



## CROSS COUNTRY TRIUMPH

The Cleveland Schools Cross Country Championship proved to be a day of remarkable achievements and unwavering determination.

The Inter Boys event was a grueling 5250m race which saw John and Kyle compete and attempt to take a top 16 place to qualify for the next round of the competition. Kyle delivered an outstanding performance, maintaining a medal contention place throughout. He navigated the course with determination and achieved a remarkable 3rd place finish in a very strong field of athletes, demonstrating his exceptional talent and ability. John has worked tirelessly since qualifying for this competition and placed 15th to also achieve a well deserved spot on the Cleveland team!

Annabel and Martha competed in the Inter Girls race which was a challenging event that saw Martha fall on a couple of occasions. She demonstrated incredible resilience to not only finish the race, but to also achieve 15th place and reserve a position in the next round. Annabel delivered a stunning performance by running from the front and maintaining her position throughout the race, finishing in an incredible 4th place.

In the Year 7 races Harriet and Jacob faced stiff competition. Jacob showed great endurance to comfortably finish in 4th, whilst Harriet pushed herself to the limits and, despite being exhausted, finished in 6th place!

These outstanding performances are a testament to the hard work and commitment of our students. All of these athletes will now represent Cleveland in the Inter Counties round of the competition which is an amazing achievement! Congratulations to all.

**Mrs Rodgers**



# WELCOME

The past two weeks have been filled with excitement both in and out of the classroom.

With fixtures galore, teams at THS are thriving! Not only has there been several victories, but a clear show of teamwork, dedication and sportsmanship, too. I am immensely proud of our students and their efforts to develop their skills, whether this be through training or following challenging games and even losses. I cannot wait to see what the rest of the spring term holds for the PE department.

In addition to hard work on the pitches and courts, students have been working extremely hard in the classroom. Mock examination results were released for Year 11 pupils last week and I have written personally to a number of students who have simply shone in their results. To apply themselves so diligently to their revision over a busy Christmas break and in their first formal mock examinations gives us great hope for a very positive results day in August. Keep up the good work, Year 11.

Other areas of the school that have been buzzing with excitement in recent weeks are the Music and Drama departments. As students begin their rehearsals, we are thrilled to announce that this year's Senior School Production of choice is *Little Shop of Horrors*. Pupils from Year 7 to Year 13 have auditioned for their roles and Mrs Shevels and Mrs Furness have made a tremendous start preparing for what I am sure will be a fabulous show. I hope

you can join us to watch the performance in March - details of course will be released soon.

Alongside everything else during the school week, our Open Day took place on Saturday 1 February, where we welcomed lots of prospective families to school. It was great to see new faces that we hope to call part of our THS family very soon. I would like to say a huge thank you to all the students that sacrificed their Saturday sleep-in to help out - you were all very impressive in your roles of tour guides or subject helpers.

Finally, we are delighted with the response to our Spring Ball, taking place at Wynyard Hall on Friday 2 May. Although this event has only recently been launched, over half of the event capacity has been sold, so make sure to book your tickets sooner rather than later! If you wish to join us for a night of dancing and fun, you can purchase tickets via ParentPay. I look forward to seeing you there.

I hope you enjoy reading this edition of THiS Week.

**Kirsty Mackenzie, Head**



## U13 Netball vs Ian Ramsey

Last week, the U13A team faced Ian Ramsey in a friendly match as part of their preparations for their upcoming SIS National Semi Final.

The match gave the girls a great opportunity to practise various combinations and strategies and their impressive teamwork resulted in a commanding 32-2 win.

The U13B team has been on an amazing run of form and the girls were excited to see if they could maintain this against a strong Ian Ramsey side. It was a tense battle between the teams, with both sets of girls desperate to find the winning goal. Isabelle remained calm under the pressure of shooting and the game finished with a winning score of 6-4.

Two great results, girls.

**Mrs Rodgers**



## U11 VS DURHAM SCHOOL

Upper Prep pupils had a lovely afternoon of netball and hockey against Durham School last Friday.

All of the girls participated in netball and gained valuable experience in what was some of the Year 5 girls' first competitive fixture. Both matches were played in great spirits with sportsmanship and excellent teamwork.

The A team put on a very strong performance and demonstrated some lovely passing and movement. The girls are starting to play more strategically and used their attacking skills to create numerous scoring opportunities.

The B team showed significant improvement in their understanding of the game and their defensive skills were evident as they intercepted several key passes from the opposition.

Both teams should be commended for their excellent efforts and teamwork

with a convincing win for the A team and a close 4-1 win for the B team.

At the same time, the U11 boys kicked off their hockey season with an impressive performance. Right from the first play of the game, they found the back of the net, setting a strong tone for the match.

Shortly after, more goals were added, showcasing the team's offensive talent.

It was wonderful to see all the Upper Prep students participating and demonstrating the dedication and effort they have been putting into their lessons.

With more games on the horizon in the coming weeks, we wish all our players the best of luck - let's keep the momentum going!

**Mr Thomas**



## U12 and U13 Netball vs Stokesley

There were two victories for two teams last week as the U12 and U13 netball teams played an exciting friendly competition against Stokesley.

The U12 squad showcased remarkable progress in their gameplay, particularly in their passing and movement.

Following a close match the THS girls managed to win 13-11, with Katie being awarded Player of the Match.

In the U13 match, the teams battled fiercely, with only a single goal separating them at the end of the first quarter. The competition intensified as players faced off against familiar opponents, leading to some exciting individual battles on the court.

It was a fantastic all round team performance and the girls thoroughly deserved the 34-18 win. Player of the Match was awarded to Amelie.

**Mrs Rodgers**



# Double Victory for THS vs Yarm

An exhilarating evening of hockey saw both THS teams secure impressive victories against Yarm School in two closely contested matches.

In an end-to-end battle, the A team clinched a hard-fought 1-0 victory. Katie led the attack brilliantly, supported by Faith and Darcey who provided excellent width on the wings. Harriet's tireless midfield performance kept the pressure on throughout the game.

Despite creating numerous scoring opportunities, Yarm's goalkeeper put on an outstanding display to keep THS at bay. However, persistence paid off in the second half when Katie finally broke through to find the back of the net. The defensive partnership of Erin and Yasmin proved crucial, showing excellent communication and making several vital tackles. Martha in goal made some critical saves to preserve

the clean sheet.

The B team dominated their first half. Lyla showed good control in front of goal, converting three chances with clinical precision.

Lola added to the tally with a spectacular solo effort, demonstrating skillful stickwork to dribble past the keeper. In midfield, Ava continued to show growing tactical awareness, her understanding of the position developing impressively with each game.

A lovely evening of hockey that showcased the depth of talent across THS teams.

**Miss Turnbull**



## U12B vs Red House

The U12B team played Red House in a closely contested game in the Year 7 League.

The match was filled with lots of learning opportunities and the girls showed great development since their last fixture. Lyla, Florence, Lottie, Lola and Emma worked hard to outwit the Red House defence and, despite great

pressure, managed to gain goal scoring opportunities.

At the other end of the court our defensive unit of Zarah, Olivia and Ava worked tirelessly to gain turnovers from the Red House attack. The excellent teamwork resulted in a 6-4 win to THS.

**Mrs Rodgers**



## U11 Netball vs Whinney Banks

Upper Prep teams had the pleasure of hosting Whinney Banks Primary School for a netball festival. It was an afternoon filled with friendly competition, sportsmanship and skill enhancement.

The students participated in several matches, each showcasing their growing skills and team cohesion.

The festival allowed the girls to try out new strategies and techniques against challenging opponents, which helped to develop their competitive edge and understanding of the game. Both teams demonstrated excellent sportsmanship with camaraderie and encouragement between them.

We look forward to another fun-filled afternoon again soon!

**Mrs Rodgers**



# U13 INDOOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Our U13 boys took to the pitch in an exciting indoor hockey tournament, showcasing their skills and teamwork.

The first match was against Yarm, where the boys put on a fantastic display of attacking play. Isaac, Jacob and Alistair worked brilliantly together, driving the team forward and creating numerous scoring opportunities.

Our defence was equally impressive, with Gabriel and Henry standing strong against Yarm's attacks. Issac also played a crucial role in the goal, making some excellent saves that kept us in the game. Unfortunately, as the match approached its conclusion, the team conceded two quick goals, resulting in a hard-fought 2-1 loss.

The boys bounced back in their subsequent matches against Egglecliffe and Red House, demonstrating resilience and determination. Oscar shone in defence, while the entire team

contributed to some brilliant attacking plays, leading to well-earned draws in both games.

Overall, it was a night full of excitement, growth and teamwork for the boys. They showed great character throughout and should be proud of their performances.

Well done, team - keep up the great work!

**Mr Thomas**



## U13B Hockey vs Red House

The U13B hockey team put on a remarkable display during their match against Red House, sealing an 8-0 win.

The team's performance was characterised by constant high pressure and excellent teamwork, leading to an impressive win that showcased their skills.

The combination of sharp passing between Sidney, Katie, and Archer

created numerous scoring opportunities, keeping the Red House defence on their toes. Ewan stood out with his outstanding dribbling skills, consistently maneuvering down the left wing and evading defenders.

Player of the Match was awarded to Archer.

**Mr Williamson**



## Cross Country Invitational

Congratulations to our Year 7 and 8 Cross Country teams who displayed exceptional talent and determination at the Red House Invitational event.

In the boys' event, Jacob H won first place with an impressive run in a race which he led from the start. Archer followed him closely, securing third place, while Jacob S finished strong in 8th. Their collective efforts earned the team second place overall.

The girls' team celebrated equally impressive victories, with Amelie comfortably winning the girls' race. Katie finished in a strong fourth place, and Betsy, Evie, Flo and Fliss rounded off the team results in 8th, 13th, 15th and 16th respectively. Their combined efforts also resulted in a well-deserved second place for the team.

**Mrs Rodgers**





## Frosty Forest School

Although there was a chill in the air, Nursery and Reception children still had smiling faces in Forest School this week.

Through Forest School, Teesside High School pupils are able to develop a lifelong love and understanding of the natural environment whilst fulfilling the core purposes of the Forest School ethos, namely, development of self esteem, confidence and social skills.

Through carefully planned sessions, children across the school take part in Forest School activities throughout the

year, enabling them to excel in all areas of their personal, academic and social development.

We are super proud of our Early Years pupils for showing great resilience in their frosty sessions, still having lots of fun in the outdoors despite having to wrap up very warm!

**Miss Hopkins**



## Reception PE

Reception children thoroughly enjoyed their PE lesson this week where they not only demonstrated their amazing physical skills but also their rapidly progressing mathematical development.

They had fun completing team relay

races and used their conceptual subitising skills to record number sentences for the different coloured bean bags. Both myself and Miss Graham were very impressed with their wonderful work. Well done, Reception.

**Miss Hall**



## Year of the Snake

Nursery children have been having lots of fun learning about the year of the snake as part of their Lunar New Year celebrations.

They have been developing their mathematical skills by comparing the length of different snakes and using the language of measurement before counting how many cubes long the different snakes were.

They also enjoyed sliding as snakes in PE and drew different patterns on snakes showcasing their wonderful mark making abilities.

Children in Nursery would like to wish everyone a very happy Lunar New Year.

**Miss Hall**



## Rockpool School

Nursery and Reception enjoyed a wonderful morning when we welcomed Rockpool School for an interactive session to bring their topic *Ocean Treasures* to life.

The children were fascinated to learn more about a host of sea creatures including starfish, sea snails and crabs.

Some of the pupils were even brave enough to hold them!

This was a lovely activity and a brilliant way for pupils to explore and develop

their knowledge on the wonders of the ocean.

We would like to say a very big thank you to Rockpool School for coming and providing such a wonderful experience for the children.

**Miss Hall**



## IPC Time Travellers

In Pre-Prep, pupils have embarked on an exciting journey through time as part of their IPC unit, *Time Travellers*.

The children have embraced their roles as budding historians, diving deep into both personal and local history in a way that has sparked their curiosity and ignited their

imagination.

The children explored the rich history of their local area, with a particular focus on the school itself. The enthusiasm among the children was palpable as they discovered how their school has evolved over time.

**Mrs Hannah**



## Exploring Algorithms and Programming

Over the past few weeks, the children have been learning all about algorithms and programming. They began by familiarising themselves with the Beebot. The children created sequences of commands to make the Beebot navigate a course, learning the importance of careful planning and logical thinking.

The children built on their skills by creating and debugging their own code for the Beebots. Using a simple programming interface, they wrote sequences of instructions to control the Beebots' movements.

It's been fantastic to watch the children grow in confidence and become so engaged with the subject of computing!

**Miss Lockerbie**





# Prep School supports NSPCC's Number Day Charity Event

This Friday, Prep School students embraced a fun and creative way to support the NSPCC's Number Day charity event!

Everyone came dressed up in numbers and donated £2 to raise money for the cause. The event was a huge success, with our school community coming together for a fantastic cause while having fun in the process.

In addition to the dress-up fun, our Year 3 to Year 6 students took part in the exciting TT Rockstars National Competition. This competition, which aligns with the Number Day fundraising event, saw our students compete against others from around the country, testing their maths and times table skills in a fun, competitive way.

Throughout the day, all classes also took part in a range of engaging number-related activities, further adding to the excitement and enthusiasm for mathematics.

From puzzles to games, the activities helped students develop their number skills while supporting a great cause.

We are proud of how our Prep School came together to support the NSPCC, and we look forward to more opportunities to make a difference.

**Miss Lockerbie**

## Upper Prep Co-Curricular

Upper Prep pupils had a fantastic time in their co-curricular Bushcraft Club this week.

They began with some thrilling competitive games of camouflage, testing their stealth skills. In addition

to these exciting challenges, they also enjoyed a lively game of football alongside our beloved well-being dog, George, who brought plenty of joy and laughter to the day.

**Miss Hopkins**

## Calligrams Competition

The North East Festival of Languages takes place every year between January and March and once again our pupils are taking part in a number of activities offered by the festival. The pupils in Upper Prep were delighted to take part in the calligrams competition this week.

Just over a hundred years ago, at the end of the First World War, the French poet Guillaume Apollinaire published a set of poems called Calligrammes in which he used ink and fonts to draw recognisable shapes with connected words.

The competition invites children to make their own calligrams using words and/or phrases which they have learnt in any language other than English.

Upper Prep pupils created some fantastic and original designs on the topic of weather or describing themselves in French - both recent topics studied in class.

The MFL department will choose the five best entries to submit to the competition, all entrants receive a certificate and the entries will be published in an e-book. The children are looking forward to seeing their work published!

**Mrs Blyth**



# Able, Gifted and Talented Working Lunch

We were delighted to welcome Mr Russell to our inaugural Able, Gifted and Talented Working Lunch on international trade and investment.

Mr Russell shared fascinating insights into his role with the government, explaining the complexities of international trade and investment.

The children were particularly captivated by the stories of his travels around the world and how his work connects different countries.

It was a truly engaging and educational experience, sparking their curiosity about global commerce and the impact it has on the world.

We would like to extend a very big thank you to Mr Russell for joining us.

**Miss Hall**



## Macbeth writing in Upper Prep

To end their study of *Macbeth*, Year 6 wrote monologues taking on the voice of Macbeth.

They had to not only demonstrate their knowledge of the text but also use a range of sentence types, figurative language and ambitious vocabulary.

Below is an examples of their fantastic work:

*'This can't be happening. A wood walking. Impossible. Could this be the end? Will I cease to be? The first prophecy is here. How dare Macduff and Malcolm betray their rightful king; they are traitors, I am the real ruler!*

## "Did Pythagoras discover the theorem of Pythagoras?"

On Wednesday afternoon a group of students considered this question whilst attending a lecture which was part of a series focusing on connections between the ancient world and other subjects.

This particular lecture was delivered by Professor Serafina Cuomo from the University of Cambridge.

Students enjoyed contemplating the variety of evidence presented and Finn bravely asked the Professor whether we would have more evidence about the matter if the library at Alexandria had not burnt down.

The lecture presented a wonderful opportunity for students to consider something that they might have otherwise accepted as a fact.

It was great to see Prep students also taking an interest in this area and partaking in conversations with our Senior School students.

**Miss Malik**

*It's no use. They've come to avenge the previous king, the one whose blood stains my hands. I'm going to hell. I killed a king. I killed God's mortal form. I need to fight so I don't die; death is not an option.'* - Noah in Year 6

**Mrs Reid**



## Springboard Future Chef Competition

We are beyond thrilled to share the news that Ivy in Year 11 won the regional final of the Springboard Future Chef Competition in Sheffield last week!

Between the previous round and the regional final, Ivy received expert mentoring from an outstanding team at Darlington College. Indeed, one of her mentors, Martyn Edwards, competed as a chef in Channel 4's *Bake Off: The Professionals* in 2023.

Ivy's hard work and preparation paid off as she wowed the regional judges with her delicious Italian-inspired menu, utilising many complex culinary skills; prosciutto chicken with sundried tomatoes, spinach and mascarpone served with tenderstem broccoli and

vine tomatoes.

After being announced as the regional winner, Ivy was presented with a set of personalised chef whites and knives, plus a special tasting spoon and certificate. She will now be invited to the final of the competition where she will compete against 11 other regional winners from across the country, to be held in London in March

Amazing work - well done, Ivy!

**Mrs Howard**

## Year 9 Hartlepool Power Station Trip

As part of their Science curriculum, Year 9 students visited Hartlepool Power Station last week where they watched a presentation about nuclear power and the generation of energy.

Students then received a tour of the power station and were shown the water tanks, turbine and generator. Finally, pupils completed a 'net zero

workshop' where they learnt different ways to save energy and created designs of future houses.

Students worked hard, communicated well and thought creatively - the power station staff were hugely impressed by what they produced.

**Mr Glasbey**



## Artist of the Month

We are delighted to announce our Artist of the Month for January is Lydia in Year 11.

Lydia's final piece for her identity project is inspired by her own identity as a performer as well as the identity of the London West End.

Her artwork uses inspiration from her artist research and combines photography, painting, drawing and textiles in a mixed media approach.

Well done, Lydia.

**Mrs Machan**



## The launch of Little Shop of Horrors

Rehearsals for the upcoming Senior School Production, *Little Shop of Horrors*, have begun!

What has happened in rehearsals so far?

*We have practised the 3-part harmony and the choreography in some of the songs from Act 1. The cast now have to consolidate this at home so that they are confident and can perform it well - dancing and singing simultaneously is a really tough workout!*

Which songs have the cast worked on?

*We have rehearsed Little Shop of Horrors, Skid Row, Da Doo and The Dentist.*

What is the atmosphere like?

*The atmosphere is very positive, challenging and fun. It gives students the opportunity to express themselves the way they want and everybody here is*

*working hard, determined to get to their aim of an amazing show.*

What do we know so far about the story, the set and the costumes?

*The props are coming together and the costumes are looking very authentic. Most exciting are the set of 'pods' that have been hired. These are the various sizes of Audrey II plant puppets that will be built and operated by various students throughout the show. When the plant is at its largest, the wall of leaves behind it measures an enormous 14 feet wide!*

What will the cast need to do before the next rehearsal?

*Practise, Practise, Practise!*

**Faith, Zahra, Euan, Albie and Jacob**



## GCHQ National Language Competition

In November, 12 of our able Senior School linguists took part in the GCHQ National Language Competition.

GCHQ is the UK intelligence, security and cyber agency and language skills are particularly important for work in these areas.

There was fierce competition all week with over 2000 teams from schools across the UK putting their language skills to the test and battling it out for the top spot on the leaderboard.

It was a closely fought race right up to the very end with teams pulling out all the stops to crack codes and solve language puzzles.

Well done to all of our teams for their code cracking skills!

**Frau Butterfield**

## German Careers Roadshow

Year 8 students attended a German careers roadshow at Durham University last week.

The event was organised by the Goethe Institut as part of the Northeast Festival of Languages. Pupils took part in a quiz to find out how much they know about Germany and, among other things, learnt that there are six

countries who all hold German as an official language. Students attended workshops which explored how having a GCSE in German can boost your career prospects and open up a whole host of career opportunities - it was a great day cementing why language learning is so important.

**Frau Butterfield**



# THIS WEEK PHOTO GALLERY



# SAVE THE DATE

TEESSIDE HIGH SCHOOL

# *Spring* BALL

*at Wynyard Hall*

FRIDAY 2 MAY, 7.00PM-LATE  
THREE COURSE DINNER, DRINKS & DANCING  
£60PP OR £550 FOR A TABLE OF 10  
TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA PARENTPAY



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