

THiS Week



Teesside High School
Education as it should be

PARLIAMENT WEEK AT TEESSIDE HIGH

We were pleased to welcome Jacob Young, MP for Redcar, to address a selection of our students earlier this month.

Mr Young, the newly-appointed Minister of State for Levelling Up, spoke to the students about his role as an MP, his constituency role and his new duties working within the Government. He fielded a variety of questions from our students on topics ranging from the environment, cultural issues, Brexit and science and technology.

Mr Young, who was just 26 years-old upon his election in December 2019, discussed his experiences of being the country's youngest sitting MP and raised his pride at being the first Conservative to win the Redcar seat.

The talk was the first instalment in a series of high-profile guest speakers that aims to inspire our students as well as challenging them to form their own political opinions and viewpoints. Over the coming year we have speakers lined up from every major political party and from every level of political representation.

Politics at THS, despite being in its infancy as a



curriculum offering, is going from strength-to-strength. This year, we have our first A-level Politics cohort with students engaging in studies focusing upon democracy and participation, politics in the UK and comparative politics between the UK and USA.

Politics Club, chaired by My Meyerhoff, has begun running as a co-curricular activity which has seen students deepen their understanding of political issues and afforded them the opportunity to debate their views with each other. We also recently celebrated UK Parliament Week, where I shared an assembly introducing our Senior School to the functions of Parliament and its work in the legislative process.

We look forward to welcoming future speakers over the coming months as we build the profile of Politics at THS.

Mr List



WELCOME

Wishing you all a wonderful and relaxing half term break.

As this half term draws to a close, it is clear to see that we have had a fantastic start to the 2023-24 academic year.

A huge well done to our Prep School pupils who, as part of their Harvest Festival celebrations, made a wonderful donation to Thornaby Food Bank last week. Once again, the generosity of pupils, parents and families here at Teesside High School is wonderful to see.

This week, Senior School Historians travelled to Ypres, Belgium, for a fascinating trip. Isabella and Isaac in Year 9 were invited to participate in the Last Post Ceremony at the Menin Gate memorial, and they proudly laid a wreath on behalf of staff, pupils and families at Teesside High. Pupils gathered to listen to The Exhortation, see wreaths and tributes laid and hear buglers play the Last Post, in a moving ceremony which takes place in the town each evening at 8.00pm. This is undoubtedly a very proud moment for Isabella, who was dressed in her Cadet's uniform, and for Isaac. As a school, our acts of remembrance will continue over the coming weeks, culminating in our annual Remembrance Service on Friday 10 November at 10.30am, to which parents, families and members of our local community are warmly invited.

The trip to Ypres is just one of many opportunities our students have to travel this academic year. In December I will fly to Italy to take to the slopes with 40 excited pupils across Years 8-13, and we also have a language exchange

to a school in Nuremberg and a World Challenge expedition in Norway. A fantastic few months ahead immersing our students in memorable experiences abroad.

The second half of the autumn term is one of my favourites. Not only are we approaching Christmas, but the dark nights and twinkly lights along The Avenue make for a perfect setting for our autumn and winter events.

Don't forget - our annual Family Firework Display takes place on Friday 3 November. Tickets are selling fast so please do get in touch with Reception over half term if you would like to come along. Remember to keep your pumpkins for our competition on the evening!

Future dates for your diary are: Children in Need - Friday 17 November; Senior School Speech Day - Friday 1 December and the PTA Christmas Market - Saturday 2 December.

Enjoy a restful half term with your family. It is well deserved.

Mrs K Mackenzie, Head



U16 Boys Rugby vs Egglecliffe School

There was more rugby action for our U16 boys as they faced Egglecliffe School in a 13-a-side match last week.

As usual, THS demonstrated their physicality in defence with some hard and effective tackling. Despite this, the Egglecliffe backs passed the ball quickly to their wings and scored two early tries.

It took a while for THS to get the ball moving but with some effective passing of their own, they got the ball into wide areas where Luca was able to use his explosive pace to take on the Egglecliffe defence and score two quickfire tries.

THS fought hard throughout the match but it was Egglecliffe's fast hands and accurate passing that made the difference and allowed them to score a further 4 tries, with the game finishing 38-12.

Mr Williamson



North East U14 Girls Hockey Semi-finals

The Under 14 girls made excellent progress last Tuesday at the North East Hockey Semi-finals.

Positional awareness developed throughout the day and by the final game the team was holding a much better shape on the pitch; the girls were passing the ball around nicely and creating good opportunities.

'What a different team from the first game' was a comment from one of the on-looking Hockey Performance Selectors as we played Durham, and I feel that really summed up the day. The girls worked hard on the pitch for each other and will definitely be a better team for the experience.

Matches were close but we just missed out on finishing top two and qualifying for the area finals. Megan scored the goal of the day when playing Egglecliffe; she intercepted the ball,

carried it up the field, went one-on-one with a very imposing goalkeeper coming towards her at speed and kept her head as she slotted the ball in the bottom corner - a very brave run.

I discarded her comment of 'I was so scared, I just closed my eyes'!

Miss Turnbull



U14B Girls Netball vs Ingleby Manor

A very strong performance from the U14B team saw them comfortably win their opening game of the season against Ingleby Manor 9-4. Player of the Match went to Megan for her accurate passing and dominating the centre court. Coach's player was awarded to Martha for her creative play making and excellent marking throughout the match. The whole team performed well, working hard for each other and a special mention must go to Muriella who on her debut match came on to score three essential goals within two minutes! Her calmness and accuracy was a joy to watch. Well done girls, keep up the great work.

Mrs Rodgers

Durham County Hockey Team

A huge congratulations to the following pupils who have been selected for the Durham County Hockey Team:

U18 Boys - Finn, Rohan and Zack.

U15 Boys - Seth.

U14 Boys - John.

U14 Girls - Amelia, Anisa and Poppy.

We are so impressed with you all!

Miss Turnbull



Captain Cook Birthplace Museum

As part of their IPC unit *People of the Past*, Pre-Prep children visited Captain Cook Birthplace Museum earlier this week.

We explored our local history and discovered the famous cartographer Captain James Cook. Our trip to the museum was filled with wonder and excitement. We enjoyed looking at James Cook's early life, identifying items from the past and discussing how different life is now.

Then as we learnt more about the life of a sailor and just how long the voyages that Captain Cook took we understood how difficult life at sea could be. The children went on to take

part in workshop activities writing with quill and ink, creating observational art based on nautical objects and also creating artwork found on the islands that Captain Cook visited.

They also had the opportunity to explore a variety of roles, dress up as Captain Cook and even learn the Haka! We would like to say a big thank you to the staff at the museum for such a fantastic and fun filled day.

Mrs Hannah



Reception class loves to read!

Children in Reception class are enjoying reading every night at home.

Alongside their reading books they have been reading stories and non fiction to consolidate reading for pleasure.

Pupils recieved certificates for being Reading Champions and Bronze Readers.

Mrs Clapton



Spinderella

There was great excitement in Nursery when the children arrived to find a very special letter addressed to them.

Without delay, the children opened it and discovered it was from the Hairy Godmother from the story *Spinderella*.

This is one of our favourite books in Nursery at the moment and it was brought to life today as the letter explained the Hairy Godmother had left them some special ingredients to make bubbling cauldrons.



They carefully followed the instructions and were fascinated to watch the spell unfold.

In addition to this, the children went on to learn all about spiders and have created some wonderful spiders of their own complete with 8 legs and even 8 eyes.

Miss Hall



Number bonds

Reception class have been using beads to make number bond bracelets. They found different ways to make 10 and recorded their results using number sentences.

Mrs Clapton



Beaver Scout

Pre-Prep children were very proud of Grayson this week.

Grayson was very pleased to show his friends his certificate; he has been

invested into the Beaver Scouts! We are all very proud of him.

Well done, Grayson.

Mrs Hannah



Autumn activities

Nursery have been busy engaging with a range of autumn activities this week with pumpkins featuring very high on the list.

From practising fine motor control when drawing on them, making pumpkin geoboards by tapping in golf tees and adding rubber bands, to comparing the weight of pumpkins and getting very messy when carving them, the children have been having lots of fun!

There have also been lots of

discussions about our pumpkin carving competition at our forthcoming Family Fireworks event.



We are looking forward to seeing the children's entries on the night.

Miss Hall





Fairgrounds

The children in Upper Prep 1 have almost reached the end of their Science tasks for their *Fairgrounds* unit.

This week we have turned our attention to investigating light and sound. The children have thought about attractions such as the haunted house and the role of different light effects to create atmosphere.

The children were tasked with making their dragons appear larger, and

subsequently more threatening, just by using their torches.

They also then considered different materials and their opaque, transparent and translucent properties, including their impact on shadows.

Mrs Kennedy



Reading Challenge

The positive impact of reading on educational performance across all areas cannot be underestimated and developing a love of reading is one of the most effective ways to raise overall attainment.

In order to enter our October half term Reading Challenge, the children are

asked to record how many minutes they read for each day by completing a record sheet daily. Your child will be issued a recording sheet at school and all completed entries should be returned to myself by Tuesday 7 November. Good luck!

Miss Hall



Year 5 and 6 Rugby and Hockey Fixtures

Year 5 and 6 pupils travelled to Durham last Friday afternoon for some exciting rugby and hockey fixtures. The girls showcased fantastic effort throughout their game. Lottie and Evan made great tackles in defence, Harriet covered lots of ground in midfield and Lola, Lyla and Elora worked hard to score the goal. Despite a 2-1 defeat, it was a great learning experience for them all. Player of the Match - Harriet.

The boys excelled on the rugby field. As usual they tackled hard but today they improved their passing skills. Tries scored by Jacob (2), Zinedine, Issac and Gabriel ensured a good win. There is lots of potential in this team for the future. Player of the Match - Zinedine.

Well done, all!

Miss Turnbull



Prep School Harvest Festival

Last Friday, Prep School pupils led a beautiful assembly on the importance of giving and gratitude.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our Harvest Festival, and to Reverend Matt Levinsohn for providing our prayer.

Our student leaders were able to

proudly make a generous donation to Thornaby Food Bank. Thank you all for your wonderful donations over the recent weeks!

Miss Connor



Prep School Librarians

Nursery children always look forward to our Prep School librarians coming to share stories together.

It is wonderful to see the older children in the Prep School taking on roles of responsibility and helping the very youngest members of our school community develop a passion for reading.

Miss Hall

Year 2 performance poetry

Year 2 have spent the week looking at a range of different performance poems, including *Walking with my iguana* by Brian Moses and *Hands* by Julia Donaldson. They have considered what makes a good performance and have enjoyed working together to create group performances.

We have then used the traditional One, Two, Buckle my shoe as the stimulus for the children's own poems. We focused on rhyming words for two, four, six, eight and ten and then the children were able to choose their favourite rhymes when compiling their own poem.

All of the children made an excellent

effort to use this poem and write their own in a similar style.

Here is Edie's poem to showcase some of the great work that has gone on in Year 2.

The children are looking forward to practising and performing their own poems to the children in EYFS this week to celebrate their achievements.

Performance Poem by Edie, Year 2

One, two,

The cow goes moo.

Three, four,

The lion went roar.

Five, six,

The dog licks.

Seven, eight,

Don't be late.

Nine, ten,

I made a den.

Mrs Kennedy



Tea-Time Concert

A packed hall greeted our performers for the Tea-Time Concert on Tuesday 10 October.

Once again, students from across the school delighted us with their talents, with students from Year 3 up to Year 13 playing piano, string instruments and singing a wide variety of pieces. Senior Strings and Prep Strings both played pieces together, allowing even the newest recruits to join in the performance, some of which had only had two lessons on their instrument so far!

Our Sixth Form students were well represented by Joy on piano, and Benji, Joe and Elisa all singing solos and duets from musical theatre and our GCSE musicians demonstrated skills in both solo and ensemble playing, with Holly and Evelyn taking the lead. Prep singers Florence, Sienna, Isabelle and Laura sang together an examination piece they are currently working on in their lessons and there were violin solos from Anais and Georgina, with a little help from Lola.

We had a plethora of piano performances across the school, such as Lottie, Kyle and Lilia before Emily in Year 12 then played us out with two Grade 5 pieces. Emily will also perform at our forthcoming Speech Day.

Congratulations to all our performers for their bravery; thank you for sharing your talents with us, your audience loved it!

Mrs Shevels

A show to remember...

Get your diaries and calendars at the ready! We are delighted to say that *Oliver Jr*, our school production, is finally cast and we cannot wait to show you all how amazing our cast will be!

Consider Yourself that it will be a show to remember!

The show will be performed in March 2024 and ticket details will be released soon.

Mrs Furness and Mrs Shevels



Year 11

Geography

fieldwork

Year 11 Geography students had a great time completing fieldwork in Great Ayton, where they completed environmental quality and land-use surveys.

They were also extremely polite as they conducted questionnaires with members of the public.

In nearby Stokesley, they demonstrated excellent practical skills as they measured the width, depth and velocity along the River Leven.

Mrs Donovan



Drama at THS

Year 7 and 8 students have had a great start to the academic year in Drama.

Year 7 students have been busy creating monologues acting as refugees which they will perform to their class. Some very creative responses have been written so far.

Year 8 Drama students have been studying the genre of Melodrama and putting together their own scenes based on stock characters. We have some budding villains, henchmen, heroes and damsels in distress in our midst!

Mrs Furness



Biology investigations

In Biology we use a wide range of techniques to reinforce learning.

Year 7 students have been working on their microscopy skills in order to back up the theory of cell structure.

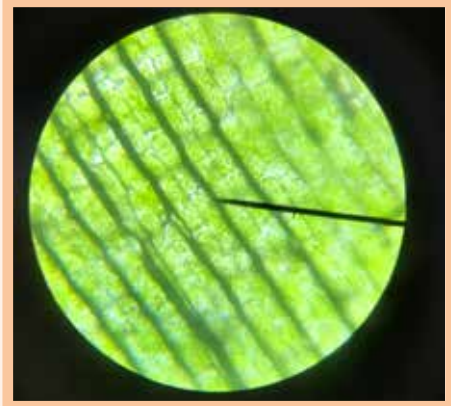
Last week they prepared their own slides to show organelles. Their chloroplasts were truly stunning.

Last week Year 12 students used chalk diagram to check their recall of the stages of mitosis.

Everything is definitely more fun with colourful chalk.

Great work, all!

Mrs Kirk



Artist of the Month

We are delighted to announce that our Artist of the Month for October is Grace Reid in Year 8.

Year 8 students have been learning about the proportions of the human face, as well as drawing and shading from direct observation. We are sure you will agree that this drawing by Grace is a fabulous example of a self portrait.

Mrs Machan



Business partnerships

It has been great to welcome a number of local business professionals to school in recent weeks as they share their expertise and experiences with our pupils.

‘Learning Lunch’ launched in the Sixth Form this month, which is an informal opportunity for students to spend their lunchtime hearing from inspirational businesspeople on their backgrounds and job roles.

We welcomed business strategist, entrepreneur, expert networker and PhD student Jeni Smith to school for the first event last week, and our pupils enjoyed a wonderful walk through of Jeni’s fascinating career history. Jeni gave a lively and inspiring talk and spoke about the power of saying yes, how important it is to explore the world and get to know yourself, and most importantly, be kind.

On Tuesday we then welcomed Elemetry

Ltd into our Year 13 Business lesson. Following on from their *Small Business of The Year* award win at the Tees Business awards, Richard, owner and managing director, inspired our students as he shared his journey from starting the business to the success it is today. The talk was brilliant and touched on many topics the students cover in their Business A-level, which really illustrated to them how relevant the course is to the world of work.

Huge thanks to both Jeni and the team at Elemetry for taking time out of their busy schedules to talk to our students.

Miss Hockney, Mrs Shipley and Mrs Boothroyd



Crisp packets wanted!

Environment Club is collecting crisp packets to be made into sleeping bags. Crisp packets are currently not recycled, so we are collecting empty packets to support the local charity Nite Lite CIC.

It takes 150 crisp packets to make a sleeping bag for a homeless person.

We will be collecting empty packets in school and would welcome families saving their empty packets at home, too. Please drop off empty packets (in a suitable carrier bag) to me or to Main Reception by Friday 17 November.

Mrs Donovan



A busy summer!

As well as spending lots of her time surfing in Devon and Saltburn, Emmeline in Year 12 entered the Battle Cancer CrossFit Competition in Manchester this summer with Stokesley Cross Fit, and even found time to complete the Lyke Wake Walk with her family.

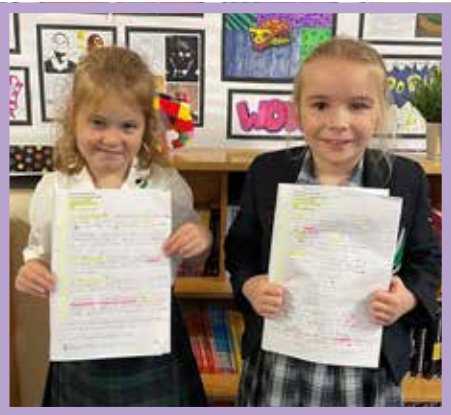
The CrossFit competition was brutal and involved five different workouts using varying types of weights, body weight exercise and cardio. No mean feat!

Emmeline then took on the Lyke Wake Walk, a 40.5 mile route which starts at Robin Hood’s Bay and finishes in Osmotherley. Emmeline completed the walk in 16 hours, which is just incredible - a true test of endurance. Well done, Emmeline.

Miss Hockney



SO FAR THIS TERM





THS FAMILY FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Friday 3 November, 6.30pm-8.00pm

Adults £6.00, Children £3.00

Tickets on sale now from School Reception or via ParentPay.



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