

HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

I have been struck by the fascinating content of our assemblies this week. Mr Boddy started by exploring this term's theme for Monday Assemblies - 'of little acorns, great oaks grow' - and reflecting on the journey of Yarm School since its inception in 1978. A school of just 60 pupils and 3 teachers right at the beginning, buoyed by ambition and inspiration to reach our current position, with a wonderful campus, nearly 1200 pupils (from 3-18) and yet retaining the spirit of those early years. He made the point to the pupils that, by comparison to some schools which can boast a history of many centuries, each of our current pupils will be a member of the school community for a greater proportion of

its short history than in those older schools, and has a greater chance of influencing its future. We heard from Mrs Gratton about paying attention, with a variety of tricks and distractions to demonstrate both our ability to focus and our tendencies to fail in that task! An important message to the pupils - along with practical advice on how to do this - was that we can train our attention, which will clearly be of benefit in their lessons and when working at home. Finally, members of Fifth Year Aidan explored the history of the Northern Saints - Aidan, Cuthbert, Oswald and Bede - their impact, contributions, values and legacies, considering how these qualities and virtues remain rooted in our

community today. An inspiring week.

Pupil contributions to the newsletter include some wonderful art by Patrick and a fine critical analysis of a book by Caroline, whose reflections that the book she reviews offers an antidote to the sense that, in the current political climate 'the choice seems to be only between pessimism or ignorance', which was a terrific line. We also hear from Yasseen and Monisha who report on their work experience and from Ben who reports on the Economics and Business Society.

After a pause in our sporting fixtures last weekend following Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth's death last Thursday, we returned to our sporting programme this week with fixtures in hockey, netball and rugby, and a rowing regatta to come this weekend. Well done to all pupils who have represented the School - some for the first time - and who will have gained a sense of the camaraderie and togetherness that sport can bring, and I hope will have felt real pride in representing Yarm School, whether in victory or defeat.

As explained in my letter to parents this week, we will be closed for Her Majesty's State Funeral on Monday and look forward to welcoming pupils back on Tuesday morning.

Dr Huw Williams



Pupils in the Fifth Year have explored tracks and trails around Roseberry, Captain Cook's monument and Ingleby Bowl to complete the final section of their Bronze DofE Award.

WORKING LUNCH: LIFE AS AN INVESTMENT BANKER

Guess, what's back, back again....
The Working Lunch programme is back.... tell your friends...

A throng of U6 and L6 Economists and Business students assembled to hear from Aditya Choudhury (Class of 2019) in our first Working Lunch of the new academic year.

After leaving Yarm, Aditya started his Economics degree at the University of Bath and soon got keenly involved in societies, events and sports and became interested in learning more about potential career options. This inspired his choice of a year-long industrial placement as part of his degree (between his second and final year) in order to really prepare himself for life after University. After lots of research and many many many applications he was lucky enough to land an investment banking summer internship at a European investment bank and an industrial placement at Lazard in Mergers & Acquisitions. He's now finished his placement and has clearly really enjoyed his time as an investment banker over the last year! After

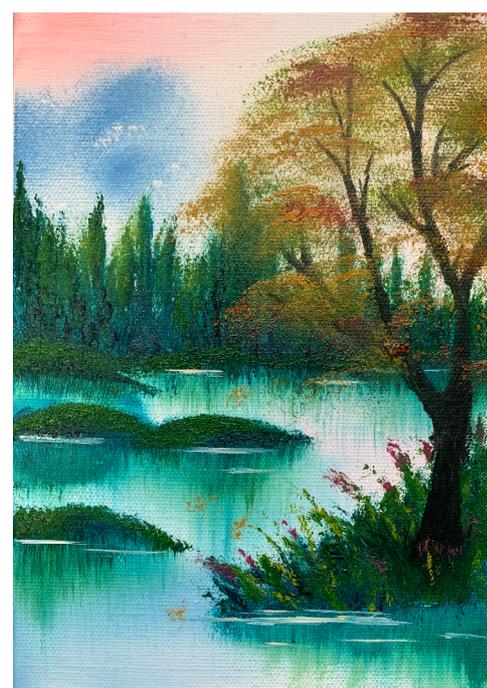
speaking to our students he was heading straight back to Uni for his final year before hopefully securing a job in London. The Sixth Form benefitted from hearing not only about Bath as a University town, the composition of an Economics degree there, but also were given advice on internship applications and what life is really like as an Investment Banker. Aditya was most generous with his time and his advice and the students

particularly appreciated his considered views on how they could maximise their potential and opportunities in the coming months and years.

It was lovely to catch up with Aditya and we are proud of his successes to date and wish him all the very best for the remainder of his time at Bath.

Miss C E Rhodes

ARTISTS' CORNER



Patrick Ward, Third Year, has produced these beautiful landscape paintings on canvas. The details are thoughtful and the textures are crying out to be touched! Really stunning work, thank you Patrick.

Please submit artwork to Jessica.jenyns@yarmschool.org if you'd like your work to be featured in the newsletter.

Jessica Jenyns, Visiting Artist



WORK EXPERIENCE REPORTS

In our series of pieces about pupils' summer work experience this week we read about Monisha Ravichandran's medical work experience in Bishop Auckland and a brief insight into Yasseen El-Sherif's time in Egypt.

Mr S Edwards

Over the Summer holidays, I did a week's worth of work experience at Auckland Park Hospital in the Geriatrics Psychiatry ward, shadowing a consultant. I had experience watching him talk to the patients and see any changes in their mental states as most of the patients came on a regular basis. I particularly enjoyed going on rounds with a junior doctor and talking about his experience since he was also a new recruit. Some of the interactions with the patients were really memorable too as they would be very relaxed and talk casually about how they were feeling to me too so I felt included. I had a few of them even tell me that they felt at ease talking to someone younger as they had no one at home to talk to so it gave me a valuable insight into how effective listening to people had on their mental health.

Something I don't think I would forget would be seeing a patient near her end and how the staff did their best to contact family members from

abroad. It isn't a surprise that such events happen working in this field, but watching the staff getting the necessary things done quickly whilst also supporting each other showed another perspective I hadn't seen from the outside. It was a very different experience to what I expected as I expected there to be a lot more doctor-patient interactions in the hospitals but due to the COVID restrictions and safety of the patients, there were occasions where we had to visit the patients at their place of residence or just talk to them via phone calls.

Monisha Ravichandran, Lower Sixth

Over the holiday I was fortunate to be able to do an overseas placement in medicine in Egypt. I was exposed to the reality of life as a doctor. The demands meant that the medics had to see many patients in a day. It was also interesting to witness how the doctors had to apply their extensive knowledge to an array of different cases. From this placement I certainly gained valuable insight and a better idea of what it's like to be a doctor. In particular I enjoyed seeing the wide variety of cases whilst seeing the doctor positively influencing their patients' lives regardless of the country they practice in.

Yasseen El-Sherif, Upper Sixth

ECONBUS SOC

By the students, with the students, for the students!

Are you a Sixth Former?

Are you interested in the world around you?

Do you have opinions?

Do you like to voice them?

Last year topics presented and discussed at EconSoc included:

- The Watch Industry
- The Spanish Economy
- The North-South Divide
- Economics in Agriculture
- The Glass Ceiling
- The Impact of Sugar Regulations
- Becoming an Entrepreneur
- Climate Changes Impact on the Economy
- Should demerit goods be legalised
- How to succeed in life
- Are we in control of our own decisions
- The impact of sporting organisations

EconBus Soc - Every Thursday - 1pm - B1

All it costs is 30 minutes of your time...

We look forward to seeing you there!

Miss C E Rhodes

POLITICS SOCIETY WELCOMES ITS FIRST SPEAKER OF THE YEAR



On Friday lunchtime a refreshed and enthusiastic Politics Society consisting of Politics A Level students and other interested students gathered for our first speaker of the new academic term.

Dr Laura Gutierrez is Lecturer in Criminology at the University of Liverpool, having previously been based at Sheffield where she was involved in the Beastly Business Project.

Laura's background is in the extractive industries, having conducted extensive research into the work of gold-mining operations in Colombia. She shared with the group a range of her interesting

findings from that period of work, and used it as an illustration of the principle of 'harm' rather than simply law-breaking. As a criminologist and one whose area of current work is defined through the relatively new category of 'green criminology', she dissected the concept of 'crime' in terms of its social and political construction, its shifts depending on time and place. Simply put, laws are made and as such there is scope for future legislation in areas that we might currently not otherwise consider. The example from Colombia demonstrated 'harms' involved in the process of even setting up the mining enterprise - divided, often small, rural communities and families socially segregated into the likes of 'pro mining cafes and anti-mining cafes' - before we even consider the environmental impact of the work.

Committed to showing the complexity of real world challenges she discussed the impact of

hydroelectric power developments, otherwise considered to be a green energy option, on the disruption of species. In her example this was the European Eel whose numbers have been rendered endangered in large part due to the challenges of the above alongside the threats from illegal trade. Again the understanding needed subtlety over the various ways operations could shift between legality and illegality with much blurring in the operations of trading organisations.

It had once been said that if you think there's a simple solution then you don't understand the problem. Dr Gutierrez demonstrated the need to embrace complexity and nuance, whilst still remaining clear sighted on what you felt was the necessary end goal. It was a privilege to engage with her work and for the students to have the opportunity to probe and question the ideas.

Mr S Edwards

DEAL OR NO DEAL AT ECON/BUS SOCIETY

After the long summer break, we were excited to host our first Economics and Business Society of the academic year. We were delighted to welcome some of our new Lower Sixth students to the society, and it was also great to welcome back our fellow Upper Sixth students as we enter the final year of our A-level studies. In this week's session we played a game of deal or no deal which is a great example of behavioural economics. It helps show how different scenarios affect people's decision making, and can be explained by different economic theories such as risk aversion and prospect theory.

Ben Cordwell-Smith, Upper Sixth, Econ/Bus Society Co-chair

BOOK REVIEWS: UTOPIA FOR REALISTS - RUTGER BREGMAN

This term the Politics students in the U6 are continuing with a series of book reviews on topics pertaining to Politics. Next term it will be the turn of the L6 Politics students to share their thoughts on their current reading. The school library has a generous collection of books, including many newly released titles and the librarians are always on hand to assist with advice and recommendations.

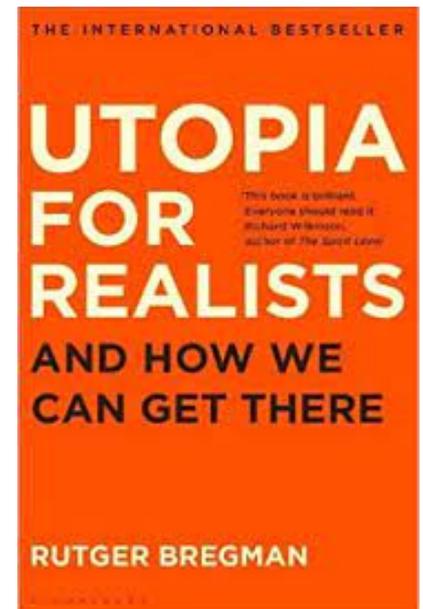
Mr S Edwards

If you were to only read one political book this year, it should be Rutger Bregman's *Utopia for Realists*. This is a bold claim, especially considering that I did not initially like this book, but I stand by my recommendation. I was drawn to the book's bright orange cover, but perhaps even more its titular 'Utopia' - a word that seems more appropriate in a science fiction novel than a political manifesto. I was curious to discover a positive book written in our current political climate, wherein the choice seems to be only between pessimism or ignorance. As I read, I discovered that, in fact, utopia should be more familiar in our modern vocabulary; the first quote of the book is Oscar Wilde's, that "progress is the realisation of Utopias" - an idea that Bregman refers to repeatedly, and of which I have been convinced.

This book is not all-encompassing: it sets out with a particular message to convey, and one which is not the answer to all problems. But it is the answer to many. As Bregman put it, he addresses "the biggest challenge of the century" - the challenge being life in a world that no longer strives towards utopia. This idea is actually what made the beginning of *Utopia for Realists* seem too saccharine for my liking, as Bregman's jubilations over the modern world felt disconnected from reality. However, I soon realised his argument: the rule of history is that life is constantly improving, and it will continue to improve because of dreams.

Bregman's dream is of "universal, unconditional basic income": the solution to poverty. This is because poverty is simply a lack of money - not of character, or intelligence, or hard work. So, its solution is simple.

Of course, none of the problems Bregman discusses are simple at all, which is why they are so persistent. Yet, they are not as complex as we may believe. Universal basic income; the replacement of GDP; a shorter workweek; prioritisation of more meaningful jobs; choosing leisure over consumerism; the use of randomised control trials in charity work; and the opening of borders... these are all ideas that can change



the world.

Bregman encourages us to keep an open mind, for these ideas are not fuelled by simple optimism, but by fact. *Utopia for Realists* is well researched, and even includes graphs for the visually-inclined, progressing through chapters split into short, easily-digestible sections. There is a slight lack of flow, which I have realised comes as a result of the book's origin as a series of articles, but this is not completely disrupting. I would also clarify that the writing is not brilliant, but its directness is suitable to convey Bregman's message.

Not all of Bregman's dreams are realisable, but just the act of believing in a dream - in the possibility of change - makes this book a worthwhile read.

Caroline Louwrens, Upper Sixth

YARM APPRENTICE: TASK 1 BEGINS!

The stage is set (B1, AKA the Boardroom), the cast are assembled (24 call backs), the directors are ready (Rhodes, Menzies and Breslin, assisted by Slack), and with 5 Acts the drama is ready to unfold....

Want to know more about this year's Yarm Apprentice, see the Board outside B1 and read further in the newsletter....

Get ready... The Curtain is rising...



- 1 - Lord Sugar
- 2 - Project Managers
- 3 - Fabulous assistants to Miss Rhodes
- 4 - Weeks until the first Boardroom

Yarm Apprentice has recommenced and the search for the Yarm Apprentice 2023 is underway.

After motivational words from last years winner and runners-up, the wannabe apprentices encountered Lord Sugar Number One via video.

Cllr Peter J Monck Lead Councillor for Heritage Yarm, aka Lord Sugar, first explained Yarm's long and interesting past, before explaining the plans to set up a Heritage Centre in the middle of Yarm celebrating the history of the town.

The students were then tasked to



devise a Mocktail which celebrates the past of Yarm and looks forward to its future success.

Teams will need to identify the ingredients, select a suitable name, and provide appropriate research / evidence that this is a feasible idea. Costings, convenience to produce and health and safety all need to be considered and there will be only five minutes available for proposals to be pitched in the Board Room on 11th October. One team will be victorious whilst from the losing team one or more will be fired.

Team Tees (PM'd by Jasmine) and Yarm Ultra (PM'd by Nathan) will be at the Open Day next week if you want to see how they are getting on developing their ideas.

Miss C E Rhodes

GRILL CLUB

The first rule of Grill Club is: **you do not talk about Grill Club**

The second rule of Grill Club is: **you DO NOT talk about Grill Club!**

No, not really!!!

And Miss Rhodes has been delighted to see the number of participants of Grill Club swell since it's reprisal at the start of this term.

So what is Grill Club?

Well, it's hard to describe, but if you are in the Upper Sixth, are interested in Finance, Accounting, Management or Economics and want to be intellectually challenged come to B1 on a Tuesday at 1pm

To find out more speak to Miss Rhodes.

Miss C E Rhodes

SPORTS' WEEK 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



YPSSC PRESENTS

PRINCESS ALEXANDRA
AUDITORIUM
BAR

A EUROPEAN WINE
EXPLORATION

[Sept 23 - 7 P.M.]

WINE TASTING



TICKETS - £20 PER PERSON

Tickets are available to purchase now, includes a welcome drink, a range of European wines to sample together with nibbles.

WWW.YPSSC.CO.UK

NEXT WEEK : AN EVENING WITH STEVEN BERKOFF

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.

Don't miss this special, one-off event – a celebration of unity, community and defiance.

Tuesday 20th September 2022, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



NEXT MONTH : THE SOUTH

The South are an impressive 9 piece band who feature former members of The Beautiful South including singer Alison Wheeler and lifelong sax player Gaz Birtles. Since Dave Hemingway, the original singer, left the group at the end of 2016, Gaz has moved across to front the band with Alison and taken on vocal duties.

They play the songs made famous by The Beautiful South and bring back the full flavour and arrangements with this exciting live band!



Saturday 1st October 2022, 7:00pm

[Book Online Here](#)

COMING SOON : THAT'S VARIETY

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls take your seats for the North East's grand variety performance as "That's Variety" takes to the stage at the Princess Alexandra Auditorium!

Performing at our star studded evening : Andy Eastwood, Danny Posthill and Ray Quinn. Our fantastic acts will be accompanied by rousing songs from the fabulous Yarm School Choir.



Saturday 4th February 2023, 7:00pm

[Book Online Here](#)

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about INSTAGRAM

follow
WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Instagram is one of the most popular social media platforms in the world, with over 1 billion users worldwide. The platform allows users to upload images and videos to their feed, create interactive 'stories', share live videos, exchange private messages or search, explore and follow other accounts they like – whilst at the same time continuously updating and adding new features to meet the needs of its users.

AGE RATING
13+

ADDICTION

Many social media platforms are designed in a way to keep us engaged on them for as long as possible. There's a desire to scroll often / more in case we've missed something important or a fear of missing out. Instagram is no different and young people can easily lose track of time by aimlessly scrolling and watching videos posted by friends, acquaintances, influencers or even strangers.

PRODUCT TAGGING

Product tags allow users (particularly influencers who are sponsored to advertise products) to tag a product or business in their post. This tag takes viewers, regardless of age, directly to the product detail page on the shop where the item can be purchased and where children may be encouraged by influencers to purchase products they don't necessarily need.

EXCLUSION AND OSTRACISM

Young people are highly sensitive to ostracism. Feeling excluded can come in many forms such as: not receiving many 'likes', not being tagged, being unfriended, having a photo untagged, or not receiving a comment or reply to a message. Being excluded online hurts just as much as being excluded offline – with children potentially suffering lower moods, lower self-esteem, feeling as if they don't belong or undervalued.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Product tagging on Instagram only works on public accounts. If your child wants to share their clothing style, make-up etc and tag items in a post then they may be tempted to change their settings to public, which can leave their profile visible to strangers.



GOING LIVE

Live streaming on Instagram allows users to connect with friends and followers in real-time and comment on videos during broadcast. Risks increase if the account is public because anyone can watch and comment on their videos, including strangers. However, other risks include acting in ways they wouldn't normally or being exposed to inappropriate content or offensive language.

INFLUENCER CULTURE

Influencers can be paid thousands of pounds to promote a product, service, app and much more on social media – the posts can often be identified because they state they're a 'paid partnership'. Ofcom found that young people often attempt to copy-cat influencer behaviour for their own posts to gain likes, sometimes posting content which may not be age-appropriate.

UNREALISTIC IDEALS

Children compare themselves to what they see online in terms of how they look, dress, their body shape, or the experiences others are having. The constant scrolling and comparison of unrealistic ideals can lead to children feeling insecure about their own appearance, questioning how exciting their own lives are and having a fear of missing out.

Advice for Parents & Carers

HAVE OPEN DIALOGUE

Talk to your child about live videos and the risks involved and how they can do it safely with family and friends. Talk to them about ensuring they have safety settings on so only followers can view them live, and maybe help them prepare what they would say when they do go live.

REMOVE PAYMENT METHODS

If you're happy for your child to have a card associated with their Instagram account, we suggest adding a PIN which needs to be entered before making a payment. This can be added in the payment settings tab and will also help prevent unauthorised purchases.

USE MODERATORS

Instagram has launched 'live moderators' on Instagram live where creators can assign a moderator and give them the power to report comments, remove viewers and turn off comments for a viewer. It's recommended to keep devices in common spaces so that you are aware if they do go live or watch live streaming.

FAMILIARISE YOURSELF

Instagram is one social media app which has its safety features available to parents in a user-friendly manner. The document provides examples of conversation starters, managing privacy, managing comments, blocking and restricting and can be found on the Instagram website > community > parents.

FOLLOW INFLUENCERS

Following influencers will allow you to monitor what they're sharing as well as being able to discuss anything which you deem inappropriate. Talk to your child about who they follow and help them develop critical thinking skills about what the influencer is trying to do. For example, are they trying to sell a product by promoting it?

BE VIGILANT AND REASSURE

Talk to your child about the use of filters. While they can be fun to use they don't represent the real them. If you find your child continuously using a filter, ask them why and reassure them that they are beautiful without it to build up their feelings of self-worth. Discuss the fact that many images online are filtered and not everyone looks 'picture perfect' in real life, which can also lend itself to discuss what is real and not real online.

MANAGE LIKE COUNTS

Due to the impact on mental wellbeing, Instagram has allowed users to change the focus of their experiences online away from how many likes a post has by hiding the like counts. Users can hide like counts on all the posts in their feed as well as hiding the like counts on their own posts. This means others can't see how many likes you get. This can be done by going into settings > notifications > posts > likes > off

BALANCE YOUR TIME

Instagram now has an in-built activity dashboard that allows users to monitor and control how much time they spend on the app. Users can add a 'daily reminder' to set a limit on how much time they want to spend on Instagram, prompting them to consider if it's been too long with a 'take a break' message. There's also the option to mute notifications for a period of time. These features can help you have a conversation with your child about how much time they are spending on the app and to set healthy time limits.

Meet Our Expert

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



Sources: <https://about.instagram.com/blog/announcements/introducing-family-center-and-supervision-tools> | <https://about.instagram.com/en-us/blog/announcements/introducing-reels-and-shop-tabs>