



Ewood Lane
Todmorden
West Yorkshire
OL14 7DG
Tel: 01706813558

www.todhigh.co.uk

Headteacher: Miss G Shirt

Up & coming dates

Students break up from school – 21st July 12.20pm
GCSE results day – 24th August (info to follow)
Return to school – 6th September (staggered return)

July 21st, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Key information

End of school year – As we usually do, school will close early on Friday 21st July for the summer holidays. Students will be dismissed from school site at 12.20pm. Please ensure you have planned to account for this. Students who get the Bacup bus will be supported with their journey home at the slightly earlier time of 11.15am.

Start of next school year – Students will be returning to school on Wednesday 6th September 2023 for the start of Autumn term. Students will be returning on a staggered basis as outlined below. Students should not arrive in school prior to their allocated time, they will have an assembly to start and then begin their school day. Please speak to your child's learning manager should you have any questions.

- Year 8 - 8:30
- Year 11 - 8:50
- Year 7 - 9:30
- Year 10 - 10:20
- Year 9 - 10:45

Vape warning - I have recently received a Vape alert warning from Greater Manchester Police in respect of dangerous Synthetic Cannabinoids (SPICE) Vapes causing considerable medical issues for students at a school in Oldham. Please be aware these vape products are clearly in circulation and not far away from us. Calderdale Public Health are aware. Please be mindful of your child/children potentially accessing this harmful product. I have included a flyer at the rear of this letter.

KS3 celebration evening – thanks to all parents and students who attended the KS3 celebration evening last week. Students received awards for attainment, ARCH values and attendance among many more.



Enabling individuals to unlock their unique potential

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

It was so nice to see our students celebrating their successes throughout year 7 to year 9 and to see so many of you there. We were very proud of their achievements. Well done.



Permissions - We love to celebrate our students' successes in school. As part of this process, it is important that we have consent to use photographs of students, or not, in school communications. It is vital that you complete this document in full, selecting either the yes or no option. This has also been sent out as a whole school communication on Class Charts. Thanks to all those who have completed this previously, it will support us to celebrate your children's successes in school.

Please click on the link below:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=V6IP4C5ZDkWYwW09OkgawHmMfy7gGldJr9Xam0EPjklUMDVNUxHUIhNV1A4V1haNTQ4QjZERIM5US4u>

School news

Football champions - Our year 10 team played at a football tournament on Thursday 13th July at Calderdale College. They won the tournament on goal difference and also won the penalty shoot-out. Well done to the team on their brilliant performance!



Minster visit - On Monday, EPR students visited the Pocklington Buddhist Centre and York Minster. The trip allowed them to interact with faith representatives (such as Lekmo- A Buddhist Nun) to increase their comprehension of lived faith experience, as well as considering how the architecture of places of worship support Christian and Buddhist Practice. The students thoroughly enjoyed the day.

The students conducted themselves with excellence, following all of our values. We are very proud of them.





A smooth end to the year – Our gardening club ended the school gardening year by harvesting raspberries and blueberries to make celebratory smoothies! This is a great reminder that we can produce and process healthy food right here in Todmorden. We also harvested tomatoes and basil which will be used for soup. We look forward to returning after the break for further harvest, including pumpkins which we intend to make into soup for our next community event.

Other news - Calderdale Music are having an open day at The Old Courthouse in Halifax on Saturday 9th September as part of Heritage Weekend 2023. They have lots of free activities taking place, suitable for all ages. Flyer attached at the rear of the letter.

Apprenticeship opportunity - TONI&GUY have shared an exciting opportunity for 16-year-old school leavers interested in pursuing a rewarding career as a hairdresser through their Apprentice Programme. They will be hosting several Apprentice Programme Open Days at TONI&GUY salons located in Manchester (17th & 31st Aug). The event will kick off at 9.30 for a 10.a.m. start.

The day's schedule will be as follows:

- Introduction to TONI&GUY: Participants will get an in-depth understanding of the company's legacy, core values, and commitment to excellence in the hairdressing industry.
- Apprenticeship Programme Overview: Walk through the details of the comprehensive apprentice program, highlighting the benefits and opportunities it offers for personal and professional growth.
- Styling Sessions and Skill Building: Participants will have hands-on experiences with skilled stylists, where they can learn various hairstyling techniques and trends directly from industry experts.
- One-on-One Sessions: To ensure that each attendee gets personalized attention, they will arrange one-on-one sessions with partners to discuss ambitions, individual skills, and how the apprenticeship programme aligns with their career goals.

If any students are interested in attending this event, they can apply through the job advert at Manchester: <https://toniandguy.bamboohr.com/careers/588>

Flood siren – the flood sirens will be sounding in Todmorden on Thursday 28th September. Calderdale run the siren test to check audibility of this key flood resilience measure, and to raise awareness of flood risk with affected communities.

Battlefields trip – I am very excited to announce that, in September, I will be able to reveal details of a trip to the French Battlefields of World War 1 and a day in Disneyland Paris. This is something I have always wanted to do since joining Todmorden High School as I have done the trip before with other schools where I have worked. The visit will leave on Thurs 23rd May for 5 days. More exact details in September. It really is a fantastic trip and the experience of a lifetime. (Year 9 23/24-Year 10 23/24).

School day - Please remember that our school day has changed as of this September, students need to be on site by 8.30am. For the full new school day please visit our website [School opening hours and term dates - Todmorden High School \(todhigh.co.uk\)](https://www.todhigh.co.uk).

Our school reception will be closed throughout the summer holidays. The email inbox will be checked periodically. We hope you get to enjoy a lovely summer with your family and friends. We look forward to welcoming our students back to school in September.

Yours sincerely,



Gill Shirt
Headteacher

Saturday 9th September Heritage Weekend At The Old Courthouse

Calderdale Music, The Old Courthouse, Blackwall, Halifax, HX1 2DL

"HAVE A PLAY" DAY 10:30AM – 11:30AM

Your chance to try a piano, trumpet, trombone, flute, violin, ukulele or recorder! Suitable for all ages, though we recommend age 8+ for trumpet, trombone and flute.



MUSICIANSHIP SKILLS 11:30AM – 12PM

For ages 4 – 7 years. Learn musical skills through games and play!

Try this week's session for free. Parents, please join us too!

Sessions take place every Saturday, £5 per session

Saturday 9th
September

10:30am–11:30am
Have A Play Day

11:30am–12:00pm
Musicianship Skills
For ages 4 – 7 yrs

11:30am & 12:00pm
Free 30-minute piano
class for adults

1:00pm–3:00pm
Workshop with
Halifax Art Society

**Calderdale
Music**

The Old Courthouse will be open to visitors
10:30am – 2:30pm
See the building now being used as a space
dedicated to music teaching and performance.
www.calderdalemusic.co.uk



Saturday 9th September Heritage Weekend At The Old Courthouse

All activities are free of charge!

FREE PIANO BASICS LESSON 11:30AM & 12:00PM

Join us for a 30 minute piano basics class for adults. No previous experience required! Booking is essential, please contact us or visit the News section on our website www.calderdalemusic.co.uk

WORKSHOP WITH HALIFAX ART SOCIETY BETWEEN 1:00PM & 3:00PM

Learn how to sketch some musical instruments that you might not have seen before! Pop in to our Performance Space (Formerly Court 1) any time between 1pm & 3pm and learn some new skills with Halifax Art Society!



Old Courthouse
Open For Visitors
10:30am–2:30pm

Rhythm & Brews
Café
Open 9:30am – 1pm
Hot drinks & Cakes

**Calderdale
Music**

ALSO:
Colouring sheets for children
Fancy dress and photos!
Rhythm & Brews café will be open selling hot
drinks and cakes



WARNING

Synthetic cannabinoids ('Spice') vapes

There have been several recent incidents in a school in the **Oldham** area that have led to pupils collapsing after vaping a liquid. It is thought this liquid may have been sold as 'THC' or 'cannabis oil'.

Four samples involved in incidents were tested and found to contain a synthetic cannabinoid called *ADB-BUTINACA*. This is one of the laboratory made chemicals found in 'Spice'. It is **extremely dangerous** for a young person with no *tolerance* to inhale **even a single dose** of a potent *synthetic cannabinoid*.



Fig 1.



Fig 2.



Fig 3.



Fig 4.

All four samples contained commercially produced flavoured *e-liquid* into which a *synthetic cannabinoid* had been added. Synthetic cannabinoids are the laboratory-made chemicals found in 'Spice'. It is thought the blue liquid (fig1) in the bottle was the same substance added to the commercially available refillable nicotine vapes (fig 2 and fig 3). A further commercially available refillable nicotine vape contained a honey coloured *e-liquid*, to which the same synthetic cannabinoid had been added (fig 4).

Synthetic cannabinoid (Spice) is rarely used outside of adult populations in prisons and among homeless populations. Spice has a very negative image among young people. It is therefore likely that the substance was mis-sold as THC or cannabis vape oil. In the past few years a number of similar incidents have been reported in Greater Manchester.

Reports of students becoming unwell after vaping are common. However, this is normally thought a result of vaping too much nicotine. It is highly unlikely that non-refillable/disposable nicotine vapes or other commercially available nicotine liquid has been spiked with 'Spice' (or THC), but is purchased/used in the belief it was a THC/ vape rather than a nicotine one.