

Spring 2021—Edition 2



# NEWSLETTER

## TWO RIVERS High School




### The Training Initiative

A group of lucky students in Year 11-14 have been working with staff at The Training Initiative in Tamworth to develop their carpentry and wood working skills. They have been travelling into Tamworth each Friday morning and have made a number of excellent pieces including bird tables and planters.

**Welcome** to our latest Two Rivers High School.....Newsletter!

**Congratulations:** We are pleased to announce that Mr Silk and Mrs Gazey-French will each take up position as Assistant Headteacher at Easter. Mr Silk will lead on pastoral and behaviour matters and Mrs Gazey-French will lead learning and teaching.



We would like to introduce you all to Mrs Peters who will be joining us after Easter. Mrs Peters will be the form tutor for Lower K. She will also teach other classes across Lower and Middle School. We are really looking forward to welcoming her to our school.

We have been fortunate enough to receive funding for the refurbishment of the sports hall. The repairs will include a new roof, heating & lighting system and modernisation to bring the building into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The works have a completion date of the end of June. This will mean that we are without the sports hall for lessons during this period. With the summer term looming hopefully the impact of this will be minimal, as pupils will be taking part in outdoor activities as planned. We appreciate your support in ensuring the car park remains as safe as possible whilst the building work is in progress.

**Year 11-14** students have been discussing options for the next stage of their journey into adulthood. Students have been looking at further learning and employment opportunities in class.



Nicki Hamilton from Calm Careers will be coming in for the rest of this term and some of next term to hold 1:1 meetings with students to discuss their interests and investigate the opportunities available to them.

Nicki will be available every Wednesday lunchtime for an informal chat with students Year 11-14. She will also be hold sessions for Lower and Middle school as well as some online video sessions for Parents in May. You will be informed of the dates at the start of the Summer Term.

### Upcoming Events

**Inset Day**—Thursday 1st  
April 2021

**Easter Holidays**  
2nd—16th April 2021

**Pupils return**—Monday  
19th April 2021

**May Day**— Monday 3rd  
May 2021

# AROUND



23/03/2021

**River O** celebrated World Water Day (22nd March) by photographing all the objects around school, which either had water in them or gave them water. We thought about why water was important and how we could save water. We also put our upcycling skills to good use and made some fish out of plastic water bottles.

## Lower School

For World Book day Lower school enjoyed a Harry Potter themed day! Each student was sorted into a house and dressed up as witches, wizards and muggles. Throughout the day students earned points for their house.

They took part in magical math lessons, enjoyed reading and watching Harry Potter and the Philosophers stone, designing a sock for Dobby and making some magical treats in the kitchen, which included Butter Beer, Golden Snitches, and trying Berties every flavour beans!



### Final scores-

1st	2nd	3rd	4th
99	102	64	78

It was an amazing day and even the staff got involved



**Lower L** have been reading and working on "A river journey" story during home learning. As the journey finished at the sea port, we carried on around the bay in our virtual boat, and landed on the sand. The beach then came into the classroom and Lower L enjoyed a day of activities including making gulls, enjoying mocktails, building sandcastles, having a foot spa and eating ice lollies. Hopefully they will be able to visit the real beach soon!

**Lower K** had a virtual farm visit to Cronkshaw Fold Farm where farmer Archie introduced us to many of the animals including Sebastian and Margaret the goats. We've got back into the swing of being back together in the same class and are focussed on our wellbeing and remembering how to be good friends to each other. Photo from the farm—this is Margaret



Neil Guibao Christopher Butcher Dylan Fairfield

In Art, **Year 7 and 8** students had an egg-citing time taking part in an Easter egg competition. Each student designed and decorated an egg to look like their favourite character. Well done to the winners! Cracking work Lower School!



Bradley D'Sylva Lucas Bowman Ashton Crutchley

# SCHOOL



At **Forest School** the last few weeks all students have been enjoying getting outside and have made the most of the beautiful spring weather.

**6th Form** have been building dens and assault courses for the River groups to try out and all the groups have been looking for the signs of spring and making texture stones and spring pictures.



**River O** have made a sensory wall for students to use. They are really enjoying touching the different things and finding out if the texture is smooth, rough, soft or hard.

Our blue room is being used for messy play with water and sand available for students. River O enjoy their sensory time in this room.



**All classes** in the school were invited to take part in a special Times Tables Rock Stars tournament for Comic Relief.

Middle school did especially well with the top three classes being Middle E, Middle M and Middle S.

Individual stars were Holly, Elisha and Max. Well done to them and to everyone else who took part!

There is an exciting new page on our website for Makaton. You can find it on the parents and carers tab where we will share new songs, stories and lots more.





**Upper B** had a class party to welcome everyone back, we've been out using the exercise equipment in the playground, in life skills we've been practicing using a hob safely by making pancakes and cooking eggs which we then decorated for Easter.

**6<sup>th</sup> Form** cooking students have taken part in a competition to design an Easter egg. There were many fantastic entries. The 6<sup>th</sup> form staff voted for the top 3:



1<sup>st</sup> Place – Bethany Edwards  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Owen Gardiner  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Lisa Hunt

**Well done** to everybody for the eggcellent designs.

**Caudwell Children** is a national charity based in Staffordshire dedicated to improving the lives of disabled children in the UK. They have been awarded a grant from the Energy Saving Trust to help combat fuel poverty amongst families who have a child with a disability. In partnership with West Midlands-based Auriga Services, an organisation that helps reduce financial hardship by working with some of the largest utility companies across the UK, both organisations will be working together on the Warm Homes project to support families to use energy more efficiently and help manage household income, bills and debts. Families in our area are eligible for this service and you can self-refer by going to: [www.caudwellchildren.com/warmhomes](http://www.caudwellchildren.com/warmhomes)

**Warm Homes**  
 Keeping disabled children warm

Research shows that families with disabled children often have a lower family income than those with non-disabled children. Many parents are unable to work due to having to care for their child full-time and an estimated 20% of families go without all the heating they need during the winter months.

Caudwell Children has been awarded a grant from the Energy Saving Trust to operate a new service, known as the Energy Industry Voluntary Redress Scheme, to address this important issue.

**About Warm Homes**

Working in partnership with Auriga, a specialist advice organisation, Caudwell Children will provide a family support service, as well as advice to help families use their energy more efficiently and manage household income, bills and debts. Together, we will utilise our combined expertise to identify, engage and support families with disabled children to address their energy efficiency and affordability needs. We will provide:

- 2,000 families with a detailed home survey, energy efficiency guidance and income maximisation advice, appropriate to their specific needs
- 10,000 families with energy saving tips and information
- Additional family support services to meet the needs of families with a disabled child

**Who is eligible to apply?**

To be eligible, you must meet the following qualifying criteria:

- Live in one of the areas covered by the Warm Homes project (see map)
- Have a child with a disability (under the age of 5)
- Would like help understanding and managing your home energy usage and household bills

**Free Family Support**

Alongside an energy efficiency survey, Caudwell Children's Family Support Service offers families free support.

Skilled volunteers will talk through any concerns or issues that a family identifies and will jointly create a plan which might include things such as housing, education, applying for grants, family or social difficulties, providing information on local specialist support services and medical conditions, and information about the range of services provided by Caudwell Children.

**Interested in volunteering?**

We welcome applications from volunteers, who would like to support families and help us deliver this innovative scheme.

Email [volunteer@caudwellchildren.com](mailto:volunteer@caudwellchildren.com) or visit our website for more information [www.caudwellchildren.com/volunteer](http://www.caudwellchildren.com/volunteer)

**When will the scheme start?**

The Warm Homes scheme is a two-year initiative and will run from October 2020 until 31st August 2022.

**Which regions are covered by the scheme?**

The Warm Homes scheme is available to families with a disabled child in the following six areas of the East Midlands, West Midlands and the North West:

- Birmingham
- Nottingham
- Stoke-on-Trent
- East Staffordshire
- Liverpool
- The Wirral

**Money Saving Tips**

**Household Bills**

If you have been with the same energy or utility company for a while, you may want to consider switching to a cheaper deal. There are many comparison sites. A few not-for-profit sites are listed below:

- [www.Uswitch.com](http://www.Uswitch.com)
- [www.Moneywise.co.uk](http://www.Moneywise.co.uk)
- [www.Broadbandschoices.co.uk](http://www.Broadbandschoices.co.uk)

**Auriga Services**

To access a downloadable copy of Auriga's Money Saving Guide and budgeting tool, visit [www.caudwellchildren.com/warmhomes](http://www.caudwellchildren.com/warmhomes).

**Energy Saving Guide**

- Low energy lighting**  
Replacing traditional lightbulbs with low-energy alternatives could save you £35 per year.
- Turn off lights**  
Switching off lights, when not in use will reduce bills even if only for a few minutes. This could save you £14 p.a.
- Turn off electrical appliances**  
Turning off electrical appliances, instead of leaving them on standby will reduce bills. This could save you £50 per year.
- Turn the thermostat down**  
Lowering the heating temperature by only 1% can lead to an 8% cut in energy consumption. This could save you £30 p.a.
- Bolting a kettle**  
Only filling a kettle with the amount of water needed could save you £6 per year.

**How do I apply?**

Our team of advisers can guide you through the application process.

For further information or to apply, please contact us at:

- [caudwellchildren.com/warmhomes](http://caudwellchildren.com/warmhomes)
- 0345 300 1348
- [familyservices@caudwellchildren.com](mailto:familyservices@caudwellchildren.com)

**caudwell children**

**About Caudwell Children**

A leading children's charity formed in 2000 to transform the lives of UK disabled children and their families.

**auriga**

**About Auriga**

Established in 2004, Auriga is one of the UK's leading providers of services to people in financial difficulty. They specialise in supporting people who find themselves in challenging circumstances and are in need of help and advice.