

# THiS Week



Teesside High School  
*Education as it should be*

## THS ANNUAL CAREERS CONVENTION

We were delighted to host a very busy Careers Convention with a number of fantastic universities and businesses on Tuesday.

Each year we host a highly successful Careers Convention; an informal marketplace style event attended by over 40 delegates representing 11 universities and some of the region's leading employers and businesses.

The event aims to provide students with access to representatives from a whole host of careers, from Medicine to Engineering, Accountancy to Dentistry, Law to Policing and much more.

Many universities attended including Teesside University, Durham University, the University of Sunderland and the University of Sheffield.

The convention really is an excellent 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.

Thank you to everyone who attended. We hope that you found the event useful and informative.

**Miss Connor**





# WELCOME

As always we have had a very exciting couple of weeks at THS.

Mrs Shevels and Deputy Head Girl, Kaavya performed at the Holocaust Memorial Day event at Stockton Central Library last Friday. Their performance was very well received, with the Mayor and many of the delegates commenting on Kaavya's beautiful playing, which suited the tone of the event perfectly. It was a great honour for one of our students to be invited to perform at such a poignant event. Well done, Kaavya.

Across school this week we have seen many of our students head out for the day on trips and visits. Nursery and Reception children had a wonderful trip on Tuesday to Maidenhead Aquatics. The children enjoyed observing all of the fish which supported their topic, *Ocean Treasures*. Our Year 11 students visited the Grand Opera House in York to broaden their GCSE Poetry knowledge, preparing them for their examinations in the summer. Finally, Year 5 pupils visited Hartlepool Power Station yesterday to increase their knowledge on their IPC unit, *Making Things Go*.

As you can see from our front cover, we once again hosted a very successful Careers Convention on Tuesday. I would like to thank all of the businesses and universities who take the time to attend this event and help our students with their future career choices. I think that this event is one of the most important in our calendar as it prepares our students for life beyond THS.

It has been a pleasure to have Frau Stemplinger, a teacher from Germany in school over the past two weeks. She has given our students a greater insight into what school is like in Germany compared to England. Our Year 9 students experienced a video conference with Frau Stemplinger's class on Tuesday. They were able to practise their German by discussing hobbies, sports and more. We look forward to working together in the future.

We have many exciting events taking place over the next couple of weeks. I would like to remind you of our Friends of THS Race Night taking place on Friday 10 February. Everyone is welcome; members of our school community or wider family and friends (adults only, please). Doors will open at 7.00pm with the opening race commencing at 7.30pm. Tickets include a pie and peas supper (vegan option available) and drinks are on a 'bring your own' (BYO) basis. Purchase your tickets today via ParentPay!

**Mrs K Mackenzie, Head**



## Spring Masquerade Ball

We are delighted to invite you to our Spring Masquerade Ball which will take place at Wynyard Hall on Friday 31 March, 7.00pm.

Our Spring Masquerade Ball is open to friends and family of THS, as well as those in our Sixth Form and will offer an opportunity for the THS community to come together in their finery.

Tickets are £55.00 per person or £500.00 for a table of ten guests. Tickets include a beautiful 3-course meal (vegan option available), 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 (cash only, please) and through ParentPay and will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

Please can any requests for seating arrangements be made at time of booking by emailing [info@teessidehigh.co.uk](mailto:info@teessidehigh.co.uk).

Thank you in advance for your support, we are very much looking forward to seeing many of you at this exciting event.

**Miss Whitehead**

## U13A Girls' Hockey vs Eggescliffe School

Our U13A girls' Hockey team played in their annual 7-a-side County Hockey tournament at Eggescliffe School.

The girls faced Eggescliffe School in the first game. The game started as a very even affair, with both teams gradually finding their passing rhythm. The only real chance came in the second half as Anisa and Martha bizarrely managed to hit both posts in the same attack. A very close game which finished 0-0.

The second game saw THS play Yarm School A team, who maintained possession of the ball for long periods while THS tried to catch them on the counter-attack. Shots from Amelia and Rosie forced a couple of saves out of the Yarm goalkeeper but it was Yarm's slick passing and effective short corner routines that proved decisive. The game finished 3-0 to Yarm School A.

THS played Yarm School B team in their final match of the tournament. THS conceded an early goal but after that they managed to press high and did not allow Yarm out of their own half. Shots from Poppy and Rosie came close

but it was Anisa who equalised with a low shot into the left corner. THS dominated the second half and had some good chances to score but ran out of time to get the winner. The final score; 1-1.

THS finished in 3rd place overall. The girls should be proud of the teamwork and resilience they showed throughout the tournament.

**Mr Williamson**



## Business examination results

As a department which is focused on teaching students in Years 10 to 13, mock examinations are a busy time in Business and Economics as we assess students' subject knowledge and examination technique ahead of their final examinations in the summer term. Special congratulations go to the following students who exceeded their target grades in Business:

**Year 11:** Matilda Crowther, Oscar Marsay, Fraser Micklewright, George Danson, Ava Fitzmaurice, Lucy Jo Foster

**Year 12:** Lily Jones, Henry Hunt

**Year 13:** Emilie Wright, Maia Bausor

Well done!

**Mrs Boothroyd**

## U9 Mixed Netball vs Barnard Castle School

Last Monday, our Year 3 and 4 pupils took part in their first ever Netball match against Barnard Castle School.

All of the children had a brilliant time and demonstrated the skills they have been learning this term.

Well done to all!

**Mrs Chapman**







## Big Garden Birdwatch

Last week, Nursery, Reception and Pre-Prep children all took part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

Following Mr Griffiths' assembly, the children were enthused to take part in the RSPB birdwatch. At Teesside High we are very fortunate to have fabulous nature on our doorstep full of amazing birds.

Pre-Prep and Reception pupils joined together for a bird spotting walk, recording the data as they went. The children spotted some beautiful acrobatic blue tits, noisy magpies and cheeky gulls. The birds were both visible and very vocal! The children used the data they collected to extend their learning further.

Our Pre-Prep children enjoyed making apple bird feeders. They threaded apples and pushed sunflower seeds into them, hanging them up for the birds to

enjoy.

Nursery children thoroughly enjoyed a week all about birds! They put their fine motor skills to the test by making their own pair of binoculars by wrapping coloured wool round cardboard tubes and threading cheerios onto string. When they were all set they then headed off outside to hang up the bird feeders with our binoculars in hand to see how many birds we could spot.

One of the stories the children really enjoyed was *Owl Babies*. Having read the story, the children were very busy creating their own little owls and retelling the story using puppets.

**Miss Hall, Mrs Clapton and Mrs Hannah**



## Senior School visit

The Pre-Prep children were very excited to visit Mrs Kirk in the Science Department as part of our IPC unit, *Live and Let Live*.

The children had the opportunity to find out about insects such as locust and stick insects, see them first hand and asked Mrs Kirk questions about how to take care of them and if they were omnivores.

They also saw a giant millipede and Madagascan hissing cockroaches. The children were fascinated and listened carefully to hear them hiss. We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Kirk for inviting us to visit and answering all of our questions.

We felt very grown up sitting on the big stools in the lab and enjoyed discovering that all of the animals we saw were herbivores.

**Mrs Hannah**



## Live and Let Live

Our Pre-Prep children visited Nursery last week to share some of their IPC work.

The children have been finding out lots of information about animals as part of their unit, *Live and Let Live*.

They created information booklets about how to look after a pet.

The children each chose their own type of pet and thought carefully about the information others would need to look

after the animal properly.

They had great fun sharing these with the nursery children and talking about what they had decided was important information to pass on.

Thank you Nursery for listening so carefully.

**Mrs Hannah**

## Sea creatures

The children in Reception class have been thinking and learning about sea creatures. They drew their favourite sea creature in their Busy Books!

**Mrs Clapton**



## Maidenhead Aquatics

Nursery and Reception children had a wonderful morning on Tuesday as they headed off site to see the fish at Maidenhead Aquatics.

The children enjoyed observing the

fish and took time to think which one was their favourite.

The visit brought our topic *Ocean Treasures* to life and provided a first hand experience for the children.

For many children, the minibus journey there and back was also a lot of fun.

**Miss Hall and Mrs Clapton**





# Making Things Go

“We are artists!”. This is a phrase that resounded in my classroom as the children were able to step back and admire their completed artwork.

The children are continuing with their IPC unit, *Making Things Go*, and recently turned their attention to an art task. As our unit focuses on energy and sustainability, it seemed only right that the focus of our work was wind farms.

The children have been learning about the art period of impressionism and their task was to apply their colour in



this style, using small strokes to build up colour.

They also had to think very carefully about their colour choices, moving beyond thinking that the sky and sea are just blue! Using the oil pastels provided some challenges at times, however, I was very impressed with the children's focus and determination to do their best and make their work the best it could be, whilst considering the success criteria of the task.

The children applied many of the IPC's personal learning goals to this task, including resilience and adaptability.

Here are some photos of the children proudly showing their work. I am sure that you will agree that they did a fantastic job.

**Mrs Kennedy**



## Forest School

Year 5 and 6 pupils have started to complete our new Forest School award scheme within their Forest School lessons.

They have refreshed their knowledge

on the fire safety rules, and have learnt how to identify suitable wood for fire lighting, as well as being able to gain a spark from a flint and steel.

**Miss Hopkins**



## Miss Lockerbie's School Shop

Year 2 pupils have enjoyed demonstrating their understanding of money this week at 'Miss Lockerbie's School Shop'.

They chose an item to buy and had to find the exact value of coins in order to 'purchase'. They were especially motivated to buy from the sweetie section and all worked incredibly hard to earn a sweet reward!

**Miss Lockerbie**



## Feel the Force

Lower Prep were excited to invite their parents into school this week in order to showcase their learning for our recently concluded IPC topic, *Feel the Force*.

The children worked hard to set up a demonstration for each of the science tasks they have completed over the past few weeks.

During their trip around the Prep Hall, parents were invited to attempt picking up both sugar cubes and ice cubes using chopsticks and discuss why one was much easier than the other (the smooth surface was slippier due to having less friction). They made paper helicopters



and were asked to make predictions about whether the larger or smaller helicopter would reach the floor first. Parents also investigated which surface was best for playing a game of marbles.

The children did a great job of explaining each activity, including an explanation of what they had learned about forces. Well done, Lower Prep!

**Miss Lockerbie**

## Upper Prep Music lessons

In Upper Prep Music, we have been exploring the song, *Make you Feel my Love*.

Originally written by Nobel prize winner Bob Dylan, and since covered by many artists including Adele, we have been singing the song and learning to play along with it using keyboards.

They have been working very hard to improve their skills and get ready for a class performance.

**Mr Wing**



## Year 6 English

In our Year 6 English class, the pupils have been furiously writing letters of complaint! The letters were directed at a fictitious local restaurant and complaints were made about the service, the food, and the general hygiene of the restaurant.

The pupils were asked to include lots of emotive language, a colon before a descriptive list, and the subjunctive form as this was to be a formal letter.

We hope that you enjoy reading a snippet of Ellena's well-written letter:

*I am writing to you to make an official complaint about my recent experience*

*at your restaurant, 'Mr. Bob's Amazing Restaurant'. This was meant to be a nice day out to celebrate adopting our new dog, Timmy. The occasion has been ruined and we are very unhappy about it. Your advertisement said the restaurant was amazing, there were all sorts of reviews stating a positive description about it, they read things like, 'the service was very fast!' or, 'the Hygiene was amazing!!' there were loads. Fake! Fake reviews, fake advertisement, fake! We, had been hoodwinked.*

*The journey there was long and rough, loads of closed off roads, loads of*

*traffic, and loads of bumps. After we finally got there, we were ignored for over half an hour, this was despite loads of attempts to engage them. When your staff finally acknowledged us, they were extremely rude, and they very disappointingly, told us that our table had been double-booked! Because of this, they gave us a much smaller one. After many steps through the whole restaurant, the sight was absolutely awful: the chairs were broken, the sofa was ripped, there was nothing on the table and there were stains all over the carpet! We sat down...*

**Mr Griffiths**



# Hosting a German Teacher

Over the last two weeks, we have been very lucky to be able to host Magdalena Stemplinger, a teacher from the Realschule am Fränkischen Dünenweg in Germany.

Her visit was organised through the UK German Connection, an organisation which works to increase contacts and understanding between young people in the UK and in Germany. Throughout her two week stay, Frau Stemplinger has got to know Teesside High students in their German lessons and also by visiting other lessons, such as English, RE, History and French, as well as visiting Lower Prep to find out what they have been learning in German with Felix and Franz.

She has also taken the opportunity to experience some of our enrichment activities. Year 9 students were very excited to “meet” Frau Stemplinger’s English class 9C on Tuesday via video conference, which was a new experience for everyone involved. Max and Rhys from Frau Butterfield’s Year 10 German class took some time to get to know more about Frau Stemplinger by interviewing her in German, which was very impressive. Here is a translation of what they discovered:

**Where do you live?** *I live in Nuremberg in Bavaria, which is in the south of Germany.*

**Where is your school?** *It is in Röthenbach, which is 15 km outside of Nuremberg.*

**How long have you been teaching and what do you teach?** *I’ve been teaching since 2018 and I teach English and French.*

**What have you been doing outside of school whilst you have been here?** *My time outside of THS has been good. I’ve been to York, North Yorkshire, Scotland and Barnard Castle. They are all very beautiful.*

**How does the North East compare to where you live?** *It’s very rural here compared to the city where I live.*

**What are the main differences between THS and your school?** *There is no uniform in my school. Long hair, piercings and jewellery are okay. The teachers aren’t as strict. Students have a classroom that the teachers move between, as opposed to the students moving between classrooms. There is no cafeteria, as school ends at 1.00pm. There are no assemblies.*

**How have you enjoyed your time at THS?** *Teaching at THS has been very good and interesting. The students are very quiet and polite, compared to in my school where the students are much louder and for lack of a better word, rambunctious. You are very nice.*

**How have you found the staff at THS?** *The other teachers here at Teesside High are super nice, and I feel very welcomed. Students are eager and interested, as well as incredibly kind. I feel incredibly welcomed by everyone.*

On a side note, Frau Stemplinger was also very impressed with Max and Rhys’ German! Thank you, Max and Rhys for conducting such a thorough interview. We are looking forward to making further plans for working with Frau Stemplinger and the Realschule am Fränkischen Dünenweg in the near future. Thank you for visiting us!

**Frau Butterfield**



## Thinking Curriculum

In their Thinking Curriculum session this week, Year 10 students were analysing how a growth mindset has helped them overcome failures in the past; from failed chemistry and spelling tests to missed penalties and chess game losses.

At the end of the session they carried out a brief activity to show that perseverance really does work.

Well done, Year 10!

**Mrs Kirk**



# Holocaust Memorial Day performance

Mrs Shevels and Deputy Head Girl, Kaavya joined the Mayor of Stockton-on-Tees, Councillor Ross Patterson and an invited audience at a very special evening to mark Holocaust Memorial Day last Friday.

Holocaust Memorial Day takes place each year to remember the six million Jews murdered during the Holocaust, alongside the millions of other people killed under Nazi persecution and in genocides that followed in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

The poignant event at Stockton Central Library included a minute’s silence for those who lost their lives, a poetry reading by Joseph Casling (Northern School of Art) plus two pieces played by Kaavya on violin: Theme from *Schindler’s List* by John Williams and *Salut d’Amour* by Edward Elgar. Special guest, Shabana Marshall, Senior Lecturer at St Mary’s University, Twickenham, and Educator for the Holocaust Education Trust, then gave a speech detailing the testimony of a Holocaust survivor before lighting a remembrance candle. Visitors were also able to sign a book of reflection.

Our performance was very well received, with the Mayor and many of the delegates commenting on Kaavya’s beautiful playing, which suited the tone of the event perfectly. It was an honour to be asked to share in this important memorial event and to take time to remember those who lost their lives.

**Mrs Shevels**



## Forest School

Our Year 7 and 8 Forest School students have enjoyed learning how to safely use a flint and steel.

For some this took perseverance and resilience to do, especially once given the challenge of setting cotton wool on fire.

They all successfully managed this and are now going to move onto how to build a fire.

**Miss Hopkins**



## Angela Rose

We have been delighted to work with Angela Rose in the Drama Department recently.

Angela, a highly experienced Drama and Theatre Practitioner, has been working with our Year 13 students as they create an original piece of Theatre for their A-level examinations.

The piece, called *All Mouth and No Trousers* examines how and why some celebrities ‘talk the talk’ but do not necessarily ‘walk the walk’. This has been a great experience and the students have found it very interesting.

Photo credit Brian Roberts/LIPA.

**Mr Coates**





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£10.00 PER TICKET WHICH  
INCLUDES PIE AND PEAS  
SUPPER AND FIRST BET.

# FRIENDS OF THS RACE NIGHT

FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY, 7.00PM - 10.00PM  
DINING HALL - 'BYOB'



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