

DES NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2023

Headteacher's Message

At East London School, we believe in learning and succeeding together. Our community has six important values that guide us, such as having high expectations and working hard. We focus on developing every aspect of your child – academically, socially, emotionally, morally, and physically. We celebrate all achievements in a safe, caring, and creative environment.

We're confident that every child can be successful through their hard work. Our TCES curriculum provides opportunities for life, both now and in the future beyond East London School. This term, some students explored construction fairs to pursue their interests.

We understand the vital role parents play in their child's education, and we welcome your involvement in our school community. We work closely with parents and carers, encouraging open communication to better support all students. We value your input and invite you to come into the school to discuss any concerns or issues, fostering a better understanding and offering support.

Our dedicated and hardworking staff always go the extra mile because we believe only the best is good enough for the Pupils in our care. You're welcome to drop by at any time, and feel free to make an appointment to see me or any other staff member if we're not immediately available.

We take pride in being a warm and welcoming school, and we look forward to collaborating to achieve the best outcomes for all pupils.

Thank you for being an essential part of our school's success. Your supportive partnership makes all the difference.

I wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous and happy New Year!

We look forward to the start of another successful term in January.

Mr Ishamar Blake

Key dates:

- Wednesday 20th December (pupils break off for the school holidays) - End of Term
 - Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th December 2023 & 1st January 2024 – Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 3rd January 2024 Pupil **Induction Day**
- Wednesday 4th January Start of term for all pupils.
- School calendar can be found here:





MacMillan Coffee Morning

TCES staff, pupils and families came together in support of the Macmillan Cancer Support's World's Biggest Coffee Morning on Friday 29th September, and there were some seriously impressive (and delicious) baking skills on display. The selection of homemade cookies, brownies and cakes raised over



£464 combined with TCES North West London School. The local community has been extremely generous with their donations, and TCES East London School are deeply grateful for their support. The event was a valuable educational opportunity too, teaching our pupils

the importance of giving back and appreciating others, as well as helping them develop skills in sales, customer relations and a sense of community service.



TCES Leadership Week

Leadership Week took place during the 18th-22nd September. The week is an opportunity for pupils to learn, celebrate and showcase leadership skills.

Pupils presented their own presentations for a Student Council Panel Day to staff members including the Headteacher, SENCO, Mentor, and a parent who currently has a child studying at TCES East London. They all took notes and asked the pupils questions and most importantly why they would like to join the Student Council committee. The roles included those of President, Vice President, Environmental Ambassador, and Safeguarding Lead.



There was also a 'Step Up' Day where pupils were given the opportunity to take on staff roles within the school, whether that was a Headteacher, administrator, subject teacher, or a Chef. They were focused and committed to their roles and what was required of them. Watch Leadership Week video here.







Black History Month – October

Book Author Visit -

Pupils were given the opportunity to purchase books from 'Ruby Reads' for their classes. Books that cover all themes are essential for children from different backgrounds, abilities, ethnicities, and LGBT communities.

Ruby Reads ensures that all her books appeal to every child, especially the black community, whilst celebrating that every child can pick up a book and see themselves represented. They celebrate Black History every day of the year, for Black History Month it is important we highlight black authors, musicians, illustrators etc., and champion black voices which are often not represented as much as they should be. In selecting their

books, the pupils made interesting and excellent choices, and some resonated with them personally. Pupils enjoyed looking at various book styles and prints, some of the details of these books were stunning to look at. Watch a short video on how the day went **here**.



Motivational Speaker workshop

The ICAN workshop, established by Dwayne Patrick in 2015, conducts a workshop that focuses on teaching pupils about resilience. This workshop is designed to enhance their self-development and equip them with the skills to be resilient and self-assured. Throughout this term, pupils have been educated on the significance of persuasion in selling products and convincing others to make purchases. They have learned strategies to sell confidently and comprehend the importance and value of providing excellent customer service. Dwayne Patrick also emphasized that regardless of the level of success, there will always be obstacles that may divert attention from achieving the ultimate goal. These workshops are available to all students at ELS.





Pupil Presentations

To round off the month on a positive high, pupils created presentations on Thursday 26th October based on their choice of an influential black figure, researching their history, considering how BHM impacts black society, and discussing Mental Health. The pupils were tested on their knowledge of the presentations and Black History during a game show.





Poilce Intervention workshops

The school was visited by representatives of the Metropolitan Police to deliver a workshop aimed at keeping young people safe from any gangs attempting to coerce individuals into involvement with drugs or gang activity. Police officers facilitating the presentation have said that the engagement by the pupils was well received.



Parliament Trip

Our pupils visited the Palace of Westminster. They learnt about the House of Commons and the House of Lords as well as the history of Britain's Kings and Queens, providing valuable insights into the functioning of the British parliamentary system. It's also great that the tour included interactive elements such as a quiz, making the experience more enjoyable and interactive for the pupils.



Student council – New pupil representatives

On Wednesdays, the Student Council's pupil representatives participate in a one-hour meeting to discuss key issues impacting pupil and school life. This is a perfect opportunity for our pupils to listen to each other and vocalise their views amongst staff as well as the rest of the student council team. The school values everyone's input and therefore the student council is key to making sure our pupil's voices are heard.

World Mental Health Day

Pupils and staff wore yellow in support of World Mental Health Day and YoungMinds **#HelloYellow** campaign. Additionally, students engaged in activities such as crafting mind maps, exploring poetry, and expressing their thoughts on the



significance of Mental Health. They also learned the importance of seeking assistance, regardless of the challenges they may be facing.



Our Newest Alumni Peer Mentor Volunteer - Mario

On Monday 20th November, Mario successfully completed his interview at TCES Central Services for the role of Alumni Peer Mentor. Mario is a sixth-form student who started his journey with TCES at the age of 15 as a year 10 pupil.

Mario articulated himself well, and really wanted to make a difference in encouraging self-belief for his fellow pupils. In addition, Mario shared some of his views and said, "I know what it's like to find some things difficult and I want to help and support others to become more confident". He added: "I want other learners to think that they can be a leader too".



Congratulations Mario!

Open Day



TCES East London held an Open Day on site, Friday 17th November for prospective pupils and their families. The day began with a warm welcome from our Headteacher, Mr. Ishamar Blake, followed by an incredible presentation. One of our assessment managers, Leona Talian, spoke about the TCES referral process, which prompted additional questions.

During the presentation, parents and local authorities provided positive feedback and asked questions. The school tour was accompanied by our staff as lead guides, and the classrooms were decorated and filled with information about each subject. Each attendee was given a goodie bag upon their arrival. It was a pleasure having many families attend and engage.

TCES 24th Anniversary

On November 5th, TCES celebrated its 24th anniversary. Thank you to all our staff and pupils for their hard work and dedication for so many years, and to the CEO and Proprietor, Thomas Keaney, for believing in his vision. As TCES has evolved over the years, it has become an institution that offers therapeutic education and bridges the gap between children with complex educational needs and mainstream schools. Over the years, the TCES multidisciplinary expert teams have positively transformed pupils' perceptions of their own skills, strengths, and abilities. TCES are committed to achieving the best outcomes for each pupil by enabling access to education. We do not exclude pupils. We never give up!



Anti-bullying Week -

Pupils participated in various activities, including wearing odd socks and creating anti-bullying posters and certificates. It was an eventful week ahead where pupils learned that being kind, polite and helpful to others makes a





big difference to an individual's life. Pupils also presented their posters to their teachers and peers during their Friday Celebration assembly. They were awarded certificates for their hard work and creativity.

Creative Art – Pupils' Artwork (Abstract)

There has been a focus on various artwork inspired by different themes and artistic influences.

This term pupils engaged in an experimental and creative art lesson where they created abstract paintings using ink and soap bubbles. This fun and dynamic process involves dripping ink over a tray of soap bubbles, which are then printed onto paper. These organic art pieces were later photographed using a kaleidoscopic lens and will be used to create an exhibition onsite. Pupils were excited about the process and unexpected outcomes and couldn't wait to see their work on display at the school.





Creative Art - Pupils' Artwork (Van Gogh)

Using 'The Starry Night' from Van Gogh as inspiration, pupils have been working on creating Christmas cards, one of the Christmas traditions at TCES. Christmas is an important event for the arts calendar, culminating with the Christmas card competition.

The winning card has become the TCES official Christmas card and will take home a generous Christmas hamper to share with their families.





We have really enjoyed celebrating Christmas at TCES East London School as seen in the following pictures from: Supporting Newham Food Bank drop off



Christmas Jumper Day



Christmas Talent Show













TCES is committed to safeguarding vulnerable children and young people and safeguarding is the responsibility of us all.

CREATING UNIQUE JOURNEYS FOR LIFE AND LEARNING

www.tces.org.uk Beacon House, 24-26 Worple Road, SW19 4EE

9



Merry Christmas

₩