

# Newsletter



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## Headmaster's Welcome

Rarely have I been prouder of the pupils at Yarm than I was yesterday during our remembrance service. In a moving and poignant series of readings and music, of which more shortly, the whole school observed the two minutes' silence with a solemn and considered sense of respect, to the extent that I could hear quiet birdsong through the open door of the PAA because of the total silence from the School in the PAA. It speaks so very highly of our pupils and their understanding of context, their willingness to listen, to consider and to respect the occasion and I know that their teachers, those support staff who attended and Mrs Langford, Vice Chair of Governors, were all hugely impressed and appreciative.

After the notable absence of live music in our assemblies since the beginning of the pandemic, it was even more powerful and moving to hear the chamber choir sing two beautiful pieces as part of the service, with complex a capella harmonies being performed beautifully. Laura Hull delivered the Last Post and the Rouse with aplomb, adding further to the atmosphere, and members of the CCF presented the wreath that will be laid by the cadets as they participate on behalf of the School at the town's memorial service this weekend. Finally, Emily and Shilpi read with poise, engaging the listeners in the readings. I am grateful to all those who contributed, and to Mrs Staggs, Mr Boddy and other staff members involved. But I am particularly proud of all of our pupils.

On Wednesday we held our Sixth Form Open Evening for current members of the Fifth Year and for pupils at other schools who are interested in joining Yarm at Sixth Form. It was a busy and lively evening which I hope pupils and parents found interesting, informative and useful. I know that visiting departments and talking to teachers and students was appreciated, and I want to thank all those Sixth Formers who volunteered their time to support the event - I have heard nothing but praise for them.

Just before the start of the Sixth Form evening, I was on the other side of the PAA curtain watching the Sixth Form Theatre studies performances in the Studio Theatre. The first was a creative, innovative and ambitious performance which provided multiple views of each scene as live-streamed film of the performance was projected on a screen above the stage, offering the audience a range of angles and perspectives from which to experience the story. The Lower Sixth performance followed and provided a powerful insight into a relationship over many decades, leaving the audience eager to understand more and to fill in the gaps deliberately left by the scene selection. Both plays showed the versatile and impressive acting and technical skills of the students and it was a highly enjoyable evening.

The newsletter contains a plethora of articles and updates which I hope you enjoy, including news of those pupils in the TVYO and their recent concert in London, but it would be remiss of me not to make a specific mention of the sporting results reported within. Our teams have been hugely successful in hockey, netball, tennis, rugby and rowing, as well as individual success in cricket. Congratulations to all.

Dr Huw Williams

## Exploring Regeneration in the Ouseburn Valley

All A-level Geography students had the opportunity to visit Ouseburn Valley in Newcastle in order to extend our knowledge about regeneration. We began the day by taking a tour of the valley, allowing us to compare how different aspects have changed since the 19th century. We explored the histories of different bridges, including the millennial, swing, Tyne, and metro bridges, as well as the evolution of



old factories into more modern businesses involved in the tertiary and quaternary sectors. After lunch at the Quayside, we enjoyed a talk at the BALTIC, which highlighted the history of the art

gallery as a flour mill as well as future plans to further regenerate the post industrial landscape in Gateshead.

Jodie Hegab, Lower Sixth

## Christmas Card Winners

Huge thanks to all the talented students who took part in our Christmas Card Competition this term. We appreciate all your hard work and the time you spent creating these wonderful pieces of art. They are beautiful and you should all be extremely proud of yourselves! The winners are:

Lucy de la Motte  
Manya Rajeeva  
Monisha Ravichandran  
Hira Rauf  
Gracie Rhodes-Hildreth  
Olivia Wildridge

Your gorgeous work will be made into beautiful Christmas Cards, with 100% of the proceeds going to Sprouts Charity. Information on how to buy coming very soon!

## Tees Valley Youth Orchestra Visit Royal Albert Hall

Last Wednesday, members of Tees Valley Youth Orchestra travelled to the Royal Albert Hall to perform in the Music for Youth Proms. The event involved young people making music from across the country. As one of the greatest and most famous concert halls in the world, this was a real highlight for our young, talented orchestral musicians.



I joined TVYO in the summer of 2018; it's an amazing collection of young musicians from across the north-east who practise once a week and have a schedule of performances throughout the year. Despite the pause of the pandemic, I have performed in some amazing musical venues: The Sage, Newcastle Cathedral, St. Barnabus Church and the most notable, when I was 12, for the Orchestra's 50th anniversary, we played at Carnegie Hall in New York. Although our Italy tour has twice been postponed because of restrictions, we hope to get somewhere amazing this summer.

On 3rd November, TVYO left Stockton with the musicians and their instruments aboard, my concert harp among them, as we headed to The Royal Albert Hall to join the Music for Youth Proms. When in London, we were joined by many choirs, orchestras, bands and groups in a 1-off performance. I enjoyed the whole experience and seeing different people make music.

Tilly Gilraine, Fourth Year



On Wednesday, we went on a trip with the Tees Valley Youth Orchestra to the Royal Albert Hall in London. Firstly, we all met at a really early time and were assigned to our coaches. We then travelled 5 hours to London with a small stop for breakfast.

Once we reached the Albert Hall, we went straight to rehearsal and rehearsed our cues. At 3.30pm we ate a meal together. Straight after tea, we went back to our

seats and the show started. What a show it was! It was so interactive with so many different groups participating. There was such a variety of themes explored through music, two examples being litter and lockdown. We all really enjoyed it and it was such a good opportunity for all of us.

Manya Rajeeva, Second Year, new to the orchestra

Current Yarm School members of TVYO are: Connor McMurray, Jennifer Chan, Morven Hawthorne, James Waine, Sara Banerjee, Tilly Gilraine, Annabel Cochrane, Dhruv Wadehra, Paddy Winters, and Manya Rajeeva

## Politics Student Attends Innovative Oxford Student Conference

Before the half term holiday Ananya participated in a competitive selection process of essay writing and an hour long interview to win a place at a week long, all expenses paid course at the University of Oxford, alongside a small cohort of successful students from across the country. Her report of her experience is below.

Over October half term I had the opportunity to attend a week-long conference in Oxford based on ideas of 'building a better world' through the Centre of Effective Altruism. Learning about Long Termism and existential risk, I was exposed to a wide range of perspectives on the world's most pressing problems, and which interventions we must implement to stop them. These problems mostly surrounded anthropogenic risks such as climate change and nuclear war and I was exposed to new concepts such as Fermi estimates. I thoroughly enjoyed learning through university-style seminars, and was enthused to listen to researchers and academics from the Future of Humanity Institute at the University of Oxford. Being surrounded by like-minded peers with a whole host of interests allowed me to learn and partake in enlightening discussions. Overall, It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience and I have gained a great insight into the best ways to build a better future.

Ananya Padmanabhan, Upper Sixth

## Yarm Apprentice Charity Stall



After the last uneventful Christmas, leaving us locked at home, unable to see family and friends, we are in need of something to look forward to this year. Team Alpha's Christmas stall on the 20th November (in the dining hall) may be the perfect way to begin the festive season.

From crafts to decorations, games to sweets, this stall will appeal to all ages! So why not come down and explore whilst also supporting a local charity? During a time that can be difficult for many people, our team has decided to give all profits to the Teesside Family Foundation, an organisation committed to helping those who suffer from hardships due to age, disability, health or finance.

Jodie Hegab, Lower Sixth



## Thinking Ahead



By this stage of the new academic year the Lower Sixth will be well settled into their choice of A Level subjects. They have already been asked to give an early indication of future directions in terms of career choices post Yarm.

This will be developed further next academic term when all Lower Sixth students, in addition to receiving advice from their tutor and subject teachers, will also be assigned a mentor to help shape their thoughts on plans moving forward. Clearly students will be at very different rates of development of these ideas, with some committed to a vocational course post-Yarm, others very much exploring the alternative to university, through employment and a range of apprenticeship opportunities, with some of these marrying work with a university degree.

Whilst recognising the differing stages of planning, we would encourage all students to combine a healthy dose of flexibility in their ideas, with a good commitment to exploring and researching ideas. There are a vast array of courses, programmes and indeed careers out there, far more diverse than most people's knowledge or imaginings.

In addition to exploring options through the Unifrog platform, as well as university and employer websites, there will be a range of events mentioned in the year group Google Classrooms, so we would encourage students to remain vigilant to these offerings. Another excellent way to explore and indeed test an area of interest is to undergo a MOOC (Mass Open Online Course). These are short courses, free of charge, provided by a diverse range of reputable universities and institutions, and cover a multitude of subjects and topics.

So they are a good first port of call to check whether a subject is really for you, as well as providing a whiff of the more independent style of study required after school. When the time comes around for applications, a couple of well chosen MOOCs can provide strong evidence of an applicant's appetite for and curiosity in a particular field. This [article from Unifrog](#) visits in greater detail the many benefits to be accrued from a MOOC. Unifrog can also be used as a tool for searching for a suitable MOOC, along with the likes of [FutureLearn](#) and [Coursera](#).

Mr S Edwards

## Investigating Voting Behaviour

One of the early topics that A Level students of Politics wrestle with is that of voting behaviour; what shapes the way a person votes. The seemingly precarious 'science' of psephology may tickle many of us on election nights, when commentators and experts, most famously Prof John Curtie from the University of Strathclyde, are asked to disentangle the complex machinations of a nation's preferences, but it is a complex and fascinating areas of study. It also carries with it some significant implications for our understanding of society and its individuals.

Our Politics Society guest speaker last Friday, Dr Rosario Aguilar, from Newcastle University, was ideally placed to assist us in this area of study. The US-trained academic has conducted extensive research into voting behaviour, with her work centred on studies in Brazil, Mexico, the United States, and most recently the UK. Her work has focused on the issues of bias and prejudice in voting. She demonstrated her research methods and the nature of the experiments she conducted to determine the nature and extent of this suspected bias. The session was followed by a healthy dose of questioning and discussion, from the ethics of research methodology, though to the fear of political parties weaponizing the findings for their own benefit.

Dr Aguilar also gave us a whiff of her current research in the UK. Less based around voting behaviour itself, but more the mechanisms that shape decision making. Specifically she has been looking at how people respond when they are presented with a new piece of information that runs counter to their belief. Her findings to date on this suggest that the more knowledgeable a person believes themselves to be on matters political, the more likely they are to reject new, contrary information, with those considering themselves 'less informed' more receptive to new information. There might be a troubling implication in this finding for our political leaders!

Dr Aguilar was impressive in her measured presentation and considered responses and certainly enhanced the Politics students understanding of the complexity and implications of voting behavior

Mr S Edwards



## Former Pupil Shares International Banking and Business Experience

Last week the Economics and Business Department were delighted to welcome a Working Lunch Speaker over Google Meet, Bradley Watson (Class of 2009)



Following 15 years as a Yarm student, Brad studied Economics at the University of Birmingham, graduating with a First Class Honors Degree and a passion for social sciences (and acknowledgement that he should have listened to CER many years earlier about following the Econ path!)

Post University, Brad joined HSBC, one of the world's

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largest financial institutions, and has 10 years of international banking, strategy and business transformation experience, having worked in Dubai, New York, Brussels and currently the U.K.

Outside of work, Brad remains an avid learner, having completed executive qualifications in Leadership from Wharton University, Innovation from Stanford University and is currently studying Industrial-Organisational Psychology at Harvard University.

Brad happily answered a positive deluge of questions from an audience of keen Lower and Upper Sixth students, and it was evident how much he is enjoying and thriving in his chosen career. It was wonderful to hear how well Brad is doing and we are very grateful for him taking time from his busy schedule to guide our students, and we hope that he will be able to visit the school and catch up with his former teachers when he is next visiting his family who are still based in the area.

Miss C E Rhodes

## The Only Way is Up...

This week the Econ and Bus Soc were fascinated to hear all about the Glass Ceiling and what can be done to break through it, as Olivia Davies, Upper Sixth, gave a well researched and well received presentation to an audience of keen Lower Sixth and Upper Sixth students, including many from outside the department.

Thanks to Olivia and to all who are making Thursday lunchtimes so enjoyable and interesting.

Miss C E Rhodes



## What's The Name of the Game?

Yarm Apprentices at the YSA Christmas Indoor Market!

Reminder that the Yarm Apprentices have been tasked with manning and stocking a Christmas themed, family friendly stall for a full day on Saturday 20th November.

All profits made go to the charities chosen by the teams, so please bring cash as the teams can't take card, and be ready to discover whether...

Alpha will be dominant or if Team Unlimited will again prove limitless?

Miss C E Rhodes

## Knowing the Numbers!

In English this week, pupils have been discussing who should be responsible for giving a home to refugees. As part of their study of the excellent YA novel 'The Bone Sparrow' - set in a refugee detention centre in Australia - the group completed an activity with balloons which encouraged them to think about which countries currently take responsibility for looking after the world's 26 million refugees.



Having examined the numbers, pupils concluded that lower and middle-income countries are doing much more than their fair share — hosting more than double the number of refugees that high-income countries are. As half of the world's refugees are children, pupils felt that it was essential that we do more to protect people who have fled their homes in search of safety.

Ms. H Blakemore

## Essential Legal Know-how

In our recent SPaCE session the Upper Sixth attended a talk given by Mrs Picknett entitled 'Your Legal Survival Toolkit: What you really need to know'. This was an excellent opportunity to be taught some of the crucial, basic knowledge concerning everyday legal topics that we might come into contact with.

The areas covered were Finances, Housing, Driving, contact with the Police and possible pitfalls whilst traveling abroad on a Gap Year. Working through each of these different areas, we were introduced to the critical points to be aware



of: for example, what to look for in a job contract or when renting accommodation. Mrs Picknett included relevant examples in this practical session, equipping us for our lives beyond Yarm School.

Maddy, Jackson, Upper Sixth



## A Night To Remember: Climbers Tackle Night Abseil

On Bonfire Night, a small group of pupils from Third Year to Lower Sixth along with Miss Street and Mr Mathers headed down to Sheffield for a weekend of rock climbing in the Peak District.



After feasting on fish and chips in Sheffield on Friday night, the group settled into their luxury indoor camping accommodation. The weather forecast for the weekend was mixed, but with a decent spell of dry weather the group headed to Stanage Edge in the wind on the Saturday morning. With over 4 miles of a gritstone edge to play at, the pupils climbed a range of routes such as Manchester Buttress, Anatomy, Dry Rot and Black Hawk Hell Crack. As the rain started early afternoon, the group headed for a short bimbble along Stanage Edge before returning to the minibus and our accommodation.

The evening brought drier weather so we headed back out to Stanage Edge after dinner for a night abseil that everyone in the group completed. It was



quite eerie abseiling into the black with fireworks going off in the distance, a memory not to be forgotten! For some pupils (and staff) it was their first abseil ever!

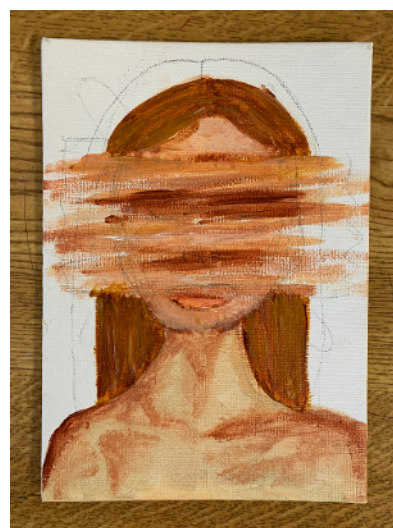
On Sunday we found a smaller sheltered climbing venue, Yarncliffe Quarry, with a range of climbs for all abilities. Steve, our instructor with us for the weekend, also taught some of the pupils about placing climbing gear for lead climbing. Bouldering was also available in this nice quarry, in the sunshine and out of the wind.

All in all this was a fantastic weekend with a great team of pupils. My thanks go to Miss Street for her assistance and Steve for all his instructional expertise.

Mr A Mathers



## Artists Corner



Thank you to Gracie Rhodes-Hildreth for another beautiful portrait!

We also have Monoprints which the amazing lower school made during Art Club last week. The bold colours really reflect the abstract nature of fireworks. Well done everyone!

Jessica Jenyns,  
Visiting Artist





## Outstanding Yarm School Hockey Competitors Lead The Way at County Level and Beyond!

A fantastic 79 pupils have been selected to represent Durham County at hockey for season 2020 to 21 (see right for the full list of names). This is by far the biggest representation from any one school in the region.

In addition to this we have a number of pupils who have been selected for the Regional Performance Centre including:

Will Woodhead, Belle Woodhead, Junior Newton, Toby Simpson,, Miriam Akowuah, Timmy Foley, Max Mowbray, Oscar Thomas, Izzie Speight, Jake Leader; and Theo Grylls.

Finally, Will Ferguson has survived the first cut in his bid to be selected for England U16s- he has 2 more assessment sessions at Lilleshall National Sports Centre before Christmas when the final squad will be named.

This means an outstanding 92 pupils are competing at county level or higher- well done to all concerned!

Mr G Ferguson

Pupils selected to represent Durham County are:

Anderson, Rorke	Greenaway, Oliver	Page, Marshall
Anderson, Sabie	Hall, Sophie	Pallent-Home, Tilly
Arnold, Sam	Hankinson, Spencer	Roberts, Kayla
Arnold, Alfie	Hardy, Jacob	Robinson, Aidan
Belch, Joseph	Haswell, Millie	Rudd, Sophia
Bell, Poppy	Hegab, Yaseen	Rutter, Jacob
Briston-Smith, Freddie	Henley, Josie	Ryan, Ava
Brown, Isabella	Hercock, Freddie	Sawyer, Wilf
Burchall, Tom	Holmes, Ava	Sawyer, Amelie
Carr, Olly	Hyndman, Kyra	Shaw, Oscar
Crack, Jude	Hyndman, Sienna	Shawcross, Samuel
Crawford, Grace	Hyndman, Summer	Sidhu, Jasman
Dempsey, Benjamin	Jackson, Harriet	Staggs, Harry
Dohring, Gabe	Jackson, Erin	Staggs, Cody
Dunkin, Oliver	Jackson, Harry	Takoor, Freya
El-Sherif, Mustafa	Lambert, Nicole	Thomas, Ayan
Evie, Stoker	Lane, Sam	Townesley, Lexie
Faulkner, Poppy	Leadbitter, Eva	Wadehra, Dhruv
Faulkner, Rosie	Lowes, Oscar	Walters, Marcus
Ferguson, Pippa	McGee, James	Walters, Daniel
Fletcher, Thomas	Millington, Max	Ward, Alice
Flynn, Ashton	Mitchell, Lucy	Wheatley, Jake
Gatenby, Oliver	Mitchell, Olivia	White, Matthew
Gilraine, Freddie	Mitchell, Fenwick	Wild, Zoe
Gilraine, Tilly	Morrison, Mara	Yamaguchi, Atsushi
Graham, James	Morrison, Cameron	Zara, Stoker
	Nichol, Phoebe	





## Our Junior 15 and 14 Rowers Steal the Show at Durham LDS and Autumn Small Boats Head

Racing resumed again last Saturday with the last of the six Long Distance Sculling series taking place in Durham. With the magnificent cathedral and castle towering over the River Wear it really is a beautiful river to row on. However, half way along the 1800m course, Elvet Bridge lies in wait for those who struggle to steer. It's narrow arches catch many crews out, but it makes for exciting viewing by the bridge. And with the course being only 1800m and with three divisions of racing, crews can compete in more than one division.



It was our Junior 18 coxless quads that were caught out at the bridge by a bottleneck of crews, which held them up but they still managed to finish a very creditable fourth and fifth in what is a very heavily contested event.



Above: Junior 18 coxless quad

Below: A 2nd Junior 18 coxless quad showing how hard it is to steer without a cox.



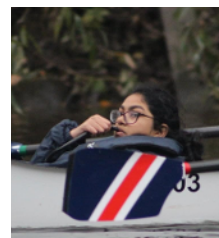
The Junior 18 girls were not represented at this event as they were training on the Tees, so it fell to the Junior 14, 15 and 16 girls to carry the flag for Yarm School Boat Club. Although the Junior 16 girls coxless four (below), stroked by Hannah Stewart, did not win their event they sculled very well and will be a force to be reckoned with in 2022.



Our first win of the day came with the girls Junior 15 coxed quad (below) stroked by Hannah Bettinson, beating their nearest opposition by 15 seconds. Not contented with winning in the morning division, they took to the water in the afternoon and won again – an incredible double win.



Our younger crews are heavily reliant on their coxes (below) at Durham to get them through the bridge and we have some super coxes, whose job is often cold and wet.



Our Junior 14 boys and girls only started rowing at the August Training Camp and two months later they were competing in their first event. They really are a very talented and committed group of rowers. Two girls' Junior 14 coxed quads competed in the morning division, one stroked by Abby Stewart and the other by Faye Lane. Both crews sculled very well, but the crew stroked by Abby Stewart came out on top, and also won their event at the first time of asking. What an achievement!

Below: Girls Junior 14 coxed quad



The afternoon saw the running of the Autumn Small Boats Head in two divisions, so our crews could have a rest before taking to the water again. And once again our crews did themselves proud. The first win of the afternoon came in the boys' Junior 15 coxed quad (below). Ably coxed by Jack Stoddart and stroked by Luke Anderson they sculled to a handsome victory.





# SPORT

With a slight change of clientele in the boat, with Will Jeavons stroking, the Junior 15 boys sculled in the open category and won that event as well. Other clubs are sitting up and taking notice of these boys.



Above: Junior 15 boys rowing in the open event

Once again the girls' were not to be out done and another girls' Junior 15 coxed quad coxed by Joshita Mishra and stroked by Eve Grey sculled their way to victory in the afternoon division.

Below: Girls Junior 15 coxed quad



This event was the first one for our Junior 14 rowers and they acquitted themselves very well. It was so good to see their enthusiasm and commitment in competing against other schools and clubs. They now have something to aim for over the colder winter months. Not everyone can win, but here are a few photos of those who represented Yarm School BC and gave their all.



Behind all these crews is a committed and very experienced coaching staff . It gives them so much pleasure to see all our young rowers on the water and enjoying the sport. Some coaches, Mr Burns and Mr Lund, are still very active rowers and compete on a regular basis, so it would be remiss not to mention Mr Lund who won in the Masters double sculls event in the afternoon.

Mrs A Lund

## Top Tennis Team

The Girls Tennis team traveled to Silksworth for the North of England Tennis last week. They were required to play both singles and doubles against St Peters School and the winner of this match would play the opposite pool winners. The girls only dropped only one match in this pool and played so well, so they therefore qualified to play in the final against Kirkham Grammar School. The whole team fought well against a very strong Kirkham side but unfortunately we were beaten by a better side in the final. The girls need to be so proud of their efforts as they have competed at a top level and are one of the top 8 schools in the country.

Miss S Cottrell





## Further Success for Talented Cricketer

Matthew Maloy has added to his stunning range of achievements in cricket. Having recently won the North Yorkshire & South Durham Cricket League Junior Batsman of the Year and the NYSD Junior Player of the Year, we are now proud to announce that he has been selected as one of their 'Emerging Players' and has subsequently signed a contract. This could pave the way for a future professional career in cricket.

Congratulations Matthew!

Mr G Ferguson

## Durham County Champions!

On Tuesday, the U14 team headed to the fantastic facility at Billingham RFC for the County Cup finals. On top form following the weekend's match, they were confident going into the tournament. They had qualified through strongly the previous qualifying district tournament, winning all 4 games they played. Finals day is different though with some strong and physical sides in attendance. Again, there were 4 matches of 15mins each and it was key they started well; they did!

Throughout the tournament they were superb, drawing praise and respect from other teams and those parents and spectators in attendance. Ambitious and clinical in attack whilst being physical and determined in defence (against bigger opposition) meant they scored a total of 12 tries while conceding 0.

It was a fantastic display of rugby but more importantly they played with a smile on their faces, a brilliant team spirit and a respectful manner towards the game and the other teams; a pleasure to see.

Mr C Webb





# SPORT

## U15 SNS Cup



The U15 netball squad played Newcastle High School on Monday in the 3rd round of the SNS Cup. From the first whistle the team dominated the game and stayed strong throughout the match.

They came away with a convincing win 40-13 and have now qualified for the quarter finals in the North of England. POM Tilly Gilraine.

Miss S Cottrell

## National Schools Netball

Saturday was the first round of the National Schools competition and the U14 were ready for it. Led by their captain Lola, the girls were on their game right from the warm up.



## Sport Weeks Ahead

The weeks ahead are now available online.

You can [view them here](#).

The first match saw Yarm vs High Tunstall and a 14 - 3 win. The wins continued with an 18 - 6 scoreline against Egglecliffe, 12 - 6 scoreline against Red House and a 17 - 0 win for the final game of the day; securing a place in the next round and the title of County Champions.

The U16 tournament followed on from the younger age group and the girls were eager to prepare.

The warm up was running smoothly until Estelle unfortunately went down with a knee injury and was unable to continue. The girls took to the court for their game without Estelle and Alice, who was travelling back from an earlier fixture. The girls rallied together and fought valiantly against High Tunstall in what was to be their toughest match and their only loss of the day.



Next up were Conyers who were beaten 24 - 2, before English Martyrs stepped up for the challenge. The Hartlepool based team got off to a great start and were leading by 4 goals at one point. After half time Yarm were able to dig deep and produce an outstanding performance, bringing the game back to a draw and showing fantastic composure to score the winning goal in the dying seconds.

Miss L Hodgson





## Yarm U16 vs Yarm U15

Our U16s and U15s competed in the Cleveland County Indoor Competition on Tuesday. They both topped their group to progress to the final, facing each other in a tense, closely fought game.

The U16s eventually broke the deadlock and took the game 2-0. They now both progress to the North East Finals later this month.

Miss N Hodgson



## U18 North East Finals

Our U18s competed in the North East Finals on Monday held at Durham University. The team played really well all day winning every match with scores of 3-1 against Durham School, 1-0 against Barnard Castle, 3-0 against RGS Newcastle and 3-0 against Kings.

This means we now progress to the North Finals later this month, well done team!

Miss N Hodgson



## Results

Full results for all fixtures are available online.

Please [login to the SOCS system](#).



## Please Name Games Kit

**A plea to name all Games kit!** We have a number of unclaimed items which we are sure are being missed by their owners.

Put your name on your label and we will ensure your kit is washed and returned to you if it is mislaid at school.

Thank you for your continued help with this.



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# NETFLIX

Netflix is a subscription-based streaming service that allows users to watch TV shows and movies on any internet-enabled device that supports the software, such as smart TVs, phones and tablets. The pandemic saw a surge in children consuming on-demand content as many families relaxed their screen-time rules. Netflix's diverse range of programming caters for all age groups – so it's important for parents to recognise the potential risks of children using the service and the measures to help their child enjoy a safe streaming experience.

## INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Netflix produces and curates an extensive catalogue of content that can provide hours of entertainment. If they share the same user account as an adult, this can potentially lead to children accidentally viewing all manner of inappropriate content, including nudity, profanity and extreme violence. This can happen easily on shared accounts, as Netflix cannot establish who's watching.

## BINGE-WATCHING

Netflix allows users to view shows and movies quickly and easily without adverts or interruptions, making excessive screen time a concern. Binge-watching has become more common during the pandemic, due to Netflix's regularly updated content and algorithms which recommend content very similar to what's previously been enjoyed. Marathon viewing sessions can lead to children staying up too late, affecting their mood and concentration the next day.

## SCREEN ADDICTION

From TVs and phones to consoles and tablets, Netflix is available on almost any device with an internet connection – making it extremely difficult to manage children's screen time. The service is now adding games to its mobile app, tempting users to spend even more time on the platform. Screen addiction can distract children from important activities like schoolwork and socialising, and can impact their health by reducing their exercise and sleep.

## HACKING ATTEMPTS

With millions of users worldwide, Netflix is often targeted by hackers who try to steal usernames and passwords to gain access to people's accounts. If successful, they can then steal payment details or try to sell stolen personal data on the dark web, providing other criminals with a profitable opportunity. Netflix also doesn't provide two-factor authentication, making the hackers' task that little bit easier.

## CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Netflix's Teleparty feature became popular during lockdown periods as it allows users from different households (friends and relatives, for example) to synchronise when they watch content. It requires an access link to be sent to the people you wish to invite: the link, however, can also be distributed to people you don't know. A text chat feature enables interaction with the other users in real-time: this represents a risk to children if a stranger gains access to the Teleparty.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### KEEP ACCOUNTS SECURE

Netflix doesn't use two-factor authentication, so a strong password is vital. Your child's Netflix password should be unique (not one they've used elsewhere) and a minimum of eight characters with a mix of letters, numbers and symbols. Emphasise not to share their login details with anyone and remind them to always log out after using the app – so their account remains inaccessible, even if their device is lost or stolen.

### SET UP PROFILE PINS

Netflix account holders can lock profiles using a four-digit PIN. Doing this can prevent your child from accessing the wrong account and viewing content that isn't appropriate for their age. Try setting a PIN for each account on your Netflix app – ideally avoiding numbers that would be easily guessed, such as dates of birth. Remember not to share these PINs with anyone, including family.

### CHECK MATURITY RATING

Netflix warns about content that includes violence, sex, profanity and nudity. These warnings form part of the show or movie's 'maturity rating'. Users can restrict age ratings to avoid children viewing age-inappropriate content. On their profile, open the Profile and Parental Control settings and choose the maturity level for the shows and movies you want to allow.



### CREATE A KIDS' PROFILE

Setting up a Netflix Kids experience profile means your child can only access content which is suitable for children aged up to 12 years. All other content is automatically blocked. This rating can be further restricted via the child's profile settings. Setting up a Netflix Kids experience profile will help to prevent your child from viewing age-inappropriate content.



### SWITCH OFF AUTO-PLAY

When a show or movie concludes, Netflix's algorithms select content with similar themes that it thinks your child will enjoy next. This new content starts automatically after a 10-second countdown. Disabling this auto-play feature reduces the possibility of your child being shown something inappropriate and provides a natural break to help prevent them becoming too immersed in Netflix.

### CHECK VIEWING HABITS

Netflix has tools which enable parents and carers to monitor what their child has been watching. Selecting 'Viewing Activity' in each profile's account settings displays a list of what content has been viewed (and when). This can reassure parents that their child is watching age-appropriate content and can open avenues for discussing your child's favourite shows and movies, and why they like them.



## Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



**National Online Safety®**

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: [www.help.netflix.com](http://www.help.netflix.com) | [www.about.netflix.com](http://www.about.netflix.com) | [www.vofcom.org.uk](http://www.vofcom.org.uk)



[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com)



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