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Headteacher: Miss G Shirt

Up & coming dates

Half term break – Friday 10th February
Students return – Monday 20th February
Virtual Headteacher's Forum – Wednesday 22nd February
Ski trip meeting – Tuesday 28th February 6-7pm
World Book Day – Thursday 2nd March

February 3rd, 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The past two weeks have been very musical for some of our students. Two of our year 10 students, Amber Smith and Robin Gavin, were lucky enough to get through to the Todmorden Folk Festival Youth Music competition on Friday 20th January at



Fielden Hall. Amber and Robin opened the concert with a performance of three American folk songs of their choice. Both students performed brilliantly and received some great feedback from the judges. Although our students did not win the overall prize that evening, they have secured another performance for the Todmorden Folk Festival later on this year. Watch out for the folk festival programme to see where they will be performing in April. Well done Amber and Robin.



Three more students from Todmorden High School have been rehearsing and performing with Todmorden Symphony Orchestra. An opportunity which was set up by the orchestra and local music charity, Music for the Many. On January 21st Raheem Naeem, Charlotte Wigley and Onyinye Davies-Ogbodo all performed at Todmorden Town Hall with the orchestra. The programme was inspired by Roald Dahl's 'The Twits' and consisted of a selection of classical pieces to introduce the story. Our students were lucky enough to

perform alongside the musicians from the orchestra, giving them a superb experience of orchestral playing. Well done, Raheem, Charlotte and Onyinye.



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And finally, one of our cello students, Casey Ross was joined by 12 other cellists on 27th January at Fielden Hall. Casey took part in a mass cello performance arranged through Music for the Many and the wonderful cello quartet, Celloship of the String. It was a wonderful experience to see so many cellists in one room and the students were treated to a delightful and varied programme of music arranged for cello quartet. Well done, Casey.

Great thanks and appreciation go to Daniel Bath and the tutors from Music for the Many, Todmorden Symphony Orchestra and to Darren Jones and the organisers from Todmorden Folk Festival for creating these wonderful, musical opportunities for our students to engage with.

Next week is National Apprenticeship week. This is a great option that an increasing number of our year 11 students are choosing when they leave school. An apprenticeship is a great choice to continue your studies as you get paid as you learn skills and gain experience. During an apprenticeship, you will study for at least 20% of your working hours. Apprenticeships cover a number of subject areas some of our former students are completing apprenticeships in; accounting, bricklaying, childcare, construction, engineering, joinery and pharmacy. As you can see there is a huge amount of choice, and a level 3 apprenticeship is equivalent to completing A levels.

You don't have to be an apprentice at 16 - there are routes post A-level, where an apprenticeship at level 4 or above is equivalent to completing a degree and your study will be at university.

To find out more about apprenticeships and the exciting careers available, visit the following links www.apprenticeships.gov.uk and <https://amazingapprenticeships.com/apprenticeship-arcade/>

Following on from this, National Careers week is coming up from 6th -11th March. We are running a careers fair for students on Wednesday 8th March and would welcome any support from any members of our community who could contribute to this. If you would like to support, please email a.nalborczyk@todhigh.co.uk. Thanks in anticipation of your support.

As always if you need to contact us regarding a concern, a compliment or an item for discussion, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school telephone line or email address listed on the header of this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Gill Shirt
Headteacher