



Dear Parents/carers,

The winter break is almost upon us, we will be serving our school Christmas dinner on **Tuesday 16th December**, please see the menu on page 5 of the newsletter and ensure your child has sufficient funds in their ParentPay account, if they would like to join the festivities.

We are once again running our Christmas Gift Appeal to bring a little joy to the residents of a local care home. Our students will be wrapping and delivering the gifts, helping to reduce loneliness and isolation while strengthening connections within our community. If you're able to donate a small item or an unwanted gift, please see the list below for suitable donations.

CHRISTMAS GIFT APPEAL 2025

Could you bring joy to an overlooked care home resident this Christmas?

Year 7 and 8 at TFA want to support those in our community that need it this Christmas.

If you are able, please donate a small gift or an unwanted gift to make the day of those at the care home.

Some gift ideas!

- Toiletries (especially shower gel and fragrant talc)
- Toiletry bags
- Colouring books
- Bed socks or normal socks
- Small packs of tissues
- Puzzle books
- Games
- Pens and pencils
- Small teddy bears
- Soft hairbrushes

Please bring donated gifts to Mrs Hope's office by Friday 12th December 2025

Please make sure gifts are appropriate for those who are receiving and please do not donate perishable items. Please make sure donated items are unopened/new.

SCHOOL VISITS

It was a privilege to have Ivan and Phillip Shaw visit TFA to speak to the Year 9 students about Ivan's experience living in Yugoslavia as a Jewish child at the time of the Holocaust. Our Year 9 students at TFA were engaged throughout and a credit to the school. They asked meaningful questions and they made Ivan and Phillip feel really welcome on the TFA campus. We look forward to hosting more speakers of this nature!



Students in Year 10-13 were able to meet three professionals who currently work in the field of medicine. Our students were able to get a true insight into the reality of working life for a GP or a radiologist as well as getting the opportunity to ask questions and gain some advice to support them in their own aspirations.



We are pleased to be able to continue our Duke of Edinburgh scheme this year – Ms Ibrahim will be launching this soon with our students with a view to helping even more TFA students to achieve the Bronze award or even to progress on to achieve the highly coveted Silver Award. This is a great opportunity for our students to develop a range of skills, including through the expedition component of the award.

Congratulations to our Year 10 football team who secured a 3-1 win over Eastbury Community School to move to the 3rd round of the Essex Cup. Dominion produced an outstanding performance during the match!



We are particularly looking at the importance of reading for our students at the moment. This has included a book fair within school this week, as well as our Year 8 students aiming to develop their reading fluency through form time. We are also using reading age data to identify those students who need further support to improve their reading. Regular, independent reading is crucial to student success and I would therefore encourage all parents to ensure that their child is regularly reading for pleasure as well as using platforms such as Sparx Reader and the free access to e-reader available for our students. Please see page 4 for more information on our reading initiatives at TFA.

As we move towards the end of term, we will be holding our Winter Showcase on Thursday 11th December from 4:15-5pm. This will be a great event, with students showing off their musical talents. Parents who would like to attend should liaise with Ms Hornig for a free ticket as spaces are limited (email the admin account and mark FAO Ms Hornig).

A reminder that if you need to contact the school, the best way to do this is to email admin@theforestacademy.co.uk –this will allow your query to be directed to the most appropriate person. Please note also that **school will be closed to students on Friday 28th November and Monday 1st December.**

Best wishes,



Mr Ansell, Principal

TRIPS

A few of our top set Year 10 students enjoyed an inspiring trip to the **Maths in Action** conference at the Emmanuel Centre. Throughout the day, students were captivated by a series of engaging lectures, including a fascinating exploration of how chess connects to mathematical thinking and strategy. They were equally intrigued by talks on the surprising links between juggling and maths, as well as the clever mathematical ideas hidden within magic tricks.

A highlight of the trip was a live lecture from **Dr Frost**, the celebrated maths professor. He shared insightful GCSE tips tailored for our students and spoke passionately about the beauty and power of mathematics. To top it all off, we even managed to get a photo with him, a memorable moment for everyone! **Dr Frost** has a FREE website that students can use to practice past GCSE papers, an invaluable resource for students in year 10 and 11. The platform marks questions in real time and has help videos for each question.

You can try it out [here](#).



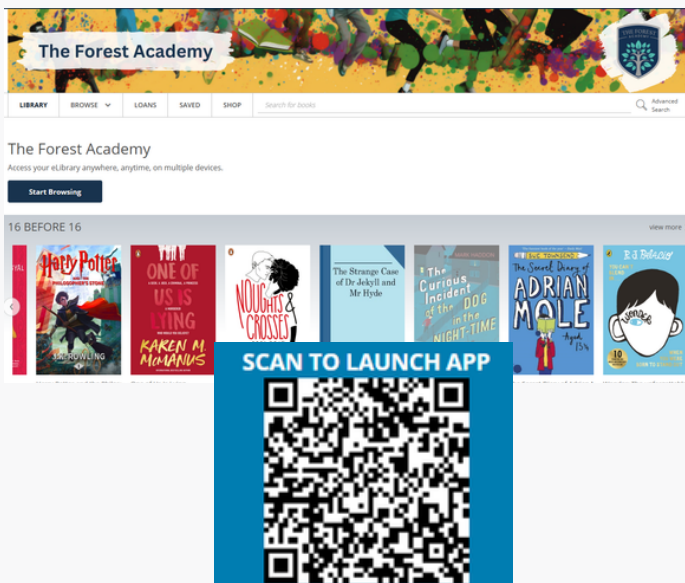
$$b = \sqrt{a^2 + c^2}$$



Naz Legacy invited some of our Year 9 students to take part in a trip to the **HMS President naval base**. Here, they were able to take part in activities that were led by the naval officers. They were also able to work with students from other schools to complete problem-solving activities. All students involved in the trip were engaged in all the activities that they took part in. The highlight of this trip was the prizes won at the end, well done to Prephina for winning the big prize at the end for her leadership qualities!

READING AT TFA

Our annual Scholastic **book fair** was a great success, generating enthusiasm among our KS3 students. It is crucial to continue nurturing a passion for reading at TFA, ensuring that our students are well-read and enhancing their understanding and comprehension across all subjects. Over £450 of sales were made which has purchased books to the value of £180 for our students to enjoy in the school library, thank you to all who supported the fair.



Students can access our online library through ePlatform on any device. Search 'ePlatform' on Google, click 'Find Libraries', then search 'The Forest Academy.' Alternatively click this [link](#) or scan the QR code to download the app to your device and read on the go. Select the school and choose 'Sign in' (top right). Log in using your **school email** and your usual **school password**, then click 'Start Browsing' to explore eBooks and audiobooks.

We also offer our TFA **16 Before 16** reading list, 16 books handpicked by our teachers to provide students with a well-rounded literary experience that prepares them for life beyond school while fostering empathy and ambition. If students wish to read these books on Sparx Reader, they may request Ms. Anderson to grant them Gold Reader status, allowing them to borrow the books from the school library or eReader. Students receive certificates for each set of 4 books read and a badge on completion.





or



A stylized illustration of a gift box with a red ribbon bow. The box is depicted with simple lines and a red ribbon tied in a bow on top. The background is white.



**TREASURE
BOXING CLUB**

FUNDED BY:



London Borough of
Redbridge



REDBRIDGE Christmas CAMP



22ND & 23RD DECEMBER 2025

TIME: 11AM-3PM 6-13 YEARS OLD

VENUE:

WANSTEAD LEISURE CENTRE REDBRIDGE LANE
WEST LONDON E11 2JZ

ELIGIBILITY: FREE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE ON FREE SCHOOL MEALS LIVING OR GOING TO SCHOOL IN THE BOROUGH OF REDBRIDGE

Email : info@treasureboxingclub.com
for enquiries and sign up form

SCHOOL PLATFORMS

At TFA we use a range of platforms to support students in their learning. Please see below for information about the platforms used—if you need login details for any of the platforms please email the admin email address:

EduLink

EduLink allows you to view student attendance, punctuality, achievement points and behaviour points. This can serve as a really useful opportunity to praise your child for the achievement points that they gain, or to discuss why they might have been marked late on a particular day. In addition, EduLink includes information about your child's timetable and exam timetables.



Satchel One

This platform shows all of the homework that your child has been set. You can download the app and then get your parent code from your child's account by asking them to go to Settings → Parent Code in their own account. This will allow you to support your child in knowing what homework is coming up and to also check where a homework has not been completed.

Sparx Learning

Sparx Maths / Sparx Reader / Sparx Science

This platform provides highly personalised weekly homework for your child, tailored to their attainment level and working speed in Maths, Science and to support Reading. You should receive a weekly email a few days before the Sparx homework is due to let you know whether your child has completed their homework yet. Students should be recording their work in a workbook as Sparx Maths has a 'bookwork check' system. All questions have support videos to enable your child to get help independently.

Whilst it is tempting, please try not to help your child with a question – it is important for them to complete questions independently so that Sparx can give them questions which are at the right level for them. Students can login by clicking on 'Student login' and then using the Microsoft 365 login button to login using their school username and password. Alternatively, new students can click on 'new Sparx user' and enter their details there.

Should you have any questions about any of these platforms, please do not hesitate to get in touch by emailing us at admin@theforestacademy.co.uk



Key Dates & Reminders

Term dates for academic year 2025-26 [are available here](#).

Upcoming dates – the half-term ahead

28th November – School closed to students

December

1st December—School closed to students

2nd December—Y13 Parents' Evening

2nd-5th December—Y7 and Y10 assessment week

8th-12th December—Y8 and Y9 assessment week

19th December—Last day of term

5th January—Start of term

23rd January— School closed to students

13th February—Last day of half-term

School Uniform

Students are no longer able to wear our summer uniform after October half term. Please ensure that they are wearing their TFA tie and a collared shirt after we return.

You can now purchase our compulsory badged items from school reception through parent pay or our card machine – the tie, blazer badge and PE t-shirt, ensuring choice and low cost for parents.

[Full details are on our website here](#).

Tie, blazer badge (iron-on) and PE t-shirt can be purchased from TFA reception. All items can be purchased from school uniform direct—see link in uniform policy. All non-badged items can be purchased from any uniform/school shop.

Community Language GCSEs

We are currently collating information on students who might like to complete a GCSE in a Community Language.

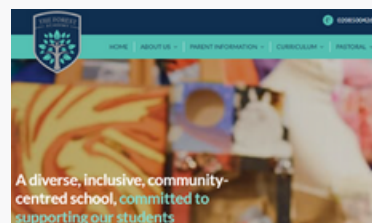
Sitting an additional GCSE will provide benefits for your child when they apply for Sixth Form study, helping to boost their average point score to support access to a wider range of courses to study. In addition, employers are extremely keen to have bilingual employees, with a Language GCSE providing an excellent way for students to demonstrate their competence in the relevant language. We also know that there are further benefits, such as developing communication skills, raised self-esteem and motivation.

Currently, exam boards offer GCSEs in the following languages:

French, Greek, Spanish, German, Italian, Latin, Hebrew (Biblical or Modern), Persian, Turkish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Mandarin, Classical Greek, Japanese, Urdu, Bengali, Arabic, Russian, Gujarati, Polish.

If your child is in Year 10 or Year 11 currently and you would be interested in them sitting a Community Language GCSE, please email the admin email account and mark your email for the attention of Mr Sanghera if you have not already responded to his previous communication.

The school website has a range of useful information for parents and students alike. This includes the latest extracurricular clubs timetable (once finalised), curriculum information, key personnel as well as good news stories and our newsletters. <https://www.theforestacademy.org/>



You can also keep up to date through our Facebook and Instagram accounts.