

# Thomas Estley Community College Newsletter

## October 2021

### Building Leadership and Character Together

Dear parents and carers

I write to you at the end of a productive and happy half term. More normal routines are back in place this year, and it has been rewarding and inspiring to see our learners benefit from a fuller and richer curriculum offer.

Practical activities and lunchtime clubs are back in the mix for students, with after school provision ranging from T7 intervention sessions to improve GCSE grades, through Performance opportunities to a host of sporting fixtures.

It was delightful yesterday to present some of our students with Character Awards for their exceptional demonstration of Thomas Estley Way character traits over the half term, and our college leadership projects launch after the break. These include peer and preschool reading groups, careers champions, wildlife gardeners, site money raisers, wellbeing champions, primary outreach leaders, teaching and learning researchers, LGBT+ awareness raisers and a peer on peer abuse action group.

We have been also been able to reintegrate more of our community based opportunities into the curriculum. This week we welcomed modules visitors on site ranging from health and sporting professionals to business professionals carrying our Y11 mock interviews. Our links with Leicester City in the Community continue to grow and as well as our Inspires Coach Callum, we are planning extra projects for next half term. Our Sea Cadet Unit has started back up, and our Duke of Edinburgh programmes start again after half term—we will be sharing more information soon. We have also welcomed the Community Luncheon Club and our evening affiliated groups back on site.

Speaking to our volunteer Business Mentors this week, I was reminded of the fantastic support which we continually receive from the local community in so many ways, as well as ongoing support from parents and carers. Thank you for all that you do for our students and our college community. Our Thomas Estley Alumni assemblies are also really useful for students, and we were pleased to welcome Wayne Hobbs to our local governing body this week, as a new parent governor.

If you would like to support the college and its learners further, there are many ways to do so, and we would welcome all expressions of support. We still have one parent governor place unfilled (please email [clerktothegovernors@thomasestley.org.uk](mailto:clerktothegovernors@thomasestley.org.uk) if interested in finding out more). In order to help best prepare our students for the world of work we welcome volunteer business mentors from a wide range of careers, backgrounds, ages and interests to inspire and motivate our young people. No job/ business / trade is too small. We also welcome Thomas Estley alumni who can share their career journey with us. (please email [careers@thomasestley.org.uk](mailto:careers@thomasestley.org.uk) if you are considering being a business mentor or sharing an alumni story.)

Thanks to Mrs Ravenhill, whose photos are featured here.

With warmest wishes, *Mandi Collins, Principal*



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Dates for the diary	
27th & 28th October	Y8 Parents' Evening—remote
4th November	Y9 Blood Brother Trip to Birmingham
11th November	Y4 The Big English Quiz
11th November	Y11 The Lion, The Witch & the Wardrobe
19th November	Reports published
25th November	Y4 The Big English Quiz
26th November	Y8 Harry Potter Studios
29th November	Y11 Mock Exams Start
2nd December	Y5 Masterclass Business
6th-10th December	9 GCSE Taster Sessions
8th & 9th December	Y9 Parents' Evening (remote)
11th December	(Saturday) Pantomime
16th December	Charity Day
17th December	Christmas Assemblies
20th–3rd January '22	College closed to students for Christmas break

**Do you know of any student successes that we could share and celebrate?**

Please email your information, ideally with photographs, to:

**[PAtothepincipal@thomasestley.org.uk](mailto:PAtothepincipal@thomasestley.org.uk)**

**We would love to hear about successes of both current and past students.**

# Congratulations are in order!



It was a real delight to celebrate the successes of our last Year Eleven cohort during our remote **Year Eleven Awards Evening**.

Teachers and leaders spoke about their successes, especially notable during a year of uncertainty and challenge. Well done to everyone. It has been a delight to watch them come into reception and pick up their awards, some pictured here. Good luck to you all from us at Thomas Estley, as you start on your next steps in life.



The Performance Faculty are really proud to celebrate the achievement of **Year 8 student Gracie Iliffe**.

Gracie spent the summer season dancing in the professional Big Top Pantomimes production of

'The Wizard of Oz' in Skegness.

Well done Gracie!

We are really proud of your achievement and look forward to celebrating your next success with you soon!

Congratulations to **Archie Clarke in Year 8**, who has qualified for this year's London Marathon.

He achieved first place at the East Midlands trials.

Well done Archie; an excellent achievement!



# Introducing The Oaks at Thomas Estley



We are so excited to have officially opened our new communication and interaction support centre, The Oaks at Thomas Estley.

We are committed to ensuring that every student achieves their personal best at Thomas Estley, and we are proud of every child with whom we have the privilege to work.



We would like to thank all who have helped in bringing this project to fruition which includes:

- ◆ Leicestershire Local Authority
- ◆ S2E
- ◆ Hawker Construction
- ◆ Our very own site team

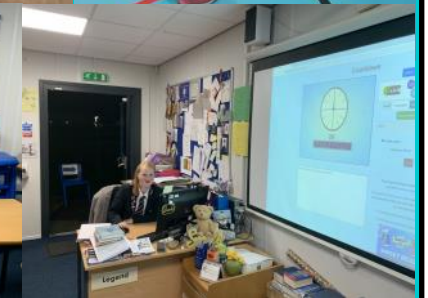
# Open College!

A shout out to our fantastic **subject ambassadors** who represented the college faculties at Open College evening.

Your enthusiasm, patience and encouragement for the younger visitors was great to see.

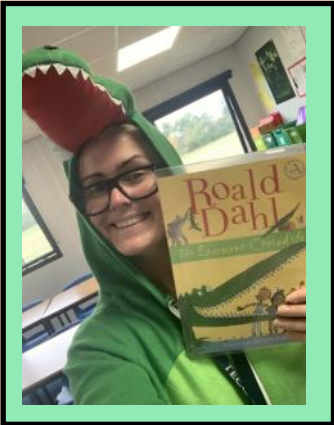


Gradually, the smoke began to lift revealing the...  
and the smoke began to lift revealing the...  
this will be pulled out...  
of a fat...  
TO...  
a...  
and...  
- ...



The English Department got fully involved with celebrating the legendary **Roald Dahl**. We couldn't find the normal English teachers, but recognised an Enormous Crocodile, Mr Hoppy from Esio Trot, A BFG, Sophie from the BFG, a Fantastic Mr Fox, two Witches, and Roald Dahl as BOY.

KS3 thoroughly enjoyed the day, and it was a wholly positive celebration of one of our greatest and most-loved authors.



Well done to Rose, Lilly-Eve and Jack Higham, who were our winners of yesterday's Roald Dahl golden ticket. Each student has received a certificate congratulating them on their outstanding efforts as well as a chocolate bar!



We celebrated Roald Dahl in the Library too. With all his books on display, students have had lots of Roald Dahl favourites to choose from, and some titles they are not so familiar with too, like Revolting Rhymes and Rhyme Stew. With the BFG serving at the Library desk, it's been a fun day!



# GCSE Hospitality

Well done to our GCSE Hospitality students - Cian, James, Thomas, Joshua, William and Daniel - who served and cooked refreshments to the local community at the 'pop up fire station' event at the village hall.

The students impressed Mrs Keight with their independence, organisation, perseverance and integrity. They naturally fell into roles and routines, using their initiative to manage challenging situations e.g. multiple orders with individual requirements, maintaining safety and hygiene throughout.

We are very pleased to share some comments made: "my compliments to the chef" /"that egg was cooked perfectly"/ "what a lovely bunch of lads".



What a photo opportunity!



Taking orders



Serving the crew



Cooking to order



Making tea for the crew

H&C work experience



Production line



Hustle and bustle



White or wholemeal?



Team work



Well deserved!



De-brief



## Year 10 & 11 Sports Studies

One of the new vocational courses that we now offer to Year 10 & 11 Students is **Sports Studies**. This course enables students to not only perform in an individual sport and as part of a team, but also develop their confidence with sports leadership opportunities.



They are also studying socio economic topics such as barriers to participation in sport and Sport in the Media. The students did some great work with our pre-school children, helping to improve their gross motor skills.

They have also developed their own techniques and coaching & leadership by improving their Javelin skills through peer teaching.

They've made a great start to the course.

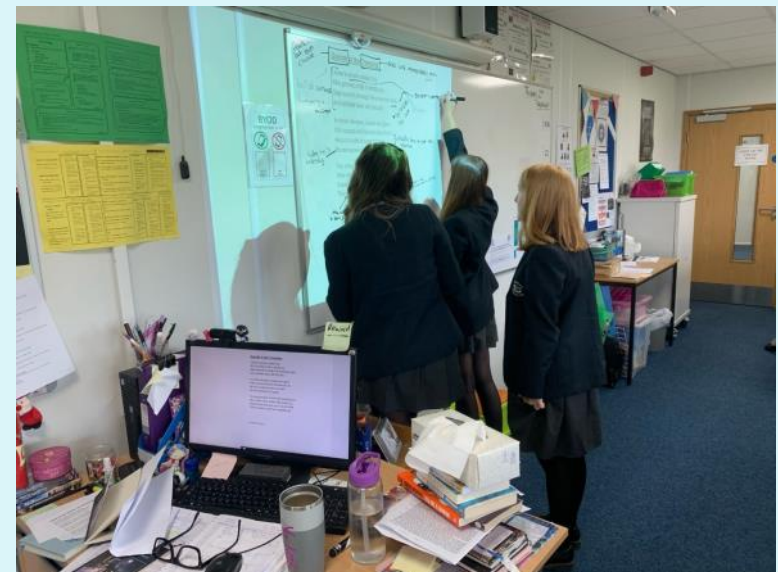


## Y11 English Literature



Our **Year Eleven** students have come back firing on all cylinders, throwing themselves into sharing ideas and tackling the unseen poetry section of English Literature.

The English department are so impressed!





# Y9 Dance Specialism

Our Thomas Estley dancers are delighted to be footloose in this beautiful space at the Leisure Centre.



Miss Bancroft's Year Nine Dance Specialism are pictured, exploring the use of the barre and holding a position to create a highlight.



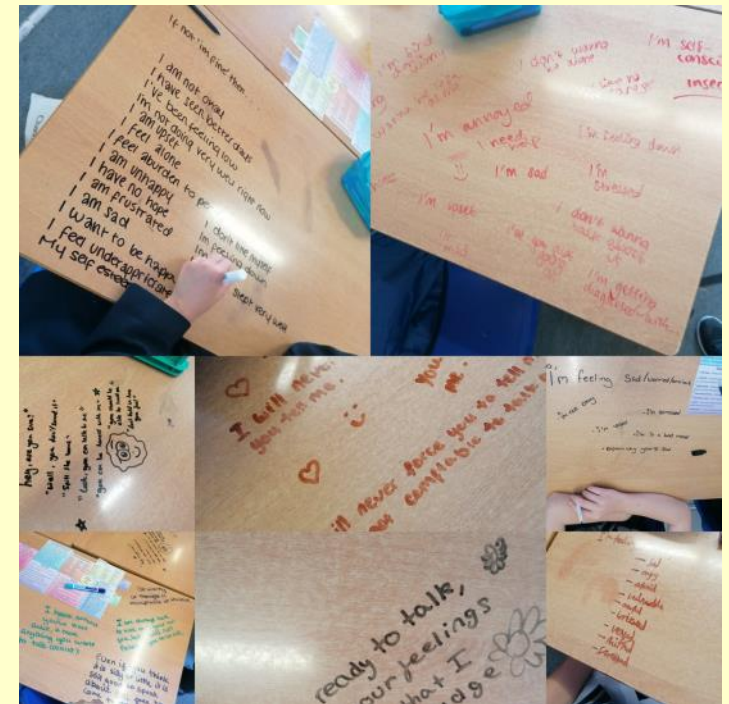
She has been amazed by the discipline and enthusiasm shown by this group of students. Keep up the good work!

# Y11 PSHE

Mrs Johnson was impressed with the contributions from her Year 11 PSHE class in their session about Depression and Anxiety.

Students talked about their knowledge, expressed feelings, thought of how they could start conversations with loved ones about feelings and shared places they could get support, including using our brilliant [talk@thomasestley.org.uk](mailto:talk@thomasestley.org.uk) email address.

It is so important to be there for each other, to know we can help, and to feel able to talk.



# Primary Masterclasses

**Our primary Art masterclass** produced some great results - here are some pictures of the screen prints, produced by the talented artists who attended.



## English Masterclass



We welcomed a selection of Year five pupils from three of our feeder primary schools.

They flexed their English muscles in our Thomas Estley primary English masterclass - and what an outstanding job they did!

**Food Masterclass**—some great kneading and creativity; some future chefs in the making! Well done, everyone.



# Football

**Our Under 13 girls football team** made their debut in the ESFA National Cup away at Wigston Academy.

A great start for the girls. Comfortable 4-0 winners with goals from Maisie Griffiths, Emily Gibson, Violet Woolley and Maggie Woolerton.

A great first match for the team and their manager Miss Thorington.

Player of the match to Freya Poor who shepherded the defence brilliantly.



Our final sports fixtures against Countesthorpe saw the **Year 8 & 10 boys football teams** round off a great first week back for the school teams.

The Year 8 team fought back from 2-0 down to draw 2-2, a couple of great goals from Kai Jones after some great team work.

The year 10 team dominated their 3-1 win, goals for Sam Wardle, Matty Proctor & Louis Sutton. A fantastic performance for Sam Corby in defence making his first appearance for the school.



Our Year 9 Boys Footballers travelled to Coventry to play their National Cup Round 1 match v Finham Park School.

A comfortable 6-1 win with goals from Joe Corden (4) and Mason Grocock (2).

Great effort all round from everybody.

Well done all.

As fixtures started back, our **Year 10 Boys Football Team** were the lucky team to get things up and running in their National Cup match against Nicholas Chamberlaine school from Bedworth. A comfortable 6-0 win with goals for Ryan Butler (2), Leo Holland (2), George Phythian & an own goal mean the boys slide into the round Two draw. Thanks go to manager Gareth

Butler and to the large band of supporters who came to cheer the boys on. Lets hope for a successful football season!



Pictured above are our **Year 7s** who had a successful evening on 23rd September, winning 2-1

# Netball

Our first league netball and football fixtures of the season were played against Countesthorpe College. Our years 7, 8 & 9 netballers were outstanding and were comfortable winners, showing a real team spirit and a desire to succeed. It was great to see them back on court.



Huge thanks go to our coaches and volunteers who give their time selflessly in order for our students to get these amazing opportunities. We are very grateful for all that you do.



We are so proud of our teams who played Netball and football in the pouring rain against Kibworth.

Year 8 Girls Netball won 12-8

Year 9 Girls Netball won 11-9

Year 8 Boys Football won 5-3

Huge thanks to our Netball volunteers Madison Torbitt and Michelle Davis, who were soaked through ensuring that our girls can

experience competitive sport.

Great support again from some very wet family and friends. Thank you! Our Year 7,10 & 11 teams travelled to Kibworth on 30/09 thankfully the weather was a little drier!

30/09

Year 11 Netball played brilliantly but lost 30-15 to a very strong Kibworth team.

The Year 10 netballers also showed their brilliance achievindh a wing 18-7.



# Distance Running



What a test of character and resilience!

**Year 7 Cross Country** runners **Jacob Hood and Harris Northall** took part in the first County Cross Country Race of the year, at Prestwold Hall.

Huge congratulations to Jacob Hood (who came in 4th) and Harris Northall (who came in 18th) - a great effort in the weather conditions.

Thanks go to Olivia Torbitt in Year 10 for managing the team on the ground; It is really appreciated.



Congratulations go to **Archie Clarke in Year 8**.

He represented the east Midlands at this year's **Junior London Marathon**.

There were 200 runners in his age group and he finished an amazing 11th.

A fantastic effort Archie; we are all very proud of you.



# Extra-curricular

## LGBT+ Friendly Club



Thursdays 12.55+ in H3

A friendly social club for LGBT+ Students and Allies.  
Hang out with like-minded people in a safe social space. All welcome.  
Just turn up. Ask Mrs Johnson if you need more details.

Our newly launched **LGBT+** friendly **lunchtime club** attracted many of our students. It was a positive, friendly, fun and safe space experience for all.

## Amazing Authors!

At the end of last term, some of our students entered a **Young Writer's competition**.



They had to write a Mystery story in a 100 words.

Here are just a few of our winners who have had their story published in the,

'Unsolved: Secrets and Sleuths' book!!

Well done to all of you.



Another of our extra-curricular lunchtime clubs is 'Textiles' run by our head of Art, Design and Technology Miss Burnett and Miss Ignate.



Textiles Club



Miss Burnett visited the amazing Cosby Yarn Bomb festival and was very proud that our Textiles Club could contribute in a small way to this incredible community



event. These are just a few of the hearts made by Thomas Estley Students for the 'Tunnel of Love' that runs through the treelined path in the park. Well done to our talented students!

# Can you cook it?

Each month the Food department will be setting a cooking challenge using seasonal ingredients. The challenge is open to all Thomas Estley students, staff and families.

## Can you cook it?



Each month the Food department will be setting a cooking challenge using seasonal ingredients. The challenge is open to all students, staff and families.

September's ingredients are apples and blackberries.



Who doesn't love an apple and blackberry crumble?

BUT the key word here is CHALLENGE so why not try something different?

Look in cookbooks, browse the internet, ask a family member for a handed down recipe – but challenge yourselves! Think Bake Off 'Showstopper'!

How about this Blackberry and apple frozen yogurt cake from BBC Good Food?



We challenge you to try this!

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/blackberry-apple-frozen-yogurt-cake>

Whatever you decide to cook – send a photo of the finished dish to [mkeight@thomasestley.org.uk](mailto:mkeight@thomasestley.org.uk)



## Can you cook it?



Thank you to those who took part in September's challenge – certificates are on their way to you soon! REMEMBER these challenges are open to all students, staff and parents – it'd be great to see more of you getting involved!

October's ingredients are pumpkin or butternut squash.



You could make something sweet or savoury – these gourds are suitable for both!

One of Mrs Keight's favourite recipes is this Superb squash soup with parmesan croutons by Jamie Oliver.

[Butternut squash soup recipe](#) | [Jamie Oliver soup recipes](#)

- Look in cookbooks
- Browse the internet
- CHALLENGE YOURSELVES!



Whatever you decide to cook – send a photo of the finished dish to

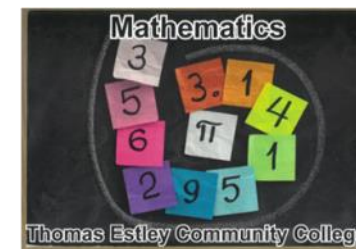
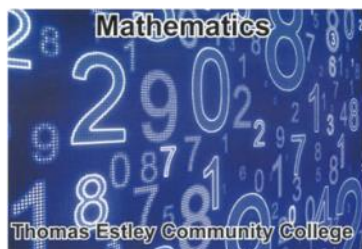
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Here is an entry from the Horecky family who have been blackberry picking, and have made a delicious looking vegan blackberry, apple and lemon loaf cake.

We are really looking forward to seeing all of the entries!

# Maths Achievers



## Year 7:

Layton Cunningham  
Jack Higham  
Tabitha Tazzyman-Luhrs  
Noah Christopher  
Samuel Taft  
Abbie Halsey  
Joshua Beazer  
Evie Barker  
Phoebe Fothergill  
Cleo Baraclough  
Ruby Holland  
Harry Day

## Year 8:

Archie Clarke  
Harrison Cross  
Theo O'Neill  
Alexia Ennis  
Daisy Pullen  
Dominic Clements  
Emily Venable-Jinks

## Year 9:

Korben Swift  
Charlotte Fry  
Pinki Gill  
Sophie Klapot  
Solomon Spencer-Smith  
Lucca Laffey  
Millie Gibson  
Nancy Chivers  
Megan Stanfield  
Isabel Joyce  
Luke Lissaman

## Year 10:

Eva Crofton  
George Phythian  
Kyle Evans  
Lucy Donaldson  
Dylan Strudwick  
Kieran Morris  
Keira Reynolds  
Finlay Madelin  
Madeleine Hogarth  
Isaac Sayers  
Isobelle Young

## Year 11:

Carolina Larrosa  
Phoebe Marlow  
Morgan Clements  
Matana Tilbury  
Jack Joyce Martindale  
Sophie Gillett  
Drew Wickes  
Evie Roe  
Aleeya Jacques  
Fin Allen

**We are delighted to recognise our  
Maths Achievers  
from the summer holidays up until the October break.  
Very well done to you all!**



# Dr Frost Maths Leaderboard

A huge congratulations to our Dr Frost Users of the month for September. You have shown so much commitment to success in maths – well done!

## Year 7 Leaderboard

	Name	Points
#1	Dylan Taylor	603
#2	Jacob Hood	434
#3	Olivia Hubbard	424
#4	Alice Fisher	415
#5	Chloe Otway	408
#6	Tilly Taylor	405
#7	Thomas Wilson	370
#8	Jake Barr	354
#9	Jack Higham	354
#10	Olly Spatcher	352

## Year 8 Leaderboard

	Name	Points
#1	Ava Bailey,	344
#2	Zac Massey,	334
#3	Harrison Cross,	304
#4	Tyger-Lilly Wells,	264
#5	Archie Clarke,	262
#6	Freya Poor,	252
#7	Summer West,	245
#8	Aidan Robinson,	241
#9	Freya Blake,	239
#10	Henry Johnson,	230

## Year 9 Leaderboard

	Name	Points
#1	Joseph TUNNICLIFFE	232
#2	Maciej KRZYZANOWSKI	212
#3	Chloe BUTLER	194
#4	Will SPENCE	188
#5	Megan DRYDEN	177
#6	Seb BAGLEY	164
#7	Isaac HODGKINSON	160
#8	Skie WOODCOCK	152
#9	Connor YEOMANS	150
#10	Daniel COWLEY	140

## Year 10 Leaderboard

	Name	Points
#1	George Drummond,	1073
#2	Nishad Deulkar,	917
#3	Oliver Crowdell,	735
#4	Eve Aston,	601
#5	Matthew Pocock,	561
#6	Francesca Holmes,	542
#7	Ollie Grigg,	538
#8	Matthew Proctor,	520
#9	Max Adcock,	519
#10	Kieran Morris,	510

## Year 11 Leaderboard

	Name	Points
#1	Jack Henson,	1151
#2	Isaac Foxon,	1105
#3	Kacie Jones,	916
#4	Luke Stevens,	887
#5	Madeleine Christopher,	809
#6	Ralph Munday,	805
#7	Ben Hayward,	756
#8	Isobel Smith,	755
#9	Jack Singleton,	754
#10	Daniel Pennick,	724



**If a student feels unwell at college they must report to Reception** and ask to be seen in the medical room. If necessary the college will phone home to seek advice or to ask for the student to be collected. Please remind your child that **they must follow the procedure** above and not contact you themselves.

**Any COVID related information (symptoms, tests or test results) please keep us up-to-date straightaway by emailing:**  
**covid@thomasestley.org.uk.**  
Thank you!

### School Transport

If your child travels via 'school transport' it is a good idea to have a contingency plan with your child, for getting to school/home in the event that they miss their bus for any reason.



### Holidays Taken in Term Time

Government guidelines, which came into effect on 1st September 2013, prevent Headteachers from granting any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances (a family holiday does not fall under this category).

If a student has an absence recorded as a result of an unauthorised family holiday, Leicestershire County Council will be advised of the matter and will be requested to issue a Penalty Notice, in line with their policy.



College is closed to students from  
18th to 22nd October  
(inclusive)  
College re-opens to students on  
Monday 25th October

### Winter Closure Procedure

**In the event of the weather causing the school to close or causing a problem with school transport we will put out an alert via:**

- ◆ **The school website - [www.thomasestley.org.uk](http://www.thomasestley.org.uk)**
- ◆ **Radio Leicester**
- ◆ **Parentmail**

### Absence during term-time

If your child is too ill to attend college please contact the college on the first and each subsequent day of absence and leave a message on the 'absence line'. We will contact you by text message if we have not been given a reason for absence - please telephone us in response to the message.

Where possible, please make medical appointments outside of college hours.

### Mobile phones

Students are not allowed to use mobile phones in college unless they have express permission from a member of staff (for specific learning activities in lessons, as an optional way of accessing them, when allowed to do so). This is to protect students' learning and is in line with our safeguarding policy.



Mobile phones used in contravention of the mobile phone policy will be confiscated until collected from reception by a parent/carer.

For persistent abuse of the policy a student will lose the privilege of bringing a mobile to college.

### Headphones/Ear buds/Air pods

The use of headphones/ear buds/air pods are only permitted outside of the college building. Any that are visible inside college will be confiscated and, on the first occasion, will be returned at the end of the day. On any subsequent occasion they must be collected by a parent/carer.