



## 25th October 2024

Dear Parent / carers,

I would like to thank everyone, students and staff - for their hard work and determination during this fast and full half term. Well done to our students who have achieved 5000 more positive ARCH points in October, than in September.

Many congratulations to Todmorden in Bloom for being awarded Gold in the National awards. Outstanding and very well deserved!

We hope you all have a wonderful half term, whether you are staying at home relaxing or off travelling over Halloween.

We look forward to seeing you back here on Monday 4th November, ready to learn for the second half of this term.

On Sunday 10th November some staff, students and myself will be paying our respects at Todmorden's Memorial Garden. We will be meeting all the students who would like to join us there, in full school uniform, at 10:30am. Please see the messages sent on ClassCharts.

As always, if you have other concerns or if you wish to speak with a member of staff please get in touch with us via the website, by emailing reception at [admin@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:admin@todhigh.co.uk)

Yours faithfully,

Gill Shirt

Headteacher



## Up and Coming Dates



\* Our 1-2-1 online forums are your opportunity to speak personally online to a senior member of staff. To make an appointment please email Miss Jones on [v.jones@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:v.jones@todhigh.co.uk)

HALF TERM - 28.10.24 to 1.11.24. Back to school Monday 4.11.24.

7.11.24 - Uniform Forum with Mrs Rawlinson @ 4-5pm \*

8.11.24 - Pizza Hut Student voice rewards trip with Miss Shirt and Miss James.

14.11.24 - Revision Forum with Mrs Mansfield and Mrs Stansfield @ 4-5pm.\*

19.11.24 Year 7-11 Nasal Flu immunisations.

20.11.24 - Sex education parent forum with Mrs Maude @ 3.15-3.45pm.\*

28.11.24 - Progress Evening Year 11 @ 4:30-7pm. More details to follow.

12.12.24 - Progress Evening Year 9 @ 4:30-7pm. More details to follow.

20.12.24 - Break up for Christmas holidays. Back to school 7.1.25.

Please keep an eye out on our social media pages for lots of new and interesting articles!

## Young Enterprise - Bake Sale

The week started off well with Harvey R and Max C paying Miss Shirt a visit to begin the Todmorden High School Bake Sale as part of our Young Enterprise scheme. Well done to both of you!





# The Northerners



Todmorden High's very own clothing brand, made and produced by these students in Year 10: Tomoya Newis, Noah Davidson, Bobby Earnshaw, George Gwyther, Max Cross, Phoebe Williams, Laurie Williams, Harvey Richardson, Will Pollard, Ollie Cross and Megan Godsman-Pilling.

We have created this clothing brand because of the opportunity we have been given by YoungEnterpriseUK. We aim to produce some t-shirts inspired by living in the north of England. Our logo represents the place we live. Before we start producing our t-shirts, we need to raise some funds to help us build our brand, which is why we are doing fundraising initiatives.

The bake sale was a great success for our company, raising around £170. Thank you to all the people that donated. This will help fund our project and all of the supplies needed to continue our goal of becoming a successful business.

Look out for our next fundraising initiative which is Christmas cards. These will be sold in school and at Christmas markets such as Hebden Bridge and Todmorden. We have already started to make these as seen below, these cards are going to be multi layered so these are not yet the finished products.

By Noah Davidson



## Science Curriculum Update

It has been a busy half term in the science department!

Year 7 have made an excellent start on their science studies and have particularly enjoyed doing lots of practical investigations to support their learning. They have done chromatography to separate the inks in different pens, filtration and evaporation to produce pure water from salty, sandy water, and even discovered what happens to a spring if you stretch it too much!

Year 8 have been working on the topic of energy transfers, learning about the importance of insulation in our homes and workplaces to prevent heat energy from being lost. In the metals topic, they have learnt about the reactivity of metals and have completed an investigation that explains why gold and silver is used to make jewellery, rather than magnesium.

Year 9 have completed some advanced work, looking at the structure of the atom and how the periodic table is organised. They have also learnt why Mendeleev was a misunderstood genius. Year 9 have also looked at motion and are able to use graphs to tell the story of a journey, as well as use different equations to calculate acceleration.

Year 10 have made a start on their GCSE course with great enthusiasm. They have been learning about how the chemical structure of different substances links to their properties, and about the importance of health and how disease can be spread (and prevented!).

Finally, Year 11 have been studying ecology, including investigating the abiotic factors that influence an ecosystem. They have also learnt about the importance of exchange surfaces in living organisms, and how they are adapted to ensure that important substances are absorbed and transported efficiently. We have had the opportunity to complete some heart dissections too, which the students have really enjoyed!

## Our Sheep Update!

Say hello to our wonderful sheep! Y8 students have been creating a clay tile using the relief technique and have been using their knowledge of mark making to add texture in the style of Henry Moore. These beauties will now be drying over the half term break so that we can fire them in our kiln. Once fired, students will learn the technique of wax and ink resist to add further mark making and colour to them. Well done Y8, we hope you have enjoyed creating them.









## Maths Update

Wow, what an exciting first term in Maths we have had! It started with a wonderful set of results from our year 11's just gone in the Summer; which has set the standard to raise the bar again for those to follow. Well done the class of 2024, we are very proud of your achievements.

Our current Year 10's and 11's have a lot to live up to and are on it; they have started an additional qualification in Further Maths. This is a level 2 qualification that bridges the path between GCSE maths and A Level, consolidating what they currently do in GCSE maths along with deepening their understanding and moving into A-level topics in preparation for 6th form. It has been wonderful to see so many students showing ambition and opting to take on this additional hour on top of their timetabled week. At present we have 24 Year 11 students and 32 Year 10 students working towards this. (Please see the pictures attached). This demonstrates an outstanding attitude towards their mathematical journey.

Our very successful Maths Circles Clubs have also been up and running again this term for KS3. Mr Smith's teams of budding mathematicians have been solving all sorts of weird and wonderful maths puzzles, extending their problem solving and mathematical reasoning skills with great enthusiasm.

As a department we would like to thank all the parents and extended families for continuing to support the home learning for Mathematics - particularly the use of SPARX. Home Learning completion in maths is up on this time last year and can only result in a positive impact on the students' learning. The better use of the SPARX books for sharing their work with us is proving effective; it is enabling us to better see where gaps in knowledge and misconceptions are being build up so that we can address them in a more timely manner.

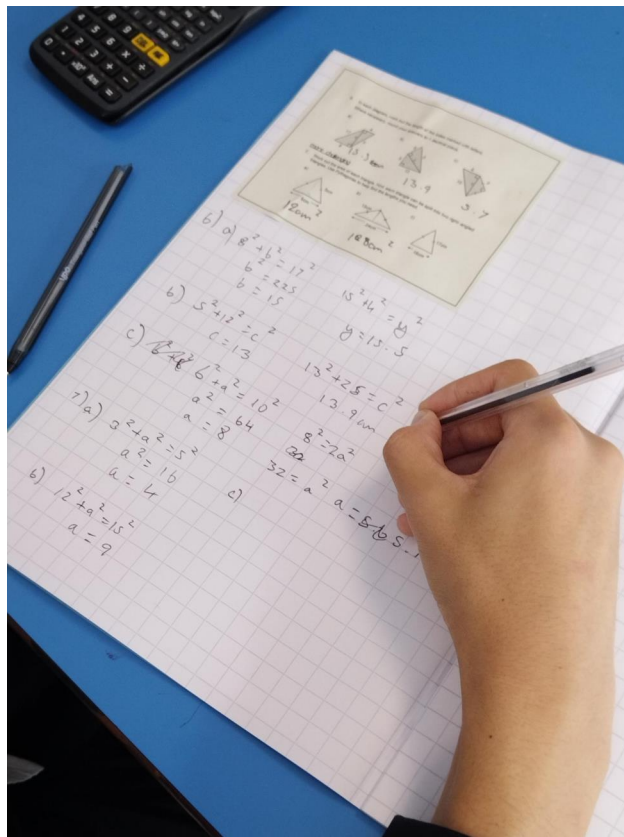


We have to mention Year 7, welcome to THS Mathematics, who have made a fabulous flying start with their maths - particularly the engagement with Times Tables Rock Stars. Miss Mullarkey has nearly broken the colour printer making all the certificates needed. Well done Year 7 - keep this up.

Even more exciting news - next term we are bringing in a BRIGHT SPARX league, with additional rewards for completion of independent learning - more details will be revealed on CLASS CHARTS and in maths lessons next term. This will be for ALL year groups and definitely something to look forward to.

We are also proposing to start a maths home learning session to support any students finding it difficult to access SPARX at home, which will also be shared via Class Charts next term to enable all students to participate in and benefit from the BRIGHT SPARX League.

All in all, a fantastic half term, with a lot to be proud of and even more to look forward to. Enjoy your half term break - no matter what SPARX says, the next one is not **due until Monday 11th November**.





## Club Updates.

Todmorden High School extra-curricular timetable				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
All clubs finish by 4pm unless stated otherwise	<b>Further Maths</b> Years 10 & 11 SMIP/HAGZ/RUHF Room 80/82	<b>Design &amp; Technology Club</b> Years 7,8,9 HARS/DAYJ Room 25	<b>Year 8 Maths Club</b> Invite only SMIP Room 82	<b>Sports Studies</b> Year 10 KENS Changing rooms
	<b>Orchestra</b> All Years LEIJ Room 69	<b>Year 7 Maths Club</b> Invite only SMIP Room 82	<b>Band Practice</b> All Years LEIJ Room 69	<b>Physics Club</b> Year 10 & 11 KEAA Room 39
	<b>Chess Club</b> All years WOMJ Room 18	<b>Netball Club</b> All Years CREG Changing rooms	<b>Drama Club</b> All years DAUH	
	<b>Football Club</b> Year 8 BRAJ	<b>Coding Club</b> All Years MCDD Room 21		

**Other opportunities:**  
Home Learning Club in the Library  
Every night after school until 4.00pm  
\*Y9/10/11 – Duke of Edinburgh Award.  
See Miss Mullarkey for details

Half Term 1 2024

### Orchestra Club - Tuesday

The Orchestra got up and running very quickly at the start of the year and has already performed at Todmorden Art Gallery at the Railway Station. Another collaboration is planned with the Yorkshire Bollywood Orchestra on Thursday 24th October at 7pm St Mary's Church - do come along to support! After Half Term we will be rehearsing our Christmas repertoire in preparation for our Christmas Concert on Thursday 19th December. Orchestra Club is on a Tuesday from 2.30 - 4pm.

### Design and Technology Club - Wednesday

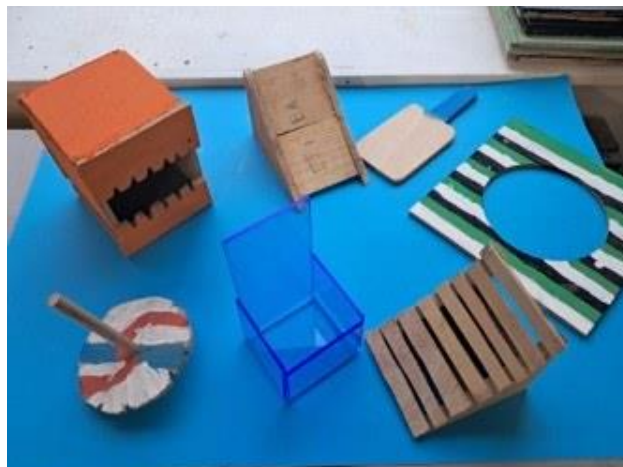
We have been extremely busy and popular with a number of KS3 students attending after school club in Design and Technology. Students have been busy being creative and innovative to make a range of products that are personal to themselves. Edward J in year 7 has made a skate ramp for finger boards and tech decks. Kendal-Lillie G was inspired by Marvel and wanted to make a Tesseract using acrylic, the laser cutter and the line bender ready to hold a light inside. We have had some Halloween inspired products. Some boards to make a spooky box for Halloween and a box to hold Halloween treats or maybe some gooey mess!!!

### **Code Club - Wednesday**

Code Club is a vibrant club which encourages an interest in Computing in the company of friends with common aims. Pupils are free to explore coding activities using Micro:bits, MOVE Motors or they may want to join their friends in adventures on Minecraft Education. All pupils are welcome to Code Club which runs from 15:00 - 15:45 on Wednesdays.

### **Sports Studies Club - Friday**

This half term, the Sports Studies extra-curricular club has focused on badminton, providing students the opportunity to engage in and enhance their skills in badminton. The students have been able to record these sessions in a logbook, providing evidence for their Sports Studies assignments. The club will continue every Friday next half term and spaces are still available.



## Collection of artwork for Year 11 leavers

We are now looking at reuniting artwork to last year's Year 11 Art students. Please contact reception via email ([reception@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:reception@todhigh.co.uk)) or phone (01706 813558) to arrange a time and day for collection. It must be Monday to Wednesday and before 4pm, giving us at least 48 hours notice please. You must collect before the easter holidays 2025 or sadly it will be disposed of.

Best Wishes.

The Art Department.

## Attendance award

Bea in year 10 won our attendance prize for being in everyday last week and having no lates to lessons. Well done Bea!

We would also like to congratulate Mason W and Georgia W in year 10 for having 100% attendance for this term. This is a brilliant achievement, and we are very proud of them.

This resets every Monday with every student having the chance to win this award.





## Parking

At the beginning and end of the day we have 950 students coming onto and leaving our site. We need to keep them safe at these times. There are always staff out keeping them safe from moving cars, operating the crossing so they cross Burnley Road safely and getting them to the pavement on Ewood Lane safely. In addition to this we want to work with our neighbours around school to minimise the impact on them.

We have recently had more cars parking on Ewood Lane to drop off and pick up students and we know the residents of this narrow road find the traffic at these times frustrating. We would like to remind all parents and carers that the safety of our students is paramount and ask all of you who drive to your children to school park respectfully and in line with the parking restrictions around school. We strongly advise you to avoid driving up Ewood Lane as it is narrow and easily congested. If frustration with others occurs please show respect for each other, our staff and the legal restrictions and road markings in the area.

## Local events

Here is a link we have received from Todmorden Town Council for funding applications to assist in tackling fuel poverty.

### [National Grid - Community Matters Fund](#)

Todmorden Book Festival ([www.todmordenbookfestival.co.uk](http://www.todmordenbookfestival.co.uk)) is coming up next month and we are all very excited about what's on the programme. As well as visits from Alan Johnson, Elly Griffiths, Gwyneth Hughes, writer of Mr Bates V The Post Office, and lots more, we have two special events just for our students at Todmorden High School. Please see the attached poster for information about our visit from



the Bookshop Band – email Mrs Brown on [a.brown@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:a.brown@todhigh.co.uk) to apply for a place! And any parents or carers interested in seeing the band can catch them at St Mary's Church, Todmorden, on Wednesday, November 13. Tickets for all events are available from the TBF website. We also have outstanding young adult writer Melvin Burgess, author of Junk, Kill All Enemies, Billy Elliott and lots more, coming to run a creative writing workshop for a small group of students – please complete the attached Microsoft Form to apply for a place. Make sure you use your best creative writing skills to tell us why we should choose you! <https://forms.office.com/e/iQ2sqhiUpe>

### The Bookshop Band: Coming to Tod High on Thursday, November 14



**The band will be playing in the library during p1 on Thursday, November 14. Places are strictly limited – please email Mrs Brown on [a.brown@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:a.brown@todhigh.co.uk) to register your interest.**

The Bookshop Band writes and perform songs inspired by books, inspired by hundreds of authors from Shakespeare to Philip Pullman, and have released 13 studio albums featuring many of the authors they have worked with. They bring the books to the stage along with a multitude of instruments, including cello, harmonium, glockenspiel, guitars and ukuleles which, along with their distinct voices, create a cinematic sound that draws the audience right in to a highly intimate performance, at once touching and mesmerizing, heart wrenching and funny. No previous knowledge of the books is required as the band guide the audience through the stories behind each song's inspiration.

**Find out more at the band's website at [www.bookshopband.co.uk](http://www.bookshopband.co.uk)**

#### Winter Appeal:

Hi folks. I'm emailing now about the launch of our winter appeal for bedding for the foodbank. As the weather is starting to get colder we are already seeing an increase in requests for warm bedding from the people who come to us for support. Thank you so much for all your donations of bedding and clothing. We have been given so much over the past year that we don't need to appeal for anymore. The response really was overwhelming.

However we do want to be able to offer warm bedding and other essentials over the winter to those who desperately need it. Like other charities we are feeling the pinch from increasing food prices and our essential food supplies costs us more now than they have before. Many of the people coming to us are families with children and older people who will struggle in the cold. The hard choice of heating or eating will be a reality for many in the Valley over the next few months. We have therefore set up a crowdfunding appeal through our Localgiving account with a target of £5000 specifically for bedding and

other essential supplies over this coming winter. The link is below. Will you please circulate this to your friends and contacts and encourage people to donate if they are able. Every little bit really does help. If you are able to give to this specific appeal please make sure your donation goes via the winter appeal fundraiser rather than the general Localgiving appeal.

Many thanks all of you for all you already give and do for us.

Janet (trustee)

<https://localgiving.org/fundraising/Todmorden-Food-Drop-in-Winter-appeal-2025>

## 2024 - 2025 Term Dates

### School term dates 2024-2025

Date	Event
Monday 2nd September 2024	CPD Day 1 (school closed to students)
Tuesday 3rd September 2024	CPD Day 2 (school closed to students)
Wednesday 4th September 2024	School opens for Autumn term
Friday 25th October 2024	School closes for Autumn half-term
Monday 4th November 2024	School re-opens after Autumn half-term
Friday 20th December 2024	School closes for the end of Autumn term
Monday 6th January 2025	CPD Day 3 (school closed to students)
Tuesday 7th January 2025	School opens for Spring term
Friday 14th February 2025	School closes for Spring half-term
Monday 24th February 2025	School re-opens after Spring half-term
Friday 4th April 2025	School closes for the end of Spring term
Monday 21st April 2025	School closed: Easter Monday
Tuesday 22nd April 2025	School opens for Summer term
Monday 5th May 2025	School closed: May Day
Friday 23rd May 2025	School closes for Summer half-term
Monday 2nd June 2025	School re-opens after Summer half-term
Friday 18th July 2025	School closes for end of summer term
Monday 21st July 2025	CPD Day 4 (school closed to students)
Tuesday 22nd July 2025	CPD Day 5 (school closed to students)

- Of the 195 days, five are to be pupil occasional holidays. School must open 190 days to students.
- One of these must be polling day, if schools are closed due to the elections.
- Two of the five days may be disaggregated.

## Our Daily Routine.

2024/25			
Session	Session length	Time	Year
Arrive on site	10 min	8:30 – 8:40	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Focus	30min	8:40 – 9:10	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Lesson 1	1hr	9:10 – 10:10	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Break	15min	10:10 – 10:25	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Lesson 2	1hr	10:25 – 11:25	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

Session	Session length	Time	Year	Session	Session length	Time	Year	Session	Session length	Time	Year
Lunch A	30min	11:25–11:55	8, 10	Lesson 3	30 min	11:25–11:55	7	Lesson 3	1hr	11:25–12:25	9, 11
Lesson 3	1hr	11:55–12:55	8, 10	Lunch B	30 min	11:55–12:25	7	Lunch C	30min	12:25–12:55	9, 11
				Lesson 3	30 min	12:25–12:55	7				

Session	Session length	Time	Year
Lesson 4	1hr	12:55 – 13:55	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Transition	5min	13:55 – 14:00	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11
Lesson 5	1hr	14:00 – 15:00	7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

## Learning Managers for next academic year 2024-2025



Just to remind you all of our 5 Learning Managers and their contact details, should you ever need to email them.

**Year 7 -Mrs. Townend**

**Email: [a.townend@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:a.townend@todhigh.co.uk)**

**Year 8 - Mrs. Kontogiannopoulou**

**Email:** [demik@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:demik@todhigh.co.uk)

**Year 9 - Mrs. Thompson**

**Email:** [p.thompson@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:p.thompson@todhigh.co.uk)

**Year 10 - Mrs. Stansfield**

**Email:** [e.stansfield@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:e.stansfield@todhigh.co.uk)

**Year 11 - Miss. James**

**Email:** [j.james@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:j.james@todhigh.co.uk)