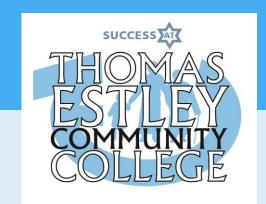


Welcome to our Thomas Estley New Sletter December 2022

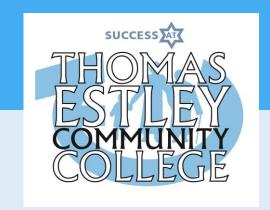
A Community of
Courage and
Commitment to
Success

What's inside



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Dates for the Diary

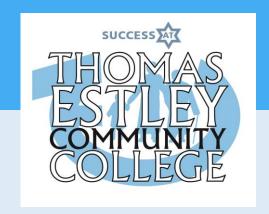


16 th December	College closes for Christmas Break	
2 nd January	New Year Bank Holiday	
3 rd January	College opens for first half of Spring Term	
9 th – 11 th January	Year 11 Vocational Exams	
18 th – 19 th January	Year 11 Remote Parents Evening	
25 th January	Flu Vaccinations	
25 th January	Year 9 Options Evening	
8 th – 9 th February	Year 10 Remote Parents Evening	
9 th February	Years 7 and 8 Personal Development Drop Down Day	
10 th February	Options Deadline Day	
20 th – 24 th February	College closes for Half Term	
20 th – 23 rd February	Year 10 Iceland Trip	
26 th February	College opens for second half of Spring Term	

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

Please email your information, ideally with photographs to: PatothePrincipal@thomasestley.org.uk

A word from the Principal



This has been a notable half term of curriculum enrichment, with opportunities galore for our young people to move beyond their normal curriculum experiences and to try something new.

A wealth of leadership projects have seen our students reading to pre-schoolers, running primary outreach events, welcoming younger children into the college for masterclasses and competitions, and finishing their training as wellbeing champions, to name just a few. Many of these are pictured here, and involve subject areas including Business, Dance, Sport, Health and Social Care, Science, English, Citizenship and Wellbeing. We are very proud of our young people as they continue to shine at 'Building Leadership Together'.

We have been involved in a greater number of sports than ever before, meaning that not only our more elite competitive teams have achieved great successes as usual, but equally importantly that more students have been included in other teams and have experienced new sports and challenges.

We have been back in the local church for our Carol Services for the first time post Covid – a fantastic experience for both our Year Seven students and the musical and dramatic performers who led the services.

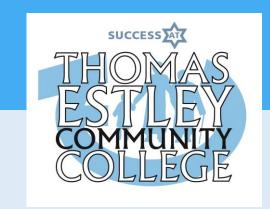
Mandi Collins Principal

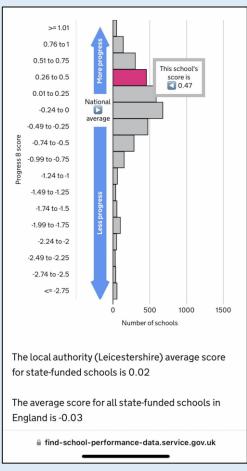


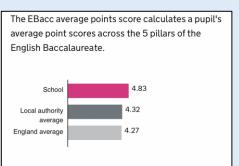
GCSE Success

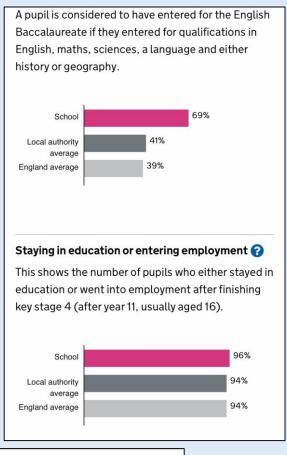
So proud of our students and teachers for a great set of **GCSE** results this year, just published on https://www.find-school-performance-data.service.gov.uk/

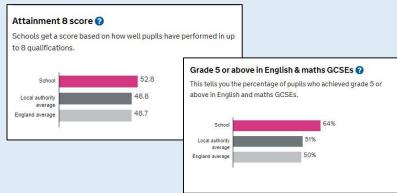
Our progress and attainment measures as well as our destination measures, despite the challenges of the pandemic, are all above and often well above national and local averages Well done everyone!



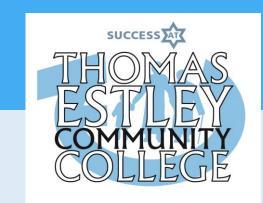








Thank you very much to LEBC and a whole range of local volunteer employers who put our **Year 1**1 through their paces during our Thomas Estley mock interview programme yesterday. We were delighted to hear how confident, reflective and respectful our young people were, and they took so much away to help them prepare for next steps and future interviews.











Magic Mathematicians! Our **Year 11** Further Mathematicians completed the Senior Maths Challenge before half term, which is a year earlier than most. They all did brilliantly and we received 4 bronze certificates, 1 silver certificate and 1 gold certificate. Nishad has even got through to the British Maths Olympiad! Well done, all.

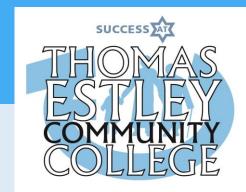






Year 11 enjoyed an alumni visit last week as part of their module: RAF visit/talk today. AS1 (T) Reece Bryan is an ex student based at RAF Conningsby - Survival equipment. Reece talked about his job role, the training he had received, and showed some of the survival equipment he is responsible for maintaining for the RAF.





We were very proud to award certificates to some of our **Year 11** students (many of them pictured here) for two notable achievements, alongside the great work they are already doing to prepare for their GCSE's. Leadership and character development are crucial to us at Thomas Estley and these achievements included leading faculty demonstrations and discussions at a recent Open Evening and speaking so confidently in recent mock interviews that the employers conducting the interviews graded them as 'exceptional'. Great preparation for their future success! Well done everyone.

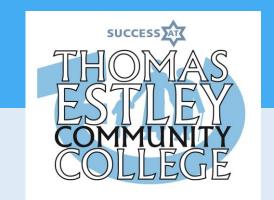
As part of the Geography Curriculum for GCSE, the students need to do a field trip to collect data to investigate 'Inequalities' and 'Use of Transects'.

This year we went to Hinckley to look at new developments, social deprivation and economic changes in the area.

To investigate inequalities students applied skills to do bi-polar surveys, draw field sketches, annotate photographs and compare different retail and residential areas.

We also looked at transects by investigating change in flora along a given line (transect) at Burbage Common. Quadrats (sampling squares) were used to focus on specific areas and record these changes using a systematic sampling strategy.





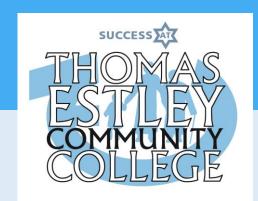
We are very proud of our **school holiday sessions** that we run for our **Year 11** students. Please see below the schedule to assist you in planning your family holidays. We do highly recommend that students attend these sessions as direct teacher facing time is the most beneficial type of revision.

All sessions run from 10am - 2pm with a working lunch and short morning break. Students will need to make their own way to and from college and will need to bring a packed lunch as no catering facilities will be available. Uniform is not required.

A booking form will be sent to parent's email addresses early in the new year to secure your child's place. These sessions are very popular so please book early to avoid disappointment. If you have any questions please contact Mrs Hartley at the college.

FEBRUARY REVISION SCHOOL

Date	Staff delivering	Subject	Room
Monday 20 th February	Mr Curtis	RM	Workshop
Monday 20th February	Mrs Hartley	HSC	IT4
Tuesday 21st February	Miss Kavanagh	Sports Studies	IT4
Tuesday 21st February	Miss Burnett	Textiles	Textiles Room
Wednesday 22 nd February	Mrs Bryan	Enterprise & Marketing	IT4
Wednesday 22 nd February	Mrs Bancroft	Performance Skills	A1
Thursday 23 rd February	Mrs O'Garro	IT	IT4
Thursday 23 rd February	Mrs Bancroft	Dance Practical	Drama Hall



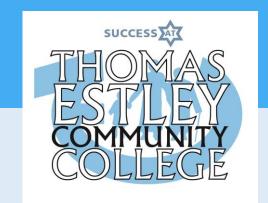
EASTER REVISION SCHOOL

Date	Staff delivering	Subject	Room
Monday 3 rd April	Mrs Strudwick	Art	D1
Monday 3 rd April	Miss Geraghty	Citizenship	H4
Tuesday 4 th April	Mrs Morgan	French	Drama Hall
Tuesday 4 th April	Mrs Cornelius	Spanish	L3
Wednesday 5 th April	Mrs Bryan	Economics	E2
Wednesday 5 th April	Mr Virk	PE	T1
Thursday 6th April	Mr Timmins	Computer Science	IT4
Thursday 6 th April	Mrs Young	Psychology	E2
Tuesday 11th April	Mr Schalkwyk	Geography	Drama Hall
Tuesday 11th April	Miss Plumb	Music	A1
Wednesday 12 th April	Miss Taylor and Mr Smith	English	Drama Hall and T1
Thursday 13 th April	Mrs <u>Ducey</u> and Mrs Taylor	Maths – Higher Tier	Drama Hall
Friday 14 th April	Miss Burton	Biology	Drama Hall

MAY REVISION SCHOOL

Date	Staff delivering	Subject	Room
Tuesday 30 th May	Mrs <u>Ducey</u> and Mrs Taylor	Maths – Foundation Tier	Drama Hall
Wednesday 31st May	Mrs Young	History	Drama Hall
Wednesday 31st May	Mrs Bancroft	Dance Theory	A1
Thursday 1st June	Miss Burton	Physics	Drama Hall
Friday 2 nd June	Mr Corner	Chemistry	Drama Hall
Saturday 10 th June	Mrs <u>Ducey</u> and Mrs Taylor	Maths – Both Tiers	Drama Hall and T1

Prom Handbook



Exciting opportunity for local businesses ©

The **TECC Prom Committee** are creating a Prom Handbook for our students to access goods and services linked to the Prom. Our Prom is on 28th June 2023 at The Royal Arms Hotel in Sutton Cheney. We are creating this handbook as a "one stop shop," for parents and students to select the goods and services they need.

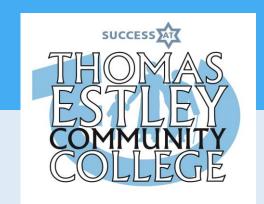
We are looking for prom related businesses, who will be interested in purchasing some advertising space from us, and enjoy the benefit of having this guide circulated to 180 local families. This will be in both electronic and paper format. A great way to target your customers!

An A4 side will cost £75 and half an A4 side will be £50. Our finance team can invoice you directly. You could also offer a Thomas Estley discount code to our students to entice them further. The funds from this endeavour will go to reduce the overall ticket price for all students allowing more to attend.

If you have any questions or you would like to purchase some space in the Prom Handbook please email <u>jhartley@thomasestley.org.uk</u>



Internet Safety

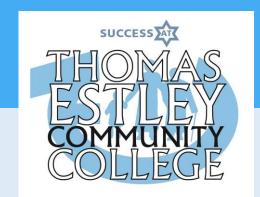




NSPCC (*) UK Safer Internet Centre

important your child is safe; The NSPCC have lots of advice available here!

Internet Safety





SAMINS

Some children are susceptible to gaming addiction in the same way others are susceptible to becoming dependent on alcohol. Click here for advice and support if you feel your child may have an addiction to gaming.

SOCIAL MEDIA SUPPORT

Social Media Pressure - More than eight in 10 (84 per cent) said they think pressure to conform to a certain look is also one of the main causes of mental ill-health among teenagers. For more information about keeping your child safe online, click here



ONLINE SAFETY TIPS

- Ask your child to show you what they enjoy doing online or apps they're using so you can understand them.
- Be positive but also open about anything you're worried about. You could say 'I think this site's really good' or 'I'm a little worried about things I've seen here.'
- Ask them if they're worried about anything, and let them know they can come to you.
- Ask them about their friends online and how they know they are who they say they are.
- Talk to your child about online safety early.
- Ensure you protect your child's personal information.
- · Use parental controls to filter, restrict, monitor and report
- Ensure your child only accesses age appropriate material.
- Know who your child is speaking to online.
- Set online rules and boundaries for example the time allowed online.

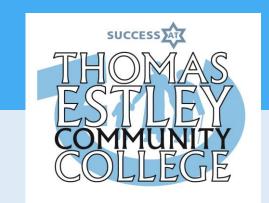
Ref* UKSaferinternet.org.uk Internetmatters.org safewise.com





Modules

Here are some wind turbines from the **STEM Module**. The students looked at sustainable energy and then had to complete a challenge to make a turbine that was powered by wind. If they could they then tried to make their turbine lift a cup, by turning a rotary motion into a linear motion. The students worked really well in teams with many very interesting results. Well done **Year 8**.



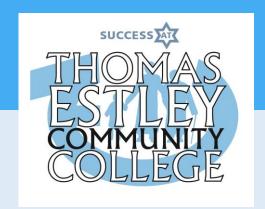


Modules in Action! Our **Year 10** students enjoyed a clubbercise session, as part of their **Health and Wellbeing Module**, which aims to promote active strategies and tips to maximise personal health and wellbeing, as well as to share information around this area with our students.



Christmas Card Competition

Here are some of the fantastic entries for our **Trust's Christmas Card Competition** - the winners will have copies made of their cards for the official Success Academy Trust's Christmas cards..









Congratulations to the winners ...



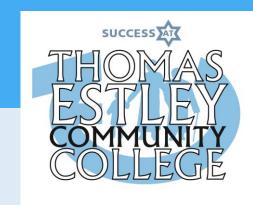
Imogen Buncher



Alyssa Heath

Art, Design & Technology







Year 9 Graphics students have shown great enthusiasm for the 'Urban' project where they focus on grafitti. In this project students had experimented with stencilling, creating their own tags names, researching different artists and producing digital manipulations inspired by the artists.

Here are some fantastic examples of research pages, artist copies, tag names and final pieces!

Well done Year 9!

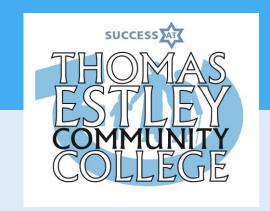
Year 9 students have been working really hard in the Art rotation, focusing on their project 'Weird and Wonderful'. In this project they have been experimenting with a range of different materials and learning about different processes used in Art.

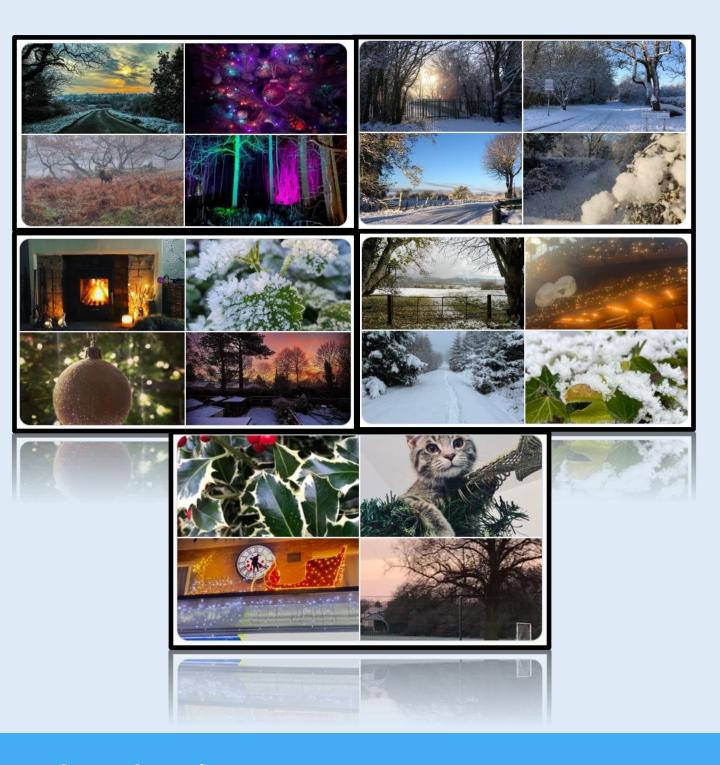
Here are some fantastic examples of observational studies, experiments, artist research and final pieces! Well done Year 9.



Art, Design & Technology

We hope you enjoy these entries for our **December ADT 'Winter' Photography Competition**. There is still time for students to enter if they have not already done so. These images capture the season really well - well done ©





Art, Design & Technology

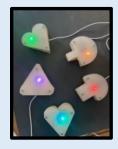
Here are some of the fantastic entries for our **November Remembrance Day Challenge**:

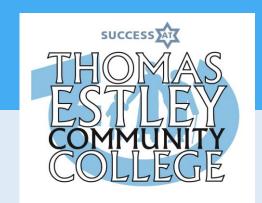


A lightastic display of moodlights designed and created by Mrs Owen's Year 8 Resistant Materials group. They researched, designed and produced these based on 20th century design movements. For many it was their first attempt at wiring and along with revisiting and uplevelling some of their previously learnt skills using the workshop equipment, the students and Mrs Owen agreed that they should be very proud of their achievements.

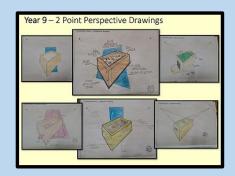








Year 9 Resistant Materials students have produced some excellent 2-point perspective drawings of their products.

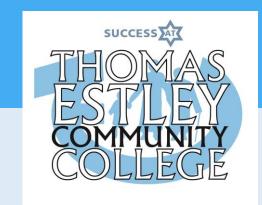




The students had to critically analyse existing products and redesign them to make them more sustainable. A range of hand drawn designs and detailed card models were then produced, before students manufactured their products using a range of specialist tools. We are really impressed with how independently our students have worked to realise their designs and the quality of their outcomes.

Trust Poetry Competition

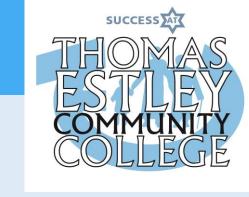
We are so very proud of our Success Academy Trust Poetry Champions, who wrote winning poems celebrating Diversity, our Trust theme for the term. The poems were meaningful and moving, and were performed last night at the Poetry Celebration, to be published next year. Thomas Estley winners included Ed, Kitty and April, pictured below.













Year 11 Boys Football Team were sporting their new kit kindly donated by Readings Property group. Not only did the boys look the part, they played brilliantly too, sealing a comfortable 3-0 win against Lutterworth College. Huge thanks to Readings for helping to support our school teams.







Football success! Both our **Girls** and **Boys Year 7** teams made their National Cup debuts against Welland Park. The girls played on the grass at TECC whilst the boys played on the 3G at the Leisure Centre. Both of our teams showed their strength in comfortable wins. Boys winning 6-0. Goals for Josh (2), Jake, Archy (2), and an OG. Player of the match went to Josh. The girls won 9-1. Goals for Ria (6), Belle (2) & Martha. Player of the girls match was Izzy P. Well done all.

A fantastic performance from our **Year 7 Boys** in their final league match against Brockington College. 2-0 down early in the first half but kept their composure to pull a goal back before half time from Archy. In the second half they stepped up the pressure and came from behind to win 3-2. A second goal from Archy and a goal for Tom. Player of the match went to Harry for a stunning defensive display. Another all round brilliant team performance.

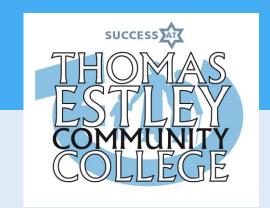


The boys are crowned Blaby/Harborough League champions and await the winner of the other Blaby/Harborough League winners for the overall District Championship decider.

The winner of which will go through to County knock outs. Huge well done to **Year 11** Alfie for managing the team tonight and to Korben in **Year 10** for running the line. Well done boys. We're really proud of you.







Our **Year 11 Girls** were in National Cup football action away at Brookvale Groby. A close first half with 2 goals from Ellabelle meant it was 2-2 at Half Time. Our girls stepped up the pressure in the second half hitting the post and the crossbar before Eve put us ahead and then Charlie made it 4 to secure the win and take us into the next round. Player of the match went to Evie but all credit to all of the girls for a great all round team display.

Mixed results in the National Cup for our Year 7's.

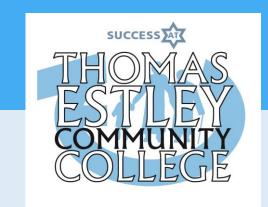
The **boys** have progressed to Round 4 with a 6-2 Win over Higham Lane School, Nuneaton. Goals for Archy (2), Josh (2), Jake and Arthur means the boys are now in the last 128 nationally. Joint players of the match tonight went to Arthur and Kaden another great team display though. Well done Boys, we are very proud of you.

The **girls** were in action against Stratford High School. Despite a hatrick for Ria taking her tally to 13 and a great fight at the end, the girls unfortunately lost 4-3. They should be so proud of themselves though; they didn't give up. Player of the match went to Evie in defence. A great display from her, growing in confidence with every match. Well done, girls..



A brilliant performance from our **Year 9 Boys** football team in their National Cup tie against Lutterworth College. 1-1 at half time thanks to Harvey's goal. A superb second half performance with goals from Jaiden (2), Kai (2) and Owen saw them complete a 6-2 win and comfortably through to a Round 4 tie against Wigston Academy. Well done boys.





Our **U15 Girls footballers** travelled to Coventry to take on Cardinal Newman School in the National Cup.

A storming player of the match performance from Charlie saw her score a hatrick and set up the other 3 goals (2 for Ruby & 1 for Millie) in a 6-1 win.

A very impressive performance considering GK Izzy - who had left her things at school was wearing Miss Kav's boots which are 2 sizes too big for her and a pair of Gardening Gloves donated by Premises officer Rob who had driven us over in the minibus! Well done Girls. Bring on the next round ©



Last 32 in England! Our **U15 Girls Footballers** are safely through to the last 32 in England after a 6-1 away win against Moulton School, Northants. Goals for Maggie (2), Charlie (2), Millie & Ruby.

Another fantastic team performance. Emily was voted opposition's player of the match. Miss Kav chose Summer for our player of the match. Bring on Round 5. Well done girls. We're really proud of you all.

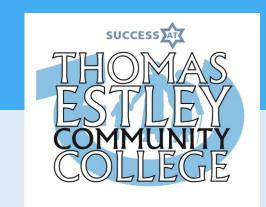


Year 7 Boys are through to Round 5 of the National Cup. The last 64 in England, after a 3-1 win v Cardinal Newman from Coventry. Goals for Josh (2) and Arthur (pen). Player of the match to Harry.









A great end to another busy sports week for our PE Department with a National Cup win for our **U16 Girls Footballers**. The girls travelled to Blue Coat School in Coventry, winning 5-2. Goals for Eve (2), Erynn, Caitlin and Charlie, to send them through to Round 5 and their first home match in this season's competition. Our opposition in the last 32 in England is John Port Spencer Academy from Derby. Another stunning all round Team performance today, with player of the match going to Ella.

Our **U16 Girls** wore they new kit, kindly donated by Westcotes flooring A great Futsal tournament, beating Kibworth 9-0 & Brockington 4-0, before losing 2-1 to Lutterworth High in the deciding match. A brilliant display of talent on show.



Pictured is **Year 7** Ria. What a talent and level of commitment she has! Not only is she a key part of our undefeated Netball Team, she is also part of both our Year 7 & 8 Girls Football Teams - scoring 10 goals in 3 matches. She was also the only Tommo girl at two **County Cross Country** races at Prestwold Hall - finishing in 2nd place in the first race and then 1st place in the second race!! Also congratulations go to Year 8 Jacob who was 4th in the Year 8/9 Boys race.







This means that so far she has been involved in every competitive sporting opportunity at the college so far. What a superstar. Keep up the amazing work, Ria. We are super proud of you and of your sporting achievements.



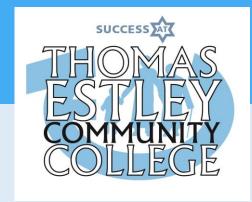




Well done to the boys who gave up their morning to represent the school at **Cross Country** at Prestwold Hall. 26th for Ethan in the **Year 7** Boys Race 9th for Jacob in the **Year 8/9** Boys.

Special mention to Archie who also acted as a hare for some of the Primary School races.

On the **Netball** courts our **Year 11** team won 26-14 and our **Year 10's** won 38-9, both against Lutterworth College. Lots of support again from family members we really appreciate it.







We saw the first of our Blaby & Harborough
Netball finals when our Year 7's travelled to
Market Harborough to take on Welland Park.
Unfortunately, the challenge was too much
for us this time with Welland Park coming
away comfortable winners. A great
achievement for the girls to reach the
District final and we are very proud of our
them, most of them were involved in last
night's tough football match too. Welland
Park voted Evie as their player of the match,
which was thoroughly deserved.

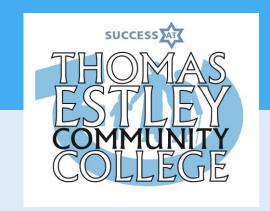




Our 2nd Blaby & Harborough Netball Final was our Year 10's against Lutterworth High. We knew this was going to be difficult as Lutterworth High play in the Saturday leagues so get much more competitive Netball than our girls do. Really impressed with our girls work ethic though. They lost 36-15 but at no point did their heads drop. They fought until the final whistle. A real team effort. Lutterworth voted Summer their player of the match. Well done to Summer and the rest of the team. We are really proud of you.







Our **Year 9's** played their **District Netball Final** v Lutterworth High at the Leisure Centre. Another Lutterworth team packed with high level Netballers unfortunately meant our girls were not able to compete at that level. We are so proud of them for reaching the final though and kept their heads up throughout. Congratulations to Anna who was voted the opposition's player of the match.

Our **Year 8** Girls played their Blaby & Harborough Netball final against an exceptional Lutterworth High team packed with Regional players.

Lutterworth were comfortable winners but we are really proud of the grit and determination that our girls showed keeping their heads up until the final whistle.

Lutterworth voted Eva as their player of the match.

Well done girls.



The last of our Blaby & Harborough Netball Finals was played at Broughton Astley Leisure Centre. It was the turn of our **Year 11's** against Lutterworth High.

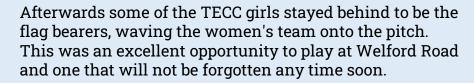
A fantastic display from our girls, unfortunately losing 23-18 but they should be so proud of the fight they put in. Opposition's player of the match went to Eve

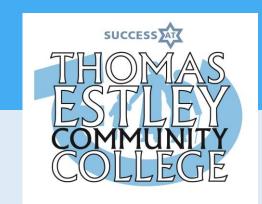






On Saturday 19th November, 6 TECC girls: Leah, Willow, Jodie, Mollie, Isla and Ruby all took part in a curtain raiser **rugby match** before the Leicester Tigers Women's match. This match was put on to increase the awareness and participation levels of girls' rugby! The TECC girls teamed up with Castle Mead to play against Samworth Academy. All of the girls performed brilliantly, especially as some were playing their first ever match.











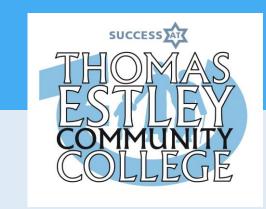
The **Year 8/9** Girls went alone in their first festival together, playing in 1°C weather at Leicester Forest East RFC, winning all three games. There was a clear progression from the gam at Welford Road to the festival, as all the girls played superbly and either scored or assisted a try.

Our **Boys Rugby** teams got their first outing at a festival hosted at Lutterworth Rugby Club. Our **Year 7** Team notched up a win, draw and a loss, whilst our combined **Year 8/9** Team managed a win and a loss. Well done boys. A great display from all of you.



Our **U13 Boys Basketball** team started their Blaby & Harborough League campaign against a very strong Welland Park team at Broughton Leisure Centre. Despite us being without a couple of key players, the boys worked hard and gave it their all. A 19-8 loss, but lots of positives to take on to the next match.

Huge thanks to Year 11 Alfie who refereed the match, showing how important our leadership projects are and just how much opportunity they provide for our students.





Our **Year 8 Boys Basketball Team** were in action at Broughton Leisure Centre against Lutterworth High. A real team effort from them with a player of the match for Theo, the result didn't go their way but they should be proud the hard work put in. Well done again to Year 11 Alfie for refereeing and to the other Year 11 Basketballers Tom, Jayden & Cayden who coached and scored.





Our **Year 8 Boys Basketball** Team next played Brockington with a 39-14 loss but improving every match. Well done boys.

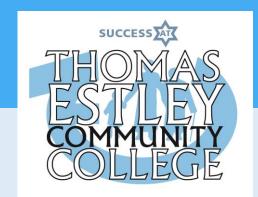


Our **U16 Boys Basketball** Team may not have got the result they wanted in their first match away at Welland Park as the squad were missing two key players but they should be so proud of the amazing team spirit they showed against a very strong team. The final score was a loss of 46-28 but this doesn't reflect the hard work and effort that was shown on the court. And they looked fantastic in their new kits courtesy of Readings Property Group.



Sports Sponsors

We would like to say a big **THANK YOU** to our amazing sponsors this year:



Readings have funded Year 11's Basketball and Football Kit

Westcotes Flooring have funded a new Girls Football Kit

Automated Garage Doors continue to sponsor our Netball bibs and equipment







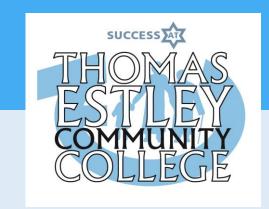






Computer Science & IT

During the last week of October, **KS4** students visited **Bletchley Park Museum** in Milton Keynes, the home of World War 2 codebreakers and the famous Bombe machines used to decrypt messages from the Germans. Learners toured the site and had the Battle of the Atlantic reenacted to them. They participated in codebreaking activities and visited the office of the computing science pioneer, Alan Turing. Learners were told how young women became 'hidden figures'; without their contributions, the highly classified work would not have been possible.









Two teams participated in the **Year 8 CyberFirst Girls' Competition** which ran from 21st – 30th November. An initiative from the National Cyber Security Centre (a part of GCHQ), the aim of the competition is to encourage girls to begin considering a career in Cybersecurity. Girls completed challenges based on the following four categories: logic and coding, networking, cyber security and cryptography.

Well done to TECC Famous Four and TECC Code Busters!

For more free, extracurricular courses for both boys and girls, go to https://www.qa.com/cyberfirst22ta/.

During lessons from 7th - 18th November, learners across **KS3** and **KS4** joined students in over 50 counties in the Bebras Computing Challenge. Questions focused on computational and logical thinking. The following learners were awarded Best in School in their categories:

Juniors (10-12 years): **Aidan Bottrill** and **Lucas Oliver**

Intermediates (12-14 years): **Joel Hopkins** and **Tabby Russell**

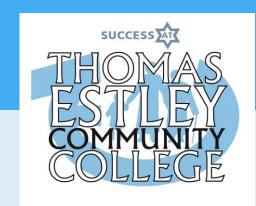
Seniors (14-16 years): Callum Prince



Winners will receive certificates in the New Year. Congratulations to the winners and to all of the learners who had fun participating!

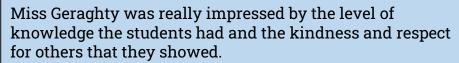
Student Leadership/ Primary Masterclass

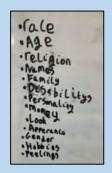
Our Wellbeing Ambassadors visited All Saints
Primary school where they independently prepared
and delivered a Wellbeing and Transition
presentation to Year 6's. Our students led the session
in break out groups, talking to the Year 6 students and
answering questions about how to look after your
wellbeing at secondary school and what life at
Thomas Estley is like. Many students at the end
raised their hands to say that their anxieties about
coming to secondary school had reduced and the Year
6 pupils all engaged brilliantly.

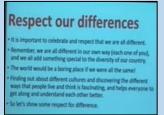




We had the pleasure of having **Year 5** students attend a **Citizenship Masterclass**. Students focused on the topic of diversity, exploring its meaning and why it is important to respect the differences between people. Student ambassadors were involved with helping student identify how people are different and why this is a positive.













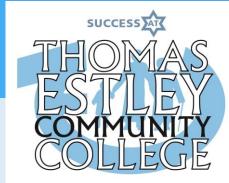
I think it is ingovant to respect other people's differences because and you should treat ready the same way you want to be readed.

Student Leadership/ Primary Masterclass









The Primary Transition leadership students, helped to organise and run both the rounds and the final for the **Year 4 Big English Quiz**. They welcomed six of our feeder schools for the first round of the quiz. They ran the event taking turns to ask the questions and mark the answers, as well as making all the pupils feel welcome ensuring they knew how to complete the rounds and have fun doing so. This was the first time the leaders had experienced this situation and had to face their fears talking in front of so many people. Ava Briers, Ava Frith, Anna Kirk, Alexia Ennis, Chloe Price, Katie Thompson, Ava Davis, Poppy White and Rose Winterton did themselves proud.











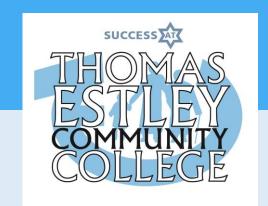


We welcomed six of our feeder schools on site for a day full of **Business and Enterprise**. The pupils were mixed with the other schools, so they got to meet new pupils, learnt to communicate with peers they didn't know, and practice their team building skills. The first task, was to work as a team in making Dice, in the style of a production line. The next task was to design and make a unique Christmas Card, and come up with a unique selling point (USP), to do their pitches later in the day to a panel of Dragons. A fantastic day for all those that took part.



Student Leadership/ Primary Masterclass

Our **Year 9 Sports Specialisms** group welcomed over 50 year 5 pupils from Old Mill Primary School, to a Multi skills session. The sports specialisms group planned the afternoon, the activities putting all the skills they had learnt, to good use. They had to work hard as a team to work out and plan their own activity for the afternoon.



The afternoon was a huge success, and all the students worked so hard, communicating, encouraging, showing and helping every pupil to join in and have fun. We are incredibly proud of all of them, especially as this is the first time they have led this event.



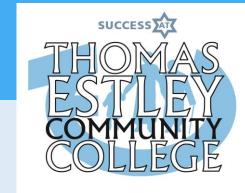
The **Science Masterclass** welcomed year 5 pupils from six of our feeder schools. This was the first time for some pupils being in a science lab. Mr Ansley talked them through the lab, and also Chemical battleships. First, they had to plan out where their ships would sit on the grid. Next the fun bit, wearing goggles the pupils got to use Hydrochloric acid to dot out their ships onto the grid, they were interested to hear that hydrochloric acid is found in the stomach. Once they had plotted their ships, they then filled the rest of the grid with water, they had perfected their pipette skills by this point. Then everyone was ready for their game of battleships, taking turns they had to give a grid reference, and using Universal Indicator and their newly acquired pipette skills they had to put a drop on to their grid, if the grid turned red, they had found the battleship, as hydrochloric acid changes the indicator to red. Everyone had a fantastic time and a big thank you to our brilliant Primary Transition leaders.



Cooking Challenge

More delicious entries from our Can you Cook it? Challenge. Yum! Well done, everyone.

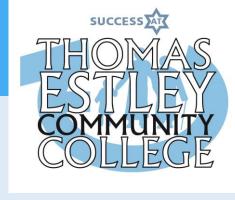
















Week 8





























































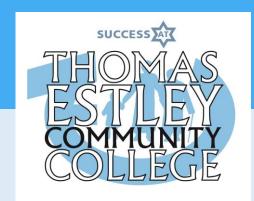




Week 14

Christmas Shopping Event

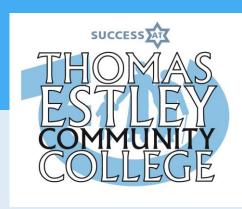
We were delighted to host the first **Friends of Thomas Estley** Christmas Shopping Event. Thank you to all the fantastic stall holders and the local community: a great atmosphere, a wonderful range of products, and over £500 raised for Friends of Thomas Estley college and preschool funds. A great night!





Black History Month

Leicester City in the Community invited six students to the King Power Stadium as part of **Black History**Month events. The students were great ambassadors for Thomas Estley. They took part in workshops and the question and answer session, for say 'No Room for Racism', as part of the Black History Month. They had a packed afternoon doing various activities set by the LCFC inspired coaches. They worked hard and had a very mature attitude towards all the tasks. The students made a pledge, which we are impressed with, for no room for racism, to have at our school and to work hard to keep. The question and answer session was informative, with past and present players of LCFC talking about their experience in racism, both here and abroad.













The Library celebrated **Black History Month** with a
focussed display and an
extensive choice of relevant
books, pictured here.
Providing one of a series of
focus opportunities this year
to consider our diversity and
celebrate our differences
together.

Our ADT October challenge for **Black History Month** involved researching some famous black artists and creating a portrait of a celebrity in the style of the chosen artist. Some amazing attempts made the final vote a really close call, so a big well done to the eventual winners:

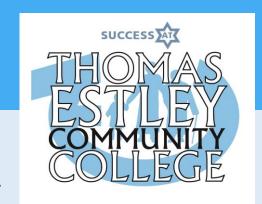
1st place - portrait of Adele 2nd place- portrait of Judi Love 3rd place - portrait of LCFC player Ndidi Well done!





Elsewhere in College

It was a delight to present our first **Gold Reward Certificates** this academic year - for points gained through fantastic attitude to learning demonstrated consistently in lessons. We are really proud of you all. We hope you all enjoyed the pizza and early lunch pass too as a small reward for your efforts. Some of our gold award students are pictured here.





Year 7 Drama success! Here are just a few examples of the creative homework produced in Drama lessons - the enthusiasm and energy of the groups on practicals has also been exemplary. Well done, everyone!





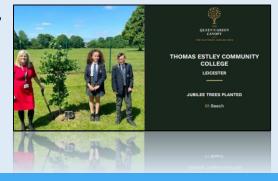


We received this from the **Queen's Green Canopy** organisation - we encourage other local community organisations to take part too in this important project:

Thank you for your contribution to this special initiative, which we hope will inspire countless others. With your support we are creating a greener UK and a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the nation, which will benefit future generations.

Yours sincerely

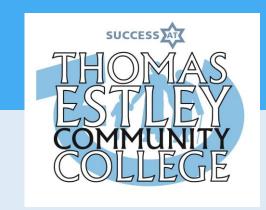
The Queen's Green Canopy



Elsewhere in College







Congratulations to our Thomas Estley **Primary Out Of School Club** Halloween design winners! The four age groups were foundation, years 1-2, years 3-4, and years 5-6. Well done everyone; some fabulous designs!

We were so impressed with the skilled **Year 9 Chefs** who made Focaccia Breads with vegetable and herb designs. Here are a few examples. Perfect as a snack or to partner a tasty pasta dish if they managed to reach home \bigcirc



Our Year 10 Child Development class completed a research visit to the TECC preschool. The staff and children helped the students with their 2nd piece of coursework. The students are tasked with designing an inside play area that satisfies the early years framework and is also safe for the preschool age group. The students prepared some questions to ask the staff and children and also noted down safety features. The students also practised some of their communication techniques whilst speaking with the children - for example height level talking and animated facial expressions.

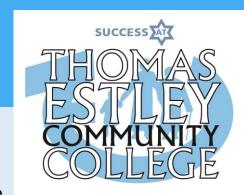


The preschool children really enjoyed a visit from the "big kids," and were very confident in their interactions. We look forward to visiting again to show our final layouts; we are so lucky to have a preschool onsite to visit.

Child Development is a new course at college and will be open for Year 9 students to pick when they make their options after Christmas.

Elsewhere in College

We have been awarding leadership certificates to students who have gone above and beyond in leading areas of the college. Pictured are some of the students in **Years 7 to 10** who represented the college and our subject faculties at our recent Open College events. We are very proud of their confidence, the evident growth in their leadership abilities and their readiness to go above and beyond. Well done everyone!





Thomas Estley **Primary Out of School Club** had a fantastic Christmas party with food, fun and much enjoyment ©



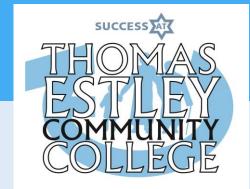
Merry Christmas – Meet the Children from **7D** in the Oaks, giving gifts to our special guest, Laura for her lovely daughter for Christmas.

The students did a fantastic job, wrapping presents and making cards.



Attendance





Our commitment to providing an education of the highest quality includes ensuring the high attendance of our students to enable them to reach their full potential and to instil in them the routines needed which are the same as will be expected by future employers, as well as helping with their wellbeing and wider life chances. Your support in this is paramount.

If you have any queries regarding the school attendance policy and requirements and what is required of us as a school by the local authority or would like to arrange a meeting to discuss any issues you may have regarding your child's attendance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Working together will ensure that our students receive the education they deserve as well as any help where needed.

Natalie Johnston, Attendance Officer

njohnston@thomasestley,org.uk



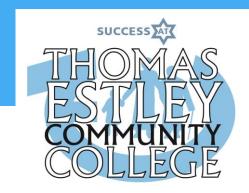






Don't Forget!





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!

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:

The school website (www.thomasestley.org.uk) Radio Leicester Parentmail



College closes to students on Friday 16th December and re-opens Tuesday 3rd January

Mobile phones

Students are not allowed to use mobile phones in college unless 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.

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.

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 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.