

# THiS Week



Teesside High School  
*Education as it should be*

## LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

Last week, the Main Hall was transformed into the eerie yet captivating world of *Little Shop of Horrors*, and what a performance it was! The talented students, backed by a live band, brought this iconic musical to life in a way that exceeded all expectations. From the thrilling music to the stunning set design and giant plant puppets, every detail made for an unforgettable evening of entertainment.

The live band, an integral part of the show, filled the hall with energy and excitement. Their performance elevated the entire production, keeping the audience engaged and tapping their feet throughout. The music flowed seamlessly alongside the actors' incredible performances, creating the perfect atmosphere for this darkly comedic musical.

Adding to the festive spirit, themed refreshments were available, including the signature Audrey 2 Mocktail - a sweet and slightly sour drink inspired by the show's infamous plant. The mocktail was a crowd favourite, offering a taste of the show's quirky vibe, while themed snacks kept everyone munching happily throughout the interval.

A warm and enthusiastic reception greeted the students, with the audience truly appreciating the hard work and dedication that went into the show. The cast's energy was contagious, drawing laughter and applause after every scene and song. There was no shortage of admiration from the crowd, with autographs and cheers at the curtain call serving as a testament to the outstanding effort put in by every single performer.

This year's production also had the pleasure of welcoming guest students from THS Prep and Whinstone and Preston Primary Schools, who were invited to share in the fun and excitement of the evening. Decked out in bespoke t-shirts and their



own Audrey 2 gloves, their presence was a wonderful addition, and it was heartening to see the young pupils so inspired by the talented Senior and Sixth Form performers.

In every sense, the *Little Shop of Horrors* performance was a true celebration of the students' creativity, teamwork and passion for the arts. It was a night filled with laughter, music and joy - and a perfect reminder of the magic that happens when students come together to share their talents with the community. Not only did they achieve great things on stage this year, these same students have competed at the highest level in national sporting and literary competitions, completed challenging Duke of Edinburgh expeditions, excelled in academic assessments and much, much more. We are so proud of them.

**Mrs Shevels and Mrs Furness**

# WELCOME

What a fun-filled spring term it has been!

Recent weeks have been extremely busy with the Senior School production, *Little Shop of Horrors*, preparations for the Prep Swimming Gala, hockey and netball tournaments galore, LAMDA examinations and lots of exciting Easter activities, to name just a few.

Thanks to the generosity of our families, I am delighted to announce that we raised a remarkable £1312.00 for Cancer Research UK through the Easter Egg Raffle organised by our Learning Support team. This fundraising effort will make a real difference and we are deeply grateful for your support.

One of the highlights of the term has been following our U12 Netball team, who competed in the prestigious Sisters n Sport competition. They performed brilliantly and made it all the way to the final four, competing at Loughborough University in March. Although they did not win the tournament overall, this is an incredible accomplishment and we could not be prouder of their hard work, determination and team spirit.

In addition to fantastic sporting achievements in school, our Year 7, 8 and 9 students had the opportunity to attend a thrilling netball match, watching Leeds Rhinos in action last week. It was an inspiring experience and it is always great to see our students engage with live sport at the highest level.

We have also been working with groups in our local community in recent weeks, inviting several primary schools to join

us on an exciting woodland adventure! We had the pleasure of welcoming Hartburn Primary School and Eggescliffe Primary School pupils to our beautiful grounds, where they took part in an exciting Easter Egg Hunt through the forest. It was a brilliant few days and we cannot wait to welcome them back in the future.

Finally, I must commend our Senior School students on their incredible performance in this year's production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. The cast, crew and directors worked tirelessly to bring this story to life and it was a true show-stopper! The talent on display was simply outstanding.

I am excited for what lies ahead in the summer and would like to thank everyone for making this term such a memorable one.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

**Kirsty Mackenzie, Head**



## U12 Netball vs Yarm

Our U12 netball team put on an amazing performance against Yarm School's C team with a fantastic 23-0 win.

Florence and Yasmin were on fire, with consistent and accurate shooting.

The defence of Ava, Jocelyn and Harriet was unbeatable, making numerous interceptions.

All the girls displayed great enthusiasm and played their hearts out, showing just how hard they have been training.

We are all very proud of their determination and dedication.

**Mrs Rodgers**



## U12 SISTERS N SPORT FINAL

It was an incredible experience for the Under 12 team as they made it to the Final Four of the Sisters n Sport National Netball Bowl.

The journey took them to Loughborough University, where they were greeted with an impressive setup: three full-sized courts, spectator galleries, and photographers capturing the action.

The team's first match was against St Teresa's Effingham, a school from Surrey. The girls made a slow start, falling behind by four goals after the first quarter. However, they came back strong in the second and third quarters, matching St Teresa's head-to-head. Despite their best efforts, the final score was 15-7 in favor of St Teresa's.

Following the match, the team toured Loughborough University. They had the opportunity to see world-class facilities, including the athletics track and swimming pool, where the GB triathlon

team were training.

The team's next challenge was against Colfe's School. The girls had a much better start and, having settled into the high-pressure atmosphere, showcased their potential. The match was a thrilling end-to-end battle, but despite a brilliant performance from all players, they ultimately lost 10-7.

Although they didn't make it to the final, the squad should be incredibly proud of their performance. Finishing 4th in a national competition is a significant achievement.

A special mention to Katie who secured the Under 12 Player of the Match award for her exceptional performance.

**Mrs Rodgers and Miss Turnbull**



## Prep Swimming Gala

What a lovely afternoon it was at the annual Swimming Gala, where both Lower and Upper Prep pupils competed with great spirit for points for their respective Houses! Students from Year 3 and 4 showcased the skills they have developed during their weekly Friday afternoon swimming lessons.

It has been a joy to witness the progress of our Year 3 and 4 pupils over the course of their lessons. Many pupils have worked hard to perfect their techniques, while others focused on building their water confidence and refining their basic strokes. Penny, Aubrey, Evie and Mehreen each displayed determination and a positive attitude. Sian had an inspiring journey, overcoming her nerves to swim in her very first gala and placed in her race, which was a wonderful achievement.

Evan, Constance, Tom and Olivia were among the standout performers, demonstrating excellent swimming skills and sportsmanship. A special mention goes to Francesca from Year 4, who swam in the Under-11 race, helping her House earn valuable points.

The competition for points was fierce, but Woodside took the victory in the end!

It was a truly fantastic afternoon of swimming, with every student contributing to their House's success and showing great teamwork and spirit. Well done to all the swimmers for their effort and enthusiasm.

**Miss Turnbull**





# Year 10 and 11 Rugby Enrichment

Year 10 and 11 girls completed their final rugby enrichment session, having gained a strong foundation in the sport.

Over the course of several weeks, they learned key skills such as passing, tackling, lineouts, scrums and kicking under the guidance of Coach Malcolm.

The girls had the opportunity to apply their skills in real game scenarios,

enhancing their understanding of rugby gameplay. Their progress was clear, as they grew in confidence and teamwork throughout the programme.

**Miss Turnbull**



## Leeds Rhinos Netball

Both our Prep and Senior School students had the opportunity to attend two separate Netball Superleague fixtures featuring the Leeds Rhinos Netball franchise recently – and what fantastic experiences they were!

The Prep School trip was full of energy and excitement as our youngest netball enthusiasts travelled to support the team in a home fixture vs Birmingham Panthers at the Sheffield Arena. Pupils were buzzing with enthusiasm, waving banners and meeting some of their sporting heroes. Former

student and THS Games Captain Maia Bausor played in the warm up game for the NXT Gen Rhinos team and the girls loved cheering her on.

Meanwhile, our Senior students attended a fixture at the Leeds Arena vs Loughborough Lightning. It was not only a fun outing, but also a valuable learning experience for our older students, many of whom play netball themselves.

**Mrs Rodgers**



## County Hockey Tournament

We are delighted to share that several of our Year 6 and 7 boys had the fantastic opportunity to represent Durham at the County Hockey Tournament last Sunday. Ewan, Henry, Alistair and Gabriel (pictured) as well as Issac F and Isaac H travelled to Maiden Castle for an exciting day of competition.

The team played a series of games against teams from North Yorkshire, Greater Manchester and Northumberland.

They achieved great results throughout the afternoon, and it was an excellent learning experience that will undoubtedly help them in their upcoming games.

Well done, boys,

**Miss Turnbull**



# SEASON ROUND UP!

We have had an absolutely incredible season for both hockey and netball. The pupils have shown incredible commitment and their progress has been outstanding.

### Hockey Highlights:

U12 Boys: 2nd place North East Indoor Hockey Tournament

U12 Girls: 2nd place County Hockey Tournament

U13 Girls: 2nd place County Hockey Tournament

Under 12 Boys: Joint 2nd in the Outdoor County Cup

U13 Girls: North East and Yorkshire Area Finalists

U12A Girls: Winners of the County Hockey League

U12B Girls: 2nd place County Hockey League

U13A Girls: Winners of the County Hockey League

U13B Girls: 2nd place County Hockey League

U16 Girls: 2nd place in the County Hockey League

### Netball Highlights:

Sisters n Sport Under 13 Shield: Quarter Finalists

Sisters n Sport Under 12 Bowl: 4th place

Sisters n Sport Under 16 Vase: Semi-

finalists

Year 10A: 2nd place Premiership Tournament

Year 10B: 2nd place Championship Tournament

Year 9: Winners of the Championship Tournament

Year 9 Futures Tournament: Joint Winners

Year 8: Winners of the Premiership Tournament

Year 7: Winners of the Championship Tournament

Year 7 Futures Tournament: 3rd place

U12A: District Championship League Winners

U12B: District Futures League Winners

U13A: District Premiership League Winners

U13B: District Futures League Winners

U14A: District Championship League Winners

U15A: District Premiership League 3rd place

U15B: District Futures League 3rd place

**Miss Turnbull**



## Year 11 Football

Year 11 girls finished their block of football this week with a dramatic cup final.

The girls have really enjoyed this unit of work, developing their skills in passing, controlling, shooting and crossing as well as their understanding of team formation, offside and the rules.

They have worked so hard and showed real determination.

Yasmin's Reds took an early lead over Elodie's Whites with some lovely passing and a great shot. They added to their lead just 3 minutes later and then just before the half time whistle a cross from the right finished to make it 3-0.

The Whites were not disheartened and fought back to go close on two occasions but unfortunately it was not to be. A handshake line up and trophy presentation concluded the lesson.

A great half term of work, with learning, lots of fun and who knows, maybe a new lioness was born!

**Miss Stephens**







# Easter Egg Hunt

Nursery and Reception children had an absolute blast during their Easter egg hunt in Forest School.

With excitement in their eyes, they teamed up and ventured into the woods, eagerly searching for eggs hidden amongst the trees and shrubs. Each team was tasked with finding eggs of different colours.

As they discovered each egg, the children worked together, sharing

clues and helping one another along the way. Once all the colourful eggs were found, they exchanged them for a well-deserved chocolate egg, their faces lighting up with joy and pride. It was a wonderful blend of teamwork, adventure and festive fun.

**Miss Hall**



## Celebrating Eid

Our pupils have enjoyed learning more about the religious festival of Eid in recent weeks, with Early Years children decorating cards for their classmates and printing pictures of a mosque as

they explored its importance in the Muslim religion. Eid Mubarak to all those who celebrated.

**Miss Hall**



## Nursery PE

PE is the highlight of the week for our youngest pupils! Last week, they enjoyed their outdoor lesson on the astro turf, where they had the opportunity to develop their ball skills.

They focused on improving their throwing and catching abilities, working on their coordination and control.

The lesson concluded with a penalty shootout, allowing each child to showcase their abilities in a fun and competitive environment.

**Miss Hall**



# Trip to Newham Grange Farm

Nursery and Reception children had an unforgettable day last week as they boarded the school minibuses and headed off on another off-site trip, this time to Newham Grange Farm!

The children enjoyed meeting the guinea pigs, seeing lambs, sheep, pig, piglets, lamas, goats, hens and even peacocks.

They made the most of the wonderful weather and explored the outdoor play areas before finishing the day engaging in role play in the role play village.

The children were so well behaved throughout the visit and it was a perfect trip to support their current

topic work.

**Miss Hall and Miss Graham**



## Farm Writing

Last week, Reception pupils were busy drawing wonderful pictures and writing sentences about our exciting trip to Newham Grange Farm.

Their enthusiasm for describing what we saw, such as 'fluffy ducks' and 'muddy pigs', has been truly impressive!

The children worked hard to include detail in their drawing and writing, carefully using their sound mats to independently figure out which sounds would come next.

Their writing showed just how much they remembered from the trip, using brilliant describing words to share their experiences.

It was lovely to see their confidence grow as they put their ideas onto paper. Well done, Reception, I am so proud of your fantastic work!

**Miss Graham**

## Year 1 Mathematics

Year 1 pupils have been working hard in their mathematics lessons, diving into the exciting world of volume and capacity! The children have explored how to measure volume and compare the sizes of different containers. Through hands-on activities, they have also tackled problem-solving

challenges to determine the capacity of various containers. It has been a fantastic learning journey and the students are showing great progress in understanding these important concepts.

**Mrs Hannah**







# Able, Gifted and Talented Workshop

Prep Able, Gifted and Talented pupils recently participated in an exciting workshop led by Mr McGonnell, CEO of Cloud Hikers, which focused on teamwork, project management and being creative with LEGO!

The pupils were tasked with building projects using LEGO. As they reflected on their projects, many felt more confident in their ability to lead teams and manage future projects.

We would like to say a very big thank you to Mr McGonnell for delivering such an inspiring session for the pupils and supporting our Able, Gifted and Talented provision.

**Miss Hall**



## Lower Prep Roman History

Lower Prep welcomed parents into school for their fantastic form assembly on the Romans. The children worked incredibly hard to learn their lines, actions, and song lyrics, bringing everything together in an engaging and informative performance.

Following on from this, pupils enjoyed an object handling session earlier this week.

The children were able to hold and analyse a series of votive offerings, including an ear, nose and mouth. These were replicas of items found in key archaeological sites around the UK, including around Hadrian's Wall.

In ancient times, the votive offerings were created and placed in a temple as a sign to a God to heal the body part it related to.

The children found this fascinating, and a perfect link to their studies on Roman History.

**Miss Lockerbie and Miss Malik**



# Writing in the Forest

Year 6 pupils took their writing lesson into Forest School recently.

Inspired by Katherine Rundell's *The Explorer*, students focused on verbs, modal verbs and adjectives.

They participated in a den-building exercise, using the hands-on activity to spark creativity and bring their ideas to life, which will be put down on paper when they will later write a short chapter titled 'Den Building'.

The outdoor environment provided a dynamic, interactive setting for students to engage with their writing in a meaningful way.

**Mrs Reid**



## Visit from Team GB Athlete

Pupils throughout the Prep School had an exciting afternoon recently, as Lucy Turner, ex Team GB Pentathlete and Heptathlete, visited school to lead a motivating sponsored fitness circuit.

Lucy then spoke to the children about how she started athletics. It was an interesting assembly as Lucy shared her personal bests for individual events and the many places she has travelled around the world with her sport.

Lucy concluded the afternoon with a very important message that 'you should never give up, even if you are finding the task hard'.

**Mrs Carson**



## The Great, The Bold and The Brave

As we approach the Easter break, the children in Upper Prep 1 are coming to the end of their current IPC unit, *The Great, The Bold and The Brave*.

There has been a large focus on history, with the children considering what life was like in ancient Greece and as part of the Roman empire. They have also looked at the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings, considering the push and pull factors surrounding their settlement in Britain.

Pupils have recently been able to turn their attention to some artwork where they have looked at Greek pottery and the elements of Greek life. Having taken a close look at some examples, and sketching some in their sketch books, the children have created their own vase designs. They were encouraged to reflect on their learning from the term to influence their designs.

**Mrs Kennedy**





# Medical Careers Day

On Wednesday 26 March, four Year 10 students attended a Medical Careers Day at High Tunstall College of Science in Hartlepool.

This event was attended by more than 70 students from across the North East.

The day was designed to give young people more information about whether they would like to study medicine.

It involved medical students leading activities in Diagnostics; where the students learned how to assess a patient using stethoscopes, blood pressure monitors and oximeters, Medical Ethics; where the students were presented with different scenarios



and had to decide whether the patient received the treatment required or not, and Emergency Medical Assistance; where the students practised CPR and other first aid techniques.

There was also a talk by medical students about things to consider when applying to study medicine and a presentation led by a local junior doctor and a consultant, who shared their experiences of what it is like to work as a doctor.

**Ms Davison**

## Easter Egg Raffle

We are thrilled to share that, thanks to your generosity, we have raised an amazing £1312.00 for Cancer Research UK through our Easter raffle!

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed by purchasing tickets - your support makes a real difference.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Lidl Tower Street, Lidl Yarm, Morrisons Teesside Retail Park and Tesco Ingleby Barwick for their generous Easter egg donations.

Your kindness and generosity truly make an impact.



Thank you once again for being part of this important cause!

**Mrs Bell**



## LAMDA Showcase Evening

Wednesday 19 March saw the return of our bi-annual LAMDA Showcase evening. In the lead up to the real LAMDA examinations, parents and friends are invited to see one out of the two performances that our students will be performing for the Examiner.

We had an array of performances ranging from; pieces that were Grade 1 to Grade 8, performers from Year 7 to Year 13, performances based on Acting to Speaking in Public, and monologues that were Classical to Modern.

A huge well done to our performers; Jacob, Martha, Grace, Hannah, Isabelle, Zahra, Lilia, Willoughby and Joseph. They all performed with empathy, conviction, thoughtfulness and passion. The audience members echoed their admiration of the performers too alongside myself and Ms Jackson.

The students performed their real LAMDA examinations last Thursday and I am ever so proud of the hard work and dedication they have all put into this.

**Mrs Furness**



## Business Studies Update

The Business Studies department has been extremely busy in recent weeks!

Firstly, Year 13 students ventured north to the Tutor2u Grade Booster Workshops at the Odeon Cinema, Metro Centre.

These were the first Tutor2u workshops helping to prepare students for this year's A-level examinations, as the Tutor2u team embark upon a national tour, visiting Newcastle, Manchester, Leeds, Bristol, Birmingham and London. The workshops covered a variety of subjects which covered all A-level subjects the students are currently studying.

The day will be invaluable as the students continue their revision for their A-level examinations.

Additionally, Year 13 Business Studies students were joined in their lesson by guest speaker Dr Jennifer Hagan, Principal Lecturer at Teesside University.

The students are currently exploring business strategies in a social enterprise context, and Dr Hagan was able to broaden this topic at length and share experience from throughout her research and career.

The group found it a very insightful talk and look forward to implementing their new findings into their A-level work.

**Mrs Boothroyd**

## Horrible Histories

On Friday 28 March, 17 Year 7 students accompanied me on an exciting school trip to the Darlington Hippodrome Theatre to experience Horrible Histories live in 3D. The show kicked off in 1485 with the Battle of Bosworth, taking us through

the entire Tudor era, and culminating with the dramatic events of the Spanish Armada in 1588. It was both hilarious and informative, and the students especially enjoyed the interactive nature of the performance.

**Miss O'Byrne**



## ESU Public Speaking

Three Year 10 students, Hannah, Isaac and John, travelled to Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School in Leeds recently, for the Regional Finals of the ESU Public Speaking Competition. THS was one of six schools competing to represent the North in the Grand Final. Although the students were not selected, they were fantastic competitors and a credit to the school. Below are a few short extracts from Hannah's speech, entitled *The best way to predict the future, is to create it.*

*'Apart from being driven, what else can you do to create your future? For me, it starts with taking ownership of our choices and actions. Every decision we make - no matter how small it seems - contributes to the world we live in tomorrow [...]*

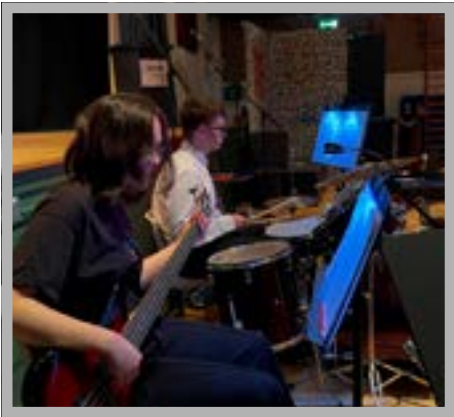
*'The way you approach your goals today will determine what tomorrow looks like for you. If you take proactive steps, you set yourself on a path where you can predict your future, not because it's predetermined, but because you created it.'*

**Mrs Reid**





# THIS WEEK PHOTO GALLERY





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