

# Tanbridge House Review

Spring 2011  
Issue 13



**Another term has flown by** and this review provides a superb snapshot of Tanbridge House at work and at play. As this edition of the Tanbridge Review goes to print, our under 12 and under 15 boys football teams have both just stormed to victory in the Sussex Cup, giving us a double win which is virtually unheard of! I would personally like to say a huge well done to everyone involved in this unique achievement which highlights the exceptional sporting talent we have in school.

My thanks go to everyone involved in our wonderful school community for their contribution to our academic and extra curricular activities this term.

Jules White, Headteacher

## Aimee aces University Masterclass

Year 11 student Aimee Hayes recently had the unique opportunity to indulge her love of English Literature when she took part in an on-line Critical Reading Masterclass on 'Lord of the Flies' organised by the University of Oxford.

During the two week programme, Aimee collaborated with literary experts from the university and contributed to tutorials led by literary academic Dr Sarah Dauncey, as she, along with able students from all over the world, was challenged to develop her understanding of the text she is studying for her GCSE Literature. The masterclass, through real-time debates, developed communication, reasoning and advanced critical-thinking skills, as well as introducing the students to university-level thinking.

Aimee gained a Distinction in the course and was one of only 7 students selected to take part in an experimental online project with the African Gifted Foundation, who work with able young people in Sub-Saharan Africa aged 15 to 18, to prepare them for attendance at world class universities. By taking part in discussions and debates with these students, Aimee could, according to Dr Dauncey, 'play a major role modelling effective online communication and deep thinking.'

As a school, we are incredibly proud of the level of commitment and achievement Aimee has shown. Aimee is now hoping to gain a place at one of the top universities in the future as a result of her involvement in the course.

KAOS perform at The Capitol Theatre



REFLEX backstage at The Capitol Theatre



## Let's Dance!

Tanbridge's REFLEX dance company, made up of 9 Year 11 BTEC Dance students, made its debut at the 'Spring Time' Dance event held by Collyers College at the Capitol Theatre in early March.

The students got together because they wanted the opportunity to create choreography for real performances. Tanbridge's KAOS male dance company, who have been dancing together for over a year, also performed at the event. The Year 8 boys have really developed in both maturity and technical skill during their first year and were recently invited by Holy Trinity to perform in their annual Dance show after being spotted at a previous event.

Miss Inglis, Leader of Dance, said: "All of the students involved were a credit to themselves and the school and demonstrated the utmost professionalism throughout. Their hard work and dedication to Dance shone through! I would like to thank Mrs Hawes and Miss Black for their support with the students and John Healy (Holy Trinity) and Andrea Martin (Collyers) for the opportunity to take part in such events."

## Spring Concert 2011

Tanbridge's talented musicians took to the stage at The Capitol Theatre at the end of March for the annual Spring Concert.



Students perform in the Spring Concert

Featuring a range of different musical styles from orchestras, choirs, bands and soloists, and a variety of instruments students demonstrated their incredible musical abilities throughout the concert which was very well received.

Mrs James, Leader of Music, said: "We have some really gifted musicians in the school and the Spring Concert is always a wonderful showcase of this. It is great experience for the students and a great night out for staff, parents and the public!"

# SPORT AT TANBRIDGE

## Table Tennis Regional Finals

James Arnold, Sam Dallas, Luke Baldwin and Chris Purdy all took part in the Table Tennis Regional Finals in Cheltenham.

The students played two other teams in the boys under 13s category, drawing one game and unfortunately losing the other.

Individual games were counted in all the matches to determine who won with Tanbridge just losing out at 17-15 in games.

The students are hoping to enter next year but sadly James Arnold will have grown too old for the U13s so they will be on the lookout for a new player.



Tom Haynes after winning the Southern Water Ashes

## Focus on: Girls Football

The U16 Girls Football team have reached the semi-final of the Sussex County Cup and League Cup for the second year running.

In the quarter-final of the County Cup they beat Dorothy Stringer 8-1 with 5 goals coming from a prolific Laura Vizor. There were some outstanding performances and some excellent goals that a professional footballer would have been proud of.

The team was captained by the excellent Becky Mackley whose passion and desire to win is second to none. Becky, who is a member of the Brighton Centre of Excellence for Football, once again put in a fantastic performance. Sarah Nelson showed her vision and skill in an outstanding display. Sarah also plays for a Centre of Excellence at Fulham Academy.

A special mention must also be given to Giovanna Rufolo who would have been player of the match if not for the excellent Laura Vizor. An excellent team performance, well done to the girls and we wish them every success in the semi-final.



The under 16 girls football team

## Tanbridge takes home The Ashes

The Southern Water Ashes held its grand finale which saw Tanbridge House School triumphantly taking the Ashes Urn back to the school.

The Southern Water Ashes visited nine schools across Sussex to run cricket activities for students in Year 7 and 8. Top scoring students then had the chance to represent their school in the Ashes final in Hove.

The overall competition was won by Tanbridge student Tom Haynes with an impressive total of 159 points. He was presented with the urn by Sussex Cricketer Chris Liddle and also won a Sussex County Cricket Club goodie bag filled with a T20 shirt, junior membership for the 2011 season and other Sharks' merchandise.

## National Sports Stars at Tanbridge House School

A number of students at Tanbridge are competing at a national level in various sports and activities.

Jade Brewster, Yr 9, recently won the Gold Medal in Pole Vaulting at the National Indoor Athletics Championships in Birmingham.

Chris Bond, Yr 11, plays for Scotland in the Harlequins Scottish U18 Rugby team.

Matt Duffin, Yr 7, recently won the National Latin American Dance Championship in Blackpool and came 2nd in the Ballroom alongside his partner Ellie. This makes Matt the number one under 12 in the country.



Jade Brewster collects her gold medal

## Tanbridge House School presents...Evita!

Tickets for Tanbridge House School's summer production of Evita at The Capitol Theatre are now on sale. Tickets cost £12 (£10 concessions) from 28th June - 30th June and £13 (concessions £11) for the performance on 1st July.

You can get your tickets now from The Capitol Theatre - in person at the Box Office; by calling 01403 750220; or online at [www.thecapitolhorsham.com](http://www.thecapitolhorsham.com). We look forward to seeing you at the show!



## Valentine fundraising

Students raised a whopping £140 towards production costs for Evita by buying Valentine's Day roses to send to that special someone.



Charity Reps at the charity cake sale

## Students organise Cake Sale to help others

Year 10 Charity Representatives at Tanbridge House School recently raised just under £150 through a huge cake sale for staff and students across the school in order to raise money, not only for charity, but also to help send fellow student Jo Carver over to Africa, where she will volunteer in an orphanage for a week.

Students across the school voted in their Tutor Groups for the charity that they would most like to support, with Help the Heroes being the most popular choice. Students felt it was important to support this charity, having heard in the press about the number of British fatalities in Afghanistan.

Luke Polie, one of the Year 10 Charity Reps, said: "We chose Help the Heroes as we feel it is important to give something back to the men and women who are putting their lives on the line to help others every day."

The students also wanted to support Jo and the commendable work that she will be doing in Africa.

Jack Frankland, Charity Rep, said: "Sometimes when money goes to charity, although you know it is doing good, it can be hard to see the impact it is having." Another of the Charity Reps, Izzy Lowen, added: "Helping to send one of our fellow students to work in an orphanage in Africa feels like we are supporting a local organisation and we will be able to see the difference it makes to the lives of the children."

The Charity Representatives each took on different roles including advertising and promotion, recruiting others to make and donate cakes and running the stall on the day.

## Meet the Parents!

Parents who are interested in working with students and the school in some way were invited in to a breakfast meeting in February to discuss plans and start off some exciting new projects and developments.

A range of parents attended, including some who own their own businesses and wish to share enterprise/career advice with students, professional chefs who will run workshops, an Art Gallery Officer who can offer work shadowing and private tours. Watch this space!

## First Aid club set for competition finals

Tanbridge's First Aid club members are working very hard towards the Regional rounds of the St John First Aid Competition for schools, which are being held at THS in early May.

The students have also been helping the Duke of Edinburgh groups by being patients for the practical part of the First Aid needed for their skills and expedition training. A lot of very valuable learning has been taking place, with a bit of fun at the same time.

The senior club members were also patients for the school's Senior Leadership Team!





## National Science & Engineering Week

An important aspect of our Specialist School status is to extend opportunities for enrichment activity through the specialist subjects. This year, the whole school celebrated National Science and Engineering Week which had the theme 'Communication'.



## Animal Magic

Year 7 studied how animals communicate, culminating in a visit from Animazing - a fantastic live show of animals, from hissing cockroaches to a chocolate skunk! In English, students studied 'The Jungle Book' and wrote a story or poem on a special relationship with a real or imagined animal, whilst in RE students learnt how animals are used to communicate about Gods.



A year 7 student meets a hissing cockroach at Animazing

## Students visit outer space (almost)

Year 8's focus was communication with outer space. Have you ever wondered how big the Earth is compared to the biggest star? Or wished that you could identify the many constellations?

On Friday 4 March, Tanbridge House welcomed back Simon Ould and his Inflatable Planetarium. Throughout the day, all Year 8 students visited the planetarium and experienced an amazing 360° space odyssey show. The students loved this opportunity and felt that they gained extra knowledge about space from such an excellent speaker.

After school, a short session was delivered to staff followed by a community show, in which 20 lucky Year 7 students were able to attend accompanied by their parents. This proved to be an extremely popular event, with parents loving the opportunity to learn with their children.

'It was fascinating and gave us a lot to think about.'  
'The Space Odyssey Show was brilliant and I really liked the way it was presented'.



Students inside the Planetarium

## Social Communications

For Year 9, we entered the world of Twitter and 'Text speak' to look at how social communication has evolved. In Science, students used their knowledge of electrical circuits to develop their own Morse Code.

In PE, students used team work and problem solving tasks to explore different types of communication, both verbal and non-verbal, whilst in Drama they devised role plays linked to social communication such as Facebook and Twitter and how it impacts on their lives.



## Students embark on Go4Set Challenge

Six Year 8 students have embarked on an exciting opportunity with Trend Control Systems, a global company based in Horsham, to participate in Go4SET.

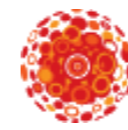
This project links teams of students with companies and universities to offer a 10 week Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) experience. By providing a real and live Science, Engineering & Technology (SET) project, Go4SET has raised the students' awareness and highlighted the exciting future career opportunities in SET.

Work related learning within an industrial enterprise context is at the core of the Go4SET experience. Students have benefitted from personal development education enhancing their powers of creativity and innovation. The students have been empowered to make informed decisions about their Key Stage 4 options particularly with regard to SET subjects and courses and stimulate their interest in these subjects.

The students attended the launch event at Brighton University and representatives from Trend have visited the school, looking at our current energy usage. The students, with Mr Latif's guidance, surveyed the school's energy consumption and produced a model and display which was presented at the University of Brighton's celebration event on 7th April 2011, detailing practical solutions for reducing energy wastage. The students won the Pupil's Choice Award for their entry and would like to thank Trend and the Go4Set team for the excellent experience.



## Big Bang!



## The Big Bang

On Saturday 12 March a whole host of parents and children attended The Big Bang in London. This is a huge science fair with interactive activities, scientists and engineers to quiz about careers and many live show events, including a Brainiac live show.

The school organised the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) trip after consultation with parents regarding the opportunities for "Parent and Child" outings, facilitated by the school.

Students, parents, grandparents and staff alike all thoroughly enjoyed the day. Mrs Johnson who organised the trip said "This was a brilliant day in which we were able to show that STEM subjects aren't boring - far from it! The day was both educational and fun, and our students have a greater understanding of STEM subjects as a career."



## Primary School Links

We continue to work collaboratively with our Primary partner schools in the specialist areas, this term through Year 5 investigative work with Greenway Primary school. As always, the students are enthralled at experiencing Science in a real-life laboratory and leave with a new insight into what learning Science at THS is really like.

Furthermore, the Maths department has run its superb gifted and talented sessions for Year 5 students, taught in gender-specific groups, where they have been learning, among other things, about tessellations.

On 17 February, we were again delighted to run our cross-curricular 'Solving a Crime day' to Year 5 students from Shelley and Greenway. Throughout the day, students draw on their problem solving skills and knowledge of Science, Mathematics and ICT to solve an environmental crime. Feedback is, as ever, overwhelmingly positive, with students learning new skills that they can use back at school.



## Students explore new careers

40 students from Tanbridge House School got a taste of what their future career could hold recently when they attended a talk by visiting Architect Matthew Richardson.

Students were treated to an in depth session that explored the possibility of Architecture as a career, going through educational requirements, study time scales, career paths and business structures. Students also explored software used within Architecture, including Google Sketch Up, which many students already have access to and use at Tanbridge.

Mrs Palmer, Art Teacher at Tanbridge, said: "This was an exciting opportunity for youngsters to ask questions, learn about Architecture as a profession and its link to Art, Science, Maths and Technology subjects. Students were able to see scale models, client profiles, and genuine project briefs. Matthew highlighted the use of Google Sketch Up as an essential piece of software used to generate ideas, which was particularly relevant as some students are using this software already in Technology, helping them really understand the value of the facilities at Tanbridge and their direct link with the workplace. It was a very useful and inspiring talk."



## Firebreak 2011

Tanbridge students have graduated from the latest FireBreak course which took place at Crawley Fire Station.

The five day course is run by West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service for young people aged 12-14. It sees students work alongside firefighters on a programme of events that combine classroom based activities and practical training designed to help reduce negative influences, promote social awareness and self discipline.

## Collecting vouchers

Don't forget that Tanbridge collects the following vouchers, which can be left in the appropriate boxes in the LRC: Tesco schools vouchers, Sainsbury Active Kids vouchers, Nestle box tops for books, used stamps for Oxfam.

## Students rise to the £10 Challenge

Year 8 students showed off their entrepreneurial skills and did their bit for charity with this year's £10 Challenge at Tanbridge House School, raising a whopping £1460.02!

Each Year 8 tutor group was given £10 and challenged to use their creativity and business initiative to make as much profit as they could, all of which will be donated to charity.

Students came up with a whole host of innovative ideas, including cake and sweet sales, breacktime cinema, donut eating competition, wheel of fortune, raffles, beat the goalie, quizzes and even a guess the back of a teacher's head game!

Well done to all the students involved!



Year 8 Charity Reps with some of their £10 Challenge props

## Tanbridge tackles road safety

Road Safety Day takes place on the 14th July 2011. Over the next few months Tanbridge will be looking at different aspects of safety regarding student travel.

Tutors will be encouraged to raise awareness about the importance of wearing a helmet when cycling through the use of an innovative Interactive Whiteboard Application. Tutors will also be watching video clips with their Tutor Groups to make students think twice about not wearing a helmet.

In February 2011, Tanbridge's Eco Reps conducted a travel survey which revealed that around half of our students do wear helmets properly. A quarter of students have them hanging off their handle bars when cycling and the other quarter don't wear them. We are working hard to change their minds.



## Tanbridge supports World Hunger Week

In support of World Hunger Week, Eco Reps collected money during tutor times before half term and raised £47.80.

The money is used towards providing a nutritious meal for pupils at schools in countries around the world. For some pupils this is the only meal/decent meal they get each day, particularly in parts of Africa.



Pene Mather presents Miss Sweet and the Eco Reps with their certificate

## Tanbridge scoops £200 prize

Tanbridge has been awarded the Level 2 Travel Award by West Sussex County Council, showing the strong commitment to travel and environmental issues.

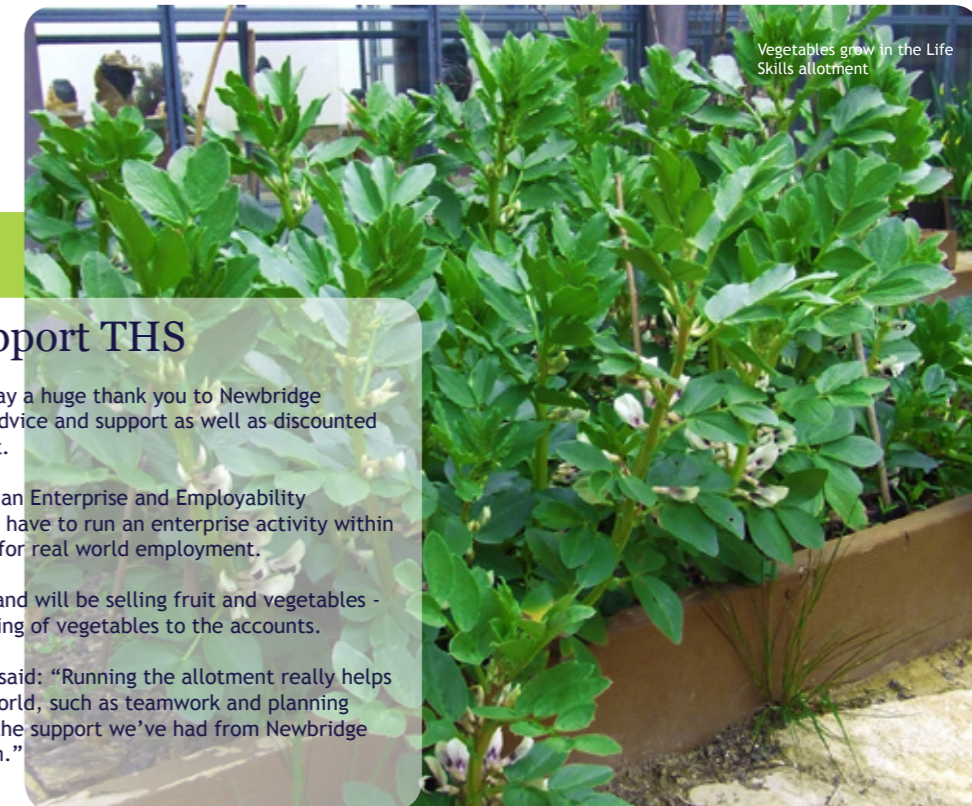
Tanbridge does a lot to promote environmental issues through its student Eco Reps and works hard to make staff and students think about how they travel to school and the environmental impact. Tanbridge was also awarded £200 prize money by Travelwise for completing the most Travel Surveys in a recent travel competition. This will be spent on launching initiatives to promote sensible behaviour in regard to travel/cycling.

Pene Mather from West Sussex County Council, said: "Tanbridge is a wonderful example of a school with an active travel plan and is committed to the promotion of sustainable and safe travel to their school. I would like to thank the Tanbridge pupils for their enthusiasm and work in the recent travel surveys."

## Special Commendation for Tanbridge Eco Reps

Some of Tanbridge's Eco Reps have been specially commended in a national competition which asked students to come up with new green ideas or re-invent/improve an existing one - the commended entry was judged to be one of the top 10 in the country!

3 teams of students entered the competition, and had only 5 hours to come up with their ideas and present to Mr White. One KS3 and one KS4 entry was selected for the competition by Mr White and the "Surbine Team" (KS4) were specially commended for their idea which looked at combining wave, solar and wind energy.



Vegetables grow in the Life Skills allotment

## Newbridge Nurseries support THS

The Life Skills Group at Tanbridge would like to say a huge thank you to Newbridge Nurseries, who have given them a great deal of advice and support as well as discounted and free seeds and equipment for their allotment.

The Life Skills Group of students are studying for an Enterprise and Employability qualification at Tanbridge and as part of this they have to run an enterprise activity within school. This helps to give them the skills needed for real world employment.

The students have set up an allotment at school and will be selling fruit and vegetables - the students look after everything from the growing of vegetables to the accounts.

Mrs Smale, who looks after the Life Skills Group, said: "Running the allotment really helps students to develop essential skills for the real world, such as teamwork and planning and organisation skills - we really appreciate all the support we've had from Newbridge Nurseries, we couldn't have done it without them."

## Ambassadors Programme 2011

Year 7 and 8 students have once again been given the opportunity to experience their dream job for a day, through the Ambassadors Programme, which is run with PMW Communications.

Students who want to take part were asked to fill in an application form explaining what their dream job is, why they would like to do it and how they would prepare for the experience. PMW Communications then work with Tanbridge to select a few lucky students who actually get to do their dream job for a day.

Applications are in for this year and the winning students are currently being selected. You can read about their experiences in the summer edition of the Tanbridge Review.



Student Aidan Marks takes part in last year's Ambassadors programme

## Blooming Banners

Art students at Tanbridge have been designing a range of banners which will be displayed around Horsham to promote Horsham in Bloom's new Human Nature Garden.

The garden features only plants that are used by humans, such as medicinal plants, plants used in cosmetics and fashion, or even musical instruments.



Look out for the banners appearing around Horsham soon - the Human Nature Garden opens June 2011.

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## Student Reporters wanted!

Tanbridge students are being given the opportunity to write for The Resident newspaper with a new initiative.

The application process begins after Easter to find a small team of "Resident Reporters" who will take on the role of finding Tanbridge news stories for The Resident, with the help of Mrs Linsell, THS's Marketing & Development Manager. She said, "It is wonderful to be able to offer this opportunity to students and we have some very talented student writers in school. To get into journalism you need to have experience and this opportunity will give a great leg-up to any students who want to pursue journalism in the future, as they will have written real articles for a real newspaper!"

The Resident is also interested in receiving any articles from students, from film reviews to a political opinion/commentary. Any students interested in submitting an article should do so through Mrs Linsell.

## Students turn Teacher for the day

Students from Tanbridge House School became teachers for the day to run Dance and Art sessions for younger children at Trafalgar Infants School's Arts Day.

During the morning, Tanbridge's boys dance group, KAOS, visited Trafalgar to teach some new moves to the five and six year olds. In the afternoon, Tanbridge Art students taught sculpture and painting in a hands on Art workshop.

Miss Inglis, Leader of Dance at Tanbridge, said: "This was KAOS's first experience of leading other children and they managed it fantastically. The boys are only aged 12-13 and yet they demonstrated excellent maturity and professionalism when working with the Year 2 students. Their energy and enthusiasm was felt by all those involved in the workshop and saw the Trafalgar students produce some really great work. They were a credit to Tanbridge House and themselves."

Becky Wycherley, Deputy Head at Trafalgar, said: "It was a pleasure to have the Tanbridge students join us for our Arts Day they all were a credit to their school and teachers. The boys dance group were amazing and the spontaneous applause and the shouts of 'awesome' from the Trafalgar children said it all! The Art students provided a stimulating and exciting workshop that has left the Trafalgar children inspired and eager for more! On behalf of all the staff and children at Trafalgar I would like to say a big thank you to all involved."

Mrs McBride, Art teacher at Tanbridge, said: "It was great to see our Art students passing on their passion and talent to younger students and putting all their hard work into practice. It's not easy teaching a class of small children and they did a fantastic job - the children at Trafalgar were really enthusiastic and had great fun creating their sculptures!"



A Tanbridge Art student helps one of the Trafalgar students with their sculpture

Thanks to the West Sussex County Times for allowing us to use their photographs and to all of our business and community links who have worked with us over the past term.