

Welcome To Our Thomas Estley Newsletter October 2025



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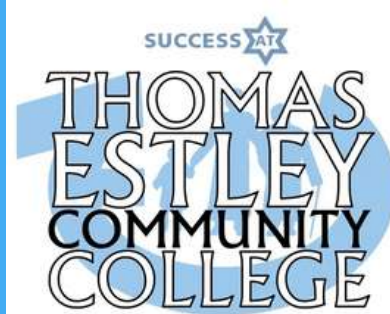
This month's focus is on physical activity.

36 Advertisements

Parent Talk, preschool, out of school club and teacher training.



Dates For The Diary



29th October

Arkwright House Inter-generational Visit

30th October

English Primary Masterclass

4th November

Year 4 Big English Quiz Rounds

12th November

Year 8 Parents Evening (Remote)

13th November

Year 8 Parents Evening (Remote)

17th November

Flu Vaccinations

18th November

Parent Community Kindness Group

19th November

Year 4 Big English Quiz Final

20th November

Arkwright House Inter-generational Visit

24th November

Year 8 Drama London Residential

25th November

Year 8 Drama London Residential

26th November

Year 9 Parents Evening (Remote)

27th November

Year 9 Parents Evening (Remote)

28th November

Stars In Our Schools
Onatti French Theatre

1st December

Geneva Trip

2nd December

Geneva Trip

3rd December

Geneva Trip

4th December

Geneva Trip
Arkwright House/TECC Christmas Event
Christmas Concert

5th December

Geneva Trip

9th December

Year 5 Business & Enterprise Day
Year 9 Parent Revision Evening

15th December

Year 11 A Christmas Carol Theatre Production

17th December

Christmas Jumper Day
Student Christmas Dinner

Assessments/Exams

10th-21st November

MFL Speaking Mock Exams

20th-21st November

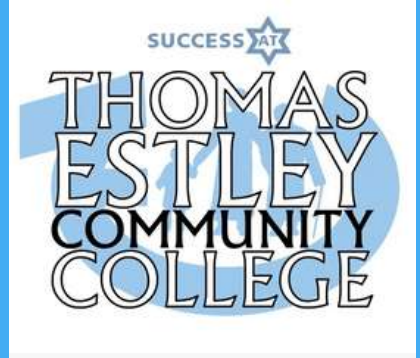
Art Timed Mock Exam

24th November-5th December

Year 11 Mock Exams



A Word From The Principal



At Thomas Estley, we believe that building leadership and character is equally important as building high academic achievement.

Adult success comes from foundations built securely around the development of character skills such as kindness, respect, resilience and perseverance, and around showing courage and confidence when faced with opportunities and challenges.

Whatever grades we achieve, to secure a career which sets us up to achieve long term financial stability, job satisfaction and a good work life balance leading to happiness and fulfilment, we depend largely both on initial impressions in an interview environment and on sustained performance and commitment in our working life. Leadership and character growth are key to succeeding in both of these areas.

At Thomas Estley, we recognise student success in academic, character and leadership achievements, and the first few pages of this newsletter showcase some successes across all areas. We hope that you enjoy reading about some of our students' achievements so far so far this term.



Mandi Collins

Mandi Collins, Principal

High Thomas Estley Way Achievers

"The 'Thomas Estley Way' guides pupils to show kindness, respect, courage, perseverance and resilience in classrooms and around the school. This is the foundation for a culture of mutual respect. Pupils are happy. Relationships between pupils and staff are strong. The school is calm and orderly. Pupils benefit from high-quality pastoral guidance. They trust staff to keep them safe." - Ofsted, October 2024.

Congratulations to this term's highest 'Thomas Estley Way' achievers, demonstrating the characteristics of our Thomas Estley Way in abundance. We are very proud of you all!



Our Thomas Estley Way character awards are bronze, silver and gold, depending on how many points have been accrued across all lessons and activities.

We were delighted to present the last few awards from the summer term while our chair of governors was present on site. Well done to everyone who worked hard over the whole summer term to demonstrate great leadership and character.



High Leadership Achievers

National SSAT leadership accreditation! We are very proud of our students Max, Lydia and Amelia, who submitted leadership portfolios successfully and have obtained SSAT Silver accreditation.

They provided evidence of a wide range of student leadership both in and out of college, with real impact on their community as great role models within our Thomas Estley leadership curriculum and offer. Well done to you all!



Well done to our student leaders who obtained a special award for outstanding leadership in last year's leadership projects, including those leaders (above) with our Principal and Chair of Governors.

You have excelled in your leadership development so far, and we are very proud of you all.



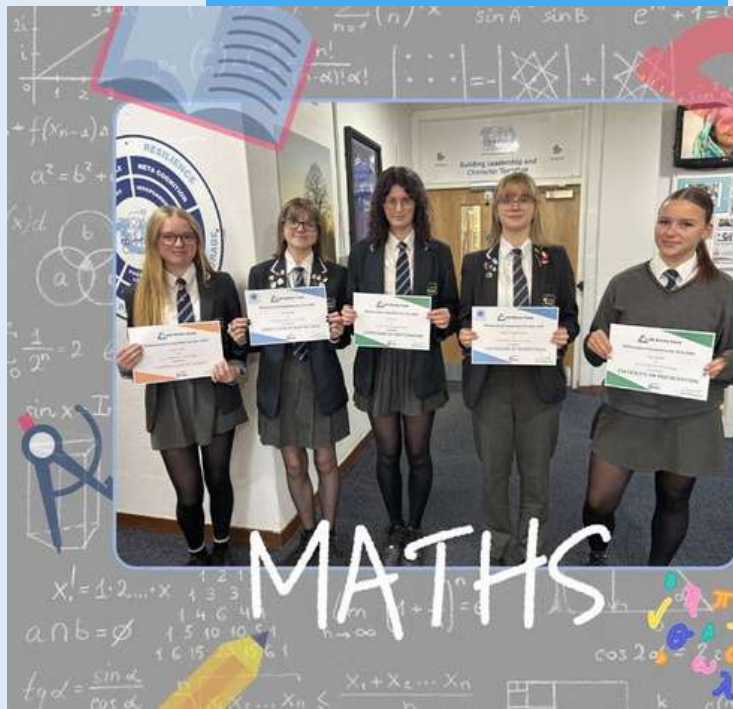
What a delight it was to present the last few start of year awards to students recognised for fantastic effort, achievement and character as the best in their year group in different subject areas and overall.

Congratulations to you all! We are very proud of you.

High Maths Achievers

This year, our Thomas Estley students took part in the very first UKMT Mathematical Competition for girls – a prestigious challenge designed to test the problem-solving skills of girls in year 12 and above. We were thrilled to be selected to enter younger pupils, and they truly rose to the occasion! Their performance was outstanding, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements.

For our year 11 pupils to compete alongside older students and still achieve merits and distinctions is a fantastic accomplishment. It speaks volumes about how they embed our character traits of resilience and perseverance. We are so proud of you all!



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

Year 7

Myla Bradshaw
Noah Macardle
Jack Kane
Derek Clegg-Reyes
Poppy Timms
Sam Ingram
Reuben Taylor
Leo Blowfield
Evie Booth
Marley Dodd
Isabelle Hughes
Deacon O'Callaghan
Madison Crane
Lily-Rose Donnelly

Year 8

Joshua Read
Logan Stretton
Bella Flynn
Harvey Clamp
Jacob Peach
Jess Chapman
Theo Spriggs
Sophie Dix
Darcey Phillips
Evie-Mai Pitts
Dougie Coxon
Francesca Owen
Joseph Morley
Hayden McGarry

Year 9

Romeo Granger
Eadie-Mae Crothers
Bradley Sheppard
Jake Redhead
Phoenix Hughes
Ben Burrows
Reggie Holland
Macie Rimington
Abbie-Rose Proudman
Patrick Hirrell
Summer Hincks
Daley Hemenstall
Rubi Mordawski
Ellie Nethercot

Year 10

Izzy Porter
Abubakar Saghir
Maggie Pullen
Melina Turner
Lexi Underwood
Aaron Brookin
Gracie Poppy
Ava Brown
Will Bryan
Jaymes Wagg
Isabelle Deberex
Caitlin Ford
Lucas Oliver
Mia Hayward

Year 11

Imogen Howard
Maisie Booth-Watts
Evie Atkin
Bella Lee
Buster Sayers
Jude Reid
Dylan Dickson
Georgie Draper
Zaine Peach
El Cowles
Tia Smith
Sid Dunning
Amie Bates
Max Iliffe

Careers

Year 11 had the opportunity to attend our Provider Fair this term. There were over 15 providers attending the evening, along with the Army and RAF and two universities. Students and their parents/carers enjoyed speaking to the many providers about the different courses and opportunities available.

Students said after the event how useful they found it and how they were now much better informed about the options available to them.



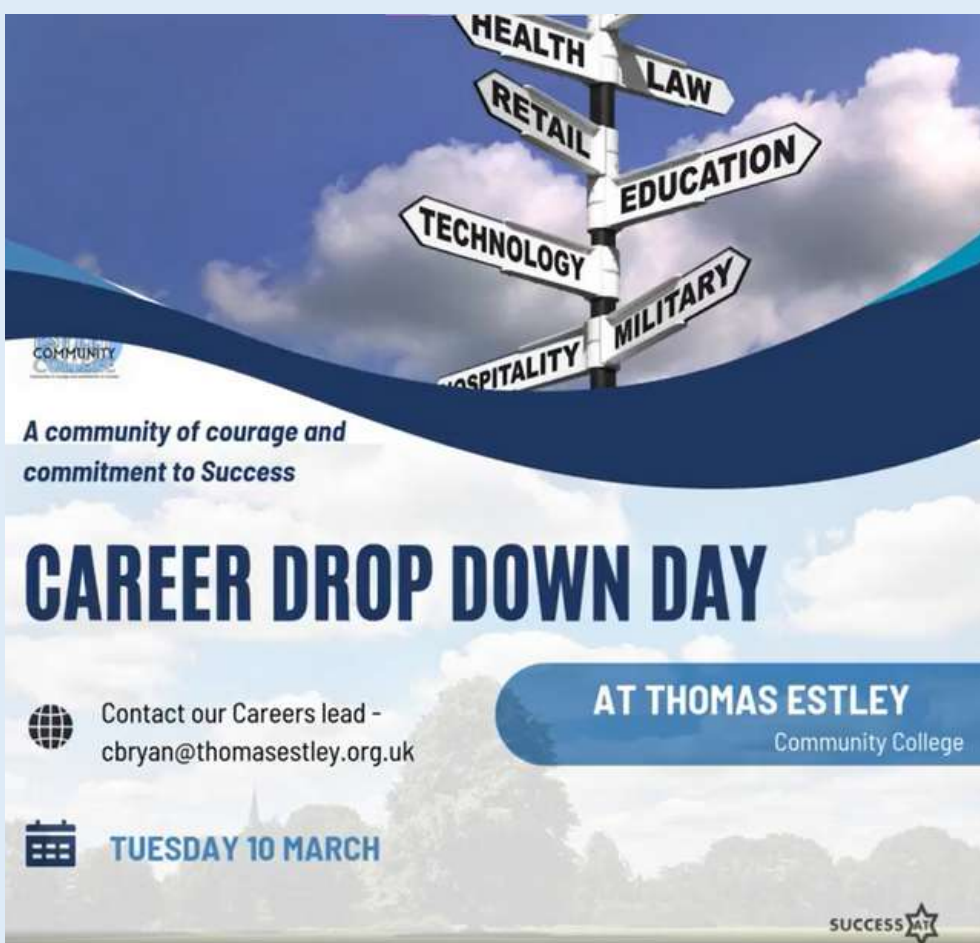
VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Would you be willing to speak to students about your job role/business? We're looking for passionate professionals to inspire the next generation!

Are you working in health care, construction, childcare, social care, sport, logistics, law, or any other exciting field? We'd love to welcome you to speak to our students about your job role and career journey.

Please do get in touch if you can help:

cbryan@thomasestley.org.uk.



 **A community of courage and commitment to Success**

CAREER DROP DOWN DAY

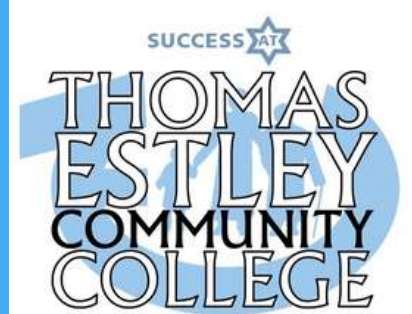
 Contact our Careers lead -
cbryan@thomasestley.org.uk

AT THOMAS ESTLEY
Community College

 **TUESDAY 10 MARCH**

SUCCESS 

Attendance



At Thomas Estley Community College, we expect the highest level of attendance from all our students so they may develop their full potential during their time at school. Missing out on education has a significant effect on students' life opportunities. There is a strong relationship between good school attendance and achieving positive outcomes for children. It is recognised that attending school regularly can be a protective factor for children and young people.

Ensuring that children attend school every day will help achieve this ambition by maximising their education and social achievements as well as developing self-discipline, organisation and preparedness for the work environment. Improving attendance and reducing absence, especially persistent absence, is a priority for our school and Leicestershire County Council.

Percentage	Days missed per week	Weeks missed per year	Lessons Missed Per Year
100%	0	0	0
95%	1/4	2	50
90%	1/2	4	100
85%	3/4	6	150
80%	1	8	200
75%	1 1/4	10	250

Everyone associated with the school – students, parents, all teaching and support staff and external agencies– must do all in their power to ensure that excellent attendance and punctuality maintain an integral part of the school's work.

Please ensure that you call to report your child's absence no later than 9.30am every day that they are absent with a clear description of their symptoms. This ensures that your child receives the correct absence code and makes it easier for staff members to track pupils' absences. If a call/message is not received by this time, you will receive a call or text message and the absence will be coded as unauthorised.

Thank you to everyone that has provided evidence of appointments which has helped us to keep a track of students exit and arrival times and enabled us to code their absences correctly.

REMINDER: As per our attendance policy and as stated in the attendance handbook, when a child has been absent for four or more days, we require medical evidence or sight of the child at home. Medical evidence can include a copy of the child's prescription with their name and the date on, a copy of an appointment confirmation for the child, or doctors/hospital notes/diagnosis with the child's name and the date stated. We

will not accept a photograph of a positive COVID test as medical evidence.

DfE March 2025 – Link between attendance and attainment in an assessment year

- At KS4, pupils who attended school nearly every day in Year 11 (with an attendance rate of 95-100%) were 1.9 times more likely to achieve the Grade 5 in English and Maths GCSE compared to pupils who only attended 90-95% of the time (relating to up to 2 weeks more time in school over the course of a year) and 3 times more likely than persistently absent pupils who only attend 85-90% of the time (relating to 4 - 6 weeks more time in school).
- This means missing just 10 days of year 11 reduced the likelihood of achieving grade 5 in English and Maths by around 50%.
- Pupils who attended school 90-95% of the time were also 1.6 times more likely to achieve Grade 5 in Maths and English GCSE compared to pupils who only attended 85-90% of them time, relating to an additional 2-4 weeks in school.
- This demonstrates there are improvements in the chance of success from increased attendance by one absence band.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance which you would like to discuss with us, please do not hesitate to contact us.

GCSE Results Day



It was a delight to celebrate with our students as they received their GCSE results. We were pleased that almost all of them accessed their first choice destination and we are very proud of their hard work and achievements. Well done and all the best for your next steps!

Congratulations to our highest Thomas Estley achievers (below), attaining a wealth of grade 8s and 9s this summer. We wish you the very best now you have progressed on to your next learning destination, and we know you will do brilliantly.

Well done to Katie, Alexia, Emily, Ruben, Amber, Reggie, Mustafa, Poppy, Imogen and Darcey.

We were super proud of some of our Thomas Estley students who achieved more than two grades higher across all of their GCSE subjects than their predicted grades – which was down to sustained sheer hard work and effort on their part. We know that this resilience and perseverance will serve them well in their future studies and careers.

Well done to Anaya, Lily, Tom, Darcey, Jodie, Lilly, Violet, Orla, Reggie and Samuel



Open College Evening



During Thomas Estley's Open College Evening we explained our college focus on the importance of student leadership. We then let our visitors see it in action as our students led activities and demonstrated their work to the children and families.

Pictured above includes: our English student leaders explaining how amazing studying English can be, our science student leaders demonstrating typical biology, physics and chemistry experiments, our music student leaders who, together with our music teachers, entertained and explained the music programme of study and lastly, our art and design student leaders enjoying explaining projects and outcomes to our visitors who made some fantastic blue Leicester fox prints to take home.

Well done, everyone!

Scarecrow Festival



Amberwood Care Home in Wigston hosted a Scarecrow Festival this month, inviting local schools and community groups to take part in the event.

Our talented Friday Textiles Club rose to the challenge by designing, crafting, and naming not one, but two scarecrows in the hopes of being crowned the festival's winner!

Above are photos of the students hard at work cutting, sewing, stuffing and assembling their scarecrows with incredible teamwork and creativity. And to the right, you'll see the fantastic final result: Gretchen & Pumpkinton, a quirky and charming scarecrow couple inspired by the musical Hamilton. The residents and locals loved them!

Well done to Jess, Violet, Mia, Izzy, Alexa, Sophie, Sophia, Eadie, Ethan, Evie, Holly, Lydia and Summer!



Young Writers



Congratulations to our Thomas Estley AWARD-WINNING young writers and their PUBLISHED Grim Tales! In this national poetry competition, our writers were asked to write a reimagined tale or with a twisted perspective where the hero is the villain.

It's not easy to convey your story in a 100-word saga! So, congratulations to our Tommo authors! Writing is an incredible tool where we can creatively express ourselves and be heard. It gives us a voice. Therefore, it is with great pride that we announce the voices of our published authors:

Amelia - The Slipper Scandal
Skylar - The Hungry Caterpillar
Annie - The Story Of Accusation
Elena - The Girl Behind The Crumbling Wall
Riah - The Ocean Eyes
Sophie - The Villain's Truth

We are so proud of you all!

European Day Of Languages



Our Thomas Estley MFL department organised a range of exciting activities to mark European Day of Languages. Students attended assemblies exploring the importance of learning languages, with a special focus on preserving minority languages such as Welsh and Scots.

Our very own Mrs Wall, a native Welsh speaker, joined year 7 French lessons this week to highlight the fascinating links between Welsh and French. Students were also challenged to count from one all the way to 99 in Welsh!

Additionally, different departments across the school wrote the date in various languages, sparking lively discussions as students tried to identify them. During tutor time, pupils took part in a Disney songs quiz in different languages, while throughout the week a competitive spirit was encouraged with a school-wide Duolingo competition.

The activities created a real buzz around language learning and helped students see just how fun and valuable it can be. Well done to everyone who threw themselves into celebrating cultures and languages so well!

Trips



Some of our Thomas Estley GCSE history students visited Kenilworth Castle for their site visit, exploring the castle grounds and building and developing their understanding of its historic importance. Lots of relevant and hands on learning!

What a successful trip for our fantastic year 8 students. They were given a tour of Shakespeare's Globe, and took part in an "A Midsummer Night's Dream" active workshop.

Students got so much out of it, as well as experiencing some of our historic landmarks and sights along the way!



Trips



It was lovely to take some of our students to Arkwright House to create and paint some wonderful plant pots. The residents were looking forward to seeing us again and helped some of the newer faces settle in and enjoy the activity. Smiles and positivity from everyone. We have lots more activities planned with Arkwright House in the future.

Our year 10 Creative iMedia and GCSE Computer Science students enjoyed a fascinating trip to the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park. The visit offered a unique opportunity to see the world's largest collection of working historic computer systems. Students explored wartime codebreaking machines from the 1940s, as well as large-scale mainframes from the 1950s, 60s, and 70s. They also followed the development of personal computers through to today's mobile technologies.

Students took part in an interactive session focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Virtual Reality (VR), giving them a hands-on look at some of the most exciting developments in modern computing.

It was an inspiring and educational experience, bringing the history and future of computing to life.



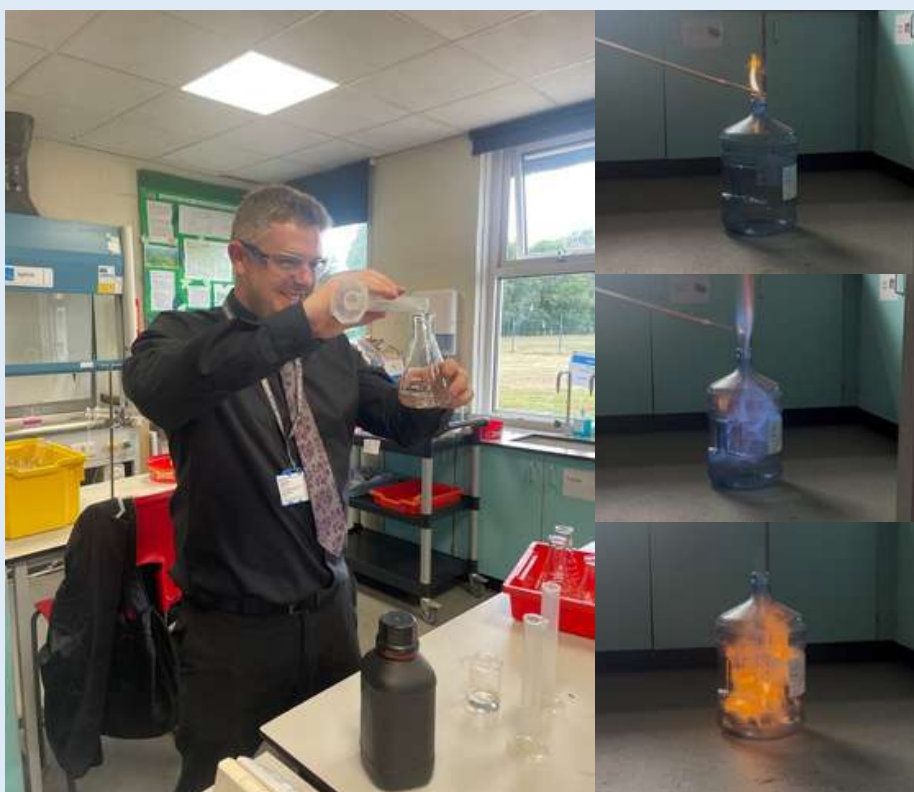
Highlights This Term...

SUCCESS 

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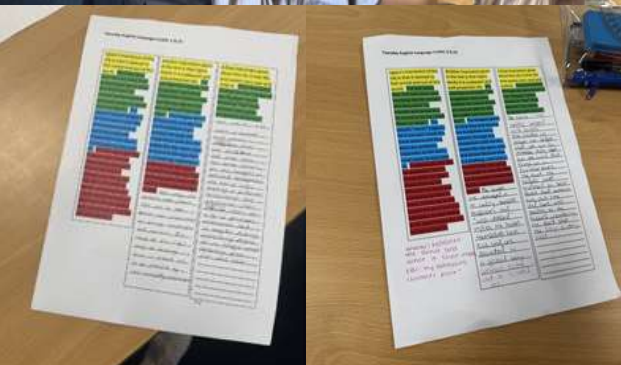
Our students may have noticed a difference when they arrived back in school! The much loved and very old mobiles have left us - and their teachers were delighted to have moved into our new humanities block...

We hope our students and teachers are enjoying the beautiful new environment!



Our learners have already been trying out practical experiments this term, one pictured here. We believe that scientific curiosity and strong science results grow from engaging activities and great teaching. Well done to our science faculty, with great results in both separate and combined sciences at GCSE once again. 100% of students in biology and 95% of students in chemistry and physics, achieved at least a grade 5 (a strong pass) with a third of students achieving at least a grade 7 (the old A grade) and a fifth achieving a top grade 9 (A**) across the board in separate sciences. Great work, everyone!

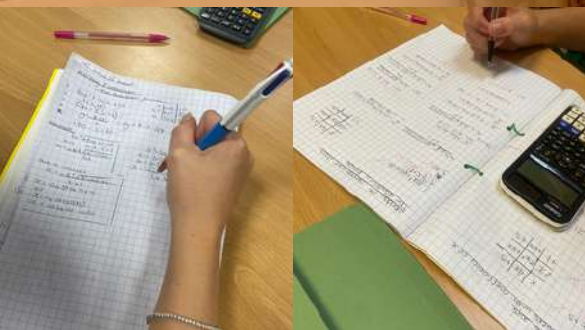
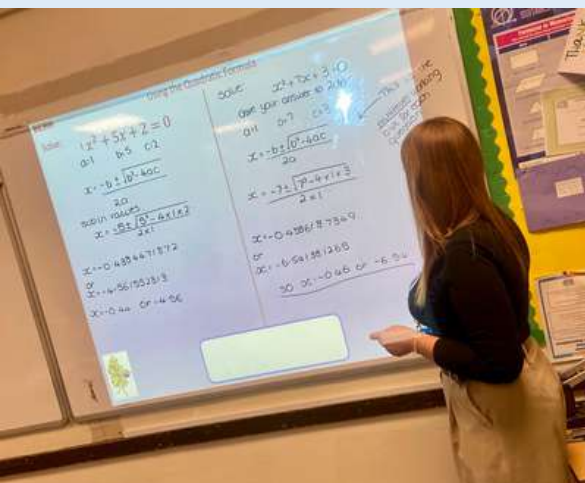
Highlights This Term...



The geography department launched a fun "Spring Into Summer" competition, encouraging students to try their hand at gardening by growing their very own sunflower. The aim was to bring a little sunshine to gardens, balconies or windowsills, while also celebrating the changing seasons. Students nurtured their plants from seed, competing to see who could grow the tallest or the brightest bloom. It was a great way to connect with nature, learn a little about plant growth, and add some colour to our surroundings, while making links to curriculum and learning. This year's winner was Maisy (below) - well done!



It was a delight to see the high-quality of work and great attendance at our first after school year 11 English clinic of the year (a few of our learners pictured here, working hard on securing great English Language outcomes). Keep up the fantastic effort everyone!



We were incredibly proud of our fantastic maths department. We enjoyed huge success with both mathematics and statistics again this year. As usual, our performance at grade 4 and 5 was high. By attaining these grades in maths, it keeps doors open for our young people as they progress onto post-16 courses and employment.

More than a quarter of our students achieved a grade 7 (formally an A) in maths, compared to just 16% nationally. These outcomes put us in the top 20% nationally for state and fee paying schools.

We offer GCSE statistics as an additional option, and a phenomenal 80% of these students achieved a grade 7 (A) or above. This smashed the national average of 21%! Well done to our hardworking staff and students in maths.

Highlights This Term...

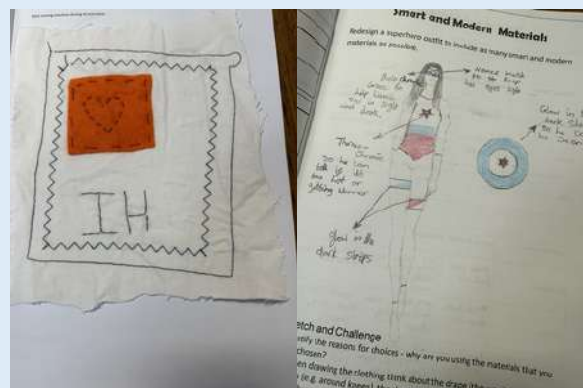
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Well done to students Connie and Fletcher, who spoke to over 500 visitors at our Open College Evening 2025, telling them about their experiences of student leadership at Thomas Estley, and how they felt supported by college staff. We are very proud of you!

Our English faculty is full of achievement, enthusiasm and opportunity. Pictured below is a recent after school year 11 session:



Year 7 students have made an amazing start in textiles. In preparation to make their superhero cushions, they practiced a range of stitching techniques: appliqué, running stitch, back stitch and some even braved the sewing machine!

Above are two examples - well done to Isabelle and Ollie!



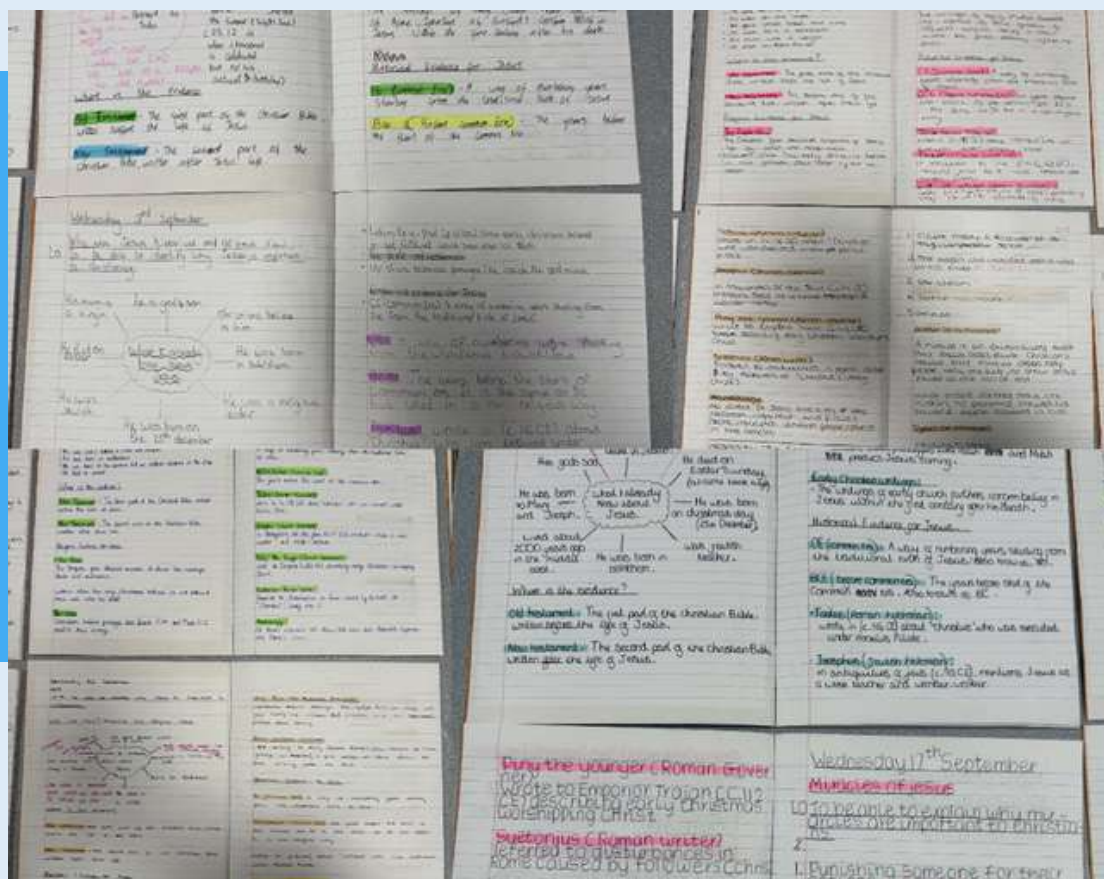
Thomas Estley staff hosted a Macmillan Coffee Morning to raise money for the charity. Thanks to everyone who came along to donate, and particularly to the staff bakers - the offerings were delicious! Well done to "star baker" Miss Russell!



Highlights This Term...

Thomas Estley year 8 religious education students have been hard at work reflecting on understanding viewpoints and learning about the range of world religions.

We have been pleased with their thoughtful discussions and work – well done!



Year 9 textile students have been working really hard on their brief to create a bag for JD or Zara. They are working in portfolios this year and have been taking so much pride and care in presenting their work! Well done year 9; an excellent start to year 9 textiles. We look forward to what the outcomes are next term.

Highlights This Term...

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Year 7 Resistant Materials – Pencil Holder Project



Practical skills learnt during this project include using hand tools, workshop machinery and surface preparation .



Key Knowledge:

- Timbers
- Production aids
- Health and Safety
- Workshop tools
- Surface finishes

Mr Curtis and Mr Serridge are really pleased with the outcomes of the new year 7 resistant materials project. Above are just some of the finished pencil holders created by year 7 students. They mastered using templates, pillar drills, cordless drills, hand files and coping saws, finishing each piece with several coats of varnish.

**JEANS
FOR GENES
DAY**

**WE RAISED
£727**

Well done to everyone who supported Jeans for Genes Day, a fundraising event that supports children and families affected by genetic disorders. By wearing jeans and making a donation, participants helped raise vital funds for research, support services and awareness programs that make a real difference in people's lives.

Highlights This Term...

Year 9 Resistant Materials: Sustainable Pinball Project



Skills learnt during this project include; making wood joints, using tenon saws and manufacturing a working mechanism using standard components.

Year 9 KS3 students impressed their ADT teachers with creative sustainable pinball games. Students learnt how to make a range of wood joints, created working mechanisms, used computer software for graphics, and applied advanced model making skills. Well done year 9!



Staff across the school proudly wore red to support the Show Racism the Red Card campaign, standing in solidarity against racism and promoting inclusion and respect for all. The canteen also joined in by serving delicious red-themed cakes. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped raise awareness for such an important cause.

Sport



Our under-14 girls footballers got this years fixtures off to a start with their round one national cup match away at Robert Smyth. The girls looked fabulous in their brand new sponsored kit, courtesy of local Broughton company Automated Garage Doors. Thank you so much for your support of our teams. It is greatly appreciated.

On a very blustery afternoon, we struggled to get things going. Numerous chances in the first half but it looked like we would have nothing to show for it, until Willow went on a run through the middle and laid the ball off to Ruby for her to cut in from the left and score.

We then dominated the second half, Cerys getting a debut goal, Macie hitting a worldy from just inside Robert Smyth's half and then Willow deservedly getting on the score sheet after lots of brilliant work from her throughout the game.

Joint players of the match went to Georgia and Ellie, whose link up play on the right hand side was strong throughout the match. A good result, 4-0, and through to round two.

On the same night we saw the boys football and girls netball teams get up and running with their league matches against Brockington.

A clean sweep for the footballers who all won their matches. The year 8 and 9 netballers also had winning starts. Year 7 netball just play friendlies for the first few matches so whilst they were disappointed that they didn't get a win today, they should be proud of how much they improved as the game went on.

Huge thank you to our netball volunteer Michelle who has once again agreed to coach for another season. We are so grateful that she gives so freely of her time. Thank you!



Sport

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What a performance! Huge congratulations to our year 8 boys' football team who stormed to a 12-0 victory against Hinckley School in the first round of the National Cup!

Last year's disappointment clearly fuelled the fire and the lads responded with a dominant, convincing display on the pitch.

Man of the Match went to Charlie who netted an incredible five goals! That's two wins out of two to kick off the season – one in the league and one in the cup! Let's keep the momentum going, boys!

Our year 10 and 11 netballers were at Brockington and got themselves off to a winning start with lots of goals.

Well done to all of our sporty youngsters!



Our KS3 football and netball teams had their first away matches this term at Lutterworth High School. On the football pitches, year 7 and 8 both won again to remain undefeated. Our year 9's were not so lucky but played some great football in a physical match.

On the netball courts (right), our year 8 and 9 teams built on what they had done in training and showed some lovely skill against very strong opposition. The scores were much closer than last year, so we are really pleased with their progress despite the losses.

Our year 7 team had another friendly against a Lutterworth makeshift team, thank you to our opposition for putting a team together at such short notice. Our girls played great – linking well on the court and showing great cross court play to notch up their first win. Well done everyone!



Sport



Our year 10 and 11 teams (above) had home matches against Lutterworth High in the district league. Lutterworth's netball teams are county champions so we knew we would be up against it. Whilst both of our teams lost, they should be proud of their performances as they never gave up and showed lots of courage and resilience.

On the football pitches a changed year 11 team took Lutterworth to a 4-4 draw. The winner was decided by penalties and unfortunately we were not the lucky ones. Our year 10 boys had a much better evening in their opening match of the season. An 8-0 win in a match that they dominated from start to finish. An injury to our keeper brought Archie in for his school football debut. He put in an amazing performance to earn him player of the match and keep a clean sheet.

Huge thanks to our year 10 coach Alfie who is continuing to coach the team as part of his university degree. We really appreciate him giving freely of his time.



Our under-13 girls football team started their National Cup campaign at home to Harris School, Rugby. We dominated from the kick off, playing some lovely football. Goals for Verity (4), Willow (2), Grace (2), India (2) & Maddi (2) saw us comfortably through to round two and an away tie to Cardinal Newman School, Coventry.

Great team spirit from all players to welcome our debutants Mimi and Laila. They both did very well & player of the match went to Mimi who listened brilliantly and showed great skill! Well done all!



Our Thomas Estley year 9 and 10 girls football teams started their National Cup campaign away at The Hinckley School. A great game that we dominated from start to finish. Goals for player of the match Belle (3), Izzy P (3), Lily (2), Ria & Freya B to secure a comfortable 10-0 win and a place in round two at home to Brockington.



Sport



The year 11 boys football team (left) played their final game together for the school, marking the end of their unforgettable Tommo journey. Over the years, they've experienced it all, from thrilling highs to challenging lows, but what has stood out most is the way they've faced every moment as a team. Through victories, setbacks, hard-fought battles, and moments of sheer brilliance, this group of players has grown not only as athletes but also as young men. Their perseverance, resilience, and bond both on and off the pitch have left a lasting legacy. Though this chapter has now closed, the memories, friendships, and lessons learned will carry on well beyond the final whistle.



All five year group netball teams played Lutterworth College; victories for year 7 and 11 and lots of great play from all teams across the courts. Football league matches for year 7, 8, 9 & 11. Only year 8 got a victory and then they coupled that with a National Cup 8-0 win against Kibworth to take them through to round three. Well done everyone!

Our under-15 girls (above) met local rivals Brockington in round two of this seasons National Cup. Brockington took the lead in the first half and despite us completely dominating the second half it took the last kick of the match, with a corner from Lily that went in off a Brockington player to send the game to penalties.

Our girls held their nerve brilliantly winning 3-1 with Izzy saving Brockington's first penalty. They scored their second and missed their third, whilst we converted all three of ours. No need for all five penalty takers and we were safely through to round three.

Well done girls, nail biting for parts of the match but job done in the end. Players of the match went to Izzy and Lily.





We took our year 7 girls netballers to Lutterworth High School for a local tournament. As the girls are still developing as a team and we are still working out who suits what position best, we entered them into the B team tournament.

The girls have really grown in confidence and skill in the five weeks they have been together and were able to link play much better as a unit. Huge credit to year 10 Millie who has done an amazing job coaching them. A brilliant role model for the girls and a great coach and leader passing on her knowledge to the younger girls.

The team won all three of their matches and left with huge smiles on their faces, proving that hard work pays off. Well done girls, we are really proud of you all. Thanks also to our netball volunteer Michelle for umpiring again and making these opportunities possible.



The year 7 girls team had their first football match, providing a chance for us to look at the squad and see how positions work best.

Whilst the girls may not have got the result they wanted, there are lots of positives to take from the match to help us prepare for future games.

Well done girls; you worked hard throughout. We're really proud of you all.



Our under-14 girls football team travelled to Kibworth for their round two National Cup match. A great game that showed the strength of both teams. Grace put us ahead in the first half before Kibworth equalised. Our girls stepped it up second half with great defensive work and a brilliant job from Honey and Freya in midfield. Kibworth fought to the end but thankfully we held our nerve and are now through to round three after half term. Well done! Joint players of the match were Honey & Freya.

Our under-13 girls football team hosted Cardinal Newman, Coventry in their round two National Cup match. It was end to end for the first 15 minutes until Grace put us ahead. We played some great passing football and worked well as a unit but couldn't seem to get the second. Newman caught us on the break and then scored from the resulting corner to bring it level. Tommo girls regrouped and went straight up the other end and put us ahead with a goal from India to take us into half time in the lead. We then dominated the second half; further goals from Maddie, Ava and Laila gave us a comfortable 5-1 win and a place in round three against last years county finalists Cedars Academy after half term.

Player of the match went to Kelsea who did an amazing job in midfield, but overall a great team display in all areas of the pitch. Well done, everyone.



Primary Masterclasses



We welcomed year 5 students from our feeder schools to our art/cooking masterclass. The pupils were able to experience a sample of art and cooking during their time with us.

In the art masterclass, students showed their understanding of colour theory to produce a stencil print of Filbert fox. Students created excellent results showing a high level of technical skill through their blending skills. In the cooking masterclass, the pupils were able to experience being in the famous TECC kitchen classroom and learnt how to use the bridge hold and claw grip to make fruit kebabs.

A big thank you to our primary transition leaders who without their help, the masterclass would not have run smoothly. The leaders stepped up this year taking on more responsibility for the first time and were just brilliant.

Thanks again to everyone involved in the session – truly enjoyed by all!

Out Of School Club



Thomas Estley Out of School Club have been having lots of fun so far this school year in their wrap around before and after school care sessions.

They have been practicing their netball skills, den building, making healthy snacks and play dough, among so many other activities on offer.

There are still places available for some sessions this academic year – for more information email squittenton@thomasestley.org.uk or ring reception and ask for Sarah on 01455 283263.

Outside Tommo



Well done to Thomas Estley students Oliver, William, Rose, Lucia, Harley, and ex-student Javier, who are all proud members of the Leicestershire Junior Triathlon Club – affectionately known as the Zebras.

They competed in their club championships, and they did brilliantly, with many of the group achieving 1st or 2nd place finishes in their age categories. These athletes are incredibly fit, working hard to reach county standards across all three disciplines.

It marks the end of a fantastic season for them, and we are very proud of them all – great role models of courage, resilience and perseverance!

We are exceptionally proud of the recognition of a group of our young people (below) whose actions in helping a member of the public in medical distress were recognised by the police and wider community. This is truly a display of our Thomas Estley values of courage, kindness and respect in action – well done to the boys involved in this incident for putting our values and first aid curriculum so beautifully into practice! Feeling very proud of you all. Thank you also to Leicester City Police for this recognition and praise.



If you have any student successes outside of college and you would like them to be included in next term's newsletter, please email:

PAtoThePrincipal@thomasesstley.org.uk.



Over the summer holidays Honor attended numerous workshops and a singing/acting audition to get into the Concordia Youth Theatre. We are proud to say she received a letter this term saying she has been successful! Well done Honor – a true Tommo star!

Don't Forget!

SUCCESS 

THOMAS
ESTLEY
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

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.

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!

Headphones, Earbuds & Air Pods

The use of headphones/earbuds/AirPods 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.



Absence During Term Time

If your child is too ill to attend college please contact reception 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. This is to protect students' learning and social development and is in line with our safeguarding policy. This refers to any use anywhere on the college site, including break and lunchtime - phones should be 'not seen, not heard.'

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.

College reopens on Mon 27th Oct & closes for the Christmas break on Fri 19th Dec

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.

School Transport

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



Since our transition to Arbor please ensure your child's medical status is up to date.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY Newsletter

OCTOBER 2025

The importance of physical activity

To maintain a basic level of health, the Chief Medical Officer recommends children and young people aged 5 to 18 should take part in an average of at least 60 minutes of physical activity per day. Taking part in Physical Activity has many benefits for children and young people, including; improving fitness, increasing concentration, building a stronger heart, bones and healthier muscles. Being regularly physically active improves self-esteem, lowers stress and encourages a better nights sleep. The NHS has further information [here](#).



Stay Active For Less!



Click [here](#) to find helpful resources and information for your family to stay active for less. Look out for our guide to local walking routes and beautiful green spaces South Leicestershire has to offer.

Active Travel Month

Active Travel Month takes place throughout October and we want as many pupils as possible to get involved! Actively travelling to school can increase mental alertness, energy, positive mood and self-esteem, as well as reducing stress and anxiety. It helps them feel alert and ready for the day. Cycling, walking or scooting to school also increases awareness of road safety as well as supporting the environment.

DID YOU KNOW?
Only 47.8% of children currently meet the Chief Medical Officer guidelines of 60 minutes of physical activity per day.

Source: Sport England 2023/24



THE HARBOROUGH MONSTER TRAIL

is back for 2025!

Brought to you by the South Leicestershire School Sport Partnership, with the support of the Harborough District Council and Active Together Harborough, we are delighted to announce the return of the 'Harborough Monster Trail'. The aim is to encourage children and families to be active during half term, Halloween and the autumn. The Monster Trail starts on **Monday 20th October** and runs until **Monday 24th November**.

20 mischievous monsters are lurking in parks in Lutterworth, Harborough, Fleckney and Thurnby for you to find. There are badges and certificates on offer for finding the monsters in each area, PLUS Jellycat monster Pip is up for grabs in our prize draw for everyone that completes a trail!

Find out more [here](#)!

World Mental Health Day

World Mental Health Day takes place on Thursday 10th October 2025. The theme this year is, "Access to Services-Mental Health in Catastrophes and Emergencies" The theme highlights the importance of people being able to protect their mental health whatever they're going through, because everyone deserves good mental health.

Find out more [here](#)

KEY DATES

World Mental Health Day- 10th Oct
International Walk to School month
Dyslexia Week- 6-12th Oct
Recycle Week- 7-13th Oct
Black History Month
ADHD Awareness Month

LET'S GET SOCIAL!



Health | Well-being | School Sport | PE | Physical Activity
Supporting health outcomes in schools and sports opportunities for all young people





Health | Well-being | School Sport | PE | Physical Activity
Supporting South Leicestershire Schools to provide opportunities for all young people

South Leicestershire Community Board

Care Navigation- Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust

What is the Care Navigation service?

An administrative team working together with health professionals and external partner agencies to support children and young people aged 0-19.

We can support with:

- Directing you to local support networks.
- Collating and sharing information with professionals involved to enable a more efficient service.
- Providing confirmation of health appointments detailing the clinic, date, time, and venue.
- Act as a point of contact for families and professionals when support with health required.

What sort of information is shared?

- Health professionals that are currently involved.
- Referral updates.
- Appointment information.

Click here to find out more!

Speak Out!



If a young person is struggling with stress, identity, or mental health, Speak Out's "Wellbeing Resources" page is packed with free, confidential, judgement-free support – from tips on stress & identity to 24/7 helplines – designed for young people. Scan the QR code for resources and more information.

Neighbourhood Mental Health Cafés spread around Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, run by trained and supportive staff, who are there to listen and provide the practical support you may need when you need it. Find out more here

Neighbourhood
Mental Health
Cafés



Click the logo to find your nearest cafe!

YOUNG PEOPLE'S PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & SPORT HARDSHIP FUND

The fund will support young people from Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, in the greatest financial need, to overcome economic constraints and access physical activity and sport as a participant, official, coach, volunteer or talented sportsperson. Young people should be aged 7-21 years, or up to the age of 25 years for young people with SEND.

ROUND 1 DEADLINE: OCTOBER 27th 2023

ROUND 2 DEADLINE: MARCH 1st 2024

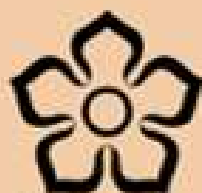
Click here to find out more!





Parent Talk

Family
Hub



Leicester
City Council



Free and confidential online parenting support in Leicester

Find answers to parenting questions in our advice articles.
Use our webchat or WhatsApp to talk to a local parenting coach
about anything that's worrying you.

We're here for you when you need us. No topic is too big,
small, or embarrassing.

Get support with:

- mental health
- school and education
- child development
- additional needs
- family relationships
- behaviour

We can support you in the language you prefer.

parent-talk.org.uk/leicester



Care and Education for 2-4 year olds



THOMAS ESTLEY PRESCHOOL



All types of FEEE funding accepted – where self-funded, competitive pricing with sibling discounts.



Rich, varied provision includes indoor and outdoor free flow, separate forest garden, access to library for stories and singing, field and gym for sport skills and play.



Learning opportunities include messy play, construction, yoga, early phonics, maths activities sand/ water play, small world, local area walks and visits



School readiness focus afternoon inputs for 3 year olds



Hot lunches cooked onsite available as a lunch option

'Children are gaining a love of books.' (Ofsted 2022)

'Children value the caring nature of the staff; they feel reassured and safe.' (Ofsted 2022)



Book Now!

Contact Us

01455 283 263 Ext 205

nsadler@thomasestley.org.uk

7:30-12:00

7:30-3:00

7:30-6:00



9:00-12:00

9:00-3:00

9:00-6:00

12:00-3:00

12:00-6:00

'Parents are highly complementary about the pre-school and say they would not change a thing.' (Ofsted 2022)



Based at Thomas Estley
Station Rd, LE9 6PT

**Childcare
for 3-11 year olds**



THOMAS ESTLEY OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB

- ✓ **Open from 7:30am and until 6:00pm**
- ✓ **Drop offs and pick ups – Thomas Estley pre-school & Old Mill Primary School**
- ✓ **Competitive pricing with sibling discounts –tax-free/ universal credit options apply**
- ✓ **Wide range of free choice activities including outdoor play, craft, cooking, sport, reading and board games**
- ✓ **Breakfast, after school snack and light tea included**



Book Now!

Contact Us

01455 283 263 Ext 206

squittenton@thomasestley.org.uk



**Based at Thomas Estley
Station Rd, LE9 6PT**

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

Contact: Jo Robotham
Tel: 01455 283263 ext 286
Email: tela@thomasestley.org.uk