



# Newsletter 11.09.2020

## Issue 2

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### *Message from Mr Inglis, Head of School*

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It has been genuinely wonderful to finally see all our pupils back in school this week. Attendance has been fantastic given the circumstances and in fact, some 5% above the national average. Despite the challenges of the way the school has to be run, pupils have very quickly settled into new routines and look to be enjoying being back. Certainly, the pupils understand the need for the control measures and have approached the situation very responsibly indeed. Partial school closures have been reported in the press this week but we remain fully open to all pupils, although from Monday, with Tier 1 restrictions in place. All information is available on the new website and includes the updated staff contact list on the main page.

Even though in reality the school had only been fully open for three days since the Ofsted visit in March, on Thursday we had the first Round Table Review of the school for this academic year. After a three hour meeting involving the IEB Chair and other senior staff at different points, the Local Authority reviewer was impressed with the capacity for school improvement in place and our plans to continually improve the quality of education for our pupils going forward, despite the challenges of the current situation.

As ever, I will keep you updated at all times but in the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact either Ms Murphy in the first instance or the appropriate staff member from the staff list directly via email.

## Mental Health & Well Being

A reminder that Kooth is being provided as a free, safe and anonymous service to support young people's emotional and mental health in Birmingham to help young people who are dealing with the impact of COVID19. The full service, including online self-referral can be accessed at: [www.kooth.com](http://www.kooth.com)

Kooth is linked into the wider mental health support from Forward Thinking Birmingham and offers:

- Online mental health counselling and chat services from midday to 10.00pm during the week, and 6.00pm to 10.00pm at weekends
- Peer to peer support through moderated discussion forums
- Self-care tools and resources to build resilience
- Early response to and identification of emotional wellbeing and mental health problems
- And there are no waiting lists, referrals or thresholds to access the service

## Attendance

### Attendance - Miss Boyce

We have seen an excellent start to the new term for Attendance and it is lovely to see the pupils back in school.

We have now set up an attendance email address, if your son is going to be absent please either call and **leave a message on the attendance line 0121 483 2890 option 1 or email on [attendance@tgbs.co.uk](mailto:attendance@tgbs.co.uk)** These will be the only 2 options to report absence and all absences should be reported by 8.30am.

Please remember if you have any concerns about your son's attendance and would like to speak to someone you can email [t.boyce@tgbs.co.uk](mailto:t.boyce@tgbs.co.uk) or ring on the main school number to speak to me.

### Attendance figures to date

Year 11 95.6%

Year 10 94.6%

Year 9 88.3%

Year 8 95.2%

Year 7 95.1%

**Whole School 93.9%**

## Food Technology

### MasterChef Competition - Mrs Dyer

Congratulations to the following pupils who won the MasterChef competition during the summer term lockdown. Each received a MasterChef apron.

Year 7: Rio Gooch and Adam Trinder

Year 8: Callum Dyson and Jas Singh

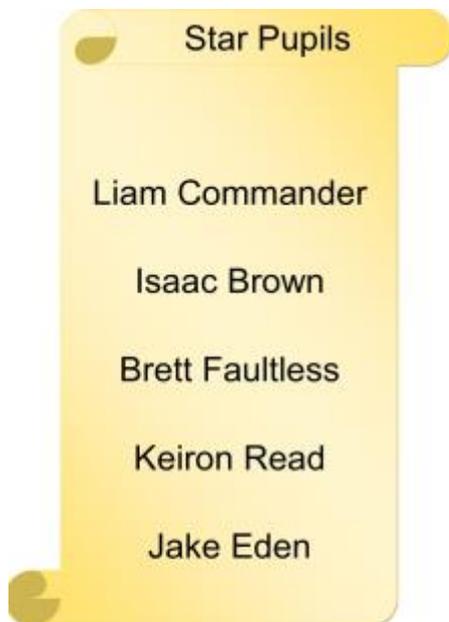
Year 9: Mathew Bristol

Year 10: Tom Fage



## SEND

Welcome back! It's nice to see all our pupils after so much time and fantastic to see that they have settled so well. Despite all the anxieties, worries or concern's, they have all coped so well with how the school now has to run, Well done



## Careers - *If you can dream it, you can do it!*

### Careers Adviser - Mr Tehan

Mr Tehan is the school's independent careers adviser who is in school every Wednesday and Thursday. Year 11s will have career appointments throughout the year to discuss their options such as further education or apprenticeships and will get support with applications. Colleges are deciding how they are going to run their open events and this information will be available from Mr Tehan.

6th Form and college applications should be submitted by the end of Autumn term and Mr Tehan will be able to support pupils with their applications.

School leaver's apprenticeships - previously some employers start their recruiting process as early as October. It is not too early to search for opportunities on [findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk](https://findapprenticeship.service.gov.uk)

There are other apprenticeship websites and Mr Tehan has a list if Year 11 pupils would like to collect one.

Mr Tehan will be available during break times if pupils would like information, have any questions or need support.

## Careers & Enterprise - Mr Westwood

Take a look at these live [Heat Maps](#) to find out about local labour information. The website is updated regularly so you will be able to find out businesses in the region as well as apprenticeship vacancies.

## Careers Panel - Mr Westwood

A group of our current Year 11 pupils took part in a Careers Panel on the last day of term in July. They interviewed a range of professionals in a "Question Time" style format and found out vital information preparing them for the world of work. The "Ahead Partnership" were really impressed with our pupils and would love to work with us again.

- **What the students liked about the activity?**
- *That you got to ask questions to experienced people, who were able to give answers based their own experience*
- *The representatives from companies were honest about their qualifications and what you need*
- *People seemed open and friendly, ready to talk about careers*
- **Key messages they have learnt from the activity?**
- *Do what you enjoy rather than what everyone else does*
- *Degrees aren't everything (the importance of apprenticeships and training on the job)*
- *The importance of accuracy in CVs*
- **What other business sectors they would like to see on a panel?**
- *Vets / More people with jobs that involve working outdoors.*