

# THAMESMEAD TALK

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2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015

Dear Parents and Students

Now that we are a few weeks into the new term I would just like to thank our students for the excellent standards of behaviour and positive attitude to their learning that they are showing in their lessons. As a result many have already accumulated a high number of Vivo reward points and, at the other end of the scale, I think that it is also noteworthy how few have been given detentions. Mr Rodin, Headteacher

### **Headteacher's Award**

Below are the names of the students who are this week's winners of the Headteacher's Award. They have received a Certificate and 100 Vivo points credited to their Vivo account:

Year 10: Matthew Le Roux (10D1)

Year 11: Lily Boddy (11P2) and Lauren Melliush (11D2)

### **Early Closure and INSET Day**

Our Open Evening is next Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October and the school will close at 12 noon that day. Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October is an INSET day for all students.

After school detentions will run from 12 noon to 2pm on the early closure day.

### **Colleges**

Academy of Contemporary Music (ACM) open day is on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October, 11.00am-3.00pm. [www.acm.ac.uk](http://www.acm.ac.uk)

Brooklands College, Ashford campus open day is on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 5.30pm-8.00pm. [www.brooklands.ac.uk](http://www.brooklands.ac.uk)

West Thames Isleworth Campus open evening is on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 5.00pm-8.00pm. [www.west-thames.ac.uk](http://www.west-thames.ac.uk)

## Thamesmead Plus

## CSE

## Inter-House

## Competition

## Key Dates:

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 6.30-9pm**

Open Evening for New Students

School Closes at 12 Noon

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

Inset Day

**Monday 26<sup>th</sup> – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

Half Term

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November 7pm**

PTA Fashion Show

A full calendar of the school holiday dates

is available on our website.

## ATTACHMENTS:

[Surrey Opportunities Fair](#)

[Ask Safety](#)

[Facebook Safety](#)

Richmond-Upon-Thames open evening is on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 5.00pm-8.00pm and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October, 5.00pm-8.00pm. [www.rutc.ac.uk](http://www.rutc.ac.uk)

Kingston College open day is on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October, 10.00am-2.00pm. [www.kingston-college.ac.uk](http://www.kingston-college.ac.uk)

To register for this event please visit [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-events-tickets-](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-events-tickets-)

Guildford College open evening is on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 5.30pm-8.00pm and on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October, 5.30pm-8.00pm. [www.guildford.ac.uk](http://www.guildford.ac.uk)

Woking College open evening is on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October, 5.30pm-8.30pm. [www.woking.ac.uk](http://www.woking.ac.uk)

Strode's College open evening is on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 5.00pm-8.00pm. [www.strodes.ac.uk](http://www.strodes.ac.uk)

## **Surrey Opportunities Fair**

The Surrey Opportunities Fair is an annual event bringing together apprenticeships and training providers from Surrey under one roof. This year the fair will take place on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at Epsom Downs Racecourse and we are taking a number of Year 11 students during the school day. If you would like your child to attend, please let Mrs Morris know a.s.a.p. and she will include them if there is enough space.

The fair is open to the public from 3.30pm to 6.30pm so please feel free to visit with your child during these times. Please see the attached flyer for full details. The list of expected exhibitors is on the parents' letters page of the school website <http://www.thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk/parents/letters-home/>

## **Apprenticeships**

The Volkswagen Group Apprenticeship Programme is just one of the exciting opportunities available to our students. For information, please visit: <http://www.volkswagen-apprentice.co.uk/> or email [vwg.apprenticeshipprogramme@babcockinternational.com](mailto:vwg.apprenticeshipprogramme@babcockinternational.com) to enquire about more opportunities.

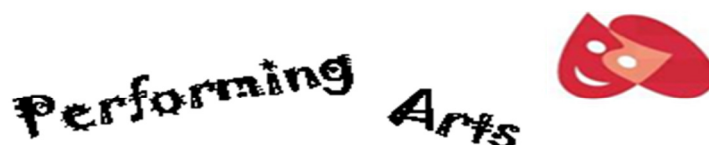
## **Help with College Applications**

Mrs Morris will be running workshops to help Year 11 students complete college applications on Mondays and Tuesdays after school in Room 16B until half-term. Students should check Student Notices for any change of venue.

We encourage all students to apply for more than one college, regardless of their preferred post-16 plan to give them a variety of options as the school year progresses. It is better to have a choice of pathways than none at all by the stage of the year when students should be focussing on their exams. Year 11 may book individual careers interviews by calling into the Careers Office on Mondays to Wednesdays.

## On-line Safety

Thamesmead is committed to safeguarding our children both on and off-line. We are aware that on-line safety is a big concern for parents and carers so we will shortly be sending out information about a parents' information evening to help you understand just what the risks may be to your children and how to prevent them. In the meantime some Year 11 students are creating flyers for use by the students to help them keep their social networking sites private. We have attached two that we hope you will find useful.



There will be a theatre trip for some Year 7s to see 'The Railway Children' at Kings Cross Station in London on the evening of Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November. Letters are in registers and reply slips should go to the finance office. Thank you, Miss Hall.



## PTA AGM

This year's PTA AGM will take place on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October at 7pm in the Learning Centre. We look forward to seeing as many parents and carers as possible.

## Family Information Service

Parents/carers can look up events on the Family Information Directory any time. You can filter by day, month and borough to find out what's on in your area. Please visit <http://parentknowhow.surreycc.gov.uk/>



Comic Book Club is starting on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 at 14:45 – 15:45 in 18B and will be run by Miss Egleton.

This is a new after school activity that will be held every Friday after October half term. All years are welcome to come along to talk about their favourite comics and learn some geeky new facts. Every week a character will be spotlighted and recommended reading will be given, starting with Batman. There will also be a chance to watch TV episodes and clips from comic book movies. Over the weeks there will be opportunities to ask real life comic book creators any questions about what working in the industry is like.

### **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a term that has become increasingly common to us in recent years. High profile cases and the conviction of both individuals and criminal gangs who offended against young people have resulted in the public being much more aware of this type of crime. Could you recognise the signs that a child known to you is a victim?

CSE is a type of sexual abuse in which children or young people under 18 receive 'something' such as food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money, in return for sexual activity. In simple terms it is child abuse.

The difficulty in tackling this abuse is that young people often trust their abuser and don't understand that they are being abused or they may be too scared to tell anyone what is happening. Modern technology, so useful to many of us, also presents obstacles as it offers discreet opportunities for offenders and victims to communicate without the knowledge of parents, carers, teachers and other responsible.

Can leafy Surrey really be affected by CSE? The answer is Yes, this is a crime that doesn't respect boundaries and we cannot afford to be complacent in Surrey. By raising awareness of warning signs, it is hoped that more people will come forward with information to detect and prevent exploitation. It is important therefore that we all do what we can to tackle this issue and accordingly members of the public, parents and local businesses in East Surrey are invited to attend one of two events being held in Dorking to raise awareness of CSE. The events will include a theatre production of Chelsea's Choice – a play designed to help recognise the signs of sexual exploitation and promote how you can help protect young people from this kind of abuse. Attendees will also be able to hear first-hand from parents whose children have been exploited and the impact this has had on them and their families.

Two events are being held at Dorking Halls, at 1pm – 3pm and 6.30pm – 8.30 pm on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015, one of which will be opened by Surrey Police's Chief Constable, Lynne Owens. To book your free place visit: [www.surrey.police.uk/cse](http://www.surrey.police.uk/cse)

Caroline Holmes, SSCB Support Team, email: [caroline.holmes@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.holmes@surreycc.gov.uk)

Our vision is that: Every child and young person will be safe, healthy, creative and have the personal confidence, skills and opportunities to contribute and achieve more than thought possible.

Please see the CSE flyer at <http://www.thamesmead.surrey.sch.uk/about-us/safeguarding/>

## Inter-House Competition



The bake-off competition is now in full swing with just Phoenix still left to bake after school today (their results will be in next week's Thamesmead Talk along with the Grand Final result). So far the following students have made it through to the Bake-Off Grand Final on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October where they will be baking a whole cake in 90 minutes. Well done and good luck to the following students:

### Griffin House

Honey Jenkins, Laura Jennings, Talia Chapman, Tasha Wells, Louis Lusso, Benito Hart Prieto, Ben Peake and Joe Powell.

### Centaur House

Charlotte Ashwell, Ross Philp, Grace Mewes, Eleni Akcil, Naomi Hargreaves, Ella Wilson and Sophia Gosain.

### Dragon House

Sasha Carpenter, Elliott Mills, Lauren Melvin, Marnie, Olivia Hitching, Grace Cruise and Annabelle Harris.



Thinking about college?  
Want to start work?

There are  
**thousands**  
of opportunities available to you  
– all under one roof at the

# Surrey Opportunities Fair

Colleges, training providers, employers  
and careers advisers will all be there  
to help you plan your next steps.

**Where?** Epsom Downs Racecourse

**When?** Tuesday 13 October,  
open to the public 3.30pm - 6.30pm

**Why?** To help you make the right  
choices for your future

**How?** Entry is free. Visit

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/opportunitiesfair](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/opportunitiesfair)

**FREE  
entry**

what's   
**your**  
**next**  
**move?** 

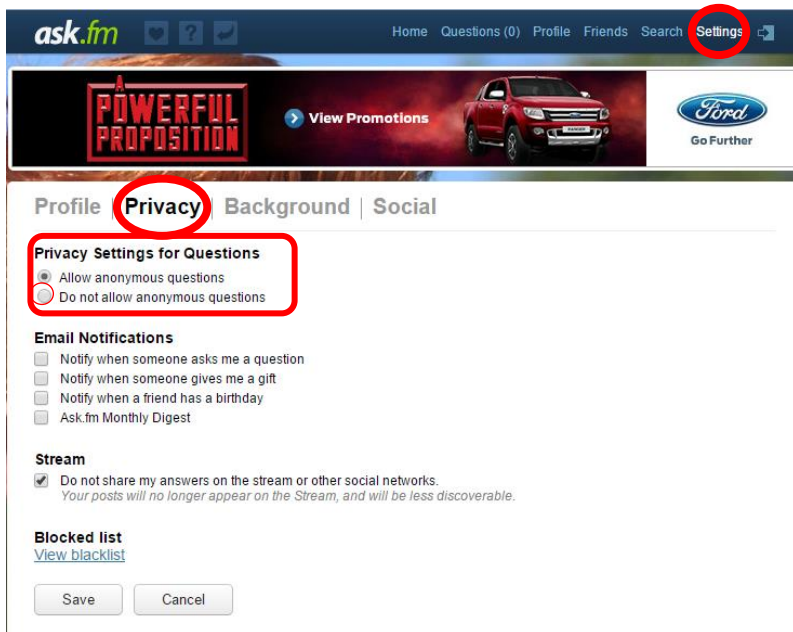


SURREY

# Being safe on Ask.fm

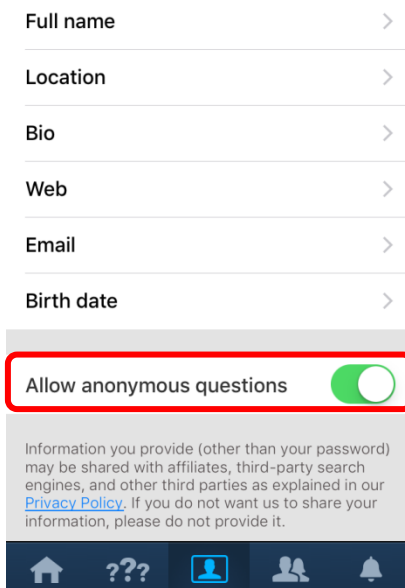
When using Ask.fm you must be aware of the risks that come with it! The website can become a secret way of bullying and here's how you can prevent this happening

## Laptops:



In order to stop rumours, you should not share any personal information that you would not want to tell anyone other than close friends. And, if there is a question you do not want to answer, you can delete it or report it.

## Mobiles:





## Facebook

How can you keep yourself safe whilst on Facebook?

- Set privacy settings to 'friends only' to secure that only the people you have allowed to be 'friends' with you can see what you are posting
- Be careful if setting your privacy to 'friends of friends' as this means any person that is friends with one of your friends can now access all of your photos and posts etc.
- After updating the app when using it on your mobile phone, check your privacy settings again as updating an app can reset all of these settings
- Only accept people you are confident that you know so that strangers cannot access your private information
- Make sure what you are posting is appropriate
- If you receive any unwanted feed, report it if you find it inappropriate or offensive

