

Newsletter

Headmaster's Welcome

It has been a pleasure to welcome pupils and colleagues back into school after the summer break, and no surprise to see them hit the ground running during induction programmes and events such as Discovery Day for the First Year, with pupils showing enthusiasm and optimism for the year ahead. Optimism was a theme in my start of year assembly, where we came together to mourn the loss of one of our community. Felix's optimistic and positive outlook on life was something I asked all of us to emulate as a tribute to him and I have been struck by the support and strength shown by his friends as we come to terms with his absence. Rest in Peace, Felix. This morning we reflected on the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in a special assembly which acknowledged her great service to the nation, but also reflected on her family life and the personal loss that will be felt by those that loved her.

The busy summer saw many trips and expeditions take place and I am grateful to all staff who were involved in preparing and running these; many unforgettable experiences were had, with a report and some photos from the sailing trip in Greece within giving a taste of these. Making the most of opportunities available to them is something we encourage all pupils to do, and the fascinating reports of their work experience and apprenticeship application by James, Lilian and Josh demonstrate the value of doing so. There are plenty of opportunities for students to engage with ideas about careers, including interview preparation, subject societies and speaker programmes, careers cluster events and more, some of which are detailed in the newsletter. Pupil initiative is also evident in abundance in Amy's charity concert next week and I encourage parents and pupils to attend this event.

We look forward to our forthcoming Open Morning on the 24th September, and I am grateful in advance to the many pupils who volunteer on this important occasion, offering prospective families the opportunity to visit the School as they will once have done, with a tour to experience the school subject or activity in action.

There has been a range of sporting success over the summer for individuals, many of whom I mentioned in our assembly last week. Emily and Molly's success in equestrian pursuits are celebrated in the newsletter; congratulations to them. Pupil success in art is also showcased within with fantastic work from Gracie, Izzi and Jesse all demonstrating real skill and talent.

The strength of our community has been evident in many ways in a challenging start to the year. I feel so lucky to be part of it, and wish everyone the very best for the forthcoming academic year.

Dr Huw Williams

Remembering Felix Buckley

We were deeply saddened to learn of the death of Felix Buckley on 29th July. Felix would have joined the Upper Sixth this year and his absence is deeply felt by all who knew him. Felix was optimistic, intensely curious, compassionate, quirky and fun, and he made a lasting and positive impression on all of us at Yarm.

We miss him very much, and the thoughts and prayers of our whole community remain with his parents, his brothers, his wider family and all who mourn his loss.



HM Queen Elizabeth II

As a school community we mourn the loss of Queen Elizabeth II. She was a monarch who meant so much to our nation, she was a truly extraordinary person. Her life was one that was unparalleled in terms of the commitment she showed to serving others and the constant guiding light she provided during a reign in which the world changed in so many ways. We started the day with a special assembly to commemorate her life and service. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Royal family as they come to terms with the loss of a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.





**ARTISTS'
CORNER
IS BACK!**

PLEASE SEND
SUBMISSIONS OF YOUR
BEAUTIFUL ARTWORK WHICH
YOU HAVE BEEN CREATING OVER
THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS
TO MISS JENYNS!
JESSICA.JENYNS@YARMSCHOOL.ORG

**THANK
YOU!**

Artists' Corner

In this week's Artists' Corner are two stunning drawings by Gracie Rhodes-Hildreth which she created over the summer holidays. The first drawing is based on a piece of work by M C Escher and the second is an original study by Gracie influenced by the work of Bridget Riley. So great to see such accomplished work produced by a Third Year pupil and influenced by the work of famous artists. Please keep sharing with your Art teachers any artwork you produce at home - it's great to see our pupils and students being so creative.

Mrs E Stebbings



Whole School Open Morning

Our Whole School Open Morning takes place on Saturday, 24th September.

Prospective families for Nursery, Prep School, Senior School and Sixth Form can join us 9am - 12 noon to explore the facilities, speak to teachers and get a sense of what life is like at Yarm School.

If you know anyone who is interested in finding out more about Yarm then please encourage them to come along. They should register for the event on our website at www.yarmschool.org/open-22.

Please note that there will be a specific Sixth Form Open Evening for current and prospective students on Wednesday 9th November - details will be provided in due course.



Discovery Day

We were delighted to host our annual Discovery Day for First Year pupils last Saturday. Our First Years enjoyed their first experience of the exciting extra-curricular activities at Senior School as they embarked on a fun-packed schedule

Pupils worked together building and sailing rafts, completing a treasure hunt and taking part in a teambuilding task involving guttering tennis balls, floating keys on corks and finding the locked box of treasure!

It was great to see lots of new friendships being formed, competitive attitudes coming to the fore and many, many smiling faces.



Charity Concert for Young Minds UK

My name is Amy Willis and I am an Upper Sixth student currently studying my A levels which are Theatre Studies, Business and Textiles. In addition to three A levels, similarly to many Sixth Form students, I am also undertaking an EPQ. This is an Extended Project Qualification which can range from an essay to an artefact. For my EPQ I have chosen to host a Charity Concert in support of Young Minds UK, a charity which aims to make sure every child and teenager across the world receives the best possible mental health support and has the resilience to overcome life's difficulties. For me this is an extremely personal choice due to seeing so many people close to me struggle with effects of mental health especially during Covid. Mental health is much more widely talked about these days which is fantastic, but as someone who has seen what this charity can do to help with people's lives close up I felt motivated to raise awareness of the charity and also help by raising funds to make sure they can continue to do the fantastic work they already do for so many. I have supported Young Minds UK for many years now and hopefully this concert will raise many more funds for them as well as introducing new people to the charity who could potentially help.

The Concert will take place on Tuesday the 13th of September at 6:30pm and will involve a range of incredible performances from a range of students in First Year upwards and all the way to past pupils coming back to support the Charity. Please see the poster below for further details. I hope you will all come and watch and if you are not available please consider buying raffle tickets, for the chance to win some incredible prizes donated from local stores and companies or donate to our donation fund. Thank you very much!

Amy Willis, Upper Sixth

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
YOUNG MINDS UK

CHARITY
CONCERT

13TH SEPTEMBER 2022
6:30PM

£5 ADULTS
£1 CHILDREN

<https://www.thepaaonline.org>

Upper Sixth Mock Interview Programme



This week we were pleased to announce to the newly returned members of the Upper Sixth the arrangements for their mock interview programme. Knowing that all students will at some point face the need to be interviewed, be it for university or apprenticeship applications, to secure a placement or internship, or eventually for those job applications, the experience will provide vital preparation.

The event designed by the Careers Department and organised by Deputy Head of Careers, Miss Caroline Rhodes, will be held at Yarm School on the evening of 1st November. Almost 120 members of the U6 will be offered a personalised, bespoke one-on-one interview. They will choose from either an external interviewer for those soon to be interviewed or those students preferring this arrangement, or an internal interview provided by an experienced interviewer from the staff body for those students who either prefer this dynamic or are in a still organic stage of decision-making. The first wave of university applications will be sent off before half-term, with the vast majority of students' applications being sent off throughout the duration of this autumn term.

It promises to be an exciting event with students guided in advance over what makes for a successful interview, and with interviewers providing immediate feedback to the students. We are most appreciative in advance for those many external and interviewers who will be giving up their time to ensure the students are best prepared for their future trajectories.

Mr S Edwards

**The Autumn 2022 Term
Tuesday/Thursday Activities
Programme** is now live on the
**Parents' Section of the School
website.**

NEWS

Next Career Cluster Event announced - The Public Sector

Continuing with our series of Career Cluster events the Careers Department is delighted to announce that we will be hosting our next offering on Wednesday 12th October from 1800 to 1930. This event is being hosted 'remotely' making for an easy engagement for all from the comfort of your home.

The public sector offers an enormous diversity of opportunities for training and employment and we will aim to provide insight and advice into a range of professions from across the public sector. Arguably underexplored by many students whilst at school, the hope is that the event will raise awareness as well as garner enthusiasm for careers in such areas as:

- The Civil Service
- The Armed Forces (Army, RAF, Navy)
- The Ambulance Service
- NHS administration
- Social Work
- The Fire Service
- The Police Force
- The Prison Service
- The Environment Agency

A series of professionals will join us in panel discussions and will share their experiences of the sector, as well as answer your questions submitted 'live' during the event. You must register in advance for this event using this [link](#). Please do encourage family and friends from beyond the immediate Yarm community to consider signing up to the event - they are all very much welcome.

Mr S Edwards

Uniform Showroom

Samples of the uniform items are available for fitting appointments at our showroom, with all orders required to be placed online [via the Perry website](#). The Uniform Showroom will be open at the following times during the Autumn Term:

Monday - Thursday 1:30pm - 4:30pm

If you have any questions you can contact the Showroom on 01642 792588, or email uniformshop@yarmschool.org.



Applying for an EY Business Apprenticeship



Apprenticeships are becoming far more popular and as someone who was never particularly interested in the University route, the EY business apprenticeship felt like the correct decision when considering a post A-level option. I originally found out about the course at the beginning of Lower Sixth when former pupil and now EY employee Daniel Orlopp gave a talk at one of Miss Rhodes' working lunches. At this point I had never been entirely set on the idea of university and was in the process of looking for alternatives. Daniel informed us of the various ways into working at EY: an apprenticeship application, post-graduate scheme and the Business Academy. The idea of the Business Academy instantly piqued my interest and I began to research and pursue a way onto the internship. The week-long work experience program would put you into a various team within the business (I was put into the Indirect tax team based in their Leeds office) in which you would complete various tasks set by your mentor relating to the line of work.

After Daniel's visit to Yarm, I waited until the applications had opened for the academy and applied shortly after. The process which candidates undertake is identical to those applying to the actual apprenticeship which would take place for the Upper Sixth in the January of 2023: a formal submission to the course, followed by mathematical and psychometric testing. If you were successful at these stages you then move on to a telephone interview with a senior associate at the business and once successful there, you move on to the business academy itself. During this article, I am not trying to promote the course for my own benefit or push you away - I am simply trying to give the most realistic understanding possible. The academy is incredibly competitive with only 1 in 200 applicants being accepted, compared to the likes of Oxford and Cambridge Universities where the acceptance rate in comparison is 34 in 200 (who apply). However, what EY looks for in candidates is different from universities which is why I believe it is a thoroughly worthwhile experience. I am positive that various teachers and Heads of Year during my time at Yarm can agree I have never been the most academic of students which is why doing further research into the EY course gave me some hope that I could stand out above the rest of the applicants. The company's policy on student recruitment is that it is based on more than just grades. Work ethic and experiences through one's life are far more important than a grade on a piece of paper. Personality and skills become incredibly handy when applying (students completing their D of E and YBACC will be at an advantage) as they are more interested in what you can bring to a work environment. During my telephone interview, none of the questions I was asked entailed academic performance or ability, they were all situational or behavioural. They are simply looking for the right kind of worker to join their team and when participating in the week after being accepted, it really did show.

When doing research about EY before starting the week, articles always expressed how nice the people are. I merely brushed this off as promotion as every work place would say this however, it really is true. From the moment I stepped through the door to when I left, I never felt like just an intern. The people there are all truly helpful, kind and chatty which resulted in me joining the team for daily meals (provided for us by the company) and nights out after the day's work had concluded. The work was not at all what I expected as well. On the first day I was given a case study (which I know Miss Rhodes would love) detailing a scenario that could happen within my service line. After completing this, the team were happy with my performance and I began to work with real clients for the remainder of my time. An aspect of this that I believe is truly enticing is the complexity and variety of work. One day involved working with a supermarket's own wholesaler, discussing VAT rates on products which can lead to some interesting conversations and debates within the team which can cost a business a fair amount of money (whether a macaroon was a cake or a biscuit). This simple, almost insignificant debate ended up impacting the entire way the operation functioned and gave enjoyment and meaning to the work conducted. The next day involved visiting a casino that had employed the firm to write the T&C's for their new slot machines which required interesting discussion and research. This element of the job wasn't just because I was the intern there for the week but genuine work that is completed by the firm. It was some of the most entertaining and fulfilling work I had conducted to this date.

The week concluded with a guide on next steps for applicants who were successful through the week in showing their team they would be a worthwhile member of the team. We said our final goodbyes and I am now eagerly awaiting the final interview in the coming month. I do believe this route into the business apprenticeship is truly worthwhile for anyone seeking a different option to university and if you prefer to learn on the job rather than in the classroom, I would highly recommend the academy. However, even if the University route is your main option, don't cast aside the idea of a degree apprenticeship as they provide all the benefits of university whilst getting paid an incredibly competitive salary and still experiencing the so-desired "uni experience". My advice to anyone applying this year in the Lower Sixth or to future applicants is to remain confident in your own abilities - these people want you to have the best experience possible with them and showing that you fit in with their ethics is nothing to be nervous about but something to enjoy.

Joshua Littler, Upper Sixth

Inter-House Tug O' War

Last Friday saw the traditional curtain raiser to inter-House competition in the form of the Sixth Form Tug O'War. The origins of the competition are lost in the mists of time but once again we were pleased to see the Rope of War summoned from the hidden vault where it is guarded during the rest of the year. Legend has it that the Rope was donated by the grateful master of an 18th century cargo vessel whose ship grounded leaving the port of Yarm on the ebbing tide and was hauled to safety by 32 local school children. Perhaps the modern competition is a nod to the community spirit and teamwork of our predecessors. Whatever the history this is always a fiercely contested competition and last year's winners Aidan House were strongly fancied to retain their crown.

Thanks are due to Mrs Smith, Mr Matthewman and the Sodexo team for providing a splendid pre-match barbecue enjoyed by students and staff in the dining hall and sixth form area.

In the first round, favourites Aidan faced a spirited Bede outfit who under their new leader Mr Lyle made up for limited firepower with determined enthusiasm. They were, however, no match for the well drilled Aidan who, inspired by their new Head of House, Mr Shanahan, made short work of Bede up and down hill winning by two pulls to nil.

Cuthbert and Oswald seemed closely matched; Mr Alexander's pre-match team talk along with disciplined organisation and well-orchestrated timing proved nearly a match for the heavier Oswald outfit but perseverance, determination and a capitalizing on a couple of costly slips from Cuthbert saw Oswald home by two pulls to nil.

The final seemed set for a close match as the irresistible force of Aidan faced the immovable object of Oswald. The first few seconds seemed deadlocked but Aidan's enthusiasm was their undoing as a mistimed heave was jumped on by Oswald, quickly seeing Aidan lose their footing and lose the first pull. With the downhill advantage few would imagine Aidan would make the same mistake but, perhaps tiring and maybe acknowledging that they were outmatched this year they were unable to counter the momentum built up by this classy Oswald side. Well done to Oswald House on their convincing victory by two pulls to nil.

The talk all week has been of the upset that was about to occur in the battle of the year groups. Could Upper Sixth finally show their young counterparts that experience is more than a match for enthusiasm and superior strength. As the command to 'heave' was given there were, in fact, several nanoseconds when one could imagine an Upper Sixth victory but in the final analysis Lower Sixth made short work of pulling their seniors up the hill. Well done to Lower Sixth on maintaining the 44 year unbeaten run.

Tug o' warring was, of course, the real winner and it was good to see so many students at the barbecue and taking part so enthusiastically in the Tug O'War. A particular welcome to all those joining the school for the first time, I hope everyone has enjoyed their first few days of Sixth Form. I wish good luck to all the Sixth Form as they settle into the new academic year.

Dr A Goodall



Work Experience: An Investment of Time

During the summer holidays a good number of pupils choose to seek out some work experience. This has all kinds of value; it can provide a useful insight into a particular career to see if you are well suited. Equally it can build up experience that will show your level of engagement and enthusiasm in a later application. For some courses work experience is actually essential. Over the next few weeks we will be profiling a number of students' work experiences, showing others the sorts of possibilities that exist. This week we can read about Lower Sixth student James Waine, who was keen to get a deeper insight into types of engineering, as well as Lilian Dufton in the Upper Sixth, also exploring engineering but of the aeronautical variety at an airfield in Yorkshire.

Mr S Edwards



Over the summer holidays, I was lucky enough to have a week's work experience at a local robotics and automation firm called Labman. I got to work in many business areas, learning more about what it's like to be a mechanical, electrical and software engineer. I had the opportunity to work on a range of projects that will go out to

clients all over the world - working on these real projects was a fantastic opportunity and very exciting. This level of trust is a testament to Labman's culture - it was amazing to see a company that is not only innovative with technology but also in its working environment - the office (with climbing wall and go-karts amongst other unique facilities) would not look out of place in Silicon Valley! My mentor was very enthusiastic and encouraging and the experience has further confirmed that I want to follow an engineering pathway - I would encourage anyone interested in engineering to actively seek this sort of work experience.

James Waine, Lower Sixth



Over the summer I spent a few days completing work experience with Fox Aircraft Engineering at Bagby Airfield. The company works to service and complete checks on light aircraft. I was able to assist the team with completing a

50 hour check on a Tomahawk and a 100 hour check on a New Zealand aerobatics aircraft. This included removing many panels, learning lots about aircraft engines and I ended the experience with a flight check which involved flying around the local area in a Saratoga II HP aircraft. The experience gave me valuable experience working with engines working in the mechanical engineering field.

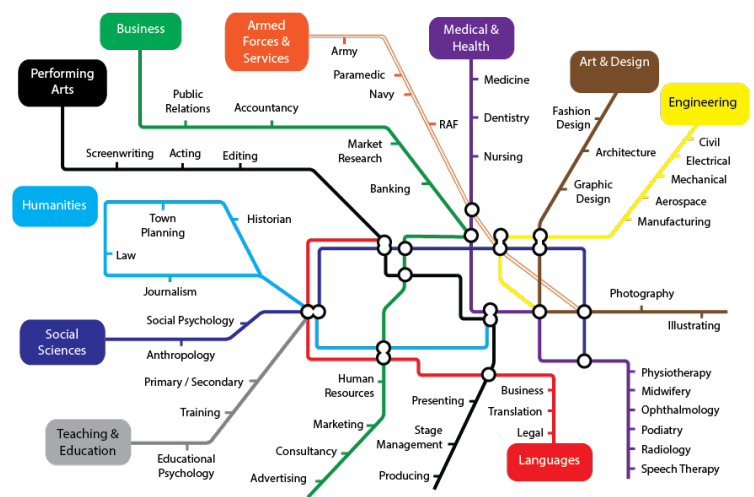
Lilian Dufton, Upper Sixth

A Big Date for the Diary!

The showpiece event of the Careers Department calendar is the biennial Careers Convention. Denied our usual programming due to the disruption of the pandemic we are thrilled now to be in a position to announce that the Career Convention is back and will be held across numerous venues on the Yarm School site on the evening of Thursday 27th April - just after the return from the Easter holidays towards the start of the summer term.

The event is a fantastic opportunity for all pupils in the school to explore their futures, but it really comes into its own for those in years from the 4th Year and above thinking about subject options and then later destinations. We will have a large number of universities represented, alongside a diverse gathering of professions, and far too many to begin to list here. The event is open to the wider Yarm School community as well as families from schools across the region, so it promises to be a busy, lively and highly valuable occasion.

Mr S Edwards



Greece Sailing Trip

The Greece sailing trip returned to Nikiana on the island of Lefkada, Greece this summer. 30 pupils and 6 staff enjoyed 5 days of non-stop watersports tuition which saw pupils gain an RYA certificate for dinghy sailing. The week sailing was interspersed with kayaking, paddle-boarding, pool volleyball, and windsurfing. A few lucky pupils in the Fifth Year also experienced being at the helm and crewing a 30ft long flotilla yacht as well as diving and snorkelling off the side in a private bay. See the photos on the next page.



Greece 2022

NEWS



Politics Society - Autumn 2022

The Politics Society consists of all students of Politics A Level, but the events are open to all members of the school. We meet every Friday lunchtime and explore issues of local, national and global significance. We meet with a diverse range of figures from the world of politics. Pupils from all years groups are welcome to attend and we mostly gather in the Friarage Theatre. Below you can read some of this half-term's guests and events.

Mr S Edwards

Week 2	9th Sept 12:45 - FT	Dr. Laura Gutiérrez Lecturer in Criminology, Department of Sociology, Social Policy and Criminology, University of Liverpool <i>'A Beastly Business: The development of green crimes'</i>
	18:00 - Yarm	Dinner with Matt Vickers MP Lower Sixth dinner with Stockton South Member of Parliament
Week 4	23rd Sept 13:45 - PAA	Matt Vickers MP Conservative Member of Parliament, Stockton South, Deputy Chair of the Conservative Party <i>'The life of a MP'</i>
Week 5	30th Sept 12:45 - FT	Marwa Al-Sabouni Syrian Architect, writer, commentator BBC 100 Women in 2019 Author: 'Building for Hope: Towards an Architecture of Belonging' <i>'Rebuilding Syria: Homes not Houses - the need for community cohesion'</i>
Week 6	7th Oct 12:45 - FT	Dr Kodili Henry Chukwuma Lecturer in International Politics, School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University <i>'Understanding the issue of 'security' in Africa'</i>
Week 7	14th Oct 12:45 - FT	Helen Elston Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Sport, Tourism, Heritage, Civil Society and Youth, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport <i>'A view from the inside: Working for a government minister'</i>
Half Term		Upper Sixth Politics Trip to Oslo, Norway

Artwork for the School Planners

I wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the artwork of two of our talented pupils. The first painting of a beautiful landscape is by Jesse Bissett Brown (O2 AM). This painting can be seen on the cover of the Lower School planners. The second painting of the colourful partial portrait by Izzi Williamson (A6 CER) has been used on the cover of the Middle School planners. Unfortunately the wrong pupils were listed in the planners and I wanted to make sure that Jesse and Izzi were credited for their fantastic work, and to say thank you to them for allowing us to use their beautiful paintings on this year's planners. I taught both of these girls and I know that a huge amount of time, care and attention went into producing these stunning pieces. Dr Williams has also asked if these paintings can be framed and hung in his office.

Mrs E Stebbings



Jesse Bissett Brown, Second Year



Izzi Williamson, Lower Sixth

Emily takes Third Place in the Country at Pony Club Eventing Championship!

On the 19th and 20th of August I took part in the National Pony Club Eventing Championships Section 100C, this is a combination of dressage, showjumping and cross country.

Dressage is like a routine that you have to remember and you get marked out of 10 for every movement - after this I was placed 2nd. That afternoon I did the showjumping - this is where you must jump a course of coloured jumps but if you knock one down you get an additional 4 faults, and if you go too slowly you get a fault for each second you go too slow.

The following day I had to compete in the cross country, arguably the hardest part. Cross country is a long course of wooden jumps that you have to go round usually spaced out over 3-4 fields or around 4500 metres. You have to overcome different obstacles like steep hills, steps, ditches and water jumps. I finished with a clear round but a couple of time penalties as I was on a small pony which isn't as fast and the horse that the course was designed for. That put me into 3rd place out of all the other people in the country that qualified.

Emily Lawson, Third Year



Show Jumping Success at Sedgefield!

Molly Raine, Second Year, riding Caesar won the unaffiliated 85cm Show Jumping Competition at Sedgefield Show on Saturday 13th August. An absolutely fantastic partnership! Congratulations Molly!



Sport Weeks Ahead

The weeks ahead are now available online.

You can [view them here](#).



YARM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION PRESENT:

GIN & SWING



Gin tasting hosted by Yorkshire's premier artisan distiller **Hooting Owl**.

Live music by talented local singer and song writer **Jamie Tinkler**.

Friday, October 7th

PAA Basement Bar

7:30pm - 11:30pm

£20pp

Tickets on sale:
Saturday 10th Sept



BUY TICKETS ONLINE:

YARMSCHOOLASSOCIATION.ORG



COMING SOON ...

An Evening with Adam Frost

Spend an evening with award-winning British garden designer and Gardeners' World presenter, Adam Frost, as he shares advice and amusing stories from a lifetime in the garden.

Enlightening and engaging, this event promises to leave you eager to head home and get your gardening gloves on.

Sunday 25th September 2022, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



COMING SOON...

An Evening with Lucy Worsley

Spend an evening with the Queen of History, Lucy Worsley, as she delves into the fascinating life of the Queen of Crime, Agatha Christie.

For these unique, live illustrated talks, Lucy will present one most elusive and enigmatic figures of the twentieth century.

This promises to be an entertaining and enlightening evening, emphasising not just Agatha's unique gifts as a storyteller but her revolutionary qualities as a determined, successful, and thoroughly modern woman.

Friday 30th September 2022, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY ...

The Very Best of Tommy Cooper (Just Like That!)

Recapturing his trademark mayhem and misfiring magic.

The show includes many of Cooper's beloved one-liners, dazzling wordplay and celebrated tricks, including Glass/Bottle, Dappy Duck, Spot the Dog and Jar/Spoon.

Produced and performed by Daniel Taylor.

The Production has the blessing of the Tommy Cooper Estate.

Sunday 30th July 2023 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

SPOT THE ONLINE SAFETY TIPS FOR GOING

BACK TO SCHOOL



NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday