

Newsletter



No: 1302 www.yarmschool.org | 25th March 2022

Headmaster's Welcome

There are very many reasons to be proud of the school, its pupils, staff and community this week.

Our pupils have been creative in their efforts to raise funds for the Ukraine appeal, and families have given extremely generously to the fundraising page. Collectively, as you can read below, we have already raised more than £7000 which will be donated to DEC to support families who have fled the conflict through the provision of humanitarian aid. Sincere and heartfelt thanks to all involved.

The **Senior** and **Prep** Schools received the ISI inspection reports which were shared with parents this morning. It was such a pleasure to read these and to reflect on the very many positives the inspectors highlighted. One of the messages in the School Officers' assembly this week - which saw them explain what advice they would give their younger selves - was to accept a compliment rather than dismiss or belittle it, and in that spirit I think we can all be proud of the compliment these reports pay the school, the staff and the pupils.

In a dramatic continuation of the sporting success we've seen this year, a most astonishing week saw the U16 and U18 boys win their England Hockey national competitions on the same day (extraordinary!), the U12 Netballers come second (for the second time) in a national cup competition, the rugby players acquit themselves with pride at Rosslyn Park Sevens and the rowers compete with real grit and determination on the Thames and at Eton Dorney. Yarm School is making a serious name for itself in the national sporting arena: this doesn't happen by accident, but through the commitment of pupils and staff alike.

Each week in assemblies we present a wide range of certificates and trophies to individuals and teams, and the success of two of our students in the Chemistry Olympiad is described below. Pupils receive all manner of other awards, including their music examination certificates, and it is always a pleasure to acknowledge their hard work and success in front of peers and teachers. The newsletter contains some fascinating pupil contributions, including Danai's account of the English trip to Newcastle and the School's Amphitheatre, an impressive and intellectually heavyweight book review from Abi, alongside pupil art and work experience reviews and an account of the annual Maths Department revision trip. On Thursday I watched the fantastic Upper Sixth Theatre Studies exam piece, which was a riotous 20 minutes of high octane and raw emotion: there is never a dull moment, and long may that continue!

Dr Huw Williams

Upper Sixth have the Winning Formula in Chemistry Olympiad

We are delighted to share our Sixth Form students' success in the RSC UK Chemistry Olympiad this year!

Designed to challenge and inspire, the prestigious Chemistry Olympiad is a unique opportunity for students to push themselves further and excel in the chemistry field, and the 2022 paper was particularly challenging. It covered many interesting and timely scientific contexts, including E10 petrol, the chemistry of lateral flow tests and much more.

Rebecca Keetley was one of only 8.9% of students nationally to receive a Gold award, while Charlotte Rutter was one of 22.7% who achieved a Silver award

Well done to both Rebecca and Charlotte on your fantastic achievement!



Yarm School Ukraine Fund Tops £7000!

In testament to the wonderful generosity of our School community, the Just Giving fundraising appeal we started to support the people of Ukraine has now raised over £7000. The Prep School have a fund raising event on Monday so we look forward to updating the total next week!

This amazing total was raised through some enterprising and creative fundraising from pupils and staff, including a sponsored haircut, selling hair scrunchies, sponsored running, baking cakes and baking bread, in addition to direct donations to the fund.

All funds go to the Disasters Emergency Committee Ukraine Appeal - the DEC is made up of 15 member charities who are experts in humanitarian aid and specialise in different areas of disaster response.

Thank you so much to everyone who has supported our fundraising effort.

Discussing *Animal Farm* in the Amphitheatre

On the 22nd of February, a group of Year 6 Prep pupils and First Years joined Mrs Dugdale on a trip to Newcastle Theatre Royal to watch the production of 'Animal Farm' by George Orwell. Those of us who hadn't read the book before, learnt that the book was written in response to the Communist Revolution in Russia that Orwell presents through the idea of Animalism.

Of course we were not going to just watch the production without reflecting on it! So, to enhance our analytical English Skills and understanding of the book, on Monday, we met in the Amphitheatre at the Prep School. We enjoyed a packed lunch and discussed various aspects of the novel and engaged in lively debate. We discussed whether Orwell was sending a message to the reader with his writing about: Power and its influence upon a person; Power as a dangerous tool; and the clear consequences of Power. Despite this, one of the topics I found particularly interesting was whether the book portrayed what was going on in our world in this day and age, such as corrupt rulers who do not abide by the rules they have enforced: making harsh decisions with detrimental consequences.

Overall, we all interpreted the questions differently, but debated about it in a sensible manner in the lovely spring sunshine. I would like to thank Mrs Dugdale for organising this amazing trip, it was definitely an experience to remember.

Danai Mawoko, First Year



Work Experience in Law

Last week I was given the opportunity to spend two days at the Teesside Magistrates Court shadowing criminal defence lawyer Neil Douglas. Over the course of my time there I was able to sit in on meetings with clients, various court proceedings, as well as witness the behind the scenes preparation work that both the prosecutors and defence lawyers were required to do. Whilst some cases can involve a lot of waiting and patience because they entirely depend on whether witnesses/ defendants/ interpreters show up or not, once a case begins, it is a very fast paced process that requires fast thinking and decision making skills.

Whilst a lot of my time there was dedicated to criminal law, I was able to learn more about what this actually meant. For

example one of the prosecutors I had the pleasure of speaking with explained that her job involved deciding whether arrested criminals should be given bail or not based on how dangerous she thought they were. This meant that she wouldn't know how many cases she would have until the morning, mere hours before she would explain her decision in court. Another lawyer was set to go to youth court that day (the court where those under 18 would be tried) explained that, unfortunately, a large proportion of children he worked with came from troubled backgrounds and therefore required a different kind of treatment and care.

During the course of my first day, I was able to sit through two court proceedings, one involving harassment and the second where there were charges of non compliance and assault of a police officer. They were both found not guilty because of reasons ranging from a lack of sufficient evidence to the mental state of the defendant. On my second day, I spent the morning in 'custody court' which involved defendants who were denied bail and therefore had spent time in prison. I found this to be more fast paced, with crimes ranging in seriousness, from theft to drugs to domestic abuse.

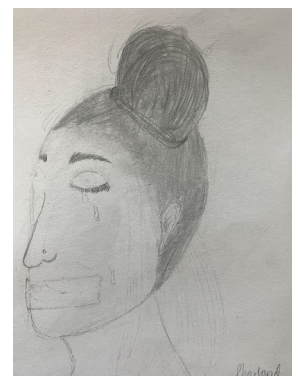
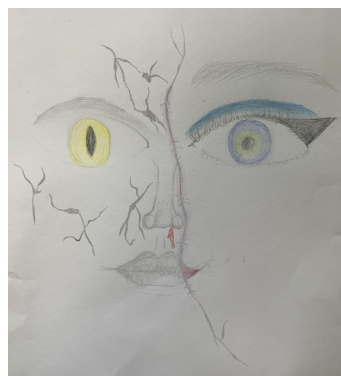
Overall, this was an amazing experience that allowed me to get a real understanding of the day to day life of a criminal defence lawyer whilst also giving me the opportunity to leave my protective bubble and learn about the issues going on in our community.

Jodie Hegab, Lower Sixth

Artists' Corner

Lydia Harland has created some gorgeous, unique pieces here... I love how abstract and emotive the pencil drawings are, and the colours and silhouettes in the painting are wonderfully dramatic. Well done Lydia!

Jessica Jenyns, Visiting Artist



Yarm School Maths Fest 2022 at Carlton

Last Friday 40 Mathematicians from the Upper Sixth ventured to Carlton Adventure Centre to participate in an intensive weekend of Maths Camp A Level Maths and Further Maths revision sessions. The 16 hours of sessions covered topics ranging from conic sections and hyperbolics to vectors and integration. The lectures were extremely helpful, and will serve as great consolidation for our upcoming A Level exams. We are incredibly grateful to the Maths Department for taking the time to organise these lectures for us, and we want to give a big thank you to Mr Yates as well as the Maths staff for organising the weekend as we all thoroughly enjoyed it.

Alongside the lectures, there were several highlights of Maths camp. Will Riley needs a special mention as on Friday night he appeared by the campfire sporting the most splendid tiger onesie. Needless to say our mathematicians were left dripping molten marshmallows in delight from their open mouths. On Saturday morning, still fuelled by piping hot coffees, we trekked down a muddy Carlton Bank from the Lord Stones. This resulted in a student leaving a trail of mud around the entire adventure centre, giving the detectives the evidence they needed to find out who had tried to break bounds! Saturday evening brought the infamous trip to a local hostelry, which we thoroughly enjoyed.

Overall the 'Maths Fest' had good vibes, and the intense revision opportunities will be incredibly helpful in supporting our ongoing revision and improving our confidence for our upcoming summer exams.

Thank you again to the Maths Department - the trip was a great success.

Ananya "Mary" Padmanabhan, Upper Sixth



Russian Foreign Policy Expert speaks to Politics Society about the war in Ukraine



As events continue to develop and the scale of suffering becomes increasingly apparent there will be many who feel quite helpless in the face of the situation in Ukraine. Nagging at the heart of this is a sense of a need to understand. Where did this come from? Was it inevitable? How will it be resolved? A number of pupils

sought out better understanding in a lunchtime talk delivered by Dr Valentina Feklyunina, an academic researching and teaching at Newcastle University who herself comes from Ukraine. Valentina had spoken to the Politics students a number of years ago on the issue of Russian troll factories and her work in that area was prophetic and far reaching. It was a privilege to welcome her back to attempt to untangle the events whose consequences are rolling across the borders of Europe.

Valentina addressed the main issue of cause. She demonstrated how this had been an interplay of historic, cultural and internal domestic forces, all of which, she argued, were essential, and without all events would not have materialised as they have done. She demonstrated evidence to support the notion of a Russian worldview that sees the Ukraine as central to its view of self, an integral part of the wider Russia and one that cannot be allowed to be 'lost'. Her comments on the manifestations of Russian culture in this context were fascinating; whilst recognising a diversity of opinion within Russia, there was a central belief supported and promoted by the government of a 'decadent west' and indeed Europe, that has lost its way, is no longer the protector of Christian values, reflected in particular through advances in the acceptance of homosexuality, and thus it fell to Russia and its ally in the Orthodox Church to be that bulwark against encroaching further decadence. Valentina presented some illuminating thoughts on the levels of support within Russia for the war. Some of her research centres on the teaching of Russian history in Russian schools and she has charted the shift in messaging in this regard. Exams require all pupils to answer a question on what price victory, with the answer being that people are expendable in this grim equation.

There was a vast array of questions; the efficacy of sanctions, the centrality of Putin in this current episode, the possibility of his removal by internal forces, the mechanisms for change, and so much more. The talk did not make for comfortable conclusions. It was such a rare opportunity to hear from one with such colossal insight and knowledge, effortlessly articulate and concentrated, and to at least come away with a clearer understanding of what we are wrestling with.

Mr S Edwards

Politics Book Review: The Death of Truth by Michiko Kakutani

"What are the roots of falsehood in the Trump era? How did truth and reason become such endangered species, and what does their impending demise portend for our public discourse and the future of our politics and governance?" These are the questions which form the basis of Michiko Kakutani's book, 'The Death of Truth'. In nine chapters, she navigates the political and cultural context of the US, compiling ideas from pre existing literature and applying them to the time of Trump's presidency (up until 2018, when the book was published) in order to explain how exactly truth became so compromised and what this means for democracy, both during Trump's presidency and in the aftermath.

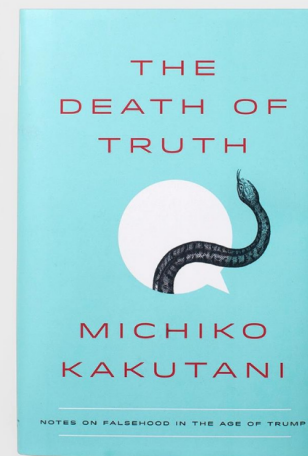
The first chapter opens by outlining the creation of the US, founded on the hopeful Enlightenment principles of liberty, progress, and reason. The Constitution created by the founding fathers, it is explained, was based on a system of checks and balances to protect the US against inadequate leadership - a man "bold in his temper" who might "mount the hobby horse of popularity", who would "throw things into confusion" in the words of Alexander Hamilton. Yet the hope and caution on which the US was founded has been challenged by a counter narrative called the "paranoid style" by Richard Hofstadter, which essentially undermined reason and truth and thrived on "heated exaggeration, suspiciousness, and conspiratorial fancy". This counter narrative has grown and shrunk in intensity over time, lurking in accusations about Vince Foster's death and anti-environmentalist sentiment, but with the election of Trump finally reached the mainstream. Frighteningly, in a 2017 survey by The Washington Post, it was revealed that 68% of Republicans believed millions of illegal immigrants voted in the 2016 election, and 47% of Republicans believed Trump had won the popular vote, despite neither of these being true. Also highlighted is the lack of rational thinking in the President himself - according to Trump's former chief strategist Stephen Bannon, Trump only "reads to reinforce", reducing his chances of reaching well-reasoned conclusions. It is argued that the White House under Trump had a preference for "ideological lockstep and loyalty over knowledge", with unqualified judges being appointed due to cronyism, and experts in various fields being ignored when the facts they were presenting were inconvenient for the point of view of the White House. Kakutani even goes as far as to compare Trump to Hitler, taking similarities from the fact both leaders ruled countries of increasing divisions and inspired wilful ignorance in their people.

The next chapter elaborates how development of the Internet has led to a larger number of news outlets than ever before ("a kaleidoscope of information options", as stated by David Foster Wallace), including an increasing number of ideological news outlets. These ideological news outlets created situations in which truth could be relative -

even entirely “a matter of perspective and agenda”. Whilst Wallace theorised this a decade before the 2016 election, Kakutani argues his words predict the post-Trump cultural landscape, in which the Republican Party brushes aside allegations of Russian meddling in US elections, and some members ignore rationality and science entirely. She proposes that another reason for the loss of truth’s objectivity emerges from appropriation of “dumbed-down” postmodernist arguments, used by defenders of the president to excuse his lies or question other proven areas of knowledge like evolution or climate change. Postmodernism is defined within the book as the concept that knowledge is filtered through personal variables such as class, race, and gender - all truths are partial. This presents some obvious problems, such as apathy towards government incompetence negatively impacting democratic participation.

These postmodernist arguments joined the political mainstream as an effect of the mutation of culture wars. Whilst figures such as Andrew Hartman claimed that after the late 20th century, the culture wars would die down, this proved to be an incorrect assessment - the 2010s saw the prominence of the culture wars explode. Their return was exacerbated by Trump, who wanted to energise his political base and distract from his policy failures and scandals, and so gave white working class voters scapegoats on which to place their fears of the changing world, including immigrants, Muslims, and African Americans. Divisions such as these helped lead to a decline in constructive discourse between opposing sides.

Further eroding truth in the era of Trump is the co-opting of language. Trump has made an assault on language through lies and contamination of the principles of the rule of law with personal agendas and political partisanship, in a similar way to authoritarian leaders including Hitler, Mao, and Stalin, Kakutani suggests. She also proposes that the Trump administration has been seen using Orwellian strategies, such as his weaponised use of “fake news” mirroring the technique of creating words containing “two contradictory meanings” in order to contradict facts, and the rewriting of the climate change pages on the White House website mirroring the continuous rewriting of history for political convenience in Orwell’s novel ‘1984’. Yet simultaneously she proposes that Trump has little regard for precision in his words, referring to Chuck Todd’s (an anchor on NBC’s ‘Meet the Press’) claim that after an interview, Trump would “watch the whole [of his segment on the show] on mute, suggesting a lack of care towards his use of language. The idea that carefully adopted strategies could coexist with a “cavalier disregard for accuracy, details and precision” is an odd one, and potentially weakens Kakutani’s argument for this section. However this contradiction, whilst disappointingly revealing that Kakutani’s position is not infallible, does not reduce the credibility of the core argument that Trump’s language use is harming democracy to a frightening degree. In addition to manipulating the thoughts of people through language, his attacks on



journalism about “fake news” are endangering press freedom not just in the US but in countries like Russia, China, and Turkey, who see the extent to which Trump is able to subvert truth and take example from it.

Kakutani argues that although the mass availability of information has increased democratisation of information, the amount of misinformation that is now available is resulting in a lack of accountability and in the “isolation of people in political silos”. People are enabled by this to cherry-pick information to suit their point of view, reducing the amount of rational conclusions reached from evaluation of empirical data. Additionally, the lack of distinction between news and entertainment means that much news on the internet now attempts to appeal to primitive emotions such as anger and fear in order to gain attention and therefore increase levels of user engagement and profit. The growing reluctance of the public to engage with traditional forms of media due to a shrinking trust in institutions and the general mainstream meant that by 2017, $\frac{2}{3}$ of Americans stated that they got at least some of their news from social media: this problem is widespread. Another reason that this rapidly increasing use of social media is causing issues is that social media’s algorithms, as stated by Robert McNamee, generally work to separate people further into political silos and they promote more often simplistic and provocative messages due to engagement being the main priority. Promoting a diverse range of opinions and well-evidenced information is simply not a concern, as these things do not engage the user’s attention as intensely. Instead, inflammatory messages, like those of the Trump campaign, are read by more people, slowly poisoning people’s ability to develop well-assessed positions. An Omidyar Group report summarised the concerns about social media into three key points - amplified polarisation, undermined trust in institutions, and increased difficulty of having fact-based debates and discussions essential to democracy.

Due to these vulnerabilities created by social media, the sophisticated propaganda machine developed by the Kremlin over decades, and the Kremlin’s capabilities for cyber attack, Russian manipulation of the 2016 election was able to take place - undermining “faith in globalism and

Western democratic liberalism” through generating fake news and eroding voters’ faith in democracy. The ambiguity of truth during Trump’s presidency increased the fragility of the US and made it alarmingly easy for other states to interfere in political and cultural matters if they wished to do so. The threat of Russian propagandists to the US is made evident from Kakutani’s description of Vladislav Surkov, a key Russian propagandist, who, in an essay referenced in the book, declares that the US would benefit from a “simple imperial vertical” and a “strong hand”. The US is dangerously exposed to negative intent from other states because of its relationship with truth.

Most of the ideas in this book are not originally Kakutani’s, but her extensive history as a literary critic explains her instinct to collate many different stances in literature. Indeed, the fact that she does primarily collate the views of others rather than creating original conclusions allows for the book to function as an overview of the contextual background of the presidency. A minority of her arguments may be underwhelming and unconvincing, but considering the situation in which Kakutani is trying to deduce a truthful conclusion, it is understandable why her conclusions might contain clashing elements - the evidence she is trying to gather a conclusion from is already muddled by potential falsity. Since generally most of her arguments do not suffer from this anyway, this should not be taken as a reason to avoid this book. As a whole, it is perfectly functional.

I would recommend ‘The Death of Truth’ to anyone looking to increase their understanding of the circumstances behind the Trump presidency, and anyone interested in their own democratic freedoms. Trump may no longer be president but this does not mean an overview of his presidency is irrelevant. That the US received such treatment from a president demonstrates how vulnerable even powerful countries like the US can be. All countries must remember how easily democratic freedoms, like access to objective truth, can slip away. All people should heed Kakutani’s closing advice to protect the legitimacy of all three branches of government - the legislative, executive, and judiciary - as well as education and independent press. Truth is not as secure as one might think, and a society without it would be a dangerous one.

Trump’s presidency’s recklessness with truth was not an isolated circumstance, but one that developed out of a deep contextual background. If caution is not taken, extreme compromise of truth could easily happen again. The Trump presidency, and this book, must act as a warning for the future - or the democratic freedoms people enjoy today could be endangered or even disappear.

Abi Saddington, Lower Sixth

Senior Civil Servant discusses the Civil Service with Students



Mention the civil service and one might easily be confronted by blank stares of uncertainty. To an older generation it may conjure images of sharp suited mandarins belittling government figures in the manner of Yes Minister, but to a younger generation of Yarm students many former pupils are finding their way into the civil service in a diverse range of roles. On numerous Politics trips to London current pupils have connected with former Politics students working as foreign policy advisors, Treasury officials, those working at No.10 and the Cabinet Office, with others working in press and publicity at the Ministry of Justice. It is an area of work with considerable advantages and opportunities.

To further current pupil understanding we were delighted to welcome to Yarm School Pauline Crellin. A senior civil servant, currently working as Director of UK Trade Advocacy and World Events at the Department for International Trade, Pauline has worked in a dizzying array of significant roles within the service and was able to speak to a group of around 30 Sixth Form students. She began by explaining the nature and structure of the civil service and the myriad jobs that existed within this realm. It was also interesting to learn of their policy of recruiting mostly externally rather than within, certainly shifting that too long held perception of a closed shop of insider connections. She also emphasised the importance of a variety of working and educational backgrounds, and whilst recognising the competitive nature of securing a post, explained how the civil service was recruiting diversely and dynamically. An ability to think flexibly, to innovate and yet remain impartial politically are essential prerequisites.

Pauline is currently responsible for developing the Darlington Economic Campus, where of late we have witnessed a significant shift of governmental operations across a range of government departments and public bodies. In tying in to further developments through the likes of the Teesport plans, there is a very real movement and emphasis on the north east, and with this come new opportunities for future employment. The students engaged well with the talk, asking a broad range of questions, very much suggesting that they had been switched on to these possibilities of employment and service in this fascinating landscape.

Mr S Edwards

YSA PRESENTS

BOLLYWOOD SUMMER BALL

SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY, 18TH JUNE 2022

BOLLYWOOD DANCERS FROM
DESI NACH

THREE COURSE MEAL
BLACK TIE OR PARTY WEAR

DT PRODUCT & FASHION SHOW

Tuesday 26th April
Princess Alexandra Auditorium

Products on show in the
Atrium from 4:30pm

- GCSE and A-Level DT Work

Fashion Show in the PAA
at 6pm featuring:

- Prep and Senior School Eco-Fashion Dancers,
- Eco-Fashion Competition Contestants,
- GCSE and A-Level Textiles Work

See Mr Spence or Mrs Jackson for
further details.



CHARITY CONCERT THURSDAY 31ST MARCH, 7PM



All tickets are £5 and are available from www.thepaaonline.org or at the Box office on 01642 792587

Two National Titles in One Day!

What an amazing day for Yarm School sport as our Under 16 and Under 18 boys hockey teams both claimed National titles as they represented the region at the National Finals in Nottingham on Monday. Both sets of players were outstanding throughout the day and as you can see, each and every player has been named in our Teams of the Week. The tournaments involved 8 teams from all over the country in 2 groups of 4 and with no cross over semi-finals, we had to win the group to book a place in the final.



U16 National Champions 2022

The Under 16s started their campaign against Malvern College from the Midlands. After a nervy start, Yarm quickly gained confidence and the goals quickly flowed with 4 from our England International, Will Ferguson, 1 from Max Mowbray and another from Timmy Foley. The 2nd game was against St Albans who had also won their first game so this was a key moment, whilst the Yarm boys prepared well, it was a sluggish first half and at 0-0 at half-time, the game could have gone either way. However, Will Ferguson rounded 2 players at the top of the circle on a short corner before flicking the ball into the top corner. He quickly followed this with a trademark reverse hit into the bottom corner to secure the game. The boys went into their final group game knowing a draw would book them a place in the final. They started the match on fire as Ferguson added another 2 goals to his tally and Mowbray also scored. This was the ideal position to be in as they could then just manage the game (3-1 win) and rest legs for the final which proved to be decisive.

Meanwhile, the U18 boys were also in action as they started equally well against Richard Hush College. After 2 early short corner conversions from captain James Beck and the outstanding Tom Crack, things were looking good. However, the opposition pulled a goal back to make the half-time score 2-1. Crack scored Yarm's 3rd with an unbelievable strike from the right hand side of the circle but they couldn't quite shake the opposition as they got it back to 3-2 with 5 minutes to go. Fortunately, Crack completed his hat-trick 2 minutes later to confirm the Yarm win. The 2nd game



U18 National Champions 2022

brought Yarm up against Langley Park, one of the great hockey schools but the squad was very much up for it and achieved a solid 2-0 win with 2 penalty corner drag flicks from James Beck and a cameo 3 minutes from 2nd team captain Louis Robinson. The final game was a winner takes all against Wirral Grammar School who had also won both of their games. Crack continued his scoring streak with another fine finish whilst the outstanding Dan Walters executed a shot on the volley from the top of the circle- into the bottom corner. Wirral were not going to lie down and came back at Yarm in the 2nd half making the score 2-1 but the boys managed the rest of the game well to book a place in the final.

Under 16 Final

Yarm 3 v 2 Katherine Lady Berkeley

Wow - what a game this proved to be! We last played KLB at the National Indoor Finals in London in January and even though we drew 2-2 on that occasion, they went on to make the National Indoor Final. We therefore knew this was going to be tough.

Yarm started extremely well as within a minute, Oscar Thomas threw an ariel down the left hand side, this was picked up by Max Mowbray who helped it on to Ferguson, who deflected it into Max Jones, he then unleashed an unbelievable reverse hit into the top corner- 1-0 up within a minute. Two minutes later, Will Ferguson picked up a ball from Jones just inside the opposition half, he ran past 4 players before unleashing an unstoppable reverse hit into the top corner finishing the competition as top scorer with 9 goals. Another 5 minutes passed before Yarm got a short corner, the ball broke to injector Tom Graham who managed to find a gap to make the score 3-0.

KLB have some quality players one of which was an England International, we really struggled to contain him throughout the rest of the half and he managed to force a number of short corners, one of which was converted to make the half-time score 3-1. The plan at half-time was to put Max Jones on him Man for Man and try to take the sting out of the game, even though we conceded a goal, the boys managed the last 10 minutes extremely well with the outstanding Charlie Thompson and Theo Grylls at the back and the unending running of Jacob Rutter, Junior Newton,

Roman Andrews, Nathan Muzazwazi in midfield.

A few of the Yarm boys move on to pastures new next year but what a way to finish your hockey career at Yarm - all of the squad deserve a mention as they all genuinely contributed to this win.

The Squad: Ammar Soni, Max Dempsey, Theo Grylls, Tom Graham, Charlie Thompson, Oscar Thomas, Freddie Butler, Fergal Deane, Nathan Muzawazi, Max Jones, Junior Newton, Jacob Rutter, Roman Andrews, Max Mowbray, Jonny Carr, Will Ferguson, Timmy Foley

Under 18 Final

Yarm 1 v 0 Hitchin Boys

The Under 18 final was an equally tight affair as Hitchin had won all of their group games and were able to boast an U18 England International. However, Yarm have competed well in every game they have played throughout this season and this game was to prove no different.

It was a game of few chances and our defensive unit of Beck, Lochlain Lacy, Oliver Greenaway and Dan De La Motte were fantastic whilst Alex McGee looked assured with some solid saves and kicking on the few occasions he was called upon. The work by Tom Howard in midfield was so important as he broke down attack after attack.

The decisive moment came midway through the 2nd half as man of the match, Dan Walters, went on one of his trademark runs down the right hand side. He went past 4 or 5 players and cut into the right hand side of the circle before sending a low cross in front of the goal where George Kitson was waiting to slot home what proved to be the winning goal. The watching Under 16 players and a number of the crowd went wild with celebration which made Yarm move up even more through the gears.

The work rate on show was great to see as each and every player put in a shift to protect the lead and see the game out. What a great way for some of our leaving Upper Sixth players to finish their hockey playing career at Yarm as both squads rushed onto the pitch to celebrate at the final whistle! Again each and every squad member deserves a mention-

James Thomson, Matthew Heathcote, Josh Littler, Toby Simposn, James Beck, Oliver Greenaway, George Kitson, Will Ashforth, Tom Crack, Dan Walters, Alistair Cropp, Louis Robinson, Lochlain Lacy, Dan De La Motte, Alex McGee, Tom Howard

Finally, a big mention to the staff! A couple of the hockey staff were lucky enough to be there but these titles have been 5 and 7 years in the making and have been achieved through the hard work and dedication of our hockey coaches/teachers at Yarm including: Mr Alexander, Mr Skirving, Mr Glen and Mr Ferguson. A big thanks also for the tremendous support of Mr Newman and Lee O'Connor. A memorable day that will stick in the minds of all concerned!

Mr Ferguson



Left: U18 Captain James Beck can't hide his delight at the final whistle

Below: Toby Simpson and George Kitson celebrating George's decisive goal in the final.



Above: Roma Andrews celebrates with Will Ferguson after Will's goal in the final giving Yarm a 2-0 lead

Right: Toby Simpson competing hard in the final game



Left: U16 Captain taking the game to the opposition

Below: Jacob Rutter was outstanding throughout the tournament and is caught here thwarting another attack



Scarborough Block Hockey Results

1st XI - Yarm 7 v 2 Scarborough

2nd XI - Scarborough 2 v 1 Yarm

U15 - Yarm 9 v 1 Scarborough

U14 - Yarm 4 v 0 Scarborough

U13A - Scarborough 3 v 10 Yarm

U13B - Scarborough 1 v 2 Yarm

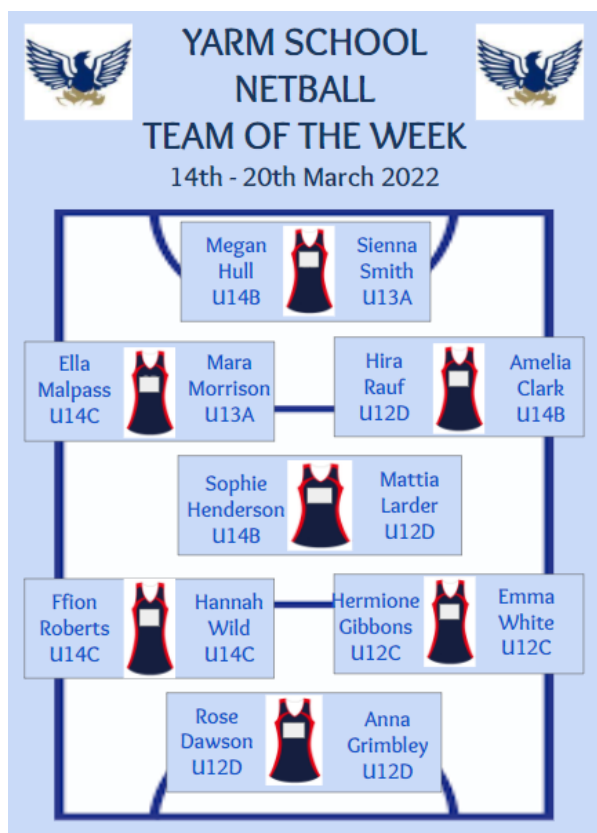
U12A - Scarborough 2 v 6 Yarm

U12B - Scarborough 1 v 0 Yarm

Netball Report

On Monday 14th March, the U14 Girls' B team played against Egglecliffe U14A team. Our team worked hard to mark the opposition and set up great centre passes, mirroring what we had practiced in training. Our GS and GA (Megan Hull and Lily Arvanitis) performed very well, creating a score of 17 goals for us, which came close to the 22 goals from the opposition. Well played to all the team.

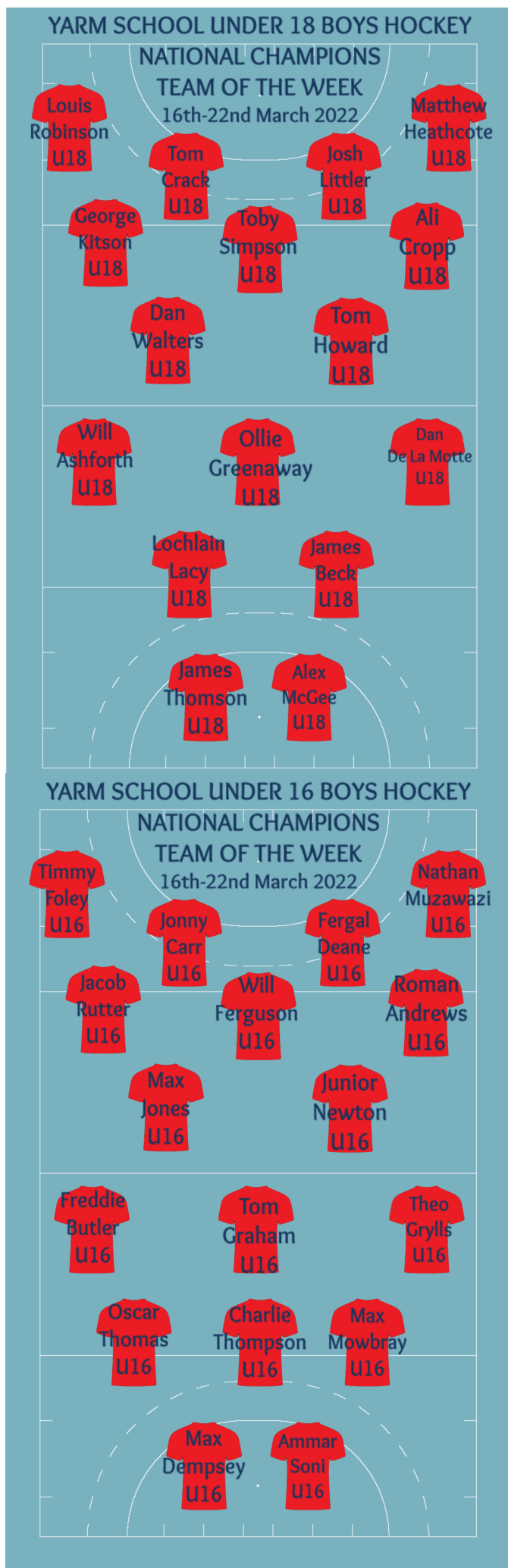
Sophie Henderson



Sport Weeks Ahead

The weeks ahead are now available online.

You can [view them here](#).



Tideway Adventures and a Deluge at Dorney

Whenever, a northern club travels south to compete, they are putting their head above the parapet to be shot down. They may be very successful in the northern region, but rowing on a strange river like the Tideway is totally different. It is very wide, tidal and because it is a 6km course some parts can be extremely rough, while others can be quite calm.

A week ago Yarm School's First 8 took part in the prestigious Women's Eights Head of the River Race (WEHRR) on the Thames, competing over the Boat Race course, but in reverse. The race attracts all the best women's eights in the country and for our girls it was great for them to see the Leander eight setting off first, and eventually winning, as well the re-formed Rio Olympic eight, which got the silver medal, but this time having the double Olympic gold medallist, Helen Glover aboard. Some of our girls aspire to this level of rowing and to be among this field was an inspiration.



There are over 300 crews competing in this event, so there is a lot of concentration needed at the start at Chiswick to keep the crew in its numbered order and as always, Annabel Cunningham coped with this very well.



Although conditions on the Thames were good at the start, once the crew went under Hammersmith Bridge, the waves took them by surprise and the girls found themselves in a vacuum, having to use their grit and determination to keep going over the last two kilometres. They did this very well and when the results came out, they finished a very good 87th overall.

However, after a day's rest, the crew were prepared to go again and competed in the Schools' Head, over the same 6km course on the Thames. This is an event for all school and club junior rowers and is organised by Westminster School. Weather conditions were ideal for rowing with the sun shining and a flat river.



Also competing in this event was a junior boys' eight, which included rowers from 16-18. Naturally both crews wanted to do well and had high hopes for their event.



Once the crews take to the water, there is nothing more the coaches can do and the crews are in the able hands of the coxes – Dani Devlin for the boys and Annabel Cunningham for the girls.



As the coaches made their way to Harrods Depository to watch the race, a phone call came through to say Oli Holmes had taken ill and had to be taken out of the boat. Fortunately, Mrs Guest was able to cycle to where he was

and look after him. However, this meant the boys' crew had to race with seven as there wasn't enough time to get someone to the start. This was disappointing for them and Oli but they were more concerned that Oli was ok and recovered. And they were pleased to they didn't finish last in their event.



Meanwhile the girls were continuing their impressive run of form, finishing third in their event and getting even closer to Henley RC who won the event as they had at WEHRR.

After a night back at Yarm, it was off to Dorney Lake, Eton College's rowing lake and the 2012 Olympic Course for the Oarsport Junior Sculling Head. 44 rowers, from Yarm, aged 14-17 competed in various events over the 3.6km course.



The first to race was the Junior 17 coxless quad. They hadn't been able to race at the Schools' Head, so were excited to be taking on the top southern crews. After one lap of the course, unfortunately Will Woodhead took ill, however, he managed to complete the second leg of the course and the crew finished 6th out of twenty crews, only half a second from being 5th, with Sir William Borlase School taking the win.

By now the rain was really coming down and was incredibly heavy all day, but with the enormity of the event, our crews were not bothered. They wanted to race 'down south' and pit themselves against southern crews. Our second race was the girls' Junior 15 octuple. Ably stroked by Libby Laverick, this crew took everything in their stride and finished 5th out of 22 crews, only 0.3 of a second behind 4th. This was a tremendous achievement in such a high class field. The boys' Junior 15 octuple kept up the great form the girls had, shown by finishing 7th out of 13 crews in their event. All the Junior 15 athletes who took part can be very proud of their achievements.

For our Junior 14 athletes, this was the furthest they had travelled to race and were extremely excited. Some schools start sculling much earlier than we do, but our athletes have showed grit and determination since September, showing up regularly for training sessions. And all this hard work is starting to pay off. The girls' Junior 14 octuple raced very well to finish 19th out of 36 crews.



The Junior 14 boys' octuple also sculled very well to finish 24th out of 43 and the boys' Junior 14 coxed quad put in a good performance finishing 35th out of 43 crews. For our younger athletes this was a tremendous experience and has enthused them to compete during the regatta season. All our athletes who took part over the three events can feel very proud as to what they have achieved, and the School can feel very proud of them.

As an aside, our former pupil, Hazel Wake (below left), was selected for the Oxford Lightweight eight that raced the Lightweight Boat Race on the Thames on Sunday. Although her crew were beaten by Cambridge, this is a wonderful achievement for Hazel and by extension, for Yarm School.



DON'T MISS - THIS WEEK!

Ben Hart - Wonder

Britain's Got Talent 2019 finalist, West End star and multi award-winning magician Ben Hart is embarking on his debut solo tour.

Expect his most mind-blowing and exciting magic in a show that shines a light on magic, life, the universe and the darkest corners of your imaginations. With the simplest of props, using the objects and minds of the audience, Ben Hart conjures an altogether new kind of magic.

Sunday 27th March 2022, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



COMING SOON

Ruby Turner

Soul, Gospel and R&B, Ruby Turner is truly the genuine article. Blessed with a voice that can breathe life and meaning into any song, whether it be a passionate ballad or a fast groove." The Guardian

Ruby Turner is one of the UK's greatest ever gospel and r&b singers. Anybody who has caught her singing with Jools Holland and his Rhythm and Blues Orchestra will have experienced the full force of her amazing soulful voice.

Thursday 7th April 2022, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

An Audience with Sir Steve Redgrave

Your host for the evening is Sky Sports presenter Pete Graves.

For the first time Steve will talk you through his remarkable career, the highs and lows of arguably the greatest Olympian athlete to have ever competed.

Steve is a 5 Times Olympic gold Medalist in five successive Games – Los Angeles, Seoul, Barcelona, Atlanta and Sydney, an achievement that in the words of the former IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch, "Raises Sir Steve Redgrave to the highest rank of Olympic participants."

Thursday 13th October 2022, 8:00pm

[Book Online Here](#)



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PHONE SCAMS

In a three-month period during 2021, no fewer than 45 million people in the UK experienced a suspicious attempt at being contacted via their mobile. Phone scams are a common form of cyber-attack where fraudsters engage directly with their intended victim through their smartphone. As our phones carry so many sensitive (and therefore potentially valuable) details about us, it's vital that trusted adults are alert to the tactics that scammers use to get access to user accounts, personal data and private information for financial gain.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SMISHING

SMS phishing, or 'smishing' is one of the most common forms of mobile-based cyber-attack. Smishing is when a scammer texts their target, pretending to be a reputable person or organisation. They aim to trick the victim into supplying sensitive data such as bank details and personal information, so that they can then access the target's bank accounts and remove money.

IMPERSONATION

Fraudsters often impersonate someone else to trick the victim into actually transferring money directly. They might claim, for example, to be a friend or relative using a different number who urgently needs funds. Other common cons include sending fake texts informing the target that they have a package which requires a fee to be delivered, or that they have an unpaid bill to settle.

NUMBER SPOOFING

Here, the scammer takes impersonation one step further by cloning the phone number of a genuine company. So when the target receives a call or text, their phone recognises the sender's number as legitimately belonging to Amazon, HMRC, the NHS or the DVLA (who have all been impersonated in these cons). This makes the scam far harder to spot and the victim much more inclined to comply.

FAKE TECH SUPPORT

Attackers contact a target, pretending to work for their employers' IT support team. They then advise them to download some software to fix 'a technical issue' with their device. In reality, however, the software grants the scammers access to the victim's private data and sensitive information. This con is more common on desktop and laptop devices, but is still possible to accomplish on mobiles.

SIM HIJACKING

SIM hijacking switches control of a phone account from the victim's SIM card to one in the scammers' possession. Criminals use personal details pieced together from social media (birthday, address, pet's name and so on) to pose as you, then instruct your phone network to transfer your number to their SIM - giving them access to all calls and texts meant for you, including one-time login passcodes.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DO SOME DIGGING

If you've received a call or text asking for specific information, research the caller's number. There are several websites that allow you to enter a phone number and will then display any relevant information about it - this usually includes feedback and comments from other people, so you can easily see if that particular number has been implicated in potential scams.

TRY A CALL BLOCKER

If a suspicious call comes through on your mobile, you can manually block the number if you believe it to be dubious or a nuisance caller. Alternatively, you could consider installing a call blocker service on your phone. They automatically stop calls getting through from numbers which have been reported as suspicious, halting potential scammers in their tracks before they can reach you.

VERIFY THE SOURCE

Never disclose confidential details to an individual or organisation you're unfamiliar with. If the caller claims to represent a company you trust but is still asking for personal information or payment on an outstanding charge, end the conversation. Then find the company's genuine number on a bill or on their website and call them directly to confirm if there really is an issue you need to address.

BREAK OUT THE TECH

Lots of anti-virus software now also protects mobiles. Some anti-virus apps can detect phishing links in text messages and alert you to the risk. When you're out and about, try not to use public WiFi for sensitive transactions: it's far less secure than your home WiFi network. Instead, you could consider installing a VPN (virtual private network), which encrypts all data travelling to and from your phone.

REPORT INCIDENTS

If you or a family member does give out confidential information to a caller you aren't sure about, contact the actual company mentioned to check if the call was genuine. If they confirm that the call was not made by their organisation, you should report it as a potential scam via the Action Fraud website and (depending on exactly what information was divulged) consider involving the police.

BE WARY OF LINKS

If you get a message from an unknown number asking you to click on a link, report it as spam and do not open the link. One recent example 'warned' victims they'd been exposed to the Omicron variant and needed to click a link to buy a special test - only to find they had paid their money to scammers. Links can also install malware onto your device, so always treat them with extreme caution.

Meet Our Expert

Formed in 2018, KryptoKloud provides cyber security and resilience solutions to its customers. With offices in the UK, the company offers managed service operational packages including cyber security monitoring and testing, risk audit, threat intelligence and incident response.



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#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.actionfraud.gov.uk/news-centre/2021/45-million-people-targeted-by-scams> | <https://www.profitblocker.com/blog/news/shocking-new-uk-fraud-statistics-fraud-scams-committed-every-15-seconds> | <https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-57111111>



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