



## UPCOMING DATES

Tues 6th Jan – first day back at school

Wed 7th Jan – first PSHE lesson (PSHE will be every Wed this term)

Wed 14th Jan – UCAS deadline

Thurs 16th Jan Break 2 in H8 - RAG meeting

Welcome to our Sixth Form Newsletter. Here you will find a summary of the week, useful tips, career opportunities dates and celebrations of successes!

### Christmas Bonanza for Save The Children

On Thursday the Sixth Form Raise & Give Society organised and ran the Christmas Bonanza event with various stalls including Santa Hat Throw, a mince pie and yule log stall, a raffle and a photo booth. This was in combination with the Christmas Jumper days and all to raise money for the charity Save The Children.

If you haven't yet donated and would like to, here is the [link](#) and if you would like to find out more about the charity, here is their [website](#)

A huge thank you to our Student Leaders and Raise and Give students for making this such a success. Some extra Elves were drafted in at the last minute to help (you know you are are!) and it was very much appreciated – we couldn't have done it with you all.





# Year 12

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How are we at Christmas! Well done to you all, it is a big change moving into Sixth Form, especially for those of you who have come from other schools. Thank you to everyone who has put in extra effort on the build up to Christmas, not just with your work but with house activities, raise and give, donating to charities and getting involved with all the festive activities. You all deserve a rest, ready to start fresh and raring to go in 2026!

Next term is the start of planning work experience and destinations. If you are meeting any family members who work in industries you are interested in, don't be afraid to ask if they can help with work experience!

I look forward to seeing you all in 2026! Thank you for all your hard work this term.

Many thanks

Mrs Kalinowski



# Well done

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In October, Dylan Ing in Year 12 received an award from the Chief Inspector of Thames Valley Police at a formal ceremony.

Last year he and some friends found an elderly lady collapsed and started to give her CPR. When the paramedics arrived, he was doing such a good job that they asked him to continue whilst they performed other actions. There are some people who step forward in moments of trauma, chaos and even fear especially when a stranger needs help, and there are those who step back. Well done Dylan for being someone who stepped up and showed bravery in a very challenging situation.

We have also had other students this year who have stepped in to help members of the community in a time of need. We feel very proud to be part of a Sixth Form where students act in such mature and brave manner.



# Year 13



## *An Open Letter to the most fantastic year group*

Good morning Year 13,

Merry Christmas!

As I said in the assembly on Thursday, you have been “A Grade” people to work and share life with over the course of the last year and a half. From the outset you have been generous in giving your time to the school and your efforts to community fundraisers. It has genuinely been a pleasure to see such a delightful group of young people come together and do Sixth Form right!

It is always difficult to say goodbye, at whatever point of the year it is, however I leave knowing that you are in a safe pair of hands with Mr Ging, and that you have all of the qualities and skills that will bring you success in the New Year and beyond.

Be prepared to Nerd Up like you’ve never done before in 2026 and absolutely smash your exams. You deserve it.

See you at Prom (if you’ll have me!)

Colmer.

# New Thrive Sixth Form Canteen

In January, the Sixth Form will get its own canteen area called Thrive with meal deals, Barista coffee and a loyalty card.



We hope you enjoyed the free taster session last week!

## More For Your Money

We know great food matters, and so does great value. That's why our Meal Deals give you complete, great-tasting options at a price that works for students.

**THRIVE**  
REAL FOOD. GREAT FLAVOUR.

**MEAL DEAL**

**WRAP &  
A BAG OF  
POPCORN**



**THRIVE**  
REAL FOOD. GREAT FLAVOUR.

**MEAL DEAL**

**HOT  
DRINK &  
PASTRY OR  
TRAYBAKE**



## Why Choose Thrive?

We keep our menus fresh, our prices fair, and our choices exciting, because food should be something to look forward to.

- Fresh food, cooked daily.
- Quick service, no long queues.
- Great taste, every time.
- Designed for you – balanced, filling, and full of flavour.

**Real Food, Great Flavour**

# New Thrive Sixth Form Canteen

## What's on offer?

From hot meals to grab & go favourites, there's always something to suit your mood.



- Freshly prepared hot dishes every day
- Freshly made baguettes, wraps, and hot snacks
- Barista coffee, iced drinks, and smoothies
- Seasonal specials and themed days to keep things exciting



BUY 9 BARISTA DRINKS &  
RECEIVE THE 10<sup>TH</sup> CUP FREE!



\*T&Cs Apply. Please refer to Loyalty Card Poster for full Terms and Conditions.

# New Thrive Sixth Form Canteen

## THE TARIFF

### BREAKFAST



Toast	£0.70
Beans/Hashbrown	£0.80
Pain Au Chocolate	£1.60
Bacon/Sausage	£0.80
Croissants	£1.60
Fruit Pots	£1.10
Pain Au Raisin	£1.60
Sausage Bap	£1.80
Bacon Bap	£1.80

### DRINKS



Can-O Still Water	£1.05
Juice Carton	£1.15
Can-O Sparkling Water	£1.05
Radnor Fizz	£1.37
Capri Sun	£1.33
Suso Can	£1.35
Viva Milkshake	£1.05

### HOT DRINKS



Tea	£1.25
Single Espresso	£1.15
Double Espresso	£1.20
Hot Chocolate	£2.15
Latte/Capuchino	£2.00
Americano	£1.90
Mocha	£2.15

### MID MORNING BREAK

(A selection of two items will be available daily)

Sausage Roll	£2.00
Cinnamon Pretzel	£2.05
Potato Pot/Tray	£1.65
Pastry	£1.60
Full Panini	£2.70
Hash Browns x2	£1.65
Steak Slice	£2.25
Waffle	£1.40
Breakfast Wrap	£2.65
Crookie	£2.35
Chocolate Waffle	£2.30

### HOT DELI



Pizza Slice	£1.75
Burger	£2.85
Hot Dog	£2.75
Global Eats	£2.75
Chicken Tenders	£2.85
Hot Filled Bagel	£2.60

### LUNCH MENU



Main Meals	£2.55
Eat Smart / Global Eat	£3.00
Jacket Potato 1 Topping	£2.53
With Extra Topping	£0.39
Pasta Box	£2.55
Hot Dessert	£1.26
Meal Deal	£2.95
Giga Wrap	£3.00

### COLD GRAB & GO



Simple Sandwich	£1.90
Special Sandwich	£2.95
Classic Baguette	£2.70
Premium Baguette	£3.05
Salad Pot	£2.55

### BAKERY / SNACKS



Whole Fruit	£0.70
Fruit Bag/Pot	£1.10
Jelly	£1.05
Cold Dessert	£1.15
Cookie	£1.20
Home Bake	£1.37
Muffin	£1.40
Popcorn	£1.25
Pop Chips	£1.25
Nachos	£1.55
Ice Lolly	£1.30
Yoghurt Pot	£1.40

every week

Look out for our

**THEME BARS**

### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Available every day!

See poster for details



*Meal Deal*

Check out what's on offer today!

Available for Free School Meals



## Exploring careers over the holidays

## FUTURES FOR ALL

If you are like me, you are ready for a break, some fun and some relaxation! However, if you would also like to spend some of the holidays thinking about your next steps and future careers, here are some things you can do

**Futures 4 All** has a library of past talks on careers with a wide range of subjects and industries including working in cyber security, make up, the screen industry, foreign affairs, advertising and more

<https://www.futuresforall.org/talks-library>

## Mrs Beale's top tips for Personal Statements

Y13s – if you still writing your personal statement, here are my top suggestions

### Question 1 – Why do you want to study this subject?

- Do **not** mention anything before GCSEs, do **not** say that it has always been a passion of yours
- Instead mention a lesson that sparked your interest, a book or article you read on that subject, a taster lecture you watched.
- Talk about a business or someone who is doing well in that industry – why do they inspire you? What have they done?
- Google your favourite university and pick out 2 or 3 modules you are excited about – check that your other 4 choices also offer these (or similar)

### Question 2 – How your current studies helped you?

- Mention how and why your subjects may overlap
- Really expand on the skills and knowledge you have gained
- Mention any super curricular things you have done (MOOCs, articles, TED talks, films, documentaries, etc)

### Question 3 – What have you done outside of education?

- Your hobbies and other interests must link to what you want to study- not much point writing lots about netball if you are going to study Chemistry! One line will be enough
- Talk about your Year 12 work experience and any paid work.
- Talk about volunteering – if relevant
- Final sentence that summarises all 3 sections

**Please see an example on the next page**





## An example of a personal statement for Sports Marketing

Since studying Business in Sixth Form, I have become fascinated by how effective marketing can be instrumental to a business' brand image and their sales. For example, the running shoe brand Hoka which has risen from almost anonymity to one of the top positions in sales. Reading the article The History of Hoka: Revolutionising Running and Influencing Fashion on the Urban Industry website taught me that their success can be put down to their distinctive name, innovative design and high profile sponsorships with elite athletes. One of the skills that I am excited to develop on this course is being able to analyse consumer behaviour, as it could give me a greater knowledge into how to identify the needs and preferences for customers of a sporting business and how an organisation is able to make someone like me so passionate about sport. I am also intrigued to learn about how to organise and run sporting events.

In Business, I have looked at the purpose, structure and nature of different businesses, including the differences between Tesco and the British Red Cross, such as how Tesco is a Public Limited Company while the British Red Cross is a charity. I have also studied about the effects of external business environment on organisations, for example, how the economy affects prices of products and how people are less likely to donate in times of crisis. One aspect I have enjoyed is the importance of innovation, for instance, Tesco have branched out into insurance, mobile phones, banking. I am currently developing my skills and knowledge on producing successful marketing campaigns to meet the target audience. Another aspect has been looking at budgeting and managing profit and loss. In my Criminology Studies we have learnt about psychological theories and thought processes, which could be helpful for me in Marketing as I could utilise my knowledge of this when learning about topics such as analysing consumer behaviour and working out which marketing strategies could attract new customers. One thing I have found interesting during my Sports Studies lessons is the section of my coursework that looks into the factors affecting participation in sport, especially socio-economic factors which include fashion, trends and culture. For example, the company Classic Football Shirts capitalising on the Football World Cup to increase their sales of retro football shirts as it has become a big part of sports fashion in the last couple of years and is also a great strategy for increasing the participation in sports especially for Women's Football.

I completed my Year 12 work experience with the chocolate company Mondelez which gave me an insight into how they create campaigns. I have a part time job as a waiter at the Seven Stars pub and often ask the owner questions about how she has managed to gain such a big clientele with such a small budget and how she has transformed a small local pub into a sought-after establishment which attracts huge numbers of customers each night. For instance, she has re-designed the menu, adding a French twist without letting the pub lose its British countryside heritage. My studies, interests and hobbies have all made me excited to study Marketing at university. Having grown up playing tennis for 9 years, sport has been a significant part of my life which has increased my confidence, resilience and endurance and also has inspired to be around the sports industry, hence my decision to specialise in Sports Marketing.