

# Newsletter



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## Headmaster's Welcome

I am conscious that I have, in a very British way, referenced the weather in a few of my recent missives, but I can't help but comment this week on the stealthily lengthening days which make such a difference after months of dark mornings and early evenings. My walk into School each morning offers a wonderful view of the School and the river from the Spital and it's glorious to wander down and be reminded of our beautiful setting and campus.

This week has seen the Fourth Year entertain us with their engaging production of Shakespeare's Cymbeline (tickets still available for this evening's performance!). Clever staging with projected backdrops enabled the cast to move from scene to scene and to draw the attention of their audience into the dramatic moments of the performance. The cast handled the complex Shakespearean dialogue with competence and panache. The production was creatively casted and directed by Mr Hall with the script cleverly adapted by Mr Booth to enable all cast members to display their talents in the spotlight.

Within this week's newsletter is news of success in chess, mathematics, hockey and netball, as well as a reminder that a few tickets remain available for the YSA event next Friday. World book day saw a wonderful array of costumes on the Spital from the Prep, Pre-Prep and nursery children, and we heard from staff and pupils in our Lower School assembly, too.

Two quick final notices from me. Firstly, please could I remind parents who drop their children off on the Spital to ensure that they park responsibly and use the designated crossing point - we are all role models for pupils of all ages in this regard, and the safety of all users of the Spital is our priority. Secondly, please could parents ensure that they read the separate letter sent out about the School's response and planning with respect to the novel coronavirus.

Thank you.

Dr Huw Williams

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## Intermediate Maths Challenge

The results from the Intermediate Maths Challenge which took place just before the half-term have been announced. We had 79 entrants participate, principally pupils from Third to Fifth Year. We reaped an impressive crop of 23 Bronze, 31 Silver and 16 Gold certificates, and this is testament to the talent and tenacity of our pupils, and of course the guidance and encouragement of the Maths Department.

Abhinav Ramisetty (Fifth Year) was the top performer with a near-perfect score with Keya Shah (Third Year) a very narrow second overall. Both qualify for their respective Cayley and Maclaurin Olympiads next month. Benedict Francis was the top performer in the Fourth Year and along with Alex McGee, Ananya Singh, Ananya Padmanabhan, Michael Shipman, Rebecca Keetley, Sam Dunkin, Sarah Mhando and Tyler Brown, qualifies for the Pink Kangaroo.

Adhi Dinakaran, Jacob Rutter, James Waine, Jennifer Chan, Kayla Roberts, Michael Elsaify, Toma Saha and Yusuf Syed also all qualify for the Grey Kangaroo. Yusuf deserves special mention, also achieving a Gold, and he is in the Second Year. The UKMT (United Kingdom Maths Trust) run these exams to enrich the mathematical experience of the country's top mathematical talent, and the raw problem-solving skills engendered are increasingly important for success in GCSE and A-Level public examinations.

Mr M Pointon

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## House Chess 2020

The semi-finals of this year's House Chess competition have now been played! In the first match (Aidan v Cuthbert) there were some very entertaining matches. Tanishq Azad held his own for a while but Tom Hall eventually overcame his defence. Gautam Sathyamurthy beat Imogen Hennessay (a self confessed novice). Jakob Stussi (a last minute replacement) lost to Ed Adams, Rushil Partha (also a substitute) lost to Adhithyan Dinakaran and Avanish Batra beat Tenuk Mendis. The final match saw Ollie Cochrane take a win against William Lewis, however, William did managed to get a stalemate. Final result Aidan ½ Cuthbert 5 ½. In the second semi-finals (Bede v Oswald) AJ Thorne Wallis beat Oliver Chew on board 1, Vignesh Janakiraman beat Arran Brinham and Michael Shipman beat Ben Francis. Last minute replacements Bakaer Noble and Max Dempsey drew, Vedhika Janakiraman was beaten by Yusuf Syed on time and Ajay Selvan beat Santhosh Ravichandran. Final result Bede 2 ½ Oswald 3 ½. Next week will see the playoff between Aidan and Bede and the final between Cuthbert and Oswald will be played on 19th March.

Mr M Rye

## World Book Day 2020

Thursday 5th March was World Book Day and this year's theme was STORYTELLING! In response to this theme, we asked a selection of students and teachers about their favourite stories. We asked everyone the following questions:

What was your favourite novel when you were a child?  
 If you were stranded on a desert island, what novel would you bring?  
 If you could be any character from a work of fiction, who would you be?

As you can see, the results were extremely interesting....

Why not ask these questions to a friend or family member?

Or alternatively can you guess the identity of the mysterious teacher?

Teacher	What was your favourite novel when you were a child?	If you were stranded on a desert island, what novel would you bring?	If you could be any character from a work of fiction, who would you be?
Mr Telfer	Tarzan- Edgar Rice Burroughs	Heart of Darkness- Joseph Conrad	William from the Just William book series
Mrs Picknett	Lemonade Serenade- Donn Madden	Lots of T.S Elliot's poetry	Miss Pettigrew from the Miss Pettigrew Lives For A Day collection
Mrs Addison	The Twits- Roald Dahl	A Thousand Splendid Suns- Khaled Hosseini	Horrid Henry from Horrid Henry Books
Mr ?	The Outsiders- S.E Hinton	Maths Dictionary	Slippery Jim Digritz from The Stainless Steel Rat
Mr Rhatigan	Famous Five Books- Enid Blyton	Knots & Crosses- Ian Rankin	Sherlock Holmes
Lewis Roper First Year	The Tiger Who Came To Tea- Judith Kerr	Wonder By R.J.Palacio	Smaug from Lord of The Rings
Sophia Kilkerrri Second Year	Charlie and The Chocolate Factory- Roald Dahl	Puzzle Books	Charlie from Charlie and The Chocolate Factory
Charlie McCluskey Third Year	Now Is The Time For Running- Michael Williams	Shadow Hunters- Cassandra Clare	Charlie from Charlie and The Chocolate Factory
Jasmine Kaur Fourth Year	The Gruffalo- Julia Donaldson	Lord of The Flies- William Golding	Scout from To Kill A Mockingbird
Megan Fairley Fifth Year	The Tiger Who Came To Tea- Judith Kerr	And Then There Were None- Agatha Christie	Hermione from the Harry Potter novels

## Bronze Duke of Edinburgh News

Since the last report we have had a number of candidates successfully complete their awards. Well done to Sophie Gatenby, Ananya Singh and Joe Barron on all their hard work.

A number of candidates have completed a section. Olivia Davies has finished her Expedition section and Isabella Woodhead and Will Funk have completed their Volunteering section.

The physical section has been signed off by Deacon Laverick, Emily Dunn, Georgia Charnley, Iona Hughes, Isabella Brent, Izadin Qasem, Sophia Jones and Zach Shears and the Skills section by Amy Willis, Annabel Cunningham, Ava Lane, Benji Wilkinson and Shrish Nair.

Two sections have been completed by Amelia Severn (Skills and Volunteering) and Liv Fletcher (Physical and Volunteering). Well done to these pupils on all their dedicated work.

## Conversations with a 'Boro Patriot: Elected Mayor of Middlesbrough speaks with the Politics Society

The phenomenon of elected mayors is now a well-established part of the UK constitution. Most will know of the likes of Boris Johnson and Sadiq Khan as Mayors of London, as well as Andy Burnham in Manchester and Steve Rotherham in Liverpool.



Closer to home we have Ben Houchen - a former Politics Society guest - as Mayor of the Tees Valley Combined Authority and within this system running the city and region of Middlesbrough, Andy Preston.

The role of the mayor is significant. Not to be confused with the ceremonial mayors, Andy wields significant power and influence and is very much the facilitator of local action. He is the face and figurehead of the region's politics and will be praised or blamed accordingly for the efforts of Middlesbrough. Andy came to Politics from a background in finance, combined with a strong engagement in charity - he was the founder of the Middlesbrough and Teesside Philanthropic Foundation. He has also been instrumental in popularising the homeless awareness raising initiative of the CEO Sleepout.

Andy spoke enthusiastically and dynamically about his work as Mayor since being elected last May. Interestingly he is apolitical, standing and working as an Independent - without the direct support of a political party - despite the long-established dominance of the Labour Party in Middlesbrough. He discussed the challenges of running a region as diverse as Middlesbrough, as well as his efforts to create a can-do mentality in the creation and delivery of services. Andy was particularly engaging when speaking about the efforts to continue to regenerate the town of Middlesbrough; the need for housing of all price ranges and the need for a diverse demographic to move into and settle in the town. This requires young graduates and professionals as well as the traditional population of the town. The session provided insight into and proximity to the decision-making that is very much impacting the region.

Mr S Edwards

## World Book Day 2020 - Decorate a Door Competition

Pupils in First and Second Year have been busy this week adorning the doors within the English corridor! The competition invited pupils to work in small groups to decorate their door as the front covers (real or imagined) of their favourite novels. There were some fantastic creations ranging from 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' to 'Wonder' - and everything in between!

Overall, we were delighted with the results and would like to



congratulate all those involved. The winning door design was fashioned by Hannah Wild and Millie Clark to reflect the novel 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland'. Many congratulations!

Mrs H Blakemore



## Netball

### U16A RGS Tournament

We entered a combination of our U15's and U14's teams in preparation for them playing for the U16 squad next year. Throughout the tournament the girls played well with the match lengths being 15 mins per half and there was only 3 mins between matches.

Our first game against Sedbergh was well fought with the girls playing some great netball and close throughout. Although we suffered 4 losses, at no point were the team out classed and every player gave their all. This is very encouraging for next year's season and has given us a good insight into what to work on in the future.

## Boys' Hockey

We are entering a busy period for boys hockey as many of the regional rounds of the National Schools' Cup and the Independent Schools' Cup are coming to a head.

### First Year win North East Title

On Friday the 27th of February we played 5 games in the North East finals. We won the opening game against RGS 2-0 and our keeper didn't have to move due to our strong defence. Captain, Jake Leader stopped many balls from entering the circle.

**CONCERT AND CAKE SERIES**

**Senior School Pupils**

**WEDNESDAY 11TH MARCH 2020**  
**5PM IN THE RECITAL ROOM**

**Tickets £2** available from the Box Office or [thepaaonline.org/](http://thepaaonline.org/)

**SCHOLARS' CONCERT**  
 (...AND CAKE)

**MONDAY 30TH MARCH 2020**  
**5PM**

Tickets are £2 and are available from the School box office or at: [thepaaonline.org/](http://thepaaonline.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

## Boys' Hockey (cont'd)

The next game was against Hall Cross School and with our strong attack we managed to keep most of the play in their half scoring 4 goals. The third match was against Silcoates and with quick pressure from the start we managed to get an early goal closely followed by a shot from Ayan Thomas leading to a win 2-0.



The next game was tougher for us, we scored a quick goal but then they equalised. Finlay Cooke made the scoreline 2-1 with a run up the wing and then put it in the circle for uneasy shot making. Finally we faced St Peter's who had previously beat us in a friendly match. The whole team excelled leading to a 2-0 victory and since we had won all of our matches that meant we had won the tournament! It was a great day and we all can't wait to go to the North Finals in two weeks time.

Cameron Morrison

### Yarm1 CDL v Morpeth

**Won 4-0**

It was another excellent win for the Yarm1 team that comprised a mix between Second and Third year boys. The win maintains our 7 point lead at the top of the table with 4 games remaining. Considering the team was up against older opposition, they really were excellent throughout!

The boys started off really well with Charlie Thompson dominant in midfield, however it was Mr Glen who opened the scoring with a double lead run high up the pitch, he received a long ball pass in the circle and expertly rounded the keeper before finishing making it 1-0. Thompson quickly followed up with his first 'argie' finish to make it 2-0. The boys have really developed from playing in this league and their skills have really benefited- Freddie Butler and Harry Wildridge were excellent at the back and it was good to see Second Year Oscar Thomas throwing some impressive ariels up the pitch. Just before the break, Will Ferguson slotted a shot in from close range to make the score 3-0.

The second half was much of the same as Yarm sprayed the ball around the pitch, the pick of which was a 60 yard cross-field pass from Max Mowbray to change the point of attack- he later capped a fine performance by scoring an 'argie' himself. Overall, another impressive display!

### U16 go out of National Schools' Cup Fighting

**Yarm v Hall Cross**

**Lost 3-5**

The U16 team travelled to Doncaster to play their North East semi-final game against Hall Cross. They were able to field a full team of club players, however this was to be a well contested game and could quite easily have swung either way. Hall Cross opened the scoring early before Tom Crack poached a typical far post finish to make the half-time score 1-1. Team coach Mr Skirving, roused the troops for the second half and they took the lead early on with a powerful James Beck drag flick from a short corner. Unfortunately, the boys went to sleep for 5 minutes and conceded 2 quick fire goals before Ali Cropp squeezed in an equaliser to make for an exciting finish.

Hall Cross probably edged it as they scored 2 more goals before the end of the game but the Yarm boys could hold their heads up high as they represented the school well!

### Second Year through to final 8 in National Competition.

**Yarm v Ratcliffe College**

**Won 6-4**

It was an exciting game at home to Ratcliffe College who travelled from Leicestershire to play this last 16 Independent Schools' Cup tie. The Yarm team started untypically slow conceding an early goal but quickly went through the gears. Man of the Match, James McGee, scored a hat-trick to make it 3-1 before we conceded another sloppy goal to make it 3-2 at half-time.

The Yarm team looked nervous throughout and rushed all over, we could quite easily have scored another 5 or 6 goals but were very sloppy in front of goal! Fortunately, Timmy Foley scored another 2 goals to ease the pressure before Will Ferguson rounded a couple of players and finished with a trademark 'argie' into the bottom corner.

At 6-2, the game looked dead but Yarm switched off again to gift Ratcliffe 2 more goals. Fortunately time ran out and Yarm progress to the next round, a last 8 game against Cheshire School, Sandbach.

### Third Year survive scare to make North Finals

**Yarm v Hall Cross**

**Yarm won 2-1 on flicks**

Our U14 team produced their worst performance of the season and nearly went out of the competition. This would have been disappointing for a team who finished last season as the 4th best team in the country.

We had beaten Hall Cross 7-0 earlier in the season and the team talk was based around the dangers of complacency! It wasn't like the home team wasn't working hard, it was just the fact that so many were off their game! The passing was slow and predictable and many of the chances that were created were either snatched at or saved by the impressive Hall Cross keeper.

The boys still dominated throughout even with their poor play and took the lead through a close range effort from captain Junior Newton. They had many chances as Charlie Thompson, Nathan Muzawazi and Will Ferguson all came close to doubling the lead.

As the game progressed, the danger was Hall Cross would get an equaliser on the break and the game would go to flicks and that is exactly what happened.

Fortunately, Charlie Thompson and Theo Grylls held their nerve before keeper Max Dempsey made a great left hand save to send Yarm through. Celebrations were understandably muted as Yarm know they will need to improve dramatically if they are to succeed at next week's North Finals at Leeds University.