

THIS Week



Teesside High School
Education as it should be

INTO THE WOODS

On Wednesday 29 March and Thursday 30 March, we welcomed guests to watch this year's school production, *Into the Woods*.

The end of the spring term was never felt so keenly than by those involved in *Into the Woods*.

With such a short term, rehearsals have been intense and plentiful, with the cast and crew giving up their entire weekend before 'show week' to ensure that everything was as it should be. Sacrifices and compromises made, and Domino's pizza consumed, it was all worth it. This year, for the first time, we welcomed Year 5 children from three different primary schools to watch a special rehearsal preview on Wednesday afternoon.



aplomb; the whole production was wonderful. There are many votes of thanks in the show programme, as events like this are an enormous team effort; we are so grateful to everyone who helped and supported us throughout.

Mrs Shevels and Mr Coates

Not only did this serve as an excellent opportunity for a proper dress and technical run, it also allowed us to engage with our local community and welcome them into our school. The children absolutely loved watching the performance, and eating plenty of popcorn, and even sent us some beautifully drawn illustrations and 5 star reviews the next day.

Two evening performances saw our talented cast shine brightly to warm and receptive audiences. Songs were sung so beautifully and all their lines delivered with



WELCOME

I hope you have a wonderful Easter break!

Time is truly flying by this year and we find ourselves approaching the end of March - how did that happen?! I am sure I speak for everyone when I say the lighter nights and blue skies have made for a welcome sight this week; something which makes me super excited for the final term of the year. I am keeping my fingers crossed for a dry Easter break as my garden is in serious need of some TLC!

Over the past fortnight we have seen many great sporting achievements. Our U12B and U14 girls' Netball teams have both been crowned League Champions; our U13A and B girls' Hockey teams are County League Winners and both our U16 girls' Netball team and our U16 boys' Hockey team ended their season on a high with two victories. Well done to all who have played this season!

I was very impressed with all the students in the Senior School who took part in the House Public Reading Competition on Monday and Thursday. It is hard to stand up and speak in front of the full school and you all were very brave to do so.

On Wednesday evening I had the pleasure of watching this year's Senior School musical production, Into the Woods. It was truly a brilliant show and I am so proud of all of the hard work our staff, parents and students have put into it. A special thanks goes to Mrs Shevels and Mr Coates, without you both our performances would not be possible. Tonight, we are putting on our finery

for the Spring Masquerade Ball. It is great to see that so many parents, staff and Governors have bought tickets to enjoy a night with their THS family. Thank you to all who have generously donated prizes to our raffle and auction. A huge thank you goes to our Headline Sponsor, Inspire Finance Management and our Drinks Sponsor, Toll Bar Garage for their support.

As we approach the final term in the academic year, I look forward to the many special events that the summer term brings. I know staff are already looking ahead to next year and there are some fantastic opportunities in the pipeline, but I am not going to ruin the surprise! Instead of looking ahead, take time to enjoy the present. These are our children's golden years and as children we never quite fully appreciate that. Whilst our older students will be using the Easter break to ramp up their revision strategies, I hope they can also take the time to rest and recharge before the final battle of the examination season in June.

Mrs K Mackenzie, Head



U18 Girls Netball vs Durham School

On Wednesday 23 March, our U18 girls' Netball team played Durham School in a thrilling game of Netball.

For the first part of the game, we placed the attacking pressure on Durham School with quick attacking plays however, we were slower to go back to defence allowing Durham School to capitalise and score.

For the second and third part of the game, we upped the defence and Player of the Match Maia worked tirelessly up and down the court passing and creating shot chances.

With some substitutions and position changes, the game became a lot more competitive from both sides. We were quick to attack and strong in defence but unfortunately, the game ended 28-13 to Durham School.

Joy, Year 12



U16 Girls Netball vs Polam Hall School

To conclude a very successful season on Tuesday 21 March, our U16 girls' Netball team took to the court at Polam Hall School.

A strong and determined starting team from the first whistle, they connected well from end to end, stringing together fast, accurate passes and capitalising on every opportunity in the circle. Dominant in defence, assertive in attack.

Captained by Layla, ever strong, the team went from strength to strength across the quarters. It was fantastic to see some of our most experienced players in their last ever game for THS alongside Yasmin who played up from Year 9, debuting in the team and shooting with real confidence and style.

A fantastic and comprehensive way for these senior girls to end their season, leaving us looking forward to next year

and the challenges this will bring.

Final score: Polam Hall School 4 - 44 THS.

Miss Stephens



U13 Girls' Hockey A team County League Winners

A fantastic win against Yarm School for our U13 girls' Hockey A team as they secured their place as Hockey County League Winners, for the second year in a row.

Our U13 B team have also been amazing and have drawn the league with Yarm School.

Miss Turnbull

U16 Boys Hockey vs Red House School

Our U16 boys' Hockey team faced Red House School.

The majority first half was very even, with both teams having an equal share of possession but creating few chances. Towards half-time the spaces began to open up which Oliver and Rohan were able to exploit.

These two centre midfielders demonstrated some excellent stick skills and sharp passing which allowed THS to quickly transfer the ball out of defense and up to our attackers.

After a number of shots on goal,

Dylan managed to slot one past the goalkeeper which meant it finished 1-0 to THS at the end of the first half.

The second half continued to show a more open game. Red House began to control more of the ball, while THS played on the counter-attack.

As the half went on, Red House started to turn possession into chances but Ed, Matty, Roman and Sam remained resolute in the THS defense.

The final 15 minutes saw Red House earn 5 short-corners, with the final corner, the last hit of the game, hitting the post, much to the relief of the THS

players.

At the end of play, THS came out as 1-0 winners, a lovely way to finish the Hockey season.

Mr Williamson





Kings flying kites

Nursery children have thoroughly enjoyed their phonics activities this week all about the letter 'K', which in Nursery we sing kings flying kites, k,k,k.

There was great excitement as the children set to work making their very own crowns to transform themselves into the 'Nursery Kings' before we headed down to the school field to fly a kite.

Decorating the crowns with sequins was the perfect fine motor activity to develop the muscles in the children's hands and flying the kite was an excellent activity for developing gross motor skills.

The Nursery Kings all did a brilliant job and were so excited to see the kite flying high above them.

We are incredibly fortunate at Teesside High to have such wonderful grounds which the Nursery children certainly make the most of.

Miss Hall



It's Shocking

Pre-Prep children have enjoyed exploring their IPC unit, *It's Shocking*. They have created their own circuits adding switches and built a torch.

The children also experimented with

adding a paper cone, finding that the light appeared brighter.

A fantastic science investigation, well done, Pre-Prep!

Mrs Hannah

Daffodil paintings

Nursery children have been learning about signs of spring and have painted some beautiful daffodil pictures.

First they went outside to look at the daffodils at the front of school and they noticed the different shades of yellow.

The children then mixed different paints to create their masterpieces.

Amazing work!

Miss Hall



Prep School Council community outreach

This year, Prep School Council representatives have been working hard to consider ways in which we can support and reach out into both our local and wider communities.

Over the last few weeks the children have helped to make Easter chicks, so that the younger members of our local community can receive a special gift from the children and staff at Teesside High School.

They were delighted to be able to visit Little Ladybirds Nursery to deliver the

finished basket and also created one for the pre-school children at Puddleducks.

Well done to all the children in Prep School Council for all your hard work to create such a thoughtful Easter gift for children in our local community.

Miss Hall and Mrs Kennedy



Nursery Making Bread

Nursery children enjoyed the story of *The Little Red Hen* and they have been learning all about where our food comes from.

They were very excited to turn Nursery into a bakery for the day and make their own bread just like the *Little Red Hen* from the story.

The children all helped to measure the ingredients and mix them together before kneading the dough.

This was a perfect way for the children to develop the muscles in their hands.

It was then time to set the dough to one side and patiently wait for it to rise. The children were fascinated to watch it rise during the day.

Once cooked the children sat down to have a little try of their bread before taking some home to share with their families.



Easter cards

Reception children have enjoyed using marbling techniques to make Easter cards for their friends and family.

Reception children would like to wish everyone a lovely Easter!

Mrs Clapton



Great work, Nursery!

Miss Hall



Prep School STEM Week

Prep School children had a busy STEM Week, exploring many areas of STEM and completing a host of challenges to broaden their knowledge and understanding of what can be achieved through these subjects.

Science – Children throughout the Prep School have enjoyed learning about fingerprints and comparing their own to others. They looked closely at their own fingerprints to determine which shapes they could see; whorls, arches or loops, as well as squeezing in some fingerprint artwork to take home as a souvenir of their learning. The children have also been interested to learn about DNA, Lower Prep children even having the opportunity to extract DNA from strawberries! To think more about the genetic codes that make up living things, the children were creative, turning their names into special codons so that they could make bracelets to illustrate a basic DNA structure. EYFS were also able to explore floating and sinking and magnetism through their engagement with the Little Steamers activities.

Technology – Our children are no strangers to coding activities however this week they were tasked with completing the CoderZ challenge. This Cyber Robotics challenge was sourced from Amazon's National Tech Ambassadors and provided opportunities to develop both hard and soft skills, alongside an engaging 3D gaming style interface. Thinking about the impact of climate change, Upper Prep have also completed a Net Zero Superheroes challenge. This is a

national competition where children have been asked to design an invention that would help our school move closer to net zero emissions. The children were incredibly innovative and we look forward to seeing whether any of our designs catch the attention of the judges.

Engineering – Engineering was a less familiar area to the children however they willingly accepted many engineering challenges. Upper Prep tackled a K'Nex challenge to work in groups to build a rollercoaster, thinking carefully about the importance of a sound structure to form a solid base. Upper Prep also received a talk from a virtual visitor; Trevor Gill, the former chief scientist of Vodafone Research and Development, giving an insight into how engineers can change the world. Many of the Prep children took part in the Science Buddies Ping Pong challenge, engineering a device to collect a ping pong ball from a distance. The children worked well to build and strengthen their designs so they could accumulate the most points.

Mathematics – The mathematics activities have been very varied. EYFS have explored number patterns and colour mixing, as well as counting and exploring shapes. Pre-Prep children have enjoyed making shapes using cocktail sticks and sweets, whilst our younger AG&T children were able to explore the rigidity of their shapes, looking at how triangles improved their structural integrity. Pre-Prep also enjoyed completing a paper chain challenge where they were tasked to create the longest paper chain using only one sheet of A4 paper. It is amazing how long the children were able to make their chains, thinking carefully about the mathematical concepts involved.

Mrs Kennedy



House Singing Competition

This week has seen the fierce competition of the annual House Singing Competition in which Cleveland were crowned the winners.

All three Houses performed songs from a variety of genres. They were complemented on their focus, smiling faces, call and response technique and choreography.

The children left the judges, Mrs Shevels and Mrs Williams, with a very tough decision and the deliberation took some time.

Luckily, EYFS were on hand to share their own special song.

Cleveland were announced as winners for their rendition of a song called, *Sing a Song in Unison*, where the audience were reminded about celebrating the world in which we all share.

Well done, Cleveland, I am very proud of you all!

Mrs Kennedy

House Creative Writing Competition

Upper Prep were all set the task to write a story inspired by numbers using only one hundred words for this year's House Creative Writing Competition.

I am delighted to share with you our winners story, *13*, written by Lyla Fox and also Grayson Hammond's story, *2042*, who was our runner up. Well done to both of you!

Friday the 13th. My birthday. My TV turned on to a news flash: "Kidnappers on the loose! The only info we have is: "13 we are here!". What on earth? I think to myself.

Suddenly, my lights go out. I'm 13 years old, I live at house 13. Is it all just a coincidence? Outside my window I see a FLASH of light. I hide under my bed. 13 minutes go by, my front door creaks wide open. My stairs screech as heavy feet climb up them. I shake... SNATCH. A hairy arm grabs me. "I HAVE GOT YOU

GIRL 13!" - Lyla Fox

Have you ever had the feeling that you're being watched? That's an everyday occurrence for me! Everywhere I go there's always someone watching. You're never safe. You have to keep moving or they'll get you. It is 2042 and the purge is happening and they're coming ... coming for me! I am Ezra and I am one of the few surviving people left. Everyone else was hunted down and killed by the Hunters of Artemis, an evil cult who seeks to destroy all of humanity, and take over the planet! I have to keep humanity alive! Got to keep moving. - Grayson Hammond

Mrs Reid

IPC Exit Point

This week, the children in Upper Prep have hosted their Exit Point as a way of concluding their IPC unit, *Making Things Go!*

The children welcomed parents, grandparents and staff and spoke articulately about their learning over the last term. They explained about fossil fuels and a host of examples of renewable energy, how they made

lemon batteries, about how to reduce their energy usage and how to make and test windmills and anemometers in order to consider whether a wind turbine should be installed in the school grounds.

This list is by no means exhaustive, but our parents were given a great insight into how much the children have learnt.

Runners needed!

Local running group Orchard Eagles are hosting a 6-mile race on Sunday 21 May at 10.00am, starting and finishing at the Locomotion Pub near Eaglescliffe Station.

The route is mainly on the road with a little trail mixed in. Rumour has it that several other local schools are entering teams, so, if possible, I am trying to get several 'Friends of THS' teams organised. Teams are of four and it costs £13.00 per person.

If you are keen please drop me an email and I will enter as many multiples of four as I can (mgriffiths@teessidehigh.co.uk).

For more information please visit the 1st Rail Trail Charity Run page on the SiEntries website.

Mr Griffiths

Mrs Leck and I were both very proud of the children's efforts and we received lots of lovely, positive feedback from our visitors about how articulate and knowledgeable the children were.

Here are some photos to show our children in action.

Mrs Kennedy





Belgium STEM Trip

Following our recent Year 7 and 8 Belgium STEM trip, some of our students have written reports on their fantastic experience.

At 9.30pm on a snowy Thursday morning we, 40 other students and five members of staff, set off on our long journey to Belgium. Eventually at 6.00am, we were on the ferry and being treated to a delicious full English breakfast. As Belgium was an hour ahead, we arrived three hours later and got back on the bus. On the way, we stopped for a tour around the P&J Chocolate Factory in which we got to decorate our own chocolate bars. It was really fun. Afterwards, we looked around the chocolate shop and picked out presents for our families. Finally, we headed off for the Euro Space Centre. When we arrived we were told we were sleeping in the earth zone and were assigned our rooms. Luckily, we were in a room with all of the other Year 7 girls and quickly unpacked before we headed up to dinner. After dinner, everybody was really tired and got changed for bed straight away.

We had to wake early the next morning to get ready as we had breakfast at 7.30am. The first activity was the space rotor which was so cool, we spun around really fast and then the floor suddenly dropped. We did not fall as we were stuck to the wall. Next, we did a mission where we had to get a rocket into space, in which I was the commander and Izzy was the flight director and had a lot to say. Lewis (the pilot) and I got to go into the flight simulator where there were lots of buttons that we had to press. Just before lunch, we did the

5D cinema experience where we got to be in the rocket with Neil Armstrong on his way to the moon. Just after lunch, we went on the multi axis chair in which we spun around like an astronaut in a capsule. We did not feel sick as we had a piece of paper to focus on, it was really fun!

After that, we were told that we were going to make our own rockets and launch them on Monday. Izzy and I worked together and managed to wedge our motor into the end of the rocket. Next, we had the space tour where we got to explore the history of space exploration and the distance between different stars and planets in our solar system.

Later we went to the castle for a night time tour of it. When we got there, we went in through a small wooden door carved out of the huge one which allowed entrance to the castle. We set off on our tour holding actual flaming torches, the view from the top of the castle was amazing. After the tour, we headed back to the space centre. We had a wonderful time and as soon as we got back we all went to sleep.

An excerpt by Emilia and Isabelle, Year 7

Please visit our website to read Emilia and Isabelle's full report and a further report from Isaac and John in Year 8.

Ms Davison



LAMDA examination success - 100% Distinctions!

On Thursday 2 March, 17 students from across our Prep and Senior Schools took an examination with the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art.

Students had been working very hard on this in their Speech and Drama lessons since September and performed in front of a visiting examiner.

We are delighted to announce that every student gained the very top grade of Distinction. We are thrilled with this and are very proud of you all. The photographs shows our Prep

and Senior students after collecting their certificates. It features two of our oldest students on the programme who were entered at Grade Six and Received a Bronze Medal and UCAS points for their university applications! Well done, all!

Ms Jackson and Mr Coates



Express Yourself - North East Festival of Languages

Teesside High linguists have been taking part in a number of activities as part of the 2023 North East Festival of Languages.

On Monday 20 March, Year 10 German travelled to Durham University for "A World of Languages" workshop on German music, which was run by the Goethe Institut. They joined Year 10 German linguists from other schools around the North East. They took part in a range of activities, culminating in creating a playlist in German and presenting to one another. Frau Butterfield and Mrs. Burns were both

extremely proud of everyone and how well they joined in with the activities and spoke German in front of over a hundred students from the other schools.

In addition to the "World of Languages" workshop for Year 10, 8T have been writing poems in German and French, as part of "Mother Tongue, Other Tongue".

The idea is that students write a poem either in their home language (other than English), or in a language that they are learning at school. A book



U16 Netball League Champions end of season supper

To round off their super successful and busy season as Schools League Champions, our U16 girls' Netball team enjoyed an end of season supper at Uno, Yarm on Tuesday.

Lovely food and good company was a nice close to the teams year and recognised their hard work and dedication to the squad and games.

I have really enjoyed working with you all and I am already looking forward to next year.

Miss Stephens

has been created to show off the wonderful poems that 8T wrote.

Frau Butterfield





Bruch Violin Concerto at St Barnabas' Church

We are very impressed with Deputy Head Girl, Kaavya who performed the third movement of the Bruch Violin Concerto with Tees Valley Youth Orchestra on Saturday at St Barnabas' Church, Middlesbrough.

The concert was a real tour de force of outstanding playing, featuring concertos by a wide variety of composers and were all performed by orchestra members, the youngest of whom was just ten years old!

Congratulations, Kaavya. This is an excellent achievement and you played brilliantly.

We are very proud of you!

Mrs Shevels



Year 10 Business

This half-term, Year 10 Business students completed their People in Business assessment.

This covered learning from all the way back in the autumn term so it was an excellent opportunity for students to gain experience at recalling subject knowledge that was taught over a

longer period of time.

Congratulations go to Beatrice Austin, Ella McCarthy, Amelia Storey, Ruby Chadwick, Joshua Collingwood, Siri Musunuru, Neel Rathi and Holly Williams who all exceeded their target grades.

Mrs Boothroyd

British Biology

Olympiad

Competition

A-level Biology students have taken part in this year's prestigious British Biology Olympiad Competition.

Over 13,000 students from 800 schools worldwide took part in this year's competition.

Three of our students have done exceptionally well: Freya - Highly Commended, Harrison- Silver Award (Top 15% of all entrants) and Alex - Gold Award (Top 5% of all entrants).

This puts Alex in the top 650 students out of 13,000 entrants which is a fantastic achievement.

Well done, all!

Mrs Jackson



House Public Reading Competition

This week saw the House Public Reading Competition take place during assembly on Monday and Thursday.

On Monday, very brave students represented their House by reading various excerpts to impress our audience. Students and staff were able to vote for their favourite speaker in the Junior and Senior category.

Yesterday, our four finalists rose to

the podium again and read to the whole school. Well done to everyone involved, to our Junior Champion, Isaac (Cleveland) and to our Senior and Overall Champion, Emmeline (Woodside).

Miss Connor



Comic Relief

From karaoke and penalty shoot outs, to bake sales and a staff car wash, our Sixth Form students planned a jam-packed day of activities to raise money for Red Nose Day on Friday 17 March.

The total was amazing and across the school we raised a whopping £838.21 for Comic Relief!

A huge thank you to all our staff, students and parents who generously



Geography fieldwork

Both Sixth Form and Year 11 Geography students have headed out to complete their fieldwork in the past fortnight.

Sixth Form students enjoyed a field trip to Robin Hood's Bay to broaden their knowledge on coastal landforms.

Whilst Year 11 students had a great day completing fieldwork in Great Ayton and Stokesley.

Brilliant work, all!

Mrs Donovan

donated.

Well done to our Year 8 Minions who won the fancy dress competition.

Miss Whitehead





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WHY CHOOSE THS SIXTH FORM?

**"It's a lovely family
environment."**

**"We are inclusive
and diverse."**

**"Small class sizes with
one to one support."**

**"THS brings out the
best in you."**

**"In lessons we feel confident
and comfortable."**

THS Sixth Form students say...



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