

News *letter*



ISSUE NUMBER 108 OCTOBER 2010

We welcomed 186 Year 7 students to Thomas Aveling two days earlier than the rest of the students to ensure their start at secondary school was as smooth as possible, and this seems to have been successful, with all settled in and making good progress. We also welcomed quite a few new staff across the school, and again, they have also settled in really well and are adding enthusiasm and new ideas to the school. They are all proving to be good appointments and will help move Thomas Aveling to even greater successes.

The fantastic results gained by our Year 11 and 13 students are a distant, but happy memory as our attention quickly turns to our new students preparing for exams not only next Summer, but also next month!!

When we welcome you to school for the **Academic Tutoring Day on Wednesday 17th November** (further details will be sent out early next term) you will see the work we have done to improve the rather aged look of the Reception area. First impressions of a school are really important, and we are sure the renovations will make a difference! Certainly, the fantastic feedback we received from our Open Events in the last couple of weeks has been really good to hear. I would like to thank the staff and all of our students who helped out on these events for the great impression they left of Thomas Aveling; no wonder we are one of the most over-subscribed schools in Kent! Academic Tutoring Day will also provide us with the opportunity to issue your username and password to enable you to access your child's records online.

Two more dates for your diary are Wednesday 3rd November when I will be holding my monthly surgery where you are welcome to make an appointment to meet me to discuss your child's education, and Thursday 11th November, when there will be a Headteacher's Forum which is designed as a drop-in opportunity for you to make more general comments about the school. The topic for this forum will be "Beating Bullying" as it is very close to anti-bullying week. The forum begins at 5pm and all are welcome.

I am sure you wouldn't expect me to contribute to a newsletter without referring to uniform! The large majority of our students come smartly dressed every day, and those that do not are either isolated or sent home to change. Just a reminder that boys should return after the break in Winter Uniform of white shirt, tie and of

course blazer. Also, that no child is allowed to wear a "hoodie" at all within the school grounds.

If you have not already done so, please check out our newly designed website. Students working with Mrs Gilson have completed all of the work for this and I think it looks much better and is easier to navigate. If you have ideas on what you would find useful, please let us know.

I hope you enjoy reading the other articles in this edition, many of which have been written by our students and all of the photos taken by our A Level Photography students.



Paul Jackson
Headteacher





IMPORTANT TERM DATES

TERM DATES 2010 -2011

End of Term 1: Tues 19 Oct

Wed 20 Oct)

Thurs 21 Oct)

Fri 22 Oct)

Staff training days – students do not attend

Start of Term 2: Mon 1 Nov

End of Term 2: Fri 17 Dec

Start of Term 3: Tues 4 Jan 2011

Fri 14 Jan 2011

Staff training day – students do not attend

End of Term 3: Fri 18 Feb

Start of Term 4: Mon 28 Feb

End of Term 4: Fri 8 April

(Fri 22 April – GOOD FRIDAY)
(Mon 25 April – EASTER MONDAY)

Start of Term 5: Tues 26 April

Mon 2 May – BANK HOLIDAY

End of Term 5: Fri 27 May

Start of Term 6: Mon 6 June

Fri 1 July

Staff training day – students do not attend

End of Term 6: Fri 22 July

YEAR GROUP STARS

Year 10 - Lydia Melen

Yr10 went out on a university trip on the 22nd September. Lydia impressed the lecturers with her grasp of Philosophy!! They said, and I quote “she was a natural philosopher and should give serious thought to studying it at university!!” It was a great to see a year 10 student who showed ample enthusiasm, even to lecturers at that level of education. She should be very proud of this! Congratulations Lydia!!

Year 9 - Joe Chaney and Megan Burns

These two students should be congratulated on their great achievement. They have been awarded the roles of head prefects. They managed to impress Miss Chew enough to beat all the other year 9's that applied for the position, you both should be delighted as this is a very important role within our school. Well done to all year nine students who have been selected to be prefects.

Year 7 - Melanie Bowles and James Whelehan

Melanie Bowles and James Whelehan both in Year 7 have been invited to an awards ceremony on 4th October for graduating from the Medway Children's University. They have participated in validated programmes and qualify for a national award. Well done guys!

HISTORY TRIP

On Tuesday 5th October Year 9 GCSE History students took part in the Jack the Ripper Tour around Whitechapel, London.

The students saw for themselves the locations where the murders took place and were enthralled by the descriptions and photographs shown to them by the impressive and dramatic guides.

This tour was invaluable to the students research on Jack the Ripper and the coursework they have to complete as it gives them a clearer picture of the scene and the problems faced by the police in their attempt to catch the Ripper.





THAMES FLOOD BARRIER TRIP

On Tuesday 5th October a group of Year 9 Geography students visited the Thames Barrier in Greenwich, one of the largest movable flood barriers in the world. The students were given a talk by the Environment Agency and learned the reasons why the barrier had to be built and the problems faced while building it. They were also able to see a working model of the barrier and tour the exhibition centre. This visit will help the students have a greater knowledge of flood risks and the preventative measures taken to protect London.



PGL

On the 24th September a group of Year 9 students took off for a weekend of fun and challenge at PGL in Marchants Hill, Surrey. The students enjoyed activities like climbing; abseiling; giant swing and archery. They also overcame personal fears as they climbed up a thirty foot pole to stand on a small box then launch themselves off the top to catch a trapeze pole! Despite the weather which deteriorated throughout the weekend spirits stayed high as the students learned to work together as a team and to appreciate the need for cooperation and support as they participated in the activities.





VICTORY HOUSE CELEBRATE

After a successful conclusion to last years House competition, Victory House got off to a roaring start with their first house assembly on Friday 24th September.

As a reward for being 09-10 winners students were allowed a dress down day and were taken off timetable period 5 to celebrate our success. Miss Voice hired a duo that played a selection of well known hits and refreshments were provided.

To kick the party off Lucy Mullan from year 12 performed her rendition of Valerie, including our own Victory verse! Then the party was followed by a duo group called 'Serenity'. 'Serenity' performed a range of chart hits from Take That to Katy Perry.

Gracie Glandville from year 8 said *'I've enjoyed the afternoon at Victory's party as I liked being around all years in the same house as me. I also thought the band that performed were really good and performed some of my favourite songs.'*

Everyone who attended received a badge from their pleased captain Mrs Humphrey.

A resounding success.
Let's keep it going Victory!!!!



Mrs. Holdsworth and Ms Girvan are now joint house captains.

We would like to welcome the new year 7's.

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the events last year – we came 2nd place. We want even more people to get involve this year. Looking forward to another vice captain (year 12) joining Yasmin Pataria (year 13). Also the house committee getting together.

Keep doing your thing....



We would like to welcome our new captain **Ms Cockram** who will be joining Mr Burton also a huge welcome to our vice captain Hannah Togwell and Louise Pearson along with Shantel Jarrett.

This year we would encourage everyone in all year groups to take part and be proud in everything they achieve. Now we have got our committee together we are looking forward to having a strong relationship with all years in our house.

As a house we raised £2,100 for our house charity Bantabami; this will be able to feed the orphans for the next 5 years. Well done to you who donated.

Our next plan is to raise enough money to take a group of students to South Africa to build a day centre for the elders who look after the orphans... Keep up the hard work Cavaliers..

STAND UP FOR THE CAVALIERS!!!



Achilles, last year we were robbed. Pipped at the post because of Sports Day and with our charity work, we ended up third overall – not what we deserve. So this year we will do better. We will top the charts every term in every area but Mrs Reed and I can't do this alone. We need you to give us ideas. We need you to raise more money for our house charity, The Wisdom Hospice. We need you to volunteer. So if you are over 16 and wish to go skydiving; if you have a brilliant idea for how to raise money; or a talent that you want to share with the world...

Achilles, we need you!

HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS YET?

Have you looked at all the cards on the High Street and none of them take your fancy? Then the Thomas Aveling School has the answer!

We're inviting students from all year groups to participate in a Christmas card design competition. The winning designs from each house will be printed as part of a pack of 12 Christmas cards and sold in aid of our House Charities. So... over half term, why not get festive and create an entry for the competition? Closing date 5th November.

The cards will be on sale in school from Miss Voice from 10th November at a cost of £2 per pack. Order forms available from Miss Voice now!!



Become a TA Time Traveller

Return to 500BC
join Rochester as it becomes
the first Medway Town

Meet the woolly rhinoceros
roaming Medway

Witness the Ice Age
when Medway was semi-frozen
in a tundra like landscape

Film your discoveries
to share with others



Intrepid Year 7 & 8 TA Time Travellers should join the 'Doctors' on **Thursdays in A9 at 3.15pm** to discover the secrets of going "Back to the Past...."

Ms Saunders would be very grateful for donations to the Textiles and Art department of the following items:-



Plain coloured fabrics
beads and jewellery
embroidery threads



EXAMINATION INVIGILATOR VACANCIES

We are seeking a number of parents/friends to act as paid Invigilators in our school examinations.

Training will be provided.

If interested, please contact:

Mrs D Van der Tak,
the Examinations Officer,
on 01634 823127
for more information.

EXTENDED SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Duke of Edinburgh Award

In partnership with Woodies Youth Centre, we are inviting interested students (aged 14+) to join in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze Award. This is your chance to try something different, make new friends and get a well-recognised qualification for doing something productive in your spare time. Previous Bronze Award pupils have volunteered as youth workers, gained first aid certificates, learned teamwork skills and gone hiking!

The first DoFE meeting was held on Wednesday 13th October at Woodies Youth Centre. However, activities will take place every Wednesday from 3pm. For more information, check out the noticeboard outside Mr Wintle's office or pop in to speak with Angela at Woodies after school.

Year 13? Going to University? Need to learn to cook for yourself?

We've all heard the stories of uni students eating nothing but pasta and beans. So why not buck the trend and cook your mates a gourmet meal? Mr Wintle is in touch with a local caterer and is looking to run a short course for future university students. We'll be looking at running on a Monday evening between 3pm-4.45pm and will be learning to cook simple, healthy and cheap meals that your mates will be jealous of! For more info or to register interest, contact Mr Wintle in School!

Eat Football, Sleep Football, Play Football - Woodies FC Holiday Soccer School

What? Football skills training
Where? Woodies Youth Centre, on school site
When? Friday 29th October, 10am-4pm
Who? 10-12 year-olds (Years 6-8) - boys and girls welcome!
Who with? Two FA qualified coaches
+ coaches from Charlton Athletic FC
How much? £3 for the day
(bring your own lunch, drinks and shin pads)
What then...? Possibility of ongoing midweek 90-minute training sessions, leading to joining a local football league to play other similar-age teams!

For more information, contact Mr Wintle, pop into Woodies for an application form, or download one from:
www.woodiessoccerschools.sports.officelive.com

Work-Related Learning

Hair We Go!

I am pleased to announce that five Year 10 pupils have successfully gained places on a Young Apprenticeship programme with the Keith Graham Academy of Hairdressing. Each Thursday and Friday, Molly, Rebecca, Louise, Zoe and Gemma attend a day's work experience in a salon and another day at the training centre in Maidstone. Two students in Year 11, Lydia Devine and Amber McNalty, are part way through their Hairdressers' training with Key Training Services. All are working towards a level 2 qualification in Women's Hairdressing.

Food for Thought...

Ross Lewis in Year 11 has been awarded a Food Hygiene Certificate as part of his Hospitality & Catering Young Apprenticeship.

Congratulations to Construction!

Working in partnership with Love2Learn at the Bishop of Rochester Academy, we presently have 30 Year 10 and 11 students working towards their BTEC Introductory Certificate in Construction. Our Year 11 group (including Teaching Assistant Ms Jones!) have already completed their level 1 and many will go on to succeed in getting their level 2 certificate by the end of the school year! Our Year 10 group has just started and are settling in well!

Experience of Work 2011

Experience of Work is an important and statutory part of the School curriculum. Most of our students find it a great opportunity to experience the world of work for the first time.

Year 12 will be taking part in their Experience of Work exercise from **20th-24th June 2011** and we expect all of our students doing 2-year/Advanced level courses to find their own placements, on which Mr Wintle will then perform a health and safety check. This will help them use their communication and independent learning skills. So, if you are in Year 12 and have a part time job, or if you are looking to take part in a week-long experience of a workplace in an area of work that interests you, this is your chance! Experiences of work look great on job and university application forms, and for those working towards Diplomas or BTEC qualifications, will add a work-based flavour to your studies!

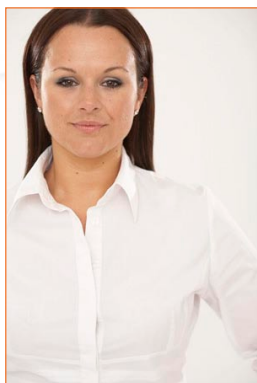
Year 10 students will be supported by Medway Education Business Partnership (MEBP) for their work placement between **11th-15th July 2011**. If you are able to find a work placement for yourself, please remember to complete and return the Experience of Work sheet, together with the employer's contact information as soon as possible.

To help plan for Experience of Work Weeks, Mr Wintle invites all Year 10 and 12 students and parents to an **Information Evening on Tuesday 23rd November** at 7pm to be held in the school hall. Mr Wintle will make a presentation about the benefits of an Experience of Work, together with support on how to apply. Letters will be going home via form tutors early in Term 2. Remember to mark this date in your planner/diary!

Mr P Wintle
School Project Manager



THE "ROTTWEILER" VISITS THOMAS AVELING



Claire Young finalist of Alan Sugar's 2008 BBC1 Apprentice, business woman and ambassador for young enterprise has visited Thomas Aveling School in the summer. Claire judged an enterprise activity where students had to create a new summer clothing range for a national retailer. She also gave a motivational talk on what she has achieved and why every student should aim high and go for their dreams. Self proclaimed chatter box Claire prides herself on great communication skills. She even impressed Sir Alan Sugar with her presentations. Gaining nicknames such as the Motor Mouth and Rottweiler. Claire was animated, confident and delivered an inspirational talk to the Year 10 students at Thomas Aveling School. Having a non business background she hopes to motivate and inspire others with her story. 31 years old she fast tracked her way up the blue chip career ladder working for brand leaders in marketing, sales and retail before embarking on The Apprentice. Since then she has launched two businesses and successfully juggles a busy, diverse media career. Enterprise with Young People: She is passionate about 'Backing young Britain' and has become a champion for youth enterprise. She work with a number of organizations such as Young Chamber of Commerce, Connexions, National Apprenticeships, UK Youth, The Prince's Trust, Flyingstart, Enterprise Village, Young Enterprise and Enterprise UK. Claire is different she is not only a television celebrity but also a graduate, hard worker and excellent role model for young people in Medway.

Erich Hauptfleisch

Head of Business & Enterprise

SCHOOL COUNCIL AGENDA



December – 1st

Part 1 - Having Fun At School!

- Do we have enough activities around school?
- What other activities would you like to have?
- What would make you more likely to take part in school activities?

Part 2 - The Weather Outside Is Frightful!

- Is the school weather friendly? (Uniform? Temperature? Activities?)

February – 9th

Getting Involved In Our Community!

- Which charities should we support?
- How can we improve our schools media image?
- Have we got it right with Tag Days?
- How could money raised be used to improve our learning?

April -6th

Student Review Of Lessons

- Should Students observe in lessons to help improve learning?
- How do we want to be taught?
- Can our lessons be improved?

June – 8th

What's That Smell?

- Discussing the toilets!
- Can we improve them and how they are used? Are there cameras?
- Review the canteen service; value for money?

July – 13th

The Agenda

What would you like the student council to discuss on the agenda next year?

EXAM TIMETABLE NOVEMBER

Year	Code	Name	Day	Timetable date	Session	Duration
2010	3702/1F	ENGLISH A PAPER 1 TIER F	Monday	11/8/2010	AM	105
2010	3702/1H	ENGLISH A PAPER 1 TIER H	Monday	11/8/2010	AM	105
2010	1380 1F	FOUNDATION (NON CALC)	Tuesday	11/9/2010	AM	90
2010	1380 3H	HIGHER (NON CALC)	Tuesday	11/9/2010	AM	105
2010	5020F1F	STRUCTURED PAPER P2	Tuesday	11/9/2010	PM	30
2010	5020H1H	STRUCTURED PAPER P2	Tuesday	11/9/2010	PM	30
2010	5048F1F	STRUCTURED PAPER P2	Tuesday	11/9/2010	PM	30
2010	5048H1H	STRUCTURED PAPER P2	Tuesday	11/9/2010	PM	30
2010	3702/2F	ENGLISH A PAPER 2 TIER F	Wednesday	11/10/2010	AM	120
2010	3702/2H	ENGLISH A PAPER 2 TIER H	Wednesday	11/10/2010	AM	120
2010	5019 01	MULTIPLE CHOICE P2	Thursday	11/11/2010	PM	20
2010	5047 01	MULTIPLE CHOICE P2	Thursday	11/11/2010	PM	20
2010	1380 2F	FOUNDATION (CALC)	Friday	11/12/2010	AM	90
2010	1380 4H	HIGHER (CALC)	Friday	11/12/2010	AM	105
2010	5005 01	UNIT B1A	Friday	11/12/2010	PM	20
2010	5006 01	UNIT B1B	Friday	11/12/2010	PM	20
2010	5007 01	UNIT C1A	Friday	11/12/2010	PM	20
2010	5008 01	UNIT C1B	Friday	11/12/2010	PM	20
2010	5009 01	UNIT P1A	Friday	11/12/2010	PM	20
2010	5010 01	UNIT P1B	Friday	11/12/2010	PM	20
2010	5045 01	UNIT P1A	Friday	11/12/2010	PM	20
2010	5046 01	UNIT P1B	Friday	11/12/2010	PM	20

YEAR 7 FOOTBALL

GREENACRE WON 11-2
ST JOHN FISHER WON 3-4
HUNDRED OF HOO LOST 5-2

TA 5 - HUNDRED OF HOO 2

Back-to-back defeats for the Aveling sevens turned this fixture into a must-win game. The added pressure of having to take all of the points inspired the boys to their finest performance of the season. Early strikes from Josh Masters and Callum Ward settled the nerves before Masters capped off a superb first half team performance after finishing off a move created by the marauding Kyle Franklin.

Momentum was halted just prior to half time with a head injury to midfield dynamo Jamie Daniel, who to this point had been a driving force in the middle of the park alongside a resurgent Emerson McFarlane who was relishing his new role as a holding midfielder. After a halt in play and treatment from the magic sponge for Jamie Daniel the hosts went in at the break 3 goals to the good.

Hoo started the stronger after half time, dominating possession and creating the better of the chances during the early exchanges. It was a very nervy opening and rekindled memories of the 3 goal lead that was surrendered the previous week against St John Fisher. However, against the run of play Josh Masters completed a superb hat-trick breaking through the defence and lashing in his third to give TA the security of a four goal advantage.

The visitors rallied and pulled back two goals that did not do justice to an otherwise water-tight TA defence. Callum Ward then struck his second in the closing minutes to settle the nerves and give the year 7s a fighting chance of making next terms playoff semi-finals. Emerson McFarlane took the man of the match award after dominating the midfield areas and protecting his back four. Central defender David Bedwell and diminutive striker Davey Horgan were excellent throughout.

YEAR 8 FOOTBALL

KENT CUP:
HURSTMERE WON 8-2
ST JOHN FISHER LOST 5-3
HUNDRED OF HOO WON 6-2

TA 5 - ST JOHN FISHER 3

TA's year 8s got back to winning ways in style with a crushing attacking performance against a strong St John Fisher team. After crashing out the previous week's first round Kent Cup tie against the reigning champions, Hurstmere School, the boys responded in the best possible way. A battling first half performance followed by a flowing second half display saw the year 8s run out 5-3 victors. Paceman Iffy opened the scoring early on before braces apiece for Kaleb Dyce and Kieran Trussel made the game safe. Dyce and Trussel both notched up splendid strikes, a dipping 30yard volley from Dyce followed by a ferocious 15yard strike from Trussel that pulled the pegs out of the net!

The visitors clambered closer to restoring parity with two headed goals from corners after some generous defending from the hosts. However they found TA goalkeeper Tom Whaling to be in fine form, producing a string of saves either side of half time to ensure that the spoils were not shared. An impressive performance at right back from season debutant, Callum Brown helped stave off the oppositions attacking threat and saw him claim the man of the match gong come full time.

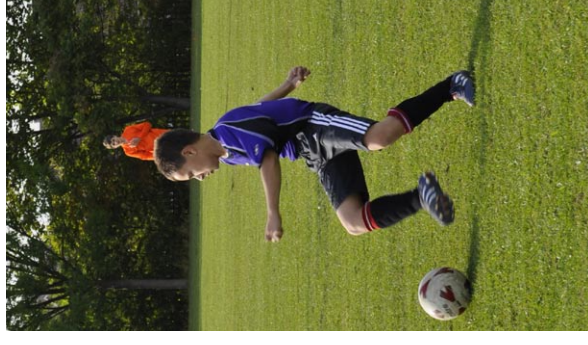
This result sees the year 8s top the table after two games with only Hoo and Greenacre to play. A win from either fixture will secure a playoff semi-final place.

YEAR 9 FOOTBALL

GREENACRE DRAW 1-1
ST JOHN FISHER WON 2-1
HUNDRED OF HOO LOST 3-2

TA 3 - HUNDRED OF HOO 2

An outstanding performance from the boys gave the Year 9 team their first win of the season. After a fairly even start Aveling took control of the game and Jay Kierney who had seen plenty of the ball in the open exchanges fired Aveling into the lead with an excellent strike from just inside the area. A second goal was inevitable and it wasn't long before Alex Webster doubled the lead with a cool finish. However Hoo responded and their lively centre forward helped himself to two goals before half time – both excellent strikes from outside the area. In the second half, Aveling looked to attack down the flanks more often and Tommy Panther and Jordan Newman looked dangerous as both the central midfield and defence distributed some excellent passes out to the wings. Jordan himself then gave Aveling the lead once more by driving a right foot shot into the net. Sensing victory, Aveling then defended solidly and deservedly held out for a 3-2 win.



YEAR 10 FOOTBALL

GREENACRE WON 5-0



PHOTOGRAPHS:

Charlotte Brincatt
Charlotte Harvey
Roxanne Caley