



SIXTH FORM PE PROGRAMME

We are delighted to share with you all of the fantastic changes we have made to our Wednesday afternoon Sixth Form PE Programme.

This half term, Year 12 and 13 students have embarked on an exciting journey to Tees Barrage each week to engage in a variety of water sports. Our adventures kicked off with an exhilarating raft-building activity.

Pupils were divided into four groups and tasked with constructing a raft using wooden poles, ropes and barrels. The aim was to build a raft sturdy enough to float and carry their team across the river. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, the forging of new friendships and effective communication. It was heartwarming to see students overcoming their fears and embracing new challenges with enthusiasm.

Yet, the challenge did not stop there. Once across the river, teams faced another task; collecting water in a large container with holes in it. They had to bring this water back to their starting point to fill a large pipe. The ultimate goal was to fill the pipe high enough to bring a rubber duck to the surface.

As you can see from the photos, the results were varied. Some rafts floated effortlessly, while others soon disintegrated and saw pupils making a swim for it! What stood out was the incredible teamwork and resilience displayed by all. They worked together, brilliantly and most importantly, had a lot of fun.

I look forward to seeing what other adventures and learning opportunities the rest of this half term will bring.

Miss Turnbull



WELCOME

Welcome back to the start of the autumn term, and a particularly warm welcome to those visiting school for the first time at our September Open Day.

After a long summer holiday, it has been wonderful to hear the corridors and classrooms come alive with the sound of learning once more. And what a start to the term it has been! With trips to London and Amsterdam launched, visits to Krakow and New York in the offing, the return of Duke of Edinburgh, Forest School sessions and clubs across the arts, music, sport, languages and everything in between... it is sure to be an autumn term to remember.

The summer months will be just as memorable for many of our students, and now alumni.

On Thursday 15 August, our Year 13 students received their A-level results. Their performance was outstanding and we could not be prouder of our students. We celebrated a 100% pass rate with almost half of examination entries securing prestigious high grades (A*-B). I would like to give a special mention to Joy who achieved A*AA in Psychology, Biology and Chemistry, and a place at University of Leicester to study Medicine. This maintained the school's 100% success rate of university offers in this highly competitive and selective field - every single applicant to medicine from THS Sixth Form has been successful in taking up their place. A remarkable achievement!

This set of impeccable results was matched by our wonderful

cohort of GCSE students just a week later.

An outstanding 40% of all GCSE entries received the highest possible grades 9-7 (A**-A). In addition to this, almost a third of our students achieved 5 or more top grades, equivalent to A**, A* and A. An honourable mention here must go to our now Year 12 student, Ed, who secured an incredible 12 GCSEs all at grade 9, just one week after collecting his final early entry A-Level - A* in Further Mathematics!

We are exceptionally proud of all of our students, and wish them the best of luck in their next step.

Finally, I wish to extend my welcome to the many new students and families who joined THS this September. It has been lovely to see new faces fit seamlessly into school life, with action-packed days and smiles on their faces. It is a pleasure to have you all as part of the THS family.

If you are visiting for Open Day, I hope the morning gives you the chance to see just what makes the days at Teesside High so special, and I hope you all enjoy reading our first newsletter of the term.

With best wishes,

Kirsty Mackenzie, Head

A message from Norton Hockey Club

Norton Hockey Club Sunday Junior sessions are back!

We are delighted to confirm details for the return of Junior Hockey sessions on Sunday mornings.

What benefits are there to hockey at Norton Hockey Club?

We have friendly coaches who are committed to creating a fun and engaging environment for kids to learn.

We have excellent facilities including our own pitch located at Norton Sports Complex.

We consider ourselves to be a sport and club where your child can learn more than Hockey skills, and we pride ourselves on encouraging kids to use more than just their sporty skills when training with us.

We take part in friendly matches against local clubs where development is the focus. Getting your child to develop the confidence to play in these matches is another key focus for us.

Feel free to pop down anytime between 10am & 12pm. Current members are encouraged to come down to help spread the word about how enjoyable hockey is with Norton.

The main training sessions will start on Sunday 22 September and further information can be found using the link below.

<https://www.nortonhockeyclub.co.uk/>



U16 NETBALL VS QUEEN ETHELBURGA'S

Thursday evening marked the return of netball fixtures as the U16 team travelled to Queen Ethelburga's College for the first round of the National Sisters n Sport Netball Trophy.

The squad of 11 provided the opportunity to try new combinations, helping us see how different players worked together.

The match began with challenges; Queen Ethelburga's won the first quarter by three goals due to our slow start. However, in the second quarter, the score was balanced at 4-4 with QE having limited opportunities to score due to Lydia and Tendai's strong defence. Poppy's composed penalty shot after the half-time buzzer was a

highlight of the match.

In the third quarter, the team played with renewed confidence. Anisa excelled at Wing Attack, working well with Lexie at Goal Attack. A special mention also goes to Helena, a new addition to our team, who fitted in seamlessly and provided excellent feeds to Scarlett in the shooting circle. Despite our best efforts, Queen Ethelburga's proved too strong for THS on the day and won with a final score of 16-9.

This match was a valuable learning experience and I am proud of the effort and sportsmanship shown. The team's spirit, determination and camaraderie was commendable. Lydia was awarded Player of the Match from QE and the Coach's Player was awarded to Tendai. We look forward to building on this performance in upcoming matches.

Mrs Rodgers



Fitness Testing

At the beginning of each academic year, our pupils participate in the Multi Stage Fitness (MSF) test. This test serves as a benchmark for their fitness levels and is a crucial component of our overall fitness assessment strategy. The MSF test is repeated twice more throughout the year, allowing us to monitor pupils' fitness progress consistently.

The importance of this test goes beyond just numbers and scores; it is a holistic approach to fostering healthy habits and physical wellbeing among our students. We believe that tracking fitness over time provides invaluable insights into their development and helps them set and achieve personal goals.

We understand that the MSF test is challenging, however, it is not just about measuring fitness. It is about showcasing characteristics such as resilience, effort and determination. Each pupil who takes on this challenge demonstrates their ability to push boundaries and strive for improvement.

To encourage and motivate our pupils, we have a reward system in place. Any personal improvements are recognised with merits, celebrating hard work. For those who display excellent effort, we send postcards home as a token of appreciation and to share their accomplishments with their families.

Additionally, the top three performers in each year group earn a coveted spot on the leaderboard. This not only acknowledges their exceptional fitness levels, but also inspires others to aim higher and work harder.

Congratulations to our top performers, for the boys: Thomas Shakesheff (Lower Prep), Isaac Hammill (Upper Prep), Jacob Harrow (Year 7), Archer Hodgson (Year 8), Noah Weston (Year 9), Kyle Sridhar (Year 10) and Zach McCluskey (Year 11). For the girls: Constance Austin (Lower Prep), Sienna Sharma (Upper Prep), Katie Jensen (Year 7), Amelie Rodgers (Year 8), Esther Anderson (Year 9), Annabel Lupton (Year 10) and Yasmin De-Roche (Year 11).

Miss Turnbull

Outdoor Play

As our Nursery children settle in to their new setting, they have been making full use of our outdoor provision, enjoying their first Forest School session and playing in our dedicated EYFS outdoor area.

The children have been putting their physical development skills to the test when riding the trikes and scooters and taking on the challenge of balancing on the stepping stones. The outdoor

kitchen has been a hive of activity with the children making a whole host of dishes from cakes and popcorn to pizza and lasagne, and the large construction equipment has ensured the children have been developing their teamwork and problem solving skills.

We are hoping the sunny weather continues over the coming weeks and look forward to welcoming visitors at both Open Day and our forthcoming Nursery Stay and Play to explore our outdoor provision.

Miss Hall



Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to Lyra in Nursery for completing the Prep School Summer Reading Challenge!

Miss Hall



First Week in Reception

Reception children have had such a lovely first full week in Reception, they have all settled in so well!

The children's first busy book task was to fill the page with things that are important to them. They then presented these to the class and it was such a wonderful way to get to know each other even more.

Thank you to the Reception parents who helped the children to complete these tasks. It is monumental for little ones to begin school full time, but each and every one of the children has spent this week with a great big smile on their face. I am so proud of you, Reception!

Miss Graham



All Aboard

Nursery children have started their first topic of the year *All Aboard* in style.

Pupils have been sharing the story *The Train Ride* and have created some amazing train collages. From using a printing technique for the tracks, deciding how many carriages their train needed to identifying different 2D shapes for the carriages and wheels to drawing the passengers, it is safe to say a host of learning opportunities were



evident in Nursery!
The children are already getting very excited for their first off-site visit of the school year when they will bring their learning to life with a ride on the train to Hopetown Railway Museum in Darlington.

Miss Hall



Stay and Play

We are looking forward to welcoming prospective pupils and their families to our first Stay and Play event of the academic year on Tuesday 8 October, 9.00am-10.00am.

Little ones aged 2 and above are invited to come along and explore Nursery and enjoy activities with a special *Room on the Broom* theme!

If you would like to register your child for a place at Stay and Play, please visit the school website.

Miss Hockney

Pre-Prep Mini Architects

We had a fantastic start to Mini Architects co-curricular club last Monday.

The children planned their designs and constructed their creations with a variety of materials.

We cannot wait to begin designing different structures to build in the club next week!

Mrs Hannah





Material World

Lower Prep have made an exciting start to their first IPC topic of the year, *Material World*.

During their Entry Point, the children worked together in small groups to make slime and considered the properties of the end product.

In the same afternoon, as part of their Knowledge Harvest, Mrs Candler (EYFS TA) loaned Lower Prep her bike. The children worked hard to identify the different materials used to make the

bike and thought about the 'state' of each material - at first they thought there were only solids used, but when looking a little closer they were able to identify air (a gas) in the tyres and paint (a liquid when applied) that was used in the production.

Miss Lockerbie



Year 2 Mathematics

Year 2 children have been working incredibly hard on learning the place value of each digit in numbers up to 100.

They have used concrete resources to

effectively partition into tens and ones and even started to think carefully about flexible partitioning. A great start, Year 2!

Miss Lockerbie



Year 5 Poetry

Year 5 have kicked off their year in English with a unit on space poetry.

Over the last week, the children have been thinking about figurative language and the impact of this on their reader. They have had the opportunity to practise using language features such as similes, metaphors, the power of three and personification to enhance their descriptive detail, as well as choosing adventurous, powerful vocabulary.

The children have written poems with a partner about the moon and individual poems about the Earth to apply their learning and I am really proud of their efforts and completed work. Well done, Year 5!

Mrs Kennedy



Bake It!

Upper Prep 1 are enjoying their new IPC unit, *Bake it!*

The children have observed how yeast behaves once it has been activated by sugar and warm water and now understand that the carbon dioxide that is produced helps the bread to rise.

The children were challenged to complete an investigation to illustrate this production of carbon dioxide. Some groups chose to change the amount of water they used, some the temperature of the water whilst others focused on the amount of sugar they added. We thought carefully about keeping our investigation fair before carrying out our work.

The children were delighted to see the froth forming at the top of their water, clearly indicating the production of carbon dioxide. The children measured the depth of the froth before comparing their results to their initial predictions.



Now that the children have a better idea of the ingredients of bread and the importance of yeast, they will turn their attention to solutions and mixtures and reversible and irreversible changes over the coming week; relating their science work back to our theme of bread each time.

This very practical unit is proving incredibly popular with the children, whilst also giving them the opportunity to develop some of our IPC personal learning goals of communication, collaboration, thinking and resilience.

Mrs Kennedy



Legacy Number

Congratulations to Isaac in Year 6, who was recently presented with a Legacy Number certificate by Middlesbrough Football Club.

Isaac is a player with Boro's Academy at Under 11 level, and shares a familial link with one of the club's all-time greats, Robert Eglington.

Boro's Legacy Numbers are assigned to each and every senior men's player to feature in a competitive fixture.

We imagine you were very proud to receive this on your great great-grandfather's behalf, Isaac.

Prep Forest School

It has been lovely to have our Prep pupils back in Forest School this week!

For many in Nursery, this was their first time venturing down to the woodland, and the children loved collecting lots of natural resources

along their way to basecamp.

Reception and Pre-Prep pupils enjoyed making potions in the mud kitchen in their sessions and had some great imaginative ideas as to what they could create.

Prep Bushcraft Club pupils were also delighted to see the development of the new stage.

Miss Hopkins



Goethe-Institut Expert Mentor Training



After a rigorous selection process before the summer holidays, I was delighted to be chosen, along with 28 other German teachers from across the UK, Sweden and The Netherlands, to become a German Expert Mentor with the Goethe-Institut.

This role will include supporting and training schools and German teachers in the UK to promote and teach German.

I am currently undergoing training both online and in person with the Goethe-Institut fellow GEMs. Last weekend, I was privileged to take part in the first stage of face-to-face training in Berlin, where I attended four days of workshops at the Goethe-Institut.

This was a wonderful opportunity to learn about the similarities and differences in teaching German across

Europe, share resources and ideas and be immersed in German.

Whilst the training schedule was very full, I did have time to restock my supply of Ritter Sport chocolate and add to my Ampelmann Collection!

I am looking forward to continuing my training online over the coming months, taking in a further training session in Berlin in November and beginning my role as a GEM, running alongside my position as Head of MFL at THS.

Frau Butterfield

Martian Landers

In their first lesson on the new A-level Physics course, students were challenged to design, build and test their own 'Martian landers' that could safely deliver an egg to the martian surface, or in our case, from the balcony to the floor of the Main Hall!

Students were provided with a range of resources and were required to apply

existing knowledge of Forces, acquired from GCSE, and their own problem solving abilities to overcome the challenge. I am delighted to say that the majority were successful, although we still have enough broken eggs to make a small omelette!

Mr Glasbey



LAMDA Results

Drama students from Prep, Senior and Sixth Form are celebrating another fantastic set of LAMDA results awarded over the summer break. With a staggering 17 Distinctions and 4 Merits, students can reflect on their hard work and be proud of their achievements. Well done to all.

Elsewhere in Drama, two THS students treaded the boards over the summer break and showed that their skills on stage are not just reserved for school. Holly Newman performed as the iconic Catherine Parr in the musical *Six: Teen Edition* and Benji Hall performed as the debonair Lumiere in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. Well done on your performances and for flying the THS flag high!

Mrs Furness



DT Facilities Upgrade

We are thrilled to share recent changes made to the Design & Technology facilities at school.

The DT room was previously designed around a textiles room, and with the changing curriculum and focus on increasing STEM provision in schools, it was decided investment would be made to provide a facility update.

The whole classroom was stripped and the floor was revarnished, a new ceiling installed and the whole room repainted. The room now features six woodwork benches, 8 new woodworking and metalworking machines, including lathes, bandsaws and sanders.

The room has also been fitted with the latest CAD and CAM equipment. There is a set of new computers capable of running the latest CAD software, which is used to run the updated 3D printer, CNC Milling machine and laser cutter.

This update allows the Design & Technology department to offer our students the latest practical and digital skills required by industry across the world.

Mr Duncalfe

Gold DofE Residential

Holly in Year 13 and her sister Abbie, who left THS to go to Oxford University in 2023, have both had a busy summer completing their Gold Duke of Edinburgh residentials.

Abbie volunteered in a restaurant in rural France where she took on

the roles of sous-chef, waitress and barmaid, also assisting with the picking of fresh fruit and making flower arrangements for tables.

Abbie fully immersed herself in French speaking with the staff and customers, and was also delighted



Make It Stick

Our Year 9 Biologists have started the term reflecting on their previous learning.

Recapping the topic of cells from Year 7 using chalk on tables means we can easily tweak errors or add detail, and it is fun!

Students' knowledge recall, and drawing skills, were highly impressive.

Mrs Kirk

that she could speak to customers from Russia, Germany, Austria and Spain all in their native languages, having studied these either at school or university.

Elsewhere, Holly went to Nottingham Trent University for a week, staying in university accommodation as a little taster for what university life might be like. Holly did a short creative course in fashion and design, and made lots of new friends. She learned some great skills and thoroughly enjoyed her week away. Holly is really looking forward to applying to university, knowing now that she can manage independently.

We are super proud of you both!

Miss Hopkins

THIS WEEK PHOTO GALLERY



SAVE THE DATE



YEAR 7 INFORMATION EVENING

Tuesday 8 October, 6.00pm-7.30pm

Come along and meet the staff responsible for transition, academic matters and pastoral support, and hear from current pupils about what makes the days at THS so special.



Teesside High School
Education as it should be.



SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 13 November, 6.00pm-7.30pm



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