

# Newsletter



No: 1224 | [www.yarmschool.org](http://www.yarmschool.org) | 11th October 2019

## Headmaster's Welcome

Returning to a theme from last week's introduction, recent assemblies given by the pupils have reminded me how articulate, thoughtful and creative they are. I've been impressed with the breadth of topic, from the 50th anniversary of the moon landing to the value of laughter, from cultivating resilience to the power of acts of kindness within a community. We are all asked to reflect on our own values and those of the school in these presentations, and I have found the experience very affirming and powerful. It has also been a regular pleasure to present pupils with the variety of awards, certificates and trophies in our assemblies and to celebrate pupils' achievements with the whole school community. Indeed, community was the word I chose to contemplate in my own assembly this week; it is clear to me that the strength and coherence of our whole school community is underpinned by opportunities for us all to contribute and to acknowledge others' contributions.

Our non-uniform day will have raised significant money for a number of charities including Clic Sargent which supports young people who have been affected by cancer and also their families, and also - particularly apt on World Mental Health Day - Footsteps Youth Wellbeing, a local project which offers young people support and advice in areas relating to a wide variety of health and mental health issues.

Hot off the press, as I write this newsletter, I have news of success for our tennis teams, some of which have made it through to the final four schools in the North (and, so, the final 16 in the country). Our congratulations to them, and good luck in the next round.

Dr Huw Williams

## Litter Pick!

Despite the storm clouds lurking ominously for much of the day on Tuesday, the Community Action Group managed to carry out their first litter pick in Yarm.

Working with Pam Smailes of the Yarm Parish Council, the group of pupils- armed with trusty 'claws', bin bags and heavy-duty rubber gloves- concentrated on clearing areas near shops and public houses, as well as the stretch near the river bank. Whilst the winner of the competition for 'the most interesting piece of litter' remains undecided, the group all agreed that it was a very productive hour's work in the community.

We very much hope that this will become a regular fixture for our group. Do look out for our next litter pick via the newsletter and the school Facebook page. We'd welcome more volunteers from both pupils and parents!

Community Action Group



## Yarm Fair 2019

Next week, traffic around Yarm will face some disruption as the Fair comes to town. It is unfortunate that, again, the Fair coincides with term time rather than our half-term holiday. The Fair will take place on 17th, 18th and 19th October.

The A67 Yarm High Street road will be closed between Bentley Wynd and Bridge Street as follows:

**Tuesday 15th October 5:30pm to 9:30pm**

**Thursday 17th October 6:00pm to midnight**

**Friday 18th October 6:00pm to midnight**

**Saturday 19th October 10:45am to midnight**

During Yarm Fair week, we ask pupils to minimise the amount of time they spend in uniform on the High Street and we respectfully ask parents to try and pick up as promptly as possible from School.

We will not allow pupils below the Sixth Form to visit the High Street during the school day or whilst waiting to be picked up. **We will be closing the pedestrian gates at 5:30pm and the main gates at 6:00pm Tuesday to Friday.** The gates will also be closed all day Saturday & Sunday unless prearranged access is required for departing or returning trips. Duty and Caretaking staff will be on hand if you get stuck.

## UNIFORM SHOP OCTOBER HALF TERM

Tuesday 22 October, 1.00 - 4.00pm

Thursday 24 October, 1.00 - 4.00pm

Tuesday 29 October, 1.00 - 4.00pm

Thursday 31 October, 1.00 - 4.00pm

## We were there: A written response to the Battle of Hastings

The first year historians are currently studying the period of the Norman Conquest and over a couple of lessons were asked to respond to and then share their writings on the events of the 11th century. Below you can read some of their offerings.

Mr S Edwards

It's the Battle of Hastings  
A violent war between kings

This is a gruesome war  
Where soldiers were torn

Axes, arrows and blood  
Shields, sweat and mud

England was over  
On that day in October

Edwards left a mess  
Right after his miserable death

This will be remembered as the most miserable war  
Oh no, there is more!

Shehab Saad

Slaughter is everywhere you look  
Bodies cover a rotting old book  
Bones crack wherever you move  
Blood, sweat and tears – they have nothing to lose  
Harold with an arrow in his eye  
Can't see the battle run dry  
In went the horse and arrows from the sky  
Innocent men painfully cry  
The Normans couldn't break the English wall  
One tricky tactic to confuse them all  
William shout gave determination  
This was a battle that changed a nation

Lewis Roper

## The Man with the Iron Nose\*

Chorus: The English wall has fallen  
France is who God chose  
Murdered, friends beside me  
By the man with the Iron Nose

The truces have been broken  
Two forces both embossed  
With the dream of being victors  
All loyalty was lost

They run fast approaching  
Eyes of hate and fear  
Fuelled by pure devotion  
To home and memories dear

I hold back fiercely praying  
Trembling like the reeds  
Behind the discs of metal  
That hide my pulsating chest

They whisper to the breezes  
Say their king is dead  
But then he lifts his helmet  
Our crown upon his head

We slash our blades together  
Man and man we wrote  
The history of England  
Until his sword my throat

I thought he might salute me  
For it was far too loud to speak  
But as he turned to leave me  
A tear rolled down his cheek

I star through blurring vision  
At the corpses row on row  
And know I die for England's might  
And will never love to say goodnight

But I gaze after him in the dying light  
At the iron on his nose

Annabel Cochrane

\*This refers to the style of helmet worn by Norman soldiers

## Economics Competition

Are you a poet, but don't know it?

Hmmm... What rhymes with Economics?

The Economics and Business departments are launching a competition open to all members of the school community, asking you to write an Economic poem. This can be a limerick, or longer, humorous, or serious, but it must be original.

Please submit all entries via paper or email to Miss Rhodes (cer@yarmschool.org) by Monday 4th November.

There will be a prize or prizes.

Miss C E Rhodes

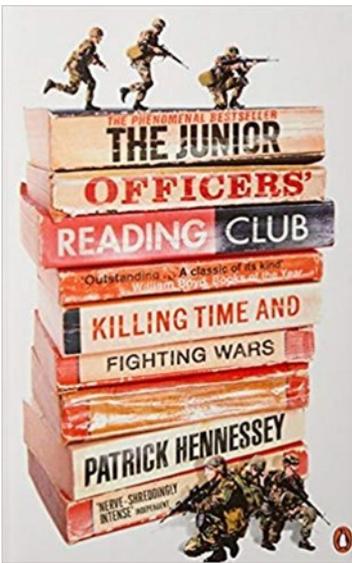
## Bistro

Parents are welcome to come and enjoy  
the bistro between the hours of:

8am-10.00am and 3pm-5pm (Mon-Fri).

Take advantage of our special offer:  
regular coffees to take away between  
8am and 9am are only £1.50.

## Book Review: The Junior Officers' Reading Club: Killing Time and Fighting Wars - Patrick Hennessey



Hennessey was a British Army Officer in the Coldstream Guards between 2004 and 2009, one of the oldest regiments in whole army, proud of its rich history of being a fierce fighting force. They also hold the prestigious job of guarding the Queen. The book itself follows Hennessey throughout his army career and gives an incredibly accurate account of what it's like to be a soldier. In particular, Hennessey focusses on the feelings and emotions of a junior officer, many of whom read as a form of escapism.

The book starts by Hennessey explaining why he decided to join the army. Hennessey's grandfather was a high-ranking officer in the Coldstream Guards and would often tell gripping tales about his time in the army. As a young boy Hennessey would become lost in these stories and dreamed about joining the army and living out these tales that filled his mind. During Hennessey's time at Sixth Form the 9/11 attacks occurred, and this cemented his plans on becoming an army officer. However, it wasn't always positive - Hennessey discusses the doubt and second thoughts he experienced while at university about whether it was the right thing for him or did he just like the idea of impressing his family and the girls he would meet in the students' union. After all he says "Other than the odd tussle on a rugby pitch against other boarding schools I've never been in a proper fight". Ultimately the boredom of Oxford and the threat of ordinary life was enough to push Hennessey into joining.

After passing Army Officer Selection Board, Hennessey had to undergo a year's officers training at Sandhurst, the most prestigious and respected military academies in the world; although to start with, Hennessey had little positive to say about the place. He describes the first few weeks living off two hours of sleep a night as 'hell'. The repetition of meaningless tasks starts to drive Hennessey insane. As time goes on, Hennessey starts to find more enjoyment and pleasure in his time at Sandhurst and in particular, the friendships he forges. These friends are who Hennessey then forms 'The junior officers reading club' with.

After commissioning as a second lieutenant Hennessey and some of his fellow junior officer pals from Sandhurst are deployed to Bosnia. The night before going they all meet and discuss what personal possession they are taking. It's not too long before the question of what book do you take to war is proposed. Once getting to Bosnia it soon become apparent that there is large amount of free time or 'hurry up and wait' as Hennessey often says. Before long the officers have started their own book club, discussing literature and sharing novels.

This becomes a tradition for the officers within the regiment. They continue the club on further tours to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Hennessey explores how he dealt with the stress and nature of his jobs. Many may think Hennessey is psychopathic for his views and opinions on death, and how his enjoyment increased after a junior officer in his regiment was killed, as it made it more real. After all many of us have never been to war and never will do so and without this perspective who are we to judge. Towards the end of the book it is for this reason Hennessey becomes very passionate about his hatred of the press and journalists for how they criticised the war on terror.

Overall this book can be seen as a collection of funny tales of Hennessey military career. However, I believe there is a far greater meaning to this book as it gives an insight into modern day war from a first-hand witness, that is high tempo and honest, questioning the Hollywood perception of war.

Jacob Atkinson (U6 Politics student)

## Kayaking

Sunday 6th October saw the Outdoor Education team head over to the Lake District for some kayaking on the River Leven. Aimed at pupils who regularly attend the canoe & kayak activity on a Thursday or canoe during Games as this day was a first taste of moving water and rapids.

After some more coaching from our instructor, Ian, on Windermere, we headed down the river. As the water gradually sped up and we encountered more waves, our first obstacle was a small weir to drop off. All pupils managed the drop, albeit with swims from Patrick and Vijay. We spent some time practicing on the small surf wave below the weir and then carried on.

Three further rapids greeted us. We were challenged with crossing the flowing river at the first one and then bounced our way down rapids two and three, crashing through the big waves and dodging the rocks on our way.

Well done to all the pupils who took part, they performed extremely well in whitewater, learning lots and having lots of fun! If you fancy joining us on future kayaking trips, please join our canoe & kayak activity on a Thursday.

Mr A Mathers



## Magenta made to feel Blue

It was extremely tense in the Board Room (aka B1) on Tuesday afternoon, as the two Yarm Apprentice teams were tasked with pitching their mocktail drinks proposals to Lord Sugar (Mr Brookes).

Team Magenta, Project Managed by Philippa, were the first to present. Clearly taking tips from their training session with DBS, the team (with Raph, Philippa and Izzy presenting) gave a confident and professional pitch for their mocktail "The 1978" (named after the year the school opened). They spoke of their thorough primary research at Open Day and in Yarm, explained their vision and provided sample drinks for Lord Sugar and his assistants. They detailed their ingredients including mango, passion fruit and lime, with a slice of orange on the side and spoke of their plans to give 70% of profits to the WWF.

Next up were Team Helios, Project Managed by Charlie. They too delivered a detailed pitch, and effectively proposed their drink, "A Huw of Blue", which they promoted as being a fresh drink for a new start with a new Headmaster. Their blueberry Mojito was marketed as being "Refreshing for Life" and they spoke of their plans to give 50p from each glass sold to the charity CLIC Sargent.

Rigorous questioning followed and after deliberation Lord Sugar declared Team Helios victorious and they enjoyed yumyums and hot chocolate, whilst Philippa brought team mates Bea and Faye back into the Boardroom. It was a difficult decision but the latter two were both fired.

We look forward to seeing "A Huw of Blue" rolled out at a future Yarm event! And would like to thank Mr Brookes for being such a superb Lord Sugar.

Bonus points were peer awarded to Lizzy D and Philippa, whilst Bella and Philippa were allocated the judges bonus points.

Our independent judge Gracie R-H, observing the teams in action at Open Day, requested to distribute bonus points to Philippa in recognition of organisation and to Izzy D for her motivational approach.

To see how the points lie after Task 1, please see the notice board outside B1.

Miss C E Rhodes

## Thinking about universities...

Every year the Sunday Times releases its Good University Guide. It is a wealth of information, the result of a good deal of detailed research. Further details and access to the report can be found online, but some of the following might be of interest and illumination.



**University of the Year 2020 – St Andrews**  
**Runner-Up – Harper Adams**  
**Shortlisted – LSE and Royal Holloway, London**

### Top for...

German – Cambridge  
 Criminology – Loughborough  
 Psychology – Oxford  
 Dentistry – Glasgow  
 Nursing – Edinburgh  
 Politics – Warwick  
 Architecture – Bath  
 Music – Manchester  
 Social Work – Stirling

### Best Student Experience...

St Andrews  
 Aberystwyth  
 Loughborough  
 West London  
 Dundee

### Best for Teaching Quality...

St Andrews  
 Aberystwyth  
 Plymouth Marjon  
 West London  
 Bolton

### Highest Entry Standards...

Cambridge  
 Oxford  
 St Andrews  
 Imperial College London  
 Glasgow, Strathclyde

### Most Targeted by Top Employers...

Manchester  
 Bristol  
 Birmingham  
 Warwick  
 University College London UCL

### Best for Jobs...

St George's, London  
 Imperial College London  
 Lancaster  
 London South Bank  
 Bath

### Best for Sport...

Loughborough  
 Nottingham  
 Durham  
 Edinburgh  
 Exeter

### Top in the Northeast...

Durham  
 Newcastle  
 Northumbria  
 Teesside  
 Sunderland

Mr S Edwards

## Riddle

**Last time's answer:** The woman wrote the words 'your exact weight' on the paper!

**Alternate Answer:** The woman wrote the exact time the boy was stood waiting for her - Rachel Algate (Pre-Prep)

Last time's winners: Nawaal Adeel, Yumna Ellidir, Kaavya Venkatesh, Danny Scott, Tegan Addison, Jess Coapes, Dr Williams (PHW, Headmaster), Rachel Algate (Pre-Prep) and Jonathan Carss (JPC)

Congratulations to you all!

**This week's riddle:** Keys

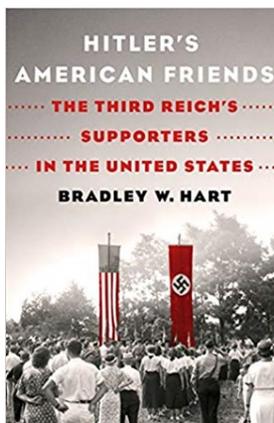
**Rating:** Out of the box

What has many keys, but can't even open a single door?

Please send any answers in to 16SinhaP@yarmschool.org, remember to add your tutor group (or initials for teachers) and those with the quickest correct answers (in before this coming Monday) will get announced in the next issue. Good Luck!

By Parul Sinha & Aishani Paul

## Forthcoming Friarage Lecture



### Tuesday 26th November – Hitler's American Friends

We are delighted to announce the date and theme of our next Friarage lecture. On Tuesday 26th November in the Friarage Theatre starting at 17:00, we will be joined via Skype by Professor Bradley W. Hart, Professor of History at California State University, Fresno.

Professor Hart has recently published a highly acclaimed work 'Hitler's American Friends: The Third Reich's Supporters in the

USA'. The book won recent praise from the New Yorker and Time magazines: (<https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2018/04/30/how-american-racism-influenced-hitler>)

Professor Hart will deliver a talk based around his research and the book and then take questions from the audience. Those interested in attending should book a free place by emailing Mrs Pinkham at [elp@yarmschool.org](mailto:elp@yarmschool.org)

Mr S Edwards

**EXTENDED**  
MORE CRAFT STALLS  
GLÜHWEIN  
BRATWURST

MEET SANTA  
IN HIS AMAZING GROTTO

**YARM SCHOOL**  
*Christmas*  
**INDOOR MARKET**

SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER  
10AM - 4PM  
ADULTS £2, CHILDREN FREE

TICKETS ON THE DOOR  
LOCAL CRAFT STALLS, AMAZING  
CHRISTMAS IDEAS PLUS FOOD AND  
DRINK OUTLETS

**PLUS**  
CRAFTY CORNER, RUDOLPH RODEO,  
CHILDREN'S GAMES  
& SANTA'S GROTTO

YARM SCHOOL, THE FRIARAGE, YARM, TS15 9EJ

**GOURMET DINING EVENING**

Saturday 16th November  
The Princess Alexandra Auditorium Atrium

**GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY FOR JUST £40**

*Amuse-bouche*

× ×  
*Chicken and Ham Hock Ballotine*  
with onion chutney and thyme focaccia

× ×  
*Poached Lobster Tail*  
with compressed watermelon and saffron mayonnaise

× ×  
*Roasted Beef Fillet with Mustard Crust*  
with a red wine reduction and a beetroot and potato gratin

*Butternut Squash and Courgette Tagine (V)*  
with fragrant couscous

*All main courses are served with seasonal vegetables*

× ×  
*Exploding Chocolate Cake*  
with an orange mousse and candied zest

× ×  
*Cheese and Biscuits*  
served with a winter chutney

Yarm School Association is hosting a Gourmet Dining Evening.  
Come along to experience Chef Richard's culinary delights.  
Tickets cost £40 and lounge suit or equivalent attire is required.  
Dining will begin between 19:00 - 19:30.

## TOMBOLA DONATIONS NEEDED FOR YSA CHRISTMAS INDOOR MARKET

This year the YSA will be running three tombola stalls - children, adults and a bottle (alcohol, shampoo, etc) tombola and we would welcome any donations! If you are able to make a donation, please could you drop it off at the Senior School Office. Thank you!

## Sport Scoreboard

### RUGBY

U14A County Cup	Won 2-0
1st XV v Dame Allan's Schools	Lost 12-36
U15A v Dame Allan's Schools	Lost 12-55
U14A v Dame Allan's Schools	Won 22-19
U13A v Dame Allan's Schools	Lost 20-55
U12A v Dame Allan's Schools	Lost 5-15
U12B v Dame Allan's Schools	Lost 2-4
U14A v Barnard Castle School	Won 54-0
U14B v Barnard Castle School	Lost 7-24
U15 v Barnard Castle School	Lost 17-12

### HOCKEY

Boys' U18A v Hall Cross Academy	Won 4-0
Boys' 1st XI v RGS, Newcastle	Lost 0-3
Boys' Yarm / Stockton v Sunderland	Won 5-3
Girls' U18B v RGS, Newcastle	Lost 1-3
Girls' U13B v Queen Margaret's School	Lost 1-2
Girls' U13C v Queen Margaret's School	Won 2-1
Girls' U12C v Queen Margaret's School	Won: 6-0

## Hockey

### Boys' U18A v Hall Cross Academy **Won: 4-0**

The 1st XI made a pleasing start to their season on Wednesday, securing a 4-0 victory over Hall Cross Academy from Doncaster. Yarm were fast out of the blocks and dominated possession in all areas of the pitch whilst effectively moving the ball between the lines. It took just four minutes for Yarm to take the lead, an attacking run from Alex created space in the D for Tom to tuck away a cross at the back post. Hall Cross regrouped, but this was not enough to prevent Yarm from making regular incursions into their D. Alex extended Yarm's lead at 18 minutes after an effective phase of interplay between Harry and Elliot, before stretching even further with a backhand shot shortly before the half-time whistle.

The second half saw Yarm take their foot off the gas a little and look to consolidate the lead by focusing on ball retention. There was, however, no let up in the shots on goal with chances falling to Philip, Harry, James and Owen. Despite these opportunities, it took until five minutes of play for Jack to tuck the ball away and extend the lead to four.

There are many positives to take from the game: a clean sheet for Tom between the sticks and a man of the match performance from defensive recruit Atti. There were a number of 1st XI debutants with Lochlain impressing at Left Back, and another game in which captain, Matthew, dominated the midfield. The team will nevertheless develop further as they look towards some challenging fixtures, all the while balancing their aspirations in the indoor variant of the game.

Scorers: T Crack, A Greenaway (2), J Critchlow  
MoM: A Garlick

## Rugby

### Boys U14A - County Cup, Pool Stage

The boys travelled to Billingham RFC for their first qualifying round in the Durham County Cup alongside five other schools. Each school played two pools of three and progressed to the next round where they finished respectively. The games were 10 minute halves.

In the first game Yarm won 25-5 and similar success followed in their second game, with the boys securing a 36-7 win. The team progressed to the main competition of the next round.

### U14A v Dame Allan's School

**Won 22-19**

Yarm welcomed Dame Allan's to Green Lane on Saturday fully aware of what a tough fixture this was going to be. Dame Allan's are undefeated so far, not to mention their win against Ampleforth who Yarm lost against. However, Yarm dominated the first half proceedings.

Three tries in the first half and a lot of territory for Yarm signified a dramatic change in performances. The scrum was solid, lineout variety was excellent and the backline were hitting excellent lines throughout the game. Max at 15 was having an excellent solid under the high ball all game, and counter attacking extremely well off the back of this. The only blip was a try on the last play of the game for Dame Allan's. The half-time score was 17-5 to Yarm.

The second half was a tighter affair, with a lot of rugby being played in the middle of the pitch. No team took a hold of the game, both making handling mistakes yet demonstrating equally defensive pressure. Dame Allan's applied a lot of pressure in the second half and scored two tries, whilst Yarm only delivered one. With just two minutes to go, the score was 22-19 to Yarm.

There was a great rip on the final play which led to a lineout for Yarm and a kick out to finish the game. A fantastic performance resulted in a great win for Yarm.

### U15 v Barnard Castle

**Lost 17-12**

On Tuesday 8th October the U15 rugby team travelled to Barnard Castle. Due to some injuries the boys were down on numbers and only managed to travel with 15. This did not stop the boys and they stepped up to the challenge against Barnard Castle's strong squad of 28.

The game started off well with all of the boys making some very dynamic plays and strong defensive stands. Barnard Castle exploited some space and put a try away in the early stages of the first half. The boys did not let their heads drop and after some fantastic teamwork Lucas managed to break the line and score under the posts. Teamed with a conversion kick, Yarm took the lead at the end of the first half.

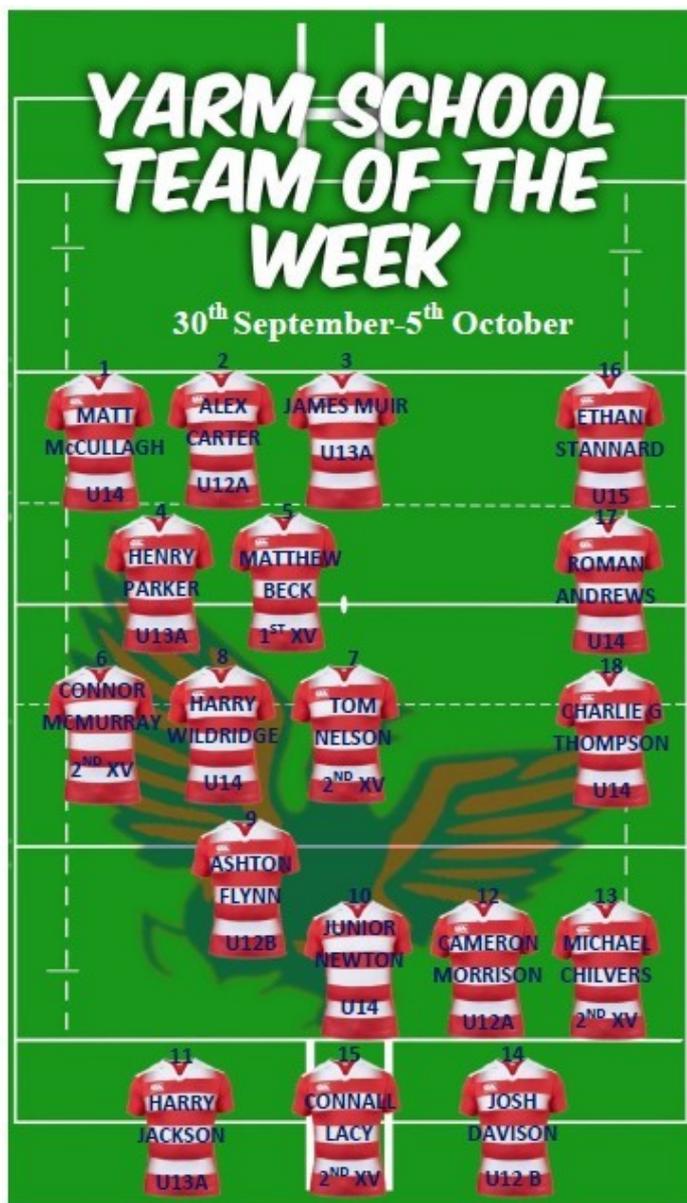
Going into the second half the boys kept their heads and came out strong. However, Barnard Castle made a number of changes and with the addition of fresh legs on the pitch, they were able to take advantage out wide, securing another try to take the lead. Some fancy footwork from our boys and dominant defence from Jake and Felix meant we managed to secure a turnover and level the score at 12-12. As we entered the last few minutes of the game our boys started to feel the fatigue. Barnard Castle managed to get a last minute try to take the game and finish with a 17-12 win to Barnard Castle. The boys played some fantastic rugby, they really came together and they worked hard for one another. Well done - let's build on this performance!

## Hockey

### Girls' U12C v Queen Margaret's

Won: 6-0

The match started well with both sides having attacking opportunities in the first few minutes. As the match progressed our defence grew in confidence and strength by distributing the ball to the wings which, in turn, spread Queen Margaret's players and created space for our attack to build momentum and create scoring opportunities. When our attacking players got the ball Queen Margaret's struggled to defend against the skilful movement and passing and soon we were 4-0 up. This continued in the second half and the final score was 6-0 to Yarm. This was a whole team effort with everyone playing their own part in creating each goal. Well done girls.



## YARM SCHOOL TEAM OF THE WEEK

30<sup>th</sup> September – 5<sup>th</sup> October



U14 hockey team are County Champions!



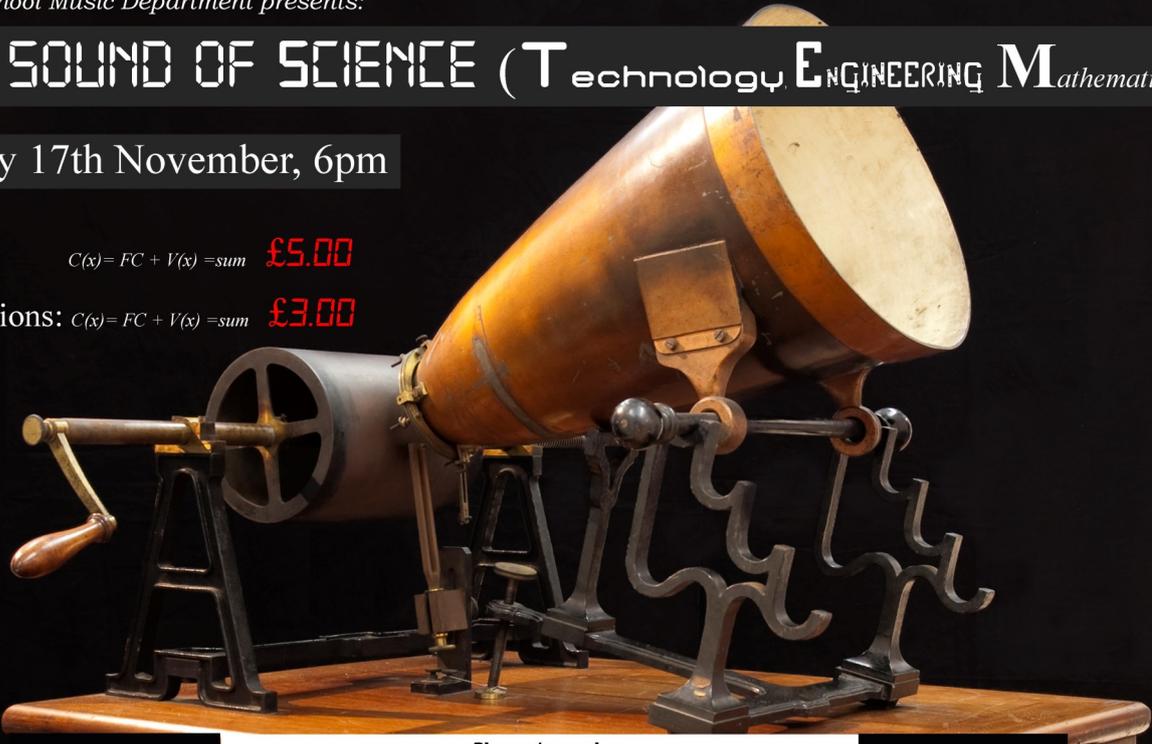
Yarm School Music Department presents:

# THE SOUND OF SCIENCE (Technology ENGINEERING Mathematics)

Sunday 17th November, 6pm

Adults:  $C(x) = FC + V(x) = \text{sum}$  £5.00

Concessions:  $C(x) = FC + V(x) = \text{sum}$  £3.00



*Phonautograph.*

*BC, barrel with opening at C; c, brass tube with membrane and style at b, and movable piece a, by which the position of the nodal points can be regulated: c, handle to turn cylinder (A) covered with lampblacked paper.*



Tickets can be purchased from the School box office or at [thepaaonline.org](http://thepaaonline.org)



Saturday 26th October, 7.30pm

Tickets: £23 / £21

[www.thepaaonline.org](http://www.thepaaonline.org)

