

Newsletter

No: 1317 | 30th September 2022

HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

I am very grateful to everyone who was involved in our Open Morning last weekend. Families interested in learning more about Yarm were given a full and vibrant experience of the school and their experience will have been enhanced by the outstanding efforts of our pupils who volunteered their time to be there. Their pride in the school shone through, from the demonstrations they gave in laboratories to the discussions they had in classrooms, from the practice sessions on the river and in the sports hall to the commitment they showed on the pitch against Argentinian opposition, and particularly as they guided families around the school and

answered their questions. I was inundated with grateful comments from families who appreciated and admired the pupils' confidence, honesty and enthusiasm.

Our assembly on Monday celebrated the European Day of Languages, and saw a range of students and staff conduct the assembly - from beginning to end - in a range of European languages. Our students' confident delivery and linguistic ability was impressive. I concluded the assembly in Welsh, which was a welcome opportunity to roll a few r's and somewhat surprisingly by doing so - to alert some pupils for the first time to the fact that Welsh is indeed a separate language. Felicitations (or, llongyfarchiadau) to all students involved and to Mr Bridges and the MFL department.

This edition of the newsletter offers much for those thinking about careers and the future, including some recent university ranking information, as well as the usual - but perennially excellent contributions from pupils in sport reports, book reviews, work experience, debating society, beautiful artwork and more. There is also information for parents on forthcoming social events, PAA shows and tips to solve the problems of technology clutter.

Dr Huw Williams



We welcomed St. Andrew's Scots School from Argentina for exciting rugby and hockey matches last Saturday. More photos on the School website: click here.

COSTCO'S SECRETS

Where - B1

When - 1pm every Thursday

Who - A full room of Econs, Bus and other keen pupils

What - EconBus Soc

This week the theme was Costco! Michael Bashford, assisted by Eizad, gave an interesting and well researched presentation looking at the unique business model of Costco and their secrets to success. They also examined how it differs from other retail giants like Amazon. Walmart etc.

Subsequent discussion about the oligopolistic market of supermarkets followed and it was great to hear students linking behavioural economics from previous talks to this week's theme.

Thank you to Michael and Eizad for the talk and the muffins they brought for the audience, and to everyone who attended for making B1 THE place to be!!



PITCH PERFECT



The Yarm Apprentices have had a busy week, they had an action packed Open Morning, with questionnaires and taste testing as they develop their Mocktails for Mr Monk, AKA Lord Sugar, they have also undergone professional training in pitching!

We were delighted to welcome Mr Andrew Richardson, Learning and Development Content Designer, from Darlington Building Society into school, to deliver a training session designed to help our Apprentices perform effectively in the Board Room when delivering their proposals on the 11th October.

Mr Richardson took them through

his 5 point plan and emphasised the importance of preparation, effective resources and audience engagement. There was then the opportunity for Q & A, and Mr Richardson pointed out that the techniques he had discussed were not just relevant for the YA but also for both academic and employment based presentations in the future. The students really impressed me with their engagement and the breadth of their guestions.

We are very grateful to Mr Richardson for taking time from his very busy schedule to encourage and advise our students.

Miss C E Rhodes

WORK EXPERIENCE: AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEERING AND LAW

In our continuing series profiling the work experiences of pupils over the summer we can read this week about Alfie King discussing his time exploring automotive engineering, as well as Bakaer Noble detailing his virtual work experience time with a Law firm.

Mr S Edwards



Over the recent summer break I completed a week's work experience at the headquarters of Twisted Automotive in Thirsk in the hope of giving me confidence in my future decisions post A Levels. Twisted Automotive are a well known company primarily working with a range of Land Rover Defenders constructing them to customer's needs. First entering the workplace I was greeted by the workshop manager, Andy, initially asking me not for my name but instead about my interest in cars. Funnily enough this removed all anxiety I conjured in the waiting room as I then went on to meet the rest of the team. I met many of the mechanics in hope of gaining knowledge and experience of working hands on with cars. This led to me carrying out such tasks as fitting brake and suspension kits, a roll cage and even working on a 6.3L

V8 engine from a Corvette. Although working on the engine was one of my favourite tasks, it came nowhere close to one of the mechanics taking me out in one of the newly completed Defenders. I thoroughly enjoyed this.

Being into cars and wanting to pursue a career in motorsport as an engineer, I could not think of a better place to be. Working at Twisted not only allowed me to pursue my passion in cars, but also helped me work on my problem solving and communication skills that were proven necessary when working against deadlines and when something would not go to plan. Nevertheless I thoroughly enjoyed my experience at Twisted and did not leave empty handed as I finished the week with an offer for a possible apprenticeship post A Levels. Of course this will be something to consider. From the week I gained skills and knowledge for working and the inner workings of a car that I will take on into future careers. In the end I also had confidence in what I want to look for in a career and gave me further security in my planned decisions post A Level. I found the week fascinating and I am so grateful for what they offered and currently hope to keep in contact with the team in the future.

Alfie King, Lower Sixth

Pinsent Masons

In the summer holidays I completed a virtual work experience course with the London law firm Pinsent Masons. The programme lasted for 4 days and consisted of group activities, lectures and workshops led by Pinsent Masons employees. Some examples of the type of work we undertook were litigation, tax law and contract law with lots of group discussions and debates. The course itself had a competitive application process with only 10% of applications being successful. Once enrolled on the course, however, the connections, skills and attitudes you develop are invaluable. Personally, I would recommend this course to anyone wanting to pursue a career as a lawyer or paralegal with a positive attitude to outside thinking and analysis as some of the tasks require you to read between the lines and do some research.

Baker Noble, Lower Sixth



Public Sector Careers

Join us at this virtual event to find out more about working in the public sector.

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.

We will provide insight and advice into professions from across the public sector, in areas such as:

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



Students from all schools welcome!

Wed, 12th October, 6pm - 7.30pm

Visit https://bit.ly/CareerClusterPublicSector to register now. Zoom Webinar links will be sent in advance to registered emails.

POLITICS BOOK REVIEW: THATCHER BY CLARE BECKETT

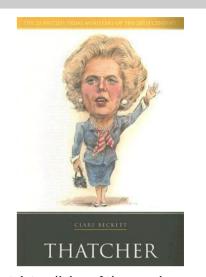
For my book review, I chose to read Thatcher by Clare Beckett. This book, written by Beckett as part of her series on 'The 20 British Prime Ministers of the 20th Century', details the life, the leadership and the legacy of one of the UK's most influential Prime Ministers. By exploring her early life and her parliamentary life, you can see the base from which Thatcher's policies came and the details behind her rise and fall as Prime Minister.

Having been born in Grantham on the 13th October 1925, to parents running a grocery shop in the small town, Margaret Roberts had a relatively normal upbringing, and was a regular attendee of the local Methodist church. Upon leaving the town in 1943, she headed to Oxford University to study Chemistry, and graduated with a second-class honours in 1947, not before becoming President of the Oxford University Conservative Association in 1946 and famously reading Hayek's Road to Serfdom for the first time, known to have shaped her hatred for government economic intervention.

Her first foray into elected politics came in Labour-held Dartford. Adopted as the candidate in 1949, she met Denis Thatcher, a well-off man with a 'wider and more active social life' who took her to the theatre, to restaurants, and for

drives in his Jaguar. After fighting the 1950 and 1951 General Elections in Dartford, cutting the Labour majority twice, and qualifying to be a barrister in 1953, she was selected to stand in the Conservative safe seat of Finchley in 1958. Presented as a 'well-off professional woman, well-tailored and well-groomed', she was elected with an increased Conservative majority in the seat in 1959. At this point, after a decade married to Denis, her 'lifestyle now was social and cosmopolitan', and had changed drastically from the Methodist small-town lifestyle she was brought up with. She had refined and discussed her political opinions with friends in Parliament and as a judge, but some things in her life had not changed: she still disliked and distrusted socialism, and she was still committed to practical, sound and free-market economic policies.

After holding several Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet positions, she became Leader of the Opposition on the 11th February 1975, on a campaign emphasising her conservativeness, standing for sound economics, middle-class values and ordinary British values; values she continued to hold even twenty-five years after her first forays into elected politics. Her Shadow Cabinet appointments were designed to reassure the Party, with a mix of her right-wing policies and the more



centrist policies of the previous leader, in order to keep the party together; very few of the Party at the time were convinced by her monetarist ideas. Gradually, she united the Party, and with a Labour government failing to control strikes and inflation during the Winter of Discontent, and a Conservative opposition that emphasised the reform of trade union law in their manifesto, Thatcher won the election and became Prime Minister, 'perhaps to the surprise of the Conservatives' The book covers many events surrounding Thatcher's time in government. At the time, she was the first female leader of a Western democracy, but began to fill her Cabinet with her supporters. At the first budget, she had manifesto promises to keep, but began enacting her monetarist policies: the civil service was cut, department budgets were cut, and shares in public sector assets were sold, giving responsibility for spending on health, welfare and the like to the individual.

BOOK REVIEW cont.

In the short term, these measures increased inflation and unemployment; inflation rose from 10.3% to 21%. However, true to a line famously associated with Thatcher ('The lady's not for turning'), Thatcher stuck to her policies and, in January 1982, despite unemployment reaching three million. Conservative fortunes in the polls began to turn. Thatcher as a Prime Minister had. and still has, a lasting legacy on British politics. Tony Blair, a Prime Minister from a party traditionally in favour of a large public sector, had to conform to the cut-back public sector put in place by Thatcher in her decade-long premiership. Since the book's publishing in 2006, her effects are arguably even more noticeable: many Conservative leadership candidates have tried (and often failed) to become party leader on a Thatcherite policy base, most recently Liz Truss.

For anyone interested in exploring more about Thatcher - her upbringing, policies and effects on Britain - I would thoroughly encourage you to read this book: it covers her fascinating and highly influential political history in much more detail than I can go into here!

Luke Porter, Lower Sixth

HAPPY 40TH BIRTHDAY TO THE U3A



The University of the 3rd Age celebrated "40 years of positive aging" this week. This national initiative enables those no longer working to come together and continue their joy of learning. The u3a movement focuses on learning, staying active and having fun, showcasing what it means to have a positive later life. What a privilege to live out our School motto "Educating for Life" by helping Stockton's flourishing u3a group celebrate 40 years in style with a musical afternoon tea.

After just two intensive rehearsals at the start of term, the School's single reed ensemble, directed by Mr Smith, played superbly alongside the u3a's amazing ukulele ensemble alongside solo sets from James and Chloe. The occasion proved to be a wonderful celebration of learning with musicians young and slightly less young united in their incredible ability to bring pleasure to others through their love of musical learning. The intergenerational camaraderie was heartwarming and the afternoon tea delicious!

Heartfelt thanks to Mr Smith, Mr Williams, Sara, Chloe, Sophie, Frankie, Ayan, James, Annabel, Patrick, Josh and Eleanor for their musical brilliance and to Mr Mist for his help with logistical matters!

CHANGING PERSPECTIVES IN LEEDS

Last Friday 23rd September it was the turn of our A Level Art students to visit Leeds Art Gallery to see their latest exhibition called "Changing Perspectives" in addition to the galleries' permanent collection.

Changing Perspectives is a new exhibition exploring issues around (mis)representation and identity through examining mechanisms of stereotyping and unequal power relations, connecting the past and the present. In addition to this there was a new exhibition of work by London-based artist Charmaine Watkiss. The exhibition showcases a recent body of work by Watkiss that acknowledges and celebrates the experiences and contributions of people of Jamaican heritage in the UK.

Her beautiful drawings explore the wisdom, strength and resilience of Caribbean women across generations.

Ms E Stebbings







Our A Level students enjoyed exploring and drawing from the range of artwork on display, from the work of contemporary artists to the great masters. They also managed to spend their lunch break in the sunshine.

REACH FOR THE STARS

This week our FAME Working Lunch was not a Former Pupil, but an existing student who has already determined his path post Yarm. I was delighted that Josh Littler took me up on my request for him to speak to his peers, and his presentation was as confident as that of a Former Pupil.

In a session lasting 40 minutes, Josh regaled the packed room of Sixth Form students with the story of his successful application to the EY Academy, and how this helped him secure what is truly a fantastic apprenticeship opportunity with EY. In a very candid and honest Q & A session Josh made it very clear how much effort is involved with gaining such an apprenticeship but he also gave a very fair appraisal of the benefits of such a route at 18.

Thank you to Josh for such sterling commitment to the department!

Miss C E Rhodes



THINKING ABOUT UNIVERSITIES?

There are several very helpful guides when it comes to looking for the right university. One of these recently published its 2022 version, The Times Good University Guide. It contains a wealth of information about individual universities and their courses, as well as providing useful, if somewhat impressionistic ranking tables. These are not never the final word on a selection process but can be formative in alerting applicants to options they might have otherwise overlooked due to a lack of awareness or through a dated reputation that has since shifted.

And this is perhaps the key point when choosing a university; is it a good fit for you? Increasingly there has been a growing trend aware from simply looking at the institutional reputation of old, and more of a focus on drilling down into the exact nature of the course, amongst other considerations. And indeed more than ever before there are a number of very enticing alternatives to the university route.

Over the next few weeks I will be publishing a few short articles that cover areas of consideration when looking for a university and a course. But this week here are some of the snapshot outcomes of The Times research. The metrics looked at involved teaching quality, student experience, research quality, entry standards, graduate prospects, degree outcome quality, completion rate and staff-student ratio. <u>The</u> <u>Times Guide</u> lives behind a paywall that you may have a Times newspaper subscription for. Alternatively you might look at the freely accessible <u>Guardian Guide to</u> <u>Universities</u>.

Mr S Edwards

University of the Year Bath Runner-Up Exeter Shortlisted Birmingham Oxford Surrey

Best for Teaching Quality West London St Andrews Aberystwyth Bishop Grosseteste

Top for Accounting and Finance LSE Strathclyde Warwick Bath Leeds

Top for Art and Design Oxford Loughborough Glasgow Lancaster Kingston **Top for Medicine** Oxford Glasgow Dundee Queen's Belfast Swansea

Best for Sport Loughborough Nottingham Durham Edinburgh Exeter

Top for History St Andrews Cambridge Oxford Durham London School of Economics and Political Science

Most from Independent Schools Durham St Andrews Royal Agricultural Edinburgh Exeter

Most Top Class Degrees (% of students gaining a 1st or 2:1) Oxford (95.5) London School of Economics and Political Science (93.6) Cambridge (93.5) St Andrews (92.6) Durham (92.6)

ARTISTS' CORNER

In this week's Artists Corner we are showcasing the work of 8 Second Year pupils' "direct observational drawings". At the start of every year our pupils spend two weeks drawing from life, a skill which helps them to develop their powers of observation and underpins the rest of the techniques that we develop in our art lessons. The beautiful pen drawings are the result of a continuous line task done without lifting the pen off the paper and under timed conditions. The delicate and detailed coloured drawings were produced using coloured pencils. This is just a small selection of the great work our Second Years are currently producing and we are very proud of all of them.



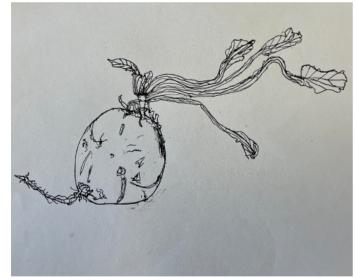
Charlotte Dawson



Minakshi Palat-Meethale



Sienna Hyndman



Abdullah Waqas



Zoe Wild







Yasmin Shawgi

Lucy Oliver

Banming Yang

DEBATING: WOULD THE WORLD BENEFIT IF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT WERE REINSTATED?

The second session of debate society kicked off with the battle of the team names. At the end of the last session, Mr Bridges introduced the new structure of debate club teams and set team leaders with their first task of coming up with a suitable team name that could last generations of debate to come. And the four teams did not disappoint at giving a wide variety of names with unique meaning and relevance to their team beliefs.

Setting things off, Caroline's team gave their take on a name conveying the history of debate linking it back to ancient Rome and roman forums. Their team name "Team Vici" translates to "I conquered" or "I won" expressing their group belief of standing victorious each week. Josh's team went next, with more comedic appeal for their team name "Ultimate Shannerz" with their latin slogan loosely translating to "We shall not be overcome". For reader's convenience the word "Shannerz" can be used in many modern contexts with no direct definition but is however used largely by members of Josh's team and has become somewhat of an inside joke within the whole society. Madelaine's team went classic with team name "Arguably the Best" expressing their self confidence and also linking to debate via the idea of argument. And

Jodie's team is yet to be named due to the absence of many members of their team during last week's session.

Moving forward, the debaters set off with one member of each team volunteering to take on the motion "This house would reinstate corporal punishment". Teams Vici and Ultimate Shannerz were placed on the proposition with Simmi and Ava arguing for the motion, whereas Teams Arguably the Best and Jodie's team had Josh and Kayla debating on the opposition. The teams got together in the limited time they had post the team name explanations to compile their strongest ideas that they would express in the debate.

The debate kicked off in "debating matters" style with the first speaker from the proposition Simmi presenting the 2 main reasons why they would reinstate corporal punishment; the fact that it already exists and therefore should be standardised and that corporal punishment would see a return to a more diciplined country. The statistic of 94% of parents admitting to "spanking" their 3-4 year old in 2014, set a strength for the proposition's argument conveying their two main reasons clearly.

Josh from the opposition retorted back with his accusation that the

proposition were promoting torture and child abuse. He raised the idea that charities work endlessly to try and eliminate violations of human rights and that if corporal punishment already exists, its legal reinstating will be taken advantage of more. Josh made further claims that in all, it is ineffective and causes long term issues.

The final speaker for the proposition Ava conveyed her thoughts on Josh's accusations as them being ignorant to the real benefits corporal punishment can make to many settings. She gave the example of a school child who had done a serious crime or behaved unacceptably, and then only being punished with a detention, warning or verbal telling off. She argued that these punishments are not enough to make the student compliant and to stop them from understanding what they had done was truly unacceptable and encourage others to not do the same.

Kayla closed the argument for the opposition, raising the issue that violence against children creates a long living fear inside removing the role model figure of a teacher. She also complained corporal punishment would promote violence in children's lives and damage society with ethical and immoral ideas that are outdated for a generation who clearly see reward

DEBATING cont.

works better over punishment.

This ended the debate and for interest of time, the questions were addressed by the judge (Mr Bridges), who first questioned the proposition on the extremes of corporal punishment such as losing a hand for stealing. The team responded with an explanation that the standardisation of the corporal punishment being introduced would be monitored closely to remain ethical and used in only extreme cases of necessity.

The judge's question for the opposition focused on how they would propose the world could return to the order of school that was held in the past through corporal punishment. Both members of the team contributed to their reply saying that corporal punishment in schools might have immediate effect but cause issues for the future as well as an increase in conformity in children stopping them from being confident to express their own opinions.

With strong arguments from both prop and opp, in the end the opposition were victorious consisting of the members of Jodie and Josh's teams. They each received a number of points for their group, alongside each debater involved gaining personal points based on the individual's performance. The opposing team took the win based on their clear, concise and collaborative approach at the motion, whereas the proposition lacked real belief in their side of the debate.

With some wise input from Mr Brash on how to organise a successful argument (avoiding scattered ideas) and deal with difficult and misleading questions, all teams are excited for next week's new motion and the friendly competition of the new teams!

Simmi Sharma (Lower Sixth)

DEBATING IN THIRD YEAR ASSEMBLY

In Lower School Assembly this week, Third Year Cuthbert ran a slightly different assembly from usual. We have been carrying out debates in some of our afternoon tutorial sessions, so we decided to hold a live debate in front of the entire lower school. After some discussion, a topic was chosen - "This House believes that football is a sport for hooligans".

Charlie spoke to introduce our assembly, explaining some key debating terms (the motion, the proposition and the opposition), and introducing the topic. Adi and Patrick argued for the proposition, saying that football is a hooligans' sport as there are many historical instances of violence in the game. Olly and Oscar defended football's honour, pointing out that recent events in women's football, as well as football's record with charitably endeavours, say far more about the effect of football on society.

Jodie and Josh, two of our School Officers, agreed to judge the debate and you are reading the outcome here first! They determined that both sides argued convincingly, with well structured speeches and good, emotive examples. On balance, though, they judged that one side had slightly stronger rebuttal which directly related to the other team's previous arguments. For this reason, they gave the victory to the opposition - to Olly and Oscar - who successfully defended football as a beautiful game.

At the end of our assembly, Srikari and Amelia explained our message to the whole school - which was not to do with football, but rather the art of debating. They suggested that, in our everyday disagreements (whether they are big or small), we should look to debate rather than argue; they said we should be open to changing our minds; and they said we should never attack an individual when debating, but rather focus on the topic at hand.

CUP: U19S v QUEEN ETHELBURGA'S

Monday's games session brought us our first cup match against Queen Ethleburga's. After a shaky start to the season last week, we were keen to come out with a win. The match started with great intensity from our Yarm side, building up play to earn ourselves some shots on target. Great transfers around the back allowed the ball to make its way into the opposition's D, resulting in a quick strike and a goal in the bottom corner. We were quick to wrack up the goals as a great deflection from Lexie brought us into half-time 2-0 up. A quick team talk brought us back to the second half ready to secure the win. Two more goals, one from a penalty corner and the other from another deflection, closed the match with a 4-0 win. We look forward to carrying forward this performance into the next round.

Belle Woodhead, Upper Sixth

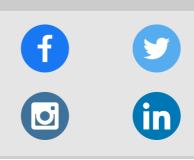


SPORT WEEK AHEAD

The weeks ahead are now available online.

You can view them here.

FOLLOW US!



U12A v NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL

We arrived at Thornaby Pavillion much earlier than our opposition. We had lots of time while we were waiting so we did a very thorough warm up. First we did some running pulse raisers and practised our game skills e.g. footwork. Then we included some stretches e.g. high knees, shoo the chickens and kick the cow! We were in the zone and ready to start when they arrived!

In the first quarter the other team started slowly and didn't play their best game. So we scored first and took the lead. Ella and Libby were so good and they scored the majority of their shots!

In the second quarter the opposition had warmed up and improved but we kept the lead.

In the third quarter our game plan was to be brave, contest more and win the ball more so we all tried to mark our player as tight as we possibly could. As the other team got better we upped our game too and stretched our lead.

We worked so hard that by the last quarter we were really sweaty and red faced! We won our first game and this means we have got through to the next round of the competition. We were all very happy!

POM: Libby Scott

Rosie Ferguson, First Year

YARM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION PRESENT:

GIN & SWING

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

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

Friday, October

Buy your tickets now! Ticket sales close on 30th September!





PAA P

BUY TICKETS ONLINE: YARMSCHOOLASSOCIATION.ORG



YPSSC PRESENTS

SAVE THE DATE!

ala

SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER CELEBRATIONS BEGIN AT 7PM TIL MIDNIGHT

@PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITOR!UM

TICKET PRICE £55 AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE NOW WWW.YPSSC.CO.UK

NEXT WEEK: SUPREME QUEEN

Now one of the most recognisable Tribute bands in the world, SUPREME QUEEN continue to take things to a whole different level, with their homage to the halcyon days of one of the planet's greatest ever rock bands. Closely following the ethos of the original band, they have always strived to create the Original Queen Live Experience.

Simply, a stage show designed to provide the most memorable of evenings for Queen's millions of fans worldwide.

Saturday 8th October 2022, 7:30pm Book Online Here

COMING SOON : A DOLL'S HOUSE

Nora is a happily married woman with a loving husband and three beautiful children. Everything seems perfect in her happy home. But when a man from her past appears demanding what he owes her, her ideal life unravels, and as she realises the truth about her marriage, she is forced to make the ultimate choice...

Award-winning, Durham-based Elysium Theatre Company brings Ibsen's landmark drama about marriage, love and the need to be true to yourself to the North East in a sensational new production.

Tuesday 11th October 2022, 7:00pm Book Online Here

COMING SOON : SNOOKER GREATS

Come and join Steve Davis and Dennis Taylor as they recreate the match that gripped a nation – the 1985 World Snooker Final.

Snooker legend John Virgo is your host and referee for an evening guaranteed to include his famed, hilarious snooker impressions.

A night not to be missed, there will also be a Q&A, providing you with the opportunity to pose the questions you always wanted to ask...

Monday 17th October 2022, 7:30pm Book Online Here







Click here to open the guide

At National Online Safety, we believe in e it is needed. This guide focuses on one

10 tips for parents and carers HOW TO BE GREEN WITH YOUR TECH

Right now, humans aren't living sustainably: we're taking too many resources and not leaving the world in a fit state for future generations. Old tech products are a clear example: if we throw them away, the poisonous lead and mercury inside can get into the food chain through the soil. Recycling tech, though, has its own issues: it's often exported to countries where the law doesn't protect people from hazards. Whole villages (including children) sort through discarded devices to remove useful parts and substances like gold, silver and copper – often putting their health at risk. Finding ways to re-use tech is the greenest option.

So what can we do with those cupboards and drawers full of old phones and unwanted computers? Reuse, recycle, donate or sell them!

1) DONATE THEM TO CHARITY

There are lots of charities that redistribute unwanted tech to worthy causes, either in he UK or in developing nations. If your old oraducts are still working, this is a great option – as it means that new products don't have to be made. search online for your nearest place that does this. Almost all batteries can be recycled – even the little 'button' ones from smaller gadgets. You could choose a box at home or school to keep used batteries in, and then take them to a designated place that collects them. Be very careful, though – button cells can be deadly if eaten by small children or pets.

2 REMEMBER THE BATTERIES 3 USE YOUR ONLINE SAFETY KNOWLEDGE Almost ultibative is can be recycled - even the little 'builton' ones from smaller gadgets. You could

make sure that all your personal data, private photos and so on have been deleted before the tech leaves your hands or is connected online.

4 REUSE THEM

Old smartphones can be used as webcams, security cameras, baby monitors or pet cams: there are apps that will configure them to do this. You can also turn an outdated phone into a TV remote control, an alarm clock that wakes you up with your favourite track, or a media centre you can take to places where you wouldn't risk your new phone. 5 TURN IT INTO SOMETHING NEW Smartphones are more powerful than most older computers. If you have an unwanted android phone, it's guite easy to create a new computer – you could use an old TV as a monit meaning you just need a mouse and keybaard. There are als

6 RETURN THEM

Return devices to the manufacturer or retailer you bought them from. Some manufacturers take responsibility for their products and accept them back, to refurbish and redistribute. If they don't, you could contact them and ask why: the more consumer pressure there is on shops and manufacturers, the more likely they are to act in a greener way.

7 SUPPORT SCIENCE

RESEARCH DISPOSAL METHODS / 10 KEEP THINKING

Let your old devices help modern research. Scientists currently investigating topics like far-off star systems, cancer treatment and earthquakes need enormous computing power. If your unwanted device is WiFi enabled, for example, you can connect it to a network so that it can boost scientists' research.

ONATIO

8 SELL THEM

This is also a green option as it means that fewer devices have to be produced. On top of that, you could also donate some of the money you make to an environmental charity.

Meet Our Expert

Nell Akin teaches scientific literacy through his non-profit organisation, Rubbish Science, which engages people in working together to live more sustainably and creatively uses waste to help address real-life problems. There are a range of environmental activities you may like to try on their website: www.rubbishscience.com.

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National

Online Safety° ¤Wednesday