

REVIEW OF THE TOMLINSCOTE WEEK



18th September 2017

Welcome back and a welcome to all our new parents at Tomlinscote

The Autumn Term is now well underway and we have 300 new Year 7 students, a number of new students in other year groups and Year 12 students embarking on post-16 courses.

Each week we will provide a round up of events that have taken place at the school via our newsletter. We always try to prioritise on student success and this also includes student success outside of school. Therefore please email any weekly news that can be shared to rmajor@tomlinscoteschool.com.

The Summer GCSE results were excellent and the students should be very proud of their achievements. It was a record breaking year for Tomlinscote with 79% of our students gaining 5 A*-C(9-4) grades including English and Maths. New 9-1 grading in Maths and English occurred for the first time and there were new exam syllabuses as well. The Progress 8 figures (a way of measuring how much value the school adds) are awaited from the DfE but it is expected to be good and well above national data.

Sixth Form results were very encouraging with students following A-Levels passing almost all their courses and so securing university places. Vocational courses had very high pass rates and, encouragingly, the Year 12 examinations showed these students making good progress compared to national figures.

On Wednesday 6th September, the Year 7 students gathered for their first Year 7 assembly in the Main Hall. The students have settled into Tomlinscote really well and have been ably supported by a superb team of Year 10 mentors. These mentors have taken Year 7 students from lesson to lesson in order that students do not get lost and have provided support within form time. They are excellent Tomlinscote ambassadors and their job is not over yet!



KEY DATES 2017

26th September
Year 6 Open Evening

27th September-13th October
Year 6 tours

28th September, 7pm
Year 12 Parent Information
Evening

UNIFORM

We would like to thank all our parents for their support with uniform. The students have started the year extremely smart and we are very impressed indeed.
Thank you!

PUNCTUALITY TO SCHOOL

We would like to remind everyone that we expect students to be in school by 8.30am and sat in their form room by 8.35am. If this does not occur the student is late and receives a late stamp in their planner. Please ensure that your son/daughter is on time because it starts the day off in a positive way.

Breakfast food is available from the Bee Hive from 8am and students can sit in here before school.



TOMLINSCOTE SUMMER AWARDS EVENING

One of the last events of the academic year took place in July. Tomlin'scote held its Annual Awards Presentation Evening for Years 7-10. A total of 150 awards were given to students who were nominated by different subjects across the school.

The **Head of School Award** went to Stav (Year 11); a student who demonstrated exceptional standards of behaviour and had been an excellent role model. Stav showed a willingness to support other students' wellbeing and provided guidance for the whole year group. He had been described as an 'outstanding student' of Tomlin'scote and the whole year group gave him a round of applause after he spoke to them in an assembly.

The four **Learner of the Year Awards** went to:

Year 7 Samuel Sperling
Year 8 Thomas Carrington
Year 9 Katie Hicks
Year 10 Orla Mair

International Citizenship Award

This year we awarded this prize to two students in Year 9 who embraced internationalism by fully participating in the work of the College and working extremely hard as International Ambassadors. The two students were Georgina Wickens and Ines Goncalves.



YEAR 10 BERLIN TRIP - JULY 2017

We were not able to tell you about the Berlin trip for Year 10 History students before the end of last term. Here are a few details about the excellent trip and it may inspire other students to join the 2018 trip.

Forty three Year 10 students visited Berlin in July to consolidate their knowledge of the Cold War. Even though this trip has been running for 8 years, the 'new look' tour included lots of new sites to visit including the real Checkpoint Charlie, the Allied War museum (complete with an airplane used during the Berlin airlift) and the Stasi museum. The students were a credit to the school as they engaged appropriately with the incredible guide at Saschenhausen who told us her family's links to the concentration camp. Students then got to chill out at the 1936 Olympic swimming pool after three days of museum visits and enjoyed watching the sun set over the Berlin Wall.

BORNEO EXPEDITION - AUGUST 2017



On Friday 14th July, a team of 17 Tomlinscote students and 2 teachers travelled to the Sabah region of the island of Borneo for a month long overseas expedition. The trip started with the team travelling out to a remote village to take part in a community based project. They were housed in a wooden bunk house and spent their week working with the villagers to dig and build the foundations for a new community building. The team also spent a day at a local high school, playing games with the students and learning about one another's cultures. The week ended with the local village throwing a celebration party to say thank you for their efforts.

Next, the team travelled for 6 hours in 4x4 vehicles down narrow forest roads to the small village of Long Pasia. This was the starting point for their forest trek which saw them hiking along jungle trails for 4 days. The team spent their nights camped in hammocks they had strung up between trees and sat around the campfire playing games and seeing who had acquired the most leeches during the day! From here the team were able to travel to a series of wildlife reserves where they could enjoy seeing Orang-utans and Sun Bears being rehabilitated before being released back into the wild. They also travelled by boat along one of the largest rivers in Borneo in order to try and spot the different species of monkey and bird that can be found there. Unfortunately the elusive Pygmy Elephants that live in the area were not to be seen!

The final phase of the expedition had the team back in the city of Kota Kinabalu to start their PADI scuba diving qualification. After a day in the classroom studying the theory, they travelled by boat each morning to a cluster of paradise islands to practice their dive skills and explore the coral reefs.

The students who took part in this expedition were truly exceptional in their approach to expedition life, taking on leadership roles, running the trip budget and organising the transport and accommodation when in the country. A fantastic trip led by a wonderful bunch of Tomlinscote students!





STUDENT SUCCESS

Tom Kirk represents England in Judo

We are pleased to say that Tom (Year 10) had his first England selection this summer. He was selected to fight for England at the School Games 2017 held at Loughborough University at the end of the summer. Unfortunately, Tom did not win an individual medal but he did contribute to an England win in the individual weights and teams events.

Grade 5 Violin success for Heather Pirie

Heather (Year 8) took her Grade 5 Violin exam at the end of the Summer term. She passed with distinction and this was the result of a great deal of hard work and practice. Well done Heather!

Cirrus Morris succeeds in several musical exams

Cirrus (Year 10) has passed the following ABRSM Music exams in the last few months:

- ◇ Grade 5 Violin with Merit
- ◇ Grade 6 Clarinet with Distinction
- ◇ Grade 6 Piano with Merit

To pass one examination at this level is quite an achievement but with three different instruments it is quite remarkable!

Break Dancing success for Freddie-Joe

Freddie-Joe (Year 11) achieved Honours in his Break Dancing Gold exam during the school holidays. This is the first break dancing insert in our newsletter and he gained a superb result. Well done Freddie-Joe!

Alfie Smithson wins the GASP Award 2017

Alfie (Year 10) has been selected to receive the Gasp Role Model Award at the GASP Presentation Event hosted by McLaren on the evening of 7th November 2017. Well done Alfie!



Mr Major and Mr Hylan