

Newsletter



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Headmaster's Welcome

It is a great pleasure to write this first newsletter introduction of a new academic year and to welcome everyone back to school after the summer break. This includes all of our staff and the returning pupils and their families, as well as those pupils, families and staff who are new to Yarm this September and who, I hope, will feel excited to be here and welcomed by all. This term starts with a burgeoning optimism and excitement as we dare to hope that 'normality' - whatever that means - is able to return and that life at school can resume in as holistic a way as possible. The contents of the newsletter are testament to the vibrancy of these first few days!

Pupils return to a school site that has seen a range of changes and upgrades over the summer. Some hidden, yet extremely important - such as a new roof for the Sports Hall and Dining Room, or the cabling and wifi for new buildings ensuring we have electronic and digital capability in each - and others more striking and immediately impactful, such as the comprehensive refurbishment and upgrade to the Sixth Form Centre and courtyard, the fantastic new classroom spaces for Psychology and Politics, the fully refurbished and improved Biology laboratories, Maths and IT classroom upgrades and more. Mr Alan Hodgson, our Estates Manager, and his whole team deserve our sincere thanks for the work they have done to prepare the site for our return, as do all our fantastic support staff who work so hard to ensure the School is ready for the pupils.

New teaching colleagues who start this term have made a positive and energetic start. Mrs Kingsbury, Senior Deputy Head and Teacher of French, has already run her first Fire Drill - taking on Mr Woodward's loudhailer with panache - and the whole school demonstrated magnificently a mature and sensible approach to this. We also welcome Mr Stephen Bell to the Mathematics Department, Ms Antonia Breslin to English, Mrs Lizzie Bridle as our new Director of Learning Skills, Dr Bethany Harker to the Biology Department, Miss Lauren Hodgson to PE, Miss Annabel Street to the DT Department and Mrs Jennifer Waters who also joins Biology. We also welcome back from their maternity leave Mrs Pinkham and Mrs Dunkley. In addition, it is lovely to welcome Miss Jessica Jenyns, who is a former pupil, as our new Visiting Artist. We welcome Miss Rachel Algate who joins Miss Prime in the School Office along with our new Receptionist and Secretary, Mrs Ann Smith. I have been thrilled to welcome pupils back into assemblies, to see excitement and enthusiasm abound on Discovery Day for our new First Years, to eat in a room that no longer feels like an examination hall, to see the list of forthcoming fixtures and practices for sports, to discuss with the pupils their plans for House Drama and many other changes, big and small, that reinforce and strengthen our sense of community and togetherness. We do not take these privileges for granted, and I would ask all families to take note of Mrs Kingsbury's letter to parents regarding Covid-19. We continue to follow the guidance for schools and will assess our own procedures as the term progresses. I am grateful to all parents for your cooperation and support.

I reflected with the whole school in our Assembly last week, on the status of education as a basic human right for all children and on the contrast of our experience here at Yarm with that of children around the world who may not even have access to education at all, including the ongoing uncertainty and fear about this in Afghanistan, particularly for girls. Whilst a basic human right, I urged pupils not to lose sight of the value of the opportunities they have here at Yarm, urging them to make the most of these. I feel extremely lucky to be part of this community alongside you all. I wish everyone a successful and happy school year to come.

Dr Huw Williams

September Open Morning

We are delighted to be able to host our whole school opening morning this September and are looking forward to welcoming prospective families onto the site for a flavour of what life at Yarm School is all about. If you know anyone interested in finding out more about Yarm, please encourage them to attend the event on Saturday, 25th September 9:00am - 12noon. Pre-registration is required for all Prep School families and recommended to all Senior School and Sixth form families: visityarmschool.org.

Phab Club

Phab, a youth group for people aged 11-18 with disabilities, starts at Yarm on Thursday, 30th September. [Find out more.](#)

If you're interested in finding out more or joining the Yarm School Associate, please contact ysa@yarmschool.org. A diary of upcoming meetings and events can be found here.



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Discovery Day



We were delighted to be able to host our annual Discovery Day for First Year pupils on Saturday, 4th September. The day gave our new First Years their first experience of extra-curricular activities here at Yarm School and they certainly threw themselves into it! With a huge range of activities packed into this half-day event, at the end of what was a very exciting first week at school, we certainly had some tired tutees by the end of it. It was great to see lots of new friendships being formed, competitive attitudes coming to the fore and many, many smiling faces.

Aidan House had a brilliant time; the pupils got involved in a variety of team-building activities and it was wonderful to see them share a great time together and form new friendships so easily.

Here's what some of Aidan's pupils had to say...

'My favourite part was

when I saw all of my friends jump in the river at the end - that was amazing.' - Freddie

'Building a raft and riding on it on the river was my favourite activity.' - Abdullah

'My favourite part had to be the treasure hunt. It helped me to get to know the School a bit better. Overall, Discovery Day was amazing.' - Zoe

'All the activities were so much fun. It is one of the best things I have experienced!' - Christina



Miss S Hussey

Fantastic teamwork from B1ATB during the Gutterball activity certainly brought out some competitive sides with Hannah, Caitlin, Seren, Ava, Rosie, Alfie, Freddie, Sam and Harry being coached by Meg (Bede House Captain) to victory and to their delicious prizes! It was great to see the group working together throughout the treasure hunt around school. My thanks have to go to the four Bede House Captains for their support.

Mr A Brogan



Raft building was the big hitting event for Cuthbert, who had huge thanks for Mr Mathers and Mr Dempsey for showing them how to construct a barrel raft and then paddling them off to save Lochlain and Tom from certain tragedy on the far side of the River Tees. Luckily they were saved by the epic teamwork across the two rafts. It was a pleasure to hear the laughter and excitement from the First Years (and the dry Sixth Formers...). Thanks to Lochlain, Tom, Sarah, Suneil, and guest Eve T for assisting throughout the day.

Mr D Glen



The spirit of cooperation is alive in this new Oswald tutor group! They worked together brilliantly, efficiently hunting around the School in the treasure hunt; Sarah, Ellie and Joel won, beating groups across all of the Houses, as they answered the most questions about the exciting past of the Senior School site. It was fantastic to see such wonderful teamwork, speed and coordination on show.

Mr J Hall

The First Year had huge thanks for the teachers who came in to help their first big activity weekend and too for the House Captains who gave up their Saturday to help. Well done First Year - what a great start to the year!

Charity Triathlon

Fourth Year pupil, Finn Davie, completed his first triathlon this summer and raised over £1,100 for a young boy having to shield until March, 2022. Finn completed the triathlon, which consisted of a competitive 1km open water swim, 50km bike ride and 8km run, as part of his Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. The money raised will go towards buying a climbing frame for Mason, a young, vulnerable child who has to shield until next year. Well done, Finn. We are extremely proud of you!



Maths Olympiad



Three Third Year pupils have achieved distinctions in the Junior Maths Olympiad having qualified from the UKMT individual Junior Maths Challenge. Congratulations to Paddy Winters, Abdelrahman Ellidir, Robert Qin; this is an amazing achievement and demonstrates a superb command of the subject.

We also congratulate Minakshi Palat-Meethale, Nikhil Ramesh, Chloe Porter, Lydia Wain and Ajay Selvan who qualified for the Kangaroo round; Ajay was awarded a merit.

Mr D Yates

won out as their opponents crumbled. Pulling downhill, Cuthbert almost brought down Aidan but, in a remarkable turnaround, Aidan regained ground and emerged victorious. Well done to Aidan House on their victory. In the battle of the year groups, a good turnout from Upper Sixth looked as though this might finally be their year but, alas, the youth and enthusiasm of the massed ranks of Lower Sixth made short work of out-pulling their seniors. Well done to Lower Sixth.

Tug o' warring was, of course, the real winner. Well done everyone in taking part so enthusiastically.

It was good to see so many students able to attend the barbecue and take part enthusiastically in the Tug O'War. A particular welcome to all those joining the School for the first time, I hope everyone has enjoyed their first few days of Sixth Form. A return to some of the School's traditions feels, in many ways, like the dawning of a new era and I wish good luck to all the Sixth Form as they settle into the new academic year.

Dr A M Goodall



Inter-House Tug O' War

Friday, 3rd September saw the return of the first inter-House competition of the academic year in the shape of the traditional Sixth Form Tug O' War. Although rain threatened from an overcast sky, we were delighted that the weather remained dry for the competition and the massed ranks of Aidan, Bede, Cuthbert and Oswald eagerly awaited the contest.

Thanks are due to Mrs Smith and the Sodexo team for providing a splendid pre-match barbecue enjoyed by students and staff in the new Sixth Form outdoor area.

Thanks also to the Estates Department for their part in the organisation and for laying out the all important Rope of War.

In the first round, Aidan and Bede seemed at first sight to be well matched with much enthusiasm from the Bede outfit under new Head of House, Mr Brogan. Aidan, however were well organised and made short work of overcoming their opponents uphill and down to win by 2 pulls to nil. Cuthbert versus Oswald was a much less certain affair with a well disciplined effort from both sides which saw the Rope of War under great strain. After one victory each, Cuthbert finally prevailed in the decider.

The final between Aidan and Cuthbert was one of the closest matches we have seen for some years. Several times Cuthbert seemed to have the edge but Aidan's persistence



Consequences of Conflict

Third Year pupil, Evie Boyle, wrote this short piece on the consequences of conflict after interviewing a family friend in Israel....

Citizens are terrorized by the deafening sound of the ever quaking ground beneath them. Their ears ache yet again as another shot thunders; the ear splitting sound that incessantly echoes across the valley. Life is such a magical gift that people are encouraged to live to the fullest; however in many cases this is not always true. Some people wake up dreading the day ahead of them, distressing over the painful reality of whether they will live to see the sun rise again. Frankly, it is the place that you are born in that can determine your happiness and freedom. For some people don't even feel safe in their own home due to their country's plight. There is a great difference between living and surviving.

Living in a country under imminent attack can cause a great amount of anxiety and even trauma for the citizens. Young children become accustomed to listening out for a blaring siren and racing to the nearest shelter in as few seconds as they can, when really they have no understanding as to why they need to do it: it is just innate. Parents agonize about the possibility that their children may not come home from school and shake their heads as they stock the cans of food in their shelter room. All these disturbing contexts are just an aspect of daily life for the citizens in a conflict. "Why can there not just be peace?" they wonder.

Sadly, it just isn't that simple.

Tears are spread while the citizens stand in solidarity as they examine the destruction caused from an attack. Others

glance in horror at the rubble that they used to call home. Incidents of the dehumanising acts of people getting whipped are reported. Waves of burning and pollution ripple through the air, indicating another tragedy has occurred. However, the pain does not just stop there; it also spreads internationally and leaves the rest of the world stunned and harrowed when they see it circulating on the news or social media. The people who got the chance to escape worry about their family and friends: guilt ridden at leaving them behind.

Engines roar from authorities in the background, aiming to try and salvage people from the rubble. Citizens stand horrified and helpless, as the anxiety of it being their relative preys on their mind. This relentless distress elicits anger. Anger at the government; for they are supposed to be the ones that protect and honour their country; when all they are really doing is harming it. Harming the infrastructure. Harming relationships. Harming innocent lives.

The media assert their condemnation in articles: yet the attention ends there. Various, high profile people express their opinions in short words of a country they have never even visited, painting a picture of the innocent side and the villains - but failing to show the reality of citizens suffering as a result. Equating the whole population to the extremists running their country. All of this is just heartbreaking normality.

Then there are the people who live below the poverty line, struggling to put food on the table - nevermind the vicious circle of attacks. Homeless people filling the streets, desperate for just a scrap of money to help them get through the night. Luckily, there are many charitable people in their community as many turn to religion to provide an element of comfort in their otherwise uncertain futures.

Citizens dream of a carefree and quiet life where they can have access to as much food as they desire, pursue their passions, have a family and even have the money to travel abroad; but alas, they wake up to the tempestuous hostilities. Some people decide to turn to a more hopeful attitude, but not everyone can keep this up with all the hardships they have to endure.

One random evening, the shots had suddenly stopped. Young children had paused from their crying, adults shared glances of uncertainty. In a state of confusion they all waited, but nothing was heard. People started crowding outside, exchanging opinions of what they thought was happening. Anticipation and hope was dangling in the air. As people congregated and glanced up at the sky they watched eagerly as not only was the sun fading away but so was the worry.

Politics Society: Dates For Your Diary

The Politics Society is delighted to be returning to a full programme of invited guests and events. The lunchtime talks listed below are designed primarily for our Politics A Level students but may well be of interest to a wide range of pupils. There are typically a range of pupils of various ages and interests that attend these events. All of the

events for this Half Term are age appropriate for all pupils in the Senior School and all pupils are encouraged to consider attending.

Mr S Edwards

03/09/21 - 13:00 P3	Politics Society Welcome Drinks
10/09/21 - 12:45 FT	Eve Mason-Howell: Parliamentary Assistant to Ian Murray, MP for Edinburgh South and Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland. 'Building a career in Politics.'
10/09/21 - Evening	Lower Sixth Dinner with Matt Vickers MP for Stockton South
17/09/21 - 12:45 FT	Dr Emma Long: ESRC Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Politics, University of York. 'Battle front to the home front: Understanding military families.'
22/09/21 - 13:00 FT	James Wharton: Baron Wharton of Yarm, Chair of the Office for Students. 'Between the Commons and the Lords'.
01/10/21 - 12:45 FT	Daniel Coleman-Cooke: Scriptwriter, broadcaster and Speechwriter to the Secretary of State, Department of Health and Social Care. 'Writing an inside track: from Covid task force to the Paralympics.'
08/10/21 - 12:45 FT	Dr Oliver Hensengerth: Fellow at Chatham House & Associate Professor, Department of Social Sciences, Northumbria University. 'A changing environment: China and its expansion.'
15/10/21 - 12:45 FT	Peter Snowdon: Journalist, writer and political biographer. 'Capturing political lives.'

Summer Work Experience

During the summer vacation a number of students choose to engage in some form of work experience. This can be a good decision for a number of reasons; it can be a way of investigating a current or potential area of interest for a future career, it can provide valuable experience and insight into certain professions, but it can be valuable for gaining new confidences and understandings in the working world.

Such experiences can take many forms, they may be voluntary or paid, self-organised or provided by a company. I have gathered together some insights from a number of students who engaged in various forms of summer experiences. To start with here's a report from Lilian Dufton who has just started in the Sixth Form and has designs on a career in Architecture.

Mr S Edwards

At the beginning of the summer holidays, I spent ten days in London attending an InvestIN architecture course. InvestIN provides a lot of courses to students, which they call 'Immersive Career Experiences'. They are designed to give an insight into potential careers and they offer courses in Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Journalism, Accountancy and Forensic Science - to name just a few. I attended the course in Architecture.

The Architecture course was attended by about 80 people,

and I spent most of the time in a smaller team with three other girls and we all learned a lot. We were given practical experience of the whole design process where we created designs for a site which was close to the British Library. We were guided through each stage, including having a site visit, learning new sketching skills, looking at the considerations about the location and environment and even guidance on how to assemble models of our proposed designs. We then had to present our designs and we received feedback on how we had performed over the whole process.

Another key aspect of the course was meeting people who are involved in architecture. We met a lot of students who are already studying architecture and we also had a presentation by Foster and Partners, designers of some iconic buildings around the world (the presenter was heavily involved with the designs of a new stadium for the World Cup in Qatar in 2022). There were visits to look at the architecture of the Barbican as well as a sustainable walking tour of some of the architecture within walking distance of the course.

The course was held at University College London, and we all stayed in the student accommodation there. This let me see what university life would be like and also allowed me to explore parts of London in the evening. I have now met, and am in contact with, a number of people of my age who are considering the same career as myself, and we have been given valuable information about how to prepare for applying to universities to study architecture. Although each day was very full, I had a really good time and I now know that I would like to pursue architecture as a potential career. I was also able to use the course at the residential aspect of my gold DofE. I recommend one of these courses to anyone who has a career in mind and would like to explore it in more detail. More information can be found by speaking to Mr Edwards or on the InvestIN website: investin.org

Lilian Dufton
(L6 student)

If anyone is interested in looking into the InvestIN offering please do note that as a school partner we are now entitled to a 10% discount using the code: **YARMSCHOOL**. Yarm School pupils have reported very favourably on these programmes over the last few years.

Here below are some more reports from other pupils' summer holidays...

I have undertaken a couple of jobs, one of which included managing and transporting a climbing wall to many primary schools within Middlesbrough. Whilst the other was multitasking in a cafe called Lord Stones. Having these experiences has definitely improved my social skills, meeting new people is no longer a challenge. I am grateful that I have been given these opportunities.

William Woodhead
(L6 student)

I did a two day virtual work experience course for law at the start of the summer with InvestIN. The course allowed me to explore human rights law, corporate and family law by talking to four or five different lawyers as well as taking part in a mock trial which taught about the criminal justice system. I was also able to ask law students questions about

the application processes. Overall it was really helpful and convinced me of my A Level options.

Jodie Hegab
(L6 student)

The work experience I had a 'green light' for couldn't take place due to lingering restrictions of Covid in the law offices. I have been told I should be able to visit in the October half-term holidays. Besides that, I managed to visit the courts in Middlesbrough and watched two legal proceedings. This was a valuable insight into my intended career in law, alongside a number of online courses or MOOCS that I completed.

Archie Baker-James
(L6 student)

More student insights into summer work experience will feature in next week's newsletter.

Bronze DofE Success

The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme is thriving at Yarm School with over three quarters of any cohort (From Fourth Year up) participating at Bronze level and a healthy number initiating their Gold Award once they turn 16 years of age. The pupils have shown tenacity, creativity and resilience during the periods of limited national rules and have persevered with so many activities to complete their awards.

Whilst so many individual sections will be celebrated in future newsletters, it is a great pleasure to applaud the success of the following pupils in a range of year groups upon completion of their Bronze Awards either side of the recent summer holiday.

The Bronze Certificate of Achievement (completing all sections excluding the expedition due to Covid rules) are awarded to:

Name	Volunteering	Physical	Skills
Isabella Stone	Helping children	Dance	School musical
Megan Broadhead	Coaching female gymnasts	Football	Evaluating music & musical performances
Hannah Stewart	Rainbows	Rowing & sculling	Beginners British sign language course
Emma Rubal-Garcia	Zoom tutoring	Dance	Baking
Daniel Boyce	Faith communities	Walking	Dog training & handling
Anand Raviprakash	Volunteering: sports club	Table tennis	Playing an instrument

Whilst the full Bronze Awards have been accomplished by...

Name	Volunteering	Physical	Skills	Expedition
Jodie Hegab	Tutoring	Rowing & sculling	Playing an instrument	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills

Matthew Paylor	Care homes: making decorations & wrapping presents	Rowing & sculling	Playing an instrument	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Medha Rajeeva	Girlguides UK - brownies	Sculling	Piano	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Bakaer Noble	Litter picking	Rowing & sculling	Boat work	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Joshua McGeary	Faith communities	Rowing & sculling	Playing an instrument	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Olivia Davies	Fundraising	Tennis	Playing an instrument	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Anna Heward	Helping people with special needs	Horse riding	Acting, drama & theatre	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Harriet White	Charity admin	Rowing & sculling	Playing an instrument	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Lilian Dufton	Library	Ballet	Singing	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Philippa Lowe	After school help	Street dancing	Baking	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Emily Dunn	Group leadership	Hockey	Learning piano	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills
Finn Meager	Looking after children at Prep	Rowing & sculling	iDEA online computing courses	North York Moors & Cleveland Hills

For pupils already enrolled on their Bronze or Gold Awards, wishing to participate in forthcoming expeditions, dates have been advertised on your DoFE Google Classrooms, with regular planning meetings being held in M3 during lunchtimes on a weekly basis, including guidance from the Outdoor Education DoFE Team.

Bronze planning: Monday & Wednesday

Gold planning: Thursday

All Lower Sixth students will receive an invite to start their Gold Award and are encouraged to enroll before the end of September.

Mrs J Guest

Summer Success On The River

The last full week of the summer holidays saw both senior rowers and new starters take to the river to enjoy some rowing and some company with their peers.



The week started with 60 senior rowers (J15 – J18) resuming their training after a summer on a maintenance training plan. It was great to see happy faces and enthusiastic young people eager to be coached again. The J17 and J18 rowers completed technical skills as well as some harder training as their focus shifts to compete in single and double sculls at Tyne Sculling Head on Saturday, 18th September. They then joined in to assist the coaches with coaching some of the new starters, before rowing with them at the fun regatta on the Saturday. Having such a large and varied fleet of boats meant the coaching staff were able to give a variety of experiences to the groups of pupils and it was amazing to see so many boats out on the water at once.

The J15 and J16 rowers will be taking part in the Festival of Rowing on the 25th and 26th September at the National Watersports Centre at Nottingham. This is in place of the cancelled National Schools Regatta for younger rowers. Therefore, their focus is training for this event in order to gel as crews after the long summer away.

As with starting any new sport, there are always rules to follow and the 65 junior 14 pupils who attended the training camp had to begin their rowing careers with capsizing drills. Fortunately the weather was good and the pupils even commented that the river wasn't very cold. After 100% success, the young people moved onto their first look at racing boats, what the parts are, how blades fit into the gates and how you actually get into a boat. Work on the ergos in the gym prior to going on the water proved a positive for the pupils to come to terms with some of the rowing terminology and the sequencing of the rowing stroke.



SPORT

With experienced coxes in the boats and coaches by the side, our aspiring rowers took to the water. This summer camp is an opportunity to try rowing and have a fun time. The coaches incorporated some fun drills and skills.



It was wonderful to see all the younger rowers wanting to return each day and wanting to progress. The week culminated in a fun regatta on the Saturday morning with races over 300 metres finishing at the land stage. The races were in octuples for the younger pupils, with an experienced cox and stroke in the boat, together with two seniors sitting the boat (but not rowing) and the J14s in the middle. The racing was very competitive and the new rowers put up a tremendous show of determination. Parents were on the river banks and the land stage cheering on their sons and daughters and pupils were cheering from the landing stage. Older pupils had the opportunity to race in mixed quads and the racing was equally fierce. Being blessed with wonderful weather did help make this a great experience for everyone, but the behaviour of the pupils and their eagerness to learn and race made this a memorable camp.

Mrs A Lund



England Hockey Futures Cup

Sixth Form students, James Beck and Molly McDermott, and Fourth Year pupil, Will Ferguson were all selected to represent the Pennine Pumas (North of England) in the Futures Cup 2021 which took place in St Albans in August. The tournament brings together teams from the North, South, East and West, as well as Scotland and Wales, and is basically the selection tournament for the National Age Group Squads at Under 18 and Under 16 for England. The players have been through an extensive selection process,

including working through county and regional performance centre squads, to get to this level. James produced some outstanding performances for the U17 boys whilst playing centre back and dictating play from the back. The team got off to a strong start against Wales with a 3-2; James's 70 yard ariels were a real feature of the game and his leadership and communication skills were there for everyone to see. Next they came up against a strong South side. A narrow 3-2 defeat which could have quite easily gone the other way, led to them playing against the West in the bronze medal game. Unfortunately they were beaten and ended the tournament in a commendable fourth place. Molly had an equally impressive tournament and was a mainstay at the back for the U17 girls. Unfortunately, they came up against an established Wales team, who had plenty of experience playing together, in their first game and were 2-0 down in the first quarter. The scoreline stayed the same throughout the rest of the game which was a shame because the Pumas dominated much of the proceedings. Despite a 5-1 win in their second game against the East, they could only qualify for the bronze medal game; they lost 1-0 to the Scotland team in a game that could have gone either way. Molly and James await the imminent England Under 18 selection announcement.



Will can be very proud of his achievement at being selected for the England Under 16 Assessment Squad after his performances for the Under 15 Pennine Pumas. Will played up front which involved a lot of running with very little possession, however, his job was to score goals and he opened the scoring against the East in a 3-3 draw with an expertly taken backhand hit.



After a quiet second game, but one the Pumas should have won (1-1 v West), the North faced Scotland in the bronze medal game. Despite playing an age group above (U15 vs U16), the Pumas put in a strong performance in a closely contested game. Scotland opened the scoring early but Will quickly equalised through a great strike from the top of the circle. There was further back and forth between the two sides before Scotland scored a winner in the dying seconds. All three players should be proud of their performances- they did the North proud and what a fabulous advertisement for Yarm hockey!

Mr G Ferguson

U13 Yarm/Stokesley Ladies HC Tournament



The first Saturday back saw our second annual U13 pre-season Yarm/Stokesley Ladies HC tournament take place at Macmillan Academy. It was great to see school hockey back and with 10 teams entered and over 100 girls playing over the course of the morning, this was a great comeback for the sport.

We entered both our A and a B teams. Our B team battled hard and progressed and improved throughout the day. Although they finished last in their pool and joint 9th overall, they should be very proud of their efforts as they were competing against mostly other A teams. Player of the tournament for the B team was Manya Rajeeva who was composed in defense, making tackles and then setting up attacks with her excellent distribution from the back. Our A team finished the pool stage with four wins from four to set up a final against St Peters. The final was a close affair and finished 1-1 which meant that the result was to be decided by shuffles - a first for both teams. However, this didn't show as all eight girls involved (three attackers and a goalkeeper from each team) were extremely composed. Unfortunately it finished 3-2 to St Peters which meant the girls finished as runners up. Player of the tournament for the A team was Eva Leadbitter who, along with her defensive efforts, made some devastating runs through the midfield and scored herself a few goals.

This was a really positive star to the season for the U13s and I look forward to seeing them progress as the season goes on.

Miss N Hodgson

First session is free

Junior Training
U10-U15s

Tuesday
5:30-6:30pm
@ Yarm School

Wednesday
5:30-6:30pm
@ Yarm School

Thursday
5:30-6:30pm
@ Macmillan Academy

STOKESLEY LADIES HC

YARM SCHOOL
TEAM OF THE WEEK
3rd-8th Sept

Ellie Melvin U13B	Naila Krishnamoorthy U13A	Ivy Addison U13A
Katie Melvin U13A	Jemima Fleming U13B	
Matilda Pallent-Home U13A	Lydia Waddington U13B	Sienna Smith U13B
Manja Rajeeva U13B	Eva Leadbitter U13A	
Emily Lawson U13A		

The weeks ahead are now available online. You can [view them here](#).

FAME After Yarm

(Finance, Accounting, Management and Economics)

This week I caught up with former pupil, Aditya Chaudhury (Class of 2019), to find out more about his 'life after Yarm'



How long were you at Yarm?

I was at Yarm for 14 years!

What A Levels did you study at Yarm?

Economics, Chemistry, Maths and Further Maths.

What extracurricular activities did you enjoy during your time at Yarm?

I was involved in the Economics Society, Yarm Apprentice, Hockey, Cricket, Tennis and Rugby.

What have you done since leaving Yarm?

I have been studying Economics, including a placement year (2021-22), at the University of Bath. In summer 2020 I completed an internship at MoneyLion, a fintech based in New York. This summer I completed an internship in the investment banking division at UBS and I have just begun a year long industrial placement in investment banking at Lazard, after which I will return to university to complete my degree.

Are you pleased with the path you are pursuing?

It's a fast-paced, intense and demanding environment which is quite rewarding. I'm really keen to learn as much as possible about the industry and see if it's the right thing for me going forward - the latter of which is applicable at any stage of life.

Would you recommend your course? Uni?

Yes, I would recommend Bath to anyone - it is a great university that continues to grow and has a super collegiate feel. People are committed to working but also having a good time. Furthermore, the optional placement year/year abroad is really beneficial; Bath places the highest across all degrees and industries (engineering, economics, finance, sports science, marketing, business etc.) and is a great chance to explore the outside world before doing the final year of your degree.

Where do you see yourself in ten years?

For now I'm taking things as they come!

Finally, are there any words of wisdom you would like to offer to your 16/17/18 year old self or our existing students?

Use the resources you have (school, uni, friends, internet) to try as many things as possible! Whether this is careers, activities, sport, hobbies, literally anything. It's fun and it's great to get into the habit of finding out as much as you can so it saves you from stressing down the line.

We are really grateful to Aditya for taking the time from his busy schedule to talk to us and we hope to welcome him back into school in the not too distant future.

Miss C E Rhodes

Where They Are Now...

This week the Careers Department caught up with former pupil, Dan Spivey (Class of 2016), to reflect on his time at Yarm and find out where he is now...



How long were you at Yarm?

I attended Yarm from Reception through to the end of Sixth Form.

What A Levels did you study at Yarm?

Chemistry, History, Politics.

What extra-curricular activities did you enjoy at Yarm?

I enjoyed playing rugby and hockey and also took part in rowing.

What have you done since leaving Yarm?

I studied History at Oxford between 2016 and 2019, followed by the law conversion course (Graduate Diploma in Law, 2019-20) and the Legal Practice Course (2020-21). I now work as a trainee solicitor at the London office of US corporate law firm, Covington & Burling LLP.

Thanks to Dan for taking the time to answer our questions and update us on his progress. We wish him all the very best with his career and look forward to hearing more in the future.

Miss C E Rhodes
(Assistant Head of Careers)

That's A Wrap: Former Pupil Completes Acting Degree At Rose Bruford College

Former pupil, Morgan Burgess, took to the stage for his final musical performance at Rose Bruford College of Theatre and Performance to complete his degree in acting.

Morgan joined the Senior School in Fourth Year (Year 10) and continued through to Sixth Form, studying English Literature, Music and Theatre Studies at A Level. During his four years here, he

demonstrated his burgeoning musical and theatrical talents, performing in numerous school concerts and plays including his role as Jean Valjean in Yarm's production of Les Misérables in 2018.

Morgan secured a place to study Actor-Musicianship at Rose Bruford in London, where students from over 40 countries study a range of vocational and professional degree courses. Notable alumni of the College include Gary Oldman, Tom Baker, Stephen Graham, Maddy Hill, Lake Bell and Hayley Squires.

We spoke to Morgan about his experience at drama school, the challenges of working in an extremely competitive industry, and how he felt preparing for the final performance of his degree. [Read his full Q&A here.](#)



Last year we shared the incredible news that former pupil, Megan Ravenhall, had become a published author with her book **My Friend, Jane**. Her book is now available to buy from Amazon, [Waterstones](#) and other suppliers.





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What Parents and Carers Need to Know About... ROCKET LEAGUE

Age Restriction
PEGI 3

Rocket League is a free-to-play multiplayer vehicle football game. It was developed by Psyonix, now part of the Epic Games family (which also includes Fortnite and Gears of War). Rocket League is essentially a football game where, instead of running, the players drive rocket-powered cars. The game was a surprise hit that took the world by storm when it first released in 2015. Rocket League is available for the Xbox One, Xbox Series X, PlayStation 4 & PlayStation 5, Nintendo Switch, Windows PC, MacOS and Linux.

Fiercely Competitive Community

Competitive gaming isn't necessarily bad. However, playing purely to win (as opposed to simply having fun) can result in aggressive behaviour among some players if they're not successful in the game. Certain people can become hostile or "toxic" towards other players. Continually seeing this behaviour can cause children to think it is acceptable and lead to anger issues while playing.

Grinding and Increased Screen-time

Features like the Rocket Pass and the ranking system can make Rocket League a grinding-focused game. This means players need to spend a lot of time on the game to progress through levels and collect rewards. Grinding encourages regular long gaming sessions for players seeking to climb the rankings (meaning increased screen time) but it doesn't always result in making much headway.

Unsuitable Online Interactions

A video game's age rating cannot take player-generated elements into account. Rocket League is rated PEGI 3, but its online features mean that appropriateness can't be guaranteed. Audio and text chat, player usernames, player-to-player trades and other user-created content may not be suitable for young players. The game is moderated, but catching everything can be difficult.

Scams and Bad Trades

Player-to-player trading is common in Rocket League. The game has lots of cosmetic items to collect, and some can be very valuable. Players can trade items among themselves, but younger gamers are not always the best judges of what constitutes a fair deal. This can lead to them being swindled in trades – or to children signing up to illegitimate trading websites, where they then get scammed.

In-App Purchasing

Free-to-play games (so called because they don't cost anything to download) like this depend on players making in-game purchases to turn a profit. Rocket League's in-game currency, called credits, are used to buy items in the game. Credits can be earned by playing the game or can be bought with real money – which could prove expensive if a child lets their love of the game and desire to progress get the better of them.

Advice For Parents & Carers

Use Parental Controls

Psyonix has added some safety measures into the game. The text and voice chat can be disabled, for example, limiting contact from strangers. However, it's not currently possible to block contact from other players about trades. It's a good idea, then, to talk with your child about the possibility of scams and bad trades either before they download the game or early in their Rocket League 'career'.

Stay Aware of Spending

Free-to-play games can become money sinks without children realising. For peace of mind, make sure you don't have any payment methods attached to your child's gaming account to avoid accidental purchases. Rocket League credits can be earned through gameplay or bought with real money: encourage your child to use their earned credits first before they ask you to top them up.

Monitor Gaming Time

It's impractical to sit and watch your child every time they play Rocket League. Keeping an eye on their gaming hours is crucial, however: it's easy to lose track of time while playing (even for adults), so "one more game" can soon turn into ten more games. Helping your child to balance their gaming time with their homework, chores and other activities is a life lesson in time management.

Encourage Regular Breaks

Sitting in the same position all day while gaming isn't healthy, but it is an easy habit to fall into. A short break every hour or half hour is important. It allows players to rest their eyes, brains, hands and arms. Learning the value of an occasional break from any activity is good practice for the future. Encouraging your child to rehydrate regularly can also help to lower any rising competitive tempers!

Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books. With experience in esports and content creation, Clare has seen the benefits and drawbacks of all aspects of gaming.



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