

Newsletter



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Headmaster's Welcome

I read the newsletter each week with real pride as I consider what to say in my introduction. This week's edition has, as ever, provided a host of reasons to be fantastically proud but it has also been a poignant and reflective experience. Mrs Staggs writes to celebrate the life of Naomi Haigh, who tragically died at the beginning of September, and whose loss we all mourn. Our collective thoughts, sympathy and support go out to Chris, Julie and all of Naomi's family and friends. We will miss her very much.

As we enter National Dyslexia Week, Mrs Bridle highlights some helpful resources and reiterates our determination to support all of our pupils with their learning as effectively and personally as we can. We read two outstanding book reports from students, on women's speeches and on political theory. Both give a real insight into the books themselves, but also reflect highly on the insightful and mature perspectives of our reviewers, Emily and Gabe. There is a call to arms for all our budding artists, with the launch of a competition to fill a calendar to raise funds for South Cleveland Heart Fund, and we see some stunning examples of Apsara's art in the Artist's Corner. Former pupils' contributions abound as ever, and I am so grateful to them, and to colleagues who coordinate such fantastic opportunities for our current pupils to enjoy and learn from.

We read of much success in sport, with progress and impressive results in netball, hockey and rugby all offering cause for celebration and congratulations to the pupils involved. They have all represented the School with pride and commitment; well done. We look forward to House Drama's much anticipated return next week and I know that our pupil performers, directors and a variety of others with varied roles in costumes, set arrangements and more have all been very busy preparing to entertain us all next week.

I will finish as I started, on the theme of pride in our pupils: I wanted to thank every pupil who volunteered to support our Open Morning last weekend. We had a vibrant and busy morning and I have received lots of warm praise from the families who visited, for our pupils' enthusiasm, maturity and pride in their school. Thank you and well done. Finally, this week has seen the inaugural meeting of the Yarm School Phab Club and I am extremely proud of all those pupils who have worked hard to prepare and to welcome our guests. This is an exciting initiative and one we hope will flourish and grow.

Dr Huw Williams

Our Shine London Trip Account

Katie and I thoroughly enjoyed our flying visit to London's Guildhall on Monday, 27th September. The Guildhall is the centre of government in the City of London and originally the site of London's amphitheatre, but we were there for the Shine School Media Awards Ceremony. As many of you will know, last January, Katie and I began exploring the possibility of a pupil magazine. And nine months later at 8.30am, London's Kings Cross train drew out of Darlington station. We were on our way to represent Yarm School and the first edition of 'The Dovecote'.

Despite a few delays, we made it to the awe-inspiring Guildhall for a delicious lunch and to share what the award coined 'tomorrow's creativity' with the other entrants. We sat at round tables alongside mentors and sponsors of the competition. This allowed us to engage with representatives from a varied breadth of the industry. We met ambassadors for 'The Printing Charity', a media consultant and editor of an iconic newspaper.

Then it was the awards presentation which had 23 categories. The categories ranged from 'best cartoon' to the 'best sustainable initiative'. Katie and I gained much from the diverse response, ranging from US electronics to mental health. Every pupil, many of whom were Sixth Form students, who entered expressed a different facet of journalism.

Each school had their photo taken and each went our separate ways. Groups boarded different trains to different corners of the country. Despite going to schools hours from one another, we had (for a couple of hours) been drawn together by a single unifying passion: creativity. We caught the 4:00pm train back home after a trip quite unlike anything either of us had previously experienced. The day taught us much about the young writers, artists, photographers, cartoonists and creatives who people this world.

We look forward to sharing the creative efforts of 'The Dovecote': Edition 2! If this is something that appeals to you - please get in touch with either me or Katie Hunt.



Evie Severn
Fourth Year pupil

Naomi Haigh RIP

September, 26th 1992 - September, 2nd 2021

At school, many members of our community are still mourning the death of our much-loved and inspirational music teacher, Naomi Haigh, who died tragically at the beginning of term. Our hearts and thoughts go out to her dad, Chris, a violin teacher at the School, mum Julia, known by so many in our community, brother Oliver and their extended family. Such a short life, yes, but one so richly full of life, purpose and passion. Naomi was, in every sense of the word, a force of nature.



I first encountered Naomi, playing cello in the band for a Crash Bang Wallop production; whilst, at this point, I didn't know who she was, I was transfixed by her playing; oozing musicality with a tangible love of what she was doing. Naomi had drawn me into her world of creativity. A huge talent, I was so excited interviewing Naomi for the role of Visiting Music Teacher. It was a testament to her intellectual ability that, when interviewed by former Headmaster (germanophile and a former German Teacher) David Dunn, the whole of their interview was conducted in German; he was bowled over like I have never seen before or since! Naomi's contributions to all things musical in all parts of the School just grew and grew. Joanne Speight, Bill Sawyer and the Nursery and Reception teachers were equally blown away when Naomi swept in to Pre-Prep to teach Early Years music, complete with a parachute, guitar, ukulele, accordion, phenomenal voice, a plethora of puppets and a personality which transfixed the children and instilled a love of music into our youngest pupils. Many families have loved the "Sounds Fun" sessions mum Julia and Naomi ran for pre-school children and Mrs Leary remembers the joy these sessions brought to her family's lives as well as her clear love of the great outdoors and her passion for travel and new experiences.

As for her individual pupils, they will cherish the love of creating, thinking outside the box, the magic of discovery and a hunger for learning that Naomi inspired in them. Sasha Dugdale saw Naomi as Yarm School's local Sinfonia. She described how her children were always full of beans after any workshop with Naomi, so stunned were they by the magic and playfulness with which she approached music. A poignant memory for them is dancing reels to her jubilant accordion playing early this summer with her dear family. Our final musical memory at school of our talented Naomi was listening and watching her work with our outstanding Fifth Year musicians, Tegan and Ava. The dots leapt off the page in their exquisite and innately musical performance. I am so grateful that Naomi filmed their final rehearsal of Bridge's Miniatures as a lasting memento of their musical journey together; little did we realise at the time that this would be a significant and poignant moment that we will all cherish, one I shared with dad, Chris, at the end of the summer term, saying how proud he must be of his wonderful daughter.

However, the 'bigger picture' was what made Naomi even

more special. We all still smile (and feel a tad dull and unadventurous ourselves) hearing that she had popped to Saltburn for an early morning dip in the sea, enjoyed the sunrise or had a quick wild swim in the Tees before work. We are still amazed at her passion and concern for the environment, her breadth of knowledge and her burning desire to make the world a better place. How many of us can say we have funded a school project in Uganda, working together with the villagers to make their dream a reality, raising thousands through many physical and musical challenges as well as supporting charities closer to home? Many of us felt privileged to have met and worked alongside Naomi. Stephen Edwards writes touchingly to Naomi;

'I never knew your schedule but would find your company in the dining hall like a prize, like a favourite song coming on the radio, taking me back for some delightful moments to remind me of who I was. I never even knew your instrument, as your thoughts and words had already escaped the day to day, and were instead ranging over praise for books and writers, festivals and courses, offered up only to share never to show off. For a long time I didn't even know your name; our conversations had become too acrobatic and thrilling to go back to that starting point. You told me you had started wild swimming in the Tees en route to work and it felt like part confession, part instruction, but mostly just a wish to share joy. Maybe only you could mention marimba, movement and meditation in the same sentence, and make me want to be in the midst of your enthusiasms. One afternoon after we talked on the wrong side of the school bells, you walked off and I voiced to myself out loud 'Who is she?', somewhat tipsy from the exchange, mesmerised by your energy that filled me, and made me feel the centre of it all. Your time given to me was an immeasurable gift.'

At Naomi's funeral, an excerpt from The Paradoxical Commandments by Kent M. Keith was read:

"The biggest ideas may easily fail

Think big anyway.

People really need help but may exploit you if you do help them.

Help people anyway.

People are illogical, unreasonable, and self-centred.

Love them anyway.

Honesty and frankness make you vulnerable.

Be honest and frank anyway.

If you do good, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.

Do good anyway.

The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.

Do good anyway.

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.

Build anyway.

Give the world the best you have and you might get kicked in the teeth.

Give the world the best you have anyway."

Naomi's short life was full; full of love, full of life, full of ideas and full of inspiration: what a legacy.

We share photos of Naomi's time in Uganda, as well as a reading from the order of service from the funeral [here](#).

Mrs K Staggs

Naomi's family are welcoming donations in Naomi's memory to Source of Light School (via All Our Children) and The Russ Devereux Headlight Project. [Find out more here.](#)

Dyslexia Week 2021



Dyslexia Week starts on Monday, 4th October. This year's theme, Invisible Dyslexia, recognises that many people with dyslexia feel as if their struggles are unseen and are therefore not fully understood, identified or supported. 1 in 10 people in the UK are thought to be dyslexic, yet people with dyslexia (along with other 'invisible' disabilities) often find school challenging, struggle with their mental health and are under-represented in legislation.

There are lots of informative and useful resources online for parents who are interested in learning more about dyslexia. For example, the British Dyslexia Association has a [parent page](#) on which they share an 'Empower Pack' for parents and Made by Dyslexia have lots of practical and user-friendly information and videos on [their website](#). Yarm School is committed to supporting the learning of all our pupils, including those with 'invisible' disabilities. Should you have significant concerns about your child's learning and progress, we would encourage you to have a chat about these with their teachers, tutor, Head of Year or with me.

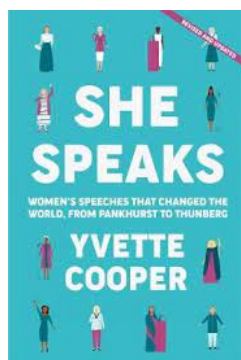
Wishing you all a very happy Dyslexia Week!

Mrs E Bridle
Director of Learning Skills

Book Review

She Speaks: Women's Speeches that Changed the World, from Pankhurst to Thunberg - Yvette Cooper

Over the summer, I read 'She Speaks' by Yvette Cooper, and I would definitely recommend it. This book features speeches from inspirational women across history, and acts as a platform for women's voices from all around the world to be heard. Being an MP for over 20 years herself, Cooper has been surrounded by speeches, both by her colleagues and by making them herself, so can appreciate those that stand out. In the book, Cooper introduces each speech, and shares her thoughts and her reasons for picking it, highlighting what these speeches mean to her. This stood out to me at various points, particularly in the introduction to the speech 'More in Common' by Jo Cox: a fellow female MP and friend of Cooper's, who was tragically killed by a far-right extremist at the height of the Brexit referendum campaign. It was in this speech where Cox famously stated that "we are far more united and have far more in common than that which divides us". I found this speech really struck



me as one of the most moving.

The book includes a selection of some of Cooper's favourite speeches by women from different political positions, from Jacinda Adern to Margaret Thatcher, AOC to Angela Merkel, activists such as Greta Thunberg, Emmeline Pankhurst, and Malala Yousafzai, to inspirational writers like Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Maya Angelou. Most of these women I had previously read about and heard of, but I had rarely heard them speaking, or comprehended the power of their words. It was therefore enlightening for me to read the speeches of some of my personal inspirations, as well as being introduced to a new selection of incredible women. My personal favourite speeches included those by Emmeline Pankhurst, Jacinda Adern, Audre Lorde, Julia Gillard and Emma Watson, however each and every speech from this book inspired and enlightened me about a wide range of topics.

The book is prefaced by a quote from Audre Lorde, a poet and writer who was an adamant advocate of the importance of speaking up for what is right: "Where the words of women are crying to be heard, we must each of us recognise our responsibility to seek those words out, to read them and share them". Cooper mentions that this speech captures the purpose of the book and its message can be seen clearly throughout. Through this, Cooper calls for the world to recognise the power of speech, to listen to what women have to say, and for women themselves to find strength in words and speak up for themselves and for what is right.

Emily Carter
Upper Sixth Politics student



Art Competition

To be featured in a charity calendar

The theme is:

What do you think makes a good heart?

There will be a winner from each year, appearing on one page of the 2022 calendar

Open to all year groups.

This brilliant competition is a great way for you to be super creative and make something really exciting! Painting, drawing, photography... give it a go!

Now for the important stuff: Please create your work on an A4, landscape piece of paper. Write your name, year and tutor group on the BACK of your work.

Please submit your work by visiting the Art Department on the 11th October.



GOOD LUCK and enjoy!

All money raised from selling the calendars goes to the South Cleveland Heart Fund

Should Everybody Speak English?

The Debating Society makes its return with 8 of the 25 members tackling the question of whether everybody should speak English in debating matters style. The groups were randomly allocated their sides of the question with experienced Sixth Form students, Jodie and Ollie, on opposing sides supporting the new faces of the Fifth Year debaters as they conducted in their first debate. The audience formed a large judge panel of nine pupils with Mr Bridges as the moderator.

The proposition took to begin the debate with Jodie expressing the history of the English language and the importance of communication in the world and benefits of being bilingual. Ollie countered this by raising issues with the difficulty of learning English and how it could be looking towards destroying tradition. This was conceded by Simmi, but she countered that English is still the most spoken second language in the world showing that everybody speaking English isn't saying only to learn English, but to learn English as one of the languages people know even after their native language.

Madeleine expressed how expecting everyone to know English for the convenience of mother-tongue English speakers is disrespectful and unkind to native speakers. Mia countered this by expressing the benefits LDCs would have, as well as smaller companies. Cassie retaliated, questioning why we wouldn't look at languages with more mother-tongue speakers such as Spanish or Mandarin - or indeed, a new language altogether - if we were to have a universal language.

Valerie ended the proposition by expressing the beauty of English and its importance in literacy and although she just missed the time to end her speech with a bang, she still managed to end strongly. James ended the opposition on the accusation that making English universal would take away the culture and unity of those who share dialects. The judges posed specific and tough questions forcing the proposition to express why English should be chosen over Mandarin on the basis of a growing economy. The opposition countered their claims that learning English could provide difficulties for those with learning disabilities and Izzy believed they would find it easier to be able to communicate with all speakers. Mr Brash asked whether, within a generation, the difficulties of learning English would be a short term issue as eventually everyone would be used to speaking English; Madeleine answered fabulously, expressing how that only accommodates a privileged community with access to resources and the situation would be very much different in other circumstances. In the end, some stronger speeches resulted in a victory for the proposition!

Simmi Sharma
Fifth Year pupil

Career Cluster Event: Education & Training

Explore a career in education, be it nursery, primary, secondary or tertiary, at our Virtual Career Cluster on **Tuesday, 12th October from 18:00 to 19:30: [register online](#)**.

Artists' Corner

Fourth Year pupil, Apsara Naguleswaran has extraordinary attention to detail, both in her figures and landscape.



La Economía Española

We were delighted that Connor Brown volunteered to combine his interest in Economics and Spanish to deliver a very well prepared presentation on the Spanish Economy. Covering the time from Franco to the modern day, Connor considered the impact of the Financial Crisis and Covid, explained the problems the Spanish government have faced in tackling unemployment and inflation, and mooted solutions.

The very keen audience (which included several from beyond Economics and Business) then joined in asking questions and voicing opinions, but it was evident that Connor had conducted very thorough research and he was able to widen their understanding considerably. Many thanks to Connor and we look forward to a TED talk inspired session next week.

If you are in the Lower or Upper Sixth and are interested in attending or presenting to the Econ/Bus Society, please contact Miss Rhodes, or Owen or Lily (the Co-Chairs).



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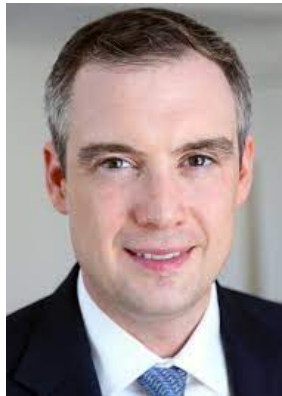
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Politics Students In Conversation With Lord Wharton of Yarm

Last Wednesday morning all the Sixth Form Politics A Level students gathered to listen to and question James Wharton, Lord Wharton of Yarm. James, a former pupil of the School has built a swift and varied career within Politics, ranging through a variety of roles and institutions, so he made for a fascinating commentator on his life in politics over the last couple of decades.



In brief summary of a rather meteoric rise, James went from Chair of the Stockton Conservative group to being elected in 2010 as a Member of Parliament for Stockton South at the age of 26, one of the youngest parliamentarians of that election's intake into the Commons. In this role he was appointed Minister of Northern Powerhouse in 2015 following his reelection, and then moved to a ministerial position in Theresa May's cabinet in 2016 as Minister for Africa in the Department for International Development. In 2010 he was appointed a Life Peer and took up his place in the House of Lords. He is also now chair for the Office of Students, a regulatory body that oversees the quality and provision of universities across the country.

James discussed a diverse range of issues, many prompted by questions from the students. One area of conversation was the composition and role of the House of Lords, the extent to which it is democratically deficient whilst performing a specific and vital role of fine-tuning legislation from the Commons. There was interest in exploring the relationship between government and universities, in particular the support provided to students during the pandemic offset against the autonomy of the universities in terms of their own self-governance. We had a fun finale of quick fire prediction questions relating to elections, leadership and future prime ministership, but under our own Chatham House rules those nuggets will remain the knowledge of the assembled audience!

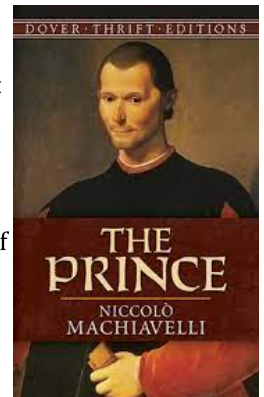
Mr S Edwards

Book Review

The Prince - Niccolò Machiavelli

Most of the political books I have read have been rooted in contemporary history in order to feel more 'relevant' in being able to draw on current events. While Niccolò Machiavelli's *The Prince* is set in a time period unlike our own, the message it sends about human nature and the manipulation of events still rings true today. The concept of power and how to preserve it is clearly seen in the politics of today, where there are methods such as 'personality

politics' to help entrench governments, Machiavelli's treatise is set in a period where the nation at large was more politically naive. Yet, whilst many of his contemporary examples are somewhat alienating and require further research to understand fully, *The Prince* is one of the first accredited documents to contribute to the development of political science, something considered groundbreaking at the time and still widely used today in political theory.



The Prince is essentially instructions for how a prince can acquire power and maintain his influence over a foreign province. This simple concept is heavily expanded upon through the duration of the treatise through its emphasis on foresight for a prince to be successful, either through the protection of the weak, or the assurance that the strong can never rise to power. This is a cause-and-effect approach to politics in which the prince should consider how to rule his subjects most effectively in a manner that will ultimately make him great.

One of the reasons I loved reading *The Prince* was how unapologetic Machiavelli was about his idealised version of a prince, which was essentially a tyrant who was unafraid to use whoever was necessary to achieve his aims. This brutalistic approach starkly contrasts to the Renaissance's concept of a 'Renaissance king' who was morally virtuous or the ideals of Christianity which promoted compassion and empathy, which is what makes Machiavelli stand out especially within his time period. Another reason I enjoyed *The Prince* was for its introspective nature. Despite its political emphasis there is a lot to be said for its take on psychology, social anthropology and even human nature itself, through how a prince should see the people 'beneath him' as expendable. Whilst this view is not openly voiced in politics today, it is a clear insight on how everyone might be a bit 'Machiavellian' in their own way in order to thrive in today's world.

Gabe Ade-Browne
Upper Sixth Politics student

Former Pupil Lends A Helping Hand

It was an absolute pleasure to welcome back to Yarm School Rob Coffey earlier last. Sophie Gatenby in the Upper Sixth is currently exploring a range of post-18 options including an interest in joining the Police. Rob who left Yarm School in 2004 was messaged out of the blue to see if he would be willing to offer his advice and guidance. Perhaps a measure of the man and his



fondness for his own time at school, Rob didn't hesitate and within a couple of days the informational meeting was arranged. Over a sunny lunchtime on the Auditorium

Terrace, a site that would have been home to a gaggle of geese in Rob's days, Sophie was able to explore a range of possible routes into the police force, and was particularly curious about the degree apprenticeship routes that are available. Rob provided an extremely insightful overview of his own career working with several police forces including time spent in a variety of roles with Thames Valley Police. He gave an almost exhaustive account of the diverse roles available in modern day policing, as well as outlining ways in which the force has changed and developed over the years. His advice was peppered with reference to a range of personal colleagues that Rob clearly held in deep respect, demonstrating the bonds that clearly exist between colleagues in what can be an extremely challenging though rewarding profession. I am deeply appreciative of Rob for his time and effort making time in his day, as well as being personally grateful for him providing a chance for a couple of brief and wonderful reminiscences together from days now quite some time ago.

Mr S Edwards

A FAME-iliar Face

Miss Rhodes and the Economics and Business Department were really delighted to welcome back former pupil, former Chair of the Economics Society and winner of the 2021 Economics Prize, Jamie Pender for another popular and successful Working Lunch. Despite only leaving in the summer, Jamie is already a veteran of public speaking for our department having delivered a talk on applying for Gap Years last school year, supported multiple departmental initiatives and having led numerous Economics Society meetings during the Lockdowns, remote learning and when back in the classroom last year. To an audience composed of U6 and L6 Economists and Business students, Jamie began by talking about IBM's Futures Scheme, a gap year internship offering eighteen year olds the chance to gain a year's invaluable experience in a high-powered business (or technology) setting. This is a programme which Jamie is only three months into, but it has already given him superb opportunities to meet, and learn from, a network of talented individuals, at one of the worlds biggest Multinational Technology companies and it was evident how much is enjoying the programme. Jamie was happy to answer a multitude of questions from a enthused crowd. As a bonus, Jamie also gave advice to the Economists in the room, regarding targeting an A* in their A Level, and it was wonderful to hear him offer them such a wide range of really valuable tips and suggestions. It was lovely to hear how happy Jamie is, and for our students to get such specific information and advice. We wish Jamie all the best for the remainder of his year with IBM and for his continuing study of Economics at Exeter in 2022, and we are really grateful to him for taking time from his busy working day to continue to support the department. I am sure he will be back again soon!

Miss C E Rhodes



FAME After Yarm...

We were delighted to talk to former pupil, Sophie Allick (Class of 2015), about her life since leaving Yarm...

What A Levels did you study at Yarm?

Business, English Literature and Art. Outside the classroom, I was sporty and enjoyed netball, hockey and tennis.

What have you done since leaving Yarm?

I completed a Business Management Course at Newcastle University before joining the Marketing Department at Yarm School. I then did a Marketing internship at Estee Lauder Companies (Jo Malone London) and then secured a full term role at JML doing Corporate B2B Sales. Now I work within their PR & Communications Department.

Are you pleased with the career path you are pursuing?

Extremely so. In ten years time I see myself running a successful business and this path has given me great exposure and the connections to do so.

Would you recommend your Uni? Course? Career path?

Yes, for the experience. But gain work experience at every chance you can get – make contacts. Choose something you think can benefit your career path – and do what YOU want to do, not what your parents think you should do!

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

Don't play it cool, take pride in working hard to achieve the best results you possibly can. Stay organised and always aim high. Keep learning and evolving and develop new skills to keep your brain challenged.

Thanks to Sophie for taking the time to talk to us and for her continued support of the department.

Miss C E Rhodes

Keeping It Real

Many thanks to former pupils Katie Anderson and Naman Garg who have been assisting this week over Google Meet by stretching and challenging the students who attend the 'Economics - Oxbridge and Other Competitive Courses Clinic'. They've been keeping everyone on their toes with a range of mathematical challenges alongside current affairs discussions. We are really grateful to them both for continuing to support the department and being so generous with their time.

Miss C E Rhodes

Don't Miss House Drama 2021

Join us in the Princess Alexandra Auditorium on Thursday, 7th October at 6:30pm for a dramatic showdown between Aidan, Bede, Cuthbert and Oswald! [Get your tickets today!](#)



SPORT

Double District Champions



On Thursday, 23rd September we organised the U15 A&B District Tournament at Grangefield Academy with three teams in the A pool and seven in the B pool. Both Yarm teams went unbeaten throughout the whole tournament with some convincing wins. The girls conducted themselves respectfully towards all teams and umpires and were the stand out teams in the tournament. Congratulations to all those involved... Yarm are now District Champions!

Miss S Cottrell

Next Stop: North East Finals



Congratulations to our U14 Girls' Hockey Squad who were crowned County Champions this week. They won all their games and kept a clean sheet throughout which means they are through to the North East Finals Tier 1 Competition on Friday, 15th October.

Miss N Hodgson

U19 Cup Success

Our U19 girls travelled to Rossall, Blackpool to compete in the second round of the ISHC National Cup Competition. They played some nice hockey and should have been out of sight in the first half but found themselves at 2-1 at half time after some poor decision making. The girls upped their game in the second half and came away with a 6-2 win and a place in the last 32 of the competition. Well done team, bring on Stonyhurst on Monday, 4th October, 2pm start at home.



Miss N Hodgson

YARM SCHOOL TEAM OF THE WEEK

20th - 26th Sept

Amelia
Allen
2nd XI

Miriam
Akowuah
U16

Rose
Korsen
2nd XI

Indeya
Hewison
U15

Cara
McMurray
U15

Caitlin
Anderson
U12D

Amelie
Sawyer
U12A

Charlotte
Banks
U12C

Molly
McDermott
1st XI

Belle
Woodhead
1st XI

Ruby
Kitson
U12B



NatWest Vase: Setting A Positive Example



Our 1st XV team took to the pitch against Ampleforth this week in the NatWest Vase, a national competition. The team's fantastic commitment, as well as good numbers on the day, made selection for the game extremely difficult and some players were unlucky to miss out. It was fantastic to see them all wearing their kit with pride, eager to set a great example to the younger players of the School; thanks to the Prep School for their support mid game! The boys have been working hard in training and much of this came out on the pitch; we started strongly and with good intent. However, sadly we didn't get the rub of the green and on occasion the boys' best efforts went unrewarded and at times even punished; 1st XV rugby is unforgiving and often the slightest mistake is costly. The attacking intent, work on and off the ball and variety to their plays was very pleasing and we scored some good tries with the whole team involved. Although the scoreline

certainly did not reflect the match, it was good to give all the players some game time.

This game showed us that when we do get it right, we are exciting to watch, dangerous in attack, will score tries and will challenge the opposition across the pitch. The key lesson we can take away is that we have to be more accurate with our play.

Mr C Webb

Bright Beginnings



U12 A&B v Dame Allan's

What an afternoon: 50 boys all playing rugby, running in tries, making tackles, having a great time!

For many this was their first game of rugby and their first chance to play for the School. Across the two games there were 32 tries scored, which is a testament to the attacking intent from all teams. It was great to see boys looking for space and exploring ways to support the ball and score! Game awareness comes from playing and lots of learning was taking place both in attack and defence.

Well done to all involved.

Mr C Webb



U12: Tait 10s

Last Sunday, a great group of lads spent the day with their mates playing a game they enjoy! What could be better? It was the annual Tait 10s competition (although it was 9-a-side this year) held at Barnard Castle School - a day that is always fun and filled with lots of rugby.

Still in the very early stages of their rugby careers (for some they've only just started playing the game), the boys focussed on enjoyment, attacking with the ball, looking to



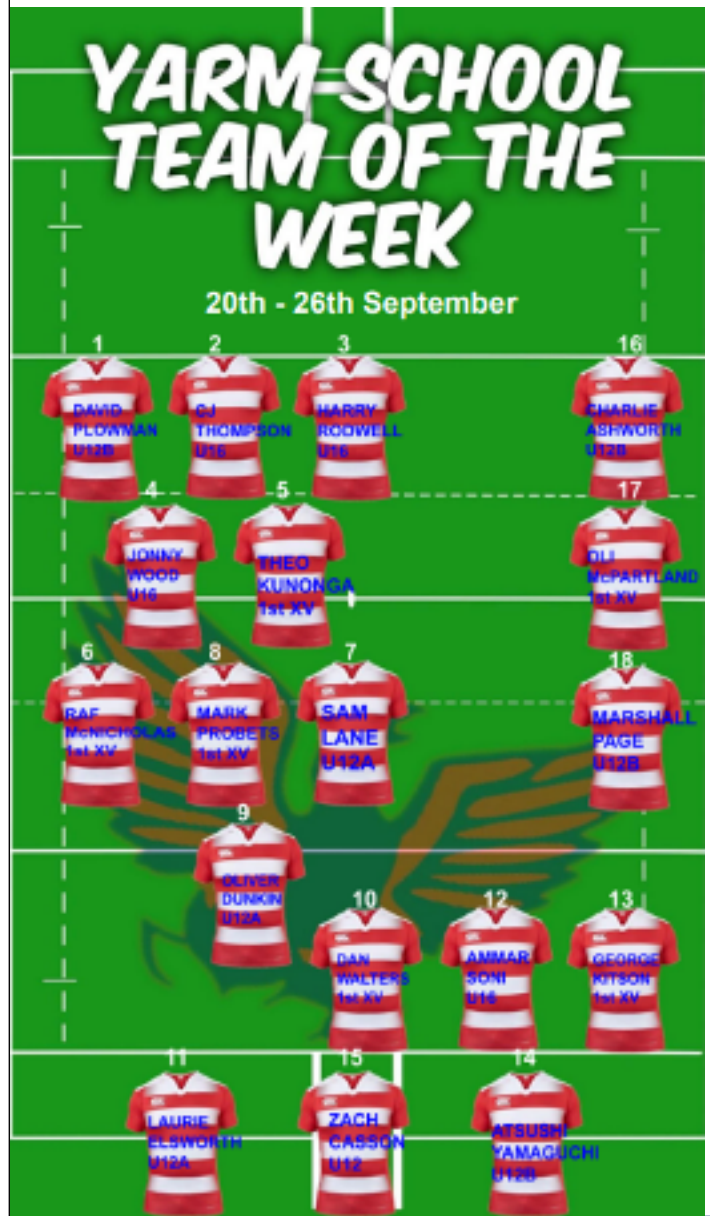
always score tries and hunting the ball in defence.

Organised into morning pools and then redrawn again for the afternoon, it gave all of the boys good game time and there were many positives to take from the day.

Many thanks to all the lads for their company, commitment and hard work and to the parents for their support.

Lots of positives and plenty to work on, but overall there are good things to come from this year group!

Mr C Webb



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

WHAT'S ON AT THE PAA

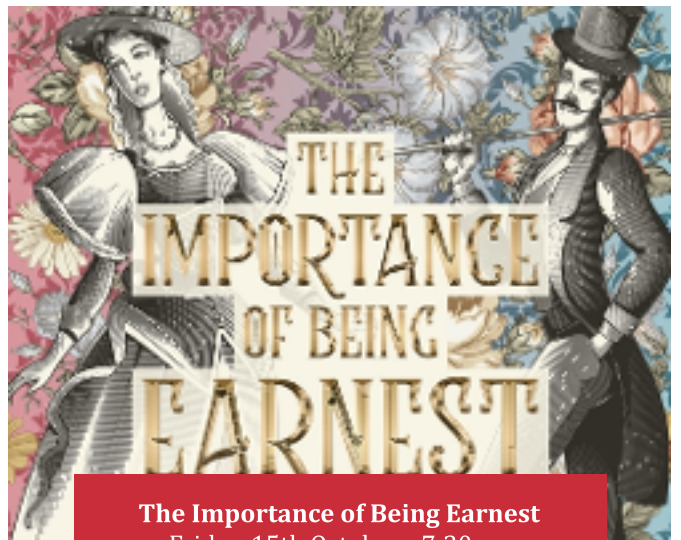
Keep up to date with all the upcoming shows at the Princess Alexandra Auditorium online: www.thepaaonline.org
Here's a few handpicked favourites that are coming up soon...



The Sound Of Springsteen
Saturday, 9th October - 7:30pm
[Buy your tickets here](#)



NT Live - Follies
Thursday, 14th October - 7:00pm
[Buy your tickets here](#)



The Importance of Being Earnest
Friday, 15th October - 7:30pm
[Buy your tickets here](#)

What Parents Need to Know about

POKÉMON GO



Pokémon GO has been among the world's most popular mobile games since its spectacular release in 2016. It's recently enjoyed a resurgence, thanks partly to people combining entertainment and exercise during lockdown. In Pokémon GO – like the Pokémon TV show, trading card series and other video games – players capture, train and battle with their Pokémon creatures: physically exploring locations while using augmented reality via their phone's screen. The game generally provides a positive experience, but there are still some safety concerns to consider.

ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS

Pokémon GO requires players to visit in-game landmarks like Pokéstops and Gyms. These are often situated at public real-world locations such as churches or post offices. Sometimes, however, they can inadvertently end up being placed in dangerous areas which are unsuitable for children, even when accompanied by an adult: near a construction site or a main road, for example.

STRANGERS & MEETING OFFLINE

Players often cooperate with friends in the game, and there are many online discussion hangouts. As well as sharing tips and info, these groups may arrange to meet offline to catch Pokémon or attend raids (communal events where players flock to the same real-world place for a mass battle). This can put children at risk of being messaged and invited to meet by strangers under the pretence of talking about the game.

DATA COLLECTION

When a player logs into their Pokémon GO account, the game collects personal data about the user and their device. Locations, emails, names, ages and even camera images can all be accessed. What then happens to this information is open to debate. Niantic, the game's developers, maintain that they do not sell user information to third parties – but the fact that they have it at all is a concern, nonetheless.

VISIBLE PROFILES & LOCATION

Pokémon GO players can add each other as 'friends' in the game by sharing their trainer codes. Two trainers who do this can then view each other's information, such as their username. If a username gives any clues to the player's real name or personal details, a stranger may then be able to look them up online. The game also lets users upload images to social media, which could publicly disclose a child's exact location.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

The game uses a currency called Pokécoins, which can be bought for real money (in bundles between £0.79 and £99.99) and exchanged for in-game items such as Pokéballs and berries. It's extremely easy for a child to purchase Pokécoins (even accidentally) if there's a payment method connected to their mobile phone – and possibly rack up a sizeable bill without realising it!

Advice for Parents & Carers

PLAY ALONGSIDE YOUR CHILD

Finding and catching Pokémon with young ones could turn into a great mutual hobby. At 26 years old, it's one of the few games franchises that spans two generations. Enjoying the game together will give you plenty of new things to talk about with your child – and if you played Pokémon in your own childhood, you might impress them with your knowledge of the digital critters!

ENCOURAGE AWARENESS

Remind your child of the physical dangers they could face while catching Pokémon and emphasise staying aware of their surroundings. The game will often alert children (through their phone) when they are close to an interesting Pokémon item – usually sending them excitedly rushing off to find it – so they should never play Pokémon GO near busy roads or in places they don't know well.

DISGUISE THE EXERCISE

One of Pokémon GO's benefits is that it encourages young (and not-so-young!) ones to get exercise outdoors. Some parts of the game can be completed from home, but it's best experienced while walking around your local area. Certain tasks (like visiting Pokéstops) can be repeated every day – and an hour outside having fun catching Pokémon will hardly feel like exercise at all!

USE AN OLDER PHONE

If children use an older phone to play Pokémon GO, then they won't be walking around with their own new device, which could get broken or stolen. Parents are also far less likely to have left a credit card linked to the old mobile. It also means that you can limit the amount of information used to set up an account, and what companies who gain access to your data can do with it.

AGREE PLAY BOUNDARIES

Ensure your child knows where they are (and aren't) allowed to go searching for Pokémon, when they have to be home, and how often they can play the game. Talk to other young Pokémon GO fans – parents or carers – to see what boundaries they set for their children. Lunchtimes (if allowed by the school) or after school are ideal times for getting some exercise and catching all those Pokémon!

Meet Our Expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for several years as a writer, editor and presenter. He's the gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world: UK:4Gaming and GOMONSTER. Having started gaming at a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work – but, more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.



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sources: <https://www.nationalonslinesafety.com/blog/pokemon-go-safety/>
<https://bleedinggamer.com/games/pokemon-go-announce-a-quality-of-life-update-for-february-2021/>



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Music: **Underneath The Stars** Kate Rusby and Grimethorpe Colliery Band

Underneath the stars I'll meet you
Underneath the stars I'll greet you
There beneath the stars I'll leave you
Before you go of your own free will

Go gently

Underneath the stars you met me
Underneath the stars you left me
I wonder if the stars regret me
They come and go of their own free will

Go gently

Here beneath the stars I'm mending
I'm here beneath the stars not ending
Why on earth am I pretending?
I'm here again, the stars befriending
They come and go of their own free will

Go gently

Go gently

Underneath the stars you met me
And here beneath the stars you left me
I wonder if the stars regret me
I'm sure they'd like me if they only met me
They come and go of their own free will

Go gently

Go gently

In 2014, a journey of 1000 miles for Source of Light with Kate begins. She shaves off her hair to raise funds for the school.

She also makes the longest cycling trip of her life (1000 miles) from Lands End to O'Groats.



She raises 1,000 pounds and the first permanent building of three classrooms is constructed.

