



Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents/carers,

It has been great to welcome some fascinating visitors to TFA this week. Two representatives from Redbridge did a belonging themed art and photography workshop with our Year 10-13 students, which will contribute to new community artwork projects in Hainault and Fairlop. We were also joined for a safeguarding talk by Superintendent Khan from the Metropolitan Police, speaking to our 6<sup>th</sup> form about staying safe and their rights and responsibilities.

**Trip to Cambridge** – our Y12 students visited Cambridge University, Newnham College, this week. The students had a brilliant time, learning about what it means to study at Cambridge, how to apply and they met current students and staff. A more detailed report will be on the website next week.

**Congratulations** to our Safer Schools Police Officer, PC David Halls, who was awarded Redbridge Schools Police Officer of the year in a ceremony at New Scotland Yard before half term. We think it is thoroughly deserved, and really appreciate PC Halls' efforts across our whole school community. PC Halls can be contacted through our [admin@theforestacademy.co.uk](mailto:admin@theforestacademy.co.uk) email account.

**Parent Survey** – thank you for completing the parent safeguarding survey. Results are being analysed and acted on now, and we will share a survey 6 times per year from now on. Responses to our student survey were incredibly useful and positive, and we will be going through them with our student forum representatives in the coming weeks.

**Catering** – our new catering kiosk opened this week – meaning we are able to offer a wider, more flexible menu. The new and updated menu will be shared with you all next week.

**Term Dates** – a reminder that the school is closed for staff training on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> and Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November. The additional bank holiday to mark the Queen's Jubilee next year falls during half term, so schools have choice over where to take the additional day. We are adding the day to the Christmas holiday on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022, so students will now return to school on **5<sup>th</sup> January 2022**.

**Holiday Activities and Food Programme** – please see next page for details from Redbridge of their Holiday Activities and Food programme for all Free School Meal eligible students.

**Covid Testing** – please continue to encourage the students to test regularly at home for Covid, using the lateral flow testing kits. They can always collect spares from reception.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and I hope you have a restful weekend.

Kind regards,

Mr Mackintosh  
Principal



## Holiday Activities and Food Programme – December 2021

### What is the Holiday Activities and Food Programme?

Also known as HAF, this programme is being provided to enable eligible children to access the following during the school holidays:

- ✓ Daily physical activity
- ✓ Enriching activities
- ✓ Nutritional education

Children and young people who took part in the summer had a great time and made new friends too.

### When is it?

Sessions will take place from 10.00am to 2.00pm, Monday 20 December to Thursday 23 December 2021. Once we've confirmed your place, you'll be able to turn up on all four days, but you don't have to. If you have other plans then you can just join in on one, two or three days instead.

### Where is it?

Secondary age children will be able to attend one of the following sites:

- Caterham High School, Caterham Avenue, Clayhall, Ilford, IG5 0QW
- Oaks Park High School, 45-65 Oaks Lane, Ilford, IG2 7PQ
- If you live in Ilford and are unable to travel to Oaks Park or Caterham, we will also be running a transport service daily, to and from the front of Loxford School, Loxford Lane to the Oaks Park High School HAF.

We are also considering running online activities sessions for children who are unable to attend in person. If you are interested in these sessions, please indicate so on the application form and we will contact you with the relevant login details, if there is sufficient public interest.

### Is my child eligible?

Your child will need to meet both of the following:

- ✓ Eligible for, and in receipt of, Free School Meals (not including those accessing universal entitlement for Free School Meals unless they also meet the eligibility criteria for FSM)
- ✓ Age 5-16 years

### How do I book?

If you would like your child to take part, please register your interest no later than 5.00pm on Friday 10 December 2021 at <https://forms.office.com/r/tu6QRztcG5>. Places are on a first come first served basis so please book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.