



## REMEMBRANCE

Thank you to all families, governors, veterans and friends of the school who attended this year's Remembrance Service.

After a warm welcome from Mrs Mackenzie, Lower Prep children sang a beautiful rendition of *Fields of Gold*, accompanied by Mr Wing on guitar and Mrs Ayling on violin, opening the occasion wonderfully.

Their performance was followed by moving readings from Ethan Sandhu, Florence Hughes, Lyla Fox and Isabelle Stokes.

Joseph Good in Year 13 led an outstanding version of Emily Brontë's *Remembrance*, before Head Boy, Henry Bradley, read *The Ode*.

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:*

*Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.*

*At the going down of the sun and in the morning*

*We will remember them.*

We are grateful to visiting musician Miss Abigail Ferguson for playing both the *Last Post* and *Reveille*, either side of a poignant silence.

Thank you also to Mr Mark White CBE, Deputy Lieutenant of County Durham for laying a wreath alongside representatives from the school's Governing Body, and to Reverend Matt Levinsohn for providing the event's prayer.

The event came to a close following a moving rendition of *You Will Be Found* by the Senior School Choir, and prayers led by Head Girl, Emmeline McGloin.

**Miss Hockney**



# WELCOME

I hope you all had an extremely enjoyable half term holiday and all of our students' batteries are recharged ready for their next six weeks of school.

Our annual Family Fireworks Night was back with a bang at the very start of this half term, with our largest audience yet of over 600 people. Visitors were able to enjoy a range of hot food and drinks provided by our fabulous catering team to keep them warm and cosy throughout the display. Although there were some close calls with the pumpkin carving competition, Verity Austin's skeleton design stood out and claimed a well deserved 1st place. Thank you to all who came along - these PTA events are regulars amongst the school calendar and they provide brilliant fundraising opportunities which we are thrilled you come out in numbers and support.

In lessons, I have been enjoying my recent learning walks and seeing pupils' energy and passion for their subjects truly come to life. It never fails to surprise me how purposeful and productive our students are, and I look forward to seeing their progress as we look to write end of term school reports in the coming weeks.

Outside of the classroom, students have enjoyed many exciting trips in recent weeks, ranging from a History visit to Krakow, an English trip to see a performance of War Horse live on stage in Sunderland, and an Upper Prep trip to visit the National Landscape Discovery Centre. These amazing opportunities were

enjoyed by all and added great understanding and depth to the children's learning.

Monday marked the 104th Remembrance Day. Our school community gathered for our annual service, where students sang and spoke beautifully. This school event holds huge importance to us as a community and especially for our staff, parents and extended family who have represented us in the Armed Forces. Thank you to all who attended, including our guests of honour Mr Mark White CBE, Deputy Lieutenant of County Durham and Reverend Matt Levinsohn from All Saints Church.

As the pumpkins are discarded and fireworks fizzle out, our students begin the exciting countdown to the festive season! We have a jam-packed half term full of exciting events and plans. With Children in Need Day today and Christmas Market, Speech Day, Pre-Prep Nativity, Senior Christmas Social, Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day and Whole School Carol Service, it will be an unforgettable time for Team THS - and we look forward to sharing lots of photographs and updates with you along the way. Have a wonderful weekend.

**Kirsty Mackenzie, Head**



## Duke of Edinburgh

On Sunday, our Silver Duke of Edinburgh participants set off for the beautiful Yorkshire Dales on a crisp autumn morning, ready to embark on their first day of hiking.

The weather, cool and fresh, was perfect for a day of outdoor adventure. The group spent the morning revisiting and honing their navigation skills, ensuring they were confident in reading maps and using compasses. As part of their training, they also learned important new techniques, such as pacing to estimate distances accurately and walking on a compass bearing to help them stay on track.

The afternoon was dedicated to putting their newly-acquired skills into practice. They set off on a self-led walk, where the students were responsible for planning their route, managing their time and making key decisions along the way.

The day concluded with a sense of achievement, having completed the hike safely and successfully. The group is now ready to take on more challenges in the coming weeks of their Duke of Edinburgh expeditions.

**Miss Hopkins**



## U16 NETBALL GCSE MODERATION NIGHT

The recent U16 Netball GCSE Moderation nights held across the Stockton District brought together schools for a series of exhilarating matches.

The evening's highlight was undoubtedly the Premier League match between THS and Conyers. THS emerged victorious with a final score of 26-11, but it was the standout performances that truly stole the show.

From Lexie and Poppy's assertive attacks, to slick centre court play from Anisa and Megan, dominant defence from Tendai and Annabelle, and all complemented by Player of the Match Yasmin's flawless navigation of the court through various positions.

I would like to give a special mention to Ellie, who although did not get onto the court that night, her contributions rounded out the squad perfectly.

The following evening saw the B and C teams take to the courts for a Championship evening filled with

competitive spirit. The A team particularly shone with a solid win against Grangefield A and THS C, providing essential video evidence for those players who needed it. It was heartening to see the B team, featuring Scarlett, Ivy, Lucy, Helena, Lucie, Issy, and Lydia, and the C team, which included Muriella, Bridgett, Ruby, Esther, Beth, Libby, Emelia, and Bethea, putting in dedicated performances, showcasing their growth and determination.

Overall, the moderation nights served as a fitting culmination of a busy half-term of netball, providing not just opportunities for assessment but also fostering teamwork, resilience, and a love for the game.

**Miss Stephens**



## U12 Rugby Tournament

Our U12 rugby team attended the County 10s tournament where they faced Dyke House, Carmel, Our Lady St Bede and Conyers just before half term.

The evening started against Dyke House where both teams showed a strong defensive line, finishing in a 1-1 draw. Player of the Match was awarded to Gabriel.

Our second game against Carmel was slightly more open. A combination of strong running and slick passing led to Teesside scoring three tries. The boys were 3-2 up until Carmel managed to score with the last play of the game. Player of the Match: Jacob.

We faced Our Lady St Bede in our third game. Despite some excellent defensive tackling from Henry and Issac and a try from Gabriel, the game finished 4-1 to Carmel. Player of the match: Henry.

As the light started to fade, Teesside faced Conyers A in their final game. Although Teesside remained tough in the tackle with some big hits coming from Alistair, Issac and Henry, the game finished 4-0 to Conyers. Player of the match: Alistair.

Our boys battled hard and demonstrated strong teamwork throughout the tournament. A great learning curve for them, which has left them excited for matches and tournaments to come.

**Mr Williamson**

# Sixth Form PE Enrichment

Sixth Form pupils have been eagerly participating in weekly sessions at Tees Barrage engaging in a variety of water sports that have not only been educational but also immensely enjoyable.

Throughout these sessions, students have acquired numerous physical skills while also building confidence, enhancing social skills and honing problem-solving and navigation abilities.

Safety has been a paramount focus, ensuring a secure yet thrilling paddling experience for all involved. We are delighted to announce that a number of pupils have achieved their Paddle Start



Award, marking a significant milestone in their water sports journey.

Our pupils are excited to move on to the new activities lined up for this half-term.

They have had the choice between rock climbing and gymnastics at a local gymnastics club. Furthermore, after Christmas, pupils will be visiting David Lloyds each week to experience an even broader range of activities.

We are incredibly proud of our students' enthusiasm and achievements this term and look forward to seeing them continue to grow and explore new challenges in the coming months.

**Miss Turnbull**

## U12B Netball vs Conyers

The U12B team played a thrilling match against Conyers B earlier this week.

THS started strongly with confident shooting from Lyla giving the girls a two goal lead.

Conyers then came back with determined effort in the second quarter and were leading 3-2 at half time.

The THS girls took to the court with renewed effort and determination in the third and fourth quarters with Lola, Jocelyn, Zahra and Ava determined to turn over the ball in defence. Evan, Emma and Lottie linked up effectively as a unit and the team went on to win 6-4. A well-deserved Player of the Match went to Jocelyn.

**Mrs Rodgers**



## U12 Indoor Hockey vs Eggescliffe

The U12 boys' indoor hockey team faced a tough game against Eggescliffe this week.

From the first whistle, Henry and Gabriel played with real composure whilst intercepting passes and shutting down any attempts the opposition made to break through.

Jacob, Alistair, Indiana and Isaac kept the pressure on the Eggescliffe defence. Each player displayed an impressive array of skills; clever dribbles, well-placed shots and strategic positioning kept the opposition guessing.

Isaac demonstrated his outstanding talent as a goalkeeper through his quick reflexes and sharp instincts. His numerous saves ensured a comfortable win for THS.

**Mr Thomas**



# U15 NETBALL V NEWCASTLE HIGH SCHOOL

The U15 netball team travelled to Newcastle for the second round of the National School Sport Magazine Cup against a very strong Newcastle High School.

From the outset the quality of the opposition was evident and our



girls rose to the challenge displaying determination and never giving up.

Although the game ended in a loss, the girls' sportsmanship was admirable.

Congratulations to Anisa who was awarded Player of the Match and Helena who was awarded Coach's Player.

**Mrs Rodgers**



## U13A Netball vs Conyers

The U13A team continued their winning streak with a 34-1 victory against Conyers U13A on Monday.

The girls were outstanding and demonstrated fantastic teamwork and skill throughout.

Player of the Match was awarded to Evie who dominated the centre court.

Well played, girls!

**Mrs Rodgers**

## Under 11 Inter House Hockey Competition

All pupils from Years 5 and 6 participated in a highly competitive Inter House Hockey Competition.

The matches were intensely contested, showcasing the enthusiasm and commitment of all involved. It was heartening to see every pupil contributing to the games, with more experienced players stepping up to guide and encourage those who were

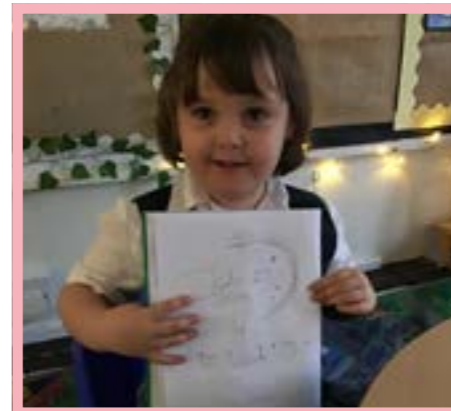
newer to the sport.

As the afternoon concluded, Woodside emerged victorious, winning both of their matches. The battle for second and third places was fiercely fought between Cleveland and Victoria. Both teams secured one win and one loss, making the final standings dependent on goal difference.



Ultimately, Victoria claimed the second spot, leaving Cleveland in third place.

**Miss Turnbull**



# World Nursery Rhyme Week

Nursery children have enjoyed taking part in World Nursery Rhyme Week this week.

They began the week by sharing their favourite nursery rhymes before focusing on a different one each day.

The children have been hard at work sorting animals from *Old Macdonald's Farm*, sequencing numbered stars for *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*, making spiders for *Incy Wincy*, taking it in

turns to be the baker when singing *Five Currant Buns* and set sail on the *Big Ship Alley Oh*.

The week has been full of a whole range of learning opportunities which the children have thoroughly enjoyed.

**Miss Hall**

## Pre-Prep Poppy Making

Pre-Prep children have been marking Remembrance Day by creating their own poppy collages using tissue paper and printed newspaper headlines.

The children thought carefully about Remembrance, respect and why it is important to remember.

They also shared the following poem:  
*Poppy, poppy, what do you say?*

*Wear me on Remembrance Day.*

*Poppy, poppy, what do you tell?*

*Many soldiers in battle fell.*

*Poppy, poppy, what should we know?*

*That peace on earth should grow, grow, grow.*

Author unknown.

**Mrs Hannah**

## Post Office Role

### Play

Children in Reception had a fantastic time role-playing as Post Office workers this week.

Pupils enjoyed dressing up, wrapping parcels, writing letters and delivered post to their friends and teachers.

The hands-on activities helped the children practise important skills such as writing, working as a team, turn-taking and communication and language skills.

Super work, Reception!

**Miss Graham**



# 'Wow' writing in Reception

I have been so impressed with the enthusiasm and focus Reception pupils have shown as they develop their writing skills.

It is wonderful to see pupils so eager to write, whether they are drawing and labelling pictures in Drawing Club, writing letters and cards for their family and friends or writing words and phrases in Phonics.

The children show tremendous concentration, taking pride in each piece of writing and sharing their work with smiles and excitement.

These early steps in writing help build confidence and creativity that will support them throughout their learning journey.

We are super proud of their achievements and cannot wait to see what they write next!

**Miss Graham**

## Year 1 Writing

Year 1 children are working extremely hard in their English lessons. Pupils have been creating sensational senses poetry. The children thought about each of the senses and wrote a line in the poem to represent the things that they love.

*The Things I Love*

*I love the taste of pizza*

*Sizzling on my tongue*

*I love the smell of pens*

*Underneath my nose*

*I love the feel of my teddy bear*

*Between my fingers*

*I love the sound of my clock*

*Ringling in my ears*

*I love the sight of rainbows*

By Ava

*The Things I Love*

*I love the taste of strawberries squishy on my tongue*

## Early Years Forest School

The changing seasons in our beautiful grounds provide the perfect backdrop to our Early Years Forest School sessions.

Last week, Nursery and Reception children did not even make it as far as the woodland, instead diverting their attention to giant piles of autumnal leaves which had formed in the grounds.

The children enjoyed stomping in the crispy leaves, covering their friends and hiding amongst nature. There are more images to enjoy in the photo gallery!

**Miss Hopkins**



## Layers of the Earth

Upper Prep 1 have been continuing their IPC curriculum topic, *What a Wonderful World*.

They have been considering what lies beneath their feet by finding out about the different layers that make up the Earth.

The children were then challenged to create a flip book that opened up to show information about each layer. They were amazed to learn that

the crust was so deep and that the continental crust was thicker than the oceanic crust.

The children worked well collaboratively in groups of four to each be the expert of one section.

**Mrs Kennedy**

## Bebras Competition

Last week, students from Year 2 to Year 6 participated in the exciting Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge during their Computing lessons.

The Bebras Challenge is a fantastic way for our students to develop key skills such as critical thinking, pattern recognition and resilience. It encourages them to think outside the

box, work independently and approach problems from different angles.

Well done to all our Year 2-6 participants! We are proud of your efforts and the teamwork you displayed throughout the challenge. Keep up the great work in building your computational thinking skills.

**Miss Lockerbie**



## Christmas Market

The festive season is upon us, and there is no better way to kick off the celebrations than hosting our annual Christmas Market!

The event will be held in the Senior School Building between 10.00am and 1.00pm on Saturday 30 November.

There will be a range of special Christmas presents and stocking fillers available to purchase. From businesses such as *Tropic Skincare* and *Three Brothers Brewing Company*, to handmade gifts by our students, rest assured you will not leave empty handed! Whilst you glance around the array of delights, there will be the opportunity to indulge in festive food and drink, too.

You can also try your luck with our tombola with the chance to win prizes ranging from festive tipples to luxury self-care products.

Whilst parents warm up with a mulled wine or hot chocolate, our younger guests will be able to visit Father Christmas in his grotto. If little ones are on the nice list, they may even receive a special gift!

Tickets are not required for this event. There is a small entry fee of £2 for adults and £1 for children, with all proceeds going to the school PTA.

**Miss McKeown**

## Explorers and Adventurers

Last week, Lower Prep children embarked on an exciting new IPC topic, *Explorers and Adventurers*.

To start off their journey, pupils took on the challenge of orienteering - an essential skill for any explorer!

The children worked in groups and received compasses to begin identifying the four cardinal points: North, East, South and West.

With no prior instruction, the young adventurers were tasked with figuring out the directions on their own! After a couple of hints about magnets and the compass needle pointing north, Group 2 cracked the code and arranged their points correctly, showing great problem-solving skills.

With their new knowledge of directions, the children moved on to their next challenge: safely guiding each other through a 'minefield' using only the correct directional language. They took turns navigating each other around obstacles, practising teamwork and communication to keep their partners safe on their tricky path.

There were plenty of giggles, close calls and a lot of excitement as each group worked to complete the course without stepping on any 'mines'!

Finally, with their confidence and curiosity growing, the children were encouraged to create their own challenges. Using what they had learned about directions and compass reading, each group came up with unique problems for their classmates to solve. This creative twist made for an adventurous day rilled with exploration, collaboration and discovery.

This entry point activity not only sparked enthusiasm for the new topic, but also encouraged essential skills in problem-solving, perseverance and resilience. We cannot wait to see where *Explorers and Adventurers* takes us next!

**Miss Lockerbie**



## Upper Prep Forest School

Upper Prep students proudly continued their commitment to environmental sustainability by completing their second hedgehog house as part of their ongoing environmental award project.

Pupils worked together to create another safe and cozy habitat for our local wildlife, demonstrating their dedication to supporting biodiversity in their community.

**Miss Hopkins**





# War Horse

On Wednesday 4 November, 46 students and 5 members of staff galloped their way to Sunderland Empire to experience the magic of the nationally acclaimed production of *War Horse*.

What astounded the students, drawing gasps of amazement from start to finish, was the unbelievable theatre craft at work from the puppetry and moving backdrop to the beautiful and haunting music which accompanied the tragic tale of WW1 - the war to end all wars.

shortly after, the students did not fail to appreciate the significance of Joey and Albert's story, and it is safe to say that more than a few tears were shed as the play came to a close.

Like we remember the fallen, the students will remember this wonderful story of war for a very long time.

**Miss Duffy**

With Remembrance Day following

## Hallowscream

Myself, Mr Bradbury and a group of intrepid Sixth Form students visited the Hallowscream event at York Maze just before half term.

Students enjoyed the thrills, scares and atmosphere of this excellent attraction.

The evening was the latest event in the THS Sixth Form social programme which was designed by the student committee.

We assume it will be the only one that sees our students chased with chainsaws and pursued by Zombies!

It was a brilliant night filled with squeals and laughter. An excellent time was had by all and we are all looking forward to the next event, a visit to York Christmas Markets later this month.

**Mr Hannah**

## Artist of the Month

We are pleased to announce that our Artist of the Month for November is Florence Brion in Year 8.

Year 8 students are exploring portraiture, looking at photography, proportion and tonal values.

Florence has created an excellent pencil portrait, showing a good use of tone and an excellent understanding of proportion.

We look forward to seeing how Flo uses this portrait to create a piece of Shepard Fairy inspired street art.

Well done, Flo.

**Mrs Machan**



# History trip to Krakow

This half term, 37 students from Years 8 to 13 embarked on a memorable city break to Krakow, Poland.

The group was eager to explore this beautiful city and its rich history, which would form the heart of their learning experience.

The adventure began with an evening tour of Krakow's historic old town. Students were captivated by local folk tales and the fascinating history of King Casimir the Great, whose influence shaped much of the city's development.

The second day saw the group delving deeper into Krakow's history, particularly the Jewish Quarter, where they explored the impact of the Nazi occupation during World War II.

Students learned about the harsh realities faced by the Jewish community, including the heroes who risked their lives to save others, such as Oskar Schindler. One of the most moving moments of the day was a visit to the Empty Chairs Memorial, a poignant reminder of the atrocities faced by those who lived in the ghetto.

A truly unforgettable experience was meeting Lidia Maksymowicz, a survivor of Auschwitz, who shared her personal

and deeply moving story with the students. Her testimony left a lasting impression on everyone.

On Sunday, the group visited the Auschwitz and Birkenau concentration camps. This sombre visit offered an opportunity for deep reflection on the horrors that occurred there. Students were profoundly affected by the stories shared during the tour, and it served as a powerful reminder of the importance of remembrance.

The final day of the trip took students 135 metres underground to the Wieliczka Salt Mine, where they explored the incredible Underground Salt Cathedral and learned about the history of salt mining in the region.

Overall, the trip to Krakow was a huge success. The students gained invaluable insights into the city's history and the significant events of the 20th century.

Their respectful engagement, thoughtful reflections and the way they represented Teesside High School made us incredibly proud.

**Miss O'Byrne**

## ESU Competition

We are excited to follow the progress of this year's Public Speaking Team as they enter the English-Speaking Union's Churchill Public Speaking Competition.

Last year the school was thrilled that the 2023 team, made up of Max, Lou and Isaac, made the national final of the competition, travelling to Cambridge to compete with the final 13 teams from schools across the country, narrowed down from over 400 entrants.

The team this year consists of Year 10 students John (Chairperson), Hannah (Speaker) and Isaac (Questioner).

The team must discuss the following quote by Louisa May Alcott: "I am not afraid of storms, for I am learning how to sail my ship."

Here is an excerpt of the students' thoughts so far:

*Personally, I love this mindset. It's all about confidence, growth, and embracing life's inevitable chaos like a captain guiding its ship through a storm. However, if we are honest - just because you're learning to sail doesn't mean you're going to be laughing in the face of a storm. If anything, storms are the last thing you want to see when you're still figuring out how to steer straight on a calm day..*

I look forward to sharing the team's journey with you.

**Mrs Reid**

# THIS WEEK PHOTO GALLERY



**SAVE THE DATE**



Teesside High School  
Education as it should be

# Christmas MARKET

**SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER**

10.00AM-1.00PM

Teesside High School, Main Hall  
Adults - £2.00, Children - £1.00



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