

## HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

This week started with a poignant and powerful assembly - our first as a whole school since we returned - in which we collectively remembered Lawrie. On Wednesday, students and teachers paid their respects in a celebration of his life with family and friends in a moving service. Our whole community grieves his loss and sends our support and prayers to his family. I have been enormously touched by the many messages of support from parents and friends of the school in this most difficult of times. Thank you.

The Fifth Year have completed their mock examinations in an intense period of preparation for the GCSEs to come, and have done so with an outstanding attitude, embracing the challenges and learning a lot about the process of sitting formal examinations, as well as gaining an important understanding of the efficiency of their revision techniques and their grasp of the content in the range of subjects they study. As another milestone in their academic journey, this will act as a point of learning that will build their confidence as they prepare for the summer. Well done to them all.

Our sports teams continue to represent the school with distinction

and their collective efforts, and those of our teachers, has been recognised in this year's School Sports Magazine tables, placing Yarm a remarkable 40th place nationally (out of all Independent and Maintained Schools!) based on success in national competitions last year. A wonderful accolade to recognise everyone's hard work: Mr Ferguson gives more detail within, alongside some outstanding reports of recent matches and last weekend's hockey tour.

In my assembly at the Prep School yesterday I was delighted to be joined by some of the cast of Cinderella who sang for our prep pupils and answered their questions. The show promises to be magical and - as ever - a highly impressive and professional performance. Tickets are now selling fast - please do ensure that you get yours in time!

Dr Huw Williams



One of the strongest 1st XI performances yet - the team after their victory over Scarborough in the first round of the England Hockey National Schools Cup! Match report within.

## THE ECONOMICS OF WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

Annabelle and Evie delved into the rich history of women's football, exploring its origins and how the economic impacts of the First World War propelled more women into the workforce, shaping the trajectory of the sport. They discussed the challenges that women's football has confronted over the years, including periods of bans.

Navigating through the evolution of women's football, the conversation shifted to the present, highlighting the crucial role of modern sponsorships in funding the game, mirroring the support seen in men's football. The conversation expanded the intensifying global competition in women's football, prompting

consideration of potential adaptations to enhance the game.

A notable point of discussion touched upon the gender-specific challenges, briefly examining ACL injuries in men's versus women's football. They discussed the celebration of the Lionesses' triumphant victory at the Euros, underscoring the success and growth of women's football.

Annabelle and Evie's presentation was insightful and provided a comprehensive

and informative overview of women's football through the years.

Harry Rodwell (EconBus Soc Chair) Thanks to Harry for his write up and to both Evie and Annabel for volunteering for and giving such a fabulous and detailed presentation

Miss C E Rhodes



## TICK TOCK TICK TOCK - LESS THAN 48HRS FOR THE YARM APPRENTICE TEAMS TO PLAN FOR TASK 4

We were on location this week for the setting of YA Task 4.

On a very chilly Tuesday afternoon, when fortunately the snow flurries had dispelled, a procession of Lower Sixth were led, Pied Piper like, across the school to a final destination of the Dovecot. There the teams were met by Mrs Saddington, in the guise of Lord Sugar No.4, and given the daunting prospect of having just 2 days to fulfil a brief. Two "Boyes Bags" of very random but similar produce (purchased by Gracie R-H in

the 4th Year) were presented to the students, along with £10 to add value and the challenge of raising as much money for charity as possible in the constrained timeslot of Thursday lunchtime. Ishita and Oliver quickly stepped up to be Project Managers and proposed Young Minds and Save the Children to be their respective charities. Who will be victorious in this task? Time will tell and the clock is already ticking...

Miss C E Rhodes



## FIRST AND SECOND YEAR WINTER WALK

At 8 o'clock on Sunday morning our group gathered at the outdoor education stores, prepared for an exciting hike in the Lake district. The day started with a long drive, filled with anticipation but finally we arrived at our destination: Blencathra. The first part of the walk was on road but we were soon on a steep footpath going uphill.

This was the first challenge of the day and at the top of the first hill, the group stopped for a brief snack and hot chocolate break. After that, we had a gently sloping upwards valley walk along a river, with snow slowly building up on the hillsides the higher we ascended for around 2 km. At the end of what was one of the longest stretches, we stopped for another only brief break, to stop the cold from setting in. From there, we ascended Atkinson Pike. On the way up, there

were outstanding views with the clouds coming off Blencathra making it look almost other-worldly.

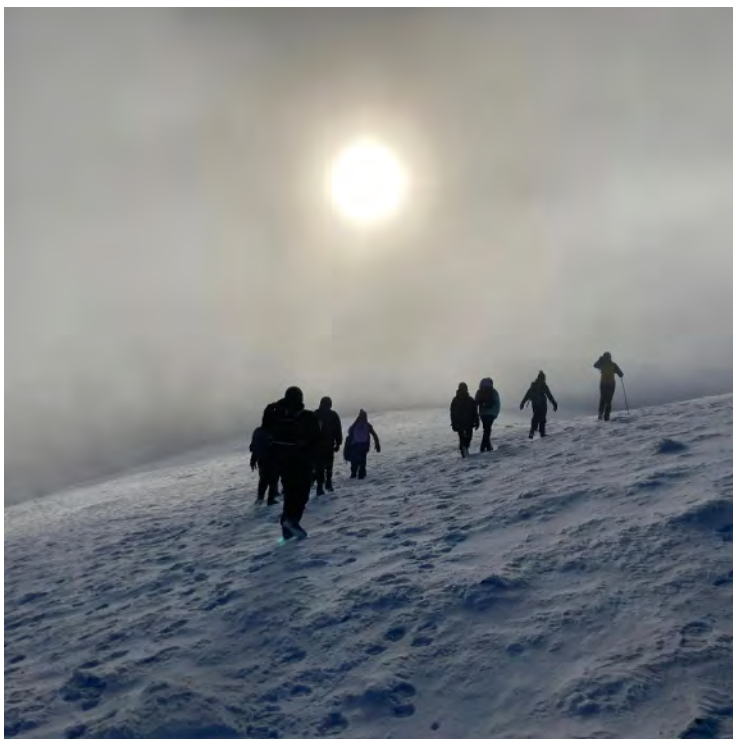
Finally, after a fight with the winds to get to the top, we reached the summit of Blencathra. For many of the team, including myself, this was the highlight of the trip. However, because of high winds, we decided to eat our lunch off the top under tents held up by

ourselves. The hike down was steep but a relatively short and uneventful hike down with only a bit of slippery mud here and there, particularly near the pub, before returning back to school.

Everyone in the

group had a wonderful time on this fun experience day. In my opinion, the best bit was getting to the top and having fun in the snow. I would really recommend this trip to all 1st and 2nd year pupils. It really is an amazing experience!

Dora Bonner, First Year



## EARN AND LEARN

This week we were delighted to welcome back Finlay Gilraine for another Working Lunch (his third with us), and to hear how much he is thriving and loving his apprenticeship with PwC in Belfast. He gave his own views on the benefits of securing an apprenticeship and expounded on the advantages of spending 4 days a week working and 1 day a week in University.

Finlay gave advice on the process of applications, and on maximising chances of success, as well as describing his role, his course, the support PwC provide and the career prospects and promotion opportunities. He happily described the benefits of his employment and

left his former teachers envious of the Wellness Floor he described! It was wonderful to hear how much he is enjoying his apprenticeship and he reiterated his belief that he had certainly made the right choice for himself. He answered a plethora of questions, running right up to the bell for afternoon tutorial, as there was so much enthusiasm from the audience. (Apologies to the other Sixth Form tutors for any tardy arrivals!)

Finlay has offered to give follow up support and advice to those who request it. Indeed he has already done this for the Class of 23 (two of whom work alongside him now in Northern Ireland) as well as for the current U6), and it was wonderful to hear that he

credits Working Lunch speakers from his own Sixth Form time for having encouraged and assisted him.

It was lovely to see Finlay again, and massively useful to us to have such first hand experience shared. We wish him all the very best and we know he will be back for subsequent sessions in future years.

Miss C E Rhodes



## CURIOUSER & CURIOUSER:

### A CAREER PATH INFLUENCED BY THE POWER OF CURIOSITY

This week we were delighted to have a bonus FAME Working Lunch - and breaking with departmental tradition this was on a Tuesday - as we welcomed Maaz Rahman, Director of Dynamo Kings, and his wife Nicci Rahman-Knight, Operations Director of Zizus Daycare Ltd, to enthuse the Sixth Form. They spoke about their own experiences, and what had influenced

them and driven them to succeed. They were open, honest and inspirational and we are very grateful to them for sharing their

valuable time, insights and advice.

Miss C E Rhodes



# Disney

# Inspired

## Recycled Garment Competition



Products will be worn  
Tuesday 23<sup>th</sup> April  
**Fashion Show**  
Senior School PAF - 6:00pm  
(tickets not required)  
See Ms Jackson for details



**Garments**  
constructed from  
**unwanted materials.**

Judging Criteria:

- Use of the Disney theme
- Quality of the product
- Originality of the design



RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S

Click here  
for tickets!

# *Cinderella*

ENCHANTED VERSION



MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS  
BOOK & LYRICS BY OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II



WEDNESDAY 31ST JANUARY - SATURDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2024  
7.30PM

THE PRINCESS ALEXANDRA AUDITORIUM, YARM SCHOOL

ADULTS £15.00 CHILDREN £8.00

TO BOOK TICKETS CALL 01642 792587 OR VISIT [WWW.THEPAAONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.THEPAAONLINE.ORG)

This amateur production of CINDERELLA is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of The Rodgers & Hammerstein Organization. [www.concordtheatricals.co.uk](http://www.concordtheatricals.co.uk)

## SCHOOL SPORT MAGAZINE: TOP SPORTS SCHOOLS OF 2023 REVEALED

It is with great pride that we have maintained a very high national ranking in the sports school table- after a highest ranking of 37th last year, Yarm has been announced as the 40th best sports school in the country for 2023. The position is based on appearances and performances at national finals stage level in a number of sports and the fact we had hockey

and netball teams finishing in the top 3 or 4 in the country was a massive contribution, not to mention strong performances in a range of other sports such as rugby, rowing and tennis.

The table puts us as the 4th best school in the North of England for sport placing us ahead of other notable schools such as Sedbergh and

St Peter's York. It becomes even more impressive when one considers the size of many of the schools we are ahead of. It is a huge testament to the time, dedication and expertise of all the staff and pupils who are involved in the Yarm School Sports programme- a real team effort!

Mr G Ferguson

## BOYS HOCKEY

### First XI: Scarborough 1-3 Yarm (Round 1- England Hockey National Cup)

This was a potential banana skin in the opening round of the national schools cup as Scarborough is a school heavily invested in recruiting players- several from other countries such as Germany and Holland. It was clear that Yarm were highly motivated for the game which manifested itself into one of the strongest First XI performances ever. We went 1 goal down as Scarborough drilled a ball into our circle and the Scarborough forward got a deflection. However, this was a rare foray into the Yarm half as the away team dominated throughout creating chance after chance. The only concern was that we weren't converting them!

Thankfully, Will Ferguson drew a foul

on route to goal which resulted in a penalty flick which Ferguson converted. After that, Yarm produced chance after chance and it looked like it might be one of those days as the home team got in the way of everything. However, cometh the hour/cometh the man- Yarm got a short corner and Ferguson got hold of a drag flick which rocketed into the top corner of the Scarborough goal. This was quickly followed by a Timmy Foley 'Argie', an exceptional goal which took the sting out of the Scarborough challenge. In truth, the scoreline flatters Scarborough and moving forward, the boys will need to be more clinical but overall this was a great performance.

### Under 13: RGS 2-5 Yarm (Round 1 ISHC National Cup)

The 2nd years travelled to RGS to

play their opening round of the Independent Schools Cup- It was a story of the first 10 minutes as the Yarm team scored 4 quick goals which took the game away from RGS. New recruit Monty Proctor opened the scoring with a well taken hit after some good work on the right hand side by captain Rorke Anderson. Rorke Himself added a goal quickly followed by a tasty lob from Luke Palmer. The best goal of this opening period came from forward Wilf White who fired a ball into the top corner from the top of the circle. Unfortunately, RGS grew into the game and came back with a goal just before half time.

A tighter 2nd half led to RGS pulling a goal back and made the game more frantic. Yarm did have more of the play but were not clinical enough around the circle. It took a neat Ollie Gray short corner finish to put the

## BOYS HOCKEY CONT.

game to bed. The boys know they will need to become more solid in their tackling and increase their physicality but hopefully this will come with more training.

### Under 15: Yarm 0-2 Scarborough

#### (Round 1 ISHC National Cup)

A disappointing start to the competitive season for the U15s (remember this is the team that finished 4th nationally last year) as they went out of the competition in the opening round. To be fair, Scarborough were strong and played well and, while Yarm had their chances they couldn't quite convert on the day - the team will hopefully make a strong showing in the plate competition.

Mr G Ferguson



## EDINBURGH SENIOR BOYS' HOCKEY TOUR

The senior hockey boys had a fantastic couple of days in Edinburgh- 30 boys travelled up on Friday afternoon to play Stewart's Melville that evening in arctic conditions (match reports below). Saturday morning brought some free time in Edinburgh before a team lunch at Pizza Express in preparation for our games against Fettes (the Eton of the north). One of the highlights of the senior tour is always the darts and pool tournament efficiently organised by Mr Skirving- the eventual winners were Max Mowbray in the pool and Jack Van Niekerk in the darts. An early leave on Sunday morning got the boys back by midday- the weekend is

always a great start to the season and hopefully a catalyst for an exciting term ahead.

A big thanks to Mr Lyle, Mr Newman, Mr Skirving, Mr Newman, Mr Alexander and Mr Ferguson for giving up their time to make the weekend a big success.

### 1st XI

#### Stewart's Melville 2-3 Yarm

#### Fettes 4-4 Yarm

The 1st team played 2 competitive games against the top 2 teams in Scotland- Stewart's Melville were first up and after an afternoon of travelling up on a minibus, the fear would be a slow start- the conditions

were also very cold and windy which didn't help. However, we needn't have worried because the Yarm first half performance was exceptional and the 3-0 scoreline at half time flattered our Scottish opposition as we could have scored more on the counter. Jack Van Niekerk got a deflection after some exceptional work from Timmy Foley ended in a reverse stick short. Max Mowbray looked dangerous as ever and captain Joe Roberts was solid at the centre of defence. The 2nd half proved a different affair as the Yarm boys struggled with a drying out/bouncy pitch- Stewart's Melville came back with 2 goals but Yarm held on to take the game.



We were informed that Fettes were able to boast the best team in Scotland with two of the stronger Scotland U18s. The team talk focused on these points but in actual fact we needn't have worried because it became very evident that Yarm was more than a match for the best team in Scotland. Man of the Match Max Mowbray was unbelievable scoring 4 goals (two of them magnificent individual carries with excellent finishes)- Myles Brown also had his best performance in a Yarm shirt as he ran the centre of midfield- unfortunately, we did concede some sloppy goals, the last one coming in the final 30 seconds to make the score 4-4. The 1st XI can be proud of their week's work though!

## 2nd XI

**Stewart 's Melville 1-2 Yarm**

**Fettes 0-3 Yarm**

It was the Johnny Carr show as we travelled to Edinburgh- 4 goals in 2 games brought about 2 victories and it was pleasing to see a number of our 4th years in the form of Jacob Hardy, Jude Crack, Ben Bardgett, Max Hassani-Millington and Will Gwynne Jones get their first taste of senior hockey.

The Stewart's Melville game was a worrying start as we went 1-0 down early doors to a well taken short corner. The Yarm team was a mix of players from different year groups coming together for the first time and this showed in the early stages of the

game. However, as Sam Arnold and Tom Fletcher's confidence grew during the first half at the back and Diego Garcia Alvarez, Harry Jackson and others got to grips with the midfield, Yarm began to take control and Carr produced two neat finishes to take the game- we won't mention his

celebrations!

The Fettes game was a more straight forward affair- Carr again scored two more goals and Alex Bromiley added another to take the game by 3 goals to 0.

Overall, a successful tour was had by all!



## SPORT WEEK AHEAD

The weeks ahead are now available online.

You can [view them here](#).

## GIRLS HOCKEY: U15 TEAM REACH QUARTER FINALS

The U15 Hockey Cup side have reached the Quarter Final of the Independent School National Cup Competition.

To get to this stage they have played; Dame Allan's School where they came out comfortable 3-0 winners, Barnard Castle where they made it really difficult for themselves finishing the game 1-1 and needing extra time to put the game away 4-1 in the end, GSAL where it went down to penalty

flicks after finishing the game 2-2 Izzy McGlade became the hero of the day in goal to save 2 out of their 3 penalties as Mara Morrison and Lucy Mitchell made the score 2-1 to us with their flicks after each scoring in normal time as well and most recently Sedbergh in the last 16 where we as a squad were amazing from start to finish giving them no options when we were out of possession and playing expansive hockey in possession they

scored through Eva Leadbitter with a well taken deflection from a penalty corner and Ava Holmes who coolly took on the keeper one v one to slot the ball away to win the game.

We now travel to The King's School, Chester on Thursday 25th January with the aim of continuing this excellent run of results to reach the semi finals!

Miss N Hodgson



## ROH LIVE: RUSALKA

Rusalka, a water spirit, lives with her family in the pure waters of the forest lake. When she falls in love with a Prince, she sacrifices her voice and leaves her home in the hope of finding true love in a new world.

Natalie Abrahami and Ann Yee create a poetic, contemporary new staging of Dvořák's lyric fairy tale, revealing our uneasy relationship with the natural world and humanity's attempts to own and tame it.

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



Thursday 25th January 2024, 6:45pm

[Book Online Here](#)

## KINKY BOOTS

Kinky Boots, The Musical, filmed live at the Adelphi Theatre in the heart of London's West End, is strutting onto the big screen! With songs from Grammy and Tony award winning pop icon Cindy Lauper, book by legendary Broadway playwright Harvey Fierstein (La Cage Aux Folles), and direction and choreography by Jerry Mitchell (Legally Blonde, Hairspray), the musical is based on the film written by Geoff Deane and Tim firth. Inspired by true events, this huge-hearted hit tells the story of two people with nothing in common - or so they think.

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



Sunday 4th February 2024, 7:00pm

[Book Online Here](#)

## LEGENDS OF AMERICAN COUNTRY

"The Legends of American Country" returns for another fantastic night of toe tapping country nostalgia.

The show features 3 superb singers Kelan Browne, Tracey McAuley and Antony McBrien who are all accompanied by a superb live band of musicians with that authentic Tennessee sound coupled with authentic stage set and state of the art production that will transport you all the way hand clapping and toe tapping to Nashville and back in one night .



Sunday 11th February 2024, 7:30pm

[Book Online Here](#)

LIVE MUSIC FROM THE COUNTERFEIT CELTS

YSA PRESENTS

**ST. PATRICK'S  
DAY**



**CELEBRATION**

**FRIDAY 15TH MARCH, 7-11PM**

**LIVE MUSIC - FOOD - DRINK**

**THE BASEMENT BAR, THE PAA**

# SMARTPHONE SAFETY TIPS

## for young people

7

You may have been lucky enough to have unwrapped a smartphone at Christmas, or you might be eagerly anticipating getting a new one at some point during this year. Whether it'll be your first ever phone or an upgrade on your old model, it's always useful to have a refresher about how to set it up and adjust the settings to keep yourself – and your valuable personal info – safe and secure. We've collected some expert tips to help you enjoy your smartphone in the healthiest way possible.

### NEVER SHARE YOUR PASSCODE

Alongside face or fingerprint recognition, your passcode is crucial to unlocking your phone and accessing your apps and personal information. You shouldn't give it out, even to close friends – after all, you wouldn't hand them a key to your house and let them go in for a nosy around! If a friend wants to use your phone, ask them why and make sure you can see what they're doing with it.

### RESPECT PARENTAL CONTROLS

If you're allowed to have a smartphone, it's because your parents or carers feel that you're mature and responsible enough to use it safely. They might set controls and boundaries on your device – not to spoil your fun but to help you avoid hazards like too much screen time or costly in-app purchases. Following these rules means you can enjoy using your phone while respecting their wishes.

### TALK TO A TRUSTED ADULT

Whether it's to listen to music, play games, create content or chat with friends, using a smartphone should be fun. If you're ever feeling anxious, worried or scared about going on your phone, then something isn't right. It's important not to ignore these feelings; instead, talk to a trusted adult about what's happening and how it's making you feel.

### STAY ALERT

Two words: look up. It might sound obvious, but it's so easy to get immersed in what we're looking at or listening to on our phones that we can become unaware of our surroundings – or who might be around us. People often walk with their head down, focusing on their phone, and forget to check for obstacles in their path, cars or other pedestrians coming towards them, which is clearly dangerous.

### DEVELOP HEALTHY HABITS

Phones offer a vast amount of content and the chance to chat with friends whenever we feel like it, which can make it difficult to take time away from the screen. If that's something you struggle with, you could try setting time limits on certain apps. Putting our phones down for a while gives us more time to interact with others or do something physical that helps keep us fit and healthy.

### IGNORE UNKNOWN NUMBERS

There are some scammers who might call or text asking you to share personal data or to click on a link and provide your details. Some may claim to be from a genuine company, but trustworthy businesses don't spontaneously call or message to ask for your information. It's safest to ignore calls or texts from unknown numbers, and never give your personal details out over the phone.

### ONLY USE AGE-APPROPRIATE APPS

Before downloading a new app or game, check what age rating it has. Don't feel pressured into getting a particular game or app just because your friends are using it. If it's intended for older people, there's a definite risk that it could include content (which is violent or frightening, for instance) or language which isn't suitable and may leave you feeling upset or disturbed.

### REMOVE TEMPTATION

A good night's sleep is so important for concentration, mood and overall health. Unwinding properly before going to bed – which means not staring at a screen late at night – can often improve sleep quality. Put your phone on charge overnight, but not in your room. This means you'll have a lot less temptation to check any notifications, reply to messages or get caught up scrolling on social media.

### THINK ABOUT OTHERS

Watching videos, listening to music or calling someone can all help to pass the time while we're on the bus, waiting in a queue or walking down the street. It's important to remain mindful of other people, though: they might not want to hear your tunes or your conversation. Likewise, if you're calling from a public place then don't forget that anyone could overhear something personal about you.

### SWITCH OFF GEOLOCATION

In your phone's settings, you'll be able to disable geolocation for individual apps and photos: this means that people online (including strangers) can't see information about where you are when you share or post a pic. On the subject of images, it's also important to ask permission before taking or sharing a photo of someone – and don't share embarrassing images of your friends with others.

### Meet Our Expert

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



The National College

NOS National Online Safety  
#WakeUpWednesday