

THiS Week



Teesside High School
Education as it should be

ROBINWOOD RESIDENTIAL

Last week, children in Lower Prep embarked on an unforgettable adventure to Robinwood for a fantastic three-day residential trip. Packed with thrilling activities, the trip was a perfect blend of fun, challenge and teamwork!

The children took part in a range of exciting outdoor activities designed to develop their skills and resilience. From canoeing and raft building to the exhilarating piranha pool, giant swing and zip wire, every moment was filled with adventure. These activities encouraged the children to push their boundaries while working together as a team.

Throughout the stay, the Robinwood staff were full of praise for the children's outstanding behaviour, which was a true testament to their character and maturity. I could not be prouder of our pupils for challenging themselves, supporting one another and working together with such enthusiasm and determination.

This trip was a true highlight of the school year and the memories made will last a lifetime. We look forward to more opportunities like this in the future as our students continue to grow and thrive, both inside and outside the classroom.

'When we woke up on Thursday, we packed our kit bags and got ready. Breakfast was my favourite food, hash browns, beans, toast and sausages! Our first activity was a Piranha Pool. We had 40 minutes to get out before the piranhas came into the room. It was an escape room. It was really tricky at first. At the end we sang happy birthday to Camille. We even had cupcakes at lunchtime!'

- Aubrey

Miss Lockerbie



WELCOME

As the penultimate half term comes to an end, it is safe to say the last four weeks have kept us all very busy indeed.

Firstly, I would like to say a huge well done to all students completing examinations at the moment. It has been amazing to see the resilience and hard work that each individual has put into these examinations and I am sure it will pay off in respect of results. Although it may seem like a long way off, it will be no time at all until you are enjoying a long summer break - keep going!

To mark Year 11 and Year 13 students beginning their study leave periods, farewell parties were enjoyed by all. With an array of snacks and drinks, the students enjoyed shirt signing and we all experienced some teary goodbyes. Both year groups have been a delight throughout the years. Good luck with your examinations!

Although we have said goodbye to some students, we have had the opportunity to welcome lots of new faces to THS. A warm welcome to the families who joined us after the Easter break. I hope this short but action-packed half term has provided a wonderful opportunity for your sons and daughters to get a taste for life at THS.

I want to send my thanks to the many staff organising outreach and community work this term. The Latin and Classics department hosted a special visit from Year 5 and 6 pupils at The Links Primary School last week, Miss Hopkins led a special outdoor session with children at Oxbridge Lane Primary School

and Hartburn Primary and The Links both joined us for our Colour Run in aid of Mind, Teesside. I hope you enjoyed your time visiting our school.

Whilst the Senior School is extremely busy with external and internal examinations, Prep School pupils have been enjoying various outings and excursions. From our little ones in Pre-Prep exploring their current IPC unit at the wonderful Washington Wetlands to Lower Prep experiencing a jam-packed few days of activities and fun at Robinwood, and finally, Upper Prep pupils enjoying educational workshops at Danby Lodge. I hope you enjoy reading about their adventures.

Finally, as many of you will know, Teesside High School was recently inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate. I am delighted to tell you that the feedback was incredibly positive and we will share the full report as soon as it is available. Thank you to everyone who contributed - it really is a team effort and I am sure this will be reflected in the feedback we receive.

I hope you have a lovely half term break.

Kirsty Mackenzie, Head



Duke of Edinburgh Update

Duke of Edinburgh students have been busy with practice expeditions for both Bronze and Silver awards in recent weeks.

Our Silver DofE cohorts successfully completed their practice expedition through Richmond, Reeth, Grinton, Marske, Marrick and Healeugh.

Each team worked brilliantly and their enthusiasm for being in nature was great to see.

In addition to this, our Bronze DofE students successfully completed their practice expedition through Hamsterly Forest, learning how to set up their tents, using Trangia and then enjoying another self-led walk to Doctor's Gate.

A huge thank you to our four Young Leaders, Emmeline, Dylan, Joe and Emily (pictured), who have been invaluable to this year's award.

This was their last outing and they will be sorely missed next year.

Miss Hopkins



STOCKTON DISTRICT ATHLETICS

Back-to-Back Champions! THS on top again at Stockton District Athletics.

A fantastic day of athletics at Middlesbrough Sports Village saw a squad of 40 talented THS pupils compete against 10 other schools in the area. It was an outstanding display of talent, sportsmanship and teamwork, and I cannot speak highly enough of the pupils who represented THS so well.

Year 7 Highlights (Preliminary)

Abigail dominated the 200m and shot put, while Henry clinched victory in the shot put. Jacob finished a strong 2nd in the 1500m, and the relay team - Katie, Faith (captain), Sophia, Abigail and Harriet - put on a superb performance to finish 1st.

Year 8/9 Highlights (Junior)

Tinashe (captain) was absolutely unstoppable, smashing the 100m and 200m with personal bests in both. Amelie won the shot put and just missed out on 1st place in the 800m. Annie showed great resilience to finish 2nd in the 300m and Oliver M impressed everyone by throwing over 40m to win the javelin - one of the best throws we have seen in the school's history! Gideon placed 2nd in both the discus and long jump. The girls' relay team - Amelie, Tinashe, Betsy, and Evie - were in sensational form, clinching a convincing win to cap off a remarkable day.

Year 10/11 Highlights

(Intermediate)

Kyle (captain) was exceptional, winning both the 1500m and 800m races. George S claimed 2nd in the javelin, while Louis posted strong finishes in both the shot put and discus. Martha was another standout, winning the 800m and finishing 2nd in the 200m. Annabel (captain) delivered a brilliant performance with 1st place in the high jump (with a new personal best of 1m47) and 2nd in the 1500m. Helena threw the javelin to victory, while Tendai topped the discus and secured 2nd in the shot put.

Overall Results:

The final standings reflected the amazing effort and talent shown across the day.

Preliminary Girls: 1st

Junior Girls: 1st

Junior Boys: Joint 2nd

Intermediate Girls: 2nd

Overall Girls: Winners

Teesside High: Overall Champions (for the second year in a row!)

We are incredibly proud of all our athletes!

PE Department



Team Captains

We are delighted to share our summer term sport Team Captains:

Rounders

U11A - Evan Smith, U11B - Isabelle Davies

U12 - Harriet (pictured)

U13 - Evie Shields

U14 - Annie Greenhalgh

U15 - Megan Bates

Cricket

U11 - Issac Hammill

U12 - Gabriel Hammill

U13 - Jacob Scott

U14 - Arlo Pout

U15 - George Smart

Athletics

U11 Girls - Erin Harrow, U11 Boys - Issac Fell

U12 Girls - Faith (pictured), U12 Boys - Jacob Harrow

U13 Girls - Tinashe Kushamba, U13 Boys - Oliver Morris

U14 Girls - Lucie Lupton, U14 Boys - Lewis Orton

U15 Girls - Annabel Lupton, U15 Boys - George Hunter / Kyle Sridhar

Miss Turnbull

Golf County Championships

Teesside High School marked an exciting milestone recently, proudly celebrating its first entries into competitive school golf.

The Golf County Championships saw 80 skilled young golfers from more than 22 senior schools across the North East region, making it one of the most competitive events on the school golf calendar.

Players competed across various age categories, with performances assessed in both gross (total strokes) and net (adjusted scores based on handicaps) divisions.

Izzy competed in the Under 16 Girls' Championship and played with focus and consistency throughout her round. Demonstrating excellent technique and composure under pressure, Izzy finished 2nd in the Girls' U16 Gross Championship; an excellent achievement.

Harry, representing THS in the Under

16 Boys' Championship, also produced a standout performance. With a combination of determination and skill, he earned the Best Nett Score in his category, showcasing his future potential in the sport.

Huge congratulations to Izzy and Harry on their success – we are incredibly proud of your efforts and cannot wait to see what you do next!

Miss Turnbull



Dates for your Diary

- | | |
|--|--|
| Thursday 5 June - Track only County Athletics (pm) | Day (pm) |
| Friday 6 June - Year 7 and 8 Boys' Bell Boating Competition | Saturday 21 June - Inter County Athletics Competition |
| Friday 13 June - Year 7 and 8 Girls' Bell Boating Competition | Monday 30 June - Senior School Sports Day (pm) |
| Friday 13 June - Prep School Sports | Miss Turnbull |



U13 Rounders Team Triumphs at Tournament

The U13 rounders team put on a fantastic display of skill and teamwork to win their recent tournament, securing convincing victories against Egglescliffe (11–6.5) and Grangefield (10–5).

The girls showed promise for future performances, with Amelie and Evie S forming a strong link between backstop and first post, getting batters out. Tinashe impressed with sharp reactions and excellent catches at second post, while Betsy delivered a flawless game as bowler, conceding no rounders for no balls.

Despite a slow start with the bat, the team found their rhythm thanks to Flo, who hit a powerful rounder to kick things off. From there, the girls played with growing confidence and composure.

Katie and Faith, both Year 7, made strong debuts alongside Evie D in her first school fixture.

Well done to the whole team, who now go on to represent Stockton at the Tees Valley Rounders Finals!

Mrs Rodgers



UPPER PREP ROUNDERS

Year 5 and 6 girls had a fantastic afternoon taking part in a rounders fixture against Queen Mary's last Friday.

Since the beginning of term, all of the girls have made excellent progress in developing their skills and their overall understanding of the game.

There were some impressive batting performances, with players scoring both half and full rounders, contributing to an exciting match. Both teams played with great enthusiasm and teamwork, and it was wonderful to see their hard work paying off.

Miss Turnbull

With victories for both teams, the girls are feeling confident and are already looking forward to their next game.

Individual Sporting Achievements

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| There have been many individual sporting achievements throughout school this half term. | whilst Ozzy in Upper Prep recently took part in the SUP Active Yorkshire competition at Ellerton Park, where he came 3rd in the Junior Sprint Race and Junior Technical Race. Finally, Kyle in Year 10 has competed in numerous prestigious races recently, |
| Edie in Lower Prep has been celebrating her football team, TIBS, being League Cup Final Runners Up, | |



Year 12 Golf Enrichment

Year 12 students enjoyed their first visit to Yarm Driving Range for their enrichment session.

For many it was their first taste of golf and the club professional provided a friendly introduction to the basic grip and swing. Students had the chance to fine-tune their techniques with expert tips and guidance.

It was an enjoyable session and the students (and Mr Thomas!) are already looking forward to their next outing.

Miss Turnbull

including the U15 National Road 5K Championship in Birmingham, where he secured his first national bronze medal.

Well done, everyone!

Miss Turnbull





Welcome to Nursery!

It was all smiles in Nursery at the start of the summer term.

The children have all settled back in so well and enjoyed engaging in a range of activities together.

They have been particularly excited to spend time outside making the most of the wonderful weather.

It has also been lovely to welcome some

new faces into Nursery for the summer term and great to see how quickly and nicely they have settled in.

Well done Nursery for having such a great start to the term!

Miss Hall



World Bee Day

Nursery have enjoyed celebrating World Bee Day with a fun and educational week all about bees!

The children learned why bees are so important for our environment, especially for pollinating flowers and helping plants grow.

They enjoyed a variety of bee-themed

activities, including making colourful collage bees, sculpting their own bees out of playdough and enjoying a tasty treat of honey on toast.

It was a buzzing success, filled with creativity, learning and lots of sticky fingers!

Miss Hall



Memory of a Journey

Nursery pupils have been hard at work completing their entries into the *Memory of a Journey* mass participation project led by S&DR200.

The children had to reflect on a personal journey and using this inspiration, decorate a wooden doll. The dolls are going to form part of an autumn exhibition at Preston Park Museum as part of the Stockton and Darlington Railway 200th anniversary.

We would like to extend a very big thank you to all the Nursery parents for their wonderful support in helping the children.

We are very excited to see the rest of our pupils' designs across the Prep School in the coming weeks!

Miss Hall



Bear Hunt

Nursery children are fully embracing their *Once Upon a Time* topic and have enjoyed exploring the children's text *We're Going on a Bear Hunt*.

Pupils have been hard at work creating maps to sequence the story and acting out role play with small world resources and had a wonderful time in Forest School when they had their very own bear hunt.

This experience brought the story to life as they conquered the swishy swashy grass, stomped through the thick, oozy mud and tiptoed through the big dark forest before they were

successful and found a very friendly bear!

Miss Hall



The Magic Porridge Pot

The Reception pupils have had a fantastic start to their traditional tales topic with *The Magic Porridge Pot*.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed re-telling the story with brilliant enthusiasm and expression.

They also produced some wonderful work, using their imaginations to

invent a backstory for the mysterious character who gives the porridge to the little girl.

From enchanted castles to magical mountains, their ideas about where this character might live were full of creativity and excitement.

Miss Graham



Three Little Pigs

We have had a fantastic time exploring the traditional tale *The Three Little Pigs* in Reception! The children threw themselves into re-telling the story, using a wonderful range of new vocabulary to bring the characters and events to life.

Their story work led perfectly into a Science topic on materials, as pupils investigated which materials are strong and sturdy enough to build a house and which ones might not keep the wolf out! The children also went on a fun materials hunt around school, identifying and categorising a range of objects.

To finish off the week, we enjoyed some creative time inspired by the story, making collages of the houses. We then had so much fun predicting where the wolf could have escaped to at the end of the story and the children made some excellent "Wanted" posters as their busy book task this week.

Well done, Reception!

Miss Graham



Pre-Prep Trip to Washington Wetlands

The children in Pre-Prep had an exciting and memorable day visiting Washington Wetlands as part of their learning in IPC.

The trip offered a wonderful opportunity to explore a variety of animal habitats and learn more about the natural world.

One of the highlights of the day was pond dipping, where the children discovered an array of fascinating creatures living in the water. A particularly exciting find was the caddisfly larvae, cleverly camouflaged in its pebble-covered case to hide from predators. Using a microscope camera, the children were able to observe these tiny animals in amazing detail.

Another favourite part of the visit was meeting the Asian short-clawed otters. The children were captivated by their playful behaviour and enjoyed learning all about their habitat and how they are cared for at the wetlands.

We are incredibly grateful to the staff

at Washington Wetlands for their warm welcome and informative sessions. As a special treat, each child received a free entry ticket so they can return with their families and share everything they discovered.

We were very proud of how the children represented our school. Their excellent behaviour and lovely manners were noticed and praised by the staff - a big well done to Pre-Prep!

Mrs Hannah



Holiday Camp

Big Adventures Holiday Camp proved to be a resounding success during the Easter break, bringing joy, excitement and unforgettable memories to more than 60 children.

With a packed schedule of engaging activities, exciting day trips and a safe, supportive environment, the camp once again lived up to its reputation as a top-tier holiday destination for young adventurers.

Plans are already underway for the next holiday programme, and if the success of Easter camp is anything to go by, the future looks bright – and full of adventure. Summer Holiday runs for three weeks starting on Monday 21 July.

The timetable consists of exciting offsite trips as well as fun school-based days including a circus themed day, a magician visit, a LEGO workshop, a safari adventure day and so much more!

Priority booking for Teesside High pupils opens on Monday 2 June and one week later, any remaining spaces will be opened up for external children.

Miss Hall



The Gruffalo

It has been an exciting and imaginative week in Nursery, as the children stepped into the enchanting world of *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson.

From the moment they arrived, children were captivated by the themed areas and activities inspired by the beloved tale. Nursery was transformed into a world of woodland wonder, complete with a Gruffalo cave for role play. Here, children acted out scenes, bringing the characters to life through expressive play and retelling the story with confidence and excitement.

In the texture kitchen, children rolled up their sleeves to create their very own Gruffalo crumble, using a mix of textured materials to explore sensory play and follow simple recipes. Their creativity continued in the malleable area, where they experimented with owl ice cream, squishing, moulding, and shaping the materials while developing fine motor skills and having lots of messy fun.

The excitement did not stop there – the children also enjoyed sipping on purple

prickle juice, a deliciously fun drink that added a whimsical touch to snack time and deepened their connection to the story's details.

Art was another highlight, with children proudly painting amazing Gruffalo pictures, carefully capturing the character's "terrible tusks and terrible claws" with paintbrushes in hand. These colourful and expressive artworks are now proudly displayed in Nursery for everyone to enjoy.

Literacy was at the heart of the week, with children enthusiastically retelling the story, using key phrases and story sequencing to develop their language and narrative skills. They explored rhyming words, identifying patterns and sounds in the text, and expanded their vocabulary by discussing rich language used in the story such as strolled and astounding.

The week not only brought smiles and laughter but also encouraged curiosity, creativity, and communication. By engaging in themed activities across all areas of learning, the children deepened their understanding of storytelling, language, and the joy of books.

It was truly a magical journey through the deep dark wood – and one that these young learners won't soon forget!

Miss Hall

Achievements in Pre-Prep

There have been many amazing achievements in Pre-Prep this half term.

Ava was very proud to share her Gymnastics certificate for hard work with her friends; Verity has achieved her Level 1 Trampoline badge; Eli has

moved up a level in his swimming and Olivia (pictured) has been awarded a Blue Peter badge for her reading and book reviews.

Well done, Pre-Prep!

Mrs Hannah





Danby Lodge

Last week, the children in Upper Prep headed off to Danby Lodge National Park Centre for an action packed day of activities.

All of the activities supported our summer term IPC topics, 'Roots, Shoots and Fruits' and 'Existing, Endangered, Extinct'.

The children used the stunning surroundings to explore a number of habitats. They considered the process of photosynthesis and how plants use this process to survive.

They used a range of classification keys throughout the day to identify the trees in the woodland area, the minibeasts that they had caught deeper within the forest and to identify some of the birds local to the National Park.

The children were fascinated to complete an activity to find out the ages of the different trees, being amazed that some of them had been there through the industrial revolution and two world

wars.

In a classroom based activity, the children learnt more about biodiversity and the rich animal and plant life that we have on the planet. They completed a battle of the beasts challenge as well as using a giant classification key; working as a team to identify the birds.

The last activity of the day included the children thinking about shelter and camouflage as a way of species surviving in their habitats. The children completed some den building to see if they could conceal their group members out of sight! There were some impressive efforts, some being marketed as 'luxurious accommodation!'

Mrs Kennedy



Colour Run

The school grounds were filled with colour as Prep School pupils took part in a special Colour Run on Thursday 22 May in aid of Mind, Teesside.

The children were given the opportunity to collect sponsorship from their families and friends in order to help raise vital funds to support the mental health provision offered in our local communities.

It was a day of fun where the children made lots of colourful and magical memories.

We welcomed Hartburn Primary School and The Links Primary School to partake in this special event with us all and we hope the children enjoyed it just as much as we did. I look forward to sharing the total of how much we have raised after half term once all of the money has been collected.

Mrs Kennedy



Roots, Shoots and Fruits

The children in Upper Prep 1 have recently started their new IPC topic, *Roots, Shoots and Fruits*. For their Entry Point, the children took to the outdoors to explore our wonderful grounds in order to make a journey stick of their own.

Journey sticks originate from aboriginal and native American culture where they were used a bit like a map in order to represent their journey.

The children had to look carefully at the natural environment around them to look for things that meant something to them to help them remember their journey. Once they had found their objects, they had to attach them to their stick in order. The children added objects such as dandelions to remind them of the sunny day, feathers to remind them of loved ones, litter to think about how easily our natural

world can be spoilt or helicopter seeds to remind them of a special trip they had been on.

Once back in the classroom, the children shared their journeys with a friend.

It was lovely to see the children so engaged with nature and looking at our surroundings from a different perspective. This certainly gave our new unit a creative and thoughtful start.

Mrs Kennedy



Reproduction in Plants

Pupils in Upper Prep 1 have recently been looking at the different parts of plants, considering their functions in keeping the plant healthy and supporting them in the reproduction process.

The children looked at a range of different root vegetables and were surprised to learn that we actually eat the roots of these plants. They considered the difference between tap roots and fibrous roots and then had a go at sketching the different vegetables.

They were particularly perplexed by the mooli and enjoyed looking at it more closely, comparing its size with the other vegetables that they were familiar with.

Mrs Kennedy



Flamborough Head

On Friday 16 May, Year 8 students headed to Flamborough Head to investigate coastal landscapes.

To support our topic, *What happens where the land meets the sea?*, we set off to explore landforms created by coastal erosion and deposition.

At North Landing, students explored a cave and saw the impact of erosion on the cliffs, before stopping for ice cream and heading across the cliffs to Selwick's Bay.

When we arrived, after a blustery walk, pupils explored the wave cut platform and were able to visit impressive sea

arches at low tide and investigate Stack Adam.

The day ended with a visit to the Drinking Dinosaur and the pupils even enjoyed a bit of seal spotting.

We were extremely impressed with how the pupils could use their knowledge of coastal processes to explain how the sea had shaped the land along this beautiful coastline.

Mrs Donovan and Mr Williamson



NHS Medical Careers Day

Year 9 and Year 10 students spent the day at James Cook University Hospital on Friday 16 May, where they took part in a Medical Careers Day. They experienced workshops around medical research, midwifery, surgery

and a range of health care careers. The students were also given the opportunity to use medical equipment and perform a laparoscopic procedure! **Miss Stephens**



LAMDA

April saw our first round of LAMDA examinations in Prep School, Senior School and Sixth Form and they did not disappoint! Entries ranged from Devising, Scripted and Speaking In Public and we are thrilled to announce that students were awarded justly for their efforts. We have recently received the scores and are delighted to share there have been 20 Distinctions and 3 Merits awarded.

A special mention must go to our Grade 8 students who all achieved Distinctions for performing three separate scenes, plus four intense questions on practitioner theory and how to stage a performance in a certain theatrical style. These students can now happily end their time here at THS knowing they have qualified to the highest level of the LAMDA grading system and done so with the highest score, too!

A huge well done to all of our LAMDA students, we are both so proud of you all!

Mrs Furness and Ms Jackson



Shakespeare Speakers Shine at Regionals

We are so proud of Anu and Isabelle for their fantastic journey through the ESU Speaking Shakespeare Competition.

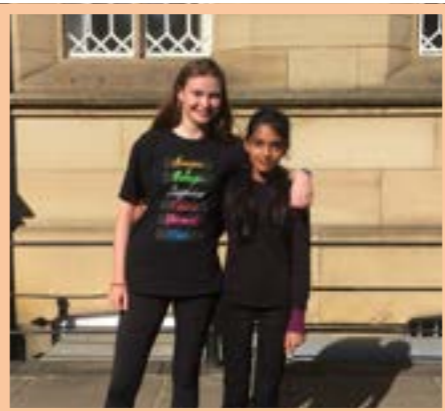
On Tuesday 13 May, Isabelle and Anu represented the school with skill and confidence at the regional finals of the ESU Speaking Shakespeare Competition held at the prestigious Wakefield Grammar School.

Tackling some of the Bard's most challenging lines, they delivered clear, thoughtful performances that showed real understanding of character and language.

Though only one act could progress to the next round - and our students were just pipped at the post - we are proud of how closely they competed and the

composure they showed on stage. Performing Shakespeare is no easy task, but both Isabelle and Anu proved they could hold their own. As the Bard himself might say, "though they be little, they be fierce."

Ms Duffy



Year 10 Theatre Trip

Year 10 students spent their night at the theatre watching Darlington OS's production of *Everybody's Talking About Jamie* last night.

They loved the show's message and

even enjoyed a backstage tour and meet and greet with the principal cast.

Mrs Furness



Year 7 Trip to Beamish

Year 7 visited Beamish Museum on Friday 23 May where they explored a range of historical settings.

They began in the pit village, gaining insight into the lives of early 1900s coal miners through authentic cottages and informative guides. At the colliery, students learned about the harsh conditions underground and the importance of coal at the time.

Pupils then visited the Victorian school, where pupils experienced a typical lesson, complete with slate boards and wooden desks, before trying out traditional playground games like 'boolers'. After a walk through the town and a stop for Beamish's well known fish and chips, we ended the day at the funfair, enjoying vintage rides and games.

The trip offered a valuable and engaging look at everyday life in the past.

Miss O'Byrne



THIS WEEK PHOTO GALLERY



OUR SPONSOR

Friday 30th May

A fun event for families,
animal lovers and history fans

Donkeys at the Museum

Meet and stroke real donkeys | See authentic wartime pack saddles
| **VE War brasses** | Learn about the **special role of donkeys** in
military history | 10.00 - 15.00

www.greenhowards.org.uk

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The
**Green
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Museum

In partnership
with The Donkey
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