

---

## Message From the Principal

---

### First week of Advent

Next week is the first week of advent and for many of us Sunday and the extra day off on Monday will remind us to start our Christmas shopping with a greater sense of urgency. However at this time of excitement, with people planning their holiday celebrations and the mass commercial advertising associated with Christmas it is easy to lose sight of the real meaning of this time of year for many people.

Advent marks the start of the Christian year. It is the four weeks before Christmas, beginning on November 30 or the nearest Sunday to it. This is the Church's New Year's Day. The word Advent comes from the Latin 'adventus' which means 'arrival' or 'coming'. This is the time for Christians to prepare for celebration of the birth of Jesus and look forward to the time that Jesus will come again.

During Advent no flowers decorate churches, but it is usual to have an Advent Crown also known as an Advent Wreath. These are made from a circle of evergreen plants like holly and ivy which symbolises God with no beginning or end. The evergreen is a reminder that God does not change. The holly is also a symbol of the crown of thorns that Jesus wore when he was crucified. Four candles are fixed round the circle with another in the middle.

### What do the Advent Candles stand for?

- 1 The candle of Hope so prayers on this day focus on hope.
- 2 This candle is a symbol of God's Peace, reminding Christians of the Prophets who said that the Messiah would be born. .
- 3 The candle of Love, represents John the Baptist who baptised Jesus.
- 4 The candle of Joy reminds Christians of Jesus' mother, Mary.

5 The fifth candle reminds Christians of the birth of Jesus.

For many people Advent is a spiritual time of reflection but you do not have to be religious to take some time out and think about some of the people who are alone or facing difficulties at this time of year. At APA we have demonstrated continually what a caring community we are and I hope that we will have an opportunity to do so again with some of the house events that are being organised over the next few weeks.

Enjoy the long weekend!



---

## NOTICE: School Kitchen

As you will be aware the building programme is speeding ahead. The next phase is to move the kitchen from the old building to temporary accommodation at the back of the hall.

To ensure that the programme stays on time I have decided that on Friday 6th December the academy will have an adjusted day which will allow the school to close early at 1.50pm so that the decant has as much time as possible. This will mean that there will be no hot lunch service. However, there will be an extended break where some hot food will be served and students who receive free school meals can be served food.

Apologies for the inconvenience.

---

# Message From the Heads of House

---

## **BRUNEL: Mr Glyn**

A reminder to everyone that we are at the start of the exam cycle and Year 11 start two weeks of mock examinations on Tuesday, (remember there is no school on Monday), so you have an extra day to revise! Take some time to think how you are revising; I've put a few hints below:

The immediate goal of studying is to help you remember. You are probably never more aware of this than when you're confronted with an examination. If exams make you tense, try to relax. As is the case with most skills, your success on tests is greatly affected by how you study. Consistent success in taking exams is possible once you understand that your ability to recall information is largely determined by the way you revise in the first

place.

Research clearly shows that learning takes place most effectively when information is processed in small chunks spread out overtime. So, if you want to remember what you study, review ideas a few at a time, many times. Take some rest and exercise in between.

Transforming ideas into diagrams and mind maps is a good way to learn and remember. In addition to the extra thought involved in developing a diagram, recall of that information will often be increased simply by a visual diagram.

More study skill tips next week. Enjoy the long weekend

---

## **DICKENS: Ms Chaudhry**

Congratulations for being the house with the best attendance with 93%! Well done to Ms Sinnot's tutor group for achieving 96.5%! We are currently still 3rd in the House competition with 32 points but we are catching Turing House who are on 39 points and the leaders, at the moment, Turner with 43 points!

The following pupils have achieved 100% attendance so far this academic year; congratulations as this is a huge achievement!

WAUGH, Camille  
RYAN, Thomas  
ROYE, Tia  
PIEDADE, Troy  
PIEDADE, Teon  
NKOSI, Armstrong  
MARTIN, Cameron  
LOVEREZ, Lenie Marie  
LASKOWSKI, Lukasz  
KREFT, Bartosz  
JONES, Jewell Kemar Joseph  
HILL, Jamie  
HARDING, Jasmine  
ELGHAILANI, Kamal  
EDGLEY, Tomas

DOYLEY, Keano  
DJE, Jewell  
COYLE, Shania  
CLARKE, Shaecaden Casey

Good luck to all the pupils who have auditioned for APA's Got Talent! I know we have many talented students in our House and I am glad that you will have a chance to show the other houses what talent really is!!!

Remember to wrap up warm for the winter but this does not mean that you can wear hoodies underneath your blazers! If you do, be prepared for the hoodies to be confiscated and returned to you at the end of the day!

It is essential that you have the following equipment in all of your lessons: pen, pencil, rubber, ruler, calculator and diary. If you are not prepared to learn then your yellow card will be signed!

Many students have already volunteered to help at the Charity Tuck Shop from the 16th-20th December, at break and lunch times, but if you are interested then please come and speak to me or tell your tutors!

Have a lovely weekend; rest well and enjoy!

---

# Message From the Heads of House

---

## **TURING:**

**Ms Brimacombe**



So, it's less than a month until Christmas! I hope your Christmas jumper shopping and rehearsing for APA's Got Talent is going well!

Plans are now well underway for the Tasty Turing Turkey Tantaliser, so do encourage your families to start buying their tickets. Also, if you have any ideas for the entertainment then do discuss this with your tutor and/or me.

We slipped last week with our attendance falling below 95% so we all need to make a concerted

effort to improve that this week. Especially with all the exams that are going on at the moment, it is vital that you are in school learning as much as you possibly can be. Well done to many of you that have been working hard; attending extra sessions and revising for your exams. Good luck. I am sure your hard work will pay off.

I would like to say a personal thank you to Bethany Lennox and Glory Onyeka for their fantastic contribution to my assembly on the assassination of JFK. Both spoke with pure eloquence, and were wonderful ambassadors for Turing House. Thank you!

---

## **TURNER:**

**Mr Richards**



Congratulations to Mr Solari's group on once again getting the top attendance for last week. Remember, you are expected to be in school before 8.20 every morning and those of you who are persistently late will find your attendance dropping, which will affect your college applications during Year 11. There are always circumstances that may affect your travel, but if you are late, it is courteous to apologise to your tutor and you must see them at the end of the day as well. Also, please remember to bring in notes for any absences and let your know tutors know if you are struggling to keep up with the heavy workload that always creeps up on us this time of year.

This is the last week of Movember, so all of our moustaches will be gone by the time you get back on Tuesday. If you would like to scramble for a last bit of change, then the buckets are in the following teachers' rooms: Mr Collins, Mr Davison, Mr

Watton, Mr Hayden, Miss Chaudhry and my own.

I hope you make the most of the lovely long weekend.

# MOVEMBER



---

## Poetry Club: Haikus

---

A haiku is a Japanese origin. Haikus are short, 3 line poems, with very few syllables per lines. They are traditionally only 3 lines, and have 5, then 7, then 5 syllables. They do not need to rhyme. Often words are missed out or there is a hidden meaning.

The topic is water:

### Night Fishing

Hook cast: Ripples  
Moonshine surface  
Silver fish swims

*(Mr Marshall)*

### Aqua

Murderous Nature  
Elegantly Flowing  
Gulp me down and live

*(Adeel Anwar)*

### Water Aid

Dribble, flow,  
Gulp  
Sustain.

*(Sara Khoshnaw)*

### “Sea”

Destroyer. Seamen travel.  
Life sustainer. Neptune’s Army.  
Soft silk. Heavy iron

*(Yahia Chelli)*



---

## APA Talent Contest

---

### All Acts Welcome

### Judges

Adeel Anwar

Rachel Dyer

Amy Waite

Auditions on 3rd, 4th, 5th  
December

Simply speak to a judge to  
sign up!

---

## PE: Football

---

Last Friday the year 10's and 11's played in the borough 7 a side tournament. The students taking part represented our school tremendously. Each year group played four games lasting 15 minutes in freezing conditions. Both teams took Battersea Park school to the wire but unfortunately came runners up against Southfields and Ashcroft, with Jamie Hill scoring a great goal.

This Friday the year 11's take on Chestnut Grove in another 7 a side game.

Well done to the following students.

Hamza Ahmed, Hamsa Osman, Oliver St Louis, Yusef Lagden, Stephen Tucker, Kevin Chavez Talavera, Nathan Peters, Rio Amos, Cameron Henry, Andrew Elmer, Jamie Hill, Arlind Fetahu, Omar Hassouna, Ildi Hysam, Jordan Ford, Adrian Smajli

PE Dept.

---

# World AIDS Day

---

## What is World AIDS Day?

World AIDS Day is held on 1 December each year and is an opportunity for people worldwide to unite in the fight against HIV, show their support for people living with HIV and to commemorate people who have died. World AIDS Day was the first ever global health day and the first one was held in 1988.

## Why is World AIDS Day important?

Around 100,000 are currently living with HIV in the UK and globally an estimated 34 million people have HIV. More than 25 million people between 1981 and 2007 have died from the virus, making it one of the most destructive epidemics in history. Today, many scientific advances have been made in HIV treatment, there are laws to protect people living with HIV and we understand so much more about the condition. But despite this, people do not know the facts about how to protect themselves and others from HIV, and stigma and discrimination remain a reality for many people living with HIV. World AIDS Day is important as it reminds the public and Government that HIV has not gone away – there is still a vital need to raise money, increase awareness, fight prejudice and improve education.



## What should I do on World AIDS Day?

World AIDS Day is an opportunity for you to learn the facts about HIV and put your knowledge into action.

If you understand how HIV is transmitted, how it can be prevented, and the reality of living with HIV today - you can use this knowledge to take care of your own health and the health of others, and ensure you treat everyone living with HIV fairly and with respect and understanding.

You can also show your support for people living with HIV on World AIDS Day by wearing a red ribbon, the international symbol of HIV awareness and support.

World AIDS Day is also a great opportunity to raise money for NAT (National AIDS Trust) and show your support for people living with HIV.

---

## NOTICE: School Council

---

# Whole School Council Meeting

All Reps  
meet in room  
**B08 at 3:05pm**  
**Thursday 5th**  
**December**



---

## 5,4,3,2,1: Mr Glyn

---

### 5 people you'd love to have round for dinner:

- Tony Iommi
- Kimmy Skota
- Andre Rieu
- Michael Moorcock
- Nichelle Nichols

### 4 books and films you'll never forget:

- 'Lord of the Rings'-In my humble opinion the greatest story ever written.
- 'The Prince in the Scarlet Robe'-Michael Moorcock.
- 'The Chronicles of Thomas Covenant'-Stephen Donaldson
- 'Lays of Ancient Rome/Horatius'-Lord Thomas Macaulay
- (Any good poetry anthology).

### 4 Films:

- 'Lord of the Rings' – The film trilogy, was a spectacular and mostly faithful adaptation of the book.
- 'Lonely are the Brave'-Kirk Douglas's favourite film, quite rightly. A story of honour, bravery and loyalty, which I find too sad to watch!

- 'The Dollar Trilogy'-'A Fistful of Dollars', 'For a Few Dollars More' and 'The Good, the Bad and the Ugly' changed the face of the western, and are worth watching for the film scores alone.
- 'Mad Max 2/The Road Warrior'-A post-apocalyptic masterpiece.

### 3 foods you'd have for your last meal:

- Garlic green chilli chicken
- Ribs and sauerkraut
- Pie and mash with liquor



### 2 places you'd love to visit:

- The Alps-an alpine village complete with hostelry.
- Barbados-again!

### 1 day you'll never forget:

- Old Trafford. Millwall v Sunderland, F.A Cup semi-final and Tim v winning goal (and of course my children being born!)

---

## Year 13 - Practice Interview - Success

---

On Thursday and Friday a group of Year 13 students were given practice university interviews. These students are applying to the top universities and courses in the country. Our visitor said of the applicants: "I was very impressed by the high quality of the students here. They were able to come up with some creative responses to the questioning and coped well with unfamiliar material and concepts". One of the interviewees, Adam, said "This was a highly beneficial experience, that gave me exposure to the challenges of an interview. It has given me the confidence to go away and improve my interview technique, knowing I can give a good account of myself to universities". Well done to all involved! You are setting the tone for the rest of the school and providing excellent role models for those in the lower years. *Mr Davison*

---

## Word of the Week

---

### Trepidation

**Trepidation** n. A feeling of fear or agitation about something that may or may not actually happen. "He entered the cave with considerable trepidation."

