

THiS Week



Teesside High School
Education as it should be

THS HOLIDAY CAMP

During the first week of the Christmas break, our pupils thoroughly enjoyed an action packed Holiday Camp!

On the first day, pupils completed a Christmas treasure hunt in our beautiful grounds before heading off to the cinema to watch the Christmas classic, *Elf*.

They then visited Believe Christmas for a truly magical second day. The day began at the official North Pole Post Office where the children wrote and posted



letters to Santa. It was then time to meet Santa's reindeer before making some magic reindeer food ready for Christmas Eve. The fun continued with a pantomime, snowman crafts and an elf training class with Mrs Claus.

Holiday Camp was taken over by elves as the classroom was transformed into Santa's Workshop on the third day. The children had a very busy day full of making Christmas cards, crackers, decorations and elf doughnuts. They even managed to find time to make snowmen bags to transport their treasures home safely.



The final day of Holiday Camp was full of fun, as the children celebrated Holiday Camp Christmas Day. They arrived in their Christmas pyjamas for Christmas morning and were very excited when we discovered Santa had been and filled our stockings. He had also left a basket of presents.

Thank you to all pupils who attended our Christmas Holiday Camp, we hope you had a wonderful time.

Miss Hall



WELCOME

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2023!

A warm welcome to parents and pupils reading our first newsletter of 2023 and also to those catching up with our news, events and goings on during their visit to our final Open Day of the academic year. I am delighted you have taken the time to come along and learn more about what our school has to offer.

Firstly, I would like to say a huge well done to our Year 11 and Sixth Form students who sat their mock examinations this past fortnight. I hope that you get the results you deserve and that this experience will help you prepare for your examinations in the summer.

It was great to see our 2023 Year 7 cohort at our Transition Day last week. This was the second event in our transition programme to ensure a seamless and worry free transition to Senior School. We hope you had a wonderful day, Year 6!

Our spring co-curricular activities are back with sporting fixtures, *Into the Woods* rehearsals, Forest School sessions, Tea-Time concerts and talks and everything else that makes THS as action-packed and enriching a school as ever. We are looking forward to many fantastic events in the spring term.

On Tuesday 31 January we are hosting our annual THS Careers Convention. This is a superb event which allows students to meet experts in their fields on a one-to-one basis, discover the truths of possible future careers and gather valuable information

for future study and career pathways.

The Friends of THS are hosting a Race Night on Friday 10 February.

Our spring term PTA events are deliberately designed to have a strong social aspect, with the emphasis on parents and families coming together to enjoy a relaxing, fun evening. We hope you are able to join us for what promises to be a fun filled evening.

Carrying on with the social events, we are delighted to be able to invite you to our Spring Masquerade Ball on Friday 31 March at Wynyard Hall. Everyone is welcome; members of our school community or wider family and friends.

We look forward to sharing more information about this event very shortly.

I hope you enjoy reading our 110th edition of THiS Week.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs K Mackenzie, Head



U13A Girls'

Netball vs Yarm

School

The U13A girls' Netball team put up an excellent battle against a very strong Yarm School team.

Their team work and work ethic was excellent throughout the game and the girls should be very proud of themselves.

Unfortunately, our girls lost 13-4 but the score certainly did not reflect the game.

Well done Lexi who was awarded Player of the Match!

I look forward to watching these girls play more throughout the spring term.

Mrs Chapman



U13B Girls' Netball vs Yarm School

The U13B team had an amazing game against Yarm Schools' D team last week.

The girls won 7-6 after a very exciting end-to-end game!

They have trained very hard since the start of the academic year and have galvanised into a strong squad with lots

of ability and competitiveness.

Well done to Bethea who was awarded Player of the Match.

Mrs Chapman

U12B Girls' Netball vs Ian Ramsey CE Academy

Last Friday our U12B team played some excellent Netball against Ian Ramsey CE Academy. This was another tight game with every single player giving it their all. Teesside High won 2-1!

Well done to Flo R for picking up Player of the Match.

Mrs Chapman



Inter District Cross Country Championships

Congratulations go to Kiyan (Intermediate Boys), Veronica (Intermediate Girls), Willoughby (Junior Boys) and Martha (Junior Girls) who represented Stockton Schools at the Inter District Cross Country Championships at Stewarts

Park on Monday.

Having qualified in December, the four braved a very chilly, challenging course and all four finished inside the qualifying requirements for their respective age groups.

They will now go on to represent Cleveland County at the Inter Counties meet in February.

Well done and the very best of luck to all four of our runners!

Miss Stephens





The Rainbow Fish

Nursery have thoroughly enjoyed the start of their new topic, *Ocean Treasures*.

They have shared the story of *The Rainbow Fish* and enjoyed re-enacting the story using puppets.

The children drew on their prior knowledge from their theatre visit at the end of last term and transformed Nursery into the THS theatre. They worked together to set out the chairs for the audience, remembering to number them as they went.

They were delighted Miss Mackenzie accepted her invitation to come and watch the show and even provided her with some light refreshments during her visit. In addition to this they have been developing their counting skills when counting sets of different sea creatures, finding the correct number on the number fan and creating the most amazing rainbow fish collages at

home for their Busy Book task.

Each week the children are invited to complete an activity at home which supports their work in Nursery and they always enjoy sharing what they have been busy doing with their friends. At the end of a great first week back with their friends, the children all thought about what makes them a good friend to others, just like the rainbow fish in the story.

Rire - "I help my friends when they need help to put an apron on."

Olivia - "I share the puppets when we do a puppet show."

Ibraheem - "I share with people and ask my friends if they are okay."

Miss Hall



Outdoor writing

Nursery enjoy learning outside and this week they have been showcasing their amazing writing skills using paintbrushes and water on the chalk boards.

The children have been writing their names showing excellent letter formation and also using their wonderful imaginations and drew London Bridge. In Nursery, we lay the foundations for early writing by ensuring a rich learning environment which promotes the children to engage in mark making activities alongside daily phonics lessons.

This approach ensures the children get off to the very best start possible on their educational journey.

Miss Hall

Live and Let Live

The children have really enjoyed their entry point to our new IPC unit, *Live and Let Live*.

They were able to have a virtual tour of Chester Zoo and find out lots of facts about the animals and how they look after them.

They designed their own animal masks and created art work based on the animals that they saw during the tour.

Mrs Hannah



First day of the spring term

Nursery and Reception children had a fantastic first day of term.

They enjoyed playing in the sand pit, drawing and telling their friends all about what they had fun doing over the Christmas break.

We look forward to seeing what the spring term brings for our pupils!

Miss Hall and Mrs Clapton

Chinese New Year in Nursery

Nursery children have had a wonderful week celebrating Chinese New Year. They have learnt all about this celebration and been engaged in a wide variety of activities to support their learning.

Using chopsticks to pick up the pom poms and fill numbered cups with the correct number has been excellent for developing fine motor control and muscles in their hands as well as our one to one counting skills. A feast of noodles and fortune cookies was the order of the day in the home corner and practicing writing numbers in Chinese was a favourite mathematics activity.

The children have explored colour

mixing with red and yellow paint and worked well together to create a very impressive Chinese dragon which is proudly on display in Nursery.

The story of *The Great Race* has been one of the books we have enjoyed this week and the children have since been retelling this with great detail using



puppets in the small world area.

They even found time to showcase their wonderful writing skills by adding their names to lucky red envelopes and choosing someone special to give this to.

What a wonderful week of learning and fun in Nursery.

Miss Hall



Making Things Go

The children in Upper Prep 1 have had an exciting start to their new IPC unit, *Making Things Go*.

As with all of the entry points, the purpose is to launch the new unit in a fun way to get the children engaged and enthusiastic for the new topic.

The children were tasked with making paper aeroplanes go. They could choose the size of their plane and their design and once their paper aeroplanes were ready, they headed out onto the playground to test them and to compete to see which was the best.

We had some great fliers but Rahul was

crowned our overall champion for the best paper aeroplane.

The children were so engrossed in this activity that they did not even get to think about how to make our frisbees go!

We will now be launching the rest of our unit which is based on energy and fuel. It is a very practical unit and we look forward to sharing our learning as the weeks progress.

Mrs Kennedy



Chinese New Year in Reception

Reception children have been thinking and learning about Chinese New Year. They have been learning facts, how to write in Chinese and how to make crafts to decorate for the celebrations.

Animals are associated with each new year and are rotated around a fixed cycle. The children found out that some were born in the year of the dog which is associated with traits of kindness, patience and hardwork.

Others were born in the year of the rooster. Roosters show traits of intelligence, talent and organisation.

Mrs Clapton



Prep Wellbeing Champions

I am delighted to be able to introduce the team of children who have taken on the important role of being our Prep Wellbeing Champions.

They will be working with me over the coming weeks and months to develop this new role, ensuring that we promote positive mental health in the Prep School.

The children will be developing their skills in listening, empathy and communication to name but a few, and are already eager to get stuck in to

some projects. This includes helping to run the upcoming assembly to promote Mental Health Week which will be happening in a few weeks time.

I am really looking forward to working with these children and I am confident that I will have lots of updates to share with you in future newsletters.

Mrs Kennedy



Bookworm Club

It has been lovely to see so many children enjoying spending time sharing books together in the library this week. Members of Pre-Prep Bookworm Club were delighted when some of the Prep School Librarians helped them choose different books to read together.

Miss Hall



Kung Fu Punctuation!

The children in Lower Prep have been enjoying their SPaG work by taking part in some Kung Fu Punctuation challenges.

The children were able to learn the different moves for a range of punctuation, ranging from full stops and commas, to colons and speech marks.

Once they had mastered the individual moves, they were able to apply these

to a range of different sentences.

They were also able to create their own sentences for their group to work on.

The children completed the white and red belt levels and are hoping that, sometime in the future, they will be able to tackle the black belt challenges!

Well done to all of the children for working so sensibly.

Mrs Kennedy



Meet our Governors

As we look to expand our current governing body, we thought it would be useful for you to find out more about our Governors.

Name:
Charlie Watson

How long have you been a Governor at Teesside High School?
I have been a Govenor for around 20 years. I am the longest serving Governor currently on the board. I also stood in as Interim Headteacher for one term in 2014.

How did you become a Governor at Teesside High School?
Through professional and friendship connections.

What is your life like outside of Teesside High School?
Retired, educational and professional. Recently widowed. Grandfather to twin granddaughters.

What do you enjoy most about your job?
Working with a dedicated team of Governors who are determined to seek the best for THS and all the pupils and families associated.

What do you enjoy most about Teesside High School?
The atmosphere and ‘culture’ of the school - with its accent on providing a safe, secure, nurturing environment in which every student is given the provision to grow into a well-rounded, positive individual with a wide choice of options to follow in life.

What would you like to achieve at Teesside High School over the next 12 months?
Increased stability and further growth.

What advice would you give others who are interested in joining the board?
Understand the role and responsibility you are undertaking and be willing to give a great deal of time towards working with the whole team which makes up THS. Most importantly - enjoy it!



ESU Public Speaking Regional Final

Next week we are delighted to be hosting the Regional Final of the ESU Public Speaking Competition.

We wish the very best of luck to Max, Eddie and Sam who will be representing the school at this event.

Miss Duffy



Artist of the Month

We are delighted to announce that the Artist of the Month for December is Eshel Haroon.

Year 7 have been studying the Formal Elements of Art and as part of their work on colour they have looked at the work of the artist and social activist Keith Haring.

The interpretation of the bright playful style of Haring’s work by all of our Year 7 students can be seen on the stairwell to Art, it was very hard to pick a winner!

Eshel has not only interpreted the style of Haring, using colour and paint in a skilful way but she has also relayed a powerful message about how the media might pretend to care but it is overall a money making enterprise.

Mrs Machan



Young Goethe Ambassador

On Monday, some of our Year 9 students were lucky enough to be visited by a Young Goethe Ambassador through the Goethe Institute.

Holly is a student of German and English Literature at Leeds University and she did a wonderful presentation about the value of studying languages to GCSE and beyond, not only for work and education reasons but also for our health.

We also learn how valuable being able to speak German is for business and international trade. The session rounded off with some fun games to help develop knowledge of German vocabulary.

Among other things, we learnt that when Germans say “ich verstehe nur Bahnhof” they mean they do not

understand anything!

Thank you so much to the Goethe Institute and to our Young Ambassador!

Frau Butterfield



Senior production - Into the Woods

Rehearsals have begun in earnest with our brilliant cast for this year’s Senior production, *Into the Woods*, a version of Stephen Sondheim’s wonderful musical that was also made into a Disney film with an A-list cast.

More information about tickets for the performances at the end of March will be released soon. Watch this space!

Mr Coates and Mrs Shevels

Spring term co-curricular activities

Our spring term co-curricular activities are in full swing this week.

Students were able to choose from a large array of activities including: Debate Club, Boys and Girls Football, Creative Writing, Gusto Lingo, Global

Wildlife, Science Club, Rubik’s Cube, Scrapbook Making and many more.

We firmly believe that there is more to a student’s experience than their academic profile and achievements. We believe that our students need

to be articulate and well-rounded individuals who can work well with others and communicate effectively. Our extensive co-curricular programme turns this belief into a reality.

Miss Connor





THS CAREERS CONVENTION

Tuesday 31 January
6.00pm – 8.00pm



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