

THiS Week



Teesside High School
Education as it should be

WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 2 March, our students had a wonderful day celebrating World Book Day.

World Book Day is a charity which operates in the UK to change lives through a love of reading and books. Their mission of promoting reading for pleasure supports our reading ethos here at Teesside High School and our activities and events are designed to bring us all together to share the joy of reading for pleasure.

Prep School pupils celebrated by dressing up as a character from their favourite book. We had some amazing costumes from The BFG to Miss Trunchbull, Mr Tickle to Alice in Wonderland and The Very Hungry



Caterpillar to Little Red Riding Hood. The children also took part in a wooden spoon competition where they transformed a wooden spoon into their favourite book character. Well done to our winners!

Senior School and Sixth Form students started their day with a World Book Day quiz led by Miss Duffy. The quiz rounds included guessing the author, guessing the book character by their shoes and our very own THS masked reader. Students watched their disguised teachers read excerpts from a variety of books and had

to try to figure out who the masked reader was.

Students have also been taking part in a readathon and during form time, they turned potatoes into their favourite book characters. We had some very creative entries!

Miss Connor



WELCOME

With only two weeks left in the spring term, the build up to Easter is well under way!

Our return to school saw us celebrating World Book Day across the whole school with a library visit for our youngest pupils, fancy dress in Prep School and a 'masked singer' style literary quotations challenge in the Senior School. As you can see from our front page, students took part in an array of activities and it was great to see all of our students engaged in their books.

The second week saw our older pupils presenting their bid for Head Boy and Head Girl at the Senior School Hustings. This was then followed by a pupil and teacher vote and a panel interview with the current Student Leadership Team and myself. All candidates presented themselves well, had some interesting ideas for improving the student experience and I look forward to working with the team next year and seeing some of those ideas develop further.

This week has seen a number of activities being held for STEM Week including construction challenges, circuit building and some very special guest speakers. Our intrepid explorers in Year 7 and 8 returned from Space Camp in Belgium on Tuesday morning. There were some very tired faces getting off the bus at 9.00am but they all agreed what a fabulous experience it had been. I look forward to seeing more photographs from the mission control, zero gravity wall and space walk challenges on our social media channels. George has been slightly concerned on Thursday after Mr Hopkins

visited school with his robotic dog K9, which he has built from scratch in his spare time. I think he thinks he has been replaced!

Congratulations to the four Year 10 students who took part in the Maths Feast at Teesside University last week and finished second place out of 19 schools! This is an outstanding achievement and I am very proud of you all.

There are still a limited number of tickets available for our Spring Masquerade Ball which is taking place on Friday 31 March. I would like to thank our Headline Sponsor, Inspire Finance Management and our Drinks Sponsor, Toll Bar Garage for their support. On the evening, there will be a chance to win some incredible prizes through our raffle and auction. If you would like to donate a prize and show your support, please contact rwhitehead@teessidehigh.co.uk.

I hope you enjoy reading our latest school newsletter.

Mrs K Mackenzie, Head



Inter House Cross Country

Before half term, a large number of students competed in our annual Inter House Cross Country Competition.

The weather and conditions were good and we had a number of excellent individual and team performances. We are very proud of all students who took part.

The competitiveness between the three Houses is truly fantastic. Well done to Cleveland who were awarded our overall winning House.

Miss Turnbull



U16 Girls Netball vs Durham School

On Tuesday 28 February, Our U16 girls' Netball team faced Durham School.

THS A squad had a successful first half in a fiercely competitive match, really end to end and some excellent Netball on display from both teams. At the end of the half THS led by 18-11.

The B squad took to the court for the second half and gave a very good account of themselves, showing

perseverance and competing in all areas, however the strength of the Durham team was evident and Durham took the second half by 17-5 goals.

Well done to all of the squad and particularly well done to Player of the Match, Katie.

Miss Stephens



U12 Girls Indoor Hockey

Our U12 girls Hockey team played some lovely Indoor Hockey against Red House School and Yarm School. Sophia and Abigail were very strong in defence, helped by Grace playing in goal.

Evie, Flo, Flossie and Anais created some good scoring opportunities but were denied by some very strong goalkeeping.

An exciting team for next year, well done, girls!

Miss Turnbull

U16 Boys Football vs Egglecliffe School

Our U16 boys' Football team took to the field at Allens West to face a strong Egglecliffe School XI.

A positive start on a wet pitch saw the play end to end, until Egglecliffe settled and after 8 minutes achieved the first goal.

THS battled on, in all areas. Captained by Kiyan, the team worked to try and create opportunities and support each other, particularly in defence.

With a squad of 16 we rotated to ensure everyone got their chance and the boys encouraged each other and worked well together.

In the second half, they had a better performance, winning their fair share of the ball and getting a goal back through Luca.

A comfortable victory for Egglecliffe School but a good opportunity for the boys to show character and

sportsmanship and they did this admirably.

Thank you to Mr List for his support.

Miss Stephens





Ingleby Barwick Library

Nursery and Reception enjoyed kicking off our World Book Day Celebrations with a visit off site to Ingleby Barwick Library.

The children had fun exploring the wonderful selection of books and listening to stories.

They also enjoyed using the library card to lend some books to bring back to share at school. Many of the children were keen to explain they have a library

card too and enjoy visiting the local library.

We are incredibly fortunate to have such wonderful libraries in our area and the children are already looking forward to visiting again in the future.

Miss Hall and Mrs Clapton



Magnet investigation

Reception children have been learning about magnets.

They used some great critical thinking skills prior to their investigation.

The children were very interested to find items that would stick to their magnets.

Mrs Clapton



It's Shocking

Pre-Prep children have enjoyed exploring their new IPC unit, *It's Shocking*.

They have had great fun creating investigations around static electricity. The children explored different materials and discovered that a balloon was best for creating static.

They went on to create an investigation around how static electricity works and what it can do. They found that it is great for picking up paper from the floor but that it makes tin foil pop and jump!

Mrs Hannah

Live and Let Live

Pre-Prep children visited Saltholme RSPB as part of their work linked to the IPC unit, *Live and Let Live*.

The children had a short trip in the minibus and excitedly arrived at Saltholme, they listened carefully to the instructions and looked forward to the activities.

The first workshop involved



discovering pond habitats and identifying the animals living there. The children all used nets sweeping along the bottom of the pond to discover the hidden creatures below. They worked well as a team to use the descriptions to identify the animals.

The children then had the opportunity to visit the bird hide and used binoculars to see the little Egrets and Canadian geese.

We all had a fantastic time and it was nice to use the skills and information we had learnt in the classroom in tasks during our visit.

Mrs Hannah



Colour wheels

Reception children had fun learning about colour wheels and the three primary colours that can be mixed to make secondary colours.

Mrs Clapton



Nursery creating glasses

In Nursery, their letter of the week for the first week of term was 'G'. The children had a great time designing their very own pair of glasses.

They developed their fine motor control by colouring in their frames and decorating them with colourful stickers before deciding on the colour of lenses their frames were going to have. Some children decided on sun glasses whilst others wanted clear lenses as in their own words "I just want to be like Miss Hall I love her glasses."

We follow the Song of Sounds phonics programme at Teesside High School which begins in Nursery and the children thoroughly enjoy highly



engaging and fun phonics activities which ensure they get off to the best possible start as they begin their journey of learning to read.

Miss Hall

The Girl and the Fox

Year 6 pupils have recently been creating their own legend stories.

One of the main focuses of the work was to paint a vivid picture of the surroundings for the reader by using metaphors, similes and noun phrases. Pupils also had to work hard to describe the changing emotions of their central character, as they changed throughout the story. We hope that you enjoy reading some of Abigail's story, titled, *The Girl and the Fox*.

Thunder roared and lightning flashed as Bing stared down at her inanimate chicken. Rage flowed through her body: first her legs; then her stomach; next her arms; and last her head. She turned her head side to side looking for the culprit behind this grim situation. 'Foxes,' she thought, after spotting an interminable trail of fox prints in the deep, clear snow. Sharp as the knife Bing carried in her pocket, she pulled up her hood. This was it. She was going into the forest to kill that fox.

Cold rain splattered on Bing's face, but her determination kept her going. A low mist enveloped the forest, making the silence eerie. Rustle. Rustle. A sound was coming from the viridescent bush. Bing slowly walked up to the bush. As she approached the bush the fox, she had been searching for, leapt out of it. Its fluffy, white tail glided through the gloomy air. Its front paws landed first on a log, along with the rest of its body. Its eyes were sparkly like the stars in the night sky. The fox stared at Bing, Bing stared back, defiantly. As quick as a lightning strike, the fox ran. The chase was on. Bing ran and ran until her legs ached and ached.

Bing had an idea. She set out her lantern in the middle of the white blanket of snow, to lure the fox in. Soon, the fox

came and treaded carefully towards the illuminated lantern. Bing leaped at the fox and held her agonising knife against the fox's neck. Once again, Bing stared defiantly at the fox. This time though, she saw fear in its deep, soulful eyes. 'What am I doing?' she thought. Filled with regret, she stared down, culpably, at the alluring fox. It scampered away, looking agitated.

After snapping out of her guilty daze, Bing looked up towards the sky. Snow fell and melted on Bing's face. The snow started to layer and come rapidly. 'Snow blizzard' thought Bing. The wind howled and rang in her ears. She needed to get home. Bing trudged along the forest floor, trying to find her way home. Hours passed, and Bing started to feel weary. Only then did she realise the menacing situation she was in, 'I'm all alone. No-one knows where I am.' With all the energy drained out of her, she collapsed to the ground. In a short amount of time, she fell asleep. The fox had been listening attentively and heard Bings snores. The fox arrived at Bing's side and curled around her, peacefully.

Birds sang and woke the fox from its slumber. The air was tranquil and the sun was shining vividly. The fox nudged Bing and wriggled away from its vacated extent. Bing opened her eyes and was met by a delightful sight. Her parents! Relief and satisfaction coursed through her veins. Bing's mum rushed towards her, picked her up and swirled her around. Bing caught sight of the fox standing on a tree stump. It almost looked like it was...smiling. So, Bing smiled back.

Mr Griffiths



Able, Gifted and Talented shape challenges

The AG&T students in Year 2 have been exploring how they can make shapes stronger as part of their work in STEM Week.

They discovered how engineers make structures more rigid and examined different examples from around the world. They learnt how triangles are often used within these designs to give stability.

Using this knowledge, the children were then challenged to strengthen their own shapes. They worked incredibly hard and came up with some fantastic results.

Mrs Leck



Making Things Go

Recently, the children in Upper Prep have been working on some more Science tasks in IPC as they continue working through the unit, *Making Things Go*.

Their latest task led them to considering whether a lemon was able to produce energy. When the children connected the lemons to the circuit, the bulb did not light and the children assumed that this meant that the lemon did not produce energy.

They then swapped the bulb for a voltmeter which allowed us to see the changes. As we added more lemons, they could see the reading on the voltmeter going up.

The children were surprised that something as simple as a lemon could produce energy and were pleased that they had not given up at the first hurdle.

The children showed good communication and enquiry skills throughout this task, ensuring that the circuit was correctly wired and considering their final results.

Mrs Kennedy



German Karneval

In German, Lower Prep pupils learnt about how Germans celebrate Karneval with parades, parties and dressing up.

They were particularly keen to find out about "Weiberfastnacht" where women cut off men's ties.

However, they decided that rather than cutting off their teachers' ties, they would celebrate by making Faschingsmaske and learning the Fliegerlied.

Mrs Butterfield

Lower Prep assembly

Lower Prep pupils worked really hard in the first two weeks of this half term to learn their lines, cues and actions for their spectacular form assembly.

After a little worry that we may have had to postpone due to the poor weather, the assembly went ahead as planned last Friday morning.

The children learnt a great deal of challenging lines all to tell the story of Pompeii and Herculaneum, taking on the roles of Archaeologists, Gods, Goddesses and Ancient Romans. They were very informative, describing the events of the Pompeii

eruption, some key details about everyday life in ancient Pompeii and what was preserved under the ash for 2,000 years. They also used and defined technical vocabulary such as pyroclastic flows!

Finally, an assembly would not be the



same without a good song and Lower Prep did not let their audience down.

They sang a song called *Walking on Lava* to the tune of *Walking on Sunshine* and put a smile on everyone's faces.

Well done Lower Prep!

Miss Lockerbie



Arts Award certificates

Congratulations to Year 10 and 11 Art students who recently received their Arts Award Certificates.

Students worked towards the award during The Rivers of Hope workshop last summer.

This was the culmination of a three year project working with the Thames River Trust, SIRF and Bloomin Art.

Many of our Year 11 students took part in all three years of the project, seeing their work displayed on the South Bank in London and as part of The Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

The final printed Flag created by Years 10 and 11, which was in the Jubilee pageant and displayed at Bloomburys in London, can be seen displayed on the Art corridor.

Mrs Machan



Artist of the Month

Congratulations to Poppy Brion in Year 8 who was our February Artist of the Month.

Year 8 students have been exploring portraiture this year, through photography, drawing and painting. They looked at the Surrealist Art Movement and took inspiration for their final piece of work.

Poppy has created herself in a Woodland Dream complete with fairies, floating money and stars in her eyes.

Mrs Machan



Year 7 Physics - Electricity

Year 7 Physics students have begun studying the topic of electricity.

They have had great fun investigating static electricity using balloons and the Van de Graaff generator.

They then went on to build an electrical circuit and tested which materials are conductors and insulators. They will go on to investigate series and parallel circuits.

Mrs Jackson



House Creative Writing competition

Students were tasked with creating their own mini sagas for our House Creative Writing competition.

Here are our first and second place winning entries:

One slice of fluffy, sprinkle-covered cake sat proudly on a plate. It smelt sweet. My mouth watered. My nemesis stared at it. "Looks nice. Delicious. Shame there's only one." We looked slowly at each other. Reaching for the cake, my hand was deflected. I pulled his hair and he screeched. CRASH! I threw my chair at him. BANG! He pushed me into the wall. THUD! It ended when I tripped him over. While my defeated opponent lay on the floor, unworthy of cake, I looked up to see my dad smirk and drop the one last slice into his mouth! - Niamh Shehade, Year 7

Four - there were four of us. Where were we going? Platform four was crowded with families, confused like us. The train squealed and creaked to a halt. Hesitantly, the doors opened, unwelcoming and cold. I felt a shiver run down my spine. My legs were leaden with fear as if they knew the purpose of the journey. The chatting was replaced by gasping and shrieking. Black clouds filled the sky. The four of us huddled together. Desperate and terrified we planned our escape - without success. We had no choice as we were shoved onto the train. The doors slammed shut... - Harry Fox, Year 7

Well done to all students involved, we were very impressed with your creative writing skills.

Miss Duffy



Year 10 Biology - Microorganisms

Year 10 Biology students have been studying the use of microorganisms in food production, including the use of yeast in bread making.

They investigated how different temperatures affect how much the bread dough rises, linking this to the action of enzymes involved in respiration in the yeast.

Mrs Jackson

PAGEANT charity

PAGEANT stands for Projects Aiding Gambian Education And Natural Talent. They are a small UK-registered Charity, providing urgently needed help for education solely in The Gambia, West Africa. Tida is an 18 year old girl who we have sponsored for over 10 years and she has recently sent a letter to tell us about her final year in high school and her aspirations.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Hope you are doing okay. I am writing to tell you about my grade twelve and what I plan on doing after school. So basically, grade twelve is my final year in St Peters. I love St Peters, it has been an amazing experience. The teachers are intelligent, the environment is beautiful and the education I receive at St Peters has been amazing.

Grade twelve has been extremely difficult because it is the year that I will take my final exams. These exams are very important because they will be the foundation for my future. Success in my grade twelve will lead me to future success, joy and wealth. My dream for the future is to perform well in my education so that i can develop myself, attend university, if possible abroad, and get a well-paid job and then support my family. This is because I have seen my parents help me, it is my dream to one day pay them back for all their support.

During high school I have realised something about myself. My favourite subjects are; Government, Islamic Studies and History. These subjects interest me a lot. When I finish school I hope to study law at university so that I can become a lawyer in the future. I want to become a lawyer because when I look at my country I see a lot of injustices which saddens me. Being a lawyer would allow me to help the



vulnerable people in my country and this is my passion. I also feel that it is important to help the vulnerable people on earth, nobody deserves to feel pain, everyone deserves to get justice and if I become a lawyer I will be able to make the people who have been made to suffer receive justice.

Yours Faithfully, Tida.

Miss Connor

Speech and Drama

Mr Coates recently interviewed Ms Jackson on the benefit of Speech and Drama lessons and LAMDA examinations.

How do you think students benefit from Speech and Drama lessons?

Speech and Drama lessons allow students to gain self-confidence and communication skills which are skills for life as well as for public speaking and performances.

I believe that the one to one/one to two sessions that I teach help my students feel comfortable sharing their thoughts and experiences with me as they get to know and trust me. It allows them to trust in their ability to share their inner feelings with themselves and sometimes me which can then permeate into their performances and make them realistic and excellent.

Students who study Speech and Drama usually work towards LAMDA examinations, what is LAMDA?

LAMDA stands for London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts which is the oldest performing arts school in the UK and arguably one of the best in the world.

Why do students take LAMDA

examinations and how do they benefit from the experience?

My students mainly take LAMDA examinations so that they have a goal to work towards and something to achieve physically; a grade with a certificate, and for Grades 6-8, a bronze to gold medal and UCAS points to help them get into university. But it is a lot more than that, especially for the younger students.

I love watching and helping them go on the journey from choosing and then learning their pieces and knowledge about the texts to rehearsing for the whole examination. This includes the introductions and practising the conversations they will have with the examiner and their performances.

Mostly, they come out smiling after their examination and it makes me so proud to hear them share their pride about how well it went. It is an achievement mentally as well. They are usually excited to be finished and want to quickly move on to some new pieces!

Mr Coates



Gamma radiation

Jiayi and Savannah in Year 13 carried out a practical investigation into how much thickness of lead is needed to reduce the radioactivity count rate of a gamma radiation source in their Physics lesson.

They used high precision, good awareness of nuclear safety procedures and strong analytical techniques - gathering lots of data at different lead thicknesses, before plotting their results.

These are the skills necessary to prepare them for their future courses at university and their varied career paths.

Mr Edwards



Genetic mutation

Sixth Form Biology students have been using Lego to illustrate genetic mutation.

By using the same Lego pieces but altering the instructions, they can make

different shapes and creatures.

This created a fun and visual way to learn about genetic mutation.

Mrs Kirk





£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



Teesside High School The Avenue, Eaglescliffe, Stockton-On-Tees TS16 9AT

T: 01642 782095

E: info@teessidehigh.co.uk

W: www.teessidehigh.co.uk

