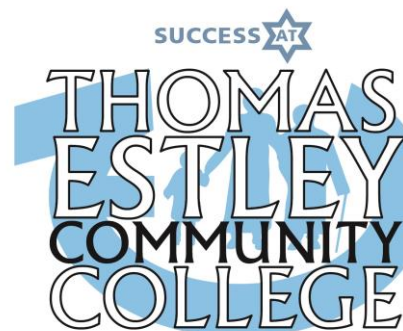


Welcome to our Thomas Estley  
**Newsletter**  
May 2024

**A Community of  
Courage and  
Commitment to  
Success**

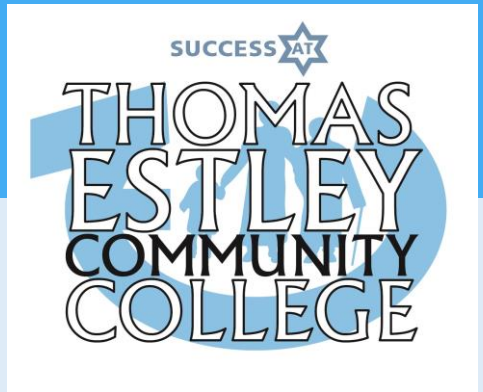
	<b>Page</b>
Dates for the Diary	3
A Word From the Principal	4
Spotlight on Year 11	5
Year 10 Mock GCSE Exams	6
Trips	7-8
High Achievers	9-10
Show in a Day	11
Careers	12-13
Sport	14-16
Orchestra Day	17
Preschool/Out of School Club	18-19
Gardening at Tommo	20
Library	21
Design & Technology	22
Masterclasses	23
Outside and After Tommo	24
Elsewhere in College...	25-26
Attendance	27
Internet Safety	28-30
Interested in a Career in Teaching?	31
Don't Forget!	32

# Dates for the Diary



24 <sup>th</sup> May	College breaks for half-term
28 <sup>th</sup> May – 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 11 May Revision School
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	College opens for second half of summer term
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> June	GCSE exams continue
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 11 Maths Revision School
10 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 10 Mock Exams
18 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Performing Arts Residential
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 9 Think Tank Trip
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Years 7-9 Sports Day
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Trust Awards Evening
24 <sup>th</sup> June	Royal Birmingham Conservatoire Ensemble Event
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 10 Trip to Silverstone
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 11 Prom
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 8 British Motor Museum STEM Trip
1 <sup>st</sup> July	Years 7-9 Awards
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 10 Sports Day
4 <sup>th</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 9 Work Experience
8 <sup>th</sup> July	Experience and Rewards Day
9 <sup>th</sup> July	College closes for summer

Do you know of any student successes that we could share and celebrate?  
Please email your information, ideally with photographs to:  
**[PAtothePrincipal@thomasesley.org.uk](mailto:PAtothePrincipal@thomasesley.org.uk)**



This time of year, our thoughts are with Year Eleven who are midway through their GCSE examinations and working hard to obtain grades which will secure their next steps in education and career pathways. They start their exam leave today and we celebrated their time with us with a leavers event on the school field today. Spare a thought for the majority of them, who will be attending year 11 holiday school from Tuesday to Saturday next week, and thank you to the staff too who are giving up their half term break to provide this support for our students.

As usual, this newsletter provides a taste of the wealth of leadership and extracurricular events and activities taking place at Thomas Estley, none of which would be possible without the dedicated work of our staff and also of our student leaders. Leadership experience enriches college and university applications and also provides character growth and development, and we are very proud of the large number of students who take up these opportunities each academic year at Thomas Estley.

Thank you to all of our parents and carers who filled in our recent survey – we will soon be in touch with those of you who volunteered time to help us set up our new Community Kindness groups. Your ideas and enthusiasm are always appreciated.



*Mandi Collins, Principal*

# Spotlight on Year 11



The **maths department** were extremely pleased that 70 pupils gave up their time to attend a **revision session** in preparation for their **higher paper exams**. They all worked very hard, and we are sure that their perseverance and dedication will help them to get the grades they deserve!

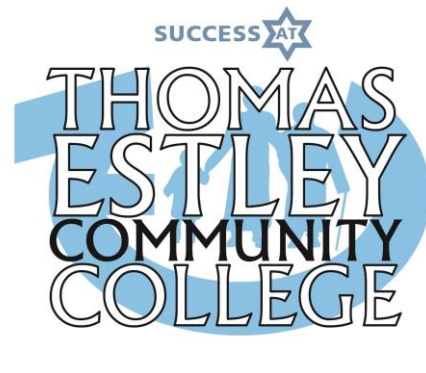
**Year 11 holiday school** attendance over Easter was really encouraging. Pictured here is part of the **English** holiday school. The English faculty was very impressed by the concentration and efforts made by all attendees. Every minute of lesson time or revision makes a positive difference.



## REVISION

Date	Staff Delivering	Subject
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Mrs Young	History
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Mr Ansley	Physics
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Mr Ansley	Biology
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Ms Handley and Mrs Ducey	Maths (Foundation)
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Miss Bancroft	Dance (Theory)
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Miss Little	English Language (aiming for 5)
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Miss Little	English Language (target 6-9)
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Ms Handley and Mrs Ducey	Maths

# Year 10 Mock GCSE Exams



Please see below the **GCSE mock timetable** for **Year 10**. These exams will be taken in full exam conditions and students will also be in receipt of their entitled exam concessions e.g. extra time etc.

These exams are crucial in informing sets for **Year 11, GCSE foundation/Higher Tier** entry and for predicted grades that go to **post 16 colleges**. Alongside this, in the unlikely event that **GCSE exams** are cancelled; they are used as evidence to award grades.

Students will attend lessons each day around their **Year 10 Mocks** and should attend tutor time as normal each morning. **Please make note of afternoon exams that finish after the buses have left for the day.** Students who normally get a school bus will need to make alternative arrangements to get home on these dates.

If you have any questions regarding the **Year 10 mock examinations**, please email [jhartley@thomasesstley.org.uk](mailto:jhartley@thomasesstley.org.uk).

Date	Start	Length	Subject	Start	Length	Subject
Mon 17 Jun	09:00	2hrs	English Lang	14:00		None
Tue 18 Jun	09:00		None	14:00	1hr	Geography
Wed 19 Jun	09:00	1hr 45mins	History	14:00	1hr 30 mins 1hr	Citizenship GCSE PE
Thu 20 Jun	09:00		None	14:00	1hr 45mins 1hr 45mins	Bus Studies Music
Fri 21 Jun	09:00	1hr 30mins	Maths	14:00	45mins 35mins	French Listening H French Listening F
Mon 24 Jun	09:00	1hr 45mins 1hr 15mins	Biology CS: Biology	14:00	1hr 20mins 1hr 20mins 1hr 30mins	DT: Res Mat DT: Textiles Economics
Tue 25 Jun	09:00	1hr 30mins	Maths	14:00	1hr 30mins 1hr 20mins	Psychology Hosp & Cat
Wed 26 Jun	09:00	1hr 45mins 1hr 15mins	Chemistry CS: Chemistry	14:00	1hr 30mins 1hr 30mins	Computer Science Dance
Thu 27 Jun	09:00	1hr 30mins	Maths	14:00	1hr 45mins 1hr	Drama Creative iMedia
Fri 28 Jun	09:00	1hr 45mins 1hr 15mins	Physics CS: Physics	14:00	45mins 35mins	Spanish Listening H Spanish Listening F



# Trips

SUCCESS  AT

# THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Some of our **Year 7** students had a thoroughly wonderful day at **Perlethorpe** experiencing

activities such as dirty hand inspections, gargoyle hunting, educational punishments (the “D” hat was particularly mean!) and a true-to-history classroom experience with slate and ink wells.

The visit was organised to complement students’ contextual understanding of Victorian life as we commence our final scheme of work in **year 7: Charles Dickens and The Signal Man.**

56 students had a fabulous evening at **Curve theatre!** It was a cross-curricular visit for our **History and Performing Arts** Departments, brushing up on Henry VIII's 6 Wives.

Our staff were all impressed with everyone's behaviour and engagement. Huge thanks to all the parents and guardians for your support - what an amazing experience had by all!



Our **FIFA** winners went to the **National Finals at West Bromwich Albion.**

After the morning matches were played, Arthur unfortunately hadn't secured enough points to reach the knockout stages. Ria made it through but was then knocked out in the quarter-finals. Well done to Phoenix too, whose skills with the controller in the playzone won him a PS5 Headset. Lots of games were played by all, and they were even able to watch some of the **National Final** football matches out on the pitch. Well done, everyone.





A few of our students were invited to the area **Secondary School Health and Well-being Festival** as one of the student wellbeing ambassador opportunities available this year.

The students really got involved and enjoyed **Bubble Football, Wheelchair Basketball and Martial Arts** as well as listening to talks about **Nutrition** and looking after your own **Mental Health**. They showed maturity and represented Thomas Estley's values throughout the day.



Some of our students who had been working on a project with **Leicester City in the Community** were invited to the **King Power Stadium** to take part in a **Financial Learning Workshop** with a company called **MY BNK**. It included topics such as the functions of money, exploring the cost of living and being able to make good financial decisions as well as a tour of the **King Power stadium!** All the students were fantastic role models for Thomas Estley on the day.



# High Achievers

SUCCESS  AT

# THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

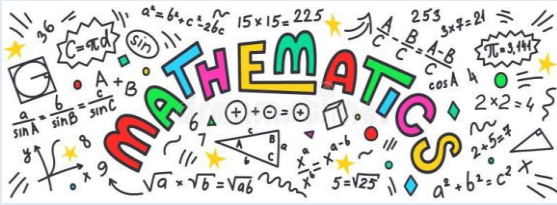
We were very proud to award **Gold Certificates** to our students who achieved the highest number of Thomas Estley positive choice character points last term, in **Kindness, Respect, Courage, Resilience and Perseverance**. You are fantastic role models for the college. A special mention goes to Ella, who also met the **Platinum** threshold last term with exceptional attitude and character. Fantastic work, everyone!



Well done to this term's character point winners for displaying **courage, kindness, respect, perseverance and resilience**.







## Maths Achiever of the week!

A huge congratulations to our maths achievers this term for their outstanding attitude to learning in maths – well done!

### Year 7

- Darwin DeVries
- Evie Rhodes
- Mai Noonan
- Evie Hudson
- Lucia Jones-Rojas
- Amelia Perry
- Andy Hudspeth
- Patrick Hirrell
- Ellie Nethercot
- Riley Hallam
- Charlie Hudson
- Effie Craig
- Jack Morris
- Alfie Russell

### Year 8

- Zak Elson
- Macie Kempson
- Rok Perkins
- Belle Dixon
- Carys Humphry
- Corey Hubbard
- Ben Booth
- Ava Towers
- Durva Deulkar
- Charlie Cartwright
- Bella Matthews
- Seb Lowe
- Florence Jones
- Ria Corlett

### Year 9

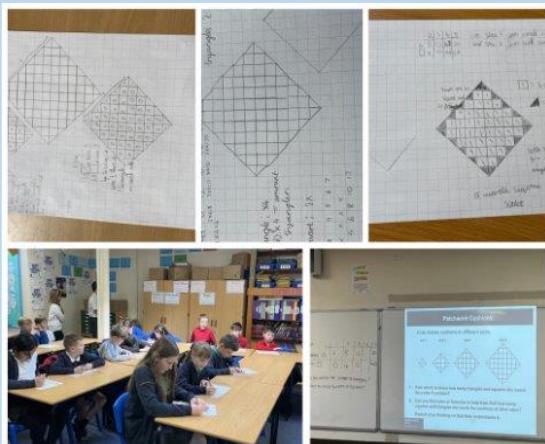
- Freya Bee
- Daniel Powell
- Phoebe Fothergill
- Holly Bettoney
- Zara Ball
- Elisa Norman
- Amie Bates
- Lilie-Anna Hart
- Olly Spatcher
- Jess Branson
- Alice Fisher
- Lolan Busby
- Lilly Dawson
- Ava Chaney-North

### Year 10

- Lilly Pickering
- Mustafa Ismael
- Thomas Minion
- Ava Frith
- Henry Bradshaw
- Zac Massey
- Ruben Odeku
- Maggie Woolerton
- Reggie Welham
- Ella D'Arcy
- Rhys Rules
- Jake Newcombe
- Katie Thompson
- Lexi Gotch

### Year 11

- Callum Hancock
- Nancy Chivers
- Faith Smith
- Mia Kent
- Chloe Butler
- Charlie Vincent
- Korben Swift
- Megan Dryden
- Emily Montgomery
- Alfie Iliffe-Ward
- Ollie Laffey
- Archie Foxon
- Marco Pallender
- Arlo Kempson
- Frazer Barnett



## More Maths news...

Thomas Estley welcomed pupils from our **feeder primary schools** to experience a **maths** masterclass where we looked at quadratic sequences and how to represent these pictorially as well as making predictions. It was a brilliant experience for all involved and the maths department were very impressed with the pupils.

# Show In A Day

SUCCESS  AT

# THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

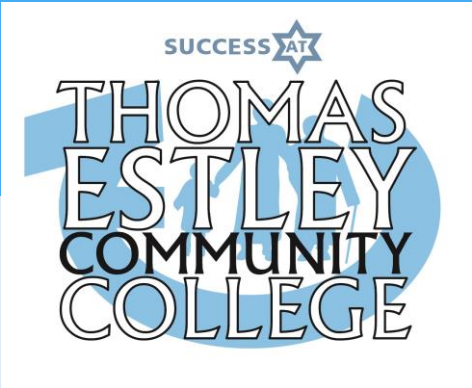
## **STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND PRIMARY TRANSITION**

We welcomed pupils from our seven main feeder primary schools for a 'Show In A Day' experience in April. The Year 4/5 pupils were put through their paces learning scenes, dance routines and a song from Annie. Within the four hours, not only did they learn a dance routine, but also mastered dancing with props, learned words and acted for the scenes as well as learning a song. They also got to see how light makes a difference to how the stage looks.

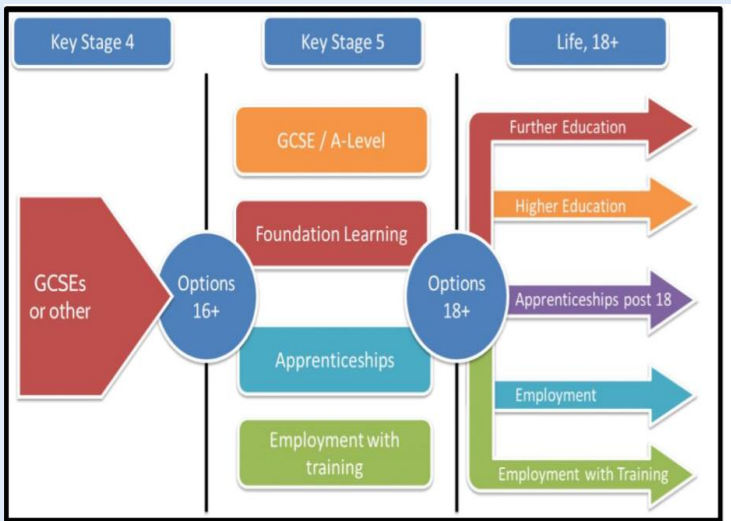


All the pupils worked so hard and put on an amazing performance to family in the afternoon. A big thank you to all the **Thomas Estley Primary Transition** student leaders who helped throughout the day to give the primary pupils a full theatre experience.





This half term has seen our **Year 11** students secure offers from their applications to **FE/6th Form** and **apprenticeships**, along with attending offer holder events.



More so, **Year 10** careers meetings have started and before the summer holiday, all Year 10 students will have been invited to meet with our Careers Advisor for their first **Post 16** options meeting.



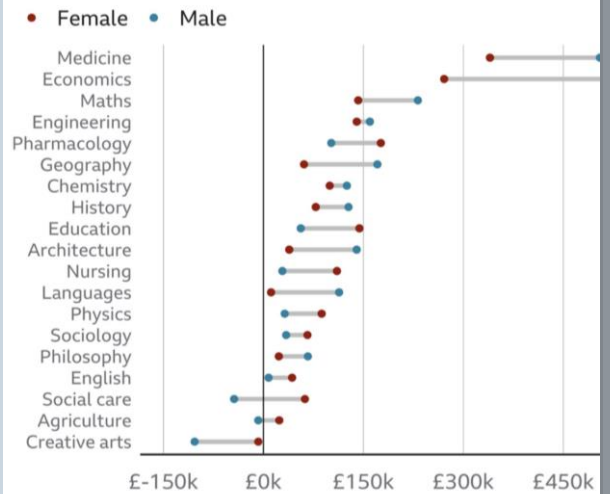
If any students require **further guidance**, please email [careers@thomasesley.org.uk](mailto:careers@thomasesley.org.uk) so that we can arrange for our **Careers Advisor** to meet with you. Also don't forget to keep checking **PS16** for updates for your applications.

The chart below provides interesting information regarding the effect of **undergraduate degrees** on future earnings. As part of our Alumni assemblies, we are hearing from ex students and their experiences of and the subjects they have studied at **university**.

We feel it is very important for our students to be fully informed of the choices in **Higher Education** and the opportunities it provides. We will continue to share information across all year groups.

### Subject choice impacts lifetime earnings

Effect of undergraduate degrees on lifetime earnings, by subject studied, accounting for taxes and loans



Note: England only, average discounted present value (DPV) cash returns  
Source: IFS, 2020



# QUALIFICATION ROUTES

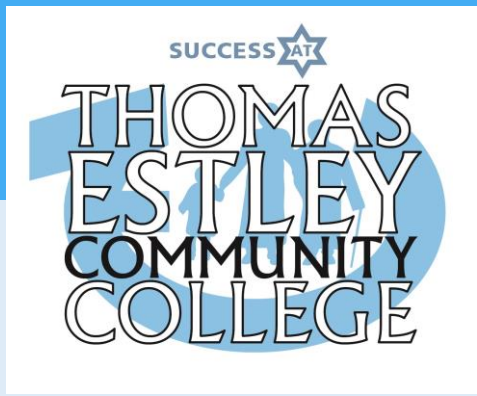
Most qualifications have a difficulty level.  
The higher the level, the more difficult the qualification is.



## HOW HIGH CAN YOU GO?

8	→	Doctorate, for example Doctor of Philosophy (PhD or DPhil) Level 8 Awards, Certificates and Diplomas	
7	→	Master's Degree, for example Master of Arts (MA), Master of Science (MSc) Postgraduate Certificate, Certificate in Education (PGCE) and Diploma Level 7 Awards, Certificates and Diplomas Level 7 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ)	→ Degree Apprenticeship
6	→	Degree with Honours Graduate Certificate or Diploma Level 6 Awards, Certificates and Diplomas Level 6 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Ordinary Degree (without Honours)	→ Degree Apprenticeship
5	→	Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) Foundation Degree Higher National Diploma (HND) Level 5 Awards, Certificates and Diplomas Level 5 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ)	→ Higher / Degree Apprenticeship
4	→	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) Higher National Certificate (HNC) Level 4 Awards, Certificates and Diplomas Level 4 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ)	→ Higher Apprenticeship
3	→	A and AS Levels T Level International Baccalaureate Diploma Level 3 Awards, Certificates and Diplomas Level 3 National Certificate or Diploma Level 3 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ)	→ Advanced Apprenticeship
2	→	GCSE - grades 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4 Level 2 Awards, Certificates and Diplomas Level 2 National Certificate or Diploma Level 2 Essential Skills and Functional Skills Level 2 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ)	→ Intermediate Apprenticeship
1	→	GCSE - grades 3, 2, 1 Level 1 Awards, Certificates and Diplomas Level 1 Essential Skills and Functional Skills Level 1 National Vocational Qualification (NVQ)	→ Traineeship
ENTRY LEVELS 1-3	→	Entry level Awards, Certificates and Diplomas Entry level English for speakers of other languages (ESOL) Entry level Essential Skills and Functional Skills Skills for Life	→ Traineeship





Both our **Year 7 & Year 8 Girls Futsal Teams** were in action against Kibworth in the District Futsal Final. With a place in the County Finals up for grabs, it was a very tense experience and both teams rose to the challenge winning their respective Finals.

At the final, the **Year 8 Girls** had some close group games where we beat Catmose and Crown Hills but lost to Ibstock. We met Gartree in the Semi Final and a 1-0 win for Gartree meant an end to this seasons run.

We are so proud of the girls, a great display from them. Well done.



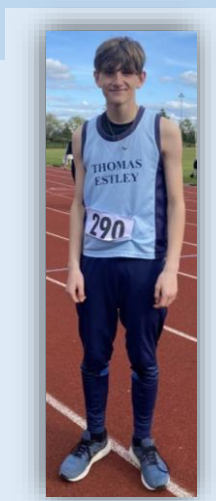
Our **Year 7 Girls Futsal Team** got through to the County Finals at Crown Hills after winning both the Blaby district title and then the Blaby & Harborough area title and we could not be prouder.

Four group games saw draws against New College, Castle Rock & Uppingham, and a 2-0 win against Wreake Valley meant we qualified for the Semi Finals as group runner up. A 2-0 win for us against Wigston meant a rematch against Uppingham in the Final. Uppingham got the upper hand this time winning 2-0 to see us finish runners up. The girls should be so proud of their achievements.

A great season for them and lots for us to build on in future years.

We are very proud of our athlete **Charlie**. Charlie represented Thomas Estley for **U15 Boys** at the **Leicestershire and Rutland County Schools Pentathlon Championships** in Corby.

He competed in 5 events over the day: 80m Hurdles, Shot Put, Long Jump, High Jump and 800 metres. Charlie finished in 3rd place overall, winning a bronze medal and an invite to represent the County in the English Schools Regional Finals in Chelmsford in June. Well done, Charlie!



Our first outdoor **cricket** match of the season took place with an away fixture against **Lutterworth College** with our **Yr7/8 Team**. We fielded first and bowled Lutterworth all out in 16 overs with 56 runs on the board. With our turn to bat we comfortably scored the 57 runs quickly to take the victory.

Great performances for the boys, some of whom were getting their first hard ball experience. Great work too from wicket keeper Fin and a special mention to Olly for an outstanding performance fielding and bowling. Well done, boys. We're so proud of you!

Our **U14** cricket team also had their first outing. Robert Smyth managed 95-8, we scored 73 all out.

Considering that some of our boys had never played cricket before apart from PE lessons, we were thrilled with their achievements and to see them put their skills in place into a competitive environment and hold their own. It was a pleasure to watch. Well done to every one of them. A real team effort!



We hosted the **Year 5 & 6 Blaby Netball Tournament**, a lovely evening of sport that showcased some of the amazing work going on in our local Primary Schools.

Congratulations to Hallbrook who were victorious with 3 wins from their 3 matches. Miss Kav is looking forward to getting to work with some of the players next year when they move up.



Huge thanks to our Netball volunteer Michelle who came to help Miss Kav with the umpiring.





**Thomas Estley student sports leaders** hosted an amazing evening of sport for seven of our local Primary Schools. Ninety **Year 1 to 4 students** from **Hallbrook, Cosby, Badgerbrook, The Pastures, Arnesby, Blaby Stokes and Red Hill Field** came to take part in a multitude of activities that focussed on their running, jumping, throwing and catching skills as well as their general hand/eye co-ordination.

Our **Year 7 and 8 Sports Leaders** were magnificent in running the activities, doing demonstrations, giving lots of encouragement and helping the younger students develop their skills whilst having fun.

A great event where we saw some amazing skills from the Primary students. We are so proud of our sports leaders, who are great ambassadors for the College. Well done!



The prestigious Leicestershire schools Football event - **The Rice Bowl** - had a distinct Thomas Estley flavour to it. The **Year 6** schools final which saw Badgerbrook beat Kirby Muxloe 4-0 was officiated by two current year **11 Students**, our football volunteer and an ex-student. Korben and Ollie did a great job as assistant referees to Alfie who was given the job in the middle.

A great achievement for the boys. Officiating at the **King Power** is a real honour and we are very proud that our boys have been given the opportunity. Well done, boys.



# Orchestra Day

SUCCESS  AT

THOMAS  
ESTLEY  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

The day before the Easter break, Thomas Estley welcomed over **40 pupils** from our **feeder primary schools** for a chance to learn and play in an orchestra for the day. The day was very busy, learning the music as well as learning to play alongside others with the same and different instruments.

All the pupils worked so hard all day, perfecting their pieces of music plus learning when to come in to join others to complete the piece. The music was not easy, and pupils had not had previous practice. At the end of the day, they performed the music to family and friends, so got the whole **Orchestra Experience**.

A big thank you to our Thomas Estley primary transition student leaders, staff from the primary schools who helped on the day, and **Music faculty** staff who helped to make it such a successful day.





# Preschool/Out of School Club

SUCCESS  AT

# THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Preschool have been taking advantage of the lovely weather and been out and about in our **local community** enjoying a lovely walk and visiting the park.

Children have enjoyed challenging themselves on different equipment and no one wanted to come back to preschool as they were having so much fun!

Compliments were received on their lovely behavior as they walked through the **village**. We are very proud of them all.

**Preschool awe and wonder!** Thomas Estley Preschool have had a truly wonderful experience of watching the process of **caterpillars** turn into chrysalis before becoming **butterflies**. They even went outside to release the butterflies into their natural habitat!



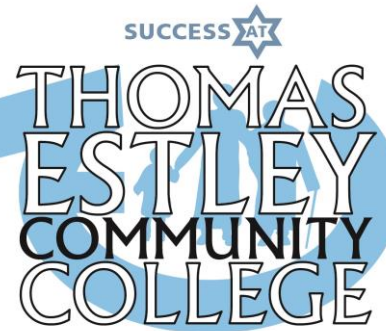
Out of school club have been busy! Starting with **Eid** celebrations and having a feast for tea. Then a group discussion about the **Olympic torch** leaving Greece to travel across Europe to Paris for the start of the **Olympic games**.

Some of the children even decided that it would be a good idea to send a good luck card to the **French president** which was made and posted!

Lastly, they have been busy colouring in some **St George's day** pictures and doing lots of cooking.



# Preschool/Out of School Club



**Preschool** have been very lucky and as part of their "Keeping Healthy/Move it March" topic they were kindly invited to visit Broughton Astley leisure centre. They have had two visits and experienced some new activities. They can't wait to go again soon! A big thank you to everyone at Broughton Astley Leisure Centre.

Thomas Estley Preschool - places are now available from this summer for all sessions as our older children move onto 'big' school; please contact Nikki to book ([nsadler@thomasestley.org.uk](mailto:nsadler@thomasestley.org.uk))





## Thomas Estley Out of School Club



Our setting provides wrap around care for primary aged children that attend Old Mill Primary School and is within the Thomas Estley College grounds.

- Art and Crafts
- Outdoor play
- Music and Movement
- Science and Discovery

## Spaces Available

APPLY NOW

For more information  [squittenton@thomasestley.org.uk](mailto:squittenton@thomasestley.org.uk)

 01455 283 263  
Ext 206  
Ext 306

 01422 383 383

Spaces Available

APPLY NOW





# Gardening at Tommo

SUCCESS  AT

# THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

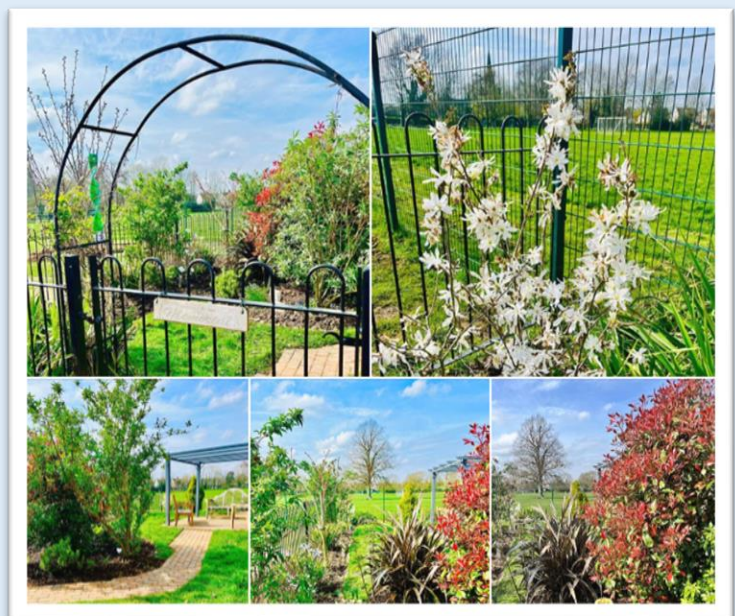


A huge thanks goes to **In Bloom Gardening** for their great work on our Thomas Estley **Aspire Courtyard** during half term.

Also, to all those in our community who donated plants or tools to get the job done so beautifully.



Thank you to our Thomas Estley staff volunteers for your hard work on our **Memorial Garden** during half term - it is really appreciated, and it looks beautiful.





The **library** celebrated many different subjects this term such as...



**National Pet Month!** Students were able to choose a related book as their reading book or find out more about choosing and looking after pets.



**Quick Reads!** Reading of all types supports children in succeeding academically, and we encourage our young people to be curious readers.



For **Mental Health Awareness Week**, a display of helpful books were put out in our library. The theme, as set by the Mental Health Foundation, was **“Movement: moving for our mental health.”**

This year, we encourage you to move your way by finding something that moves your body and mind. Being physically active is great for our bodies and our minds. Exercise has been proven to reduce anxiety and depression, and it can help prevent physical illness.

Research shows that 56% of people found that exercising regularly helped them to alleviate stress and prevent burnout in their lives.

**Make sure you look out for different activities going on for the English Reading festival over half term!**

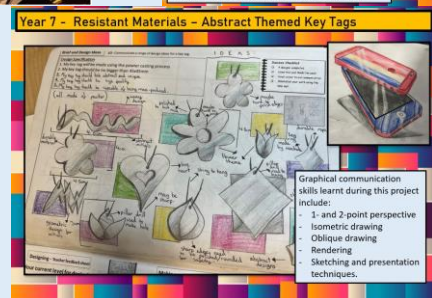
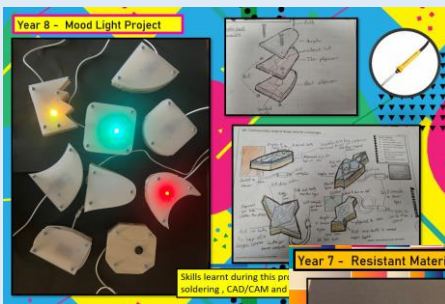


Our **Year 10 Resistant Materials** students have successfully completed their mock **NEA project**. Students had to respond to the context of '**sustainable lighting**' by investigating a need for a new product and working with a client. After producing a range of ideas students utilised their modelling skills to produce a corrugated cardboard model. Finally, students produced a working prototype. So many skills displayed; well done, everyone!



**Key Stage Three design** students have had another fantastic **Resistant Materials** rotation in **ADT**. **Year 7** have been busy designing and making abstract key tags. **CAD/CAM** has been used to produce a mould into which molten pewter is poured. **Year 8** have designed mood lights inspired by a **20th Century design movement**. **Year 9** have been designing and making **sustainable hand-held games**.

We are really impressed with the mature attitude which our students have demonstrated during their theory, design and practical sessions. Well done, everyone!

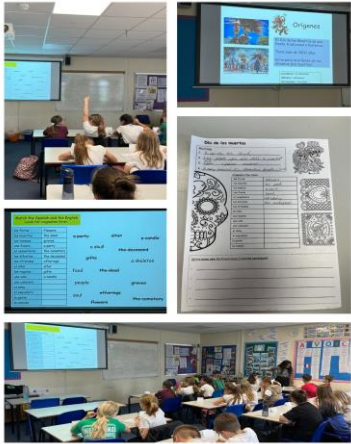




# Masterclasses

SUCCESS AT

# THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



We welcomed pupils from our **feeder Primary schools** for our first Masterclass in **Spanish**. They tried to match the Spanish to the English and looked at the theme **el Dia de los Muertos** -

The Day of the Dead among much more!

At the end they looked at the parts of Disney film **Coco** and the pupils were able to see all the celebration within the film. All pupils learnt so much and joined in so well.

Four of our students were lucky enough to attend a **cricket** master class at the prestigious **Rugby School**. The **top-class facilities** and **state of the art equipment** gave our cricketers the chance to enhance their performance and learn what it would be like to be a **sports scholar**.



They were also lucky enough to get a tour of Rugby School and take in some of its amazing history



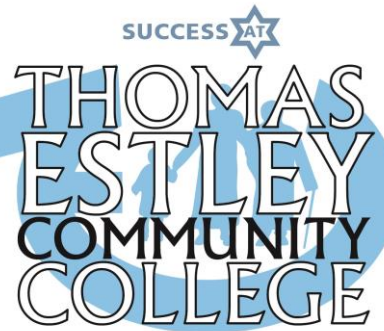
Our **year nine music** specialism group delivered two workshops to pupils at **Hallbrook Primary School**, sharing their music knowledge and experience. The year 5s enjoyed playing polyrhythms, learning about crotchets, quavers and semi quavers. Then they were treated to a keyboard session. Our music leaders excelled in the organisation, planning and delivery of these workshops, which they created themselves. Well done year nines!

Students from **years 7-10** delivered a **Samba workshop** to **Richmond Primary School** year five pupils. The group planned and developed their idea and resources and then delivered the workshop, which was thoroughly enjoyed by younger pupils.

We are immensely proud of the teamwork and leadership qualities our students demonstrated, particularly as they were able to identify and adapt the workshop to the differing needs of the three participating groups as they went along!



# Outside and After Tommo



Some of our Thomas Estley staff were lucky enough to see the Little Theatre's production of the Secret Garden. **Year 7 Harry** plays Colin in the musical. He made us all very proud, showing us just how talented he is.



A great performance from Harry and his fellow cast members. Well done!



We are so very proud of our own recent Thomas Estley goalie **Sophia** - look how well she is doing at Aston Villa!

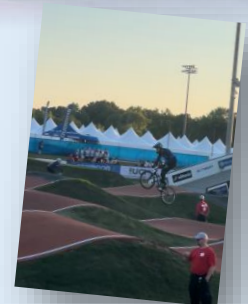


One of our Thomas Estley **Alumni** recently delivered an inspirational assembly to all our students about their journey to university.

**Dan Taylor** (below) was one of our students that faced an abrupt end to his secondary school education in 2020 due to Covid. He then went on to study A Levels at WQE, spent a year travelling, and then secured a place at **Cambridge University**. We are extremely proud of Dan! Dan also spoke to us about university life and how inaccurate the misconceptions are of Cambridge University. It really helped us see that with hard work and dedication, university is accessible to all students.



Congratulations to **Year 10** student Sean who has competed once again at international level, this time in his first **BMX Racing World Championships**, finishing 83rd in the world and receiving really positive feedback. Next up is the European Championships in Italy! We are very proud of him.





# Elsewhere in College...

SUCCESS  AT

# THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Our Thomas Estley **PEPA Faculty Star** for last half term goes to **Year 8 Ella**, a hard-working student who is smashing all elements of the PEPA curriculum. Extra-curricular wise, Ella is a natural leader who represents the College Netball, Football and Athletics teams.

An all-round superstar. Well done, Ella.



65 of our **Year 8** pupils took part in the **UKMT Junior Mathematics challenge** and between them they received **22 Bronze, 11 Silver and 2 Gold certificates**. We are so proud of all the students' efforts and the resilience and problem-solving skills that they have shown. A special shout out goes to Seb and Charlie who have made it through to the next round of the competition as they achieved the top 10% of scores nationally. Well done!



## Save the Date for **National Thank a Teacher Day!**

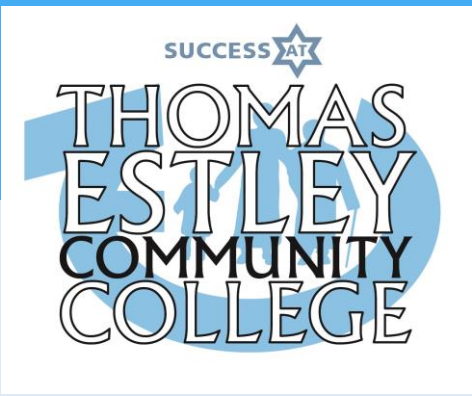
National Thank a Teacher Day is set to take place on **Wednesday 19th June**. From our inspiring teachers to our dedicated dinner helpers, teaching assistants and librarians, this year is about thanking everyone in the teaching community.

**Say thank you!** We're encouraging parents and pupils to [send a FREE e-card](#) to someone who's made a difference.



Our catering and reception staff enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate **St George's day**.

# Elsewhere in College...



Some of our Thomas Estley **music** students took part in two ensemble workshops, delivered by visitors from **Royal Birmingham Conservatoire**. This project, in collaboration with **Leicestershire Music**, culminates in a day trip to The Conservatoire for a tour of the world class facilities participating in a full orchestral performance, with other schools taking part in the project.



Students really enjoyed the experience, some having never performed in an ensemble before, and were complimented on their musical skills and perseverance. Mrs Dickinson and Miss Russell were incredibly proud of the students taking part, whose focus and engagement in the workshop was a real credit to the college! Many thanks go to our visitors for their time and contribution.

Miss Bancroft and three fantastic **student dance leaders** welcomed **Year 5 students** from seven local primary schools for an electrifying **Hip Hop dance masterclass!**

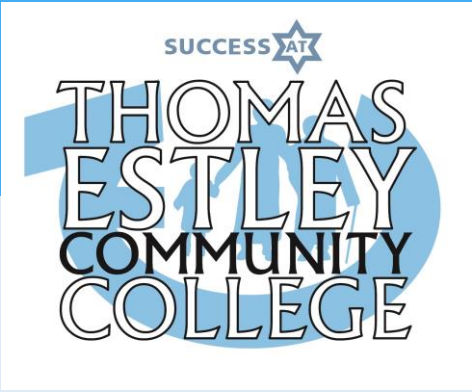
Exploring the roots of this dynamic style and iconic moves from the 1980s, our students dove into the world of Hip Hop with passion and creativity. Their energy was infectious, and their enthusiasm truly shone throughout the session.

A huge round of applause to all the students who attended! Your dedication, motivation, and talent were truly commendable. Keep dancing and expressing yourselves!



Y5 Dance Masterclass



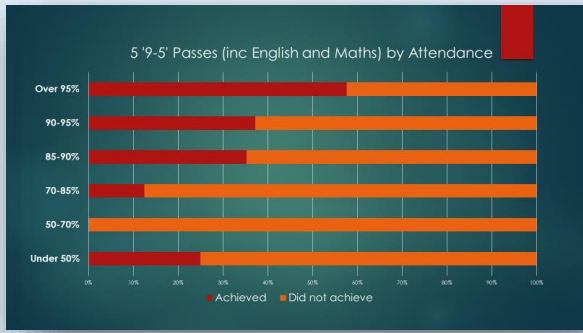
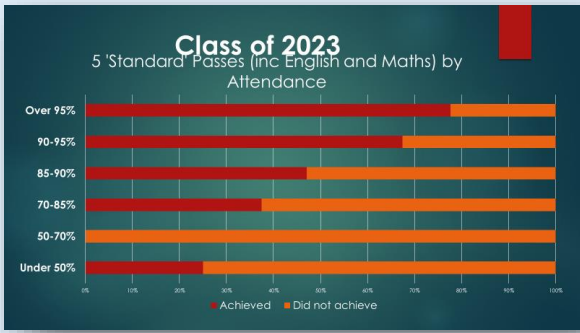


## Feeling Poorly?

Please ensure that students report to the medical room if they are feeling poorly - students should not be contacting parents directly to be collected. Our Health Administrator, Mrs Jeffery, will make that decision.

## GCSE Outcomes

There is a strong link between GCSE outcomes and GOOD attendance. A national survey revealed that students with an attendance rate of 95% or higher are more likely to earn grades of 9 or 8, while those with lower attendance rates are at a higher risk of falling behind academically.



## What if my child is too anxious to go to school?

Children can sometimes feel a little bit worried about going to school. Mostly, this is a very normal emotion. It's important to recognise that going into school can help children to feel less worried than letting them stay at home.

If your child is anxious over several weeks, talk to us so we can work together to ensure your child attends school. Please contact our attendance officer or your child's Head of Year.

This link contains lots of useful resources:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2021/09/03/mental-health-resources-for-children-parents-carers-and-school-staff/>

## What does it mean if a child is persistently or severely absent?

Students who are registered at a school but regularly fail to turn up are officially referred to as being 'persistently' or 'severely' absent. The school day is split into two sessions – one session counts as a morning or afternoon spent in school.

Students who have missed more than 10% of school sessions are considered persistently absent (students that have an attendance of 90% or less) while children who have missed more than 50% of school sessions are referred to as severely absent.



# Internet Safety

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2024

## POSITIVES OF THE INTERNET

Being online is an integral part of life today.

The internet can be a great resource for young people. It offers a wealth of information and helps build on their knowledge and understanding.

Playing fun games can support young people's learning skills, concentration, creativity, problem solving and memory.

Screen time allows young people to connect with friends and maintain a social connection.

Increasingly, homework is now online based, so it's important that young people are confident in using computers and have the skills to allow them to access information.



## Did you know?

Young people between the ages of 7 and 16 spend an average of 3hrs and 48 minutes online each day. That's an average of over **26 hours each week!**

Source: Childwise via BBC website

## STAYING SAFE ONLINE

It's important to understand what young people are doing online.

Agree rules and boundaries, be clear on what your child can and can't do online. Agree times that they can go online during the week.

Stay involved, start a conversation by asking them about the sites, apps and games they use regularly. It helps you to identify any potential risks.

Encourage your child to use their device in a communal area to allow you to keep an eye on what they are accessing. Set parental controls to filter, restrict, monitor and report.

CLICK THE LOGOS FOR MORE TIPS & ADVICE ON STAYING SAFE ONLINE!

**NSPCC**

 UK Safer Internet Centre

internet  
matters.org

INTERNETMATTERS.ORG HAVE LOTS OF TIPS TO STAY SAFE [HERE!](https://www.internetmatters.org)



# SOCIAL MEDIA

Children and young people use lots of different social media apps. The most popular being TikTok, Snapchat and Instagram. There are lots of benefits to social networking. It helps to keep young people connected to friends and family. They can also learn things from making slime, learning dance routines and gaming tips. However, there are risks associated with social media use that you should be aware of to ensure your child is safe whilst using it.



- Oversharing; Children and young people can sometimes feel pressure to overshare online
- Sharing their location
- Talking to people they don't know
- Sending or receiving inappropriate content
- Unrealistic sense of body image or reality
- Obsessive focus on likes and comments
- Cyber bullying



## Did you know?

According to a 2022 study, **51%** of young people in the UK used **TikTok**, making the short-video sharing platform the most popular social media among users aged between 4 and 18 years.

Source: Statista.com

## Key May dates

- National Walking Month
- Screen Free Week  
6-12th May
- National Children's Day  
12th May
- Mental Health Awareness  
Week- 13-19 May



**YOUNGMINDS**  
fighting for young people's mental health

internet  
matters.org

## ONLINE ADDICTION

Spending time on social media and playing video games are a normal part of life for young people, but for some there is a risk of spending too much time online which can lead to an unhealthy addiction. Signs to be aware of include:

- Showing little or no interest in other activities outside of the house
- Becoming tired and irritable
- Showing signs of anxiety or depression
- Falling behind at school or failing to complete homework
- Not spending as much time with friends
- Not paying attention to things such as personal hygiene and eating proper meals

IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS AND WOULD LIKE SOME GUIDANCE OR ADVICE ON HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD, CLICK THE LOGOS FOR INFORMATION.



LET'S GET SOCIAL





### A Parent's Guide to Cyberbullying



Many young people who are victims of cyberbullying suffer in silence.

They feel they can't turn to parents or a trusted adult for support as they fear they may get in trouble or have their devices taken away from them. It can carry on all day, all evening and all weekend for the world to see, causing a lot of emotional stress to the victim and their family.



scan the QR code with your phone's camera for Parent Guides on how to help keep your children safe online



It can very quickly lead to the victim feeling trapped, scared and vulnerable to grooming and blackmail.



Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

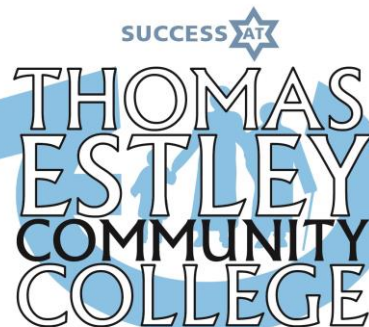
Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with





# Interested in a Career in Teaching?



## MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY ...

Are you interested in finding out more about training to teach locally?  
- Contact Jo at Achieve with TELA

Achieve with TELA provide teacher training in local primary and secondary schools with our partners at the Leicester and Leicestershire SCITT.

Jo can answer any questions you may have:

- Can I afford to train?
- Are any bursaries available while I train?
- What is the course structure?
- What qualifications do I need?
- How do I apply?
- Are there any age limits?

Visit our website [telaonline.co.uk](http://telaonline.co.uk)

Contact Jo Robotham

Tel 01455 283263 ext 286

Email [tela@thomasestley.org.uk](mailto:tela@thomasestley.org.uk)



**Achieve**  
With TELA Primary & Secondary Teacher Training

Primary & Secondary school-based  
teacher training across Leicestershire  
in partnership with:

Leicestershire Secondary SCITT      UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER

Email: [tela@thomasestley.org.uk](mailto:tela@thomasestley.org.uk)  
Phone: 01455 283 263  
07436 949 032

Visit us: [www.telaonline.co.uk](http://www.telaonline.co.uk)

@TELAteaching      @telaandachieveteachertraining

# Don't Forget!



SUCCESS AT

# THOMAS ESTLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**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.

Thank you!

## 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.

## School 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 Parentmail

## 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 closes to students on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May and re-opens on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June**



## 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.



## 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.



## 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.

