



**The Telford  
Park School**

# The Telford Park School Newsletter

## Christmas 2023 Edition

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### Message from the Headteacher

As we come to the end of our Autumn Term, I would like to wish you a safe and happy Christmas. Having worked hard all term, our pupils (and staff) will be ready for a break and the opportunity to recharge their batteries.

A special well done to all of our year 7 pupils for completing their first term in secondary school. They have made an excellent start to their time at Telford Park School, and we are so very proud of them. I would also like to congratulate our year 11 pupils who completed their mock examinations recently. They demonstrated maturity, resilience with exemplary conduct. There will be a mock results event followed by a parents/carers evening on Wednesday 17th January where parents, carers and pupils will be able to discuss their results with their teachers.

It has been a busy and productive half term working with Amethyst Academies Trust. Trust leaders have been very visible in school getting to know staff and pupils. We have a clear and focused school improvement plan which will be shared with families in due course.

We pride ourselves on positive relationships throughout the school with the pastoral team at the heart of this. If you would like any support for your child do not hesitate to contact us:

Mr Tryhorn – Deputy Headteacher (Pastoral care)

Ms Kerr – Head of Year 7/Transition Lead

Miss Hipkiss – Head of Year 8

Mr Dolphin – Head of Year 9

Mr Smithson – Head of Year 10

Mr Phillips – Head of Year 11

A reminder that our return to school date is as follows:

Tuesday 9th January 2022 - All pupils to start at the usual time of 8.30am.

I would like to thank all pupils, parents, staff, and governors for their ongoing support and wish you all a very happy, healthy, and peaceful Christmas.

Best wishes,

Holly Rigby  
Headteacher



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### Term Dates 2023 - 2024

A reminder of our term dates for this academic year

Holiday Type	Break Up/Return	Dates
Autumn Term	PD Day	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
	Return – Year 7 pupils only	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
	Return – Year 7 and 11 pupils only	Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
	Return – All year groups	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2023
Autumn Half Term	Pupils Break Up	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
	PD Day	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
	Return	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2023
Christmas	Break Up	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2023
	PD Day	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
	Pupils Return	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
Spring Half Term	Break Up	Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
	PD Day	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
	Return	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Easter	Break Up	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2024
	PD Day	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
	Return	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
May Day	Bank Holiday	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Summer Half Term	Break Up	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
	Return	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024
Summer Holiday	Break Up	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024



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### Performing Arts

#### Lunchtime Concerts

Students in the Music Department have participated in a first for Telford Park school and have performed in a series of Lunchtime concerts. Each year group has been assigned a lunchtime concert date to rehearse and prepare for. Some students have prepared a solo performance on voice or their own instrument and others have performed together in an ensemble. The small audiences who have attended these concerts have consisted of personally invited guests only, giving support and encouragement to their peers. It has been lovely to see some new faces approaching the stage and taking that first step towards performing on a bigger scale. Dates for the next series of lunchtime concerts will be released in January so get practising.

#### Pupil Achievement

Congratulations to Maddie B in year 8 who passed her LAMDA Level 1 Award in Performance (Grade 1 Acting) with a Merit. A brilliant achievement.

#### Christmas Concert

Congratulations to all students who participated in this year's Christmas concert. Another successful, sell out evening. Audience members were treated to monologues and solo vocal and drum performances as well as Christmas themed performances by Rock School and choir; a Michael Jackson theme presented itself in the excellent performance of Thriller from the dance club and 'Beat It' was played by the school band. The cast of Oliver, next year's whole school production, teased the audience with a trailer featuring Dodger welcoming Oliver to London in a lively rendition of Consider Yourself. (Tickets on sale in the new year!) and this year's Christmas concert featured a special debut performance of our newly formed primary school music ensemble, Telford Junior Jam. Well done to everyone.



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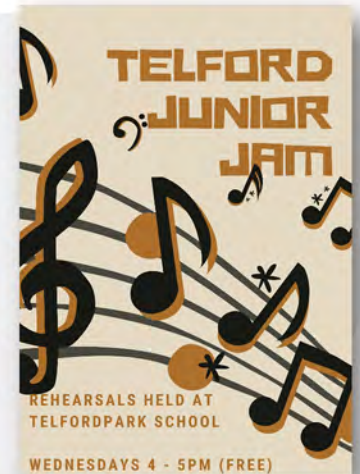


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### Performing Arts (Continued)

#### Telford Junior Jam

Telford Junior Jam aims to bring together musicians of primary school age who share a love and passion for music. We rehearse at Telford Park School on Wednesdays from 4pm-5pm. Please contact Telford and Wrekin Music service or Mrs Bradburn for more information. Everyone welcome.



#### Oliver Rehearsals

The cast of Oliver have been working hard learning lines, songs and choreography and are looking forward to performing in a succession of shows in March



You've got to  
'Buy a Ticket or Two'  
for our whole school  
production of Oliver Jr

#### Performance dates:

- Tues 19th March 2024
- Wednesday 20th March 2024
- Thursday 21st March 2024



#### Upcoming Dates

- Year 10 Music and Performing Arts students:  
Trip to Birmingham Hippodrome to watch Blood Brothers: May 2024



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### Food

Hello from Mrs Meanley!

Our kitchen has been so busy this half term. The students have been working hard developing their culinary skills, it has also been busy with staff visits which has been lovely. Apparently, they can't resist the beautiful smells wafting down the corridors and they have to pop in to see what we are cooking and quite often a quick taste!

#### KS3

KS3 have been learning about healthy eating, food hygiene and functions of ingredients. We've made lots of lovely dishes including bread rolls, pizza pitas, cous cous salad and gingerbread biscuits



#### Year 10 Pupils

Year 10 students have been improving the presentation of their dishes by using garnishes and decoration. Our Halloween spider cakes and fruit meringues looked amazing! They have also made a variety of delicious savoury dishes including bacon and pea pasta and pasta bake. We will be making a yule log during the last week of term.





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### Food (Continued)

#### Year 11 Pupils

Year 11 have nearly finished their first piece of coursework and will be moving on to the second piece of coursework after Christmas. We will be making chocolate Christmas truffles during the last week of term.

#### BTEC Pupils

BTEC have impressed me so much this half term, honestly the students have all become so independent and skilful, it's a pleasure to teach them.



#### This Terms Prize

This terms prize is a Christmas themed gingerbread house kit! Well done to those students who have earnt the most postcards and won the prize.



I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas break and a happy and healthy new year.  
Take Care From Mrs Meanley and the food team.



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### PE

This Term in PE we have been looking at a variety of activities which have covered Netball, Hockey, Football, Rugby, Badminton and Gymnastics. There have been some fantastic performances in PE this term and we are extremely proud of the work that has been produced. Stand out performers were Gabi and Lily Yr. 9 and Olivia and Ellie for their Gymnastics routines, Isaac yr. 7 for his fantastic contribution in Rugby lessons and in afterschool club. Ada, Jaclyn, Jasmine, Bella, Liberty, Ruby, Rahmat All yr. 7 and Lily, Sophie, Emily, Keya, Toni, Hollie, Sienna, Temmy, Abi K and Abi W all yr. 8 have shown fantastic prowess in their netball skills in both lessons and afterschool clubs. The girls have shown amazing progress over the term and have all now been awarded Netball Ambassador badges.

Our KS3 girls have had a fantastic opportunity this term to have their Hockey sessions delivered by an external coach from PerfX Hockey. They developed an array of skills over the 6 weeks and were able to put these into game scenarios. A special mention to 7.2 who displayed the most progress over the 6 weeks.

We have had amazing attendance at our afterschool clubs this term with record numbers at Netball and Trampolining club. We have also seen a huge improvement at our Fixtures and we are extremely proud of every single person who has represented the school in a fixture.

After Christmas, the following afterschool clubs will be taking place:

Monday – KS3/4 Gym Club

Wednesday – Netball, KS4 Boys Football, Yr. 7/8 Boys Rugby

Thursday – KS3 Football, Trampolining

Friday – KS3/4 Gym club





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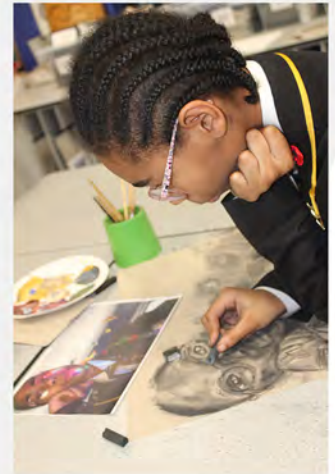


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## Art

### Arts News

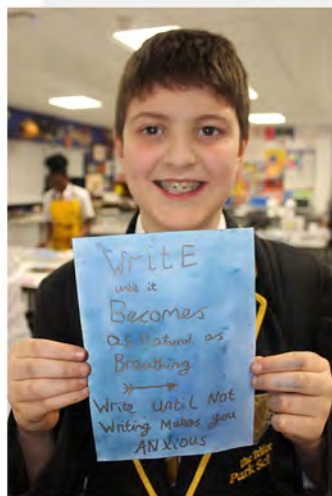
This half term, Year 11 students had the fantastic opportunity to work with the Artist Paul Brandford for the day. They started the morning with charcoal observational drawings and then moved onto painting. They then explored their own portrait drawings to produce some fantastic compositions, with emotion and movement. Students really enjoyed the day, getting messy and working with the Artist who is quite a character! They are excited to use these drawings to help conclude their coursework final pieces.



### Art Club

It has been another very busy half term for Art club, with around 28 students from year 7 to 11 regularly attending each week, keeping Metcalfe on her toes! Students have been working on pumpkin sculptures, inspired by the pop artist, almost finished them ready for display.

Christmas and autumn crafts have also featured the last few weeks, with students using Brusho inks to create tree pictures and inspirational Quotes.



There is a core of year 8 drawers who love to tackle complicated observational drawings, taking inspiration from films, musicians and pop culture. Keep it up guys, great work!



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### Art (Continued)

#### Rising Stars

Year 10 student Veronika K continues to impress us with her observational drawing skills. This KS4 homework to draw a Christmas decoration in pencil crayon is outstanding.



Sophie B in Y11 embraced the instruction from the artist visit to capture her cheeky side in this



#### Staff Art Club

Staff enjoyed some art time and showed off their creative skills one evening after school to create some fantastic work. Inks, polymer clay and festive baubles were made and even some crochet work! Well done everyone.





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### Year 7

Wow what a first term our new year 7s have had! It seems like yesterday that they were walking through those front gates with nervous faces and ever so slightly too big blazers yet here we are having done a full term at Telford Park and we think they have settled in so well. Year 7 have thrown themselves into Telford Park School life and they have represented their houses and the school in a variety of sports; basketball, football, rugby and our year 7 netballers even challenged the teachers. Art club has been inundated with year 7 budding artists, the library has some wonderful new year 7 librarians and the Performing Arts department has held its first year 7 concert and even had year 7 performers in the Christmas Concert. Our End of Term Rewards Assembly has been full of awards for academic achievements nominated by their teachers for individual subjects and students have received prizes for their Praise Points and attendance as well. We feel very proud of all the achievements made so far in and out of the classroom and are excited to see what next term brings.

Thank you as well to our year 7 parents for all your support this term. Mrs Kerr and Miss Barton want to wish all our year 7 students and their families a very Merry Christmas and we can't wait to see what the New Year brings!

### Sparx Maths

The Maths Department was delighted to give out over 100 selection boxes as rewards for completion of homework this term.

As of 15th December, Telford Park School pupils had correctly completed almost a quarter of a million Sparx questions!

From January, Sparx homework club will move to Wednesdays and Thursdays. As always, we will have snacks and stickers!

**162 students**

have already improved at their times tables this year. Great job!

[Download the report](#)



**249,207**

questions answered correctly in Sparx Maths so far this year

**Sparx**

**Homework  
Club**

Every Wednesday and  
Thursday 3.00-4.00

Maths Breakout Area