# Newsletter



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#### Headmaster's Welcome

Last week saw our Upper Sixth celebrate their final lessons at Yarm School and gave us the opportunity, in their leavers' service at the Methodist Church and at the Leavers' Dinner, to thank them and to acknowledge their contribution to life at Yarm over the years. They are a terrific year group, as detailed further by Dr Goodall below, and we wish them all the very best in weeks, months and years to come.

Some former pupils were celebrating at Buckingham Palace recently, having had to wait due to the pandemic for the formal recognition of their completion of the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award. A large group of pupils, alongside Mrs Guest and Mr Rye - two colleagues who have contributed hugely to DofE at Yarm over the years - shared in this memorable experience with parents; we congratulate them all and there is more detail of the day within.

Parents and pupils will see a range of opportunities to come to School for exciting events in the coming months - the Dovecote Concert, the School Musical, the Dance Showcase and the YSA Ball are all advertised within, and I look forward to welcoming everyone to those events which promise to entertain and enthrall in equal measure. Don't miss out on the opportunity - tickets are available for each event now.

Sporting success in cricket is described in more detail within, and after further success at Nottingham last week, we wish our rowers the very best of luck at the National Schools competition this weekend. We have somehow reached half term, with INSET day tomorrow for staff, and I wish all families a restful and enjoyable week.

Dr Huw Williams

## **Celebrating our Fabulous Upper Sixth Students!**



# **NEWS**

# **Celebrating our Upper Sixth**

Last week saw the end of formal lessons for the Upper Sixth. For some this is the conclusion of a two year involvement with Yarm, for others the end of journey over the last fifteen years. I was delighted that the easing of restrictions meant that we were able to acknowledge this significant milestone in the traditional way after a two-year break.

On Thursday, the industrious focus of adding comments to the leavers' yearbooks was finally paused as we assembled for the last time in the Stable Yard prior to the Leavers' Service. The Leavers, sporting their buttonhole carnations posed for photographs with friends and staff before a final year group photo on the steps of the PAA.



We are grateful to Yarm Methodist Church for once again allowing us to assemble in this fine historic building for our Leavers' Service as proud parents joined their children for this moving occasion. Thank you to Mr Boddy for organising and leading the service and to the School Captains for their readings. We welcomed Mr David Woodward, formerly Deputy Headmaster of the School to give the address and thank him for his wise words in encouraging the leavers to both reflect on their time in school and look forward with optimism but most importantly to live mindfully in the present and enjoy every good experience.

The choir sang beautifully with a programme chosen by the Leavers and it was wonderful to be able to sing the familiar "Jerusalem" and Prep School favourite "Colours of Day". There was hardly a dry eye in the room as we sang the leavers' hymn "God be with you till we meet again" and I commend the Upper Sixth musicians not only on the quality of their performance of "Slipping through my fingers" (arr. Nanda) but on how well they held it together amidst such emotion. Thank you to Mrs Staggs, Mr Williams, Mr Reeve and all their colleagues in the music department for bringing together such a moving musical celebration.

Parents, students and staff then gathered in the atrium and

on the terrace where we enjoyed a splendid buffet courtesy of Mr Smith, Mr Matthewman and their Sodexo colleagues. The pleasantly fine weather made the perfect opportunity for this final farewell before the students headed off home to get back to their revision sporting their Leavers' Hoodies.

The Leavers' Dinner on the following evening was a splendid affair, once again provided by the school catering team. Dressed to the nines, and with many of their teachers joining them, the warmth and good-humour of the students was palpable and a really fitting way to round off the week. Thank you to the school officers for helping to organise the event and for coaxing teachers from near and far to record video messages to the leavers including former colleagues Mr Pointon and Mrs Nickson who, if they are reading this, will be delighted to know how warmly they are remembered by the students. A couple of numbers from the Upper Sixth musicians went down a storm and even moved some to dance - huge respect to the band for their quality performance. And then, as is traditional it fell to Maddy and Noah to give their take on some shared memories from years gone by; they captured the mood perfectly.

Thank you to the Sodexo team, the Estates Team, Mr James, Mrs Parker, Mrs Staggs and the music department, the School Officers, all my colleagues and a special 'thank you' to Miss Gamble for making these events such a success.

Good luck to all our Leavers with their forthcoming examinations and for the bright future that is undoubtedly ahead of them. I hope to see them at the Senior Prize Giving in September.

Dr A M Goodall

















Yarm School's production of Beauty and the Beast is kindly sponsored by Active Chartered Financial Planners and Cleveland Land Services

### Yarm School proudly presents



Wednesday 29th June - Saturday 2nd July, 7.30pm
Adults £12.00, Children £8.00
To book tickets: 01642 792587 or www.thepaaonline.org

Director Liam Gilbert Musical Directors Katie Staggs & Andrew McIntrye

Choreographer Jess Dunkley

Producer David Boddy

Music by Alan Menken Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice Book by Linda Woolverton

Originally Directed by Robert Jess Roth

Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with Music Theatre International All authorised performance materials are also supplied by MTI www.mtishows.co.uk

# **NEWS**

## **Buckingham Palace May 2022**

20th May 2022 - A day of celebration for twenty of our Former Pupils who successfully completed their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award in recent years. Gold Award holders and their parents were able to enjoy a gathering in the grounds of Buckingham Palace at a garden party alongside other equally successful young adults. We were able to wander around the lawns, rose gardens and lake throughout the beautiful sunny afternoon, enjoying tea and cupcakes.

Around the grounds, speeches were offered by DofE enthusiasts, many of them Gold Award holders themselves; Alice Beer (Journalist), Karthi Knanasegaram (Presenter), Nick Hewer (advisor to Lord Sugar), Mike Bannister (former Chief Pilot of Concorde Fleet), Sally Orange (endurance athlete & mental health campaigner), & Pip Stewart (adventurer) all of whom offered insightful commentary of the value of being a Gold Award holder and how completion of such awards heightens personal depth of character, building resilience and endurance and leadership qualities valued by society.

Following the National Anthem, more formal speeches were delivered by HRH the Earl of Wessex and Forfar KG GCVO who is a trustee of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, honouring the immense impact his father's vision created. Prince Edward is passionate about causes which provide opportunities for young people, including the DofE Scheme and the International Award.

As a DofE ambassador, Lira Lewis, a recent DofE Gold Award recipient, highlighted her own journey through the difficulties of dyslexia and dyspraxia and made some life changing choices to become involved in the Scheme. Having been too nervous as a young teenager to even read a sentence aloud at school, she recognised through her expedition that all teenagers find aspects of life's journey challenging at times but can work together to overcome challenges. She created a 'safe haven' at her school for others to enjoy poetry reading and has personally developed sufficient self confidence to share her story with the 6000 attendees at the Palace - impressive to say the least. Finishing the formal speeches were James & Oliver Phelps, perhaps better known as the Weasley brothers in the Harry Potter film series, who embraced the chance to share their own personal knock backs and false promises of work in the film industry yet harnessed their perseverance which shone through to success.

Our Former Pupils, some of whom are pictured here (Emily Clements, Jessica Coapes, James Foster, Katie Fox, Adam Housley, Phoebe Jennings, Charlotte Jopling, Rohit Lawrence, Isaac Murray, Abhinav Sathyamurthy, Prateek Sunkavalli, Adam Wright) together with their parents, all in splendid finery, were joined by Mrs Guest (current Yarm School DofE Manager) and also Mr Rye who was a Special Regional Guest for the day to honour his time and enthusiasm for supporting many Yarm School pupils through their Bronze Awards throughout most of the last two decades. His advice and encouragement, and superb knowledge of virtually every footpath and stile of the North York Moors has been invaluable, for which we are enormously grateful.

Back in school, there has been tremendous success with Fourth Years completing their Bronze awards, for which presentations will be early after the half term break, and several Upper Sixth are on track to finalise sections of their Gold Award which is tremendous in light of recent years' limitations of activities, and shows tenacity and creativity by particular individuals. Well done to all.

Mrs J Guest (Yarm School DofE Manager)















## **Get Your Tickets Now for Beauty and The Beast!**

Our cast of talented pupils and students are working hard rehearsing for our fabulous production of Beauty and the Beast. Sponsored by Active Financial Planners and Cleveland Land Services, the show is on stage in the PAA from Wed 29th June to Sat 2nd July.

It promises to be a wonderful musical extravaganza with all your favourite Disney songs including 'Belle', 'Be Our Guest', 'Gaston' and 'Something There'.

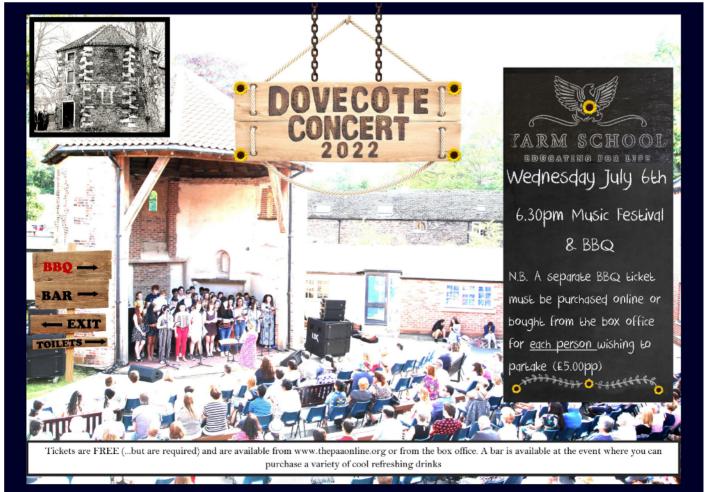
Tickets are selling fast for each show so get yours now! Tickets are £12 for Adults and £8 for Children and are available from the Box Office on 01642 792587 or **online here.** 











YSA PRESENTS

# BOLLYWOOD SUMMER BALL

SATURDAY, 18TH JUNE 2022 7PM

**CARRIAGES AT MIDNIGHT** 

THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITORIUM

TICKETS £60
AVAILABLE ONLINE FROM 9AM
SATURDAY 30TH APRIL

**BOLLYWOOD DANCERS FROM DESI NACH** 

THREE COURSE MEAL BLACK TIE OR PARTY WEAR

yarmschoolassociation.org

# YARM SCHOOL DANCE PRESENTS DANCE SHOWCASE 2022



# FRIDAY 10TH JUNE, 6.30PM

THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITORIUM

TICKETS: £6.50 ADULTS, £3.50 CONCESSIONS

WWW.THEPAAONLINE.ORG



### Cricket

#### 1stXI vs Newcastle School for Boys

Won by 4 wickets

The seniors travelled to South Northumberland CC for a 20 over fixture vs NSB. The hosts batted first, they had an extremely competent batter opening for them and unfortunately with two dropped catches he stayed at the crease until retiring at 75\*. James Thomson was the pick of the bowlers with two wickets and two catches, and Matthew Maloy slowed the run rate up by taking two wickets at the death, to restrict NSB fto 156-7.

The chase started off well with Peacock and Maloy steadily getting to the RR, unfortunately Maloy was run out in strange circumstances. Matthew Anthony along with Peacock scored beautifully, with Ben out on 46 and Matthew batting the whole innings achieving his 50 accompanied by Benji Fleming who batted great in his small innings scoring 16 off one over.

A great win!

#### **U13 vs Newcastle School for Boys**

Won by 7 wickets

The U13s continued their impressive form with a 7 wicket win over NSB. Jude Crack and Aditya Paul were the pick of the bowlers taking two wickets each, with Sam Shawcross taking one wicket and an impressive catch. The testament of this team is that again, 11 players bowled in the innings.

With the bat, three batsmen retired at twenty chasing a score off 101, which they did in the 17th over.





## **Sport Weeks Ahead**

The weeks ahead are now available online.

You can view them here.

# THE PAA

# **DON'T MISS - THIS WEEK!**

#### Milkshake Live!

Milkshake! Monkey is back and can't wait to put on a spectacular NEW Show for you all, joined by some of his favourite Milkshake! friends plus two Milkshake Presenters creating the most dazzling show you have ever seen!

Join Paddington, Daisy & Ollie, Milo, Noddy, Pip and Posy, Blue's Clues & You! and of course Milkshake! Monkey for an unforgettable family time at Milkshake Monkey's Musical!

Sunday 29th May 2022, 12:00pm, 3:30pm

**Book Online Here** 



# **COMING SOON ....**

#### Catch Us If You Can

ZCatch Us If You Can, is a 1960's variety show covering all your favourite artists, paying special tribute to The Beatles & The Rolling Stones.

This production is a theatrical experience featuring all the very best songs from the most creative musical decade of all time!

Be prepared to sing and dance along to some of your favourite tracks from the likes of The Kinks, The Who, The Beach Boys, Lulu, Roy Orbison, Bob Dylan, Spencer Davis Group plus many, many more.

Friday 8th July 2022, 7:30pm

**Book Online Here** 



# A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

# An Evening with Steven Berkoff They Shall Not Pass: The Battle of Cable Street

Join us for an evening with one of the UK's most iconic actors and directors of our age! A performance of Steven's most recent one man play, They Shall Not Pass: The Battle of Cable Street, followed by a Q&A session with Steven hosted by actor and director Rob Clilverd.

Tuesday 20th September 2022, 7:30pm

**Book Online Here** 



# 10 Top Tips for Respect Online: INSPIRING CHILDREN TO BUILD A BETTER DIGITAL WORLD

Our ability to communicate with anyone in the world, at any time, via the internet has grown at breakneck speed. For teachers and parents, it can feel impossible to keep up. Worrying about our young people is understandable, and not unjustified: in 2020, for example, one in five 10- to 15-year-olds experienced bullying online. Our tips highlight ways that adults can support young people's positive online behaviours: by adopting and following 'netiquette', we can show them how to avoid getting into difficulty as they learn to negotiate the continually evolving digital landscape.



#### WHAT IS NETIQUETTE?

Just like etiquette is a set of rules which guides and governs our interactions with others in everyday life, netiquette – etiquette on the net – is the framework which helps inform how we communicate with people online. The rules of engagement often aren't the same as a face-to-face meeting, so it's important that we can accurately 'read' situations in the digital world and know how to act appropriately.



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#### **ACCEPT DIFFERENT RULES**

A lot of our interaction with others is helped by non-verbal signals like body language and facial expressions. Online, of course, many of these clues are missing. Talk to your child about why this makes misunderstandings more likely to occur in the digital world and why keeping in mind that online communication is a very different process can help to prevent difficulties from arising.



#### APPRECIATE DIFFERENCES

We're all built differently; some people are simply more emotionally sensitive than others. Young people can be particularly affected by negative online communication, such as group shaming. Even a single message (which might seem trivial at face value) can cause deep anguish. Trusted adults should be prepared to be patient and listen to any difficulties their child might have had online.

#### PRESS 'PAUSE'

It's so easy to do things quickly online that most people (adults included) habitually send or respond to messages without considering the consequences. Pushing 'the pause button' buys a young person some time while they ponder the golden rule: "Would I still say this if the other person was right front of me?" You could practise this with your child on some made-up tricky situations.



Young people's online lives create a lot of anxiety. Messages go into a 'black hole' until someone responds, there are more reasons to compare ourselves negatively, and social media can make us feel like we're missing out. Encourage activities such as sports and hobbies to balance this out, and remember that merely blocking out thoughts (by gaming, for instance) isn't the same as relaxation.



Apps and sites use sophisticated algorithms and clever marketing to keep us engaged, while notifications to our devices are designed to draw us back in. It's no wonder that people continually return to the digital world, sometimes spending long periods of time there. You and your child could trial turning off notifications on certain apps and instead agree a time to check for updates manually.



A huge positive for the internet is how it helps beople to feel connected and makes being kind and helpful easy to spread. When young people get involved in pro-social behaviours online, to creates a positive feedback loop which makes them feel good. Show your child examples of when you've done or said something positive online, and praise and procesurage than when they do the same

#### BEWARE THE DARK SIDE

Getting a hurtful or unhelpful comment on social media or in a group chat can make the recipient feel publicly shamed. That's painful for anyone — but especially for a young person whose status in a group is integral to their sense of identity. Encourage your child to think about the best and safest way to send a message: for example, doing it as a private message rather than a public post.

#### BE A GOOD ROLE MODEL

One of the best things we can do as trusted adults is to role model positive online behaviour. Just letting your child see that you know when it's time to put your phone away and do something more productive can set a strong example. Some families set aside particular times of the week (such as mealtimes or a family walk) where digital devices aren't allowed and conversation takes precedence.

#### HARMFUL INTERACTIONS

Unfortunately, it's very easy to send a hurtful message or to spread gossip and rumours online. We all know this happens regularly. Not having to deal with actually seeing the other person's distress usually doesn't help people to make a positive decision in the moment. It's important that trusted adults help children to visualise the potential consequences and have empathy for others.

#### SHOW COMPASSION

Mistakes can feel much bigger online, because they're so public. If a young person does or says something regrettable on the internet, it's important to support them to forgive themselves, learn any lessons and move forward positively. Even as adults, we can often stumble when learning how things work in the fast-moving digital world, so it's important to have compassion for ourselves, too.

#### Meet Our Expert

Dr Carole Francis-Smith is an experienced counselling psychologist who, through her research, specialises in promoting safe and ethical online communications. She consults with businesses and organisations to support positive and effective communication online, often by considering some of the more hidden aspects of the mediums.





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