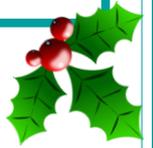




Calendar

- 9/12/15 – Drama students' Panto production to primary schools.
- 12/12/15 – Y10 RESPECT Project
- 18/12/15 – Last Day of Autumn Term – SCHOOL FINISHES at 12.10pm
- 4/1/16 – First Day of Spring Term



Wednesday, 9th December 2015

Welcome to Edition 147

Dear Parents and Carers,

A letter has been sent home today with students confirming the end of term arrangements. The last day of term is Friday 18th December 2015 and the school will be closed at 12.10pm. The school buses will run at the earlier time of 12.10pm and a lunch service will be available to students during an extended break. The school will re-open on Monday 4th January 2016. If your son or daughter needs to remain behind at 12.10pm, please let their Year Care Team know, and arrangements will be made to supervise them.

Students in Year 11 have been issued with their examination timetable for January; if you require an additional copy of this please let the Year 11 Team know. I would like to wish the students all the best for these important exams.

Can I please draw your attention to a message regarding Facebook, which all schools have been asked to pass on to parents and carers; should you have any concerns regarding this, please let school know.

Thank you for all your support in a busy term, I hope you have a restful and enjoyable Christmas break, and we look forward to welcoming our students back at 9.00am on Monday 4th January 2016.

Kind regards

Elizabeth Robinson
Headteacher

Operation Christmas Child – Shoe Box Appeal

Just before half-term I asked all Tutor Groups if they would fill a Christmas wrapped shoe box with gifts for more unfortunate children overseas. The national operation is run by the charity organisation Samaritan's Purse.

Mrs Leeds, Year 10 Achievement Leader, decided to go one better and challenged her year to see how many boxes each Tutor Group could produce. The result was amazing! There were quite a few who produced between two and six but the winners by a mile were 10DIT with a fantastic THIRTEEN boxes!



Everyone joined in with the spirit of the occasion and gave so generously. Gifts included toys, jewellery, wrapped sweets, books, stationery, soaps and much, much more. Family members knitted scarves, gloves and hats and some students even brought in their pocket money to help pay for the postage needed for each box. Special thanks to individual students, such as Abbie, Summer and Kayne, who donated so many gifts. Thank you and well done to you all. Mrs Aves, Library Manager.

A Christmas Carol

This week at school Year 10 students were very fortunate to have a production company visit them and perform their examination text – ‘A Christmas Carol’. The pupils behaved in an exemplary manner and thoroughly enjoyed themselves as well as gaining a valuable insight into the plot. The three actors from the company ‘Tiny Giants’ did a worthy performance and, as homework, the Year 10 students will be writing a review. We look forward to reading them. Mrs Drury, English Dept



Facebook Alert

We have recently received the following information from Essex County Council’s Schools Communication Team.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

It has just been brought to our attention that a number of students in a Chelmsford secondary school have been receiving inappropriate messages via Facebook and Facebook messenger. These messages are not coming from other students in the school or from individuals who are personally known to those students. They are, however, persistent and have been sent to a number of people.

We would like to advise you and your child to block messages and/or ‘unfriend’ individuals with the following Facebook profile names. We have reason to believe these are highly unlikely to be genuine profiles and therefore the faces and dates of birth associated with the accounts are unlikely to reflect the true identity of the sender.

*Chloe Packard,
David Kingston,
Neal Caffery,
Neal Spinson,
Tiffy Gerhardt
Chloe Powell*

Please be aware that Essex Police have been advised of this online activity from these accounts.

We would also like to take this opportunity to encourage all students who use social media sites to utilise the profile security settings to ensure that they do not receive unsolicited messages. Students should take care only to befriend individuals whom they know in person and be wary about what personal information they share online.

TANGO @ TABOR

During the Autumn term Year 8 students from Tabor Academy, Notley High School and Alec Hunter Academy were invited to take part in Science, English and Technology masterclasses as part of the three schools’ TANGO initiative.

In the Science Department students were invited to participate in ‘A Birthday Cake Mix-Up’ where they enjoyed the experiments and learned how to test substances for sugar. All the students really enjoyed this workshop and comments ranged from “It was fun to use the Bunsen burners!”, “I did enjoy it because we got to learn new things”, “...the experiments were fun” to “I did enjoy it because it was something I had never done before”.



The budding chefs in the Food Technology Department were concentrating on the importance of not wasting food and their masterclass ‘Love Food Hate Waste’ certainly gave them all ‘food for thought’ as they spent a very productive day making winter warming soups and breads from ingredients which may otherwise have gone to waste.



Also in Technology, students were engaged in the world of electronics by making their very own electronic dice. They had a fantastic time soldering and piecing together the components for the dice, which they then were able to take home with them.



The fascinating world of words was not overlooked either as the English Department organised a creative writing workshop. The students were encouraged to let their imaginations run wild and were supported by the teaching staff who helped them learn new techniques and to develop their writing skills. Here are some comments from the students who took part: "I did enjoy it because I love writing stories." "I learnt more techniques." "It was fun and thought provoking, as well as engaging." "It was so much fun to write a new story with the new techniques." "I really enjoyed it because it has really helped me." We all look forward to hosting more TANGO events in the new year. Mrs Russell, TANGO Co-ordinator

Attendance News

As we approach the end of term, we encourage you to help the students make it to the end! Everyone is looking forward to two weeks off, and the festivities, but we need to support the children to fight through the colds and coughs to attend school every day.

We are pleased to say we still have nearly 200 students with 100% attendance this term which is fantastic! Congratulations to them.

Best Form Group in each year this term:

- 7ARR - 97.6%
- 8COU - 97.3%
- 9RAW - 95.9%
- 10LEW - 96.3%
- 11MAH - 96.8%

Reminders

Forthcoming GCSE exam dates:

- Art GCSE – 10/12/15
- Photography GCSE – 14/12/15

Until next time

If you have any questions or opinions on any of the items in this newsletter, please email us at: tabornews@taboracademy.co.uk. Thank you for reading this 147th edition of the Tabor News.