

# THiS Week



Teesside High School  
*Education as it should be*

## BRING A LOVED ONE TO FOREST SCHOOL

Early Years children were delighted to welcome their loved ones to Forest School for a Valentines event.

Miss Hopkins our Forest School leader was waiting to greet us with a campfire. We had toasted marshmallows and the children showed their parent how to approach the fire safely.



The children helped their loved ones to be creative as they made some beautiful natural crafts. We recieved some wonderful feedback:

'I just wanted to thank you very much for a wonderful afternoon by your fire pit toasting marshmallows.

I had such a lovely time in your woodland today, it was so nice to get back over the bridge again and see all of the work you have been doing in Forest School.' - Parent



'Thank you for having me at Forest School yesterday, I loved it!' - Parent

Thank you to all parents who supported our event in our beautiful grounds!

**Mrs Clapton, Miss Hall and Miss Hopkins**





# WELCOME

I hope you all have a wonderful and restful half term break.

I cannot believe that we have reached the halfway point of the academic year already! The last six weeks have been filled with school events, fantastic achievements and a lot of hard work.

Since the start of December we have seen many of our students tackle the difficult stages of the Cross Country competitions. I would like to say a huge congratulations to Martha and Kiyan who have reached the English Schools Cross Country Championships which will take place later this year in Nottingham. Sam, Max and Alex in Year 10 have made it to the next round of the ESU Public Speaking Competition. These are outstanding achievements and I wish you all the best of luck in the next stages.

It was lovely to host the first Tea-Time Concert of the year last week. Tea-Time Concerts are a great way to showcase our musically talented pupils and it also helps them to build their confidence by performing in front of an audience. Well done to all who performed and thank you to parents for your continuous support.

Our annual PTA Race Night took place last Friday in the Dining Hall. Parents and friends enjoyed a night of racing with delicious refreshments. Thank you to all that attended, I hope you had a wonderful evening.

We have some very exciting events planned for when we return after the half term break.

This year our Senior School production is *Into The Woods*. Students have been hard at work in rehearsals; performances will take place on Wednesday 28 March and Thursday 29 March. Tickets will be available to purchase very soon.

I am looking forward to our Spring Masquerade Ball on Friday 31 March. Tickets are £55.00 per person or £500.00 for a table of ten guests. Tickets include a beautiful 3-course meal, disco and dancing. A welcome drink is included in the ticket price and there will also be an auction and a raffle on the evening. Tickets can be purchased from Reception and through ParentPay.

A huge thank you to those who have already signed up to sponsor the event. If you are interested in being involved and supporting THS, we still have one remaining sponsorship package available on a first come, first served basis. Please email [rwhitehead@teessidehigh.co.uk](mailto:rwhitehead@teessidehigh.co.uk) for more information.

**Mrs K Mackenzie, Head**



## Northern Schools

### Cross Country

### Championships

On Saturday 4 February, Willoughby, Martha and Kiyan travelled to Sunderland for the Northern Schools Cross Country Championships.

Martha placed 4th and Kiyan placed 6th for Cleveland, qualifying for the English Schools Cross Country Championships in Nottingham.

It is outstanding to get to this level and we wish you both the very best of luck!

**Miss Turnbull**



## U16 Girls Netball vs Conyers School

Our U16 girls' Netball team took to the court last Wednesday facing Conyers School.

This was a competitive game throughout, played in great spirit.

The girls have fantastic camaraderie and enthusiasm; their love to play is very evident.

After a very strong first quarter, Teesside were up by 14-1. Katie's shooting was on form, earning her Player of the Match.

This was a true squad performance with Layla, Neve and Isobel leading by example; Ella, Siri, Ruby, Sona, Abbie and Lucy working hard, being brave and really growing throughout the game, and of course we must not forget our team mascot for the day, Favour!

Well done, girls, a great match. Final score; THS 38-10 Conyers School.

**Miss Stephens**

## U16 Girls Netball vs Eggescliffe School

It was Valentine's Day and there was only one thing for it - our U16 girls' team to show their love of Netball. They took to the courts against Eggescliffe School and played two exciting games. Our A team showed strength across the court, fantastic attacking and defending and all joined up by our Player of the Match and captain, Layla. Final score; THS 31-20 Eggescliffe School.

The B team gave their game their all, working hard and showing improvement throughout. It was great to see some girls who do not always get a chance receive some good game time. Final score; THS 6-8 Eggescliffe School. Well done to Player of the Match, Sona.

**Miss Stephens**



## Red House School Cross Country Competition

The perfect day for Cross Country running, and it was time for the Red House School Invitational event. A competition which has been going on for decades and one which students and staff look forward to.

Two strong Year 7 and 8 boys' and girls' teams travelled to Norton for the event. Within the boys team were some of the runners from the Prep School and it was great to see the competitiveness that they brought to both the team and the competition.

Despite competing just days before, Martha secured 2nd place and helped the girls' team to make a joint 2nd place finish.

The boys managed to finish 3rd place with an outstanding effort from our two Prep School pupils, with Jacob finishing 3rd place behind two boys four years older than him!

A great afternoon with plenty of courage, determination and hard work on show. Well done all and we look

forward to next year's event.

**Mr Thomas**





# In My Heart

As part of their work about Children’s Mental Health Week, the children in Nursery have enjoyed sharing the wonderful book *In My Heart* by Jo Witek.

The children were empowered by the new vocabulary they learnt when sharing this book and articulated and identified different emotions.

Tara: “My heart feels sad when I hurt myself but if I cuddle Mummy my heart is happy again. When I’m on my own without Mummy and Daddy my heart feels lonely but Mummy and Daddy are on my invisible string and in my house. My friends make me feel happy.”

Ibraheem: “My heart feels happy because everyone is making me happy. They play with me. When it’s dark my heart feels scared but I can put the light on and that makes it better.”

Eva: “My heart feels proud because I can write my name. My heart feels happy when I share the toys. When I fell over my heart felt sad but my friends looked after me. I didn’t hurt myself so my heart was happy again.”

Verity: “When I’m with Mummy my heart feels happy. When I’m not at Nursery my heart feels sad. I like it when I play with my friends. I am happy.”

Ava: “My heart feels happy because everyone is kind to me. When Sienna fights with me my heart feels angry.



My heart feels broken when I’m sad. My Mummy and Daddy give me kisses when my heart is broken and it makes my heart feel happy again.”

Niamh: “My heart feels happy because all my friends play with me. My heart is sad when I’m hungry but if I give Mummy hugs I feel happy again. If I am without my Mummy and Daddy my heart can feel lonely.”

Olivia: “My heart feels brave when something scares me because I’m very brave. Today my heart feels happy because everyone is kind to me. My heart feels broken when people are unkind but I can fix it better with kisses and cuddles from Mummy and Daddy.”

Rire: “My heart feels happy because everyone is kind to me and because I’m not alone. Mummy is still with me on my invisible string so I know Mummy is still with me. I’m so happy because everyone is with me and I love coming to Nursery. When I don’t have the light on in my bedroom my heart feels scared and I’m a little bit shy but my Mummy is still with me when she’s downstairs. I love playing in the house and with the trucks and having my snack too.”

Miss Hall



## Baby photographs

As part of their IPC unit *Live and let Live*, the Pre-Prep children shared photographs of themselves as a baby.

They played guess the baby and tried to match the baby photograph to their friends in the class. We all had lots of fun and even spotted Mrs Hannah’s baby picture!

This lead to a wonderful discussion around how we have changed and the things that we can do now that we could not do before.

Mrs Hannah



# Childrens Mental Health Week

The idea behind Go Noodle is to bring joy, health and self discovery to children.

Last week, Go Noodle Club pupils focused on exercises that are good for their mental health by tuning into their bodies, surroundings and breathing.



This provides a great way for the children to relax after school.

Mrs Clapton



## Hanging greenhouses

Pre-Prep pupils explored different plants and how they grow as part of their IPC work last week.

The children created their own hanging greenhouse. They placed grit in the jar first to make sure that the plants would not have too much water and then added soil and plants.

Mrs Hannah

## Litter Bugs

The children in Nursery had great fun completing their home Busy Book task this week and all arrived in Nursery proudly carrying their wonderful creations.

Having learnt all about recycling and how we can help keep our oceans clean, the children were challenged to help sort their recycling at home and

use their imaginations to transform it into their very own Litter Bug. Who would have thought that bottles, cardboard and empty packaging could be transformed into a spider, an octopus, a caterpillar and butterfly, a dinosaur and even a junk lady!

We are extremely grateful at Teesside High to have wonderful support

from parents who help our youngest children with their home learning on a daily basis.

This close partnership between home and school is pivotal to ensuring our children get off to the best possible start as they start their educational journey.

Miss Hall







# Hartlepool Power Station

Over the last couple of weeks, both Year 5 and Year 6 pupils have enjoyed a trip to Hartlepool Power Station to support their learning about renewable energy.

The children were welcomed by EDF staff who were able to give the children a comprehensive explanation of how they make electricity at their plant. They explained many aspects of their work and also told the children the advantages and disadvantages of nuclear energy. They also learnt more about uranium and the impact of a chain reaction.

Once the classroom based talk was complete, the children were kitted out in their helmets, eye protection and high visibility jackets so that they could

have a guided tour of the power station. This started with some safety checks before the children visited the different areas of the site.

The children were interested to learn that in an emergency the staff muster inside the building due to the nature of the hazards on site and how the huge tanks could heat 500,000 litres of water in only 17 minutes; a task that would take ten years in our domestic kettles at home! The tour then reached its peak as we were escorted around the turbine hall where the children were able to see where the magnet is located that spins 50 times per second.

A huge thank you to the staff at Hartlepool Power Station for their warm welcome and informative visit.

Here are some pictures of the children all ready for their tour.

**Mrs Kennedy**



## Volcano clay models

Lower Prep pupils enjoyed their work in IPC last week.

They looked carefully at the different parts of a volcano then used their new found knowledge to create their own volcano cross section using air drying clay.

They had to think carefully about how to represent the ash cloud and flying rocks, the lava, crater, conduit and magma chamber.

We cannot wait to display the final products in the classroom!

**Miss Lockerbie**



# Upper Prep Assembly

Upper Prep children took to the stage last week to perform their annual assembly.

This year, we took inspiration from our IPC lessons where we have been learning about energy and how certain energy forms are having a significant effect on the environment.

Our assembly saw a family of penguins searching the globe to see whether they could find an answer as to why their icebergs were melting. They soon realised that there were lots of contributing factors and slowly but surely, through a little education and by encouraging people to change their ways, they were able to reduce the harmful gases that were destroying the planet.

By the end of the assembly the penguins and polar bears were

delighted to see that their ice was returning, all thanks to Percy and the penguins!

This important message was delivered through drama and a variety of catchy songs, with the finale reminding our audience that we only have one world that we need to take care of. As a closing line, the parents, children and staff were challenged to think about what they would do to help protect our planet.

Well done to all of the children in Upper Prep for working hard to prepare and deliver their assembly. We are very proud of them all.

**Mrs Kennedy and Mr Griffiths**



## Big Adventures Holiday Camp

Bookings are now open and are filling up fast for the dates Monday 3 April to Thursday 6 April. Children from Nursery to Year 6 are invited to join us for four days of fun, games and adventures. As well as enjoying Easter activities based at school, we will also be heading off site to Monk Park Farm and Newby Hall. If you would like to reserve a place for your child(ren) I ask that you submit a completed booking form via email to myself (rehall@teessidehigh.co.uk). Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis upon receipt of completed booking forms. Once I have received your booking form, I will reply confirming which days your child has secured a place for.

**Miss Hall**



## Forest School Holiday Camp

I will be running a Forest School Holiday Camp on Thursday 13 April and Friday 14 April. These days will run from 8.30am until 4.30pm and will include activities such as fire skills, tool skills, den building, cooking, woodland craft, nature ID and games. This camp will cost £35.00 per day and you are more than welcome to book on one or both of the days. If you would like to book your child(ren) onto this holiday camp, please complete the Google Form circulated.

**Miss Hopkins**



# ESU Public Speaking Competition

Congratulations to the Public Speaking team who are now through to the next round of the English Speaking Union's Competition on Saturday 11 March at St Peters, York.

Alex, our speaker, was highly commended by the judges for his speech entitled 'Governments should be held to their pre-election promises.' Please enjoy a taste of what our fantastic THS team delivered on the night:

*Benjamin Franklin once said 'promise may fit the friends, but non-performance will turn them to enemies'. Every politician finds themselves desperate to make friends in the run up to an election, it is a fact that real trustful friendship is soured when power is gained and pledges broken. It's as simple as betraying a good comrade or confrere. I wholeheartedly believe that governments should be bound to their pre-election promises and I hope I can convince you to join me in my point of view.*

*In 2019 our current conservative government was desperately trying to gain the confidence and vote of the electorate. As with all political parties they toured the country in buses emblazoned with the faces and slogans of the party and its figurehead. This is all part of the process of 'touting' for votes and is, some may argue, all part of the process in any democracy; allowing the electorate to meet the people who they may choose to represent them and make major decisions that affect their life. And this is the point when the promises begin ... So what did our current government promise? The list is long, but let me give you the highlights. Extra funding for the NHS, 20,000 more police and tougher sentencing for criminals and control immigration Reaching Net Zero by 2050 with investment in clean energy solutions and*

*green infrastructure to reduce carbon emissions and pollution. It was this and other promises which our government was elected on. Three years and three prime ministers later we are yet to see many of these promises fulfilled. I'm sure that many of you are now thinking that this speech is not talking about a trend of governments but rather about our current conservative government. I can assure you that that is not true. This is something that is historical and international. All over the world people are being let down time and time again. And then, near the election, hope builds up. People are excited for social change and then that hope withers away and dies. It could be said that it is a political plague. Recent surveys in what are considered to be democratic countries show a worrying trend in the trust people have in the government and their trust between the media. Both entities are only trusted by only around 30% of the population both in America and in the UK. This statistic has dropped 50% since the 1960s.*

We hope you enjoyed reading the first section of their speech!

**Mrs Reid**



## Poetry Live

On Wednesday 1 February, Year 11 students enjoyed an inspirational visit to the annual Poetry Live conference at the York Grand Opera House.

In the morning, pupils had the opportunity to listen to the poets from the AQA Anthology - many of whom they are currently studying - perform and discuss their work. The poets responded to pupil questions about what influenced them to write and the writing process itself.

The final session of the day was led by Tony Childs, a chief examiner who gave some handy tips and advice to the students on how to approach the Unseen Poetry section of the examination.

However, the biggest hit of the afternoon was meeting the amazing performance poet John Agard. He chatted with the students, encouraging them to embrace their inner creativity whilst simultaneously smiling for the many selfies that the students took to mark such a special experience!

I wonder who we will meet next year?

**Miss Duffy**

# Tea-Time Concert

Wednesday 8 February saw another uplifting and joyous Tea-Time Concert with students as young as Year 2 performing to friends and family.

As many of the students are preparing for examinations, this was a very useful opportunity to perform their pieces in an informal and welcoming setting, yet with just enough importance to make the nerves worthy of the occasion.

French composers were in the limelight with Phoebe in Year 9 playing Grade 5 Faure's Pavane on clarinet, and Libby in Year 7 playing Grade 3 Habanera from Bizet's opera, Carmen on violin. Prep pupils Florence, Sienna, Isabella, Iliana and Laura, as well as Izzy in Year 7, sang songs they are preparing for their examinations at the end of term; it was lovely to hear their different interpretations and impressive to see so much of this performed from memory.

A quartet of Prep violinists, Lola, Ralph Jola and Thomas, delighted us with a very special rendition of *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star* which saw them perform first as an ensemble and then individually. They earned themselves a special bow and round of applause

for their efforts. Year 7 student Rosie played a Grade 2 piece on her guitar and Ethan, Anais, Bethea, Pierre and Libby all played pieces on the piano, as well as Lilia in Year 9 who rounded off our concert on a lot of very impressive, fast notes!

A huge well done to all performers, and an enormous thank you once again to our supportive audience.

**Mrs Shevels**



## Meet our Governors

**Name:** Rob Tindle, Chair of Governors

**How long have you been a Governor at Teesside High School?** I started in 2010 and became the Chair of Governors in January 2017.

**How did you become a Governor at Teesside High School?** My daughters went to THS and I thought I could contribute and make a difference, I think I have...

**What is your life like outside of Teesside High School?** I am a chartered accountant in practice and businessman. I have two daughters - my eldest is a qualified solicitor and my youngest is a language teacher. My hobbies are Football (Newcastle),

Skiing, socialising, reading and general affairs.

**What do you enjoy most about your job?** I enjoy solving problems the most.

**What do you enjoy most about Teesside High School?** Well it's hard work as a Governor with some very difficult decisions but the shared pride across pupils, staff, parents and Governors is to be part of this fabulous school.

**What would you like to achieve at Teesside High School over the next 12 months?** To build on the successful ISI report to grow pupil headcount and develop education

## Break a Leg!

We would like to send our very best wishes to our Speech and Drama, GCSE Drama and A-level Drama candidates.

We will have visiting examiners in school across the first three weeks of the next half term.

Beginning with LAMDA and moving onto Eduqas examinations, we wish all our students who are performing - 'break a leg!'

**Mr Coates**

## Business

Following the mock examinations for students in Years 11 to 13, more recently, Year 10 students had the opportunity to demonstrate their learning and progress in Business.

A big congratulations goes to Beatrice Austin, Ewan Cooke, Ella McCarthy, Emily Milne, Lucy Mulcrone and Amelia Storey who all exceeded their target grades in an assessment focusing on types of business organisations.

**Mrs Boothroyd**

delivery.

**What advice would you give others who are interested in joining the board?** Only get involved if you have skills/experience to contribute and are passionate about the school.







**TEESSIDE HIGH SCHOOL**

**PRESENTS**

**BOOK  
BY  
JAMES LAPINE**

**MUSIC AND LYRICS  
BY  
STEPHEN SONDHEIM**

# INTO THE WOODS JR.

**WEDNESDAY 29 MARCH**

**6.30PM**

**DOORS AT 6.00PM**

**THURSDAY 30 MARCH**

**6.30PM**

**DOORS AT 6.00PM**

**TICKETS ON SALE SOON**

ORIGINALLY DIRECTED ON BROADWAY BY JAMES LAPINE \* ORCHESTRATIONS BY JONATHAN TUNICK \* ORIGINAL BROADWAY PRODUCTION BY HEIDI LANDESMAN, M. ANTHONY FISHER, ROCCO LANDESMAN, FREDERIC H. MAYERSON, RICK STEINER, JUJAMCYN THEATERS  
ORIGINALLY PRODUCED BY THE OLD GLOBE THEATRE, SAN DIEGO, CA \* DIRECTOR \* SORIYA CHUM \* CHOREOGRAPHER \* SOCHEATA POEUV \* MUSIC DIRECTOR \* PAULEENA SEARS \*  
STAGE MANAGER \* ANDREW KISSAM

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£55  
PER TICKET\*



Teesside High School  
Education as it should be

# Masquerade Ball

MARCH

FRIDAY

31

AT 7.00PM

WYNYARD HALL

TICKETS ON SALE VIA PARENTPAY OR VIA RECEPTION

Ticket price includes: 3-course meal (vg option available) and welcome drink

\*£500 when booking a Table of 10



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