

VISION



SPRING 2016 EDITION 7

www.tongschool.co.uk



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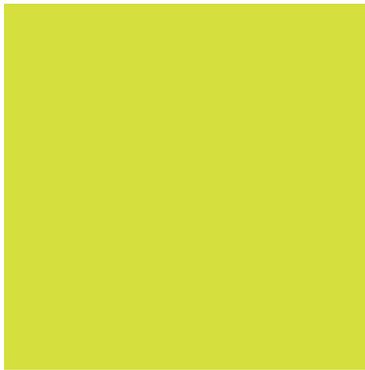
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Hello

As you are aware, Tong High School is continuing to work towards achieving its core purpose which is to maximise the potential of every learner and provide them with the skills, qualifications qualities and opportunities needed to succeed in an ever-changing world.

I hope that you enjoy reading **VisiON** - designed to help you stay up to date with all the news and views from the school.

This edition celebrates some of the great things that have been happening at Tong this term.

Throughout the month of February, Tong High School took part in Micro Tyco in an attempt to win a national enterprise charity project for the third consecutive year. Read more on page 4.

Tong has invested in 3 karts and launched a new Tong Karting Club. Read more on page 5.

Next term we will start our transition programme for current Year 6 students who will be joining our school in September 2016. We continue to work closely with our primary schools and over the past couple of months we have hosted a range of events, including a Poetry Competition, Sportsability event and the Anne Frank Exhibition. Read more on pages 7 and 8.

We were also delighted to have been highly commended at the The Bradford Telegraph & Argus School Awards 2016 for two awards; Voluntary Contribution Award, for our Deloitte Partnership and Business in Schools Award, for our partnership with InCommunities.

Academy

As you are aware, in October 2015, Tong announced that the Regional Schools' Commissioner had identified the best sponsor

for the school and Governors approved the recommendation of working with Tauheedul Education Trust (TET).

TET runs an outstanding, growing network of faith and non-faith primary and secondary schools in the North, Midlands and London. It also develops education partnerships and has delivered successful school improvement support to many community schools in the region.

As a student at Tong, your son/daughter will benefit from being part of a highly successful partnership with Tauheedul Education Trust (TET) which has a proven record of securing positive outcomes for students.

We will continue to work closely with parents and continually seek their feedback. This ongoing engagement will be critical to our approach, and the success of the school moving forward.

FAQs and other information about becoming an academy can be found on our website www.tongschool.co.uk/academy

If you have any specific queries please contact your child's Assistant Head Teacher, Student Progress Leader or Deputy Student Progress Leader.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support

Stephen Curran,
Head teacher

Calendar

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24th March

School Closes for Easter

Between
29th March - 8th April

Easter Revision Sessions

6th - 8th April

Accelerate Sport and
Dance Camps

11th April

School Re-opens

2nd May

School Closed for May Day

5th May

Primary Presentation
Evening 5.00-7.00pm

19th May

Year 7 Parents'
Evening 5.30-8.00pm

27th May

School Closes for Half Term

6th June

School Re-opens

9th June

Year 8 Parents'
Evening 5.30-8.00pm

What Week Is It?

Following Student Feedback via our Student Voice leadership programme, we are adding information each Sunday to our Facebook page. This will inform students what week it is (whether it is a week one or week two timetable) so that students can check in order to be fully prepared and equipped for learning. www.facebook.com/OfficialTongHighSchool/

AMP Awards - Tong Band Kru\$ade Win a Music Video

The AMP awards were held on Monday 29th February at St Georges Hall.

The AMP Awards present an authentic, exciting business challenge and a platform for live, original performance, enabling young people to discover and evidence skills, increase confidence and grow strong, collaborative, cross community networks.

The Tong Music BTEC group consisted of Aiden Hadley, Kallum Keeley, Briony Mellor, Mika Rowe-Bailey, Anniree Thornton, Daniel Russell, Jake Grant, Harry Sutcliffe and Chelsea Woolley. Briony and Mika ran the business teams and the rest of the students were in the bands that competed – Vibe\$ and Kru\$ade.

Tong students were also in charge of front of house on the night, setting up stalls for other schools and running a raffle to raise money for Pump Aid.

Kru\$ade played flawlessly and secured a 3rd place spot at the AMP Awards. This is the first time Tong has placed in this competition. They have won a music video recording session with 'Ont Sofa'.

They were incredibly professional and did an absolutely amazing job raising far more than the £500 required to compete.



THS6 Sixth Form Applications **16-17**

THS6 helps young adults reach their full academic, career and personal potential. Tong High School's impressive record of continuous improvement in the Sixth Form, further cements it as one of the highest performing school sixth forms in the area.

With our wide range of Level 2 and Level 3 courses to choose from, there is something for everyone - whether you have got your sights set on university or developing your knowledge and skills ready for work. To find out more and to apply please visit www.tongschool.co.uk/sixth_form

Have you collected your Examination Certificates?

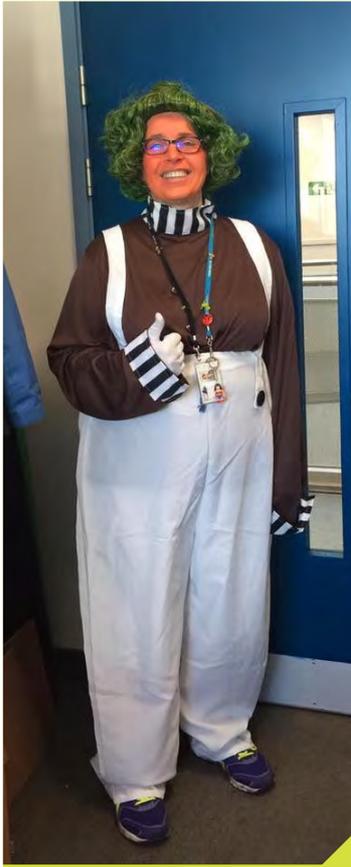
The school's Examinations Office stores uncollected exam certificates for up to 5 years. If you know someone who left the school in the last few years but has never collected their certificates please get in touch - office@tongschool.co.uk.



Year 8 Girls' Athletics Team

The Year 8 Girls' Sports Hall Athletics Team won the South Bradford partnership heat which earned them a place in the Bradford finals.

The girls participated in a number of track and field events including the relay, the 8 lap parlay, the long jump and the shotput. The girls performed to an excellent standard in the competition constantly encouraging other students and being excellent ambassadors for the school. The girls came first out of the whole of Bradford which is a great achievement for the school.



Staff and students came together to explore and enjoy books on the 3rd March as part of World Book Day.

Staff carried around their favourite book and also dressed up as famous book characters.

All students and staff took part in a Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) time. This time was two o'clock; the amount of time was fifteen minutes of reading, just until the bell. Students brought books from home, and engrossed themselves in these books.

Throughout the day there was a range of activities in the Love to Learn Centre and also a charity 'Don't Judge a Book by its Cover' book sale which rose over £80 for two special charities in memory of Mr Goodyear.

The books were all wrapped, labelled up and then available for Tong students (and staff) to choose from. This encourages the reader not to make a

judgement based on a picture but to think about the description. With only keywords as hints, readers can't judge these books by their cover – this is a great way to discover reading and also new books, authors and genres – a creative way to try new things.

When asked about World Book Day, Sobia, Sixth Former, responded "I think it is something that encourages young and old people to read and celebrate books/literature" and Louis, Sixth Former, comments "I just love to read."

"World Book Day is a great opportunity to encourage reading and also be introduced to texts you may not have heard of before," Ms. Middleton, from English, comments.

"I think that everyday should be a World Book Day," says Miss Craige from Love2Learn.

Written by Sophie Gannon, THS6 student

World Book Day at Tong



Tong High School Students Visit Housing Scheme

A group of Tong students recently visited a £5million housing scheme in Bradford to see the work that community regeneration specialist Keepmoat is carrying out on behalf of Home Group.

Year 10 students from Tong High School made the trip to site, on Galsworthy Avenue in Chellow Heights, to find out more about the new homes being built.

The BTEC Construction and the Built Environment students had a tour around the perimeter of the site and had the opportunity to ask questions as they inspected the new homes.

Gary Bramhald, Project Manager at Keepmoat, said: "At Keepmoat, we believe it is important to encourage

students to visit our developments, to find out what it's like to work on a construction site and to ask any questions they might have about the work taking place. It was a pleasure to welcome the students to Chellow Heights and meet the next generation of construction talent."

Justin Millard, Teacher at Tong High School, said: "Visiting a real construction site gave the students a valuable insight into life in the workplace. Keepmoat's contribution was invaluable in bringing important aspects of the course to life, including working in a team, solving work related problems and safety in the workplace."

This visit was part of the CE:BE

The Centre of Excellence for the built environment flagship programme for students aged 14-19.

CE:BE provides a unique opportunity for young people to benefit from extensive collaboration between employers, colleges and schools to gain a career specific educational experience, preparing them for a wide range of future careers in the Construction and Built Environment.

The number of job opportunities within the sector is growing and therefore CE:BE prepares individuals with the right skills enabling them to complete in the market place both locally and globally.

Tong has been part of this flagship programme from the start and Tong students have been involved in the programme since September 2015.

Tong students say; "It's helped me understand how the construction industry works." "I did not realise how many different job roles there were in the construction industry."

"My aim is to get an apprenticeship out of this project."

"The best thing about the project is visiting the different building sites because that helps me understand how the houses are put together, because I can see it for myself, and I'm not just being told about it from my teacher."

Deloitte Chairman Kicked Off Enterprise Challenge at Tong



Nick Owen Chairman

In February, Tong High School took part in the month-long attempt to win a national enterprise charity project for the third consecutive year.

To kick off the challenge, MicroTyco student leaders from our sixth form were visited by the Deloitte UK chairman. As part of a visit to West Yorkshire, Nick Owen visited the school to talk to students about their bid to win the 2016 Micro-Tyco project.

The competition sees teams from local schools given a micro-loan of £1 and challenged to grow that amount over the following month.

All money raised through Micro-Tyco is invested by the charity WildHearts into micro-loans for entrepreneurs to start their own businesses in developing countries around the world. Tong High School, which has 1,600 students, won the project in 2014 by generating £3,657 from the initial £1, and repeated the feat a year later by turning £1 into £5,030.

Thank you to all those who supported us this year, as we turned our £1 into £3674.29.

This year, students planned a range of events – including samosa sales, tombolas, raffles, a staff pamper evening, a Valentine fair, charity football matches and an auction which included a Bradford Bulls signed shirt and rugby ball, One Direction signed jumper and card from Zayn Malik, signed football boots from Jordan Henderson, Astin Martin driver

experience, Leeds Bradford Airport VIP passes and much more...

Staff from Deloitte Leeds once again supported the students in their endeavours, through the firm's mentoring programme with the school.

Steve Curran, Head teacher says; "As well as maximising the academic achievement of all our students, we want to provide them with cutting-edge experiences and links to networks to help them stand out from the crowd when they enter the jobs market or apply to university."

Deloitte has partnered with the school since 2013, providing students with mentors to help them with future career options, running workshops on core employability skills – such as CV writing and interviewing – and offering the youngsters valuable insights into the business world.

Nick Owen, chairman at Deloitte, said: "Hearing some of the stories of how the students apply entrepreneurial thinking to the Micro-Tyco challenge was very inspiring, and it is clear that the support provided by Deloitte in the region has been extremely valuable.

"We have established a very positive and fruitful working relationship with Tong High School and we will continue to build on this to provide the students with practical steps to releasing and realising their potential."



Tombola at the Deloitte Leeds office



Team meeting with MicroTyco student leaders and Deloitte mentors



MicroTyco Leaders at the Deloitte Leeds office

Tong Karting Club Takes to the Track

Maths teacher Mr Sirrett has set up a new Tong Karting Club. The club initially consists of 3 karts and 6 students, with two students per kart. They will race in NatSKA (National School's Karting Association), a national championship with one student being the mechanic whilst the other drives. On a Wednesday evening students will meet to work on the karts.

Mr Sirrett says; "I began my own racing career in schools' karting. My grandfather and father both raced and therefore were keen for me to start racing. Having had some success at national schools level my Dad and I took the decision to form a 'Dad and lad' team and race in the national championships. This experience changed my whole education and therefore is something I can't wait to replicate here at Tong."

There is a huge amount to learn both practically and mathematically as well as socially. The Wednesday night sessions have a themes such as: What ratio to mix the oil and fuel in (maths), How to change the engine (practical) and How to deal with the officials (social).

Students chosen have already attended a "warm up" day at OnTrak community initiative, working on the karts in the morning before driving them in the afternoon.

After this initial pilot, we are hoping that the club will be on offer to all students who wish to participate.



Revision Tips - Top Tips for Students

It is the countdown to exam season. We understand that the run up to the exams can sometimes be scary and stressful and we want to help prepare you and ensure that you are confident and nothing will be able to stop you maximising your potential and achieving the best possible grades.

Top Tips

- Do not prevent others from learning and reaching their potential.
- Follow the advice given by staff and ask questions.
- Use every opportunity to give yourself the best chance! Lessons, mock exams, revision classes, home learning, online revision tools, holiday sessions...
- Use your time at home effectively by creating a revision timetable - allocate topics to days, and make sure you have enough time for everything you want to revise. Balance the time you have available between your various courses. Do not neglect courses you find particularly easy or difficult.
- Use alternative ways to revise... Mind Maps, pictures, test cards, teach your parents the topics, making a story out of things to remember, making up acronyms, songs/raps...
- During the week before the examinations (mocks included) make sure that you get plenty of exercise and sleep.
- The night before the exam (mocks included) make sure that you have all your examination equipment ready, make sure you know where to be, which room and what time and try to do something you really enjoy doing. Try to relax and get an early night.
- Do your best! Be positive – go in to the exam thinking about passing with good grades.



Free Books from The Bradford Hub

Thank you to The Bradford Hub who provided Tong's English Department with free books. They sent us enough books for the whole of our Year 10 to study 'The Sign of Four'.

Sport Relief 2016

On Friday 18th March in every minute of the school day from 8:15am-2:15pm, Tong High School, the Accelerate team, Tong and Sixth Form students took part in a 6 hour continuous triathlon.

At Tong High School our aim is to promote in all local students (primary and secondary), an understanding and appreciation of the positive benefits of health and physical activity.

In the run up to Sports Relief on Friday 18th March, Accelerate offered local primary schools a half day taster session.

The triathlon involved different members of staff throughout the day swimming lengths in our 25m swimming pool and cycling and running in the middle of the school's atrium on treadmills and exercise bikes.



Tong Hosted The Anne Frank: A History Exhibition

Tong High School hosted the "Anne Frank: A History for Today" display - provided by the Anne Frank Trust. The exhibition was in Tong High School's Love to Learn centre from Monday 8th February – Friday 12th February.

Tong High School Year 8 and 9 students led tours of the exhibition for Year 5 and 6 local primary school students.

The exhibition tells the tragic tale of Anne Frank, who kept a diary after she and her family were forced into hiding when the German army occupied Amsterdam, and continued their persecution of the Jews.

The exhibition consists of 30 panels with each depicting a different aspect of her life, and ultimate death, in Belsen concentration camp aged just 16.

The Anne Frank Trust UK is the British partner organisation of The Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, which was founded in 1957 by Otto Frank in order that his daughter's diary be used as a general force for good.

Drawing on the power of Anne Frank's life and diary the exhibition hopes to challenge prejudice and reduce hatred, encouraging people to embrace positive attitudes, responsibility and respect for others.

Nearly three and a half million people have visited the Anne Frank exhibitions and thousands of primary and secondary schools, have taken part in these educational workshops.

Get in touch...

You can reach the Main Reception via any of the following methods:

Write to:

Tong High School,
Westgate Hill Street,
Bradford BD4 6NR

Call:

01274 681455

Email:

office@tongschool.co.uk



 @Tong_HighSchool  www.facebook.com/OfficialTongHighSchool

www.tongschool.co.uk

Sportsability

On 29th February primary school students took part in the Accelerate KS1 Sportsability competition at Tong High School.

The event was a carousel of activities for KS1 pupils, testing skills and giving pupils an opportunity to try some disability sports.

Students took part in bowling, boccia target toss, kurling golf, balance beam, pong ball, tennis ball transfer, goal ball and poly bat target. Congratulations to the winning team from Whitechapel Primary School.



Poetry Competition

Hundreds of local primary school students had a great time at our Accelerate Primary Performance Poetry Competition in February - we all thought was AWESOME!

Poet Conrad Burdekin said; "I was absolutely blown away by the skill and dedication of all the pupils. They had me smiling from the word go, and I just couldn't stop. On the way home I kept thinking of different parts of the performances and how good they all were."

Before the competition, as part of the Accelerate Arts offer, Conrad had visited primary schools in the area to work with local pupils to create and perform wonderful poems.

He continues; "I think that performance poetry is a great skill in and of itself, but to be able to perform a poem that the children have written themselves, I think, gives it that little bit extra."

Over 900 young people took part in the February Bradford Winter School Games 2016

The Bradford Winter School Games were on Tuesday 9th February 2016 at the University of Bradford and involved over 900 young athletes from across

Bradford, competing to be crowned Bradford Schools' Champions as well as securing team places in the West Yorkshire Finals.

The day was a huge success with Tong High School leaders umpiring the table tennis competition. They were a real credit to the school.



Picture courtesy of Bradford T&A