

Welcome To Our Thomas Estley Newsletter December 2024



A Community of
Courage and
Commitment to
Success

What's Inside...

03

Dates For The Diary

Important dates for next term.

04

A Word From The Principal

A message from Mrs Collins about the second half of autumn term.

05

Ofsted Inspection October 2024

Feedback from our recent Ofsted inspection.

06

Spotlight On Year 11

What year 11 have been up to this term and important information.

08

High Achievers

Thomas Estley Way, SSAT, PEPA and maths highest achievers this term.

10

Careers

Modules and an alumni assembly!

11

Attendance

Attendance policy reminder.

12

Wellbeing Conference

Learn about our day with 140 primary school pupils!

13

Trips

From De Montfort University to St George's Park.



14

SuccessFest

SAT's annual celebration of performing arts.

15

Christmas Concerts

Carols at the church and seasonal festivities at the college.

16

Christmas Fair

How we started off the Christmas season and an important message.

17

Highlights This Term...

What students and staff have been up to this term.

20

Sport

Basketball, football and much more...

25

Don't Forget!

Important reminders and college rules.

26

Primary Masterclasses

From Italian to wheelchair basketball.

28

Preschool & OOSC

Take a look at what our preschool & out of school club children have been up to!

29

Outside Tommo

Our brilliant students' outside of college achievements.

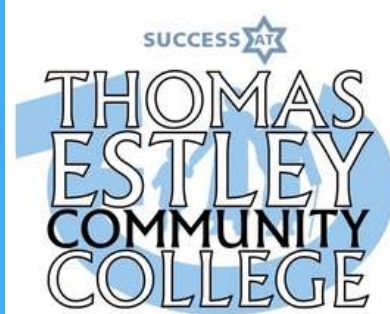
31

Advertisements

Information about teacher training.



Dates For The Diary



6th January

Staff Training Day

7th January

College Reopens To Students

15th January

Year 11 Parents Evening (Remote)

16th January

Year 9 Booster Jabs

Year 11 Parents Evening (Remote)

20th January

Computer Specialisms Outreach Trip

21st January

Year 10 Geography Field Trip

22nd January

Year 9 SEND Parent Clinic (Remote)

Resistant Materials Masterclass

25th January

World Religion Day

27th January

Holocaust Memorial Day

28th January

Year 10 Geography Field Trip

29th January

Social Studies Primary Masterclass

Chinese New Year

1st February

LGBTQ+ History Month Begins

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Begins

4th February

Year 8 Future Pathways Evening

5th February

Year 4 Maths Primary Masterclass

11th February

Safer Internet Day

12th February

Year 10 Parents Evening (Remote)

13th February

Year 10 Parents Evening (Remote)

14th February

College Closes For Spring Half Term



Assessments/Exams

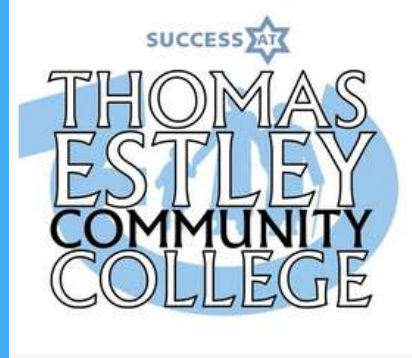
13th-24th January

Year 9 Assessment Fortnight

20th-24th January

Hospitality & Catering Practical Exams

A Word From The Principal



Dear parents and carers,

At Thomas Estley, it has been a half term brimming over with achievements and opportunities. We were delighted to have such a positive Ofsted outcome, rated good in all categories, which is a result of sustained commitment, determination and hard work from our whole college staff and student team. Students have continued to excel in their learning, as well as in many sporting, performance art and subject related opportunities, and in a whole set of successful leadership projects. We are proud to 'Build Leadership and Character Together' and over 200 students have already begun one or more of this year's Thomas Estley leadership projects, improving both their community and their leadership skills, while three more of our students have achieved SSAT Gold Leadership accreditation and the college has achieved a coveted award as an 'Equal Access Sport' school.

Enhancement opportunities this term in Maths and Computing had a problem-solving focus, and our students have visited local primary schools and welcomed children in to teach Computing, Italian, Cooking, Art and Enterprise skills. We have hosted a local performing arts festival and a Christmas concert, and a record number of our sports teams and athletes have achieved team and individual awards, as well as awards for writing. We have begun a set of intergenerational kindness and communication projects, building new community relationships, which we plan to expand next term.

Our new diversity calendar this half term has included building awareness of Christian, Jewish and Hindu faiths and festivals, culminating in our church carol services this week, and we have trained hundreds of staff and pupil wellbeing ambassadors onsite to support schools across South Leicestershire. I am incredibly proud of the achievements of our students and staff, and would like to thank you for your support, which helps us to achieve all that we do. I wish you a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy 2025.

Warmest wishes,



Mandi Collins, Principal

Ofsted Inspection October 2024

SUCCESS 

THOMAS
ESTLEY
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

The school prioritises pupils' wider personal development. There is a well-considered programme that helps pupils develop their character and leadership skills. This includes a wide range of opportunities, including as eco- or well-being ambassadors, teaching and learning researchers, or preschool readers. In the wider community, pupils are involved with charity work and projects in local primary schools. A variety of clubs support the development of pupils' talents and interests in sport, the performing arts and other pursuits.

The school is determined that all pupils are well prepared for living in modern Britain. Pupils learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy. They consider the importance of respecting diversity and fundamental British values. Visitors to the school help to broaden pupils' understanding of different faiths and cultures. Trips and visits further enrich the curriculum.

Pupils have access to information about colleges, apprenticeships and employers. They are well informed about their future choices.

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.

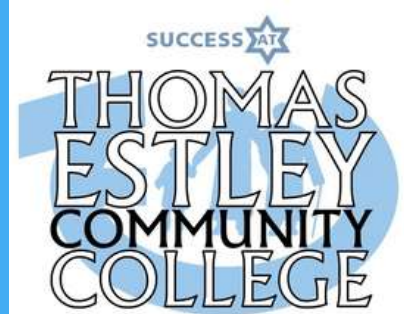
The school is aspirational for all pupils. There are high expectations for pupils' academic achievements.

Pupils behave well in lessons and around school. They understand the consequences of poor behaviour. Staff apply these fairly. Pupils are proud to earn rewards for good conduct and hard work.

Teachers are subject experts. They help pupils grasp subject-specific vocabulary. Typically, new learning is explained clearly and this helps pupils link new knowledge to what they know already. Questions are designed carefully to check understanding and challenge pupils to think deeply. Pupils respond well. They try hard in lessons and produce work of a good quality.

The school has developed a broad and ambitious curriculum. It is organised in a way that helps pupils build on what they have learned previously. A small number of pupils, including those in the specially resourced provision for pupils with SEND, benefit from personalised learning pathways. Weak readers are identified quickly and get the support they need to improve their reading confidence and fluency. In Years 10 and 11, most pupils study the full range of English Baccalaureate subjects. The curriculum is challenging and prepares pupils well for their next steps.

Spotlight On Year 11



We are holding the year 11 prom at The Royal Arms Sutton Cheney from 6-10pm on Tuesday 8th July 2025. The event is open to all current year 11 students at Thomas Estley. As this is a rewards event there is a criterion to be able to attend, and we are very confident that all the children will be eligible. The criteria is below and runs from 6th January until year 11's last exam:

- No suspensions from college
- No more than 10 negative choice points in any one school week

Tickets are available to purchase through ParentMail. The cost is £49 and this includes: private hire of the venue/marquee, red carpet arrival, area for arrival of prom vehicles, private photograph area for parents, canapés and reception soft drinks, a two-course evening meal, professional photographer, all decorations, awards and prizes, evening entertainment and a disco. The ticket can be paid in installments or in full by 1st May 2025.



Mon 17th Feb	Art RM Textiles	ES CTC SW
Tues 18th Feb	Biology	RHI
Wed 19th Feb	Chemistry	RC
Thur 20th Feb	Sport Studies (CW) French	SK GC
Fri 21st Feb	Dance (Practical) Hospitality and Catering	DB KO
Monday 14th April	Citizenship Drama History	VG AB RF
Tuesday 15th April	Maths Higher Sports Studies (Exam)	RHA SD SK
Wed 16th April	PE (CW) Music	MV EP
Thur 17th April	Psychology 1-5 English Lit and Lang	SL NS
Tue 22nd April	Geography	RAS
Wed 23rd April	6-9 English Lit and Lang Media	ESL ET
Thur 24th April	Dance (Practical) Computer Science	DB ET
Tuesday 27th May	Statistics	RHA
Wed 28th May	Dance (Theory) PE (Exam)	DB MV EHA
Thur 29th May	Spanish	CAC
Fri 30th May	Maths Foundation	RHA SD
Sat 31st May	Eng Lang (All abilities)	ESL

We are very proud of our comprehensive revision sessions that we run for all year 11 students at Thomas Estley. These sessions are all onsite and run in the February, Easter and May school holidays. All sessions, unless stated otherwise, run 10am-2pm. Students will be in non-uniform and will need to bring a packed lunch; as the catering services will be closed for the holidays. Students will also need to make arrangements for travel to and from college.

Whilst we cannot make these sessions compulsory, they are exceptionally beneficial, and are one of the reasons for the high results we have had over the last three years. We advise all students to attend for all of their subjects. Students will still have a break from school, as there are only two subjects running each day.

Please only book students onto session for subjects that they take. We have had parents, in the past, booking students onto sessions when they do not take that course. If you are unsure, please check on Satchel. If there are two subjects running at the same time, then please pick the one that will be more beneficial for your child.

Please complete the online booking form with your booking requirements by 8th January 2025 and you will receive a receipt detailing the bookings you have made.

If you have any questions please email Mrs Hartley on jhartley@thomasestley.org.uk or call the college on 01455 283 263.

Spotlight On Year 11



Child development students in year 11 completed their practical assessment for their unit entitled 'Nutritional Needs of 0-5 Year Olds'. The exam board stipulated that students needed to select and make a nutritionally complete breakfast suitable for a 2-3 year old. We considered the nutritional needs of this age group and also considered government dietary recommendations.

The students needed to balance the calorie demands of the 2-3 year olds and make the breakfast in a safe and hygienic manner. The portion size and presentation also needed to be fit for the age group.

Students will now go on to complete an extended piece of evaluative writing to complete this unit.

Thomas Estley pupils in year 11 took part in the GCHQ Christmas challenge in their maths lesson.

The pupils had to put their problem-solving skills to the test and persevere to complete a series of puzzles which included logic problems, code breaking and linguistic challenges.

We are very proud of how our pupils did, and of the resilience and determination they showed.



High Achievers



A huge congratulations goes to our three Thomas Estley student leaders who achieved SSAT gold level accreditation this autumn term. This evidences outstanding performance in leadership across ten areas, involving a vast portfolio of evidence. We are so very proud of you all, and we know you will go on to make fantastic leaders within your future career pathways.

We are very proud of this term's highest Thomas Estley Way positive character points achievers. Well done!



A special mention for our students who received the highest number of positive points this term!



Also this term, it was privilege to award Thomas Estley Way gold certificates to a record number of students who achieved a huge number of positive points across the full range of character traits, demonstrating kindness, respect, courage, resilience and perseverance, as well as representing the college in a range of leadership opportunities, sporting events and performances.

Well done to all of you for being great Thomas Estley Way role models!

High Achievers

Well done to our current PEPA faculty star, Ava! Ava has had a great start to year 8 in PE and performing arts. She is full of enthusiasm in dance, music & drama, showing focus and courage where required.

In PE, Ava has been amazing. She works really hard in lessons showing leadership skills by coaching her peers.

Additionally, Ava is captaining the year 8 netball team this year and is also a key member of our U13 girls football team.

Well done Ava, a fantastic way to start year 8.



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

Year 7

Vadym Pavlyk
Emily Kent
Isabel Hurst
Sophie Dix
Jess Chapman
Isabella Babic
Liam Palmer
Alexa Glanville
George Philps
Elsie Clay
Jacob Summers
Sonny Chivers
Bella Love
Eva Hecker
Hugo Matthews
Aidan Kelly

Year 8

Rocco Rowarth
Emma Pryor
Ava Gillespie
Alfie Russell
Serena Shafique-Ali
Alfie Day
Jessica Pearce
William Pullen
Hamza Asim
Mai Noonan
George Blackwell
Cerys Buckle
Adam Smith
Lucia Jones-Rojas
Arthur Bradshaw
Talyia Compton-Luck

Year 9

Mille Leedham
Chloe Rathbone
Izzy Wood
Reuben Leyland
Finlay Mawby
Francisco Batista
Aoife McLaughlin
Megan Lawson
Dion Jackson
Casey Gilbert
Ella Briers
Max Mead
Ava Blencowe
Aidan Bottrill
Izzy Porter
Madison Buncher

Year 10

Amelia Scott
Alfie Commons
Georgie Draper
Elsie Darlison
Lilly Lucas
Rosie Tench
Malvin Magede
Ebony Niner
Zara Ball
Lilly Dawson
Amie Bates
Elisa Norman
Roxy Mead
Amelia Zarcone
Oliver Cahill
Serena Gower

Year 11

Maisie Dixey
Jude Lloyd
Grace Singleton
Imogen Buncher
Amber Davey
Adam West
Harrison Cross
Violet Woolley
Sean Brown
Jake Satchwell
Jaiden Key
Noah Cooper
Ruben Odeku
Jake Guscott
Summer West
Archie Brosnan

Careers



Our Thomas Estley students took part in personal development based module days at the end of last term.

Year 7 explored community kindness and diversity, year 8 studied STEM pathways, year 9 learned how to manage their money in the real world, year 10 focused on developing their wellbeing and perseverance, and year 11 planned their future pathways.

Well done to all the students who engaged really well and developed skills to benefit them in their future and adult life.



We had the privilege to hear from Ben Hayward in an alumni assembly. Ben was one of our 2022 leavers and went on to study A Levels at Beauchamp City 6th Form. He talked through his journey from leaving Thomas Estley to securing a place at Cambridge University studying medicine.

Ben provided a real insight into the application process for Cambridge and for medicine, talking through the additional assessments that students have to complete and the interview process for both Cambridge and other universities. He also talked to us about life at university and what a typical week would look like, from lectures to lab work and even dissections!

We are extremely proud of Ben and look forward to hearing updates about his time studying medicine again in the near future. Thank you Ben for an insightful and inspiring assembly.



Attendance

We kindly ask that all absences are reported to the school daily, along with a brief explanation of the reason for the absence. Please avoid general terms such as "ill," "unwell" or "poorly."

If a student is absent for four or more days, we may require medical evidence to authorise the absence. If medical evidence cannot be provided, a home visit may be arranged to check in on the student's wellbeing.

Our school and the Local Authority aim for an attendance rate of 96%. If a student's attendance falls below 90%, they may be considered as persistently absent by the Local Authority, regardless of the reason.

You can find our full attendance policy online, and we encourage you to review it for a clearer understanding of our processes and attendance coding.

If you have any concerns or questions about your child's attendance, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Johnston at 01455 283 263 or via email at njohnston@thomasestley.org.uk.

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

Wellbeing Conference



Thomas Estley welcomed 140 primary aged children from twenty-two Leicestershire schools for the Primary Wellbeing Conference.

Students had active workshops based upon digital maturity, empathy and the role of NHS partners. Most importantly, pupils spent time working on action plans to deliver their skills and knowledge within their own school communities.

Many thanks to our partner The White Horse for supporting us with parking facilities and to our own Thomas Estley student ambassadors for facilitating the event.

Trips



Thomas Estley students joined our Broughton Astley community in remembering those who sacrificed their lives for our peace and safety on Remembrance Day.

Some of our Thomas Estley year 8 and 9 footballers (right) spent a morning at the Leicester City training ground at Seagrave. We were invited so that the U18 Leicester City scholars could work on their UEFA C coaching license.

Our students worked really hard throughout the morning, showing respect to the young coaches. They were put through their paces with passing, defending and shooting drills and really enjoyed the event. Thank you, Leicester City, for giving our students such a great experience.



Our year 10 drama students (above) had the privilege of attending De Montfort University for a special skills workshop. They worked together with students from other schools to hone their practical theatre skills.

Our university links across many areas have grown this year, to access expertise and also to ensure our students are aware of higher education pathways.



Many members of our Thomas Estley year 10 boys football team had the opportunity to visit the home of England football at St George's Park.

Alongside a guided tour of the facilities, the students got full access to the first team changing/boot room and had a two hour training session with England FA coaches. A trip thoroughly enjoyed by all – thank you to St George's Park for inviting the team!



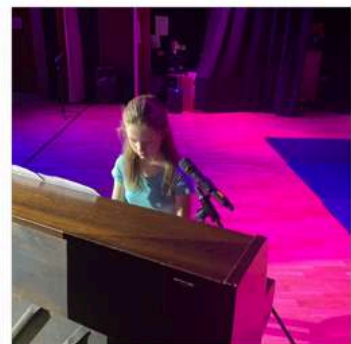
SuccessFest

Thomas Estley hosted Success Academy Trust's annual celebration of the performing arts, SuccessFest, where students from each of our trust schools showcase their talents for family and friends in a collaborative performance.

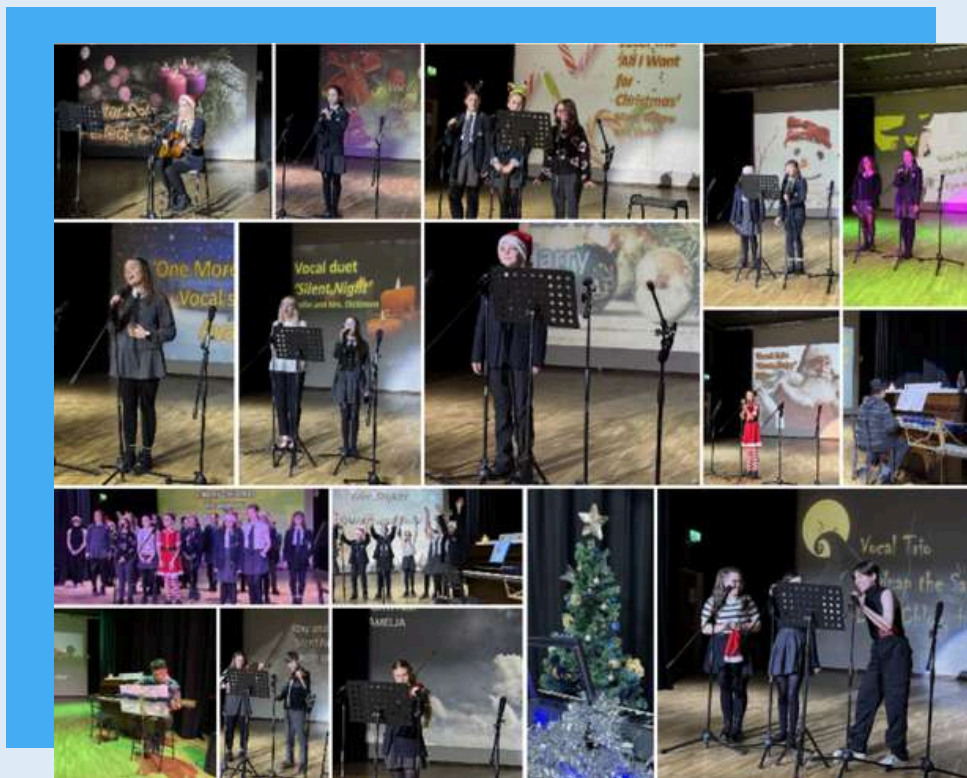
Pictured are Thomas Estley students who were fantastic ambassadors for the arts and made us all very proud.

A huge congratulations to all students who performed. It was great to see such an array of talents, from football skills to magic tricks (and everything in between).

Thank you to everyone who supported the event. We are already looking forward to next year!



Christmas Concerts



Capturing our first real taste of the spirit of Christmas, Thomas Estley Christmas Concert featured a range of performances from students in years 7-11, demonstrating not only talent, but also our Thomas Estley Way character traits.

Well done to everyone who took part in performances, as well as Ella, Zac, Maisie and Malvin, some of our performing arts student leaders, who supported back stage and in hospitality roles.

We are very proud of you all and of the high quality of the evening's performances.



During the last week of term, all Thomas Estley year 7 and 8 students visited our local church, St Mary's, for a carol service. This featured student performances and readings as well as several changes to sing carols and Christmas songs together. Our Centre students also came along and performed.

Thank you to St Mary's for hosting us. We were very proud of the respect and enthusiasm shown by our students, both for the event itself and for the experience of the Christian faith, within the true spirit of Christmas.

Our students also learned about the Jewish festival of Hanukkah in their assemblies.

Christmas Fair

We hosted a wonderful Christmas fair at Thomas Estley – thank you to everyone who came along for what was a lovely introduction to the festive season!



COPING AT CHRISTMAS

The Added Pressures of Christmas can be Tough, but it's Important to know there's always Someone you can Talk to...

NHS 111 online

Call 111 & select option 2 to speak to the NHS Mental Health Crisis Response Service 24/7

[Nhs.uk/mental-health](https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health)

PAPYRUS

Under 35s can Call 0800 068 4141, Text: 88247 or Email: pat@papyrus-uk.org 24/7

[Papyrus-uk.org](https://www.papyrus-uk.org)

SAMARITANS

Call 116 123 to talk to Samaritans, or email: jo@samaritans.org for a reply within 24 hours

[Samaritans.org](https://www.samaritans.org)

MIND

Call MIND's Mental Health Helpline 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday on 0300 102 1234

[Mind.org.uk](https://www.mind.org.uk)

shout
85258

Text "SHOUT" to 85258 to contact the Shout Crisis Text Line, or text "YM" if you're under 19

[Giveusashout.org](https://www.giveusashout.org)

CALM

Mental Health Forum & Chat for Men from 5pm - midnight every day Call or Whatsapp 0800 585858

[Thecalmlzone.net](https://www.thecalmlzone.net)

[ChristmasCountdown.uk](https://www.ChristmasCountdown.uk)

The holiday season can bring joy, but it can also add extra stress and pressure for many families. If you or someone you know is finding it tough, please remember that help is always available.

The image (left) provides details of several organisations offering support for mental health and wellbeing. These services are accessible 24/7 or during extended hours, ensuring there's always someone to talk to when needed.

Whether it's for yourself or a loved one, these organisations are here to help. Let's look out for each other this Christmas.

Highlights This Term...

Our Thomas Estley year 10 health and social care group were lucky enough to meet Jack. Jack attends our luncheon club and spoke to the class about the challenges of being elderly, and how his life has changed during this life stage. The health and social care class have a piece of coursework which asks them to explore expected milestones, in this life stage, and how life events impact people.

Jack spoke to us about his interesting life in the army, the police force and the joy of being a grandparent. He also spoke to the girls about how mobility and senses deteriorate over time. Thank you Jack - you made our day and helped the class learn through your experiences.



We welcomed six teams from our feeder schools, to take part in the the Year 4 Big English Quiz. The primary transition leaders ran all the rounds and did an amazing job in front of so many parents.

The final was very fast paced, and some of the rounds had been written by our primary transitions leaders themselves, another smooth event run again by our students. In the end it was Old Mill who got the highest score and were our winners for this year.

A big well done to all the pupils who took part over the two weeks - you should be so proud at how well you did. Some of our student leaders who helped were themselves in teams when they were in year 4, so hopefully there will also be some future primary transition leaders in the making!



Once again, Thomas Estley year 8 girls participated in the annual CyberFirst girls competition organised by the National Cyber Security Centre. The girls tackled computing challenges in cryptography, logic, networking and artificial intelligence. Well done, girls!

Highlights This Term...

Our Thomas Estley health and social students helped serve Christmas lunch to our seniors luncheon club. This is part of our Thomas Estley intergenerational and kindness focus this year.

It is lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves together, whatever their age.



Students enjoyed a tasty Christmas dinner complete with party hats and bad jokes!

Thanks go to our wonderful catering team who served it up, as always, with enthusiasm and a smile.



Part of our Thomas Estley PE curriculum involves the students working on their teamwork skills. These include co-operation, communication and problem solving.

The group were given challenges which included getting their whole team jumping as a unit, as well as moving as a unit across numerous ropes. Some great skills on show. Well done!



Highlights This Term...

SUCCESS 

THOMAS
ESTLEY
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

So, what can we do to show that we do not agree with the racism in sport, and in society in general?

Pay £1 to come to school in red. The money will then be donated to the Show Racism the Red Card Charity so that we can help to educate people that racism is not acceptable in any form



We are delighted that our non-uniform wear red day last term raised £589.92 for 'Show Racism The Red Card'.

Thank you to all who contributed. We are proud to support this important initiative to combat racism in sport and in our community.



Writers from Thomas Estley received certificates (above) to celebrate the selection of their writing (fiction and non-fiction completed in the 2023 academic school year) for publication in 'The Young Writers' Annual Showcase'.

The arrival of the book is eagerly anticipated and demonstrates a cumulation of hard work, success and creativity.



Here are our Thomas Estley trees pictured across all four seasons, full of welcome, resilience and promise. (Photos courtesy of Ms Little).



Our library and both reception areas entered into the Christmas spirit!

TECC NEWSLETTER | 19

We said thank you to the stars in our school! Our support staff are an amazing team of people who work tirelessly to help our children thrive and achieve and for our college to run smoothly. We are so very proud of them all.

Students wrote their thank yous onto stars (some pictured here) and teaching and leadership staff recorded their thank you messages for an appreciation video. We are so proud of our support staff stars.





Our Thomas Estley U13 girls footballers (below) travelled to the north of the county for their third round the National Cup match against Loughborough High School, and what a performance it was!

A very comfortable 8-0 win with three goals from Willow, two goals from Grace, two from Ellie and one from Freya.

The girls dominated from the off. Loughborough didn't test Lydia once in goal and we played some great football across the pitch.

Our Thomas Estley year 7 girls footballers (above) made their way safely through to round 3 of the National Cup after a dominant display against Stratford High School.

Verity put us ahead early on and we didn't look back. There were then lots of chances that just wouldn't go in, before Willow doubled our lead. Grace then picked the ball up and ran through the Stratford team from the half way line to make us comfortable going into half time.

The second half was the same strong display. Verity finally got our fourth and her second before then hitting the post with a great solo effort. Stratford got a consolation own goal just before the final whistle to make it 4-1, but with such a strong team display they had no chance of getting back into the game.

Well done, girls. Every one of you had an impact on the game - you should be proud of yourselves.

Player of the match went to Verity.

Well done girls. A brilliant team display to take us comfortably through to round 4.



Loughborough chose Willow as player of the match and Miss Kav chose Grace.





Two National Cup football games were played on the same night for our Thomas Estley students.

Our year 7 boys played Robert Smyth in their third round match. Two goals from Charlie put us 2-0 up in a close first half. Robert Smyth pulled one back just after half time before our Tommo boys stepped it up. Goals from Jacob and Shay secured a 4-1 win to see the boys through to round 4. Player of the match went to Dougie.

On the next pitch our U14 girls were playing their round 3 match against Lutterworth College. A slow start saw us go behind on five minutes. The girls battled well though and Lily got us back in it with a great goal.

In the second half we dominated the play. Freya C got our second before Ria scored a brace to give us a 4-1 victory.

Lutterworth chose Honey as player of the match and Miss Kav chose Evie. A superb night for our teams in the National Cup. Well done all. We're really proud of all of you!



What an inspiration Thomas Estley alumni Sophia Poor is, particularly for our current girls football teams. She showcases the power of courage, resilience and perseverance along with fantastic talent.

In the first ever Panini sticker album for women's football, 18 year old Aston Villa star Sophia gets a shiny sticker. Wow!

We are all so proud of Sophia and continue to follow her success with Villa and England. What a great role model for all of our students!

Sport

More football National Cup victories! Both our Thomas Estley year 7 girls and boys teams were in action in their respective National Cup competitions against Brookvale Groby Academy.

Our teams were stunning. Both the boys and girls took time to settle and at half time the boys were 3-3 and the girls 2-1 ahead.

The second half we really stepped it up on both pitches. Willow scored five goals to make her tally for the match six and the girls finished 7-2, Verity getting our other goal to make us comfortable winners. Another superb team performance with special mentions for Kendall and player of the match Grace who kept Brookvale's midfielder quiet throughout the match.

The boys completely dominated their second half, adding seven more goals to finish 10-3 winners. Great work across the pitch, special mentions to Jacob, Dougie and Alfie with player of the match going to Shay.

We really do have some very talented footballers in year 7! Well done to everyone and a huge thanks to the many parents who came along to support.



Shortly after the Brookvale matches, our U13 girls reached the last 32 in England, meaning all of our KS3 teams got through to this stage!

Freya scored against Arden School from Solihull after only a few seconds when her shot went off an Arden defender. She then made it two half way through the first half after some great work from Willow who created the space for her.



Arden came out hard in the second half and pulled one back with a header but we picked up the pace. Our passing skills were brilliant and we timed tackles to perfection. Freya got her hat-trick to seal the win and take the girls through to round 5.

Arden voted Willow player of the match. Another stunning Tommo display though in all areas of the pitch. Well done, girls!



Sport

The year 7 boys basketball campaign began with a tournament at Welland Park. The team secured some convincing wins over hosts Welland Park, Lutterworth High and then Robert Smyth in their final game.

However, they came up short vs Kibworth and overall winners Lutterworth College, but competed well in both games.

A great team performance from the boys with a special mention to Theo for his outstanding all round performance. Well done boys!



Thomas Estley boys football teams were in action in their final league matches away at Countesthorpe. Year 7 put on another dominant display with a convincing win to sit them firmly top of the league. A great first match for Alfie who had been out through injury.

Year 10 managed a close 2-1 win and year 8 were unfortunate, losing 3-2. This meant Countesthorpe qualify for the knock outs.

The year 9 team won without kicking a ball, as Countesthorpe conceded the match. Well done, everyone!

A very tight National Cup girls football match was played against close rivals Brockington.

We took the lead in the first half through Lily and had many more chances. Brockington got back into the game early in the second half from a corner to make it 1-1. It was then end to end nervous football, where either team could have got the winner. Just as we were starting to think about the dreaded penalties Macie put her foot through the ball on the half way line, it went over the Brockington keeper who just managed to get her fingertips on it and it trickled into the goal to secure the win!

Well done, girls. Player of the match went to Lily.



Sport

Year 8, 9, 10 & 11 all played their district semi finals in the same week. Year 8 met a well organised Lutterworth College team, the others all met Lutterworth High.

Unfortunately, we just weren't strong enough in year 8, 9 & 10 and our opposition were comfortable winners, but well done to our girls for keeping their heads up and displaying great resilience.

The year 11 match was a much closer affair. At 12-12 after full time and 13-13 after extra time, the match went to golden goal. Lutterworth just edged it to see them through to the district final.

We are so proud of the determination they showed. They should be so pleased with themselves. A fantastic match to be a part of.



Our year 7 netballers (left) played in the Blaby & Harborough netball finals at Welland Park Academy.

This year it was in a tournament format with our girls playing matches against Robert Smyth, Welland Park and Kibworth.

Although we didn't win, we had lots of positives to take forward. Huge improvements were made, listening skills were strong and team spirit was fantastic. Well done girls, overall third place is a great achievement in your first year with us.

A special mention goes to Kendall who was Tommo player of the Tournament.

A break for us all from netball now for a few weeks. Training will start again during January to prepare the girls for the spring tournaments at Leicester Grammar School.

Lastly, a huge thank you for all the parents who support our students at the matches and a special thank you to our netball volunteer Michelle who tirelessly gives up her time for Thomas Estley - you're a superstar!

Don't Forget!

SUCCESS 

THOMAS
ESTLEY
COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

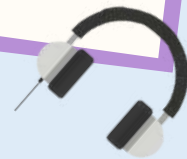
In the event of the weather causing the school to close or causing a problem with school transport, we will put out an alert via ParentMail.

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 & AirPods

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 Tues 7th Jan & spring half term begins on Mon 17th Feb

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.



Primary Masterclasses



I think attitude being attitude means that if you have a good attitude you are more likely to achieve your dreams but if you have a bad attitude you won't achieve things.

I am going to work very hard to achieve my goal and I am going to have a good attitude.

I will have to learn better vocabulary to achieve my goal.



I think attitude being attitude I am a great way of saying you give up on your dreams because it makes you a negative attitude and you can never achieve your dreams. I am going to work really hard to achieve my dreams because I am a wonderful person. I will make sure I have a happy life. I will have no barriers so nothing can stop me.

We welcomed our year 5 pupils from our feeder schools for an English masterclass. Miss Little put them through their paces and the work; the answers they gave were amazing. They started off thinking about altitude to attitude. They discussed what altitude was and how that could relate to attitude. They also watched a short video about Nick Vujicic and had to think about different adjectives to describe what they had watched.

They then moved on to look at different scenarios and took it in turns to read out loud, it was really impressive how confident they were reading out in front of peers they had never met before!

They then discussed the scenarios and came up with some thoughtful responses to what could happen next. Lastly, they did freeze frames, acting out one image to see if it was a positive or negative attitude.

Well done year 5 - the work you produced was brilliant. Thank you also to our primary transition leaders for their help.

Our Thomas Estley Italian specialism student leaders had a great time teaching Italian to year 5 pupils (right) in our local community. They planned and designed their own lessons and were able to develop their confidence and leadership skills. Such a lovely experience. We're proud of you all!



Thomas Estley hosted a primary school inclusion event for the Learning South Leicestershire School Sports Partnership, where students from Cosby, Danemill and Red Hill primary schools were given the opportunity to try some inclusion sports.

A few of our Thomas Estley sports leaders assisted the younger students with boccia, archery and wheelchair basketball.

A great evening with lots of fun had by all. Well done, everyone!



Primary Masterclasses



We welcomed a few year five pupils from our feeder schools for a business and enterprise day.

Pupils were mixed into cross-school groups to form teams. They learned about logos and branding, as well as production sales. The teams then formed a production line and looked at market research for greetings cards, moving onto planning, design and manufacture.

After lunch they learnt how to present a pitch, practised skills and presented to our own TECC Dragons, answering tricky questions well.

Once the presentations were over our Dragons chose the best pitch and the best card design. Our primary transition leaders also chose their best pitch and best planning page. All the teams did really well - well done to everyone!

A big thank you to all the Thomas Estley primary transition leaders who helped through the day to facilitate the event.

Thomas Estley year 9 students visited Cosby Primary School during a computing & programming specialism lesson.

While there, they delivered presentations to the year 5 students, sharing with them information about digital skills that would be needed in preparation for starting secondary school.

Well done to our student computing leaders!



Preschool & OOSC

Our out of school club children enjoyed carefully carving pumpkins over Halloween week, practicing skills and creating patterns and faces.

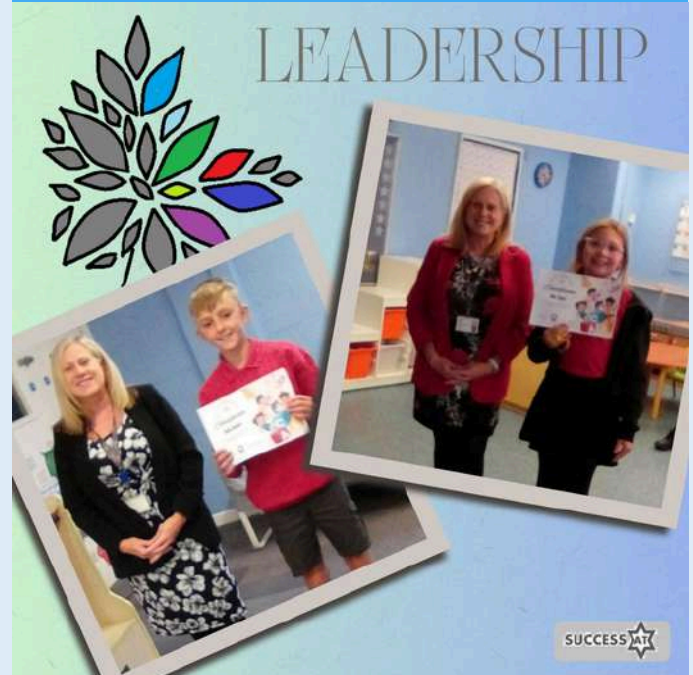


Out of School Club celebrated Diwali by creating rangoli pictures in chalk and making vegetable samosas for tea. They also decorated biscuits with chocolate and sprinkles and drew a huge group firework picture for bonfire night.



We are very proud of our Thomas Estley Out of School Club pupil leaders, who have been recognised for helping and providing activities for the younger children to engage in.

Well done for taking your time to teach individuals new skills in football and craft activities!



Thomas Estley preschool children were in the festive mood and helped to put their Christmas tree up!

Outside Tommo



Huge congratulations to our Thomas Estley U12/U13 goal keeper Lydia. After being put through her paces at the regional England trials, it has now been confirmed that Lydia has been accepted on to the official England pathway programme.

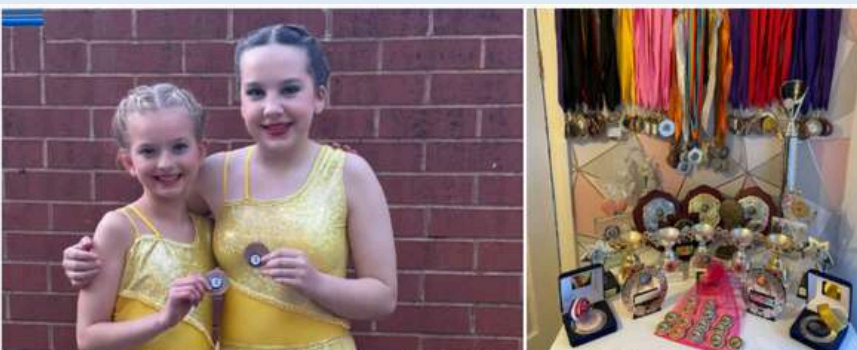
Lydia was spotted by scouts whilst playing for Leicester City's girls academy and was then subsequently invited along to the trials in Birmingham. We are so proud of her. Her hard work, determination, commitment and courage have been recognised and she fully deserves this opportunity.

Well done, Lydia. You're a superstar!

Our Thomas Estley girls elite footballer Macie had a fantastic morning representing Derby County as the FA looks to prompt the importance of women's football and the growth of the game for girls.

Macie also got to have her photo taken with the Barclays Premier League trophy and the women's England winning 2022 Euros trophy.

Well done, Macie!



Congratulations to Thomas Estley year 7 student Maisy who recently won, in a regional dance competition, five first place, three second place and three third place medals.

We are very proud of you. Keep up the amazing work!

Outside Tommo



Edie received great results in her recent karate competition in Cyprus.

This was her first time representing England at the 49th European Wadokai Championships. The event was attended by 15 different countries and was a fantastic experience for all involved.

Individually Edie's results from the two day tournament were as follows:

- U14 Team Kata - Bronze
- U14 Team Kumite - Silver
- U14 Individual Kata - Quarter Final
- U14 Individual Kumite - 42kg - 5th

Team England topped the medals table with 87 overall, 23 gold, 32 silver and 32 bronze.

It was even more congratulations to year 8 Edie who won this year's Harborough Active Young Sports Person of the Year award!

Edie's karate medals now total four gold, four silver & seven bronze across 10 competitions.

A superstar who thoroughly deserves this recognition. Well done Edie, we're extremely proud of all you have achieved.



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.



Teacher Training Information Event

Saturday
11 January
10.30–
11.30am

At Thomas Estley Community College
(LE9 6PT)

Are you considering a teaching career?
Find out how you can train to teach and gain
qualified teacher status (QTS)



Register your interest

<https://telaonline.co.uk/events-get-into-teaching-1>

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?

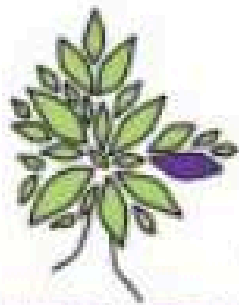
How do I apply?

Are there any age limits?



Visit our website telaonline.co.uk

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



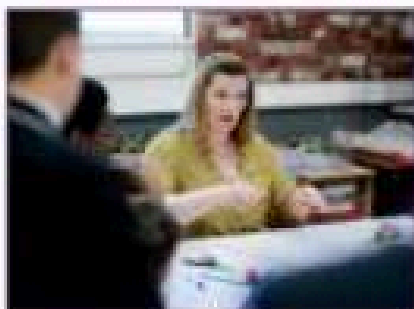
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