

Newsletter



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Headmaster's Welcome

I write this week's introduction having just watched the second performance of Miss Saigon in the PAA. Both nights so far have been spectacular and the pupils and staff involved deserve high praise and congratulations for the show. I didn't expect to have 'theatre critic' as part of my role when I arrived (and don't profess to be in any way expert) but it's been a privilege to watch these young people pull together so professionally a performance of such complexity. Every aspect is extraordinary for a school performance: stunning stagecraft; complex choreography; compelling acting; scintillating music and professional lighting, sound, costumes and more. Beyond this, the ability of the pupils to empathise with their characters and deliver so powerfully the range of emotions and relationships within this story shows tremendous maturity and skill.

Miss Saigon is not a play that avoids big and challenging themes. Quite the contrary, it puts them front and centre and leaves the audience variously dazzled, conflicted, uplifted and tormented. I received a number of comments from wowed audience members making comparisons with shows they'd seen on the West End... There are, I believe, a small number of tickets still available from the box office for Friday and Saturday's shows; it is not a show to miss, if you can make it.

Dr Huw Williams

Miss Saigon Photos



Photos: Thank you to Dave Yates

We have a few remaining tickets for Friday and Saturday's performances of Miss Saigon. If you would still like to see it please book online at www.thepaaonline.org.

Community Action Group



'Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'" — Martin Luther King Jr.

The term has got off to a great start for the Community Action group! After having been rained off on one occasion, our session on Tuesday 21st January was spent litter-picking in Yarm, with a particular focus on the play park by the viaduct. Despite the muddy conditions, it was a glorious winter afternoon and pupils worked hard to make sure that the park is an inviting place for the young residents of the town to play. The prize for the strangest piece of rubbish, on this occasion, was awarded to Grace Harbinson!

Plans are also well under way for our projects this term. These include regular visits to two local primary schools where we hope to listen to younger pupils read. We also have planned visits to two care homes - one in Stockton and the other in Yarm - where we hope to entertain the residents.

In terms of fundraising, we plan to raise funds next week to distribute care packages to local homeless charities. To this end, Valentine's Day chocolate lollies will be available for sale at break time and lunch times from Monday 10th February. After half term, we will be selling second-hand books to raise money to replace out-dated texts in local schools in the area. Please do use the half term to have a clear out and bring in books in good condition to E3 by Wednesday 26th February. Thank you, once again, for your support.

The Community Action Group

Considering Palestine

*'Exile is more than a geographical concept.
You can be an exile in your homeland, in your own
house, in a room.'*

Mahmoud Darwish, Palestinian poet



A 45 minute lunchtime lecture was never going to be enough; not when we were exploring the issues of life in Palestine, and certainly not when our guests were as erudite and as eloquent as Eman Alasah and Hala Shoman. Both women are recent recipients of a full academic scholarship from the University of Durham where they will study for a Master's

degree in their respective fields. They are funded jointly by the university and the Durham Palestinian Education Trust, an independent UK charity that assists the social and economic development of Palestine by providing scholarships for Palestinian graduates of the very highest calibre.

By background Eman is a student of literature and in particular postcolonial works exploring the link between literature and culture, whilst Hala is a qualified dentist whose work has now diversified into development and anthropology. The fact that one currently lives in Gaza and the other in the West Bank, provides an enormous breadth of contrasting testimony for the challenges of life and work in this region. Neither of the guests described themselves as being 'political' despite the inevitability of developing perspectives from one's daily experiences. For Eman this involved the day to day inconveniences and indignities of innumerable check posts and the separation barrier

travelling between her home town of Bethlehem and other areas in the West Bank, whilst Hala has lost out on several international scholarships from prestigious universities due to not being previously permitted to travel outside of this narrow piece of land of Gaza.

Our guests were able to intricately analyse and dissect the 'peace plan' recently proposed by President Trump, and offer their own alternative perspectives on ways towards a semblance of peace, sustainability and harmony in the region. The tensions and frustrations that confront and confound our guests was palpable; yet despite these unimaginable challenges, almost universally condemned by the international community and the United Nations, our guests, along with their fellow citizens continue to strive to build their communities, to seek out education and training, whilst finding ways to communicate their plight to the rest of us beyond the walls and seas. For a complex and convoluted topic such as this it was a privilege for the Politics students to have this rare opportunity to listen to and question those at the very heart of the issues.

Mr S Edwards

LOST PROPERTY

Lost Property will be open during the following days/time:

MONDAY CLOSED

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

1:00 pm - 15:00 pm

THURSDAY CLOSED

FRIDAY

1:00 pm - 15:00 pm

Apprenticeship Interview



Miss Rhodes sat down with Millie McCormack from the Upper Sixth to interview her about securing a highly sought after Apprenticeship with PwC for September.

What is the role you are starting in September and where will you be based?

Next year I will be working in PwC's Direct Tax team for Corporation Tax. I will be based in Leeds, but these positions are based in most offices around the UK and globally.

Why did you decide to apply for an apprenticeship rather than going to University?

An apprenticeship, for me, seemed a more suitable option as I have always been an active learner so on-the-job training was a no-brainer. With my apprenticeship, you study for your qualifications alongside working and have occasional visits to college, mainly to consolidate, as your studying is being applied on a day-to-day basis. I see this as the main advantage over the constant study of university.

Why PwC?

PwC is one of the 'big 4' professional service firms, thus, I chose PwC due to their diverse range of clients that will provide many learning opportunities. PwC also has a lot of flexibility incorporated into their running, such as the 'dress for your day' scheme and their use of hot-desking (which I have seen in the Leeds office). They also have a great work-life balance, such as doing charity work- which I want to carry on after participating in Yarm Apprentice. There is a lot of mobility within the firm once qualified as well, both geographically and occupationally.

When did you first hear about PwC?

I have always been aware of PwC as a firm yet I started researching apprenticeships in the autumn term of Lower Sixth after attending an Economics and Business Working Lunch with an ex-pupil who is currently working at KPMG. I then signed up to PwC's 'Females of the Future' event in the Newcastle office, which confirmed for me that I want to go down the apprenticeship route.

What was the recruitment process like?

The recruitment process started with an initial application which was more admin based and about me in general (school, predicted grades, service line, etc.). There was then a situational judgement assessment which is a collection of video scenarios of a 'normal day' in the office, seeing how you would react to certain situations and if you are suitable for the firm. If you get through this stage there is then a games-based assessment (done on a phone or computer) which is a series of mini-games that measures your cognitive skills and decision making. There was then a video interview (which you can practice for beforehand) in which they ask you scenario-based questions and you get time to prepare then film yourself answering these and submit them. Finally, there is an assessment centre in which you go to an office (not necessarily the one you applied for) with other applicants, who may not even be in the same service line as you, and complete various tasks (group and individual). You will also have an interview at the end of this day with one of the student recruitment team. You will then hear on your outcome and receive feedback

within the next 10 working days. Although this is PwC's recruitment process, it is very similar among professional services firms.

Do you think your A-Level subjects helped you secure your PwC place?

I think Economics helped me achieve my place at PwC due to constantly staying up to date with current affairs and evaluating different proposals and reaching a conclusion. Similarly, the problem-solving in Maths assisted me with the logic and reasoning behind these proposals (which is very significant in the tax service line), along with the quantitative methods involved. English Literature has been useful for exercising my critical thinking, enabling me to analyse situations and respond quickly and efficiently.

What else have you done during the Sixth Form (in school or out) which has been helpful in securing your place (in your opinion)?

In my opinion, Yarm Apprentice was the most beneficial thing I have participated in within school. It has helped my mind-set to be used to having to complete tasks to a deadline, having to work with external sources (e.g. the Halo project) alongside having to work and motivate a team consistently. This has also given me a lot of different scenarios to talk about in my interviews. Similarly, having a Saturday job was undoubtedly very helpful in securing my place as it shows a work-life balance and a working knowledge of the running of a business. Also, my work experience and consistent attendance of events by PwC and the ICEAW was held as very valuable as it portrayed an eagerness alongside a well thought out application, knowing that the role was suited to me.

Do you have any advice for students in the Fifth Year or Sixth Form thinking about Apprenticeships or PwC?

If you're thinking about an apprenticeship, my greatest advice is to do your research. Go to the events on offer to you, attend Economics and Business Working Lunches and contact the employer if you have any queries. This will show that you're thinking through your application, instead of just immersing yourself in the application process and they may remember you when you are applying. Alongside staying up to date with current affairs. Likewise, make sure you have answers to common interview questions by pursuing as many opportunities as possible.

We wish you all the very best with your A-Levels this summer and with your exciting post and look forward to you delivering a Working Lunch of your own in the future

Miss C E Rhodes

Final Reminder: Career Cluster event - Degree/Elite Apprenticeships Wednesday 12th February, 6pm

It is very much aimed at pupils in the Fourth Year to Upper Sixth, though of course all are welcome to attend. Please also do pass on these details to friends and associates at our neighbouring schools. To confirm your place please email me at se@yarmschool.org stating how many persons will be attending.

This Apprenticeship Career Cluster event coincides with a Second Year Parents Evening. As such the schools site is expected to be particularly busy in terms of parking. Extra parking is available on the Hard Court area behind the Friarage but please bear this in mind and consider parking in areas off the main school site.

First Impressions

On Friday we were delighted to welcome back Former Pupil Hannah Carey (Class of 2013) for one of our popular departmental Working Lunches, and she started her talk by asking the assembled students for their first impressions of her, before evaluating their handshakes.

Hannah who left Yarm seven years ago, after studying Business at GCSE and A-Level, completed a degree in Business and Applied Management at Sunderland University (obtaining a first class honours degree) and she is now employed as an Assistant Project Manager with Network Rail in York. After explaining the reasons for her unusual start to the session, she discussed very candidly what she had done through her time at school and university and on placement to make contacts and gain experience. The assembled students were fascinated to hear Hannah explain how a school Business trip to Lear Seating, had resulted in work experience and subsequently a placement and she encouraged them to really make the most of every opportunity.

It was a pleasure to hear Hannah speak so fondly of her time at Yarm and to hear how well she has done. We look forward to following her career and thank her for taking time off work to visit us.

Miss C E Rhodes

Flying High

The Economics and Business Department welcomed back another Former Pupil this week for another Working Lunch. This time it was the turn of Nikhil Krishna who left Yarm in 2016 and went on to study Economics and Management at Oxford. Having secured a 2(i), Nikhil is taking a gap year before starting a job in Strategy Consultancy in London September. Right now, he's back at home before flying out to Silicon Valley for an internship in Business Development. Nikhil happily spoke to a mixture of Lower and Upper Sixth students, and offered them advice and guidance on degrees, seeking employment and securing work and internships. He emphasised the importance of making the most of all opportunities and doing what you enjoy.

It was lovely to catch up with Nikhil and to hear of his success - we wish him well for the future and know that we will no doubt welcome him back one again in the near future.

Miss C E Rhodes

PAA BOX OFFICE

MONDAY—FRIDAY
8:30 am - 16:30 pm

TEL: 01642 792587

WWW.THEPAAONLINE.ORG

Ain't about cha-ching cha-ching?

Seven days after setting Task 4 - The Boyes Bag Challenge - the Apprentices were back in the Board Room to face Lord Sugar AKA Mrs Heward, the School's Finance Manager, and describe the events of Thursday lunchtime.

Issy L's team had secured the favoured Dovecote site (but at a price - £25 is going to the designated YA Charity - Breast Cancer Care - as a result of the team winning the sealed bid auction), and having used their £5 to add value by buying sweets, they were quick to get selling, whilst also asking customers to guess the name of the bear.

Meanwhile Charlie's team had the less desirable Gazebo, but opted to also use roaming sales people! Initially using a Tombola (part of their £5 having gone to buy tickets and the rest to purchase sweets), the team resorted to more traditional sales techniques as the clock ticked.

After rigorous questioning by Lord Sugar the results were revealed. Issy's team had revenue of £115.56, but after deducting the cost of stock and pitch fee they had profit of £61.82 for their chosen Mental Health charity. Charlie's team had a lower revenue of £96.58, but also lower costs (just stock) and thus had raised £67.64 for their charity (Breast Cancer Care).

Whilst Charlie's team enjoyed treats of eclairs and vitamin enriched juice, Issy had to decide who to bring back into the Board Room. Hugh and Cam accompanied her and on the basis of the sealed bid having impacted the most on the final result, with regret Issy was fired.

Bonus points were awarded to Charlie as winning PM, which Miss Rhodes and Mr Menzies gave credit to Hugh (for his sales skills on the day) and Charlie (for his leadership) and the teams themselves awarded bonus points to Philippa and Issy L.

With only one task remaining the pressure builds as we impatiently await seeing who will be Yarm Apprentice 2020....

(To see the league table and the points of the students, look at the board outside B1)

And thank you to the teams and the customers on Thursday lunchtime who helped us raise money for very worthwhile charities.

Miss C E Rhodes

Riddles

Last time's answer: A chick in an egg!

Last time's winners: Apsara Naguleswaran, Keira Cowell, Yumna Ellidir, Kaavya Venkatesh, Danny Scott, Tegan Addison, Jess Coapes and Mr Stone (GNS). Congratulations to you all!

This week's riddle: What am I?

Rating: out of the box

**This is as light as a feather, yet no man can hold it for long.
What am I?**

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

PLAYBILL®
A Theatre Tradition Since 1884
YARM SCHOOL MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS:

A MAGICAL MUSICAL MENAGERIE

MONDAY
16TH
MARCH
6pm

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNIQUE DREAMCOAT
MUSIC BY TIM RICE
LYRICS BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

Tickets are available from the School box office or from www.thepaaonline.org/

The History Society

The History Society met last week to discuss the Anglo-Zulu wars of the late eighteen hundreds. Attendees gathered to debate to what extent the conflict came about as a direct order from London, or as a result of colonial masters seeking to enhance their own reputation. The topic was prompted by a recent study into the topic by historian Saul David. David argues that in early 1879, Lord Chelmsford decided to lead his troops from the British colony of Natal, further in land in order to capture Zululand. Chelmsford severely underestimated the strength of the Zulu army. The Zulus were lightly armed and could move fast, covering a vast amount of territory in a very short space of time. This led to the British Army being surrounded and massacred at the Battle of Isandhlwana on the 22nd January 1879. Later that day, a Zulu army numbering 4,000 men, set off for Natal and reached the British outpost at Rorke's Drift. An army of roughly 400 British men famously defended Rorke's Drift from the Zulus, a battle that would go down in history as a heroic British victory. The British later went on to annex Zululand, profiting from infighting between Zulu chiefs. Saul David examines recent evidence that sheds light on the fact that the Zulu's never actually intended on capturing Natal and were only defending their honour against the British invaders. David is very critical of Lord Chelmsford, who, was apparently only seeking to enhance his own career back in London, and cared little for the lives of his men. Chelmsford went on to have a distinguished career as Lord Protector of the Tower of London, and spent his final days playing billiards at a gentleman's club in London, having led thousands of young British men to their deaths at the Battle of Isandhlwana.

The History Society meets every Tuesday at 1pm.

Mr A J Morrison

YARM SCHOOL SPORTS HALL

ALL AGES WELCOME

NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED

Yarm School Ceilidh

FRIDAY 14th FEBRUARY

TICKETS £12.50 FROM THE BOX OFFICE

DOORS OPEN 7:00 MUSIC FROM 7:30

FINISH AT 11:00

PIE AND PEAS INCLUDED IN TICKET PRICE

BAR

RAFFLE

THE MESERANI PROJECT

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh

Since last week we have seen a flurry of activity in the Bronze section. Sarah Mhando, Hasmeet Gill, Ananya Padmanahban and Alex Greenaway have all completed their awards and we are waiting for confirmation from Head Office for these. Well done on all the hard work

Emily Miller has completed all three of the other sections and a large number of others have completed one each. Harry Walters, Russel and Raphael Mhlanga, Matthew Chapman and Sam Graham have signed off on their expedition section. The skills section has been finished by Neha Patil and Noah Bickenson and the volunteering section has been completed by Josh McGeary and Finn Meager. Harriet White has done her physical section. Well done on the hard work so far. Expedition route planning continues at a frantic pace. Four groups have finished their route cards and are working on their final preparations.

Mr M Rye

SAVE THE DATE
YSA SUMMER EVENT: SATURDAY 6th JUNE

More details to follow soon

London Art Trip

On Thursday the 23rd January, Yarm School's Sixth Form art students went on a trip down to London to explore the galleries and exhibitions with Ms Stebbings and Mrs Thompson. The students were given time to drop their luggage and other bags at the Youth Hostel opposite the station, and then were promptly put in to taxis and taken to an exhibition of Lucian Freud's Self-Portraits, held at the Royal Academy of Arts. Artists have long depicted their own likeness but few have returned to self-portraiture as consistently as Lucian Freud. He painted or drew his own image every decade throughout his life starting with the teenage drawings on display at the Royal Academy. Born in Berlin in 1922 Freud moved to the UK with his family in 1933 to escape Nazi Germany. He was the grandson of Sigmund Freud and many have traced the influence of his famous grandfather in Lucian Freud's self-portraits. They reveal a curiosity towards changes in his expression, appearance and psychology.

In the gallery the students studied Freud's work closely, and replicated his expressive style in their own drawings. Freud worked very loosely, using bold marks and subdued tones in his colour, however, there was always a strong highlight where the light hit, making his work very light based, with strong shadows.

When we were finished at the Royal Academy, we walked to the National Gallery in Trafalgar square where there was a wide range of Fine Art from renaissance to contemporary, portraits to landscapes, with something to appeal to each individual student and their personal strengths.



The following day, we visited The White Cube Gallery in Bermondsey where there was an exhibition of Anselm Kiefer's most recent work. This new series of paintings by Kiefer featuring barren scenes and rows of charred vegetation receding dramatically reminded us of images of war torn battlefields or the recent images on the news of the devastation caused by the Australian bushfires. The paintings were immense some of them measuring over 7 meters in width.

There was also a large scale installation of 30 mixed media pieces in which Kiefer tries to bring together the mathematical model of string theory alongside complex scientific theories and subject matter from ancient mythology. Whilst we may not have fully understood the various theories behind the work the pieces themselves were stunning. The pieces were so huge, almost filling 20ft walls, that up close they seemed like nothing but from further away you could make out exactly what he had painted.

Our final destination was the Tate modern which was huge, with a fountain in its entrance that must have been over 40ft, with a modern art section that ranged from Mark Rothko to Picasso paintings, sculptures and everything in between; there was something for everyone at this gallery. Once we had finished sketching and discussing the work we had seen at the Tate, we made our way back to Kings cross after picking up our luggage, got on the train at 4pm, and arrived back in Northallerton at 7pm - exhausted.

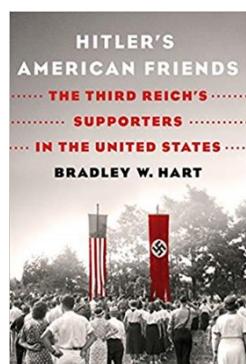
Imogen Hennessey

Final Reminder: Hitler's American Friends

Next Monday in the Friarage Theatre starting at 1700 we will be joined via Skype with 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 emailed Mrs Pinkham at elp@yarmschool.org





YARM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

LOUNGE BAR NIGHT

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND



LIVE MUSIC FROM
DAVID ARYN

PULLED PORK / BRISKET
BUN / MARINATED TOFU
BURGER

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH



7.30PM

TICKETS: £15

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
THE SENIOR SCHOOL OFFICE

Durham Small Boats Head Success

After so many Head races were cancelled due to bad weather at the end of 2019, it was so good for a race to go ahead at the beginning of this decade in spite of windy weather.

Durham SBH is one of the most popular events in the North. Although it is only raced over 1800 metres, half way up the course there is Elvet Bridge, with some of the narrowest arches to row through in Europe.

Yarm School Boat Club sent a full contingent of rowers and scullers to race over the four divisions on Saturday 1st February. In fact no more boats could fit on the trailer. Our fastest crew of the day was the Junior 18 coxless quad of Jack Norton, Charlie Bottomley, Finlay Gilraine and Ollie Tompkins. Although they didn't win their event, finishing 3rd in their category and 9th out of the 326 crews that competed, they were a young crew comprising of sixteen and seventeen year olds racing at junior 18 level.



One of the many outstanding performances of the day was Jack Norton combining with Adam Morris from Durham ARC to win the Junior 18 double sculls. Both boys are going for GB trials and were the fastest double of the day beating all the senior men's crews and finishing 14th overall. This should give them a lot of confidence for their second GB assessment at the end of February.



Jack Norton competed in three of the four divisions and in his single scull he finished third with only 3 seconds covering the top four scullers, all of whom are competing in the GB trials. A number of other single scullers competed in various divisions and all performed well.

It was so pleasing to see the Junior 15 boys compete with real enthusiasm in the coxed quad event and win it. Bakaer Noble, Jonathan Wood, Will Craggs and Will Woodhead were ably coxed through Elvet Bridge by Juju Mon to win by 2 seconds over a City of Sunderland crew. The Junior 15 boys were closely followed by the Junior 16 boys who were competing



in a coxed four. Finlay Gilraine, Charlie Bottomley and Mark Probets swapped two blades for one oar in this event and Shrish Nair (15 years old) made up the crew that was coxed by Charlotte Paylor. This crew also took the win in their event



beating Durham School by 4 seconds. Other crews competing in the boys events were the J16 2x

(Garcia/ Barron), a Junior 14 coxed quad and a Junior 14 double scull.

In the girls' events Lily Brown and Anastasia Legge competed in the Women's Junior 18 pairs event (probably the hardest boat to row) and not only beat all the other pairs but a lot of double sculls too. Both Lily and Anastasia are trialling for the GB squad and will be competing in the pair at the end of the month. Both Lily and Anastasia also competed in the Women's



Junior single sculling event with Lily finishing second in the event and Anastasia finishing fourth.

The Junior 15 girls are becoming a real force to be reckoned with. The girls' junior 15 coxed four of Tess Hardy, Cordelia Deering, Evie Elliott, Harriet White and Annabel Cunningham won their first senior event by winning the Women's Band 2 coxed fours. The girls' junior 15 coxed quad, stroked by Emily Dunn, finished second, only 3 seconds behind Durham School. And Siya Puthuraya took to a single scull and finished 6th out



the 10 in her event in what was her first competitive Head race.

There is also a strong group of girls in the Junior 14 age group with a coxed quad stroked by Hannah Bettinson finishing 2nd in their event by 5 seconds to Chester-le-Street.

Yarm School Boat Club is going from strength to strength. All who competed on Saturday performed very well, and even if they didn't win, they were very close. Rowing and sculling at junior level is highly competitive and Yarm School is becoming one of the most successful boat clubs in the north. The next event is the Yorkshire Head on 29th February .



Sport Scoreboard

Hockey

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Boys' U18A v RGS, Newcastle | Won 3-0 |
| Boys' U18B v RGS, Newcastle | Won 3-2 |
| Boys' U14A v County Tournament | Won 11-0 |
| Boys' U13A v Yarm Girls' U13B | Won 7-2 |
| Boys' U15A v Ashville College | Won 3-1 |
| Boys' U14A v Ashville College | Won 11-0 |
| Boys' U13A v Ashville College | Won 11-1 |
| Boys' U13B v Ashville College | Won 1-0 |
| Boys' U12A v Ashville College | Lost 2-3 |
| Boys' U12B v Ashville College | Won 3-2 |
| Boys' U13A National Cup Round 1 | Won 20-1 |
| Boys' U13B County Cup | Drew 5-5 |
| Boys' U15A v RGS, Newcastle | Won 11-0 |
| Indoor U14B v Teesside High | Won 7-1 |
| Indoor U15B v Teesside High | Drew 0-0 |

Netball

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| U18B v Silcoates School | Won 28-21 |
| U18C v Silcoates School | Won 10-5 |
| U13C v Our Lady and St Bede U13B | Won 10-9 |
| U13C v Our Lady and St Bede U13A | Won 9-6 |
| U12A v St Peter's School, York | Won 26-2 |
| U12B v St Peter's School, York | Won 7-5 |
| U12C v St Peter's School, York | Won 12-4 |
| U12A v Ashville Harrogate | Won 18-10 |
| U12B v Ashville Harrogate | Won 11-3 |



Boys' Hockey

U13 AND U14 TEAMS ARE COUNTY CHAMPIONS

It is a mark of how boys hockey is progressing at Yarm that we were the only school to enter 2 teams in the county tournament and both were highly competitive to the point they were to meet each other in the semi-finals. The tournament was split into 2 groups and with shortened 18 minutes one way games, it was important the boys start off quickly.

The A team started off strong with a 9-0 win against Red House and 4-0 win against a decent RGS team. The B team made an encouraging start with a 4-1 victory v Dame Allan's followed by a tight 1-0 defeat against an Eggescliffe team that boasts a number of Stockton Hockey Club players. This meant the A team played against the B in a well fought semi-final game that saw the A team come out as eventual winners at 3-1 and led to the A team taking on Eggescliffe in the final. They have some very dangerous players so it was particularly worrying how slowly we started the final - Eggescliffe could have quite easily scored on the break a couple of times. After about 6 minutes, Yarm stepped up a number of levels, scored their first goal and added another 4 to take the County title by 5 goals to 0.

This group of players are very focused at the moment and are determined to go as far as possible in this competition. The most pleasing thing is the strength in depth across both teams which bodes well for the future.

U14

Although there are not huge numbers of schools in the county round of the National Schools' tournament, there are much bigger challenges ahead. The games were only 18 minutes one way which meant the boys had to start very quickly.

The first game was against Eggescliffe and for the first 5 minutes it seemed their defence would get in the way of everything and their keeper was going to have a great game. Once the first goal went in though, the floodgates quickly opened with goals from Matthew McCullagh, Junior Newton (2), Johnny Carr and Max Jones leading to a 5-0 win.

The score line was repeated in the second game with a 5-0 win against Teesside High and it was pleasing that it was 5 different goal scorers including Jacob Rutter, Junior Newton, Max Jones, Johnny Carr and Second Year Max Mowbray.

We played Red House in the final game and their team boasts a number of strong county players. Yarm went up a couple of levels in this game and played some excellent hockey. In fact, the moment of the tournament saw a ball fed in from right back by Matthew McCullagh to Junior Newton who posted up the deflected ball into the path of the overlapping Charlie Thompson who slotted it into the bottom corner—straight off the training ground from games earlier in the day! With another goal from Thompson and 2 further ones added from captain Junior Newton the boys ran out comfortable winners 4-0.

This now means we get a more favourable draw against the Yorkshire Schools Runners Up in the next round - Hallcross from Doncaster.

U14 v Ashville

Won 11-0

Yarm started off slow due to harsh conditions and a reasonably strong Ashville side. However 5 minutes in Yarm

started to pass and create space much better. This led to a well worked opening goal by Fergal Deane. Four more goals then followed before half-time including 1 short corner conversion, which the team had been working on throughout the week. There was also a great team goal which started from Freddie Butler in defence and ended with a great finish from Max Jones. With the wind behind them this half Yarm started a lot better. Another short corner conversion started off the scoring. There was some great play in the centre from Junior Newton and Charlie Thompson, creating many chances for the Attackers (Fergal Deane, Nathan Muzawazi and Johnny Carr) who often finished them. Ashville had a few chances but almost all were stopped by Yarm's Defence (Theo Grylls, Tom Graham, Mathew McCullagh and Harry Wildridge). The game finished 11-0, with some great assists from the likes of Jacob Rutter and Roman Andrews.

By Tom Graham

U13A v Ashville College

Won 9-1

Despite the cold and windy conditions we started the first half very well, with three goals in quick succession. We then went on to score four more goals which cemented our lead. Unfortunately, at the end of the first half we conceded a short corner which Ashville used to their advantage by scoring a goal. The first half ended 7-1.

In the second half Ashville knuckled down but still couldn't stop us from scoring two more goals. Despite this, they still tried to score but our defence held strong and stopped them. The match finished 9-1. Everyone played well but we still have a lot to improve on. Well done boys!!!

By Oscar Thomas

U13B v Ashville

Won 1-0

The match started comfortably as Diego Garcia scored a very good shot. Ashville tried their best to score and had a few chances but Ben Dempsey made some incredible saves. Everyone's passing and dribbling was a testament to the hard work that we are doing at school practices. The final score was 1-0.

By Yusuf Syed

2nd XI v RGS

Won 3-2

Yarm Boys 2nd XI took on a strong RGS Ladies 1st XI in what proved to be a classic "game of two halves". Yarm made a positive start within the first five minutes but squandered chances and failed to capitalise on their domination within the oppositions D. Yarm's defence proved was shaky in response and RGS managed to score two well crafted first half goals. However, the boys did not let their heads slip and some stirring words at half-time sent the team into the second half with fierce determination and spirit. Co-captain Robbie Wilmot was as industrious as ever in midfield and made his presence known with several crunching tackles but it took a while for Yarm to impose themselves within the midfield, routinely giving the ball away. Jack Critchlow then proved to be a key man working down the wide channels as he tapped in to pull one back before looping in another over an outstretched goalkeeper to bag a brace and equalise. Yarm's superior speed and fitness began to show as they pushed for the winner within the final minutes whilst still weathering some nervy moments at the back. Toby Wilkshire was played through and calmly squared the ball to Co-captain Aki Banerjee who tucked it away past the keeper to send Yarm to victory with a last gasp winner. Well done to all lads involved as they pulled off an unlikely victory from a precarious position at half-time.