



CHILDREN IN NEED

This year's Children in Need Day was a fantastic success, bringing together students and staff for a day filled with fun activities and a heartwarming sense of generosity.

The day was not only about dressing up, playing games and enjoying treats, but supporting a worthy cause and continuing our annual commitment of raising funds for Children in Need.

Sixth Form students kindly organised an array of exciting events for the rest of the school to enjoy at both break and lunch time.

Rhys and Barnaby bravely endured the leg waxing challenge where every £1.00 donated to the good cause meant one wax strip for them. The pupils loved this and the giggles and applause from all hopefully made the pain worthwhile!

Whilst the squeals echoed in the Main Hall, others enjoyed a delicious hot chocolate and took part in a big game of bingo where fantastic prizes donated from students and their families were up for grabs.

A Scalextric car race took place with eager students desperately longing for their car to be the first across the finish line!

To top off the fun, intense rounds of tug of war sprung into action where teams battled for victory! It was a great way to encourage teamwork and have fun while raising funds.

Due to everybody's generosity we managed to raise an outstanding £1227.00 for Children in Need. A huge thank you to the Sixth Form students for organising these events, and to all who took part and donated.

Miss McKeown



WELCOME

As we approach the festive season, it has been a busy and eventful time at THS, with students and staff coming together to create memorable experiences and celebrate important causes.

I am proud to share highlights of some of the wonderful events we have enjoyed so far, as well as look ahead to the exciting opportunities that await us in the coming weeks.

One of the highlights of the term so far has been our Children in Need Day. The entire school came together to support this fantastic cause, with students dressing up in spots, taking part in fun activities and raising a substantial amount of money. It was heartwarming to see the generosity of our students and staff, and I am proud of the way everyone embraced the event with such energy and creativity.

We have been honoured to welcome so many inspirational guests through our school doors recently. Claire Preston, from the Power of Women charity, lent some inspirational words to our students surrounding the charity's story and her own personal journey.

I would also like to extend this thank you to Jessica Gwaringa, from Moonrise 24hr Recruitment, who spoke to our A-level and GCSE Business Studies students around starting a business, taking risks and working hard. Our pupils were nothing short of inspired by these two outstanding role models.

Whilst we all look forward with excitement to the festive period,

we recognise the same feeling is not universal. We continue our support for those less fortunate through our Mission Christmas toy collection and Foodbank donation table, and would be very grateful for your support in buying a couple of extra items at the supermarket in the coming weeks. We are also working closely with national bereavement charity Winston's Wish, who are hosting a special Christmas party at THS for young people who have lost a parent or loved one. This event will take place on Saturday 7 December; it is free and open to bereaved children up to the age of 12 in our local area. For more information please visit the website:

<https://winstonswish.org/>

This weekend is the annual THS Christmas Market. Make sure to come along tomorrow from 10.00am-1.00pm. Whether you are looking for unique stocking fillers, tasty treats or a chance to meet Father Christmas himself, our market is a must-visit. I look forward to seeing you there!

Kirsty Mackenzie, Head



Power of Women

Claire Preston from the Power of Women charity delivered an empowering and inspirational talk to both parents and students in the Main Hall last week.

We were thrilled to welcome Claire to share both her personal journey and the charity's story.

If you are interested in working with Power of Women or finding out more about the work they do locally, please email:

hello@powerofwomen.org.uk

Mrs Furness



DISTRICT CROSS-COUNTRY COMPETITION

On arguably the coldest Wednesday of the year, the District Cross Country Competition took place at Norton Sports Complex.

Extra layers and a change of footwear were near enough a non-negotiable due to the recent temperature plummet, however this did not stop the THS team making a fantastic account of themselves.

The intermediate Year 10 and 11 boys were the first to take to the field, with two members of the team looking to lay a marker down early for the rest of the group, which they most certainly did. Kyle and John both gained qualification for the next round, Kyle setting the pace early and cruising to a comfortable 2nd place finish and John consistently maintaining a top eight place throughout the race, finishing strong to gain 7th place.

The Year 7 boys were up next, with seven competitors taking to the field. The conditions and course provided a tough and new experience, however this did not get in the way of the grit and determination on display. Jacob led the way and won his race comfortably, sealing 1st place.

Our two Year 7 girls, Harriet and Katie showed the same

determination. In tough conditions, Harriet managed to gain our fourth qualification; securing 10th spot in her race.

Another eight competitors represented THS in the Year 8/9 race, with all girls working hard and showing impressive fitness levels throughout. Lucie finished in 12th place, successfully qualifying.

Our Year 8 and 9 boys ran hard and showed great support for one another, gaining valuable cross country experience and challenging themselves mentally and physically.

It was the Intermediate Year 10 and 11 girls race to conclude proceedings, where Annabel and Martha finished strong in 5th and 6th place.

It was a brilliant day full of positive spirit, camaraderie and resoluteness. Well done to all who competed, and also to our seven qualifiers who will go on to represent Stockton District in the next round in January.

Mr Talbot

U15A Netball vs Eggescliffe

A number of highly experienced club players made up our opponent's team and they stamped their authority on the game from the start.

Pleasingly our girls never gave up. They listened to advice given in the breaks and acted on this, making improvements throughout.

This was a game of small wins,

resilience, coachability and never saying never.

Anisa, our captain, led by example throughout, covering every inch of the court and being awarded the Opponent and Coach's Player of the Match.

Miss Stephens



U13 Netball vs Dame Allan's

Our U13s triumphed in a thrilling clash against Dame Allan's in the SIS National Shield Competition and progress to the Quarter Finals.

The U13 team made the journey to Newcastle for an exhilarating match in the Sisters n Sport National Netball Shield against Dame Allan's School. From the start, it was clear that this match would be a nail-biter. The opening quarter was end-to-end netball, with both teams showcasing fantastic skills and a determination to win. At the end of the first quarter, THS narrowly secured the lead at 5-4.

The second quarter continued the high-energy trend, with the dynamic shooting duo of Amelie and Sophia proving to be a formidable partnership. Our defence was put to the test against

the relentless attack from Dame Allan's, but Felicity, Betsy, and Florence rose to the challenge. They executed critical turnovers that allowed THS to regain possession and maintain their lead. Outstanding teamwork shone through as Evie and Tinashe fluidly passed the ball through the court, connecting beautifully with the shooters.

In the final quarter Skyler excelled in defence, disrupting Dame Allan's centre passes whilst Flossy entered the game and added a fresh burst of energy to the squad. At the final whistle THS won 23-19, a well-deserved victory that was the culmination of hard work and determination. Sophia was awarded Player of the Match for her exceptional defending.

With this impressive win, the U13s have secured their place in the quarter-finals of the Sisters n Sport National Netball Shield and will play St Aiden's High School. Good luck, U13s, we are all rooting for you!

Mrs Rodgers



U12 5-a-side football

To cap off a busy week, the U12 boys played in the group stage of the Stockton District 5-a-side football competition. The boys faced teams from All Saints, Ian Ramsey and Ingleby Manor. All games were played at a high pace with sparks of quality needed to break down the opposing team.

Teesside's performances improved game after game, with lots of energy from Issac, skill from Jacob and strong goalkeeping from Henry. Well done, boys.

Mr Williamson



U11 Hockey vs Red House

On Friday afternoon, the Year 5 and 6 girls gathered for an exciting hockey match against Red House. It was a perfect day for hockey, with the sun shining and spirits high.

The match was structured into four quarters, allowing us to rotate the team and give everyone a taste of competitive hockey. This approach not only brought variety to the game but also helped the players apply the skills they had been honing in lessons.

As the match concluded, everyone gathered to enjoy some well-deserved cookies, a nice ending to a fantastic afternoon of hockey. The camaraderie and sportsmanship displayed by the girls were commendable, making this match a truly rewarding experience for all involved.

Miss Turnbull



U12 COUNTY 10S RUGBY

The U12 boys' rugby team was back in action at the latest round of the County 10-a-side tournament.

In the first of two group matches, the boys faced Egglecliffe. THS retained the ball well throughout the match and Isaac managed to score the winning try, with the match finishing 2-1. Player of the match: Gabriel.

As the light dissipated, the team faced Ian Ramsey in their second group match. Both teams matched each other for physicality, with some ferocious tackling, particularly from Alistair, Henry and Indy. It was a scrappy match which finished 0-0. Player of the match: Alistair.

Our results from the group matches led to our final match against Macmillan Academy. Alistair scored the first try of the match after a strong run through



the Macmillan defence.

Late into the match, Macmillan should have scored but for some outstanding try-saving tackling from Issac. Following this, Alistair used what energy he had left to find space down the wing before giving the ball to Isaac who, for the second time in the tournament, scored the winning try. Player of the match: Issac.

Another outstanding display from our U12 boys, who are looking forward to their next rugby fixtures after Christmas.

Mr Williamson

U13 Hockey vs Yarm

Following their triumphant netball victory against Newcastle High in the School Sport Magazine Cup, our U13 team embarked on another challenge, travelling to Yarm for a County League match. The performance delivered by our A team was nothing short of outstanding, arguably their best display of hockey to date.

The forward line with Betsy on the left, Evie upfront, and Flo on the right, exhibited exceptional skill and coordination. Their efforts were brilliantly supported by Tinashe in

midfield, who tirelessly orchestrated plays, threading the ball through to her forwards and creating numerous scoring opportunities.

In defence, Amelie and Abigail were rock-solid, ensuring Martha in goal had little to worry about. Their strong defensive skills kept the opposition at bay, minimising their chances to score.

The goal tally for the match was impressive: Betsy scored 1, Flo added another and Evie topped the scoring charts with an incredible 4 goals. The



U12 Hockey

The U12 North East Indoor Hockey Tournament took place at Sedbergh Leisure Centre last Friday and the boys were thrilled to kick off the event with a win against a strong RGS team.

The team showcased their skills effectively and put on a dominant display of indoor hockey, the best I have seen any team play at Teesside High School. They also secured a solid victory over Mount Saint Mary's and defeated QEGS in the semi-finals. However, after a long day and some tired legs, they faced a loss against Yarm in the final match. The boys have every reason to be proud of their performance. They will next compete at Manchester Grammar School for the North Indoor Tournament. Good luck to the team!

Mr Thomas



future looks promising as the girls continue to build on this success.

Miss Turnbull



Snowmen activities

As the first chills of the winter swept through the air this week, Nursery has been a lively hub of creativity and excitement.

The thought of snow is a magical one for young children and every wintry whisper of snowflakes falling can quickly turn an ordinary day into an adventure.

The children have been on 'snow watch' and are on countdown ready to build a snowman together. Whilst they patiently wait for a blanket of fresh snow, they have been busy creating

some wonderful winter pictures to display in school. They put their developing cutting skills to the test to cut out circles for their snowmen before carefully counting the eyes, buttons and arms.

They also demonstrated their amazing fine motor control when writing their name on giant snow globe pictures.

Miss Hall

Festive Fun in Reception

Reception children had a festive morning decorating the class Christmas tree!

The children loved choosing where to hang the baubles and tinsel. They are already looking forward to making

some beautiful handmade decorations to add to the tree later this week.

The classroom is already filled with excitement and holiday cheer!

Miss Graham

Gingerbread Men

This week, the Reception children have been diving into the classic tale of *The Gingerbread Man*.

From re-imagining the story to performing puppet shows with their own gingerbread characters, the children have been full of creativity and laughter!

Miss Graham



Year 1 Mathematics

Year 1 pupils have been having a blast exploring 3D shapes in their mathematics lessons!

As part of their exciting learning journey, pupils became 'shape detectives' on a special classroom hunt. The children eagerly searched the room to find hidden 3D shapes and in doing so, they were able to recall the names of each shape and describe its unique properties.

From cubes to spheres, cones to cylinders, the children demonstrated

fantastic enthusiasm and keen observation skills.

It was a wonderful sight to see them engage so deeply with their shape discovery, bringing their new knowledge to life in such a fun and interactive way. Well done to all of our brilliant shape detectives!

Mrs Hannah

Lyra's Dancing Achievement

Lyra in Nursery has recently taken a dance exam where she was awarded Starlite Level 1 Tiny Taps.

We are extremely proud of Lyra's

amazing achievement and we cannot wait to see what she does next! Well done!

Miss Hall

Christmas Role Play

Christmas has begun in Nursery this week with the seasonal overlay to the home corner being very popular. The Christmas role play activities serve as a magical environment where children's imaginations can run wild while learning valuable life skills.

Whether they are writing their names on presents, dressing as elves or leaving out treats for Santa, these activities offer a range of benefits.

By combining creativity, social interaction and festive traditions, children are not only having fun but are also developing essential skills including literacy, empathy, teamwork and fine motor coordination.

As they take part in these wonderful activities, they build a deeper understanding of the Christmas story and the values associated with this special time of year - joy, kindness, sharing and community.

Miss Hall





Forest School

In the coldest week of the year we have been keeping warm and well fed in Forest School!

Pre Prep, Upper Prep and Senior School enrichment pupils enjoyed cooking garlic bread on the fire. Year 1 have now achieved their Sapling Fire award whilst Year 2 have progressed amazingly and received their Sapling cooking award.

Year 5 are now halfway through their

Mature Fire Award and Year 6 pupils are busy working towards their Mature Cooking Award.

Elsewhere, in Bushcraft Club, pupils enjoyed the challenge of cooking in the dark under torch and fire light, making some delicious cheese quesadillas.

Miss Hopkins

Primary Liaison

Preston Primary School joined Teesside High School's Upper Prep pupils for sessions focusing on the Greek and Roman world yesterday. Pupils thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon of

learning about the Roman military and the Greek alphabet. Thank you to Zack, Daniel, Oliver and William for their outstanding work with the students.

Miss Malik



Second Hand

Uniform

The school's Second Hand Uniform shop is always looking to receive donations of pre-loved uniforms that your child may have outgrown / no longer needs.

All washed donations can be handed in at Reception.

All funds raised from Second Hand Uniform sales are used within school to give back to the children, for example, through the recent tennis and netball court extension and refurbishment.

Should your child require an item, please browse our selection of pre-loved uniforms by viewing our live stocklist.

Orders should be placed by contacting secondhanduniform@teessidehigh.co.uk

Uniform orders will be available for collection within three working days once payment is received.

Miss Mackenzie

Primary Maths Challenge – a triumph for THS!

Recently, children from Years 4, 5 and 6 took part in the prestigious Primary Maths Challenge, a competition that pushes young mathematicians to their limits with a series of tricky and thought-provoking problems

The challenge is renowned for its difficulty but our students rose to the occasion, showing determination and incredible problem-solving skills.

We are thrilled to report that several of our pupils performed exceptionally well, with some securing their place among the highest scorers in the competition's history at THS.

Notably, Noah led the way with an impressive score of 22 out of 25, earning him a Gold Certificate and placing him among the top performers nationwide. Hot on his heels were



Freddy, with a remarkable 20 out of 25, and Alexander, who scored 19 out of 25 - both also receiving Gold Certificates.

The Gold Certificate is a highly coveted award given only to those who demonstrate exceptional skills in solving the challenging questions posed during the competition.

A huge congratulations to Noah, Freddy and Alexander for their outstanding results. Your effort and enthusiasm for mathematics inspires us all!

Miss Lockerbie

Upper Prep trip to The Sill

Upper Prep enjoyed a trip to The Sill, National Landscape Discovery Centre last week, where they gained new knowledge surrounding their IPC topic *What a Wonderful World*.

Pupils experienced various workshops from 'Geology Rocks' to 'Pre-History Mystery' which educated them in a fun and hands-on environment.

Mrs Bloomfield



Year 5 English

The children in Year 5 are currently learning about legends in English, focusing on Beowulf and Grendel. Pupils have also been developing their use of figurative language, looking closely at similes, metaphors and personification. They have completed descriptive paragraphs about the swamp that Grendel lived in and also a retelling of when Grendel woke up.

The children have also been challenged to apply their understanding of figurative language to describe Heorot, the grand banqueting hall. Here is Alexander's writing which I am sure you will agree creates a warm and inviting atmosphere for this building.

Heorot was a magnificent banqueting hall that shone like a golden crown in the dark night. The walls seemed to embrace everyone inside, warm and inviting, as if they were alive and excited to greet the guests. Torches flickered along the walls, their flames leaping like playful dancers. The fire in the center of the hall crackled and roared, sending out a comforting heat that made everyone feel at ease. Laughter and songs filled the air, wrapping around the hall like an invisible blanket of joy. It wasn't just a building—it felt alive, a place full of warmth and celebration.

Mrs Kennedy





A Christmas Carol

Last week, our Year 11 students embraced the festive spirit with the much-anticipated annual trip to see *A Christmas Carol* performed at Middlesbrough Little Theatre.

The outing is becoming something of a cherished tradition and offers staff and students a chance to immerse themselves in the timeless magic of Charles Dickens' classic tale.

The trip serves two valuable purposes. Firstly, it provides a dose of Christmas cheer, lifting spirits and spreading joy as the holiday season approaches. Secondly, it offers students a unique way to revisit the text, which all of them study as part of their English curriculum. Seeing the story brought to life on stage helps deepen their understanding of its themes and characters, which will undoubtedly support their preparation for upcoming examinations.

Beyond academic benefits, the play delivers a poignant message that feels especially relevant at this time of year. Dickens' tale of redemption encourages us all to reject selfishness, embrace kindness, and make the most of the time we have by showing compassion to others—particularly the most vulnerable in society.

We hope this outing has left students feeling both inspired and motivated to channel the lessons of *A Christmas Carol*, not only into their examination responses, but also their own lives, just in time for the festive season.

Ms Duffy

Sixth Form festive trip to York

As part of the most recent Sixth Form Social, Year 12 and 13 students took the opportunity to enjoy the festivities at York Christmas Market last Friday.

In suitably chilly conditions, students sampled the sights, smells and tastes of

the festive season.

The group enjoyed bumping into Ashley, a former THS Sixth Form student, who is now studying History in the city.

Mr Hannah



Theatre trip to

Dear Evan Hansen

GCSE and A-level Drama students visited Sunderland Empire to see touring West End show, *Dear Evan Hansen*.

All students were hugely impressed by the actors' talents and moving storyline.

The students analysed acting skills such as projection, facial expressions and body language, all of which can be implemented into their work.

Mrs Furness



Drama beyond THS is back!

This year, students can expect talks around topics such as creative writing, law, sound engineering, costume design, BSL and much more!

The Drama beyond THS talks are back with this year having a focus on how drama can influence and help your future career, other than going into the more obvious route of acting.

This term we have had two speakers in the form of David Edwards, a published author, actor and former theatre company director, and Damian Robinson, a sound engineer for Tyne Audio, Durham On Air DJ and former sound engineer for major West End shows.



David Edwards openly discussed with our students about his career, both successes and challenges, alongside a Q&A session afterwards.

Damian Robinson's talk focused on how his career went from acting onstage to sound backstage. His career credits include *Wicked* in the West End, among others, taking our students on a journey about how his job has opened so many doors.

Mrs Furness

Geography trip

Year 12 Geographers visited Middlesbrough last week to study regeneration and rebranding.

They investigated the role of

studentification and the Boho Zone as well as exploring a range of artistic representations of place.

Mrs Donovan



Business Studies Guest Speaker

On Tuesday 19 December, we welcomed Jessica Gwaringa, Clinical Manager from Moonrise 24hr Nursing and Domiciliary Care Agency, to give a talk to our Year 13 A-level Business students. Jessica spoke of her experiences of setting up, running and growing her successful business.

Our students were truly inspired by her journey, how she began and the challenges that she has overcome. Jessica was able to highlight how many of the topics that we cover during the A-level course, such as quality, managing change, stakeholders and SWOT analysis, apply to a business in practice. This helped to bring the business theory to life and consolidate our students' understanding of the course.

We are extremely grateful to Jessica for giving up her time to meet us and we hope to see her again in the future.

Mrs Boothroyd



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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