



# The Thomas Aveling News



Dear Parents

As we approach the summer holiday I would like to thank students, staff and governors for their hard work throughout the school year. Progress reports will be issued before the end of term and we would encourage all parents to discuss both successes over the past year and targets for future improvement. 2005/6 has been another very successful year and we wish all students who await public examination results every success. The early signs from Key Stage 3 tests are very encouraging with best ever performances in Mathematics and Science.

Our Ofsted inspection in June, led by Mr Mike Sutton HMI, judged that Thomas Aveling is an 'outstanding school.' We can all be proud that our work has been recognised in this way and that so many aspects of school life have been judged at this high standard. The report can be read in full on our website at [www.thomasaveling.co.uk](http://www.thomasaveling.co.uk) or may be requested through the school office.

The end of term will mark an end of an era with the retirement of four longstanding members of staff who have all made an enormous contribution to the education of local children for a generation. We wish **Mr Geoff Broughton** (Deputy Headteacher), **Mrs Maggie Allen** (former Assistant Headteacher), **Mrs Shirley Berry** (Head of RE) and **Mr Dave Reed** (former Head of Careers) long, well earned and happy retirements. Our best wishes also go to **Ms Anita Colyer** who will be leaving after long service at the school as our Senior Site Services Officer. We will also be saying goodbye to **Mrs Wormald** and **Mr Phillips** and wish both of them every success in their new posts. The school is fully staffed for September and I will publish the names of new colleagues in the autumn.

Our Governing Body has three vacancies for parent governors and any parent who is interested in this important role should contact the Headteacher in the first instance. We will also be re-launching our Parents and Friends Association in the autumn term and again, interested parents are invited to contact me at the school to express an interest.

Over the summer break we will be undertaking a range of decorating and refurbishment projects. Most notably, a new Design and Technology studio will be built to help students learn more about computer aided design and manufacture. Early in the autumn term, we will be installing cricket nets in the Sports Hall to enable cricket development to take place throughout the year.

I am taking this opportunity to re-emphasise standards so that there can be no misunderstanding for September. Visible body-piercing is forbidden and students will not be allowed in lessons until the offending items are removed. One set of plain stud earrings in the lobe is the only acceptable jewellery. On a positive note, our new school uniform is available through Schooltime in Chatham and we anticipate that a majority of existing students will want to make the change for September.

I wish everyone a happy & safe summer holiday

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Hart'.

Richard Hart  
Headteacher

Term ends on **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2006**, and as we have done previously, morning school will be extended until 1.15 pm. Lunches will be available as normal at this time and students may go home or remain in school for lunch if they wish.

**Upper School students will depart at 1.10 pm.**

**Lower School students will depart at 1.15 pm.**

### RETURN TO SCHOOL – SEPTEMBER 2006

Students should arrive at the following times:

**Sixth Form enrolment only** (\* see note below)

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September:**

<b>Year 7</b>	8.30 am
<b>Year 13</b>	8.40 am
<b>Year 12</b>	9.00 am Induction at Greenwich University, Chatham Maritime

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September:**

**Whole school:**

<b>Years 7 - 13</b>	8.40 am
<b>Year 12</b>	9.00 am Induction at Greenwich University, Chatham Maritime

### EXAM RESULTS ARRANGEMENTS

The results for external exams will be published on the following dates:

**17<sup>th</sup> August AS/A2 results** - students can collect results from school from **9am – 10am**. Mrs Whelan and Mr Wintle will be available for advice and guidance.

**24<sup>th</sup> August GCSE/GNVQ results** - students can collect results from school from **9am – 10.30am**. This will include Year 10 who will be collecting their results.

If you would prefer your results to be posted to you, please provide a stamp to the Examination Secretary, Mrs Vandertak before the end of term.

### \* PROSPECTIVE SIXTH FORM STUDENTS

Enrolment for the Sixth Form will be on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September** from 9.00 am until 3.00 pm. Students will be able to finalise their courses, return contracts and information forms and receive Sixth Form Handbooks. We would like to encourage all students to come in on these days.

### SIXTH FORM OFFICERS

I am very pleased to announce the following Sixth Form Officer team who will be representing the student body for the academic year 2006/07:

Patrick Lawler	Head Boy
Callum Hardeman	Deputy Head Boy
Alaena Fleck	Head Girl
Danielle Humphrey	Deputy Head Girl
Emma Mulcrow	Deputy Head Girl
Kelly Hagon	Arts Officer
Charlie Connolly	Social Secretary
Sharonjit Bopa-Rai	Social Secretary
Catherine Johnstone	Mentoring
Wuraola Sofela	Mentoring

Jessica Kirkpatrick  
Joanne Dennis  
Nikki Baddan  
Sarah Nolan  
Michael Dye  
Jon Gale  
Manjinder Khatkar  
Natasha Martin

Mentoring KS4  
Mentoring KS5  
Publicity/Fundraising  
School Council  
Sports Captain  
Deputy Sports Captain  
Sports Captain  
Deputy Sports Captain

**Mrs Whelan, Director of Sixth Form Studies**

### ATTENDANCE

Despite the winter vomiting bug, influenza B and mumps our attendance is still above the national average and as a reward for our 61 best attenders, a sumptuous lunch was provided on Wednesday 12th July at Tangs' in Rochester High Street, and enjoyed by all. I look forward to taking an even larger group next year!

**Mrs Merchant, School Attendance Officer**

### CONGRATULATIONS TO YEAR 7 STUDENTS ...

... who worked so hard towards their progress tests. 27 students improved on the work they had done at Key Stage 2 by gaining level 4 in English and increasing their confidence in their language skills.

**Mrs Johns and Miss Edwards**

### YOUNG WRITERS COMPETITION

#### Exciting news for Thomas Aveling School!

Earlier this year **Young Writers** invited schools nationwide to enter in their 2006 secondary school poetry competition ***I Have A Dream***. The editor, **Lynsey Hawkins**, was delighted to let us know that of the sixty poems written by pupils of the Thomas Aveling School forty seven have been chosen for publication in their new book ***I Have A Dream Kent Vol. 1***, and a list of their names is enclosed in the roll of honour. Pupils who have been selected have received their bookmarks and certificates separately along with a copyright form.

***I Have A Dream Kent Vol. 1*** is scheduled for publication at the end of August 2006. As a participating school we will automatically receive a complimentary copy of the book. We have been informed that our pupils' work has been selected entirely on its own merit.

**Lynsey Hawkins** the editor commented:

*'I would like to thank you for taking part in the competition this year; the response has been fantastic and we realise there is quite a lot of work involved for those who organise the entries!'*

Congratulations to all those students who participated and a big thank you to the very supportive teachers who helped them achieve this success.

**Mrs Mahomed, Competition Co-ordinator**



## ROLL OF HONOUR

<i>Lorna Fazakerley</i>	<i>Lawrence Yorke</i>
<i>Jonathan King</i>	<i>Nikita Dusanj</i>
<i>Nathan Dady</i>	<i>Amy Perrin</i>
<i>Lauren Clark</i>	<i>Rhys Howells</i>
<i>Perry Kemsley</i>	<i>Hannah Freeman</i>
<i>Jamie Ridgewell</i>	<i>Gemma Douce</i>
<i>Jemma Parsons</i>	<i>Sam Pattison</i>
<i>Hannah Burt</i>	<i>Jack Perry</i>
<i>Joe Walker</i>	<i>Calvin Costen</i>
<i>Nathan Gibb</i>	<i>Alan Brown</i>
<i>Francis Carey</i>	<i>Joshua Hancock</i>
<i>Ben Stokes</i>	<i>Ayesha Chakour</i>
<i>Kuldeep Bahia</i>	<i>Amy Allard</i>
<i>Alexis Cohen</i>	<i>Sukhwinder Bahia</i>
<i>Abbey Langstead</i>	<i>Havinder Chagger</i>
<i>Rebecca Allard</i>	<i>Matt Jones</i>
<i>James Healy</i>	<i>James Cornford</i>
<i>Jon Light</i>	<i>Vicki Apps</i>
<i>Rebecca Acheson</i>	<i>Charleigh Keane</i>
<i>Joshua Wassef</i>	<i>Josh Martin</i>
<i>Emmanuel Onumah</i>	<i>Elliott Brown</i>
<i>Olivia McGregor</i>	<i>Jake Davids</i>

### I HAVE A DREAM

We should stop this pollution,  
We should find a solution,  
To this evolution,  
Or we should start a revolution,

Dropping rubbish what's this about,  
Sometimes this makes me shout,  
What is the use,  
Of child abuse,

Violence is not funny,  
Come on people raise some money  
All these racists out at night,  
All they want is just a fight,

I have a dream,  
To stop this poverty,  
To stop this would be a novelty,  
Change this world today,  
Come on people have your say,  
**Hannah Burt**

### YEAR 9 GRADUATION

In English, Year 9 pupils have been reflecting on their achievements over the year as they are about to progress to Year 10, to begin their KS4 courses.

"This year I have achieved masses because I have made loads of new friends and received some really good grades in all my lessons, especially Science as I got the highest grades in the class and I won a prize for it. In Maths I scored a level 4 but my teacher had said that I can do better and should be aiming for a level 5 which I am working hard to achieve. After I had taken my exams and completed them, I had a real cool lesson with Miss Edwards who is my English teacher, and she's the most fantastic teacher in the

world she is always there to help whenever you need it and she always listens to you when speaking."

**Kimberley Noon 9A**

### YEAR 10 JACK THE RIPPER VISIT - 24<sup>th</sup> May

The Year 10 History classes took a trip to the Jack the Ripper sites. It was good fun and we all enjoyed it, especially the large amount of gore the guide put into the talk. He gave us all the gruesome details of what happened in the murders, like the way the internal organs were 'yanked' out of the body and draped over the victim's shoulder.

Then we went to the National Archives where we were got to see the original letters sent during the Jack the Ripper investigation and the last message sent from the Titanic before it sank. We were surprised to find out that the National Archives stores over 10 million documents.

**Richard Perkins & Joe Lamb**

### YEAR 7 TRIP TO MOUNTFITCHET CASTLE



The History trip to Mountfitchet was fabulous. It was really interesting to see what a medieval castle was like. I really liked the lord's bedroom and the Great Hall. It was really funny when I got chased by a goat! The trip was fantastic and I would really like to do it again. **Lucy Mullan**

The history trip was really interesting and fun. Not only did we find out about how people lived, we were able to go into the buildings and also buy souvenirs. Once we'd eaten lunch under the canopy, we walked up to the Toy Museum and had a look round. There was lots to see and I liked the old-fashioned machines which we changed money to play on.

**Samantha Arnold & Charlotte Harvey**

### YEAR 8 TRIP TO THE LONDON DUNGEON & MADAME TUSSAUDS

In the London Dungeon it was really scary! People jumped out at you from nowhere! The boat ride was really dark and the labyrinth was scary too. The people were dressed up and looked really frightening. In Madame Tussauds they had a Big Brother diary room and me, Willow and Jess went in. It was really good. The wax models were realistic and we thought Sven Goran Erikson was real! It was a really good day. **Yasmin Pataria**

### LOCKER KEYS

We are trying to improve the locker system and have some new lockers on order. We will also be disposing of some of the older lockers. To help us with this we are asking all students to return their locker key, regardless of whether or not they have paid for further year's hire.

**Would students who have not already done so, please empty out their locker immediately and return the key to Student Services. Possessions must be removed from the locker before the key is**

returned. Any items left in the lockers will be disposed of.

If students have not paid for any further locker hire the £2 key deposit will be refunded. If students have already paid for further locker hire, and would like a locker next year, they should request one when they hand in their key. Thank you for your help.

**Mrs Stratford, Student Services**

### YEAR 12 WORK EXPERIENCE

I really enjoyed my work experience at Lloyds TSB, Gillingham Business Park. My first task was "statements". The lady was really nice and made sure I was OK with the different tasks I was given. Throughout the week I was given various jobs from photocopying to writing up customers' addresses on a spreadsheet. Everyone made me feel welcome in their different departments.



On my last day we were allowed to wear our own clothes (a 'dress down day'). As the World Cup was approaching they asked me to design posters and banners for the team they were given for decorating their department. Unfortunately I wasn't there the next week to see the posters go up.

On my last day they said how well I had adapted to the office environment and gave me a certificate and a £10 gift voucher. The last time they had work experience people there, they were trouble and showed their boredom. They said I had restored their faith in work experience. I really enjoyed my time there and would definitely go back again!

**Joanne Dennis, Year 12**

### MEDWAY'S SUMMER SCHOOL FOR GIFTED AND TALENTED PUPILS



Each year students are nominated for the Summer School and this year I am very pleased to congratulate the following students who have gained places on the following courses.

**Bryony Dansey** Year 7 for Music  
**Jonathan King** Year 8 for Writing  
**Kerrie Maguire** Year 11 for Art and Sculpture

We wish them well and look forward to hearing from them about their experiences next year.

**Ms Blunt, Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator**

### FOOTBALL LEAGUE RESULTS 2005/2006

A very successful league season with both the Year 8 and Year 9 teams winning their league. Well done to



all concerned and special thanks to Mr Wallis-Eade for running the Year 10 team.

	P	W	D	L
Year 8	8	6	0	2
Year 9	4	3	0	1
Year 10	3	2	0	1
Year 11	6	4	1	1

**Mr Moss, PE Dept.**

### ZOOLAB

The library is open for you and your family throughout the school holidays: 3 to 6 pm Monday to Friday and 10 am to 4 pm on Saturday.

Book your ticket for **ZOOLAB** in the library on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July**.

**Rainforest Roadshow** - 4 to 5 pm.  
Journey through a tropical rainforest to meet the animals that live there.

### Pets and other animals

- 5.15 to 6.15 pm.  
Handle and learn how to look after cuddly and exotic pets.

Tickets cost £2.50 for each activity. To book your ticket and for further details contact the Library on **01634 338728**.

**Mrs Jeanes, School Library**



### TRAINING SCHOOL

Thomas Aveling School gained recognition as a training school with effect from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2006. This was as a result of our identification as a high performing school last August and a subsequent bid to gain this additional status to add to our technology specialism.

Training school status recognises the very good practice that already exists in the school with respect to training all staff and provides us with an opportunity to extend this practice to our local community.

Much of our training is led by our own staff and staff also enrol on accredited national programmes.

We would like to congratulate **Mrs G Nyangon** who has recently achieved NPQH – a course for head teachers of the future and also four staff who have recently successfully completed their Newly Qualified Teacher Induction year- **Ms S West, Ms J Wilkins, Ms R Roberts** and **Mr S Gibson**.

**Mrs B Levick,**  
**Assistant Headteacher &**  
**Training School Manager**



*The Thomas Aveling School (A Foundation Technology College) Arethusa Road Rochester Kent ME1 2UW*  
Headteacher: Mr R J Hart BEd, MA ☎ 01634 844809 fax: 01634 818385 www.thomasaveling.co.uk

**Working and Learning Together for Success**