

## Calendar

- 4-15/1/16 – Y11 Pre Public Examinations
- 14/1/16 4.00pm - Y11 Parents' Evening
- 20/1/16 – Jack Petchey Awards Evening
- 21/1/16 4.00pm - Y9 Parents' Evening
- 28/1/16 – GCSE Drama Trip
- 29/1/16 - INSET

**Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> January 2016**

### Welcome to Edition 148

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you had a restful and enjoyable break.

Last week we welcomed two NASA Scientists, Dr Carly Howlett and Jon Pinea, to the school for a presentation about their work including the Rosetta Project. It was a very interesting talk, and our students were a credit to the school. Year 11 are now nearing the end of their Pre Public exams; it has been pleasing to see the focussed manner in which they have approached these exams.

At the end of last term, Year 11 Catering students completed the practical element of their exam with some very impressive dishes being created, well done to all these students. The report on the Key Stage Three Inter House football is below; it was good to see so many students involved in this activity, the Key Stage Four update will follow.

There are some key dates coming up which I would like to remind you of, on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January it is our Year 11 Parents' Evening, followed by a Year 9 Parents' Evening on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January. If you have not received a letter and appointment sheet for the Year 9 Parents' Evening, please contact the main office. There is a whole school INSET day on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

Can I please ask that you do not park on the double yellow lines in front of the school when dropping off or collecting your son or daughter, thank you for your support in this matter.

Kind regards

Elizabeth Robinson

### WOW! Year 11 GCSE Catering Students Push the Boat Out

I have been truly amazed and impressed by the attention to detail and the effort that has gone into producing the Year 11 Catering students' final dishes for their practical exam. At the very end of last term, the Year 11 students prepared and presented, to restaurant quality, a two course International meal which was a sight to behold. Each and every student who sat the exam tried their very best and it has been a real pleasure to mark the outcomes. Here is a small selection of some of the dishes made for your enjoyment. The Year 10 students will begin preparation for their first practical examination very soon - I wish them all the very best too. Miss K Ditzel, CTL Design



### A Tale of Pluto and a Comet – NASA Visit

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January we were delighted to welcome Dr Carly Hewett and Jon Pineau, NASA Scientists, who gave a presentation to Tabor Academy students during the day and then two presentations after school as a fundraising event for Blackwater West District Guides and Rangers. Dr Hewett was raised in Braintree and still has close family ties to the area; she was also a member of the district Rangers group as a child. She attended Great Bradfords Infant and Junior School and studied at Essex University before moving to the University of Oxford to complete a PhD. Carly now lives in Colorado with her husband Jon Pineau who is operations lead on Rosetta's Alice instrument.

Carly shared the fascinating revelations that the New Horizons mission revealed about Pluto and its moons, as well as talking about where a science education could take the students of Tabor Academy.

At the end of the presentation students took the opportunity to ask questions about her work. Carly was impressed with the students' attention and the great questions they asked.

"The NASA talk was very interesting and we learnt lots about NASA and our solar system and how before the mission we knew relatively little about Pluto and its moons." Archie, Year 8

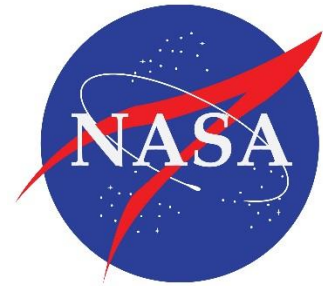
"I thought that the presentation was great and it definitely increased my knowledge about space and NASA. I am now considering working in astronomy." Olivia, Year 9

Both the after school events were well attended. The earlier talk was interactive with plenty of audience participation aimed at children. There were many students attending from the local primary schools including Lyons Hall, Stisted, and St Michaels.

The talk given later that evening had an additional speaker, Mr Jerram of E2V, to explain some of the technology that was developed in Chelmsford and used on the NASA space missions. Mr Jerram is the father of a former Tabor Academy pupil.

A number of Tabor students, past and present, attended as members of the audience, Guides and Rangers. We are sure that it will have opened their eyes to the potential careers available to those studying science and that the sky really is the limit for those willing to work hard. Carly and Jon will feature in the BBC 2 programme 'Back 2 Earth' as part of their 'Stargazing Live' programme presented by Dara O'Briain and Brian Cox – the first programme is on air tomorrow, Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January at 10.00pm.

Mr Jeffrey, Science Department & Mr Coulson, IT Department



Carly Hewett and her husband  
Jon Pineau

### Year 11 News

**Pre Public Exams** - Over the first two weeks of the Spring term Year 11 students have been completing their pre public examinations. These important exams are designed to prepare students for their final formal examinations that begin in May. I have been absolutely delighted with the positive attitude our students have shown throughout this period. Students have been arriving at the right venue, on time and with the correct equipment with them. Our invigilators have been commenting on how impressed they have been with the maturity shown by our students, a clear sign that Tabor pupils are focussed and showing the right attitude in this most important of years.

GCSE support sessions continue to be offered after school and we will also be running targeted sessions during the February half term, more details of which will be coming out shortly.

Parents evening takes place this Thursday. We look forward to seeing all parents and students at this important event. It will be an opportunity to discuss the progress your child is making in the lead up to the final GCSE examinations. Mr Jakens, Year 11 Achievement Leader

### Inter-House Football

During the last two weeks of the autumn term, the PE Department set up the annual inter-house football competitions for boys and girls from all year groups. We saw some fabulous skills, great teamwork and pupils genuinely enjoying mixing with members of their year group. Over the course of the two weeks, we had around 250-300 students taking part which highlights the desire our pupils have to represent their house and take part in extra-curricular activities.

#### Year 7 Boys

The Year 7s have settled into Tabor really well. It was brilliant to see every boys squad filled with 10 players, and the tournament was very competitive. In the first set of matches, Turner came out winners against Austen 1-0 with Kyle scoring the winner. At the same time, Redgrave made a flying start with a 3-0 win against Brunel in which Josh and Kiedis scored the first two, and Dylan scored the goal of the tournament with a top corner finish from a long way out. Next, Redgrave and Turner played out a stalemate 0-0 game which was followed by Austen picking up a 2-0 win against Redgrave via goals from Kai and Finn. Brunel upset early favourites Turner with a 1-0 victory as Jack scored the solitary goal. The final game of the tournament saw Austen go up against Brunel with every team still in with a chance of winning the competition. Austen managed to gain the upper hand by securing a hard fought 2-0 win with goals coming from David and Joel. To have squads of 10 from each house was fantastic, and the enthusiasm shown by all of the boys was brilliant, so well done to the Year 7 boys.

Player of the tournament- Joel (defended strongly and scored a crucial goal which helped his team to win the competition).

Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Points	Goals	Conceded	Goal Difference
Austen	3	2	0	1	6	4	1	+3
Redgrave	3	1	1	1	4	3	2	+1
Turner	3	1	1	1	4	1	1	0
Brunel	3	1	0	2	3	1	5	-4

#### Year 7 Girls

There are some very talented footballers amongst the Year 7 girls. Every week, we have had a number of them training at a high level and it is great to see football being regarded as a popular sport for so many of our Tabor girls. Austen and Turner played out a close contest in the first game, but it remained 0-0 as the defences on both teams held out well. Redgrave got their first game out the way with a tight 1-0 win against Austen. The goal was scored by Rebecca in the dying seconds, and Turner also secured a 1-0 win against Brunel via a goal from Amber. Redgrave were turning out to be the stars of the show by winning against Brunel 3-0 and beating Turner 6-0. The final match saw Austen claim a win against Brunel 3-0 with a superb hat-trick from Jessica. All in all, a really positive tournament to watch and some fantastic displays from all of the girls.

Player of the tournament- Alisha (outstanding attacking skills, scored some key goals and created numerous chances for other pupils).

Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Points	Goals	Conceded	Goal Difference
Redgrave	3	3	0	0	9	10	0	+10
Austen	3	1	1	1	4	3	1	+2
Turner	3	1	1	1	4	1	6	-5
Brunel	3	0	0	3	0	0	7	-7

### Year 8 Boys

This year group possess some really talented footballers and once more demonstrated some good quality football across all matches. Austen were coming into the competition as the under-dogs due to their rugby dominated team, however they performed brilliantly beating Turner 1-0 after a goal from Joe. At the same time, Redgrave got a crucial 1-0 win against Brunel in which John-Luke scored the winner. Brunel recovered well by beating Austen 3-1 in their second games, and Redgrave kept up their 100% record by beating Turner 1-0. In the final matches, Brunel overpowered Turner 6-1 with Kai notching four of the goals. This led to the final game being a pivotal one, but it was Redgrave who hauled themselves over the finishing line by beating a resolute Austen side 2-1 after an unfortunate own goal and a winner from Alfie. A great competition to watch and the attitude on show was exemplary.

Player of the Tournament- Joe (Scored two goals during the tournament, played with a great attitude and damaged his thumb, but maintained a brave face!).

Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Points	Goals	Conceded	Goal Difference
Redgrave	3	3	0	0	9	4	1	+3
Brunel	3	2	0	1	6	9	3	+6
Austen	3	1	0	2	3	3	5	-2
Turner	3	0	0	3	0	1	8	-7

### Year 8 Girls

This was another great example of how talented our young ladies are at football in Tabor. Some excellent performances on show, a bit of a shame that Redgrave could not field a team for the competition, but it was fabulous to have a young lady called Katy who was the sole representative from Redgrave yet she helped out the Brunel team even though it wasn't her house, and it epitomises the positive way of thinking so many of our pupils possess. Austen got off to a great start with a 4-1 win against Turner, in which Sophie, Caitlin and Leah (x2) scored the goals. Emily grabbed a well taken goal in response for Turner. Brunel performed against Turner in the next game, and came out 1-0 winners as Madison's tireless running paid off and she was rewarded with a goal for her efforts. Finally, Austen played Brunel and had too much quality for the opposition. Sophie scored two goals, Caitlin scored two goals and Leah scored the 5<sup>th</sup> to make it 5-0. All three teams deserve commending for their efforts, and provided a thoroughly enjoyable competition for everyone watching and playing.

Player of the Tournament- Leah (Scored three goals in two games and worked really hard for her team in both games).

Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Points	Goals	Conceded	Goal Difference
Austen	2	2	0	0	6	9	1	+8
Brunel	2	1	0	1	3	1	5	-4
Turner	2	0	0	2	0	1	5	-4
Redgrave	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Year 9 Boys

There were a vast amount of students out for the Year 9 inter-house football competition, and the boys' competition was wide open with no clear favourite going into the matches. The first game saw Brunel come out on top against a tough Redgrave team with a resounding 4-0 win. At the same time, Austen and Turner cancelled each other out and drew 0-0. Redgrave couldn't find the net in their second match, and were held to a 0-0 draw against the steely Turner team. Turner made it 3 draws from 3 games but did manage to poach a goal during a 1-1 draw with Brunel. Redgrave finally got off the mark with a 3-0 win against Austen house. The final game saw Austen defeat Brunel 2-0, which ended a crazy set of results and made it the closest competition of the week. Despite being the only undefeated team, Turner finished 4<sup>th</sup> and because the other three teams beat each other, they all found themselves on 4 points, however due to the superior goal difference, it was Brunel who found themselves at the top of the tree.

Player of the Tournament- Dan (Strong on the ball and contributed a substantial amount towards Brunel winning the competition).

Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Points	Goals	Conceded	Goal Difference
Brunel	3	1	1	1	4	5	3	+2
Redgrave	3	1	1	1	4	3	4	-1
Austen	3	1	1	1	4	2	3	-1
Turner	3	0	3	0	3	1	1	0

### Year 9 Girls

This group of girls are a great example of positivity, togetherness and desire to succeed. Football isn't the strongest sport for many of these young ladies, but they turned up on a cold evening to represent their houses, and had a great time whilst playing. The Austen team consisted of Tabor's version of Messi and Ronaldo, except we know them as Drew and Darcy. In their first game, Austen beat Turner 6-0 with both girls scoring hat-tricks in the match. At the same time, Redgrave overcame Brunel house 3-0 which set up a key clash between Austen and Redgrave in the second round of games. Austen were able to grind out a 1-0 win and take control of the competition, while the match of the tournament occurred on the other pitch in which Brunel and Turner played out a fabulous 2-2 draw. Finally, Redgrave kept the pressure on Austen with a tense 1-0 win against Turner, however Austen held their nerve to beat Brunel 1-0 in the final game and win the girls competition.

Player of the Tournament - Darcy (Determined in every game and demonstrated some superb finishing throughout which contributed towards Austen's win).

Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Points	Goals	Conceded	Goal Difference
Austen	3	3	0	0	9	8	0	+8
Redgrave	3	2	0	1	6	4	1	+3
Brunel	3	0	1	2	1	2	6	-4
Turner	3	0	1	2	1	2	9	-7

### Attendance News

We are constantly looking to improve whole school attendance in accordance with Government guidelines. Every student counts towards the minimum 96% attendance target. If your child's attendance falls below 95% you will receive a telephone call or an invitation to attend a meeting, if considered necessary, to ensure your child is receiving the support he/she requires to improve their attendance. Please endeavour to make all medical/dental appointments outside school hours where possible. Attendance equals achievement.

First week results:

Top Form:

Year 7	7CAR	98.89%
Year 8	8BLY	99.00%
Year 9	9KEN	100.00%
Year 10	10GRE	98.10%
Year 11	11GLT & MAH	100.00%

Top year group: Year 9 - 96.36%

Whole school attendance for the week: 95.3%

### 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](mailto:tabornews@taboracademy.co.uk). Thank you for reading this 148<sup>th</sup> edition of the Tabor News.