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[www.todhigh.co.uk](http://www.todhigh.co.uk)

Headteacher: Miss G Shirt

#### Up & coming dates

HT virtual forum – Weds 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 3-4pm (TEAMS)

Photography trip – Tue 20<sup>th</sup> Sept

Y7 Progress Evening (1) – Thu 22<sup>nd</sup> Sept (tutors only) 4.30-7pm

Y11 Revision and IAG Evening – Weds 28<sup>th</sup> Sept 4.30-7pm

Y11 Geography trips (AM) – Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct, Weds 5<sup>th</sup> Oct, Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Oct

ARCH Day 1 – Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> Oct

Todmorden Together – Thu 6<sup>th</sup> Oct 5.30-6.30pm

September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was such a pleasure to welcome all our students back to school this Wednesday, particularly our Year 7 cohort who have been settling well into school life. Mrs Rawlinson and I led assemblies for each year group as they arrived at school throughout the day and we were pleased to see our students smartly dressed and well equipped for the school year. Please do familiarise yourself with our uniform and equipment expectations on our school website to ensure that your child is fully prepared for the school day [Uniform and Equipment - Todmorden High School \(todhigh.co.uk\)](http://todhigh.co.uk).

We would like to remind you that we have ceased selling juice cartons in our dining room as of this week. We ask that students bring a water bottle with them to school, and they will have opportunities throughout the day to fill this up if they need to. We will continue to provide cups at lunchtime, if required, to ensure that all students are fully hydrated for the day's learning. Thanks for your support with this as we move towards becoming more environmentally friendly.

Students in years 7-9 have assessments coming up starting next week. Students will complete a mixture of paper and computer-based literacy and numeracy assessments which will enable us to identify students' current working levels in these two core areas. This helps us to adapt our lessons and schemes of work to provide the best curriculum content for progress. Students are not required to revise prior to completing an assessment as we are interested in exploring students' current knowledge in these areas.

Alfie Senior (Year 10) was recently selected to represent the Lancashire League Cricket Team in Southport earlier this week. We were delighted to hear that his team won the cup, making them the LCF Inter League Under 15 champions. We are so proud of Alfie and his sporting achievements. Well done.

On Tuesday this week, several staff took 286 of our outstanding students on our annual rewards trip to Alton Towers. Both staff and students alike had a fantastic time exploring the park, with the thrill seekers taking full advantage of all the rollercoasters. All students behaved impeccably and embodied our core values throughout the visit. We were exceedingly proud of them and staff who attended told me it really was a day to remember.



Enabling individuals to unlock their unique potential

THS has recently switched to using buFF paper for printing services. Our paper is 100% recycled.

I would like to invite you to attend our first virtual parent drop in of the year with myself from 3-4pm next Wednesday (14<sup>th</sup> September) on TEAMS (these meetings take place fortnightly on a Wednesday). This is an opportunity to meet virtually with me to discuss anything school related. Meetings are held on a one-to-one basis, and you will be admitted to the meeting as another person leaves, so please be patient. I look forward to seeing you there. Please use the following link on the day to join <https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3aecef7915e0a547409eb1c21d7bc24f8f%40thread.tacv2/1662635104269?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22e04fa957-592e-450e-98c1-6d3d3a481a58%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22ef25ef08-bf19-4062-8904-69d1b035001b%22%7d>.

Our first Todmorden Together meeting of the academic year is on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October from 5.30-6.30pm. We are working together to ensure that our students have a safe and happy school and community to live in. If you are interested in becoming involved in this useful forum, which meets three times a year to discuss community issues, please don't hesitate to contact us. Get in touch with [e.womack@todhigh.co.uk](mailto:e.womack@todhigh.co.uk) to be added to our mailing list. This meeting will be taking place in our school library. Hope to see some of you there.

A vacancy has arisen for a receptionist to join our administration team in school. Our main requirement is for a team player who is confident in dealing with a wide range of front desk enquiries, calm under pressure and understands the needs of young people, parents, the public and the wider team. An ability to show understanding and care at all times is vitally important. Reception is often the first point of contact for parents approaching school with compliments and concerns. If you are interested in joining our wonderful staff team at Todmorden High School, please take a look at the recruitment section of our website to apply [Recruitment - Todmorden High School \(todhigh.co.uk\)](http://todhigh.co.uk).

I am deeply saddened to share with you that we received some tragic news over the holidays after a former student, Jalib Naqeebi, died while visiting family in Pakistan. I have been in touch with his family to offer our condolences, and we will continue to support them as much as we can. We are deeply saddened as a school community to hear of Jalib's passing. He was a much-loved member of our school, a real character, and we remember him fondly. I will be working with the family about a permanent memorial.

In response to the deeply upsetting news regarding the death of the Queen, please be assured that we will be fully supporting our school community as the nation moves into a period of mourning. Her Majesty devoted her life to public service and has been a steadfast figure in all of our lives. We recognise that this news will be highly upsetting for some of our students, and we will manage this using our ARCH values. All our staff are here to support every student within our care. Next week our school assemblies will be focused on the death of the Queen and addressing uncertainties our students may have about this sad news. Calderdale Council have been in touch with me today to advise that there will be a formal sequence of events that will be followed over the next 10 days leading up to the funeral of Her Majesty the Queen. I will keep all parents informed of any guidance we receive from them relating to the Queen's passing.

We will look forward to welcoming our students back to school next Monday morning for their first full week of school this academic term. I hope you have a restful weekend.

Yours Sincerely,



Gill Shirt  
Headteacher