addition to the school council we in the process of establishing two new 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. In their short time the committee have:

- Represented the school at a local level in the Solihull Climate conference.
- Measured the current level of air pollution around the school site.
- Enrolled in the active travel ambassador program.
- Surveyed the school population on issues such as travel.
- Created actionable plans along the themes of waste, litter, and transport.
- Surveyed the teachers for links to sustainability across the school curriculum (currently ongoing)

The eco committee plan to continue this work going forward and raise the profile of the committee through the creation a physical & digital eco board and informational campaigns going forward. The committee plan to continue with their projects and launching sustainability projects across the school including the creation of competitions, litter picks, cycle schemes and much more.

THE EQUALITY DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION WORKING GROUP

Ms Prabhakar and Mr O Choudhury, our equality and diversity champions, are currently setting up working party to collect views and ideas from students on how we can celebrate our diverse community and make our school a more inclusive place for all. Watch this space for more information about our upcoming spotlights and celebrations.

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 fulfilling life. We've recently asked students for their opinions on our assembly programme. The vast majority of students have told us that the assemblies have helped them to reflect on their character and as a result they have changed their behaviour.

The assembly topics for this term are:

- Keeping everyone safe in our academy: Mrs Smith
- Tudor Habits: What do we mean by 'Process not Product': College Leaders
- The dangers of vaping and what the law says: Mrs Lowe
- Learning Habits: Review of progress reports with Tutors
- National Storytelling week: English Department

- Safer Internet: Mr Brown
- LGBTQ+ Month: Mrs Lowe
- Honesty and Truthfulness: College Leaders
- New College Names: 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.

Over the last term we have been reading extracts from the following texts:

- 'World War One: Six Extraordinary Indian stories' - Non-fiction BBC article
- A Series of Unfortunate Events: 'The Reptile Room' by Lemony Snicket (Theme: Generosity)
- 'Qatar's glittery World Cup disguises a dark reality' - Non-fiction Washington Post article
- 'If I Stay' by Gayle Forman
- Letters between Jack Grealish and his fan, Finlay (Theme: Cerebral Palsy)
- 'How the Grinch Stole Christmas' by Dr Seuss (LEL) (Theme: Integrity)
- 'Guide Dogs' – non-fiction from website (Theme: Blindness)
- 'That Thing we Call a Heart' by Sheba Karim (Theme: Wearing a hijab)
- '8 Chinese New Year Traditions, Explained' – non-fiction Reader's Digest article
- 'Can You See Me?' by Libby Scott and Laura Westcott (Theme: Autism)
- 'Sorcerer's Apprentice' by Tahir Shah (Theme: Careers)
- 'How to come out as gay' by Dean Atta – a poem from the 'Proud' anthology compiled by Juno Dawson

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.

Year 7:

Relationships (Bullying & banter), Health & Wellbeing (personal hygiene, avoiding infections, changes in puberty) LGBTQ+ History Month

Year 8:

Relationships (Sharing emotions, being trustworthy, sexting), LGBTQ+ History Month, Careers (My goals and aspirations)

Year 9:

Careers (Skills and qualities), LGBTQ+ History Month, Personal Safety (Online gambling, eating disorders)

Year 10:

Relationships (Sexting), Health & Wellbeing (Tattoos, cosmetic surgery, prescribed drugs, drugs and the law), LGBT+ History Month, Relationships (recognising negative relationships) Personal Safety (Extremism & intolerance)

Year 11:

Health & Wellbeing (testicular and breast cancer, miscarriages) Everyone's invited (explicit material, up-skirting)

HEALTHY LIVING

Our healthy living curriculum complements many of the topics we cover in RSHE lessons. In addition our healthy living lesson 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.

Year 7:

Reducing food waste and exploring the increase of food banks (Quorn chilli con carnies, spaghetti carbonara, pancakes). Sleep and heart health (Pasta bolognese bake, chicken fajitas, mini carrot cakes)

Year 8:

Creating nutritional meals with an eye on your budget (sweet and sour chicken, super-fast noodles, pancakes). Healthy savoury snacks and convenience desserts (Bread & butter pudding, breakfast bars, nachos)

Year 9:

The importance of micronutrients (Cook: chocolate eclairs, tomato pasta). Heat transfer and cooking methods (Swiss roll & pizza)

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. Here's a summary of the topics that each year group has been, and will be, studying this term.

Year 7:

Identity & Community, Justice and the Law

Year 8:

Laws & Human Rights

Year 9:

Government, the economy & digital citizenship

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.

Year 7:

Does religion divide or unite? (Division within societies and religions, Just war, pacifism and the role of religious leaders)

Year 8:

Why is there Evil and Suffering? (Religious views on suffering, Nature vs Nurture) Reading the book 'teacher's dead' by Benjamin Zephaniah which helps develop their understanding of the ways that circumstances, variables etc can impact upon a person's mortality.

Year 9:

Where do we get our morals? (Religious views, Sociological, psychological & humanist views on morality).

Year 10:

Moral Philosophy(Equality, climate change, human rights).

Year 11:

How does technology impact character? (Digital ethics, fake news, cyberbullying, ethics of vaccines).

CAREERS

In addition to every year group having a half term of careers lessons during RSHE time (you can find the themes [here](#)). The following activities have taken place this year:

Year 7:

Coming up - Encounter with local apprentices (Feb 23)

Year 8:

Encounter with a Pilot (Jan 23). Coming up - Encounter with local apprentices (Feb 23)

Year 9:

Options Guidance meetings (Jan 23), Aston University assembly on "pathways" (Jan 23). Coming up - Alumni session: GCSE options (Feb 23), Encounter with local apprentices (Feb 23), appointments with a careers advisor for identified individuals

Year 10:

Encounter regarding languages in Sports (Oct 22), Child development: Encounter regarding careers in childcare (Nov 22), Alumni session: Q&A (Dec 22). Coming up - Encounter with local apprentices (Feb 23), TGAS Careers and University Fair (Feb 23), 1:1 appointments with a careers advisor

Year 11:

Appointments with a Careers advisor (Aut), 1:1 Guidance Meetings with Leadership to discuss Post-16 options (Oct 22 and Mar 23). Child development: Encounter regarding careers in childcare (Nov 22), Post-16 Taster Day (Dec 22), ASK Apprenticeships assembly (Dec 22), Employer assembly: Tony Elvin, General Manager of Touchwood (Jan 23). Coming up - Encounter with local apprentices (Feb 23), TGAS Careers and University Fair (Feb 23).

