

HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

We have welcomed all our pupils to School with a first full week of stultifying heat, but that has done nothing to quell the enthusiasm and excitement of a new school year. New pupils have fitted seamlessly into routines, learning their way round and managing remarkably well with the deluge of information thrown their way. Important school community events have supported this fresh start, such as the highly successful Induction Day and Discovery Day, Sixth Form BBQ and House tug o' war. These opportunities enable pupils to meet and integrate with fun team-building exercises.

For all pupils, the return to school has been framed and structured around key routines such as Assemblies and the all-important scheduled fire drill alongside House Drama auditions, Activities selection, sports practices and more. They have made excellent efforts to be punctual and smart, making a very positive start to the year.

The newsletter contains a range of important information for parents, including term dates for 2024-25,

information of the Co-Curricular options available to pupils before, during and after school, dates of some exciting forthcoming enrichment lectures and Politics Society speakers, information on the forthcoming Career Cluster event on law, dates for Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and the launch of the YSA's Autumn Event.

We are excited to see the new Prep School building taking shape on Grammar School Lane, and the redevelopment of the School Library is also coming along well - it will be a wonderful space when complete.

I want to thank the YSA for their ongoing support of the School, with a range of projects supported over recent months. In particular, their major contribution towards the refurbishment of the fitness suite is hugely appreciated and pupils have already benefited from the fantastic new facilities.

It is great to be back, and I am looking forward immensely to another successful year working with pupils, colleagues and parents to ensure we continue to deliver on our mission, Educating for Life.

Dr Huw Williams



A taste of adventure for First Year pupils on Discovery Day.

MESSAGE TO PARENTS:

The schools Capital Development Manager, Mr Alan Hodgson, would like to reassure the school community that Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) has not been used for the construction of any of its school buildings; Nursery, Pre Prep, Preparatory and Senior school sites.

SIXTH FORM BBQ AND INTER-HOUSE TUG O' WAR

An unseasonably overcast end to the week and the threat of some significant precipitation brought into question whether last Friday's Inter-House Tug O'War might have to be postponed. Thankfully, the rain held off and the Tug O'War piste remained soft yet playable. The ancient Rope of War had once again been brought from its secret guarded location to see battle between the best and strongest that Yarm School can muster. The origins of the competition are lost in the mists of time but legend has it that the Rope was once used by 32 school children to haul the School from the site of the Parish Church to its present location. Perhaps the modern competition is a gesture to those worthy pupils of times past as the Sixth Form representatives of Aidan, Bede, Cuthbert and Oswald rise to this annual challenge.

Thanks are due, once again, 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, perennial Tug O'War heavyweights Aidan faced a disciplined Bede outfit who were looking well drilled by House supremo Mr Lyle. Bede made short work of pulling Aidan up and down hill to emerge comfortable winners two to nil. Oswald and Cuthbert

then looked like a more closely matched tie with Mr Alexander's lighter yet spirited team digging in for a resolute defence. Dr Craig's Oswald, however, ultimately proved too strong for them and emerged undefeated winners to progress to the final.

Bede and reigning champions Oswald looked like setting up a well balanced final with initial signs looking like floodlights might be required as both sides refused to give ground. Bede, already well rested after their victory over Aidan, looked the favourites going into the match but Oswald's disciplined power was just too much to resist and Oswald once again emerged worthy winners by two pulls to nil. Oswald are building a strong Tug O'War reputation: now three years without losing a single pull.

In the entire modern history of the competition, Upper Sixth have never once defeated their younger counterparts yet it seemed all that was about to change. A very evenly matched contest really did look set to do some damage to the Rope, yet, despite the downhill advantage, their experience and the help of some guests, Upper Sixth could still not hold on and Lower Sixth yet again emerged victorious, maintaining their 45 year unbeaten record.

It was good to see so many students at the barbeque and taking part so

enthusiastically in the Tug O'War. I hope everyone has enjoyed their first few days of Sixth Form and I wish the students every success as they settle into the new academic year.

Dr A M Goodall



DISCOVERY DAY

First Year pupils enjoyed a fantastic Discovery Day where they worked together on team building challenges. They built rafts which were used to rescue stranded Sixth Formers from the other side of the river, overcame the challenge of retrieving a key and finding a box which the key fit in and navigated their way around the school grounds. It was fantastic to see everyone involved and a great day was had by all, luckily in the sunshine too!

Mrs G Leary



TERM DATES 2024/25

Autumn Term, 2024

Preparation Day	Tuesday, 27th August 2024
New Pupil Induction Day	Wednesday, 28th August 2024
All pupils return	Thursday, 29th August 2024
Half term begins	Friday, 18th October 2024 (after school)
Pupils return	Monday, 4th November 2024
Term ends	Friday, 13th December 2024 (after school)

Spring Term, 2025

Pupils return	Monday, 6th January 2025
Half term begins	Thursday, 20th February 2025 (after school)
INSET Day	Friday, 21st February 2025
Pupils return	Monday, 3rd March 2025
Term ends	Friday, 4th April 2025 (after school)

Summer Term, 2025

Pupils return	Wednesday, 23rd April 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday, 5th May 2025
Half term begins	Thursday, 22nd May 2025 (after school)
Pupils return	Monday, 2nd June 2025
Term ends	Thursday, 3rd July 2025 (after Prize Giving)

ECON BUS SOC

Econ Chair Adhi kicked off the proceedings on Thursday lunchtime with a very competitive quiz testing applied knowledge of Econ and Bus, then he challenged us all (yes, even the teachers in attendance) to show our grasp of prices in the current cost of living crisis, through an interactive activity. Prizes for the winners spurred on the U6 and we hope that the L6 will be quick to join us in future weeks.

Next week the Bus Chairs will be in charge, but remember all Sixth Formers are welcome to come along on Thursday, at 1pm, in B1.

EconBus Soc... For the students, by the students, with the students...

Miss C E Rhodes

ANGRY SALMON

Over the holidays, Esther Lane (Lower 6th) performed in the inaugural production of Angry Salmon, in London with British Youth Music Theatre.

Following an audition in Leeds in February, she was offered a place in a cast of 33 young people to perform a new musical, written and co-directed by Cameron Mackintosh resident composer Jordan Clarke, and Ali James. This was a two-week residential production, with rehearsals 9am-9pm daily, followed by five performances in West End theatre The Bridewell.

The show received excellent reviews, and the creators hope it will now be backed for a professional run.

Well done Esther!



ENRICHMENT LECTURE SERIES

Over the last academic year, we have been very fortunate to host a number of guest speakers as part of our Enrichment Lecture series. From talks on how vaccines are produced on an industrial scale, raising capital in a modern business, to Antarctic expeditions and circular plastic recycling, the lectures have been varied, informative and highly engaging. They have attracted a wide variety of staff and pupils of all different ages, leading to some very stimulating Q&A sessions at the end.

It is our intention this year, to open these up to the wider community, and as such I would like to extend an invitation to attend our first lecture of the academic year: 'Weird and Wonderful Bacteria'. Dr Gary Sharples, an associate professor in the department of Biosciences at the University of Durham, will be talking about weird and wonderful bacteria and his current research on antibacterial agents that target metals. This will take place at 4:15 pm on Thursday 14th September in the Friarage Theatre. If you are interested in attending, please email me at rcw@yarmschool.org to register your interest.

Lectures tend to take place on a monthly basis, and below is a term card for the next few lectures:

Thurs 14th September 16:15 - Friarage Theatre	Dr Gary Sharples: <i>Weird and Wonderful Bacteria</i> Gary Sharples is an associate professor in the department of Biosciences at the University of Durham. He will be talking about weird and wonderful bacteria and his current research on antibacterial agents that target metals.
Monday 9th October 16:15 - Friarage Theatre	Bola Ajekigbe: <i>Robotics in Surgery</i> Bola Ajekigbe is a surgeon (registrar) currently undertaking a research PhD in robotics in surgery. He will be talking about trauma and orthopaedics in addition to his research into robotics.
Tues 21st November 16:15 - Friarage Theatre	Alex Bridges: <i>Archaeology 101</i> Former pupil, Alex Bridges will be giving an introduction to archaeology, dispelling some of the myths from TV/film, and providing an insight into his current area of research.

Past speakers have included parents and former pupils, and I am always keen to hear from those who might consider presenting a lecture. If this might be something of interest, please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss further.

I hope to see some of you at next week's lecture!

Mr R Williams

LAW CAREER CLUSTER EVENT

This week I wrote to parents of pupils from Fourth Year to Upper Sixth announcing the [details of our next Career Cluster event](#). These popular events are ways of exploring in detail a career area in terms of education, training and the working practice of the field. On Monday 25th September we will be exploring the diversity of opportunities within the law profession. This is historically a popular area for students from Yarm, from those with a keen and established interest, to those with more of a curiosity.

The event will be held in the PAA and will take the format of three panel discussions with questions from parents and pupils in the audience. These panels will be followed by an opportunity to speak even more directly to professionals at four stalls representing law firms from the region.

Amongst our guests will be law students, trainee solicitors, an apprentice solicitor, senior partners, lawyers working in family, shipping, commercial and criminal law, and much more.

It promises to be a popular event so I am asking that families register in advance so we have advance notice of the numbers involved. To do so please [register your details to this link](#). The event is also very much open to parents and pupils from other schools, so please do share details with friends and family members beyond the immediate Yarm School community. A booklet of details about the guest speakers and visiting law firms will be emailed out in advance of the event.

Mr S Edwards

Career Cluster: Law

Mon, 25th Sept
6pm - 8pm

Join us in the PAA to find out more about working in the law profession.

Discover the different pathways to your ideal career.

Register to attend at:
<https://bit.ly/law-career-cluster>



YSA PRESENTS

BINGO & BURRITOS



CLICK
HERE FOR
TICKETS!

– JOIN US –

FRI 6TH OCTOBER

7PM - 11PM

BASEMENT BAR

TICKETS £25 VIA CLASSLIST



– TELL ME MORE –

MUSIC BINGO

FABULOUS PRIZES

DRINKS

DELICIOUS MEXICAN FOOD



Contact us via the Classlist app or at ysa@yarmschool.org.

WORK EXPERIENCE WITH THE WILLIAMS RACING TEAM

The summer holidays is often an ideal time to undertake some work experience, and a good number of the senior students set time aside for this. Sometimes it can simply be about exploring a curiosity in a particular field - what does a law firm actually feel like? - whilst for others it's the time to secure vital work experience necessary for the next stage of education and training. Over the next few weeks we will share some stories of work experience from senior students.

Lilian Dufton, who has just completed her A Levels and is off to study Engineering at university, tells us here about a fascinating week she spent at the Williams Racing Team!

Mr S Edwards

Over the summer holidays I was able to complete a week's worth of work experience at Williams Racing. The week gave me an insight into almost all of the departments within the Formula 1 team. I completed many different activities including a tour of the wind tunnel and seeing next year's car being worked on, manufacturing a model steering wheel, seeing the simulator, walking around all parts of the factory and completing races on the esports simulators.

I was able to see parts being manufactured that were then flown out and used at the next race. The week showed how fast paced the industry is and how a part can be manufactured in such a short period of time.

I am going to be studying engineering at university so it was also interesting to hear from other departments such as procurement and finance. With the cost cap being a recent addition into Formula 1, and Williams being one of the main drivers for this to be put into place, it was especially interesting to hear about the topic from their point of view.

Applications for this experience often open again in the new year and I would recommend that anyone interested applies. I was lucky to be selected from over 2000 applicants, but even the application process was good in mimicking a job application.

Lilian Dufton



POLITICS SOCIETY

The Politics Society is delighted to announce its programme for this coming autumn half term. There is a diversity of guests of considerable expertise who will be speaking to the pupils over a Friday lunchtime in the Friarage Theatre. Two of the speakers, Vicki and David, are former pupils who are developing interesting careers for themselves, and we very much look forward to their participation. The events are attended by all of the Politics students but are open to and advertised to all pupils in the school. All of these forthcoming talks are age appropriate for all pupils in the Senior School, and given the interdisciplinary nature of many of the talks, they should appeal to students with various academic interests. If you have any questions about the events please contact me at se@yarmschool.org.

Mr S Edwards

Week 2	Fri 8th Sept 12:45 - FT	Professor Vanessa Toulmin Film producer, academic, conservationist Research Director of the National Fairground and Circus Archive & Chair of the Morecambe Winter Gardens Preservation Trust <i>'Why does the seaside matter?'</i>
Week 3	Fri 15th Sept 12:45 - FT	Professor Alastair Bonnett Professor of Social Geography School of Geography, Politics and Sociology Newcastle University <i>'The politics and geography of nostalgia and memory'</i>
Week 4	Fri 22nd Sept 12:45 - FT	Dr Vicki Pugh Social and Ecological Justice Manager and Researcher Centre for Alternative Technology, York St. John University <i>'Building towards a more sustainable future'</i>
Week 5	Fri 29th Sept 12:45 - FT	Dr Elsa Devienne Assistant Professor in US History Programme Leader for the American Studies and History & American Studies, Northumbria University <i>'The Sand Rush: the environment and American beach'</i>
Week 6	Fri 6th Oct 12:45 - FT	David Benyon Founder and Editor of the 'Political Risk Podcast' <i>'Why podcast? Exploring voices in geopolitical risk'</i>
Week 7	Fri 13th Oct 12:45 - FT	Dr Małgorzata Jakimów Assistant Professor in East Asian Politics School of Government and International Affairs Durham University <i>'What does it mean to be a Chinese 'citizen'?''</i>

D OF E GOLD

Expedition Dates

The dates for this academic year are as follows:

Saturday 21st to Wednesday 25th October 2023 (Practice or Qualifying) in the Lake District.

Monday 1st April to Friday 5th April 2024 (Practice or Qualifying) in the Lake District.

Wednesday 21st to Sunday 25th August 2024 (Qualifying ONLY) in Scotland.

The team entry & route card deadlines are as follows: TWO weeks before departure date for practice; SIX weeks before departure date for qualifying.

All planning happens on a THURSDAY lunchtime in M4.

For any queries about the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme check out www.dofe.org or email dofe@yarmschool.org

Mr A Mathers

SPORT WEEK AHEAD

The weeks ahead are now available online.

You can [view them here](#).

**New Dates Available for
September – December 2023!**

NHS

Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys
NHS Foundation Trust



CAMHS Training Programme for Parents & Carers

The workshops are delivered live via Microsoft teams and **free of charge** for all parents and carers in Teesside (child does not need to be open to CAMHS)

Available sessions include:

- Understanding **Anxiety**
- Understanding **Emotional Wellbeing**
- Understanding **Eating Disorders**
- **Typical Vs Atypical Sexual Development & Risk**
- Understanding **Self-harm**
- Understanding **ASD**
- Understanding **ADHD**
- Understanding **Sleep**



Visit our webpage www.TEUV.nhs.uk/CAMHSTraining
for dates and details of all training we provide

To access the CAMHS parents and carers workshops, please contact:
TEUV.CAMHS-Training@nhs.net And provide the following information:

- Which workshop(s) and date you would like to access
- Which locality you live
- Your name
- Email address
- The school(s) your child(ren) attend
- Age(s) of your child(ren)

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MATTHEW BOURNE'S SWAN LAKE

Thrilling, audacious, witty and emotional, Matthew Bourne's Swan Lake is perhaps still best known for replacing the female corps-de-ballet with a menacing male ensemble, which shattered conventions, turned tradition upside down and took the dance world by storm.

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

Thursday 14th September 2023 7:00pm

[Book Online Here](#)



ROH LIVE: DAS RHEINGOLD

When a precious hoard of gold is stolen from the river Rhine, it unleashes a chain of destructive events, pitting gods and mortals against one another for generations. Wagner's Ring cycle boasts some of the greatest music ever written for the opera stage. Join us as we embark on a spectacular journey into the world of myth, dream and memory, with the figure of Erda – Mother Earth herself – at its centre.

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

Wednesday 20th September 2023 7:15pm

[Book Online Here](#)



A LITTLE LIFE

A LITTLE LIFE follows four college friends in New York City: aspiring actor Willem, successful architect Malcolm, struggling artist JB, and prodigious lawyer Jude. As ambition, addiction, and pride threaten to pull the group apart, they always find themselves bound by their love for Jude and the mysteries of his past. But when those secrets come to light, they finally learn that to know Jude St Francis is to understand the limitless potential of love in the face of life.

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

Friday 29th September 2023 - Sunday 1st October 2023

[Book Online Here](#)



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about LIVE STREAMING

Live streaming involves broadcasting and watching videos online in real time, often on social media or via platforms like YouTube and Twitch. Viewers can interact through comments, chats and reactions during the broadcast: such instant engagement makes this an exciting way to share experiences, learn from others and build digital communities. Despite the many positives, live streaming also creates a potential platform for unsuitable content and poses some risks to children: it's essential to keep privacy and safety in mind and comply with each site or app's age restrictions.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

LACK OF AGE VERIFICATION

Despite their age restrictions, some platforms don't require proof of age at sign up – meaning that anyone can register for an account (and potentially pretend to be older or younger than they actually are). In many cases, this means that young live streamers can never be totally certain exactly who they are broadcasting to and who is engaging with their live stream.

DISCLOSING PERSONAL INFO

A characteristic of live streaming is the ability for videos to be instantly shared worldwide. Without the correct privacy settings enabled, a child could inadvertently reveal personal information or their location, making them vulnerable to online predators or identity theft. It's wise to regularly check the privacy settings (and what data is being shared) on any apps your child has signed up for.

ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN

As the video streams are live, children might encounter (or inadvertently share) inappropriate content. Most live-streaming apps have rules to prevent this and monitor their services, also providing report buttons where content can be flagged for review. It may not be dealt with instantly, however, meaning that your child could be further exposed to harmful content during a live stream.

AGE RESTRICTION
13+
16+ 18+
Age varies by platform

UNAUTHORISED RECORDINGS

Each live streaming platform stores completed videos for different periods (Twitch saves broadcasts for 60 days, for example, while Facebook and YouTube remove them only at the creator's request). Deleting a video, though, doesn't always stop it from being shared: in some cases, streams have been illegally recorded (or screenshots taken) by certain viewers and redistributed on other sites.

ROGUE CONTENT CREATORS

Children can also watch other people's live streams, which could potentially contain anything at any time (such as nudity, drug use or profanity). Most apps claim to monitor live streams and will stop any that don't adhere to their guidelines – but with millions of streams per day, it's complicated to regulate them all, so children could be exposed to inappropriate content without parents knowing.

DANGER OF GROOMING

There are increasing reports of children being coerced into performing "suggestive acts" by strangers on some live-streaming apps. Due to the lack of verification required for certain apps, almost anyone can sign up to these services (including anonymously or under a fake identity). It's vital, therefore, to ensure the correct safety measures are in place before your child begins live streaming.



Advice for Parents & Carers

PUT PRNACY FIRST

Through the streaming app's settings, switch your child's account to 'private', so only their friends and followers can see their broadcasts. You could also turn off the live chat, shielding your child from any upsetting comments – although viewers' feedback is often seen as an integral part of the fun. Identify any nearby items (such as school uniforms or visible landmarks) that could give away your child's location.

MANAGE MULTISTREAMING

Some apps and sites let users stream their content through multiple social media platforms at once. A broadcast on StreamYard, for example, can be shared on YouTube, Twitch, X and Facebook if the accounts are linked. The privacy settings can differ on each of these, so we'd suggest only streaming via one platform at a time to maintain greater control over who's watching your child's videos.

GET INVOLVED YOURSELF

Research suggests a significant number of streams show a child on their own, often in a supposed safe space like their bedroom. If your child wants to live stream, ask if you could be present because you're interested in how it works. You could even set up your own account to gain a more detailed knowledge of what your child talks about in their live streams – and who they're broadcasting to.

TALK ABOUT LIVE STREAMING

Try to start with positives before discussing potential risks. You could ask which live streaming apps your child likes and how they use them. Do they just watch streams or create their own? Explain why it's unwise to reveal personal information while streaming (even to friends). If you feel your child's too young for live streams, explain your reasoning to them and perhaps agree to review this decision in the future.

CONSIDER THEIR ONLINE REPUTATION

As the broadcasts are live, it often causes the misconception among young people that whatever happens in their video simply 'vanishes' once the stream ends. However, videos can stay online indefinitely or be recorded by other users. It's important that your child understands what they do and say in a live stream could potentially damage their online reputation and, quite possibly, be seen by prospective future employers, colleges or universities.

Meet Our Expert

Rhodes Smith is Head of Digital Learning at Thomas's Kensington, London. Recognised in the EdTech 50 UK Awards Yearbook 2021/22 for his efforts in the digital transformation at Cubitt Town Primary School and Tower Hamlets, he is also a Google for Education Certified Trainer and guest lecturer at University College London on the integration of technology across the curriculum.



Source: <https://www.gov.uk/media/233362/distribution-of-captures-of-live-streamed-child-sexual-abuse-final.pdf>