

Newsletter



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Headmaster's Welcome

As the term draws to a close, it was a huge pleasure to be able to celebrate the pupils' achievements in our end of term assembly yesterday. It was also quite a challenge to fit it all in, given the extraordinary breadth of achievement, commitment and endeavour shown by our pupils in what has been a vibrant, busy and successful term. Many of the highlights have been reported week by week via the newsletter, but as well as congratulating those who have contributed to sport, music and drama and been involved in the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme and the CCF, we reflected on the ways in which pupils give back to the community via Phab club, Community Action Group, House Charity Week (which has been great fun this week) and in other ways.

We also celebrated success in national competitions such as the Biology Olympiad and the UKMT maths competitions, as well as a stunning second place nationally for Paddy in the Oxford University Computing Challenge! There can't be too many Heads who can present two national trophies in one assembly, but I was proud to do so for the boys U16 and U18 hockey teams, whilst also reminding everyone that Yarm was the only school in the country to have teams represented in all three age groups at the netball National Finals, and to reflect on the strength in depth that our sports teams demonstrate in netball and hockey, in particular. Do read this week's sports reports for more news.

I was blown away by the high standard of the music at last night's charity concert organised by Emily Carter in the Upper Sixth, supported by many of her friends. The camaraderie on show was wonderful to see, and the sheer fun that pupils were having whilst performing music together was a tremendous reminder of the power of working collaboratively in a supportive and nurturing environment. My thanks go to Mrs Staggs and all the staff involved, too, and to everyone who performed and entertained an appreciative and lucky audience.

I hope you enjoy reading this week's newsletter, packed - as ever - with fascinating reports of pupil exploits. I wish everyone a restful and happy Easter break, which is starting with unseasonably strange weather - as I write there is snow falling outside my office for the second day in a row!

Dr Huw Williams

Lower Sixth Geographers Investigate Yarm

Last week, both Lower Sixth Geography classes enjoyed sunny days out on Yarm High Street investigating if Yarm is a clone, border or home town. As part of our Changing Place topic, we learn about the transition from home towns; places with character, individuality and independent shops to clone towns; places that have become homogenised and generic due to globalisation and the influx of chain stores.

In pairs, we carried out a survey to classify the shops as either being independently owned or chain stores. In our survey, we recorded ratings of 40.6 and 43.4, which showed it was just over the boundary between a border and home town.

In conclusion, we were able to determine that Yarm is not a clone town; instead we found thriving local businesses and noted the Georgian architecture and cobbled streets make the High Street so distinctive and unique. We also identified a range of other urban fieldwork techniques which we could use to carry out further study of the area.

Poppy Newhouse, Lower Sixth



CLONE TOWN RATING											
5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	55	60
Clone Town					Border Town			Home Town			

Yarm Apprentice Teams Final Time in the Boardroom

Faced with a challenging and detailed brief, and due to encounter not one but two Lord Sugars, three Yarm Apprentice teams nervously entered the Boardroom this week.

Tasked with branding and pitching a brand-new shampoo to Mr Newman and Mr Alexander, Belle, Amy and Charlotte, Project Managed their hand picked teams.

Amy proposed "Barks Bubbles", a dog shampoo, and gave a very detailed pitch and showed a canine friendly promotion.



Charlotte offered "Formidable", a 2-in-1 shampoo for Men, with an interesting choice of advert.



Whilst Belle pitched for "Renewed" a mass market product, with an extremely detailed booklet, a slick pitch and a family friendly commercial.



After intense questioning, Belle's team were declared victorious and they celebrated with Chocolate Cookies and Orange Juice, whilst Amy's runners up enjoyed biscuits, however Charlotte was forced to bring two of her team

(Benji and Deacon) back into the Boardroom. It was a difficult decision for the Lord Sugars but, after much deliberation, Deacon was fired.

Bonus points on this task were awarded to the winning and runner-up PMs. Imy, Poppy and Charlotte were commended by our own "Karren and Tim" for their outstanding commitments, whilst peer points were allocated to Amy, Eizad and Charlotte who had all impressed their fellow Apprentices.

We are very grateful to both Mr Newman and Mr Alexander for devising such an effective task and being so superb as Lord Sugars.

With just one more session to go, the teams are very keen to hear who will be declared the 2022 Yarm Apprentice!

Miss C Rhodes

HPV Vaccinations - Second Year

The Immunisation Team will be in school on 5th May 2022 to deliver the HPV vaccinations to pupils in the Second Year.

The link below will take you to the online consent form which must be completed by Midnight on 24th April:

Visit this [LINK](#) and use school code 111769 to give your consent.

Alternatively, please call the immunisation team on 0300 003 2554 and consent can be taken over the phone.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs L Wheatley

Community Action Update

The Community Action group has had a very busy end of term, with pupils holding two final book sales, packing up books to be shipped to Books 2 Africa, and also preparing sunflower badges to be sold to aid the people of Ukraine (more to follow next term)! On Tuesday, we were also delighted to welcome back Mr Cliff Johnson who volunteers with the Yarm Wellness Centre, due to open its doors to the public on Saturday 9th April. The pupils enjoyed painting the watering cans which will be used in the centre's garden and look forward to volunteering at the centre when we return from the Easter break.

The Community Action Group



Hephaestus vs Aphrodite: The Best Ancient God

This term in Classics Club the "Battle of the Ancient Gods" took place, with fellow Olympians fighting to prove that they are the best ancient god. The past 10 weeks have been filled with challenging questions with a god having to present their answers to avoid being eliminated and thrown out of the balloon debate.

On Thursday 24th March the long awaited final took place. Coincidentally husband and wife; Hephaestus, god of blacksmiths & metal work and Aphrodite, goddess of love & beauty were up against each other in order to prove they were ultimately the best ancient god. The tension was further raised as practicality faced emotion.

Jenifer Chan representing Hephaestus went first to present her argument to why Hephaestus is the best god. The argument focused on three main areas: relationships, revenge and character to show Hephaestus' versatility making him a respected, admired and reliable god.

Some of the key elements of the argument were Hephaestus' helping nature creating various pieces of metal work for different gods and heroes such as the rattle that woke the Stymphalian birds for Herakles (or Hercules) and Hermes the messenger god's winged sandals (a key element of his iconography). He was also proven as thoughtful and creative especially with regards to his vengeful actions such as the trapping of his unfaithful wife and her lover Ares in a magic web in shame of their affair.

The judges posed the god of metalwork with daring questions starting with "What actually makes Hephaestus stand out?". Jenifer argued Hephaestus' creativity and passion about blacksmithing is what set him apart from the other gods. His importance to everyday living was also stressed as metal was and is such an important part of life.

This was countered with another question "Isn't metalwork important for a very small proportion of the ancient population and so Hephaestus doesn't get much respect?" Jenifer retorted with the fact that Hephaestus has a temple in Athens, the capital of Greece showing his importance and large following as well as the importance of metalwork even if you aren't a blacksmith. This concluded Hephaestus's argument.

Aphrodite was represented by Morven Hawthorne, Kitty Brown and James Waine presenting their ideas through a strong heartfelt speech conveying the importance of love in both the ancient and modern world.

Aphrodite was shown as a passionate and inspirational goddess with her attributes underlying everything. Her popularity in the modern world was also focused on showing her references even in pop culture such as music from Kylie Minogue. Her glorious win in the myth of the golden apple also proved her importance and how she represents her attributes even through her iconography of beautiful creatures such as swans and dolphins. Her argument was summarised with a quote from Virgil, "Love conquers all" giving an impactful ending.

Due to the universal nature of love, the group were faced with a range of ethical questions starting with "Why is love the most important?". Morven argued that love is omnipresent and the power of love is what leads to actions. Examples of ancient and modern wars were used such as the Trojan war caused by the love of Helen and Paris and even the Afghanistan war as a love for religion, country and identity. Battle of literature were also referenced as an expression of love.

The next question compiled multiple ideas questioning "Doesn't love cause more problems than solutions?" with references to Aphrodite's own affairs and wars being negative and problematic. The group were quick to suggest it is the weapons that Hephaestus makes that makes war dangerous and saddening and the love behind actions is pure and natural to protect what one loves.

After the difficult debate the judges were faced with balanced perspectives between either side, but after further consideration over the evidence supporting each side Hephaestus was crowned the best ancient god due to the content supporting his argument and his reputation as a trusted and anthropomorphic god. This concluded the Classics Club Battle of the Gods.

Simmi Sharma, Fifth Year

Former Pupil Returns To Share Career Experiences

This week the Economics and Business Department welcomed - over Google Meet - former pupil Naman Garg to talk about Graduate Training Schemes, Careers in Banking, his degree in Economics and studying at Oxford.

Naman attended Yarm until 2017 and then graduated from Oxford in 2020 having studied Economics and Management. Now in the second year of a finance graduate scheme at Barclays he is currently working in the back office trading and studying towards his CIMA chartered accountancy qualification.

Naman willingly shared his knowledge and experiences, from advice on how to secure an A* at A Level, to the benefits of studying at Oxford, to how to land a place on a fiercely competitive Grad Training Scheme and what the work-life balance is really like in the banking sector.

It was lovely to hear of Naman's successes and we are very grateful to him for taking time out of his working day to continue to support the department. We hope to welcome Naman back in person, in the not too distant future!

Miss C Rhodes



Lake District Mountain Bike Adventure

Over a very warm weekend last weekend, five pupils joined Mr Mathers and Mr Yates for a weekend of mountain biking in the Grizedale Forest area of the English Lake District.

From our comfortable bunkhouse in Hawkshead, the group cycled out on Saturday morning to complete a circuit of Claife Heights. After a long and steady climb up into the forest, we wound our way through a number of fallen trees (courtesy of last year's storms) to the top of our first descent of the weekend. A long and not too technical descent brought us back into Hawkshead where we tackled the steepest climb of the weekend into the top of Grizedale Forest (the group loved it so much we would ride up the same climb again on Sunday!).

Grizedale Forest really is an awesome playground for off-road riding and we descended trails such as the River Bed, Grandad, Dad & the Dentist, the Fox, Red Mist and Hole in the Wall during Saturday afternoon and Sunday, stopping for the occasional ice cream along the way. All these are natural bridleways, but would be graded red at a trail centre, and were achievable by the pupils who had some previous mountain bike experience with some coaching from the staff.

All in all a very successful weekend away, in a great location, with awesome weather. My thanks to Mr Yates for helping out with the leading over the weekend.

Mr A Mathers



Uniform Shop Holiday Opening Hours

Tues 5th / Wed 6th Apr: 12 noon - 4pm

Tues 12th / Thurs 14th Apr: 12 noon - 4pm

Tues 19th / Thurs 21st Apr: 12 noon - 4pm

Politics Book Review

Remaking One Nation: The Future of Conservatism by Nick Timothy

Nick Timothy isn't a household political name in the UK, however there are very few unelected people who have had more influence over British politics than Nick. Having worked for the Conservative Party for a number of years, Timothy gained prominence as co-chief of staff to Theresa May, and ultimately being partially responsible for her disastrous 2017 manifesto and campaign - making it somewhat ironic that his book is a recommendation for the future of the Conservative Party and Conservative thinking.

The book opens with Timothy briefly discussing his time working for the former Prime Minister, and the highs (such as Theresa May's initial popularity) to the lows of the 2017 election campaign. Timothy also draws on the relationship between May and her ministers, offering an insight into this area which would be useful for anyone studying or considering studying politics as the relationship between PM and their cabinet is a part of the course. The chapter then goes on to discuss where the 2017 election campaign went wrong for the Conservative Party - with Timothy placing blame on the infamous 'dementia tax.' The introduction then concludes with Timothy explaining why he is a Conservative, and in short sums up his issues with liberalism which he goes on to discuss in the preceding paragraphs.

The first chapter 'The Tyranny of the Minority' draws upon Timothy's perceived failures of liberalism as an ideology. To do this, Timothy separates liberalism into two types - 'essential liberalism' which is liberalism that is necessary to set out and protect civil liberties and defend concepts such as the rule of law, and 'ultra-liberalism.' It is ultra-liberalism that Timothy argues is the main issue with British and Western politics, as it places too much of an emphasis on the individual both socially through the cultural liberalism associated with more left wing politics and the free market liberal economics embraced by many on the political right and so removes a sense of community that Timothy goes on to state is important for the success of any society. Timothy continues to argue that this form of 'ultra-liberalism' is widespread in British politics and British institutions and this unquestioned acceptance and prevalence of liberalism is the cause of many societal issues. To do this Timothy uses quotes from a small selection of civil servants, as well as referencing a 2007 report that found 'some sort of liberal consensus existed at the BBC.' These attempts to evidence the widespread nature of Timothy's so called 'ultra-liberalism' are fairly weak and so fail to demonstrate a visible flaw in society's establishment.

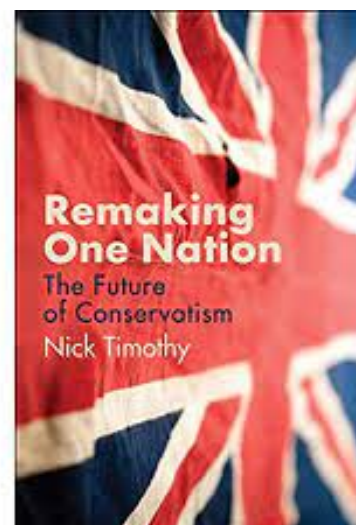
The middle two chapters of the book offer nothing more than increasing the word count. In these two chapters Timothy points out issues with society, for instance the loss of manufacturing in the west, stagnating wage increases and

unaffordable housing, and he offers reasons for these problems, ranging from globalisation and the outsourcing of production to East Asia to low productivity levels in the UK and a lack of investment Research and Development outside the South East. However for the almost 100 pages of the book that these two chapters occupy, he offers relatively few points in total and fails to mention a single solution to the issues he raises. Whilst it is true that Timothy goes on to discuss the potential solutions to the issues raised in the final two chapters, these two chapters create a fairly negative feel and the reader could probably fully appreciate the arguments Timothy creates in the final two chapters if they were to skip these middle two out.

The final two chapters of the book address the new form of conservatism Timothy seeks to set out. Timothy successfully uses the negative tone of the previous two paragraphs to enhance the positive feel of the final two. Timothy argues that as a society we need to move away from the individualism of liberalism - and that conservatism should set out a way of successfully balancing the necessity for a capitalist economy whilst maintaining the sense of community necessary to create an efficient, productive society. The final chapter of the book - sharing a name with the book's title - explains how to make the ideas presented by Timothy into realistic policy. In doing so he sets out some ideas that would not usually be associated with conservative thinking such as making divorce easier, protecting minority rights and wealth taxes. He also argues that improved connectivity between Britain's regions and decentralisation is necessary to tackle inequality in the country. These are just a handful of many suggestions set out by Timothy, however the 30+ pages devoted to fixes to British society should act as a brief summary of how extensive this list is.

On the whole, whilst there are some dull points in the book - namely the second and third chapters - the rest of the book offers some fairly interesting reading. The first chapter's brief summary on life in politics should prove interesting to anyone looking at the subject, and the final two paragraphs offer a new, thought provoking angle into Conservative thinking, making the book worth reading to anyone - Conservative or not - even if you do skip the second and third chapters!

Will Craggs, Lower Sixth



Duke of Edinburgh's Award News March 2022

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is an excellent vehicle to gain personal evidence for some of the character building skills which set individuals up for bright futures:

Commitment, self-motivation and a wide diversity of hobbies has been reflected in more success at Bronze level and many are completing sections of their Gold Awards in the upper years of school.

In amongst other sections to complete their Bronze Awards, Kayla Roberts volunteered at a mass coronavirus testing centre; Natasha Cunningham devoted many hours to assisting Prep School children with after school care clubs; Adityan Dinakaran perfected his badminton skills; Rushil Partha improved his own cricket skills and also developed coaching skills for different sections; Beth Newson kept the Outdoor Ed staff replenished with wonderful baking delights and Sara Banerjee helped a child in India to improve their English Language capabilities through online lessons.

Bronze Certificates for:

Kayla Roberts
Natasha Cunningham
Adityan Diniakaran
Rushil Partha
Beth Newson
Sara Banerjee
Miriam Akowuah
Kyra Hyndman
Izzie Speight

Most recent accomplishments at Bronze level go to Kyra Hyndman who has been a very effective charity fundraiser; Miriam Akowuah whose devotion for animal welfare enabled her to raise lambs during the first lockdown, and Izzie Speight who has made tremendous progress with flute lessons.

All of the aforementioned pupils were fantastic contributors to the team effort of navigating their way across the North York Moors last term. Top tip - go the correct way out of the gate first thing in the morning!

We anticipate 30 more pupils to be completing their Bronze expeditions at the end of the Easter break.

Meanwhile, the Gold participants are going further and higher with practise expeditions in the Lake District next week. Praise and respect is due to another adventurous team of Sixth Form students who will navigate from one side of Scotland to the other via the Great Glen, camping on the side of Loch Ness next week too.

Many of our Gold participants have completed their Residential sections in recent months which shows commitment and perseverance, putting themselves in unfamiliar territory.

Toby Simpson has attended a multiple outdoor activity

camp in Kielder; Lilian Dufton has completed an architecture course, Dominic Green has been training with orienteering athletes for potential international competitions and Emily Dunn has developed further winter sports skills at a base camp in the Cairngorms. Just to take note, many of our motivated Fifth Year pupils already have plans to make effective use of their summer holiday to maximise their DofE experiences.

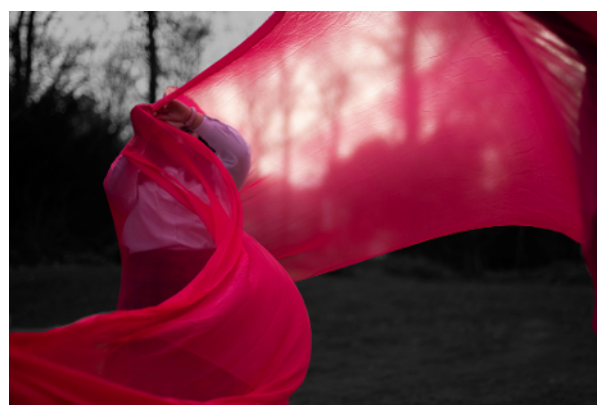
The whole DofE experience and successful completion results in a formal award ceremony. We have just received notification that 21 former pupils, (along with Mr Rye as a Special Representative due to his many years of DofE service, and Mrs Guest as DofE Manager) are to attend a Garden Party at Buckingham palace early next term. Good luck to all participants at every level - including the 99 Third Years who have enrolled this term too!

Mrs J Guest

Photography Club

We used movement, texture and light to create these beautiful photos, then played with Photoshop to turn them into amazing abstract pieces. Well done Simmi, Sophie, Monisha and Charlotte!

Jessica Jenyns, Visiting Artist



Inter-House Debate Final

Last week, a group of our most ambitious Sixth Form and Fifth Year debaters from Cuthbert and Oswald took part in the inter-House debate finals. The motion for Friday's debate was: This house believes that the right to security outweighs the right to privacy, with the Oswald team (consisting of Ollie, Ananya S and James in the Fifth Year) as the proposition, and Cuthbert (Cordelia, Emily D and Will C) to oppose and myself as the chair.

Ollie began his speech for the proposition with a definition of what security really means in our current society, going on to highlight that the recent COVID track and trace scheme was one that valued security over privacy, saving thousands of lives in the process. Cordelia, as the first speaker for the opposition, began with a short rebuttal, emphasising that their view is not to diminish the importance of security, rather to prove that it is not more important than privacy. She continued to mention that the concepts of Privacy and Security are inherently linked, stating that in many cases by giving up our privacy, our security goes with it.

In a passionate second speech, Ananya began with a poll, highlighting the number of students who share information online and the extent to which that affects our security without us realising it. She urged us to think of a world with no protection from danger and the consequences that would lead to, stating that by participating and living in our society we all subconsciously place security above privacy everyday. Following this, Emily began her speech with a moving reminder of the incidents relating to Caroline Flack, suggesting that it was a loss of privacy that cost her her life, whilst making close reference to the Human Rights Act and finally ending her speech with an image from George Orwell's 1984 to further emphasise the risks of giving up our privacy.

James, in his speech, emphasised that our fears about the loss of privacy stem from the idea that we feel less secure without it, before going on to conclude his speech. Our last speaker, Will, began with his rebuttal, discussing the real world examples of government infringements on people's private lives, he continued to strengthen his arguments using examples, specifically in relation to the disproportionate statistics regarding Stop and Search with race and religion.

After having concluded all six speeches, the judging panel (Dr Williams, Mrs Kingsbury and Noah Bickenson) posed three different questions to both sides, all of which were answered with great care and articulation. Whilst the judges excused themselves to make their decision Emily C attempted to determine the audience's opinions on who deserved to win. But the wait was soon over; the judges returned with many comments on the excellent quality of the speeches, but ultimately deciding that the winners of this year's inter-House debate were... Cuthbert House!

Jodie Hegab, Lower Sixth

DT PRODUCT & FASHION SHOW

Tuesday 26th April

Princess Alexandra Auditorium

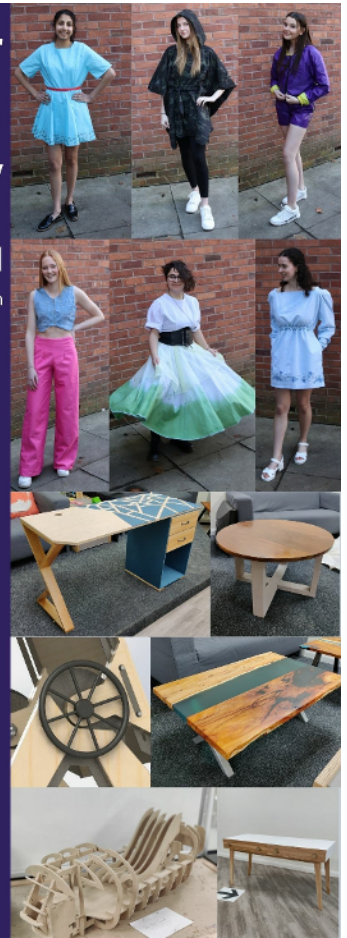
Products on show in the Atrium from 4:30pm

- GCSE and A-Level DT Work

Fashion Show in the PAA at 6pm featuring:

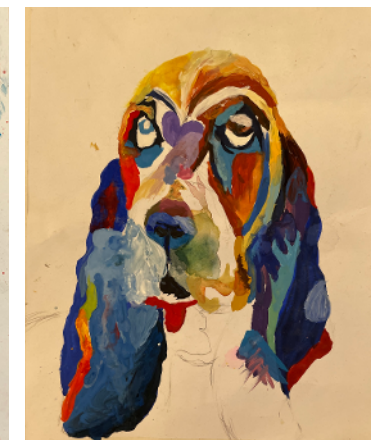
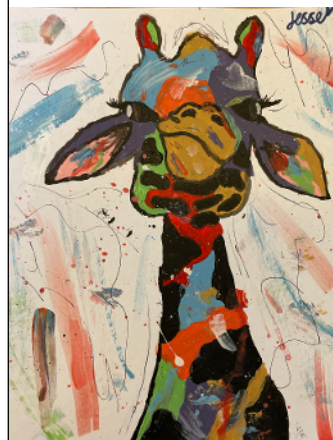
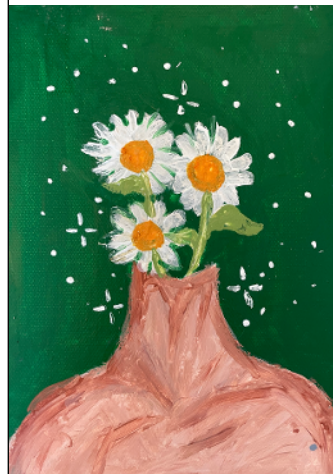
- Prep and Senior School Eco-Fashion Dancers,
- Eco-Fashion Competition Contestants,
- GCSE and A-Level Textiles Work

See Mr Spence or Mrs Jackson for further details.



Artists' Corner

Thank you so much to talented First Year pupil Jesse Bissett Brown who has shared her wonderful colourful work! Well done!



CCF Field Day: Exercise Spring Phoenix 2022

The CCF has spent the majority of this term preparing for their deployment on Exercise Spring Phoenix to Catterick Training Area last week. Monday night training has focused on weapon handling, navigation skills, radio voice procedure, first aid and basic fieldcraft.

On Thursday 24th March 29 cadets and four staff deployed from the School to the Feldom area of Catterick, on the Yorkshire Dales. Luckily Mr Mist had ordered amazing weather! We arrived and immediately set about building a platoon harbour area to live in and administrate ourselves for the duration of the exercise.

On the first night our mission was to go out in our three sections on 8 person reconnaissance patrols, to try and find any likely enemy positions in the local area. Moving out through the undergrowth and over walls was hard going. Before long we located a suspected enemy position in the dark. We had to stay hidden as they were searching for us and shooting where they thought we were! We carefully observed them in the darkness before patrolling back to our harbour area. Once there as a section we wrote a patrol report where we gave as much information as we could about the enemy including their location, weapons, rules of engagement equipment and routine. We suspected judging by the accents that Lieutenant Spence and Miss Breslin may well be in cahoots with the enemy!

The next morning we did rehearsals on how to fire and manoeuvre as a section. We practised working in pairs and then fire teams, following the principle that no one moves until some else is firing to provide cover. Captain Taylor then gave the platoon a briefing, we were to work in our three sections. Gold Section was to patrol forward and find the enemy before suppressing them, Ypres Section was to use Crimea's fire support to capture the first position before Crimea Section then followed up the attack on subsequent enemy positions.

After a swift lunch H-Hour was set for 1200 hours. Gold Section led by Sergeant Tarrun Sandhu patrolled forward and before long made contact with a small enemy position. They then laid down suppressing fire. At this point the Section Commander of Ypres Section, Warrant Officer Sophie Brining, took a moment to formulate her plan before launching a rapid advance and attack on the first position. Following the Section reorg on the position, Ypres then had fire from an in depth enemy position. Crimea Section led by Sgt Johnson then echeloned through and took that position before Gold took the final enemy location. A superb demonstration of a platoon attack!

Over the course of the two days all cadets acquitted themselves really well, there were excellent demonstrations of leadership, teamwork and determination. Well done to all cadets and staff involved for their hard work on Field Day and this term. We will be asking current members of the Second Year in the Summer Term if they would like to join us for a familiarisation session on a Monday afternoon to see what CCF is all about.



Contingent end of Exercise Photo



Our leaving Upper Sixth Cadet's last field day



Miss Breslin's squad



Providing fire support

Yarm hosts first ever Medical Careers Activity Day!

On Saturday we hosted a Medical Careers Activity Day designed for all of those pupils who are interested in exploring careers within the Medical Profession. Almost fifty pupils from the Fourth Year, Fifth Year and Lower Sixth participated in this day-long event. For some of the older pupils it was an opportunity to build on and extend their experiences given the restrictions imposed by the pandemic. For the younger pupils it was perhaps a first insight into their exploration of potential career routes.

The day consisted of sessions led by a team of outside providers accompanied by a group of current medical students. The sessions included Medical Ethics exploring a range of real life scenarios that the pupils would have to deliberate and decide over, and a diagnostics session where they would need to gather information that could facilitate an accurate diagnosis. This session also involved the pupils handling and learning the use of a range of pieces of medical equipment to test pulse, heart rate, oxygen levels and the like. There was a session focused around Anatomy and Physiology and an additional session on Emergency Medical Assistance, during which pupils practised and developed their techniques working with resuscitation equipment.

A final session of the day gave a presentation from two current medical students providing their best advice for applicants. It explored a whole host of questions concerning applications, admissions tests, how to prepare, how to secure work experience and how to best present yourself in an application. This was then followed by a session with two qualified doctors, Dr Gerry Danjoux, working in anaesthesia and associated with South Tees Hospitals, as well as consultant neonatologist, Jonathan Wyllie, working out of James Cook University Hospital. They discussed their own work including their work in research. They offered their advice and guidance as well as fielding a whole host of questions submitted from the pupils. This session would have been worth the day's investment in itself, given the depth and range of advice and guidance offered. Additionally pupils were also able to make connections with current medical students, some of whom offered to remain in contact with the school in order to offer further guidance and assistance.

'It was interesting to learn about how technology can be used in neuroscience, in particular when watching the video about how one person's mind can control another person's hand'

'I loved the hands-on nature of the day; we were learning theory and practice, and very much developing our understanding, awareness and skills.'

'We got to understand a lot more in detail about how people around us can help in an emergency situations, learning about how CPR and recovery position can be delivered with minimal medical training'

'I really enjoyed learning about life from the perspective of a doctor'

'The day has provided really valuable insight into the

challenges as well as the rewards of working as a medical profession.'

I was delighted with the progress of the day, with the pupil's engagement and enthusiasm, and their willingness to devote a beautiful sunny weekend day learning about and better equipping themselves for their future careers. The day was packed with a diverse range of activities, as well as opportunities for reflection. It is very much hoped that this event can become a regular part of the programme of offerings for pupils interested in these career routes.

Mr S Edwards



RPE Department Fourth and Fifth Year Essay Challenge: Is Belief in God Irrational?

A "Belief in God is irrational". This is an argument that has been discussed by philosophers and scientists throughout history. Personally, I don't believe in the existence of God but not necessarily that a belief in God is irrational.

There are many arguments that prove or disprove the existence of God. A particularly well known argument is the design argument presented by medieval Christian thinkers such as St Thomas Aquinas, developed by writers like William Paley and scientists such as Isaac Newton. The basis of the argument is that our world and universe is infinitely complex and could not have just come into existence on its own. Playley's watch analogy relates the world - a complex design - to a watch. Just like a watch, he argues the earth could only come into existence if it was designed by a designer - God.

Newton develops this argument with his thumb analogy, explaining the individuality of everyone's unique thumb print points to a designer instead of random chance. It is also supported by Fredrick Tennnat and his Goldilocks paradigm which states that the conditions for the formation of human life were so specific and so perfect, they could not have happened by chance so there must be a God.

Despite all this plausible evidence, the argument was heavily criticised by David Hume in his dialogues concerning natural religion. He argues that the design argument is built upon a faulty analogy as, unlike with man-made objects, we have not witnessed the design of a universe, so do not know whether the universe was the result of design.

The argument for science is also a main criticism of the design argument. Importantly, the design argument is contradicted by Dariwin's theory of evolution. This is because Darwin had convincing evidence for his theory that humans came to be, through evolution and natural selection. He described these famously in his book "On the Origins of Species". Richard Dawkins also argues against religion saying it is almost an "easy way out". He once said "I am against religion as it teaches us to be satisfied with not understanding the world". I believe that these arguments are a lot more convincing mainly because they are supported by more feasible evidence. One can now see why criticisms of this argument may prove that a belief in God is irrational.

Another key argument that may aid this view is J.L Mackie's Inconsistent triad. It shows that if God is omnipotent and omnibenevolent then evil can't exist. However evil does exist in the world and therefore God doesn't exist. This is related to the problem of evil presented by Greek philosopher Epicurus who also argues that the existence of God is incompatible with the existence of evil. We know that evil exists in the world and Christians may argue that this is a result of original sin, brought about by Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. However, I think this is only an argument for moral evil - the willful acts done by human

beings. On the other hand, there is no explanation for natural evil such as cancer, natural disasters and birth defects. Therefore, how can an all loving and all powerful God exist while allowing this evil to exist?

These arguments certainly prove that a belief in God is irrational, and although I personally am in favour of them and believe that God does not exist, I don't consider a belief in God to be irrational. Religion and God give people hope and comfort - God is someone to turn to in trying times and the church can provide a supportive community for many people. It is hard to discredit a religion that has over two billion followers and one that has survived for over two thousand years. Furthermore the actions of Christians and Christian charities can have tremendous positive outcomes for society. For example Christian Aid respond to humanitarian emergencies and CAFOD reaches out to people in poverty whatever the religion or culture. Surely this shows that a belief in God isn't irrational...

To be sure, religion is often dangerously misused and politicised. For example there are a lot of homophobic attitudes and negative views towards abortion in Christianity, especially in the Catholic church. This can lead to homophobia, discrimination and a poor effect on women's lives. However, I think in those circumstances people forget or reject God's primary commands written in Matthew 22:37-39: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself'."

So, to conclude, despite not personally believing in God, I don't think a belief in God is irrational because of the vast amount of positive effects that God and religion have on millions of people.

Miriam Akowuah, Fifth Year



Yarm School's Artist in Residence presents
**"THE YARM SCHOOL
ENVIRONMENTAL SCULPTURE
EXTRAVAGANZA!"**

...and we want
EVERYONE
to be involved!

Miss Jenyns is very excited to
be collaborating with
Tees Valley Wildlife Trust
for this amazing Project too.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

We need you to gather materials and trash
from home over Easter to bring in next term!

Items such as:

- Old/torn, colourful clothing
- Broken, plastic toys
- Broken/scratched CDs
- Disused cables/wires
- Plastic bags
- Broken jewellery
- Broken/old kitchen utensils
- Old rope...

The list is endless!



Please bring in your trash after Easter in Week 2 and place
in the marked containers in the DT Department.
We will begin building the sculptures during Activities on
Tuesdays and Thursdays in the DT Workshops.

Boys Hockey: Wow - What A Season!

It has been an amazing season for boys' hockey at Yarm- we have played 107 matches with a win % of 87 and have scored 564 goals conceding only 109- check out the table below to view the final team by team statistics...

Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	For	Against
U18	15	14	0	1	67	23
U18	10	7	0	3	42	9
U16s	9	9	0	0	56	9
U15	17	15	0	2	99	19
U14A	14	13	0	1	74	3
U14B	3	1	0	2	8	3
U13A	16	15	0	1	112	18
U13B	8	7	0	1	38	7
U12A	8	6	1	1	33	14
U12B	7	6	1	0	38	4
Total	107	93	2	12	564	109

The teams have travelled all over the country from Edinburgh to London to Birmingham to Manchester with many impressive performances throughout- a big thanks to all the boys who have committed to training and huge appreciation to all the teaching staff who have given up their time to make the hockey season work.

We have definitely got two exciting events to look forward to as the Under 14s travel to London (Olympic Park) straight after Easter to compete at the National Finals and the Under 13 team still have their regional final to play and hopefully book a slot at their National Finals.



Under 12 Hockey Squad



Under 13 Hockey Squad



Under 14 & 15 Hockey Squad

Under 12s take on Cundall Manor

Under 12A

Cundall Manor 9 - 6 Yarm

On Friday we played against a strong side in Cundall Manor. We started off very slowly and conceded 4 goals in the first 5 minutes by sloppy defending from the entire team. After this sloppy start we started to wake up as we hit back 2 as well as conceding 2 from a short corner. However we started to play hockey from the second half and scored 4, including an amazing reverse hit from Ollie Dunkin which nearly put us back on level terms at once. Although they were strong, they also scored 3 as the match ended 9-6 to Cundall.

Atsushi Yamaguchi, First Year

Under 12B

Cundall Manor 9 - 0 Yarm

On Friday 25th March, the Yarm B team travelled to Cundall Manor. There was some good play from both teams, everybody had a good game with barely anyone losing possession. Freddie Hercock made some good passes and skills on the wings scoring 2 goals. Some tenacious tackling from Seb Jafri won us the ball back a number of times, with some of the play resulting in goals. Harry Routledge, who scored 2 goals, operated in the midfield, threading some great balls through to the wings and progressing to the edge of the D. Some great defensive work from JJ Jenney, George Waite and Harry Brothwood, allowed us to win possession high up the pitch and let us put more pressure on them. Marshall Paige did some great skills and scored twice. Nikhil Shouri and Noah Coulman played on the wings, putting through some dangerous balls. Overall, a great team performance that the B's should be very proud of!

JJ Jenney, First Year

Final Block of the Season v Pocklington

Under 12A

Yarm 7 - 0 Pocklington

On Saturday we played Pocklington in a hockey game. We were off to a good start passing the ball around well and then finding space to run with the ball. After five minutes we snatched an early goal by Oscar Lowes. But after the first goal Pocklington switched on and were attacking very well but couldn't score. After the first half we were 3-0 up and the boys held their heads high. The second half was very good as we pressed them down making them cause mistakes giving us an even bigger lead. Oliver Mansfield kept a clean sheet with some great saves. The game ended with Yarm beating Pocklington 7-0. Over all a very good win for the lads.

Oliver Mansfield, First Year

Under 12B

Yarm 4 - 2 Pocklington

It was a boiling day and I woke up excited and ready for our hockey fixture against Pocklington. I arrived early in the morning and we took our warm up led by Alfie Arnold and the coaches. We were all sent into our positions and I was up front, the game was under way. Straight away we were under pressure from a well worked Pocklington attack but we managed to hold it off from a good tackle by JJ Jenney and we were on the offence, some good team play led me to shoot and was scurried in on the line by Marshall Page and just like that we were 1-0 up. It was pretty even for the majority of the 1st half until on the stroke of half time, Harry Routledge hammered in a great goal to give us a two goal advantage.

The second half was under way and we were melting but a good pass to the other end of the goal sent Seb Jaffries on a superb run which made it three. At this point, Pocklington were given a player advantage. Luckily, I tracked a loose ball to make it 4-0 to Yarm. Some good work by Pocklington gave them a glimmer of hope and also I was swapped to Left wing to help defend more which worked and Yarm finished the season on a high with a 4-2 victory over Pocklington.

Noah Coulman, First Year

Other Pocklington Results

1st XI - Pocklington 1 v 7 Yarm

2nd XI - Pocklington 0 v 4 Yarm

U15 - Pocklington 0 v 6 Yarm

U14 - Pocklington 0 v 7 Yarm

U13A - Yarm 6 v 4 Pocklington

U13B - Yarm 5 v 0 Pocklington



Performance Hockey Success this Season

We are incredibly proud of our Hockey players representing Yarm School at all levels! This photo includes our England player, North of England players, Performance Centre Players and Durham County Players (Purple Shirts)!



Boys' Teams of the Season!

YARM SCHOOL BOYS HOCKEY TEAM OF THE SEASON

2021 TO 2022



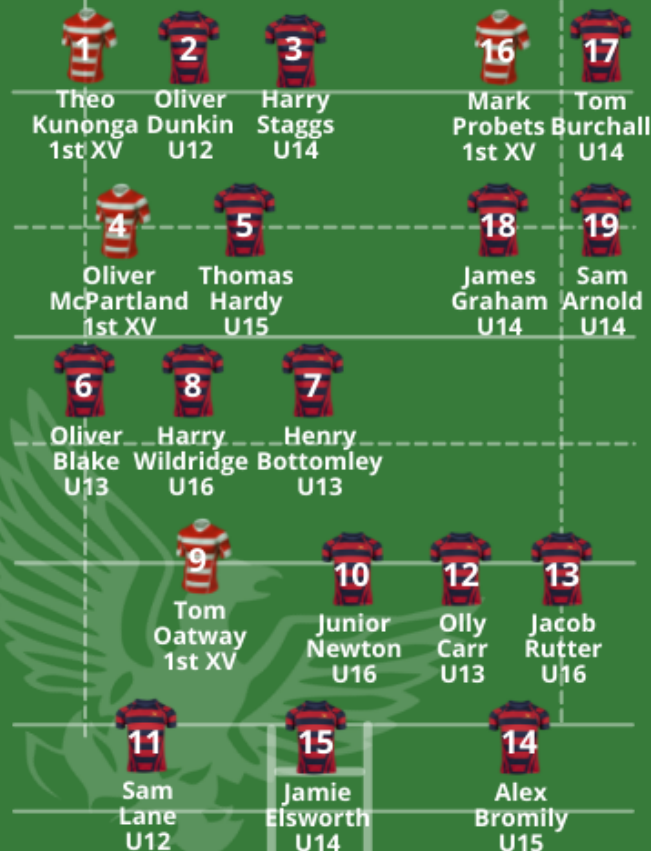
YARM SCHOOL BOYS HOCKEY MOST IMPROVED TEAM OF THE SEASON

2021 TO 2022



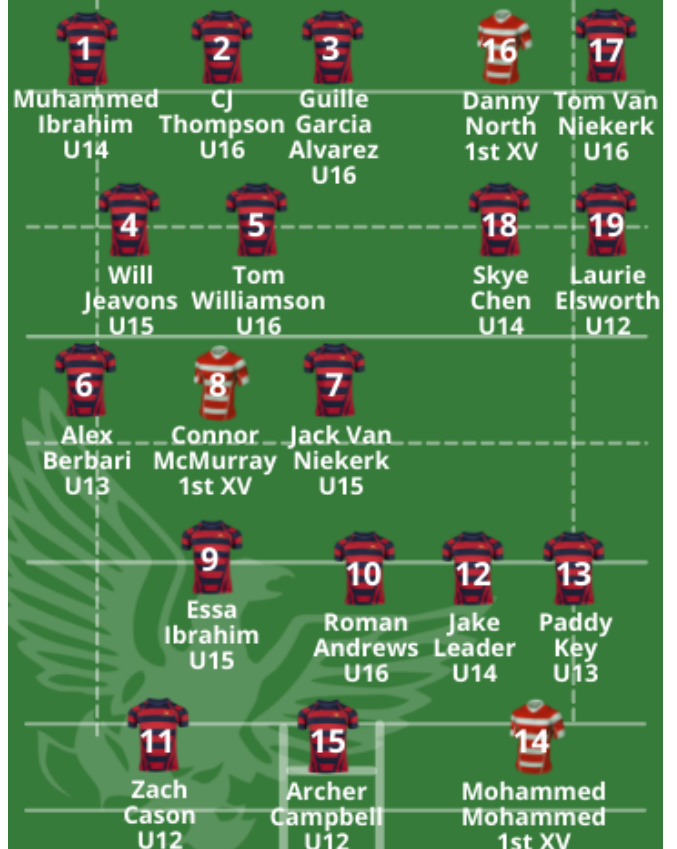
YARM SCHOOL RUGBY TEAM OF THE SEASON

2021/22



YARM SCHOOL RUGBY MOST IMPROVED TEAM OF THE SEASON

2021/22



Rosslyn Park National Schools 7s

The spring term has been the most successful rugby 7's term in our school history; both in terms of success and silverware but also the quality of 7s played across the age groups and the commitment shown to training and playing.

The season culminated in the amazing Rosslyn Park National Schools sevens tournament, where our U13/U14/U16 teams produced some exemplary performances and all teams were competing at the same level of play as some of the biggest and known schools in the country; Ivybridge, Oundle, Stowe, St Ambrose, to name a few.

The biggest school rugby tournament in the world is attended by 800 schools across the week of tournaments and the whole event was enjoyed by all our players; from on the pitch action to all the varied experiences off it.

The standard of play from all Yarm teams was great to see; good ball movement in attack, hard work in support, always looking to score and a desire to reconnect and win the ball back in defence. The tournament is always extremely well supported and this year was no different and huge credit to the three teams that parents and other schools commented on our fine 7's play and the manner in which boys conducted themselves in that tournament; which was amazing.



Junior Inter-Regional Trials Success

Recently the boat club raced at Junior Inter-Regional Trials (J14 - J16) with the intention of being selected to represent the Yorkshire Region at the main regatta, which will be held in Nottingham 23rd April.

We're pleased to say that Yarm School has qualified over 12 crews that makes up over 48% of the Yorkshire Team which will compete at the regatta! These results reflect the strength and depth the boat club has to offer.

Well done to all of you!



Football at Barnard Castle

On Wednesday, the football team travelled to Barnard Castle in high spirits with 3 Lions blasting out the bus as we arrived at our destination. Following the disastrous realisation that our centre-back, Louis Robinson had left his boots back at school we were ready for our second challenge, playing the actual game. The lads came out of the blocks flying with Matty Maloy bagging the first of Yarm's three goals, some critics would call it an own goal but they all count the same. The first 20 minutes proved to be all Yarm and eventually resulted in a wonderful piece of tiki-taca football on the edge of the Barnard Castle box, with Callum Weidman slotting the ball into the top left effortlessly. With Yarm 2-0 up the game seemed almost finished however due to a lack of communication at the back on two occasions in the last minutes of the first half the score was tied at 2-2, despite Yarm's many attempts including an audacious Pavard-esque attempt from Henri Butler. The second half proved to offer the same story, Yarm dominated play creating chance after chance but struggling to find the back of the net. Eventually the skipper, Tom Howard was able to break the deadlock, Owen Reed whipped in a tasty cross from a corner on the left-hand side and was turned in by a not so acrobatic overhead kick from the captain. However, once again despite dominating play, we were unable to convert our chances which undid our hard work. Whilst the end score was not what we had hoped it was clear it did not represent the game, and what was evident by the end was a desire to play more games. On the journey back the lads unanimously voted for Ollie Best as our man of the match following an excellent performance in defence, regularly regaining possession and then finding the right pass. I'd just like to say how impressed I was with all the lads who played in the match, with every single person giving 100% for the phoenix. UTY

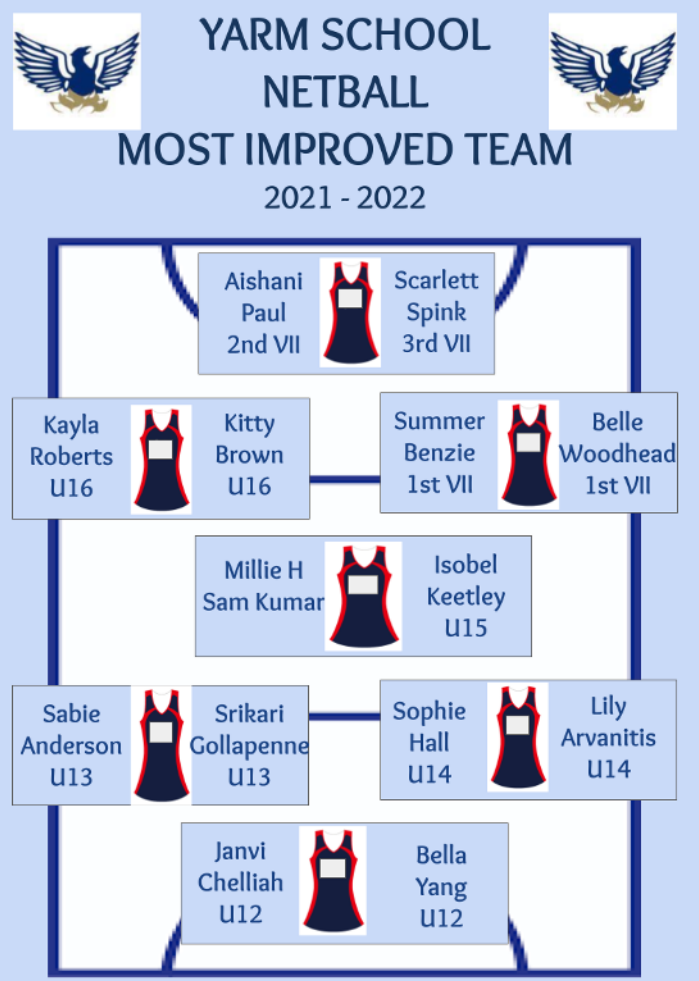
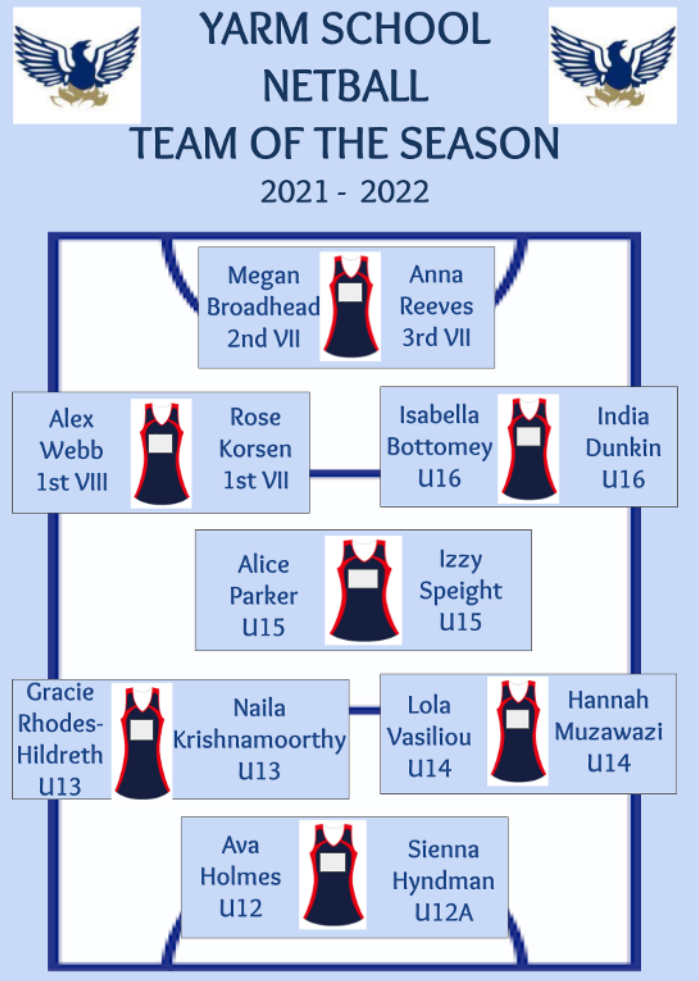
Tom Howard, Upper Sixth



Sport Weeks Ahead

The weeks ahead are now available online.

You can [view them here](#).



DON'T MISS - THIS WEEK!

Fireman Sam - Saves the Circus

Join Sam, Penny, Elvis, Station Officer Steele and Norman in an all singing, dancing, action-packed show. You can become a fire-fighter cadet and then watch the magic of the circus.

So, come along to Pontypandy and watch the adventures unfold!

Sunday 3rd April 2022, 10:30am, 1:00pm

[Book Online Here](#)



COMING SOON

In the Mood for Miller

This energetic Orchestra will bring you a glorious and exciting evening of Glenn Miller hits and other favourites from the Big Band era.

Enjoy the stunning musicianship of the UK's finest Big Band, topped with a few first class soloist surprises!

The very best in big band music from Britain's most iconic big band, an evening guaranteed to get you "In The Mood".

Thursday 7th April 2022, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

The Coral

The Coral are celebrating the 20th anniversary of their eponymous debut album. The record was described by NME as being the funniest and most refreshing British debut in years.

In this intimate evening, singer and songwriter James Skelly will be joined by keyboardist Nick Power for an evening of conversation, audience questions and acoustic songs.

Friday 21st October 2022, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about FACEBOOK

AGE RATING
13+

With 2.9 billion users, Facebook, owned by the recently rebranded Meta, is the world's most popular social media platform. It encourages interaction with other people by (among other things) adding them as friends, reacting to or commenting on their content, sharing images and videos, posting status updates, joining groups and playing games. Facebook is free, and anyone over 13 can join – but with no age verification, younger children can easily create an account: it's likely your child is already familiar with the platform, even if they don't yet use it themselves.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTIVE NATURE

Facebook's quick reward cycle of likes and comments on shared posts can be hugely addictive. It encourages users to keep returning to post things and increases FOMO (the Fear Of Missing Out), which leads to people checking the app even more frequently and finding themselves endlessly scrolling through content.

CYBERBULLYING

A 2021 Ofcom report found that around one in four UK 12–15-year-olds had been cyberbullied or trolled (intentionally antagonised online). On Facebook, this can happen through private messages (on Facebook Messenger); hurtful comments on their profiles and posts; pages or groups set up purposely to torment a victim; or exclusion from pages or groups.

FUTURE IMPACT

Like most social media platforms, anything posted on Facebook leaves a permanent 'digital footprint'. This can have future consequences for young people: many universities and employers, for example, now review someone's Facebook timeline during the application process.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

Just like in the offline world, there are people on Facebook with malicious intentions. Ofcom reports, for instance, that 30% of 12–15-year-olds have received a friend request from a stranger. This, sadly, can include individuals seeking to take advantage of impressionable youngsters.

OVERSHARING

Facebook encourages you to post 'what's on your mind', but children should be wary of revealing too much about themselves online. Users can give away their location by checking in or using Facebook Live, for example, while some photos can also be traced using file data.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Facebook monitors and removes material like hate speech or extreme political views, while adverts on the platform are now forbidden from targeting under-18s based on their interests. Offensive content isn't always taken down instantly, however, so there's still a risk of children encountering it.

VIDEOS AND STREAMING

Facebook Live lets users stream video live to their friends or watch others' broadcasts. Viewers can comment in real time, which is problematic to moderate. Short, user-created clips called Reels can now also be displayed on profiles and feeds. These video features could contain unsuitable material or allow children to be coaxed into doing something on camera that they wouldn't normally do.

Advice for Parents & Carers

KEEP ACCOUNTS PRIVATE

In the settings area, you can choose whether a Facebook profile is public or private. By far the safest option is to switch your child's to private, so they can only interact with people who they are friends with on the platform. Facebook's settings can also prevent your child's personal information (such as contact details, school name or date of birth) from appearing publicly.

SAVVY SHARING

Friends

Make sure your child realises that what they share online with friends can end up being shared again by others. It's important that they think about what they share online and who they share it with. Facebook's 'Audience Selector' gives users the option to filter who sees what they are sharing, whenever a status is updated, photos are uploaded or anything is posted.

ENCOURAGE SAFE FRIENDING

Facebook can help your child to stay connected with the people and the things that they care about. However, it's important for them to understand that they should only accept friend requests from people who they know. The key questions to consider are "has your child met them in person?" and "do they know and trust them enough to feel comfortable accepting them as a Facebook friend?"

RESPECT BOUNDARIES

Once you've talked about Facebook safety with your child, give them some space and trust them to make smart choices. Make it clear, however, that you're always open to discussing social media if they need to. In the early stages, you could occasionally review your child's social media activity with them to put your mind at rest – but take care not to become reliant on checking it every night.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your child watch you using Facebook – this will demonstrate how it can be used safely and appropriately, reducing the risk of them encountering harmful content themselves. Teach them the habit of thinking before sharing anything online and try to follow the same rules that you set for them – so if you agree time limits on your child's Facebook use, then you should stick to them, too.

BLOCK AND REPORT

On Facebook, you're able to report harmful content and block particular people or groups so they can't contact your child or view their profile. Before they start spending serious time on the platform, show your child how these features work and explain why they might need to be used. Facebook's Bullying Prevention Hub offers advice on dealing with harassment on the platform.

Meet Our Expert

Alex Wright is a former Facebook employee and social media expert with more than 15 years' experience in digital media. He has worked with some of the biggest organisations on the planet and has a vast understanding of how social media platforms work and how they engage their audience.



NOS
National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: www.facebook.com/uknatsafety



www.nationalonlinesafety.com



@natonlinesafety



/NationalOnlineSafety



@nationalonlinesafety

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