



Newsletter

No: 1341 | 19th May 2023

HEADMASTER'S WELCOME



Success at Nottingham City Regatta

I have been reminded in many different ways why Yarm School is a wonderful place to work this week having been involved in, or aware of a contrasting combination of events which - individually and collectively - have made me proud of our pupils, colleagues and community.

Briefly (ish), these include: watching the sterling efforts of our pupils, and chatting to their avid supporters on the bank, at the Tees Regatta last weekend; thanking this year's School Officers and welcoming in our new team during Assembly on Monday; being inspired by my colleagues in our professional learning twilight INSET on Monday evening; being moved in the Leavers' Service at the

Methodist Church in Yarm as we bade farewell to this wonderful year group; being truly blown away by the quality of the GCSE and A level Art on display at the Art show; seeing our pupils preparing to welcome guests to Phab after school; hosting Stockton's Dementia Friendly Business Awards in the PAA, with music and musings by our pupils and Mr McGrother at this truly uplifting community event, in which the School and the PAA were awarded Dementia Friendly status; seeing our pupils' response to 'funky shoes day', which will raise funds for the Teesside Charity.

There is probably a law against a paragraph as long as the last one, so I hope that Mr Gilbert or the English Department are not too dismayed. I have probably missed other events out, too, so it could have been even worse. However, I hope it makes the point that this is a special place to work and to learn, and that we have much to be thankful for.

Tonight sees the Leavers' Dinner and I look forward to a lovely evening with our Upper Sixth. They, and the

Fifth Year, are now well and truly in the public exam season and we wish them all well. Other pupils are about to embark on their exam week, and I hope they will heed the advice given in assembly this week by Mr Morton (and our First Years in their excellent presentation) to make the most of the opportunity and, importantly, to view these exams - preparation, exam experience, feedback and results - as a learning experience and a step along the journey, rather than a destination in and of themselves.

Dr Huw Williams



FORMER PUPIL LONDON EVENT

Do you know any Former Pupils that are living or working in London? Please let them know about our London event on Friday 23rd June. Details here: <https://www.yarmschool.org/alumni-london-drinks/>

UPPER SIXTH LEAVERS' SERVICE

Tuesday 16th May saw the last formal lessons for the Upper Sixth students before they began their sequence of A Level examinations. The last two years of Sixth Form studies really have flown by and, as always, this was a poignant day. Sporting their buttonholes and posing for photographs, this was the end of their second, seventh or, for the eleven students who joined in Nursery 1 - sixteenth year at Yarm School. As has become the tradition, yearbooks were being filled with valedictions from classmates and teachers and there was a real sense of camaraderie amongst this group of fine young men and women.

We are grateful to Yarm Methodist Church for, once again, allowing us to

use this wonderful space for our Leavers' Service and it was good that so many parents were able to join the students for the occasion. We thank our guest speaker, The Reverend Dr Catherine Reid for her words of wisdom - reflecting on the parallels to be drawn from Jeremiah and the letters of Paul in the experience of the students. As Chaplain to the University of York, Dr Reid is well placed to understand the challenges, excitement and joy that lies ahead for the leavers. As ever the service was filled with music, from the choir and congregation and the Leavers' rendition of 'Come What May' left few dry eyes in the room. We thank Mrs Staggs, Mr Williams and the members of the choir for making this a really special occasion. Thank you

to the School Captains for their readings and to Mr Boddy for leading the service.

Then it was back to school for a delicious buffet courtesy of our excellent Sodexo colleagues, some family photographs, the issuing of the hoodies and then away into the sunny afternoon. As a friend of mine pointed out recently, there has not been a dry Coronation Day since records began; conversely the sun has always shone on the Leavers' Day. Or perhaps that is what it always seems!

Dr A M Goodall



LOWER SIXTH STUDENTS VISIT ENDEAVOUR PARTNERSHIP LAW FIRM

For a number of years Yarm School has been developing its relationship with a diverse range of companies across the Tees Valley. Given that Law can be a popular career option for a good number of our students, links with local law firms can be a vital step in their preparation.

Endeavour Partnership attended our recent Career Convention meeting with a vast number of pupils from across the region, Behind the scenes we had also been crafting a visit to the company offices in Stockton. The company is the only dedicated firm in Teesside focused on specialist commercial law advice, with clients across property, healthcare, franchising, energy, education, agriculture, banking and many other sectors.

The students were welcomed into the

offices and then given an introduction to law and the company itself by Stephen Elliott, one of the partners, Head of the Employment Department, as well being responsible for the training of new employees. This was followed by presentations from trainee solicitors, Kyra, Ben, Jonathan and Shannen, sharing their experiences of their routes to law, advice on securing valuable experience and employment, as well as giving insight into their daily routines and the atmosphere of working in a law firm. After the formal presentations and Q&A there was then the opportunity for the students to mix in a more relaxed fashion, discussing their own



Students in conversation with Stephen Elliott, Partner at Endeavour

plans with these company employees, as well as solicitors Jess and Anna.

We are so appreciative of the time and energy set aside by Endeavour to organise and deliver this visit; it was undoubtedly and invaluable experience for the students, giving them real world insight and understanding, as well as allowing them to make useful connections and informal mentors for their future shaping of their own careers.

Mr S Edwards

GLASTYARMBURY SUMMER BALL - MENU AND CHARITY ANNOUNCED

With only two tables remaining it's time to book your tickets to this highly-anticipated evening of entertainment, with Desi Nach Fire Entertainers and the Bourbon Street Band.

Get your tickets at

www.yarmschoolassociation.org

now!

We are delighted to announce that all the proceeds from the main auction and the sealed bids auction will go to the **Cleveland Heart Fund**.

Fancy some festival-inspired food? The menu sounds absolutely delicious!

Starters include tasty bites of Beetroot Falafel & Spicy Bean [veg option, pictured on next page], or Tex Mex Meatball, Fish, and Southern Fried Chicken [pictured on next page]. Both come with tacos, coriander, pineapple, pomegranate, salsas, chillis, limes and smashed avocado, chipotle and soured cream! For the main course guests will be

served chargrilled chicken breast with potato and chorizo hash, or marinated no-nut peanut tempeh, sauteed heura and potato hash (veg option) - all with charred corn, roasted peppers and a chimichurri yogurt dressing.

Afterwards you can enjoy a spectacular chocolate pyramid dessert paying homage to Glastonbury's main stage.





YARM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS



STARTER



VEGGIE STARTER

G L A S T Y A R M B U R Y

SATURDAY 17TH JUNE 2023

MENU ANNOUNCED!

WWW.YARMSCHOOLASSOCIATION.ORG

**SUMMER BALL MEETS FESTIVAL
LIVE MUSIC FESTIVAL FEEL DELICIOUS FOOD
BUY TICKETS ONLINE JUST £75 PP**

FESTIVAL BALL 1970-2020

THIS HOUSE BELIEVES THAT WE SHOULD ABOLISH THE MONARCHY

In light of recent events, debate society decided to tackle the controversial motion 'this house believes that we should abolish the monarchy'.

This week, our new debaters took the stage as they navigated this difficult motion. Both the proposition and opposition gave insightful arguments that made the audience think. Topics such as the recent coronation came up where the first speaker for the proposition, Humaira, argued that it was a waste of taxpayers money and lacked sensitivity in this cost of living crisis however Jasmine on the opposition swiftly rebutted this argument with the impressive fact that it actually generated £337 million. She then went on to discuss the tourism and exposure the monarchy brings to Britain as well as the unity that it brings to the public.

Back to the proposition, where Brooke continued their argument by stating that the monarchy holds little political

power which made us ask the question whether our modern British society needs a monarchy? She made the strong point that the monarchy was not reflective of our progressive, modern and inclusive British society today but instead the monarchy remains as a reminder of the complex history of Britain which encompasses the British Empire linked with slavery and oppression. She linked the many controversies surrounding Royal family, such as Prince Andrew and his allegations as well as the departure of the former Prince Harry and Meghan Markle, with the idea that the monarchy can be seen as 'glorified celebrities'

Dan closed off the opposition's speeches by stating that controversial figures such as Prince Andrew faced repercussions for their actions, as he was stripped of his titles and his actions do not reflect the whole family. He finally emphasised the idea of unity and how the monarchy has the ability

to bring together the nation and allow us times of celebrations even when circumstances may be tough and the essential role the monarchy plays in terms of charity work and the positives that it has brought to our community such as DofE.

Once the arguments were completed, both teams faced difficult, thought-provoking questions from both the judges and audience as it was brought up that countries such as Papua New Guinea benefited from the British Empire as well as the the question whether the monarchy undermines British democracy and the idea that there are other opportunities for unity within the nation such as the recent Eurovision.

Both teams navigated this motion and the questions with grace and respect however in the end it was the opposition that seized the win due to their cohesive arguments and strong responses to answers.

Sara Banerjee, Lower Sixth

THE NEW ECONBUS SOC CHAIRS

It gives me great pleasure to announce the appointment of four new Chairs for the EconBus Soc, stepping into the roles recently vacated by leavers Laura and Ben.

The new Chairs are

Ollie Best and Harry Rodwell - EconBus Chairs (with responsibility for Business) and Arhana Pradeep and Adhi Dinakaran - EcoBus Chairs

(with responsibility for Economics)



In addition Johnny Carr has been appointed as Peer Support Lead, taking over from Michael Bashford.

I look forward to working alongside these students over the next twelve months. EconBus Soc will be back after study leave and Peer Support

for the new Lower Sixth will resume in September.

Miss C Rhodes



MUSIC MASTERCLASSES FROM THE BBC BIG BAND



On Friday 5th May, four of our Sixth Form students had the incredible and rare opportunity to take part in Music Masterclasses from members of the BBC Big Band.

Chloe Godfrey, who is studying A Level music, had a 45 minute saxophone masterclass with Andy Panayi.

Andy is a professor at The Royal College of Music and The Royal Academy of Music in London and the Birmingham Conservatoire. He works as a consultant/ composer/ arranger for the ABRSM & Trinity College London specialising in developing the Jazz & Classical syllabuses for future examinations.

Andy is a performer, a composer, and an arranger who plays all of the different types of flutes and saxophones and writes commissioned works, compositions

and arrangements for his own ensembles. He has performed and recorded with many singers such as; Shirley Bassey, Paul McCartney, Seth MacFarlane, Elaine Paige, Elvis Costello, Georgie Fame, Peter Skellen, Zoot Money, Irene Reed, Elaine Delmar, Helen Shapiro, Madeline Bell & Patty Austin to name a few, and he has also worked alongside or supported Abdulla Ibrahim (Dollar Brand), Freddie Hubbard, Phil Woods, Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Centre Jazz Orchestra, Joe Lovano, Roy Hargrove, Louie Bellson Octet & Big Band, Ed Thigpen, Jiggs Whigham, Billy Cobham, Indo-Jazz Fusions run by Johnny Mayer, Vale of Glamorgan Contemporary Music Festival, RPO, BBC Concert Orchestra, LSSO, The Moscow City Ballet, Ronnie Scott & his Side-men, Scott Hamilton, Ken Peplowski, Pepper Adams, Kenny Baker, Ted Heath/ Don Lusher Big Band, BBC Radio Big Band, Bert Kaempfert Orchestra, Stan Tracey Big Band -Septet – Octet, John Dankworth & Cleo Laine, The John & Alec Dankworth Generation Big Band, Humphrey Lyttelton and many more.

Andy worked with Chloe on technique in terms of different methods and alternative voicings in order to learn how to access additional altissimo notes (notes that are higher than the standard range of

an instrument). They then proceeded to move to improvisation and one topic was concerning the importance of space in music and not trying to fill every second with sound.

They finished by playing through some of the repertoire that Chloe has collected over the years and which she really enjoyed. Chloe said of her masterclass with Andy: “he was just so modest, I can’t believe it”.



On the same afternoon, Kayla Roberts, Tilly Armstrong and Esther Lane had a Vocal Masterclass with Claire Martin OBE, who is the lead singer of the BBC Big Band.

Claire is a tour de force on the UK jazz scene gaining many awards, including winning the British Jazz Awards eight times during her career which spans over three decades. In 2018 she was the proud recipient of the BASCA Gold Badge Award for her contribution to jazz.

Claire became a professional singer at 19 and two years later realised her dream of singing at Ronnie Scott’s legendary jazz club in London Soho. Signed to the prestigious Glasgow

MUSIC MASTERCLASSES (cont.)

based Linn Records in 1990, Claire has since released 18 CDs with the label, collaborating with musical luminaries including Martin Taylor, John Martyn, Stephane Grappelli, Kenny Barron, Richard Rodney Bennett and Jim Mullen on many of these recordings.

Claire has performed worldwide with her trio and, until his death in 2012, worked extensively with the celebrated composer and pianist Sir

Richard Rodney Bennett in a cabaret duo.

Claire appears as a featured soloist with the Halle Orchestra, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, the RTE Concert Orchestra, the Royal Northern Sinfonia, the BBC Big Band and the BBC Concert Orchestra.

In the masterclass Claire worked with Esther, Tilly and Kayla on the

performance and presentation of songs, mic technique, expression, word painting, stance, posture, stillness, bridging the gap between pitch ranges and much much more. When the extended session ended, after an hour and a half, Claire invited the girls to watch the Big Band rehearse in the PAA. A wonderful afternoon was had by all.

Mr A McIntyre



MATHS CHALLENGE

Pupils have, once again, achieved great success in the recent UKMT Maths challenges. The three pupils who qualified for the Hamilton Olympiad on the back of their strong performance in the Intermediate

Maths Challenge recently received their certificates. Patrick Winters and Ajay Selvan received Merit certificates and Abdelrahman Ellidir a certificate of Distinction.

Abdelrahman also received a silver medal which means he was among the top 30 performers nationally.

Earlier this half-term some pupils in First and Second year sat the Junior Maths

challenge and achieved some excellent results with 33 Bronze certificates, 39 Silver certificates and 12 Gold certificates. This was despite a fire alarm interruption for some pupils! Six pupils, including some in the First Year, also qualified for the Junior Kangaroo follow-on round which takes place on the 14th of June. Good luck to Surya Baskar, Yasmin Shawgi (best in school), Lucy Oliver, Bhargav Mannan, Diviyan Thayalan and Isla Close and well done to everyone who took part.

Mrs K Barnett



UPPER 6TH LEAVERS' CONCERT

June 26th




7pm

PAST PRESENT FUTURE

YARM SCHOOL

Tickets are £5 and are available online at www.thepaaonline.org or calling the
PAA box office on (01642) 792587



YARM SCHOOL
EDUCATING FOR LIFE

DOVECOTE CONCERT

SUNDAY 2nd JULY 2023, 6PM

Tickets are **free** and must be "bought" from [the www.thepaaonline.org](http://www.thepaaonline.org)

There will be a **BAR** for cool refreshing drinks and a delicious BBQ. These areas will be open from 5.15pm

Tickets for the **Legendary Sodexo BBQ** are available from www.thepaaonline.org at a cost of **£6.00pp**

YARM SCHOOL DANCE PRESENTS
HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME



FRIDAY 9TH JUNE

6.30PM IN THE PAA

£7 Adult, £3.50 Concessions, Free for Yarm Pupils

Purchase Tickets Online www.thepaaonline.org

THREE REGATTAS IN LESS THAN A WEEK!

The Coronation weekend saw racing on Sunday and Monday at Durham City Coronation Regatta with many rowers from Yarm School Boat Club taking home special Coronation medals. The full age group from 14 years of age to 18 were represented and rowed over the 700 meter course on Sunday with some racing over the 500 meter course on Monday.

Side-by-side racing is always exciting and as this was the first regatta of the season, there was both excitement at being on the water and apprehension about avoiding the concrete wall at the start of the race.

The weekend saw seven wins for YSBC with a further five crews losing in the final. The senior coxless four of Archie Norton, Harry Wildridge, Will Woodhead and Deacon Laverick didn't have everything their own way in their event. Dead heating with a Tees crew, they had to re-row their race before eventually coming out the victors in their J18 final. They subsequently went on to win the open event as well. The senior boys' coxed four were racing in the open category and narrowly lost in the final.

The senior girls' coxless four of Emily Dunn, Cordelia Deering, Harriet White and Lilian Dufton also proved themselves to be the outstanding crew in their event by winning easily. However, the senior girls' coxed four

lost their final, but the majority of both crews formed an eight with two junior fifteens only to be narrowly beaten in the final by Collingwood College. All of these senior crews are preparing for the Championship events at National Schools, which is just over two weeks away.



As the sun shone on a beautiful day in Durham, the girls' J16 coxless quad thought they had won their event, crossing the line first, but it transpired they had impeded another crew and so were disqualified. Meanwhile the boys J16 four of Sai Sidaginamale, Will Lewis, Luke Anderson, Jack Pritchard had cox Mayank Podalakur to guide them down the course to their first win of the regatta season.

The J15 squad of boys and girls are proving to be formidable racers. The boys' J15 coxed four of Shehab Saad, Patrick Tulloch, Zeph Atkinson-Talib, Sam Pritchard were ably coxed by

Mayank Podalakur to win a highly contested event. This was quickly followed by the girls' coxed four of Megan Hull, Rishi Chawla, Cody Staggs, Annabel Cochrane and Lydia Wain coxing taking the club's fifth win of the day. The scullers were not to be outdone by the rowers and the girls' J15 coxed quad of Rebecca White, Jenny Atkinson, Evie Stoker, Abby Stewart and Anya Kansal showed their pedigree with a two length win over Tyne RC.



Monday racing was a quieter event with more Junior 14 and 15 rowers taking part over the 500m course. Patrick Tulloch took the weekend tally of wins to seven with a great win in the J15 single sculls event.

Six days later YSBC arrived at Tees Regatta, our local event at the other end of the river, by the Barrage. This is the only multi-lane event in the North with a four-lane 850m buoyed course, giving all crews another type

THREE REGATTAS IN LESS THAN A WEEK (cont.)



of racing experience.

And what a day it was for the boys' coxed four. Having been narrowly beaten at Durham City Regatta, they were determined to go one better at this regatta. The crew of Izadin Qasem, Oliver Holmes, Ethan Stannard, Will Craggs and Bakaer Noble took both the Open coxed fours event as well as the J18 event. They then combined with the J16 boys to win the eights event. Three wins in one day left the boys elated.

The senior girls' coxed four of Hannah Stewart, Kitty Brown, Storm Smith, Eve Kempster and coxed by Dani Devlin felt they had something

to prove after last week and beat their last week's opponents convincingly to take the Senior Women's coxed fours event. Sometimes adversity brings out the best in crews and the girls' J16 coxless quad of Hannah Bettinson, Cecily Deering, Lucy Bargett and Jenny Atkinson, who had been disqualified six days ago, sculled very well to open up a lead over their opponents and never relinquished it to take their first win of the season. The girls' J15 coxed four continued their winning streak with their second win in six days and this was closely followed by a first girls' J14 win in the coxed quads event. Niamh

Boddy, Charlotte Maund, Darcey Allcock and Lydia Harland sculled very proficiently to take their first win and were coxed by Kate Howell down the buoyed course. The first win is always one that is remembered in years to come.

While Tees Regatta was happening, the senior boys' coxless quad of Archie Norton, Harry Wildridge, Will Woodhead and Deacon Laverick were competing at Nottingham City Regatta, where they hoped they would race different crews in preparation for National Schools. Held at the National Watersports Centre, all races were over 2000 meters and on a multi-lane course.

Their first event was the J18 event where they sculled very well, finishing third. A lot was learnt from this race and how to tackle a 2000 meter multi-lane race. The boys then raced Open men's coxless quads, putting into practice what they had talked about, with the result that they won. This was a tremendous achievement at a prestigious regatta. Well done, boys!

Mrs A Lund

SPORT WEEK AHEAD

The weeks ahead are now available online.

You can [view them here](#).

THE ELO SHOW

The ELO Tribute Show – The World's greatest tribute to the Genius and Music of Jeff Lynne and E.L.O

Internationally acclaimed musician Brian Cummins brings his sensational show celebrating the music of Jeff Lynne and E.L.O back to The Princess Alexandra Auditorium!

Expect songs like, 'Evil Woman', 'Don't bring me down', 'Telephone Line', 'Sweet Talkin Woman', 'Turn to stone', 'Wild west Hero', 'Mr. Blue Sky'.

Friday 2nd June 2023, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



MATTHEW BOURNE'S SLEEPING BEAUTY

With an unforgettable score by Tchaikovsky, sumptuous sets and costumes, evocative lighting and masterly storytelling, the beloved fairy tale is brought to life by the uniquely talented New Adventures company. Get ready to be transported in time from the halcyon days of the late Edwardian era through to the modern day in this dazzling gothic romance.

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A LIVE STREAMED PRODUCTION AND IS NOT PERFORMED LIVE AT THE AUDITORIUM.



Wednesday 28th June, 7.00pm & Saturday 1st July, 2.00pm

[Book Online Here](#)

SIMON AND GARFUNKEL: THROUGH THE YEARS IN CONCERT

Simon and Garfunkel: Through the Years is the most authentic sounding concert to the unforgettable music of Simon and Garfunkel.

Made up of Dan Haynes and Pete Richards, Bookends have toured the globe extensively with their concerts being described as 'simply breath-taking'.

Performing the songs in a truly captivating way, against a backdrop of iconic imagery, their delicate recreation of the unmistakable sound of the American folk-rock duo is something of a masterpiece.

Friday 21st July 2023, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)



Looking After Your **WELLBEING ONLINE**

We all know that taking care of our minds and bodies is essential to keep us feeling happy and healthy. The thing is, we spend so much of our time online these days that it's also important that we remember to look after ourselves in the digital world, too. Our poster has got some simple but useful tips for supporting your wellbeing while you're gaming, on social media or just using the internet.

