

Dear Parents

In response to the outcomes of the philanthropy survey, completed earlier in the year, it was clear that we needed to communicate better the impact of the voluntary donations being made to the school, as well as share plans for the future. We hope that this update provides an insight into the difference your support is making to the school and your daughter's education.

We will also be using the school's twitter feed [@tiffingirls_sch](https://twitter.com/tiffingirls_sch) to share updates on specific projects and the impact of your donations as the year progresses.

Thank you for all that you do in support of the school, it really does make a huge difference to what we can provide for the students and their education.

Best wishes
Ian Keary
Headteacher

An introduction to the new teaching block 'Rivermead'

With the help of parent contributions totalling £550,000, we were able to secure an additional £924,000 from the DfE towards replacing the old LRC with a new building at the back of the school. This development is essential to meet the school's continued growth, as we still have another two years before the six forms of entry works its way through to the end of Year 11.

The building work will start on Monday 18 March when the site will be prepared for the first phase of development, the demolition, which will take place during the Easter holiday. This will be followed by a quiet phase while the public exams are in progress, with work resuming in July.

Below are the before and after pictures of the Rivermead development.

Before



After (architect's drawing)



The new building will comprise the following:

- **Drama studio:** This will be a transformative space for the performing arts, supporting a wide range of curricular and extra curricular activities. Drama is a subject that embodies the three school's values Community, Love of Learning and Character through public speaking, rhetoric, improvisation, self-belief and teamwork and we look forward to using this space in such a vibrant way.
- **Design Technology Workshop:** With STEM featuring so strongly in the school's curriculum offer, there is a requirement for another DT space to be added to support the various initiatives and opportunities in this field.
- **Three classrooms:** Space is at a premium on the site, and so the new classrooms will be a valuable addition to our teaching and learning accommodation of the wide range of subjects we offer from Year 7 through to the Sixth Form.

What's in a name? Rivermead was the name of the first school to be housed on this site and has been chosen in recognition of the educational history of the site.

The space most affected by this work will be the quad area, where the girls sit at break and lunchtimes. This will still partly be in operation after Easter but will be off limits from July until the end of the project, which is likely to be January next year. We are looking to enhance this area on the completion of the new build, and we'd like to thank the PSA and all parents who have contributed towards fundraising this year to cover the costs of refurbishing the quad area, which will help restore it as an oasis of calm.

Science laboratory refurbishment

The school is always seeking ways of making the voluntary donations made by parents work harder, and the refurbishment of the oldest science laboratory is a prime example. The school identified that the Wolfson Trust could provide capital funding for projects relating to science, if funding was also committed from the school. We made an application for the refurbishment and were successful in being awarded £50,000 towards this project, which was then supported by parental donations.

Before



After



The upgraded laboratory has been in use since January 2019 and this space will now be able to host lessons across all the sciences for all year groups. This was not possible before the refurbishment as the space was not configured to accommodate class sizes of 30.

Grand piano refurbishment

Maintaining the wonderful musical instruments we have is a vital part of contributing to our Love of Learning and building Character. It was fabulous news to hear that the H R Taylor Trust was again able to provide funding to the school, following their partial funding of the Clavinovas sourced in 2018. The renewed funding came as a result of the highly successful rollout of the Clavinovas and the impact they have had in the classroom. H R Taylor Trust funding in 2019 was to support the refurbishment of the Estonia grand piano which is housed mainly in the hall. This was only possible because of the joint funding provided by Tiffin Girls' Music Society (TGMS) through their various fundraising events. We would like to thank the H R Taylor Trust and the TGMS who continue to support us in very many ways.

Teaching and Learning resources

The ongoing provision of teaching and learning resources is another key area that relies on the voluntary donations of parents, crucially providing the extras that our budget cannot. Below are just some of the ways your contributions have supported us this year:

- Providing modern technology devices in many areas:
 - digital cameras for Art
 - video cameras and tripods for Computing
 - iPads for Drama
 - advanced equipment such as colorimeters for GCSE and A-Level required practical subjects across the sciences
 - sewing machines to create textile pieces and workable sculptures for DT and Art.
- Supplying new books for Modern Foreign Languages, Geography and Religious Studies which has enabled students to study 'offline' in school while accessing 'online' materials for private study at home.

Extra and co-curricular activities

Supporting the extra clubs and activities provided by Music and PE, enables the students to access experiences that would not otherwise be available to them.

How can I help?

For more information on ways in which you could help the school with our development plans, please contact our Development Manager, Francesca Cataldi on 020 8546 0773 or by email at development@tiffingirls.org