



Welcome to TCES National Online School

The first thing you might notice in this newsletter is that our name and logo have changed. What will this mean for you? Only good things - in that it will give us more scope to offer a wider curriculum (more subjects) and more opportunities for interaction with others (like more assemblies, form time, student council, extra curricular clubs, games etc).

But as always the newsletter is here to celebrate the last term and prepare for the next.

We are celebrating Assemblies, Student Council, the start of new clubs and your lovely work this term. But first a word from some of the HL family:

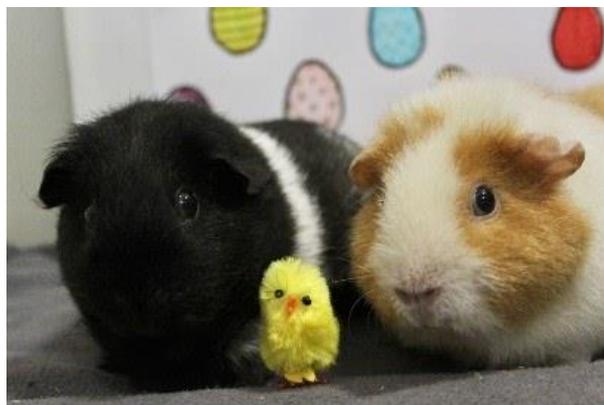
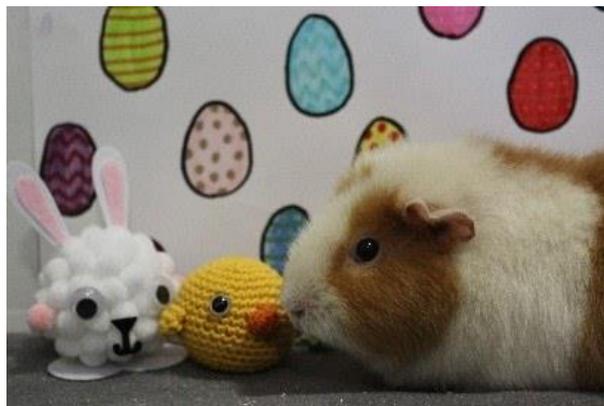
Happy Easter



Thank you to E, one of our lovely students whose creative talents lead her to do a seasonal montage starring the lovely trusted and Loyal Guinea Pigs Luna (Black and White) and Daphne (Ginger and White).

E is passionate about animals and is seeking a career in veterinary nursing. E is a clear supporter of the value of pets as part of the therapeutic delivery and I have seen and enjoyed the incredible positive impact from both of these Guinea Pigs. E takes incredible care of her animals and has a wealth of knowledge regarding the appropriate care and provision for a number of animals. She ensures that these photos are taken with love and care for Daphne and Luna





Sadly a few weeks after taking these photos, Daphne passed away which has obviously been devastating for E. In her usual style, where she puts care of the animals first, E knew that Luna would also be suffering as they are social animals. Introducing a new Guinea Pig needs to be done carefully and E has researched the correct way to bond a new guinea pig to an existing guinea pig

and has found a new member of the family and will be slowly introducing Mabel to Luna in a safe, neutral space until they have bonded.

We know that E has a true vocation with animals and I'm sure she would be happy to support other people with questions and answers if you are also interested in the therapeutic nature of support that can be received from animals.

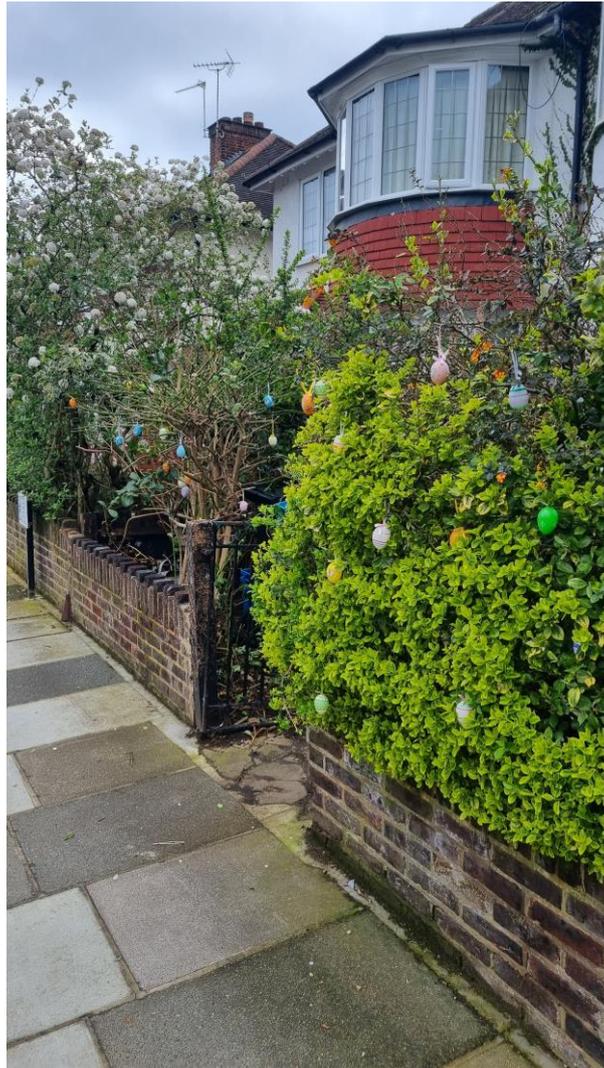
Thank you for sharing both Daphne and Luna with us and we look forward to seeing more of Mabel in the future.



Online School Assembly



Thank you to Edit and Yakhub for their fantastic Assembly about Easter and Eid on Friday. Apart from making me very hungry with the depictions of the lovely food I was also very pleased to see a house near me who had decorated their front garden with eggs. I had never seen this before the assembly and was so happy to see it on my way home the other day.



Like all schools, our assemblies are an opportunity to meet across all year groups and think about different subjects.

It is a time to celebrate success and to find out what is new. It is time to see other tutors and students.

Some of our students are happy to merely listen with their cameras off, some of our students are only comfortable watching the recorded assembly with their tutor at a different time, and some of our students have actually led an assembly. Whatever way you participate we are happy for you to be there with us.

The Spring term saw our assemblies double by moving to a twice-weekly format, including new weekly 'all about us' assemblies.

In January and February we launched our careers education programme together with our LIFE programme (Leadership, Independence, Future Options and Employability skills).

We also put on a number of themed assemblies covering topics from New Year's days resolutions, milestone birthdays, Chinese New Year and Holocaust memorial Day, NSPCC Number day, World Book Day, E-safety awareness and LGBTQ+ awareness month.

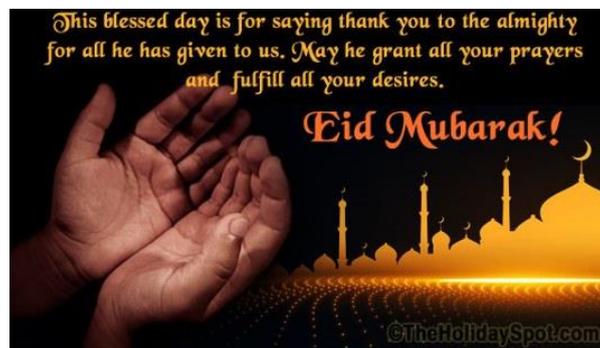
In March we held assemblies to mark National and International events, including National Careers Week, International Women's Day and British Science Week.

As an inclusive school community, we also respectfully embrace the diversity of our wider nation's communities, and we are keen to be representative of all religious beliefs and none. To this end, our term has culminated in celebrations to mark St Patrick's Day / Red Nose Day (where we raised £30 for Comic Relief) and other Spring religious observances and festivals, including a two-part comparison of Lent and Ramadan, followed by Easter and Eid as we move into April.

We also championed our first student-led assembly and especially enjoyed developing collaborations between students and tutors in co-delivering assemblies. We hope this example will inspire more students and tutors to follow suit!

After the holidays we will be increasing our capacity to hold daily assemblies at 9am, before lessons begin, with different themes for each day of the week.

We have been so impressed by the number of pupils who have attended assemblies at a way that suited them, we know joining a larger groups can be daunting and





**SPRING CELEBRATIONS
EID – EASTER**

TCES HOME LEARNING ASSEMBLY 31 MARCH 2023

Gardening Club

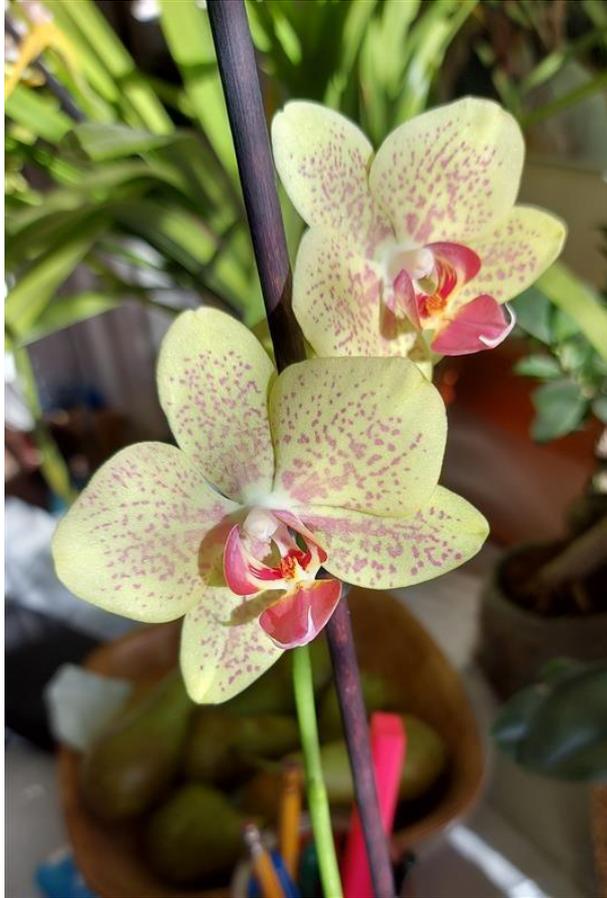




1 - Geoff - the baby spider plant (Looked after and nurtured by Matt)

Gardening Club is the first of many 'join in when you can' club forums for pupils to engage with. Participation is designed to boost wellbeing, to develop a love for the outdoors and a fascination with growing plants/ shrubs/ trees etc both in and out of doors. You don't have to have green fingers to take part, perhaps pupils might see something growing while out and about- pictures of natural scenes and plant life are very welcome and can be shared at any time on the Gardening Club forum in the 'Teams' section of Microsoft Teams.

Keep your eyes peeled for new and emerging clubs- Home Learning has a dedicated team of tutors who are hard at work coming up with new plans for future clubs. If you have any ideas of clubs you would like to see, please discuss any ideas with your tutor or write to them so they can pass on your thoughts.











TCES

THE COMPLETE
EDUCATION SOLUTION
HOME LEARNING



YOU'RE INVITED!

TO JOIN OUR STUDENT COUNCIL

We are excited to announce that Home Learning is putting together its first ever Student Council and you are invited to be one of its founding members. This is because you have demonstrated you are working hard and displaying the TCES Community Values.

The primary needs for a Student Council member are:

- To work with other students for the collective benefit of all.
- To give pupils an opportunity to have their say, be able to voice concerns, make recommendations, request resources, and ask questions.
- To work with senior staff directly to suggest, gather, and work towards positive outcomes for the Home Learning Community.
- To work with the student population, listen to and value their views and present these to staff during council meetings.
- To present student council related items during assembly from time to time.
- To develop and model teamwork, leadership, and communication skills.
- To support the work of our Alumni Mentor (who is also a student in Home Learning).

Other information:

- Meetings will run for approximately 30 minutes, 2 per month initially and we will try to schedule meetings, so they don't interfere with learning time.
- You don't have to have your camera on if you do not want to.
- You might feel more comfortable typing responses or making voice recordings rather than speaking live.
- Meetings will be online but on special occasions may take place in the Central Office in Wimbledon.

Student Council is going to be an important step for all of Home Learning, please help us make it the best it can be for all its members.

EVERY PUPIL HAS A VOICE
TO BE HEARD.

EMAIL: HOMELEARNING@TCES.ORG.UK

TEL: 020 8543 7878

WEBSITE: WWW.TCES.ORG.UK

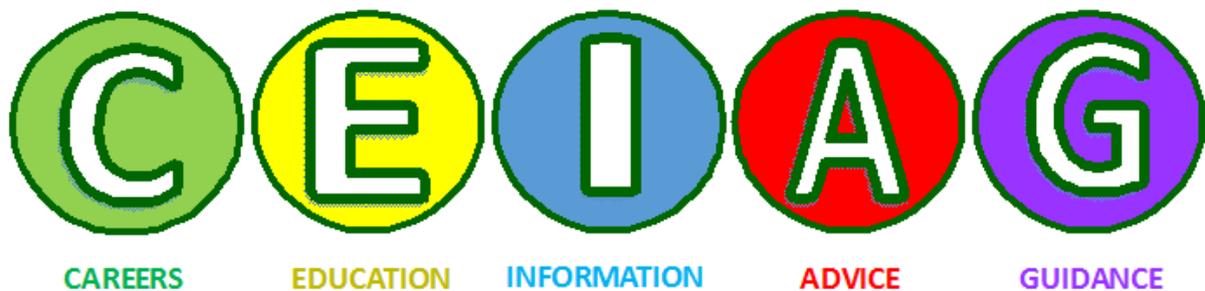


This is a new area for our pupils and our initial experiments into how the council can and will work have got off to a flying start, thanks to the support of our Post 16 pupils. The team of council members are working hard to find new opportunities for all pupils and develop the skills to eventually guide the council and the agenda items that are brought before it.

Our pilot group has demonstrated real professionalism, understanding and mutual respect in the work and time they have given to meetings, laying the foundation for expanding the membership to our younger pupils and working towards positive, student-led change.

Updates on the work of the council will be delivered during future assembly slots, including how more students can get involved. Well done and a special thank you to all those who have given their time and effort so far.

Careers Education (CEIAG)



At TCES, we pride ourselves on the depth and breadth of the support and opportunities we provide our pupils, and Home Learning is no exception!

We have a dedicated team of staff members who are working hard to develop and implement Careers Education, overseen by Niota our Careers Lead.

Careers Education for Home Learning has been regenerated from January. We are very grateful for the support provided by all our tutors who have attended training sessions in their own time in order to support pupils to build and develop a 'Careers Education Profile' via Unifrog. Unifrog is a learning platform specifically geared towards careers education. Progress towards this began with several questionnaires designed to pick up on likes, interests and existing aptitudes to match potential areas of study, work experience and career options for pupils.

Niota has been able to prioritise a growing number of Post 16 pupils for careers advice, guidance and work experience meetings.

Tutors are currently supporting pupils to develop their 'skills profiles' by using Unifrog to record occasions where they have employed 12 key skills and the outcomes of these. This follows on from learning and content delivered as part of our assembly programme by Home Learning staff and guest presenters. The Careers Education curriculum will continue to develop over time with tutors delivering targeted careers workshops every half term.



2 - AS on the Kingsway College Taster Day



Celebrating Student Work

A wonderful piece of independent project work on an area of interest for one of our students.

Student Work

SEA OTTER

Types of Otters

- * Sea Otter
- * Giant Otter
- * Eurasian Otter
- * Asian small clawed otter
- * North American River Otter
- * Hairy-nosed Otter
- * Spotted neck otter
- * Smooth coated otter
- * Lutra
- * Marine Otter
- * Neotropical Otter
- * Southern river otter
- * African clawless otter

Flattened molar teeth and have a total of 32 teeth

Only marine animal capable of lifting and turning over rocks

Their fore feet are small flaps with retractable claws

Under each fore arm the sea otter has a loose pouch of skin that extends across the chest, allows the otter to store food and can hold a rock used to open shellfish

Rear feet are modified for swimming and are webbed

Sea otters can have up to 150,000 hair follicles per square cm

They hold their hands when they sleep to stop drifting away

An adult sea otter is the smallest of the marine mammals. Average adult can be up to 5ft in length and weigh up to 70lbs.

Sea otters have an enlarged heart

Nostrils close when diving for food

2 layers of very dense fur. The outer layer of hair is called the guard hair which protects the under layer that stays dry. This also helps to keep heat loss limited. Sea otters have the most dense fur of any animal.

Sea otters can hold their breath for up to 5 minutes

Sea otters mainly eat sea urchins as well as shellfish like crabs, snails, clams and mussels.

Long flat tails to help them swim

A sea otter can live its entire life without leaving the water

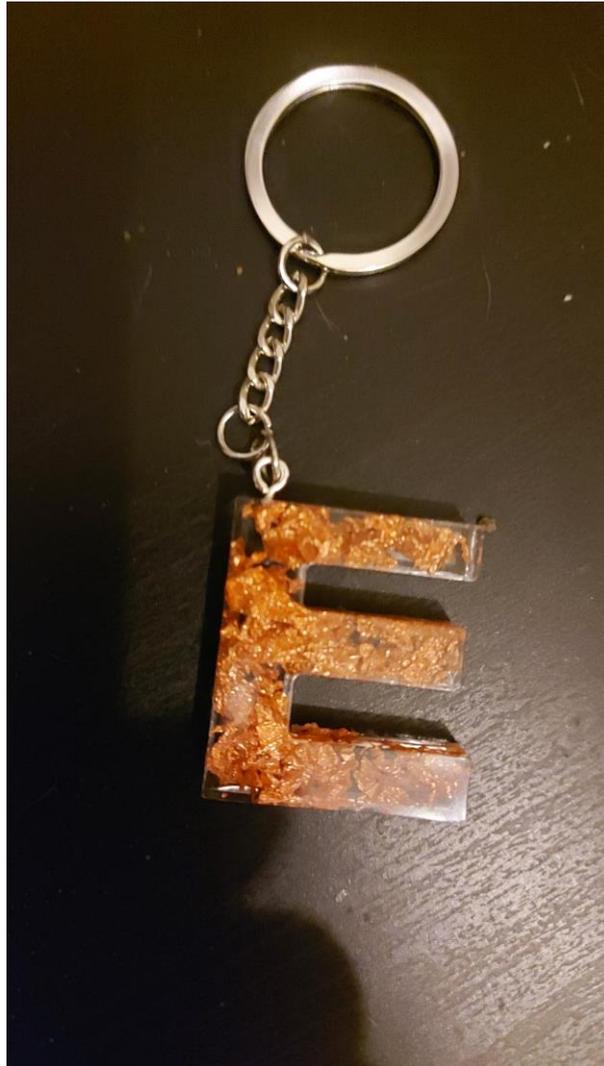
Live in coastal waters

They need to keep their fur clean as if its dirty then they trouble absorbing the air. Needed to keep warm.

Sea otters can live for up to 25 years but the average life span is 10-12 years




3 - Handmade Easter Card (AS)



4 - Resin Key chain (AS)

TCES National Online School



I suppose the easiest way to describe what this means - is that Home Learning is growing. When you started with us, we may only have been able to offer you Maths and English teaching. What is known as the Core Subjects.

This is of course connected to the importance of those two subjects but also because it may have only been possible to offer limited tutoring hours to you.

We are now able to offer more lessons, in different subjects and with a greater emphasis on supporting your individual needs on your educational journey.

Celebration - Saying Goodbye



All of our pupils are on different journeys and at different speeds. This term 3 of our students have been able to re-engage with onsite learning, one in a mainstream school and two in schools with small classes that are more suitable to their needs.

We were happy to be able to support their transition and to work with their school to ensure that the school understand the needs of the amazing student that they are going to be lucky enough to support. Well done A, C and R - We wish you every success for the future. Please keep in contact with your good news.