

We are now three weeks into the final term of this academic year. As always, the final term is busy with national examinations, proms, sports day, transition visits for new Year 7s and Year 12s and much more!

Final GCSE, AS and A-Level Examinations

Before the proms there are of course the national examinations for students in Years 11, 12 (AS) and 13. Students in these year groups have begun the final countdown to their examinations and we have already shared a great deal of information with those year groups and families about the process. Final examinations begin on Thursday 9th May and will continue for six weeks. The examination contingency days this year are the afternoons of the 6th and 13th June and all day on the 26th June; families with examination students are strongly advised to avoid making any plans until after this date. Ofqual has published guidance for families which can be found on this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ofqual-student-guide-2024/ofqual-student-guide-2024>

Mrs Zubrot, our Examinations Manager is populating the Exams section of the school website. This section can be found in the drop-down menu of 'Learning at Tapton' in the home screen. Everything we publish about exams, such as timetables and guidance from JCQ can be found here.

Year 10 Progress Evening

Year 10 Progress Evening is on Wednesday 19th June. A letter will be sent to families after the Spring Bank half term holiday, however, we wanted to give you advance warning of a change we intend to make to facilitate more families being able to access appointments. We have trialled opening appointments at 12pm midday, however, for the Year 10 Progress Evening we will follow the example of some local schools and open appointments at 7am. Colleagues will be in school from 7.30am to address any problems or issues.

Endcliffe Park

We have made aware of some unpleasant incidents in Endcliffe Park and the surrounding areas where individuals/groups have approached young people with the intent to intimidate and to steal phones, earphones, etc. The advice from the Police is that if young people intend to go to the park they remain in groups with their friends and to stay in well-lit and well populated areas.

Ofsted's 'Big Listen'

The following information is from Ofsted:

'This survey is from Ofsted. It is for children of primary and secondary school age (up to 18 years old).

Our job is to check that you get the best possible education and that you are kept safe. We do that by visiting schools, colleges, children's homes, nurseries and many other organisations to check on how well they are helping you.

An Ofsted visit can last a few days. Inspectors will talk to staff and children to find out what's going on in the school, care home, nursery or other organisation. In a school, this will involve sitting in lessons and finding out what is taught at the school. The inspector will also check that the school, care home, nursery or other organisation is meeting rules that the government has set. At the end of an inspection, the inspector will write a report about it.

We want your help. We are busy asking the whole country how we can improve, with our 'Big Listen'. And we are very keen to hear from you. We want you to have the chance to tell us what you think and how we can do our job better.

The questions are short and it will only take 5 minutes to answer them.'

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ofstedbiglistenchildren>

TSAT SCITT is recruiting!

TSAT SCITT [Tapton School Academy Trust School-Centred Initial Teacher Training] is working in partnership with **Teach First**, a national charity with over 20 years' experience developing teachers who are determined to make a difference.

We have vacancies to train to teach available as follows:

Subject	School
Geography	Bradfield
Maths	Bradfield
Religious Studies	Forge Valley
Business Studies	Tapton
Chemistry	Tapton
History	Tapton
Primary [3-7]	Wisewood
Primary [5-11]	Hallam
Primary [5-11]	Hillsborough
Primary [5-11]	Southey Green

If you know anyone – in the workplace, at home, in the wider community – that you think might be interested in training to become a teacher with us, please direct them to our webpage [below], which gives all the 'need-to-know' detail about us, our offer and how to apply. We are really interested in local people who want to make a difference in our TSAT schools and communities: non-teaching staff in our schools, who want to move teaching, school alumni wanting to 'give back', recent graduates looking to take their next steps, career changers seeking a new challenge – all these potential professionals, and more, are welcome to apply.

Visit the web page today and don't hesitate to contact us if you want to know more:

[TSAT - Train to Teach with TSAT SCITT \(taptontrust.org.uk\)](http://taptontrust.org.uk)

tsatscitt@taptontrust.org.uk

Dr Andrew Farrell
Director
TSAT SCITT

Book of the Month for April and May



Enid is one of those West Indians who came to England in the fifties, determined to become "little Miss English." Abandoned by her husband, she has struggled to bring up her two daughters to live her dream. Her children, Del and Viv are soul-sick, trying to find themselves in a world that seems alien. When Enid takes her girls to the local obeah woman for some traditional Caribbean soul-healing, secrets are spilled. Two generations. Three incredible women. *Leave Taking* is an epic story of what we leave behind to find home.

Best Practice Workshops

Tapton is committed to offering high-quality professional learning to all colleagues. As part of TSAT Multi-Academy Trust we work to provide a menu of 20 workshops 4 times across the year so that all colleagues who work across the Trust in any capacity can develop and improve their skills. Our workshops have included 'Oracy: how to structure speech to maximise learning.' 'Effective feedback to help students move forward.' 'Embedding Sustainability into your curriculum' and 'AI: effective and efficient use for educators'

Assessment and Revision

Year 7 Assessment Week is the week beginning the 20th May.

Year 8 Assessment Week is the week beginning the 7th May.

Year 12 Examination Week is the week beginning the 17th June.

Year 9 Assessment and Maths Examination Week is the week beginning 3rd June.

Specific information will always be shared with students and families to ensure effective preparation and revision.

Work Experience

In preparation for students moving up to Year 11 in September and thinking about their destination after their GCSEs, All Year 10 students will be expected to take part in our Work Experience Programme from Monday 1st July to Friday 5th July 2023. Work Experience is an important part of the Year 10 Curriculum, and we are delighted to be able to run this again. It is an excellent opportunity for students to gain an understanding of the skills and qualities required by employers and start thinking about their careers in more detail.

Hosting a placement can be great for employers because it provides an opportunity to 'give back' and support a young person, it might find the organisation a great future employee, and it allows existing employees to have experience managing people. If you, or anyone you know, would be willing and able to support our students during work experience by hosting a placement or would simply like further information about the process of hosting a placement could you please email me at dsabbagh@taptonschool.co.uk.

School Iftar

During Ramadan we were delighted to be able to host our 3rd annual Iftar Dinner. This year was our biggest event yet with all 150 places taken. We were happy to see so many of our students and families attend and gain an appreciation and understanding of the importance of Ramadan. The evening was fantastic with talks from students about the importance of Ramadan, quizzes, games, and conversations between different people in our community. We are already looking forward to being able to host this event again next year.

Year 11 Prom

This year's Prom will take place on Thursday 11th July 6.30pm – 10.00pm at Tapton Hall. The cost of a ticket is £25 which covers hire of the venue and resident DJ, food and decorations. Payment is due by **Wednesday 8th May** and should be made using the ParentPay system or via Barcode letter if requested. Tickets will not be available after this date and entrance to the prom is strictly by ticket only. We are really looking forward to coming together to celebrate this special time with our students.

Sixth Form

Joining Sixth Form

This term is always one of the busiest in Sixth Form as we think about those students taking their exams and moving on, and about our new Year 12s preparing to join us. We know these students have quite enough on their minds with GCSE exams, but we just want to highlight two events that are of importance. More information will follow.

Sixth Form Induction Week Beginning 24th June

This will be from Monday to Wednesday, with all students in school on the Monday morning and then in for subject sessions over the next few days. This gives them a chance to meet their Form Tutor and their Form, to gain an understanding of how Sixth Form works and to try out the subjects they have chosen. We hope this will support their transition to Sixth Form and ameliorate any concerns. We will hold a meeting for parents and carers on

Tuesday 25th June, sharing the information that students will have had on the Monday. This will also be an opportunity for parents and carers to ask any questions they may have.

Sixth Form Enrolment

This takes place on the same day that GCSE results are released, **Thursday 22nd August**. We ask that all students wishing to join us in September to enrol with us in person on the morning of **Thursday 22nd August**. We will share information on how to enrol if you are unable to attend due to holiday or illness. Please note that if you do not enrol on this date, we will be unable to hold your place for September.

We wish all students the best with their exams, and we look forward to welcoming you into the Sixth Form.

Year 12

Our Year 12 students are now focused on the forthcoming Trial Exams, **week beginning 17th June**, and preparation for Post-18 Destinations. Students have been learning about effective revision techniques in Form Time and we will share the exam timetable and revision guidance shortly. Please be reminded that the results of the Trial Exams will be used to inform UCAS Predicted Grades.

Many of our Year 12 students are also engaged in AS Levels, details regarding timetables and study leave will be shared via school email.

Parents and carers have received a letter regarding the forthcoming Post-18 Destinations Evening on **7th May**. I cannot stress how useful this evening is for those of you wishing to support your child as they apply for university, apprenticeships and/or employment. As you will see we have a wide range of providers in attendance and the evening will allow you to fact-find and answer any questions or queries about life after Tapton.

Year 13

At this time of year our attention turns inevitably towards the forthcoming A Levels. Our students have engaged in Trial Exams and an Assessment Week, ensuring that they are fully prepared for the challenges that lie ahead. Tracking for the final Assessment Week will be shared on **8th May**.

Next week we will publish a detailed timetable of revision sessions designed to support students during Exam Leave, which starts from lunchtime on **10th May**. We will also share exam timetables after next week's assembly. In addition, students have been learning about effective revision techniques in Form Time and are currently working on a revision timetable in their remaining Personal Development lessons.

Please be reminded that payment and consent forms for the Year 13 Leavers' Party must be made and submitted by Friday **3rd May**. Finally, details regarding Confirmation, Clearing and A Level Results Day will be shared before the end of term.

Music

Thank you so much to all the pupils and staff involved in the Senior Leaver's Concert last term, it was such a fabulous evening and a lovely celebration of our Year 13 pupils in particular. We wish you all the best of luck in whatever you are doing next year - please stay in touch!

New – Composition Club!

We are launching our new composition club on Mondays after school (3.30-4.30) for pupils in any year group who enjoy composing and would like some time to use our music software. Pupils who are interested need to collect a permission letter from the music department.

Junior Concert – Monday 1st July, School Hall, 7pm, tickets booked in advance

The Junior Concert is that lovely time of year when we feature our younger musicians. This is always a fabulously fun concert to get you in the mood for the summer. Ensembles performing will include Junior Wind Band, Junior Strings, Junior Choir, Chamber Orchestra, and Brass Band. Letters and ticket information will be making their way to you soon.

If your child is in Y7, Y8, or Y9 and would like to perform a solo in this concert, please ask them to speak to Mrs Page.

Remember that if you would like your child to have music lessons from September with a Music Hub teacher, they need to be signed up by half term. This is not the case if you are having, or would like, lessons with an accredited or private teacher. Please email DPhilpott@taptonschool.co.uk for more information about instrumental or vocal lessons.

Kind regards,

Mrs G Page
Subject Leader for Music
GPage@taptonschool.co.uk

Drama

Theatre Company

Our Lower School Theatre Company is running on a Monday afterschool with many members joining us in 119 each week. Upper School Theatre Company is back up and running.

Year Group	When	Where	Start time	End time	Teacher
7, 8 & 9 'Lower School Theatre Company'	Monday	117	3.45pm	4.30pm	Miss Milner
10, 11, 12 & 13 'Upper School Theatre Company'	Thursday	119	3.30pm	4.15pm	Mrs Gerrard

Our Theatre Companies are a great opportunity for students who have an interest in performing arts to enhance their skills in a fun, exciting, yet challenging setting. Students will develop their acting, directing, script writing, singing, filming, design and group working techniques, and will be involved in creating and performing pieces of theatre.

Prior experience is not required, and our theatre companies welcome anyone with an interest in performing. Collect a letter from the Drama office if you are interested.

Drama Trips

We took a large number of students to watch *Everybody's Talking About Jamie* at Sheffield's Lyceum Theatre last week we had a fabulous evening with a range of Year 7s through to Year 13s joining us to experience this hugely successful home-grown production. The opportunity to experience live theatre is so important as a student of Drama, we will have more productions coming up in the summer term. In the meantime, if you, as a family are interested in watching streamed live theatre then you are welcome to use our Digital Theatre + access that both the Drama and English departments have invested in for this academic year to support our students, the website, user name and password is:

<https://edu.digitaltheatreplus.com>

Username: user.tapton

Password: distant@5096

PE

Please find below the extra-curricular PE for this term. Please come and along and have a go at something new this summer. We would love to have as many of you there as possible.

Pre-Loved Uniform

At Tapton we offer a pre-loved uniform programme that is open to all families.

Depending on availability, one sweatshirt and two polo shirts will be issued per student. PE uniform items will be issued as and when they are available.

Families who make use of our pre-loved uniform will be asked, where possible, for a small donation to cover washing/packaging etc.

To request items please email: prelovedschooluniform@taptonschool.co.uk stating the student's name, items required and contact name and number. A member of the uniform team will contact you to discuss sizes and availability.

The main office receives a high number of lost property items each day, any items that are labelled with a name are returned to students as soon as possible. Due to limited storage space, items will be held for 2 weeks, with uniform items then being added to our pre-loved stores and all other items donated to charity.

Headteacher Drop-in

The next Headteacher Drop-in will take place on Wednesday 15th May between 3.45 and 4.45 with the last slot being 4.30. This is your opportunity to meet with Ms Rhodes, Headteacher and Ms Grewal, Deputy Headteacher, to talk through a specific question or concern. If you wish to use the Drop-in, please arrive in school reception between 3.45 and 4.30. We look forward to seeing you.

The final Tapton Update of this academic year will be available on Friday 21st June.

Thank you for your continued support of our school.

Tapton School

Upcoming dates for your diary

29/04/2024	Y11 Oral Exams
30/04/2024	Y9 Vaccines
01/05/2024	Y8 Vaccines
06/05/2024	Bank holiday
07/05/2024	GCSE Art and Textiles final deadline Post 18 Destinations meeting
08/05/2024	GCSE exhibition evening 4-6pm
09/05/2024	National Exams Begin Year 11 Exam Leave commences
10/05/2024	Exam Leave begins for Year 13
13/05/2024	Year 10 History Conisbrough trip A-Level Art final deadline
14/05/2024	A-Level Art and Textiles Exhibition 5-7pm
16/05/2024	Year 10 History Conisbrough trip
17/05/2024	Year 9 Berlin trip until Monday 20th May
25/05/2024	Half term holiday starts
03/06/2024	School reopens Pride Month
07/06/2024	Bronze D of E practice
18/06/2024	SEND Transition
19/06/2024	Year 10 Progress Evening 4.30-7.10
20/06/2024	Netherthorpe feeder transition morning
24/06/2024	6th Form Induction Week
25/06/2024	Year 12 Welcome Evening
26/06/2024	SEND meeting for Year 6 Parents
27/06/2024	Year 13 Leaving Party Non feeder transition morning
28/06/2024	Year 10 English lit paper pm Year 9 PGL trip
01/07/2024	Duke of Edinburgh Gold this week (Year 12) 5 days Year 9 PGL Trip returns Work experience Year 10

	Lower school concert
03/07/2024	Year 6 Transition
04/07/2024	Year 6 Transition Attendance day
05/07/2024	Year 6 Transition
09/07/2024	Year 13 Year Ahead Evening 6-7pm
10/07/2024	Sports Day Year 7-9 Year 12 Destinations Day Year 10 Personal Development Day
11/07/2024	Bronze D of E Year 11 Prom 6.30-10.00
12/07/2024	Bronze D of E
15/07/2024	Sports Presentation Evening
16/07/2024	Culture Day
18/07/2024	Year 12/Year 13 Art trip Cornwall
19/07/2024	School Closes for Summer

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before school 8-9am	Y7 Rounders (Mrs Becks and Mr Hooper) Y10-11 Basketball (Mr Kelly) Bite Back Club (Invite only) (Mrs Goodhead)	Y10 Rounders (Miss Meaden and Miss Rodrigez) Y7-13 Girls' Softball Cricket (Sports Hall) (Mrs Goodhead) Y7-13 Tennis (Mr Hooper) Elite Basketball (Invite only) (Mr Kelly)	Y8 Rounders (Miss Risby and Mrs Wilson) Y7 Boys' Basketball (Mr Kelly) Y7-13 Cheerleading (Miss Rodrigez)	Y7-8 Cricket (Mr Dunbar and Mr Khan) Y10 -11 Badminton (Mrs Goodhead)	Y9 Rounders (Mrs Wilson and Miss Meaden) Team Badminton (Invite only)
Lunch 12:50-1.25pm	Y7 Rounders (Mrs Becks and Miss Rodrigez) Multi-Sports Club (Invite only) (Mr Dunbar) Y10-13 Table Tennis (Mr Cronin) Bite Back Club (Invite only) (Mrs Goodhead)	Athletics Club (Mr Hooper, Miss Risby and Miss Meaden) Y9-10 Badminton (Mrs Goodhead) Y7-8 Table Tennis (Mr Khan)	Mixed Softball (Mrs Goodhead) Girls' Basketball (Mr Kelly)	Y12-13 Badminton (Mrs Goodhead) Y12 Basketball (Mr Khan and Mr Hooper)	Y7 Girls' Basketball (Mr Kelly) Y9-10 Table Tennis (Mr Dunbar)
After school 3.30-4.30pm	Y7-8 Badminton (Mrs Goodhead)	Y8-9 Girls' Basketball (Mr Kelly) Y9-10 Cricket (Mr Dunbar and Mr Khan)	Y10-11 Girls' Basketball (Mr Kelly)	Y8-9 Boys' Basketball (Mr Kelly)	