

Dates for your diary:

Y11 Parents' Evening- replaced by paper reports and follow up calls (November 2020)

ARCH Day 2- 9/12/2020

Y9 Parents' Evening- arrangements to be made and shared imminently 10/12/2020

Friday 20th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Again we have been forced to close some year bubbles to students, this week it will be year 8 and 10. I cannot apologise enough, we are doing everything we can to keep school running as safely as possible. I do understand this disruption this causes and I want to thank all parents and carers for their marvellous support and understanding. We will continue to run school for the children of key workers - all the details are in the letters sent out via Class Charts.

This week I have reiterated with our students the great importance of staying 2 metres apart from staff members and from students in other year group bubbles. Wearing masks minimises the spread of covid-19, we have been informed by PHE, but still the most effective method of protecting yourself and others is to remain 2 metres apart. Please reinforce this with your child at home, and you can watch the address delivered to the children on Monday morning by clicking on this link <https://youtu.be/gW1GDusPprM>.

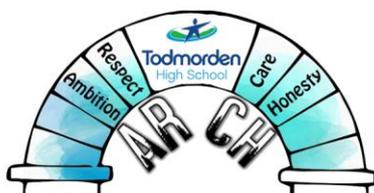
For some families the pandemic and its effect on life has been truly awful. That's why we've decided, as a school, to support our most vulnerable families this Christmas. We're also joining with Todmorden primary schools, to support even more families. Care is one of our ARCH values. We will be arranging festive food parcels to deliver to all vulnerable families as we break up for the Christmas holidays. How can you help?

- All form bases will have collecting bags.
- Students and staff are asked to bring non-perishable festive food treats (biscuits, snacks, sweets, chocolates etc.) into school. This will also, we hope, happen in the local primary schools.
- Monetary donations will also be accepted, and used to shop for more treats. Any money received by tutors should be passed to Learning Managers.
- In the final week, we will collect all the treats and our prefects will use them to fill hampers to be delivered to our most vulnerable families.

If you would like to nominate a family or person who may benefit from a food parcel please contact Ms Wells m.wells@todhigh.co.uk.

Christmas dinner this year will be on 16th December. We will only be serving Christmas dinner and a desert that day- there will be no other offering on the menu. The menu will be published soon and there will be a vegan/ vegetarian option but no other menu items available. We are letting you know early so you can make arrangements for a packed lunch if your child does not want Christmas dinner. However - we usually have more customers than usual on Christmas dinner days as children who normally bring a packed lunch choose to join in the festivities.

Unfortunately, our 'Big Lunch' community event and our Christmas concert will not go ahead this year due to the covid-19 pandemic. We hope that we can resume these events next year in full festive cheer.



Thank you again to Charlotte Coates from Weir Minerals who arranged for the donation of PPE equipment for our Science department. At the beginning of the pandemic Todmorden High School donated every piece of its PPE to local health services via the Local Authority - so this donation from Weir has been warmly welcomed in school. We hope this is the beginning of a very productive and fruitful partnership between the town's two biggest institutions and employers. There are some pictures below of our students conducting a dissection activity and making use of the PPE.



A new mural has been unveiled at Todmorden High School which has been inspired by Marcus Rashford's campaign for Free School meals. Rashford has been working to extend the government's free school meals campaign to function over the holidays until Easter 2021, instead of only during term time. The Manchester United star has been passionate in his efforts to combat child hunger across England, following his efforts over the summer in which he was able to change the course of the UK Government's decision in order to provide free meals for underprivileged children during the summer school holidays.

Painted by resident artist Esther Womack, the mural depicts Marcus Rashford alongside a quote that reads 'Always train hard, work harder, never give up, never give in and believe in you'. In discussions over the proposed subject for the mural, we felt that Rashford was the walking embodiment of our school values Ambition, Respect, Care and Honesty and a real role model for the young people in our school community.

The message Rashford has communicated during his campaign for Free School meals is simple: the love, kindness and communal concern that sustained his own family- the breakfast clubs and Christmas meals; the kindness of neighbours and volunteers- should never be left to chance in a child's life. That sense of solidarity should, rather, find its higher expression at the very top of politics; it should be present in the guarantees that a government makes to all families however unlucky their circumstances.

The mural transforms our canteen area. This is a mural that is evocative of our school values, while celebrating Rashford and his campaign to help young people in this country. We're incredibly grateful to Mrs Womack for creating this and we hope to be able to commission further pieces of artwork with her in 2021 as part of the ongoing transformation of our school.



It is a real shame that extra-curricular activities can no longer continue in schools until the new year. To keep you busy and give you enhanced learning opportunities Mrs Lambert has set up a challenge grid, available at the rear of this letter. All you need to do is send in evidence of you completing the task and you will be awarded on class charts and through the house system. There will be a prize available for students who complete the grid. I look forward to seeing some of your entries! Please send all entries to s.lambert@todhigh.co.uk.

Finally, we were delighted to support Anti-Bullying Week 2020 this week. To raise awareness, our students have engaged in discussions around bullying and ways to recognise it, report it and tackle it individually and as a school community. To highlight that we are all UNITED AGAINST BULLYING, staff and students were invited to wear odd socks today. Thank you to any staff and students who offered an optional £1 donation to fund ABA's outstanding work around tackling bullying.

Students were encouraged to take a photo of themselves at home, wearing odd socks while in uniform, and I will update you with some of these in next week's letter. If students would like to donate their £1 retrospectively, they can do so by visiting this link <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?userUrl=AntiBullyingAlliance&fald=142250&isTeam=false>

Please visit the links below to find out more about how you can support your child/children from home and how to assist our school in tackling bullying. Always remember to report any concerns to your child/children's form tutors or Learning Managers.

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/parents-and-carers>

<https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/sites/default/files/field/attachment/Anti-Bullying%20Week%202020%20-%20pack%20for%20parents.pdf>

Here are some of our staff odd sock combinations!



As always, if you need anything, we are here to help. Don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely,

Gill Shirt
Headteacher

Tom (9BRI)
 Lillie (10ABE)
 Oscar (11PEM)
 Shaun (11MSC)
 Megan (11JNU)
 River (10SPA)
 Sam (10LEF)
 Izzuddeen (11PJD)
 Bailey (10JWO)
 Asa (11PEM)
 Madeleine (11PJD)
 Thomas (9RBR/ALB)
 Eve (10JWO)
 Taylor (8EBO)
 Lilli (8MHA)
 Bryony (8SDE)
 Tilly (8MHA)
 Margot (8EBO)
 Scott (8JSC)
 Edith (8EBO)
 Faye (8EBO)
 Milly (10ROW)
 Joseph (7DRY)
 Amelia (7KMC)

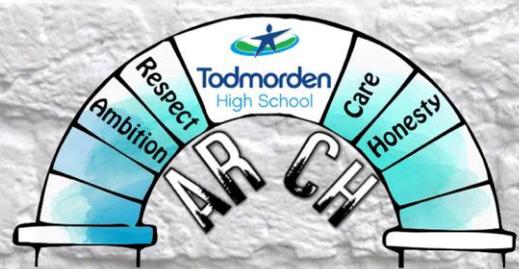


Rowanne (11MSC)
 Jessica-Mae (7DMC)
 Habib (10ABE)
 Gracie (10LEF)
 William (10LEF)
 Matthew (10LEF)
 Hannah (10ROW)
 Jack (10ROW)
 Billy (10ABE)
 Emma (10LEF)
 Sol (10LEF)
 Alysha (10JWO)
 Mckenzie (10ROW)
 Muhammad (10SPA)
 Esther (10LEF)
 Jacob (10ABE)
 Oliver (10JWO)
 Tomas (10SPA)
 Jessica (7DRY)
 Ruby (7KMC)
 Isabella (7DRY)
 James (7PAS)
 Chianne (11PJD)



Miss Shirt's Wall of Fame

Featuring students who have achieved amazing things this week. Well done and keep up the good work!



Extra Curricular Challenge Grid

It is a real shame that extra-curricular activities can no longer continue in schools until the new year. To keep you busy and give you enhanced learning opportunities I have set up a challenge grid. All you need to do is send me evidence of you completing the task and you will be awarded on class charts and through the house system. There will be a prize available for students who complete the grid. Please send all entries to s.lambert@todhigh.co.uk. Enjoy 😊

1 Complete an online fitness class at home.	2 Make a list of things you need to complete today. Tick them off once you have completed them.	3 Sign up to learn sign language. https://www.britishsign.co.uk/learn-online-britishsign-language-course/	4 Complete a random act of kindness. 
5 Send a message to a friend that you have not spoken to recently. Find out how they are and have a catch up.	6 Complete a chore around the house without being asked.	7 Learn a new skill.	8 Make a list of your achievements - this could just today, this week or this year.
9 Create a quiz. Share and play it with friends or family.	10 Read an autobiography. What has happened in their life across the age stages? How has this affected their life? Write a summary/book review.	11 Find a recipe and cook something. Make sure you get an adult to help if needed.	12 Make a time capsule, some ideas on the link below. https://kidsofthewild.co.uk/2020/03/29/make-a-time-capsule-coronavirus-covid-19-kids/
13 Go for a walk, jog or run. Try and exercise for at least 30 minutes.	14 Learn basic first aid. https://www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/get-a-free-first-aid-guide/	15 Keep a food diary for a day. Are you eating a balanced diet? How do you know? Calorie intake? Portion size? Can you improve your diet?	16 Write a poem or a song about the world we live in. Link it to current issues.