

Mrs Buley—Principal

Good afternoon,

I hope you have all had a fantastic week and are looking forward to the weekend!

Pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed attending Sports Day this week, competing in a range of activities at Palmer Park, and came back to school full of enthusiasm! It was great to hear about their teamwork and sportsmanship and pupils have received certificates today to celebrate their hard work and efforts. In school, pupils had access to a range of sporting related activities, including quizzes and research opportunities into different sporting events and competitions. We must also say a big thank you to Miss Archer who, after spending so much time planning the event, spent most of her day in the minibus, ensuring that pupils arrived and departed Palmer Park safely – she received top marks on her driving from Primary pupils which she was very grateful for!

It's been a very busy week for our Year 10 Lynx pupils who, alongside navigating their first mock examinations, were a fantastic help at Sports Day, running activities and encouraging other pupils. On Thursday, they also visited a local care home, accompanied by a small number of Year 11s, as we work to ensure our pupils have access to meaningful work encounters to support their preparation for adulthood and guide their post 16 aspirations.

On 16th May, we will be holding another Open Evening for prospective parents. Please do share this with any local parents or carers who are considering future placements for their child, or who would like to come and find out more about our school! We are also happy for any local community partners to attend, such as representatives from SENDIASS or our local authorities, as we strive to be more outward facing in our community.

In the next couple of weeks, we will be ensuring there is further correspondence with our Year 8 parents regarding pupils choosing their options over the next term, in readiness for September. We hope you found the Options booklet useful to guide initial discussions, and please do let us know if you need a printed version of this.

Homework for this half term will be sent out next week via Bromcom so please do look out for this, and again, please do reach out if your child would prefer this printed for them, and we will arrange this as soon as possible for you. Just a reminder that, as per our Homework Policy, it is not compulsory for this to be completed, however we will continue to send this home as an option for those that wish to, and/or are able to, access this extended learning from home.

Best wishes,

Mrs Buley



26/04/2024

Pupil Awards

This academic year, we will be celebrating three pupils each week who have been nominated by staff for demonstrating our school principles.

We are pleased to announce that this week's winners are:

Thoughtful – Logan Hudson has been awarded this week for putting great effort into both Sports Day and his personal awareness and self-regulation techniques.

Value – Lynx Year 10 have been collectively recognized this week as a tutor group for their amazing teamwork, efforts and support during Sports Day.

Safe – James Haslock-Owen has been awarded this week for following instruction and maintaining a safe environment within his classroom.

A huge congratulations to these 3 pupils from all the staff.

PSHE and RSE updates from Miss Archer

This is the last half term pupils will be having typical PSHE lessons this academic year, as during Summer 2 we will be exploring a citizenship programme in more depth. Before this, however, this half term in PSHE the focus is on 'growing and changing.'

In Year 7, pupils will be focusing on identifying different mental health worries they may face and where they can gain sources of support for this, if needed. Year 8 pupils are exploring social media issues and will consider the law around this as well as raise awareness of online privacy, and its importance.

The focus for Year 9 will be emotional changes and how to build their own resilience, as well as improve this over time. We will also link this to considering how we continue to build our support strategies, particularly when feeling dysregulated.

Year 10 pupils are considering the impact of societal change on people their own age, as well as younger individuals, and the role and influence the media plays in society.

RSE

Within our RSE lessons, Year 7 pupils are reviewing how emotions are shown in the media and are learning about the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC), as well as factors that influence decisions about what films and online content are appropriate for young people. Through this, they will grow their understanding of how to manage changes in mood and consider their ways of thinking when faced with challenges.

In Year 8, pupils have started the term considering the dangers of pornography, how the media portrays 'the perfect person' and the challenges this can lead to in regard to someone's mental health. We will be considering how this could feed into body dysmorphia and the support available.

Year 9 pupils are continuing their learning around sexual health, with a focus on consequences of unprotected sex, unplanned pregnancy, different types of STIs and methods of prevention.

Our Year 10 pupils will be focusing on challenging discrimination and radicalisation, as well as how to report and respond to these concerns. We will also consider how, in society, there are many conflicting views and how information can be portrayed in a misleading manner.

If you wish to discuss any of the above with Miss Archer, please do not hesitate to get in touch with her at becca.archer@thamesvalleyschool.org.uk

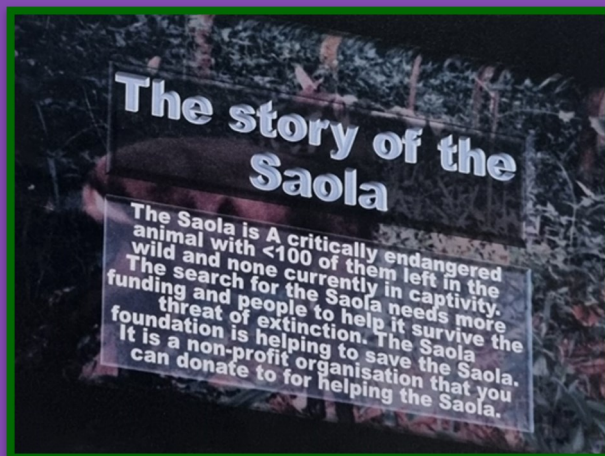


On Monday, TVS celebrated Earth Day 2024! Pupils engaged in a range of different activities.


Year 7 and 8 classes learned about different vulnerable environments around the Earth. They made collages to represent those spaces and the animals that have habitats there.




Taurus class created resources for a social media campaign to raise awareness for critically endangered species and how to protect them.



The snow leopard



The snow leopard is a critically endangered species, suffering from devastating habitat loss, malicious hunters and the wipe out of Natural prey.




This incredible hunter is now confined to The Asian mountain ranges usually above 3000 meters high.

The snow leopard is an adapt hunter With incredible camouflage, unfortunately This makes our fluffy friend a ideal Target for hunters and the like.

There is estimated to only be Between 3900 and 6350 Snow leopard in the wild... This needs to change!

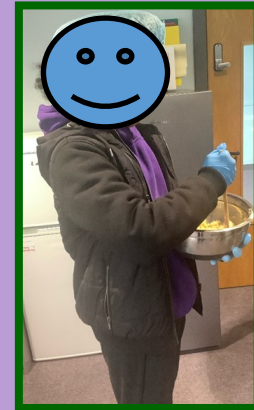
Luckily there are a few different ways we can help them!

- 1 by donating money directly to the snow leopard trust (see below)
- 2 Using more coats and warm layers rather than central heating systems



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Lynx class discussed environmentally sustainable foods and packaging before having a go and baking some Earth Day themed treats!



The theme for Earth Day 2024 is "*Planet vs Plastics*". To continue thinking about how we can be more mindful and protective of our planet, here are some activities you can do at home to reuse your plastic waste.

Try cutting plastic water bottles in half and using them as plant pots for delicate seedlings. Once they grow larger plants and roots, you can transfer them into larger bottles or pots when they get bigger.

You can even make them out of milk cartons!



Year 10/11 Care UK Visit

On Thursday 25/04, Y10 and Y11 pupils paid a visit to a local Care Home in Shinfield. The purpose of the visit was to give pupils a workplace encounter, enabling them to experience the world of work and explore different career opportunities. The pupils did fantastically well and really made the most of the day! They were given a presentation about the Home and how it works and then they were given a guided tour and got the chance to meet different people doing different job roles and ask them questions. They even met some residents and were also given a free lunch which they made the most of..! Overall it was a really positive trip with the pupils listening really carefully, showing lots of respect and even offering new ideas for how the residents might be entertained.



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SPORTS DAY

WEDNESDAY 24TH APRIL 2024

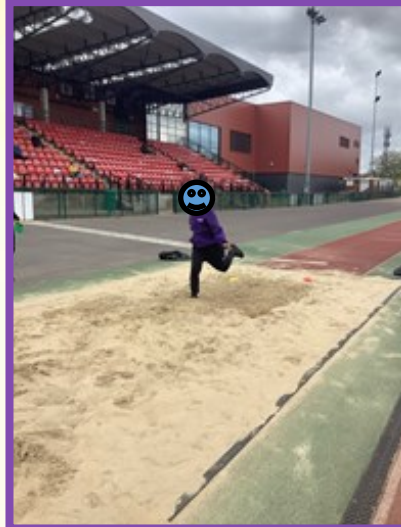


Primary



26/04/2024

SECONDARY



Staffing Updates

Next week, we will be saying farewell to Mrs Facey, who has worked across the school since January. Mrs Facey has provided much needed and appreciated cover to all teachers, ensuring they were 'freed up' to work on planning and sequencing our curriculum, and we have all been so grateful for the support she has provided during this time. Mrs Facey will be moving on a fabulous position within another school, and we wish her the very best of luck.

We will also be saying goodbye to Mr Richens, at the end of this half term, who has been a teacher at TVS for 7 years. He will be missed by staff and students alike, but we understand the desire to work closer to home and not have to undertake the long daily commute he has had for many years. I'm sure you will join us in wishing him well in his next role and thank him for his valued contribution to TVS over his time with us. Recruitment is underway and progressing well so we will hopefully be sharing news of the successful candidates to support our pupils in these roles, in the coming weeks.

We would like to take the time to congratulate both Miss Ashfield and Mr Priestley who have secured permanent Learning Mentor positions at TVS, following a period of time employed through an agency. Welcome to the permanent team and we're glad to have you both on board!

Dates For Your Dairy

22nd April - 12th May - Year 10 Mocks

10th May - Year 11 GCSE's & Examinations Start

13th - 16th May - KS2 SATs Week

16th May—Open Evening For Prospective Parents



Wishing All our families a lovely weekend!