

## HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

Half term has flown by, with the public exam season in full swing and our own internal exam week running smoothly and providing the pupils with opportunities to tackle the challenges of assessment conditions in a lower key way. The feedback and learning that follows in the analysis of their papers will arguably be more important than the results they receive and I hope pupils enter into the feedback week in that spirit.

We welcomed a new team of School Officers to their positions in assembly

last week, and I want to thank the outgoing School Officers for their hard work and commitment to the role of representing their peers and supporting the School through events and day to day operations. They have been wonderfully supportive and impressively organised and proactive, and I am sure that our new team, pictured below, will step into the role with similar determination and ambition.

Following the lovely Leavers Service at the beginning of last week, we bade

farewell to our Upper Sixth in style at their Leavers' Dinner last Friday which saw this wonderful year group come together and celebrate their time at Yarm. Fine food, great company, emotional speeches and videos and terrific musical entertainment made for a highly enjoyable evening. We wish them and the Fifth Year ongoing luck with their public examinations.

I hope all families have a wonderful half term.

Dr Huw Williams



Our newly appointed School Officers.

## LEAVERS' DINNER 2024

And so the Class of 2024 have come to the end of their time at Yarm School; save for the matter of a few A level examinations that is. The last lessons attended, last assemblies assembled, last snacks de-shacked. And then last Friday, as has become the tradition, the Leavers came together one last time for their Leavers' Dinner. An event always full of emotion and full of memories of the years at Yarm but at the same time full of joy as the students enjoy this celebration of the time spent together and look forward to what their school days have prepared them for. This is perhaps the last time that the students will be together although I do hope that as many as can will return for our Senior Prize Giving in September.

As ever, the students (and staff) turned on the style as they dressed to the nines for the occasion. The

Auditorium was transformed with elegant decoration and a fitting venue for this most sophisticated of events. As always, the Sodexo team came up trumps with a delicious meal as we all appreciated the photographs of the students' younger days and we were treated to heartfelt good wishes from teachers past and present.

Our outgoing School Captains, Kitty and Jacob summed up the mood of the evening and we all enjoyed hearing again the hopes and dreams of the students when they were in First Year.

Of course we are particularly blessed this year with the wonderful BRACK who put on a typically professional set which got the whole year dancing in enthusiastic style. We will miss their music and I hope that Adam will carry the BRACK torch into the next

year as Ben, Reuben, Ankith, Chloe and Kayla move on to pastures new.

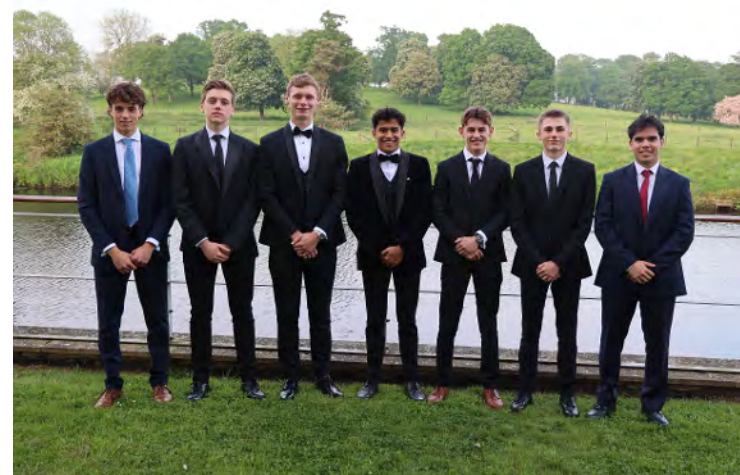
We thank the Sodexo team for a splendid job with the catering, the estates team for all their help setting up. To Mr James for all the technical support, not least in meeting the exacting demands of BRACK, Miss Dodds for her photography and to my colleagues for their support of the evening both in person and for their video messages. Thank you to the teachers and students who helped in setting up on Friday afternoon and especially to Miss Gamble whose style and imagination never cease to impress.

I wish the Leavers well in their forthcoming exams; they are a supremely talented bunch who undoubtedly have a bright future ahead.

Dr A M Goodall



# LEAVERS' DINNER 2024



## WORKING WITH LANGUAGES?

In the autumn term we will be hosting a Career Cluster event in Languages. As is inevitably the case there are always considerable talents, experience and expertise within our own wider school community. As we build to this event, and develop our contacts more broadly for a range of occasions and events, we would love to hear from you if your work involves languages. I would be most grateful if you send me a quick email to [se@yarmschool.org](mailto:se@yarmschool.org).

Mr S Edwards



## CASINO ROYALE SUMMER BALL

After the resounding success of last year's Festival-themed ball, the YSA are organising a spectacular Casino Royale Bond-themed Summer Ball this year!

**Date: Saturday 15th June**

**Time: 7pm - late**

**Venue: The Princess Alexandra Auditorium**

It promises to be a wonderful evening, with drinks on the terrace, fundraising casino tables, a delicious three course meal, and fantastic live music from The Bourbon Street Band. We're delighted that pianist and vocalist [Charlie Cooper](#), who has performed with Jools Holland, is joining the band on their visit to Yarm this year!

There will be a charity auction with fabulous prizes - look out on social media as we announce these. The

auction is in aid of the Cardiac Risk in the Young charity (CRY) who work to prevent young sudden cardiac deaths through awareness, screening and research, and support affected families. Vitality Dental Care are kindly match-funding £1000 of what we raise at the auction - thank you so much to Vitality Dental Care for their support.

We're also holding a raffle in aid of the YSA for some goodie-packed hampers made up of donations from our 1st and 2nd Year tutor groups -



look out for info coming about these.

The menu sounds absolutely delicious - take a look:

- To start there's Cured Salmon, Crayfish & Popcorn shrimp, Soft boiled egg, Thai Slaw, Soy & Ginger dressing with Prawn Crackers and Toasted Sesame (veg option also available).
- For the main course guests will be served 'Casino Royale' Chicken, Brussels Pate, Colcannon Mash, Leek, Edamame & Pea, Bacon Lardons & Thyme with Madeira Jus (veg option also available).
- Afterwards you can enjoy a 'Gold Finger' Martini & Lemon Curd Fizz Cheesecake!

**What are you waiting for?!**

**Get your tickets [online here](#).**

YARM SCHOOL ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTS:



# CASINO ROYALE

SUMMER BALL 2024

SATURDAY, JUN 15TH

7PM - LATE

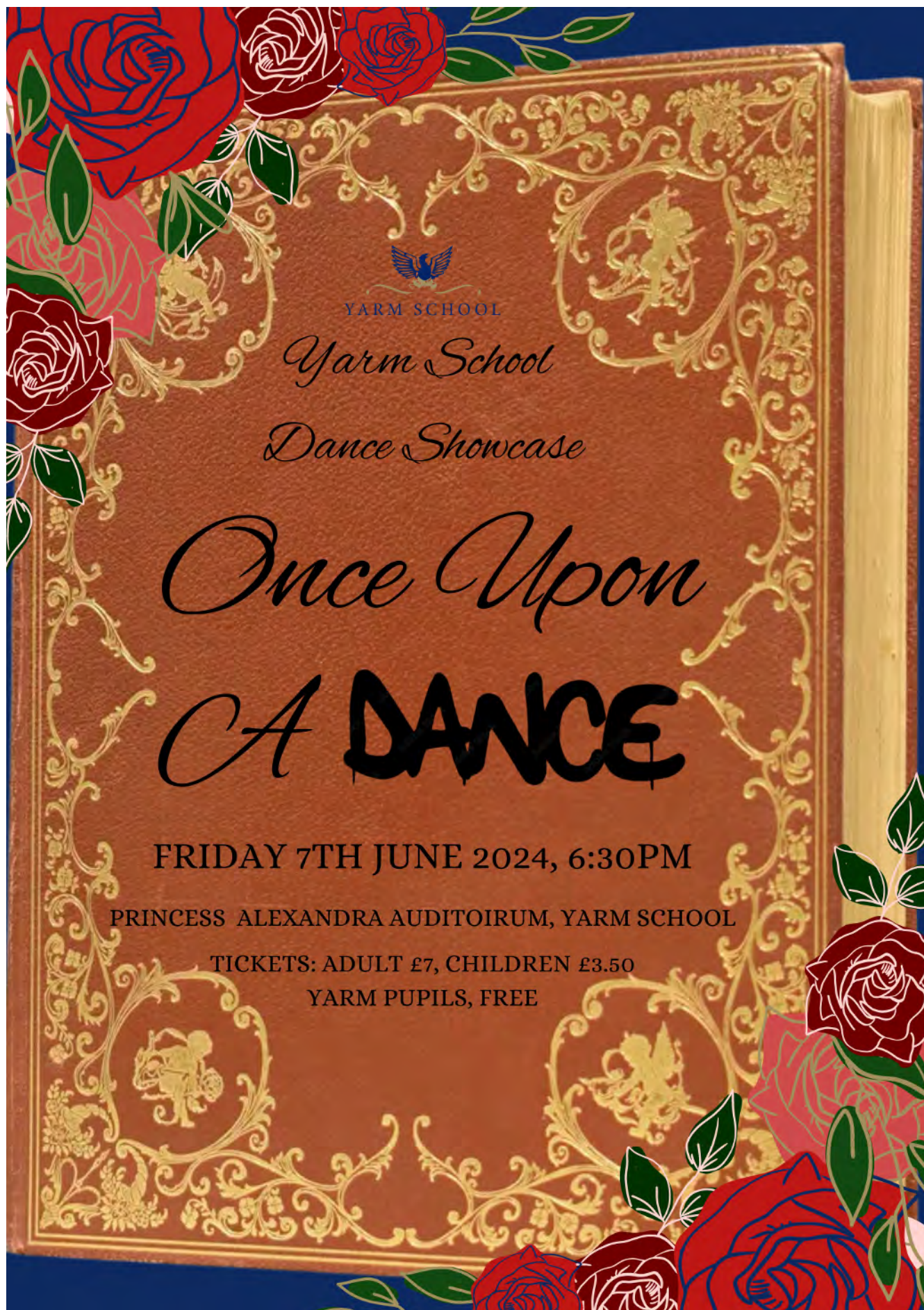
THE PAA

LIVE MUSIC FROM THE BOURBON STREET BAND  
AUCTION SUPPORTS CARDIAC RISK IN THE YOUNG  
BUY YOUR TICKETS ONLINE OR VIA CLASSLIST APP



## YARM SCHOOL DANCE SHOWCASE

Book tickets: <https://www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/once-upon-a-dance-dance-showcase/>



## MILKSHAKE LIVE - ON HOLIDAY

Join your favourite Milkshake! friends on Holiday with Dora, Pip and Posey, Blue from Blues Clues and You! Milo, Milkshake! Monkey plus two of your Milkshake! presenters for an all-new adventure! We are also delighted to announce that NICKELODEON is adding TWO PAW PATROL CHARACTERS MARSHALL and CHASE into the show just for this year, prior to PAW PATROL doing a Stadium tour in 2025.

**Sunday 21st July, 12pm and 3:30pm**

[Book Online Here](#)



## SCIENCE MUSEUM LIVE ON TOUR

This year join London's world-renowned Science Museum as they bring you this brand-new stage production aimed at igniting your curiosity, fuelling your imagination, and inspiring you in new and exciting ways.

**Sunday 28th July, 12pm and 3:30pm**

[Book Online Here](#)



## EMMA KENNY - KILLERCULTS

Following on from the success of her 'Serial Killer Next Door' tour, psychology expert EMMA KENNY continues her journey into true crime and explores the mysterious and manipulative world of cults. How can ordinary people, living normal lives, choose to leave their families, friends and everything they have ever known to join a cult? What is it about the power and allure of cult leaders that makes them able to control the minds of their members? And why do these so-called spiritual leaders turn into malevolent murderers?

**Sunday 1st September, 7:30pm**

[Book Online Here](#)



## Newsletter, 22.05.2024

This week is all about **Feeling Safe**. Safety for children means considering a whole range of needs and situations that arise as they move through their lives.

Parents think about the physical safety of their children all the time, from reminding them to be careful on the stairs to helping them cross the road! Take some time to read and share our [advice](#) on water safety and drowning prevention. As the warm months set in and more of us want to cool off in water, this information could be crucial.

We also want our children to stay safe online. Unsurprisingly, staying healthy and secure in the digital world are some of the most common concerns that parents bring to Tooled Up. Start with this [webinar](#) on Raising A Digital Detective: you'll find links there to a wealth of other Tooled Up resources.

This new [video](#) from Dr Kathy Weston on Raising Boys in the Digital Space contains our most up-to-date advice about smartphones, online safety and more. **We want to share this information with *all* parents due to the increased prevalence of "sexortion" amongst boys.** And look out for our upcoming resource on raising girls in the digital space, coming soon!

For younger children, learning to stay safe means learning about how to interact safely with others: where to draw boundaries with friends and adults alike, and how to react when those boundaries are crossed. Try this helpful [article](#) on the difference between "secrets" and "surprises": when should children agree to keep a secret with an adult, and when is it better to tell another trusted person? This [video](#) suggests ways to introduce the idea of body boundaries to young children, and this [activity](#) helps equip children to say no to unwanted touch.

We want to support teenagers to have healthy, respectful and safe relationships. This [article](#) on healthy and unhealthy behaviour in teen relationships gives a great overview of a difficult subject. This [talk](#) by Dr Emily Setty stems from her research into teenage relationships and gender attitudes, and is from our recent conference on Keeping Children And Young People Safe.

Finally, all young people benefit from knowing where support is available. Our activity [Who Is There For Me?](#) encourages older children to think about where they can go for help, and who the trusted people are that they can talk to. Younger children can be encouraged to identify their support network with our [Helping Hand activity](#).

Don't forget to follow us on social media to stay up-to-date with all of our latest updates and resources. Find us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).







Water Safety



Raising A Digital Detective



Raising Boys in the Digital Space



Surprises and Secrets



Teaching About Body Boundaries



Saying No To Unwanted Touch



Healthy and Unhealthy Behaviour in Teen Relationships



Re-Framing and Reducing Harmful Sexual Behaviour



Who Is There For Me?



Helping Hand Activity

Don't forget to follow us on social media to stay up-to-date with all of our latest updates and resources. Find us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#).



## Top Tips for...

# MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

BUY MILK

### GET OUT AND ABOUT

If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Even a stroll to the local shop would do: the main thing is getting some fresh air and a break from your screen.

### TRY A TIMED TRIAL

When you're taking a screen break to do a different activity or a chore, turn it into a game by setting yourself a timer. Can you complete your task before the alarm goes off?

### GO DIGITAL DETOX

Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens, finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

### LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those grumbles when you do want to go online.

### AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES

Nominate some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Anywhere your family gathers together, like at the table or in the living room, could become a 'no phone zone'.

### HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY

As a family, agree specific windows when it's OK to use devices. This should help everyone to balance time on phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

### BE MINDFUL OF TIME

Stay aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend in potentially stressful areas of the internet – like social media platforms – can also boost your wellbeing.

### 'PARK' PHONES OVERNIGHT

Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices – preferably away from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

### SWITCH ON DND

Research shows that micro-distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at our concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' until you're less busy.

### TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK

Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their gadgets away and enjoys an activity together: playing a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

### SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS

When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones, TVs or other tech. Having company can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

### WIND DOWN PROPERLY

Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

## Meet Our Expert

Minds Ahead design and deliver the UK's only specialist postgraduate mental health qualifications. They also provide training and support to education organisations and local authorities – empowering school leaders and staff with the knowledge and tools to shape their settings into inclusive communities where the mental health of pupils and personnel is prioritised.



DEVICE BOX

The National College



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday