

HEADMASTER'S WELCOME

As we head into a day full of song, with three carol services in the Parish Church (four, if you include the Prep School), and on the back of my end of term assembly yesterday, where I just managed to squeeze in the highlights and headlines of a busy term in 45 minutes, I am lifted and buoyed by the power of coming together as a school community. This comes hot on the heels of the extraordinary Christmas Community Concerts last weekend, where the sense of our community extended to our neighbours and others who came and enjoyed the wonderful music-making that Mr Williams, Mr Gooding and Mr

McIntyre, with others, coordinated to our mutual benefit. Our pupils deserve so much praise for the efforts they put in and they shouldn't underestimate the positive impact they have.

House Giving Week generated a huge response from pupils and families - thank you to all who contributed various items which will be delivered to local charities and food banks who help families who need a little extra support, particularly at this time of year. And our Silent Santa appeal with the Fifth Year also led to gifts being donated which will be hugely appreciated and valued. Thank you.



The Community Christmas Concert! More photos inside...

Please read on to learn about Phab club, success in the Computational Thinking competition Bebras, EconBus news, photos from our concerts last weekend, updates from GeogSoc, Eco Club, Politics Soc, careers news, Essay and Chemistry competition success, Artists' Corner, an extended book reviews section and more. Something for everyone!

Our pupils have been busy on sports pitches, as ever, and there is a round up of recent news from cross country and boys' hockey, with the exceptional run of our Senior Boys indoor hockey team who came joint 3rd in the

National Finals last week - an outstanding result for this team who have been consistently successful during their time at Yarm.

For those thinking ahead, then look out for details of the Dance Showcase in January, link to tickets within, and information on the recycled garment competition for the Eco Fashion Show in February.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Christmas and that all families enjoy the festive season together. We very much look forward to welcoming our pupils back in the New Year.

Dr Huw Williams

PHAB CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Thursday 5th December, the Phab Club had their end of term Christmas party. This included a visit from Father Christmas, who handed out gifts to our Phab guests. The Phab Club team have been busy this term fundraising for the club, and recently successfully carried out a candy cane fundraiser.

Thank you to everyone who has supported Phab Club this term. Please get in touch with [Mrs Lodge](#) or [Miss Guy](#) if you know anyone who is interested in joining.

Mrs S Lodge



OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL EVER BEBRAS CHALLENGE

Earlier this term, 224 Yarm School pupils from First Year to Upper Sixth joined over 460,000 young people from across the UK, to take part in the 2024 UK Bebras Challenge.

This is a timed challenge designed to introduce students to strategies used in problem-solving and software development. Examples of these techniques would include the ability to break down complex tasks into simpler components, algorithm

design, pattern recognition, pattern generalisation and abstraction.

Of the 224 Yarm pupils, 60 were in the top 10% nationally and will be invited to take part in the prestigious Bebras Coding Challenge taking place during the Spring Term.

Our pupils competed in the Junior, Intermediate, Senior and Elite categories. The following pupils achieved Best in School in their respective categories-

Junior - Henry Shenfine, Thea Speight and Benjamin Ward

Intermediate - Theo Scott and Isla Close

Senior - Charlie Baines

Elite - Abdelrahman Ellidir

Well done to all those who took part in Yarm's most successful-ever Bebras Challenge!

Mr M Bridle

STAYING AHEAD IN BUSINESS!



Whilst the rest of the school is focused on being festive, the EconBus Department are ahead of the game, and planning for Easter!!

Lower Sixth Business students experienced the reality of Operations Management this week when they modelled job, batch and then flow production through the Easter Chick Challenge. Witnessing first hand the trade offs between motivation and productivity, along with productivity and flexibility, whilst trying to maintain sufficient quality to satisfy a demanding phone wielding customer!

It was certainly a practical lesson they will not forget and it provided even more reference points for future lessons than anticipated, and it even left some students keen to revisit their childhood by going back to Monk Park Farm (other farm visitor attractions exist!!)

Miss C Rhodes



THE ECONOMICS OF THE ELF ON THE SHELF



This week Kyra Hyndman explored the tradition, which many of us have come to embrace, relating to a mischievous elf!

In an interesting, informative and entertaining presentation Kyra explained how "the elf on the shelf" we have grown to love, brings in millions of pounds every year. She looked at the marketing which first established the elf as an annual visitor, and the overall success of the magic! A competitive Kahoot completed the proceedings with all asked to compete as their elvish alterego!

We are grateful to Kyra for sharing her time at such a very busy time of



year, and for concluding the EconBus Soc sessions of 2024 so successfully! It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, but we look forward to more fabulous presentations in 2025.

Merry Christmas from EconBus!

I would like to reiterate my thanks to all who have presented this term and to our fabulous Chairs Harvey, Sam, Alex and Finlay for all their help, support, enthusiasm and commitment! And of course to all the keen Sixth Formers who attend each week, from within and beyond the department!!

Miss C Rhodes

GEOG SOC



Another fantastic Monday lunchtime Geography Society talk!

This week Hamish Garshol-Roy and Luke Anderson gave us an insight

into life in Norway looking at economics, culture, and natural resources as well as the countries amazing natural features.

Have a fantastic Christmas from everybody at GeogSoc and check out the GeogSoc Christmas photo competition on the Google Classroom.

Mr R Ivey

EARN WHILST YOU LEARN?



For those in the Sixth Form considering the possibility of an Apprenticeship, there was only one place to be last Friday - yes, the FAME Working Lunch in B1!!

We were delighted to welcome back (over Google Meet) former pupil and keen economist Eizad

Qafouri-Isfahani to present on the merits of securing a degree, whilst working for PwC in Belfast. Eizad is now 18 months into his degree apprenticeship and it is evident that he is thriving and truly enjoying the experience. He explained fully the process of application, giving good advice to the Sixth Form, as well as giving a balanced appraisal of the benefits of studying alongside paid employment. Having had the chance to explore Financial Crime and now International Tax, it is evident that he

is getting a good range of opportunities, tremendous scope for personal development, support from the company and he referenced a very respectable work-life balance! Miss Rhodes could not resist the urge to ask the question Eizad always asked speakers, and did ask for clarification on his remuneration - but I will allow that to remain privy to those of us in attendance last week!! It was fabulous to catch up with Eizad, to hear his words of wisdom for the next cohort of applicants, some of whom will perhaps be joining him and other Yarmies over in Northern Ireland (although of course Apprenticeships are available in many other locations and settings - the advice from Eizad is certainly transferable). We also valued the guidance he gave the Upper Sixth as to how to secure a very good grade at A Level Economics!!

We are very appreciative of Eizad in being so generous with his time, and his ongoing offer of support for those wanting further steer on PwC applications!

Miss C Rhodes

UNIFORM SHOWROOM OPENING HOURS

The Uniform Showroom will be open during the Christmas Holidays:

**Tues 17th Dec
10 am until 3pm**

**Thurs 19th Dec
10am until 3pm**

**Thurs 2nd Jan
10am until 2pm**

The below information for ordering from Perry's

Perry Christmas opening hours:

Perry closes for Christmas at 12noon on Friday 20th December and opens at 9am on Thursday 2nd January 2025.

During this time parents can place orders online.

Orders placed before 8am on 27th December will be dispatched on 27th December.

Orders placed after 8am on 27th December will be dispatched on the 2nd January.

FOLLOW US



Instagram



Facebook



Linked In



X

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Last weekend saw much talent, creativity, community spirit and festive joy at our two incredible Community Carol Concerts! Well done to all the performers - you were fantastic - and thank you to everyone who joined us. We hope you all enjoyed it!



GEOGRAPHY SOCIETY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Last Friday GeogSoc had a wonderful time at Acklam Hall, Florrie Tompkins & James Muir gave a speech rounding up all the activities we've done this year which included lunchtime talks, trips to Italy & Iceland, peer mentoring as well as fun, games and looking forward to seeing GeogSoc grow in 2025.



Mr R Ivey

MEDICAL PROFESSIONS TASTER DAY AT THE JAMES COOK UNIVERSITY

At the weekend around twenty members of the current Fourth Year chose to participate in a medical professions workshop for those curious about careers in the health sector.

The morning was organised around a series of stations in the STRIVE centre at James Cook (South Tees Research, Innovation and Education). The centre is the location for much of the region's teaching and training, as well as cutting edge healthcare research. This connection ensured that the pupils were welcomed, prepared and led by some of the best

educators in the health sector. Moving around in small groups the pupils experienced the use of robotics for surgical procedures, the dextrous skills required for vascular surgical work, and A&E/critical care station, an area set up to simulate the work of obstetrics and gynaecology, as well as clever tech that replicates the experience of drawing blood from a patient.

It is very much hoped that the experience will have assisted the pupils in exploring their current interests in the health professions, as well as providing concrete insight

into some of the skills and attributes needed for success.

For those pupils wishing to learn more about careers in the Health Professions they should reach out to [Mr Newman](#), Head of Biology, Career Ambassador for Health Professions and the member of staff responsible for Health Profession applications in Upper Sixth. A sincere thank you to the many members of staff at James Cook for offering and delivering such a valuable experience.

Mr S Edwards



ESSAY COMPETITION WINNER



Congratulations to Eliza Fellows who won the Third Year RPE & History joint essay writing competition this term!

The title was "Evaluate the impact of a key historical figure on shaping Britain's religious identity" and Eliza wrote a detailed response on Henry VIII's impact. She is awarded an Amazon gift voucher for her achievement!

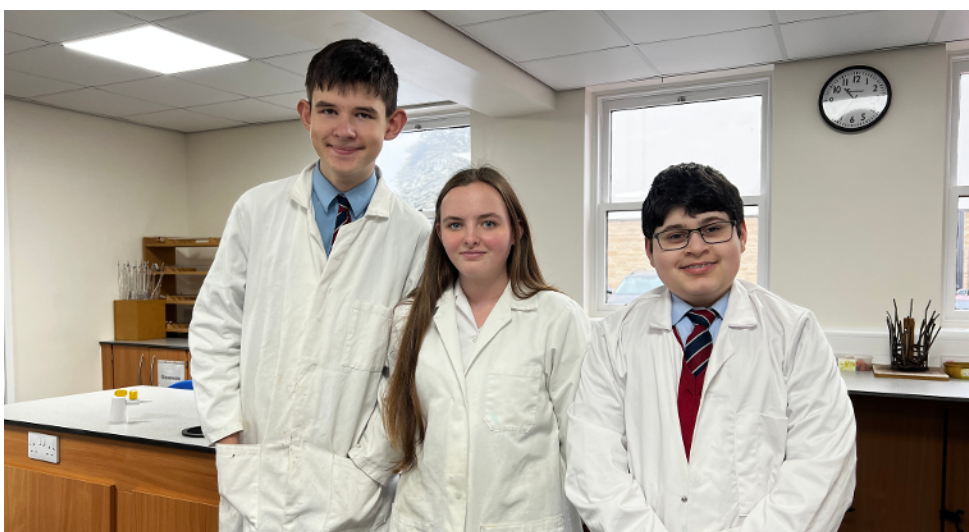
Mrs S Lodge

TOP OF THE BENCH COMPETITION 2024

On Wednesday 27th November Zohan Wadia, Edie Redhead-Sweeney, Adam Paul and Manvi Lall represented the school in the regional round of the annual Royal Society of Chemistry Top of the Bench Competition at Teesside University. Before the competition the young scientists had completed a selection process in school and they had also submitted a preliminary quiz which would also contribute to their overall ranking.

After lunch at the University the students completed a number of tasks which tested their chemical knowledge and practical ability. The students performed extremely well and despite some close competitors, Yarm School were crowned regional champions for the third consecutive year! As a result we will be invited to the National Finals in the spring. An excellent all round performance by the students involved! Well done.

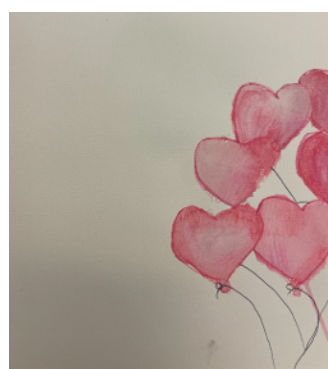
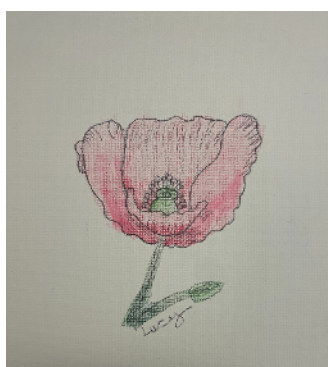
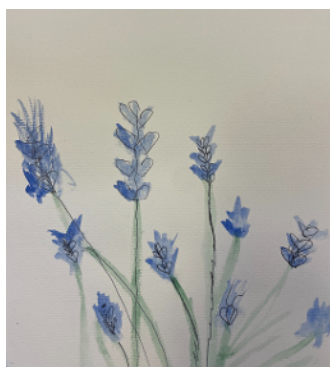
Mr E Baker



ARTISTS' CORNER**Ceramic piece by George**

I used a black cobblestone glaze and I did it in the ceramics club with Dr Harker and when you add the glaze you put it in the kiln which makes it have that crackle effect.

George Kamali, Second Year

**Watercolours and Sketch by Lucy**

I created the dog because my grandma loves my drawing and always gets them. She has a dog so I drew her dog. The poppy was for Remembrance Day and I just did the flowers in my free time.

Lucy Wakefield, Second Year

Artwork by Maisy

Maisy Vasiliou, Second Year



ECO CLUB UPDATE



Welcome to Our Termly Eco-Schools Update!

Join us as we dive into the latest from the Eco Representatives Club! In each article, we'll explore the exciting eco-initiatives our schools have taken on this term, discuss pressing environmental issues, and share plenty more on how we're working together to make a difference. Stay tuned for inspiring stories, new projects, and ways you can get involved!

Yarm School joined the Eco-Schools programme in 2008 and is one of a few schools in the North East of England to have achieved the Green Flag Award seven consecutive times.

November campaign

Cut your carbon - this campaign took place during November, it encouraged young people and their families to complete six simple actions to raise awareness and reduce their carbon footprint. Actions raise awareness, change

behaviours and help reduce your emissions. The steps included walking to school instead of taking the bus or car to reduce our carbon footprint, reducing shower times and buying fewer new items

Why should we cut our carbon?

Every day we generate energy, drive cars, grow food, and power factories. These activities can release huge amounts of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

More greenhouse gases means more trapped heat. This is making Earth warmer, creating 'climate change'. Climate change is harming our planet, melting ice caps and creating dangerous weather events including drought, and floods.

The steps included; make 5 miles of travel active, go plant based for a day, turn the heating down by 1 degrees per week, buy nothing new for 1 month, substitute 4 baths for 4 showers and limit them to 4 minutes and switch off all electronic devices

for an hour. How many of these did you complete in November?

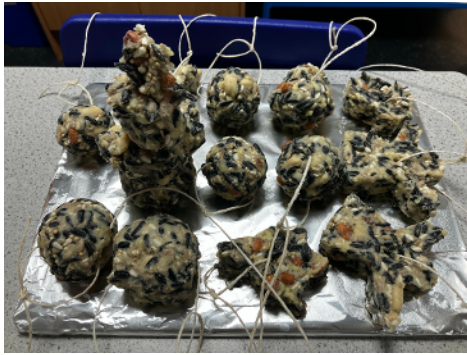
Eco schools beach clean up

This term, the Eco School Reps travelled to Marske Beach with the Year 2 Prep School pupils for a beach clean up. Beach clean ups like this play an essential role in protecting the environment by removing harmful waste, especially plastics, which can damage marine life and pollute our oceans. Every piece of litter collected helps to reduce pollution, protect wildlife habitats, and keep our beaches clean and beautiful for everyone to enjoy. This hands-on experience also encourages young pupils to become mindful of their impact on the environment and inspires them to make positive changes in their everyday lives. The Senior School Eco-reps enjoyed sharing this experience with the younger pupils.

Bird feeders and bee hotels

During Thursday Activities, some of our eco reps have been producing

ECO CLUB UPDATE (CONT.)



their own bird feeders and hanging them in the woodland on our school grounds. This is to encourage a bigger range of birds to the site and improve our biodiversity. James Palmer, Second Year, has also made a bee hotel out of clay, ready to put in place next term.

Eco in the Financial Times

High Pacific surface temperatures fuel record warm year.

Unusually hot seas lead to more rain, causing flooding in many parts of the world.

Sea surface temperatures remained unusually high across many regions in the Pacific Ocean in November, leaving the world on course for a record warm year, the European Earth observation agency said: the month of November was the second-warmest on record on land and at sea, with air temperatures at 1.62C above pre-industrial levels,

data from Copernicus showed the average sea surface temperature for the month was 20.58C. This produced more rainfall than normal in many parts of the world last month, causing flooding, as the warmer air holds more moisture.

Eco termly question

Should there be a limit on how much meat someone can buy?

Amarah Kaur, Fourth Year

'BREAKING THE SILENCE': POLITICS STUDENTS IN LIVE LINK WITH TEL AVIV

This week the Politics students came together for a combined class for a remote talk with [Breaking The Silence](#) from Tel Aviv, Israel. The Department first became more fully aware of the work of this Israel-based NGO during a previous study trip to Israel-Palestine in 2015. Founded in 2004 the organisation consisted of veteran soldiers from the Israeli Defence Force who have opted to speak out and share their testimony of experiences they underwent during their time in the military. From the link above you will be able to explore the breadth and depth of these written and video witness statements.

On Tuesday we connected with Luiz Aberbuj, a former soldier and now the Jewish Diaspora Educational Coordinator of BtS. Luiz's journey began in his home country of Brazil where he was an enthusiastic advocate for Jewish youth organisations, choosing a number of years later to move to Israel. As with all citizens this entailed undertaking a period of military service, typically ranging from 24 to 32 months. The experience profoundly impacted Luiz as he was repeatedly expected to follow orders that he found counter-productive, problematic, or at odds with his values. Some of this was the result of engagement with

the Palestinian population, but also the responses of Jewish settlers in the region. Luiz shared a number of accounts of his own, as well as those of fellow soldiers. A theme that emerged most strongly was the problems arising from the militarisation of a society, whereby so many decisions could be justified or excused on the grounds of military need. Luiz shared [this short documentary that featured in the New York Times](#), providing further explanation and insight into the challenges and problems resulting from the arrangements in place in Israel-Palestine.

Mr S Edwards

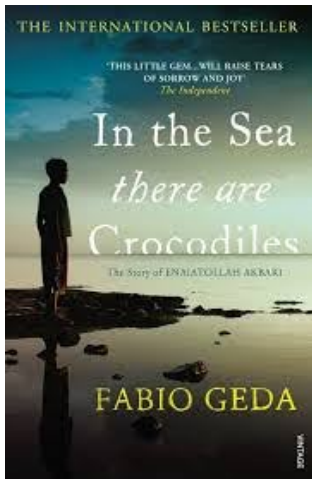
BOOK REVIEWS

As the Christmas holidays beckon, 1.4 thought you might like to read about some of the books that have kept them up at night, so absorbed have they been by these riveting tales.

Happy Christmas and reading!

Mrs S Dugdale and 1.4

In the Sea There Are Crocodiles by Fabio Geda



In the Sea There Are Crocodiles is the story of Enaiatollah Akbari and his time as a refugee that you just have to read. It is a story of adventure that will make you experience Enaiatollah's

treacherous journey towards the freedom of a safe life.

The story begins in Quetta, Pakistan - where Enaiatollah and his mother have travelled to from Nava, Afghanistan, a dangerous area for Hazaras such as them. One night, Enaiatollah's mother tells him three things he can't do: drugs, weapons or cheat. The next morning, she is gone. Then begins a journey laced with discrimination, friendship, horror and kindness as he searches for a safe place to settle down.

Enaiatollah is an inspiring character who deals with fear and horror all over his journey. The degree of violence and

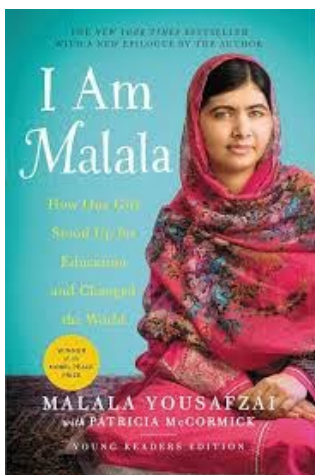
pain he has seen would leave many scarred and unable to function. However, he kept pushing himself to keep going.

One of the most key moments in the plot of this book came near the start. It was the moment Enaiatollah's mother gave him his three rules and then left. I found this moving as it was a pivotal moment for him as he could have simply given up.

You should read this novel because it is an exciting story filled with authentic details of foreign life. It also helps to raise awareness for some of the inequality in the Middle East.

Joey Pritchard, First Year

I am Malala: the girl who stood up for education by Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafzai



STOP. Race to the library and grab this book. This is Malala's life changing truth. For fans of stories that explore real life events that are suspenseful, war stories, and a vivid fight for girls'

rights, all seen through the eyes of 10 year old Malala.

The Khushal School for girls and boys - was set up by Malala's father himself. With their household devoted to education, her father has to make sure the school is up and running. However, when a dangerous threat arrives and restricts girls' access to education, Malala fights to keep this right alive.

One day, coming home from school, the threat is right in front of her eyes.

Described as hopeful and religious, Malala's mother is the main source of hope and happiness through the terrifying times. Throughout the book, she is shown to be reciting verses from the Holy Quran to wish for safety and peace to the valley of Swat. Lyrically, I

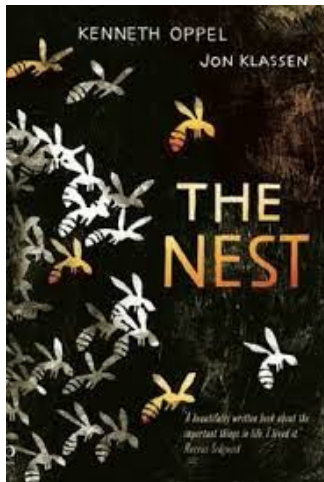
would say she is a serene character to all the chaos in this novel.

I was immersed in all of the book but the chapter entitled 'Messages From Around The World' kept me engaged throughout. It felt really universal and moving to read that both children and celebrities at that time (Beyonce, Madonna and more!) had wished Malala health, safety and peace after all the drama that had happened. Malala's ink has touched paper to create a breath-taking, moving novel, capturing the isolated lives of young Muslim girls just like Malala. The topic of discussion is not slight: the issue of children's rights all over the world raises huge questions.

Erin Goh, First Year

BOOK REVIEWS (CONT.)

The Nest by Kenneth Oppel



If you are an avid reader and enjoy immersive, eerie and secretive stories, *The Nest* by Kenneth Oppel is a must read. It invites you on a journey into a boy's darkest fears with an unforgettable twist.

When Steven's younger brother

becomes severely ill, he is convinced that these 'angels' would cure him. However, these creatures are the least of what he expects and their plan for his brother is twisted. This leaves Steven with a life-saving choice to make: will he join them or fight against them?

This novel features an eleven year old boy as the main character. I think Steven is gullible in a way that he believed the 'angel's' words. "We've come because of the baby. We've come to help." *The Nest* is set from Steven's point of view, making the reader experience the same emotions as him.

A key moment in the novel that I really enjoyed was when Steven was getting attacked by wasps but he relentlessly fought back and protected his brother,

even when his life was at stake. I was amazed by how he still persisted, despite being aware of his deadly allergy to wasps. This is depicted by "And I just tried to keep my body tight and hard like a turtle shell over the baby." Steven acted like a hero in this situation - determined to save his baby brother.

This is one of the best novels Kenneth Oppel has written. It is so intriguing that even after reading it, the storyline will stay in your head for days. I recommend this book because of the puzzling but compelling story it beholds. This deceptive, straightforward story leaves us with questions scattering around in our minds, yet to be answered.

Medina Jawad, First Year

The Silent Stars Go By by Sally Nicholls



"This secret should never have been kept from him. One way or another, they were going to have to face it."

Beware! Sally Nicholls' *The Silent Stars Go By* will keep you up reading late into the starlight.

The Silent Stars Go By is a beautiful

story, captivating for readers of a variety of ages. Based on the author's own family history, this novel is an intricate tale about Margot Allen, and her baby that she was forced to give up when her fiancé was declared 'missing in action' on the battlefields of the First World War. Now he has returned for Christmas, but can their love survive the truth?

Harry was a respectable boy, always kind and sincere. At the young age of 15, he and Margot developed great love and devotion for each other, however their parents did not approve. To enable them to spend more time together, Harry proposed, and they became engaged. Yet, to the couple's dismay, these glory days could not last forever. Harry was required to join the army, and had to leave Margot, unknowing of their unborn child.

I was moved by the character of Harry who is modest and honest. He really brings this authentic, heart-wrenching tale to life.

There are so many immersing moments in this book; however, the 'Henderson's Ball' scene simply must not go without mention. Nicholls' delicate balance of tension and pure bliss creates an atmosphere that allows the reader to fall into the depths of this text.

This is not one of those books that can be put back onto the library shelf. The moment you turn the first page, Sally Nicholls ensures that you are absorbed by the engrossing storyline, leaving you wanting more. This is an absolute must-read, and I would recommend it to a vast range of people.

Olivia Groves, First Year

BOOK REVIEWS (CONT.)

Skandar and the Unicorn Thief

by A.F. Steadman



For fans of *Harry Potter*, this book will take you on an exhilarating journey, immersing you in the young mind of Skandar Smith. *Skandar and The*

Unicorn Thief takes you into a world like no other, full of unicorns, sky battles and secrets galore.

Having spent his entire life dreaming of this moment, a knock on his apartment door summons Skandar to The Island. Little does he know, after making friends, enemies and discovering his true self, he must be the one to go on to save The Island. Skandar, an authentic and easily likeable character develops through this novel from a timid, awkward misfit to a courageous, intelligent unicorn-rider; he also gains his very own unicorn, Scoundrel's Luck, alongside three close friends - Bobby, Mitchell

and Flo - who help him transform through his time in the Eerie.

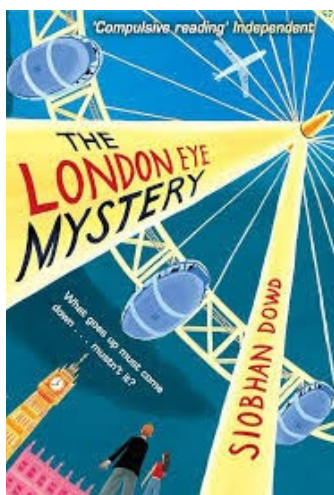
The Element-Choosing ceremony provides a key moment in the story where Skandar has a deep moment of anticipation as he steps onto the fault lines for the first time. This scene sent shivers down my spine. I felt a desperate urge to know Skandar's true identity, yet a sense of melancholy that he has to hide his true self.

I would recommend this book for children aged 10 - 14 who love thrilling adventures, mystery and more!

Florence Athey, First Year

The London Eye Mystery

by Siobhan Dowd



You can pursue all the libraries in the world but no book can compare against the thrilling, action-packed novel: *The London Eye Mystery*. With hidden clues and an enthralling

story-line, this is a 'one-of-a-kind' mystery story.

When Ted and Kat's cousin, Salim, disappears during his solo ride on the London Eye, it's up to them to find him. However, the police have been alerted and still, the mystery remains unsolved. Luckily, Ted possesses a unique talent, in which his brain runs on a distinct operating system, which could ultimately unravel this puzzling conundrum.

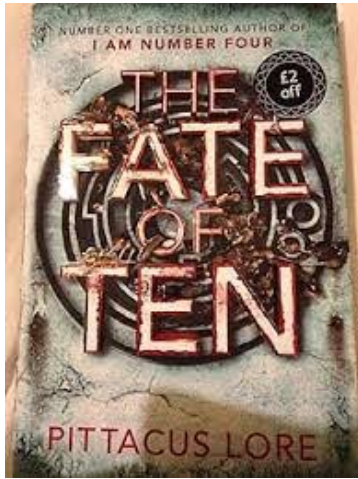
Ted is a twelve year old boy and the main character in this novel. He is a unique person and I enjoyed reading from his point of view. Due to his syndrome, he behaves distinctly from other people, which is intriguing and thought provoking.

One of the key moments that I found particularly moving was when the Sparks, Aunt Gloria and Rashid found Salim. The fact Aunt Gloria threw herself onto Salim was touching, especially as it had been more than three days without knowing whether he was alive or not. It gave me a sense of nostalgia and captivated me.

The London Eye Mystery is a thrilling and beguiling bestseller. A must read for those that love their detective stories.

Luna Park, First Year

BOOK REVIEWS (CONT.)

The Fate of Ten
by Pittacus Lore

The Fate of Ten by Pittacus Lore is an incredible book that takes readers on a

thrilling journey!

As part of the “Lorien Legacy” series, this engrossing story keeps you hooked from start to finish.

Right from the beginning the action grabs your attention. The Gorde, our brave heroes, face tough challenges that test their strength and courage. “We will not go quietly into the night, we will fight to the end”.

They are on a mission to protect earth from powerful enemies. You really feel their fear and determination as they fight against overwhelming odds.

Each character has unique abilities and

personalities, making them relatable and interesting. Familiar faces like John and Six return, while new characters add depth to the adventure.

Lore's writing style is captivating, making it hard to put the book down. The intense battles are filled with suspense and surprising twists that keep you on your toes.

Overall *The Fate of Ten* is a compelling read for anyone who loves adventure and excitement. This immersing book will definitely satisfy your craving for thrilling stories!

George Pike, First Year

yarm school dance showcase



adult: £7

children: £3

[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS! www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/mixed-tape-2016-2025-dance-showcase](http://www.thepaaonline.org/whats-on/mixed-tape-2016-2025-dance-showcase)

HOLLYWOOD

Inspired

Recycled Garment Competition

MINIONS



WONDER WOMAN



Cruella



SPIDER-MAN

No Way Home



Products will be worn on
Tuesday 11th February

Eco Fashion Show

Senior School PAA - 6:00pm

(tickets not required)

See Nancy Hartley-Blake or
Mrs Jackson for details

Barbie



Breakfast at
TIFFANY'S



NO TIME TO DIE
ONLY IN THEATERS
OCTOBER



the seven year itch



WICKED
ONLY IN CINEMAS

A NIGHT

JOHNNY DEPP
Charlie
AND THE
CHOCOLATE
FACTORY



Garments constructed
from unwanted materials.
Judging Criteria:

- Use of the Movie theme
- Quality of the product
- Originality of the design

AT THE MOVIES

REPRESENTATIVE HOCKEY

It has been another amazing year for representative hockey - an impressive 84 pupils were selected for Durham County and a further 6 pupils are training with the Durham University Talent Academy. The full list of pupils can be viewed via this [LINK](#).

BOYS' INDOOR HOCKEY

Autumn Term boys hockey focuses mainly on the indoor version of the game and it has been a highly encouraging season so far.

After some encouraging friendlies, our First Years travelled to Bradford to compete in the North East

Tournament. After 4 straight wins against GSAL, QEGS, Teesside High and RGS and some outstanding individual performances from Rex White and Miles Page, the boys were crowned North East Champions. They played at the North of England

Finals in Manchester last week and after another win against Teesside High and a draw against Calday Grange it looked like they might take the title - until King's Chester got a last second winner. However, the First Years should be highly encouraged with this performance.

The Under 14s were excellent at the North Finals after comfortably qualifying - a 2-0 win v RGS was quickly followed with a strong 4-1 performance against Sandbach School. This led to what was effectively a North Final play off against our North West rivals- a very strong King's, Chester. Yarm were excellent throughout the final taking an early lead and controlling much of the game. However, King's got a last minute penalty corner which they converted to take the title on goals scored.

The Under 16s were so close to qualifying for the National Indoor Finals as they travelled to Bradford for the North East Tournament with high hopes. Strong wins against Hallcross, RGS and QEGS took us to a final against Scarborough College. Yarm went ahead 1-0, then the Scarborough team came back to lead but with seconds remaining captain



Top left - U12 Indoor Hockey North East Champions Top right - U14 Indoor Hockey North Runners Up Bottom - U18 Indoor Nationals 3rd Place Finishers!

BOYS' INDOOR HOCKEY (CONT.)

Jude Crack stepped up to convert a penalty corner into the top of the net to send the games to flicks.

Unfortunately, we were unable to convert all three and Scarborough went through.

Our Under 18s dubbed this last season as 'The Last Dance' and were determined to ensure that they qualified for National Finals in every season they had been at Yarm. It was a statement of intent at the qualifiers in Bradford as they won all 5 games scoring 27 goals whilst conceding only 8. This meant they travelled to the National Hockey Finals in London last week with high hopes and after their first two group wins against

Taunton and The Perse School they qualified for the semi-finals despite a blip performance v Repton in their final group game.

Yarm were phenomenal against Whitgift in the semi-final - this is one of the strongest ever school teams boasting 6 current U18 England players on their home court. We went 1-0 up after a great finish by Captain Timmy Foley but to be fair the opposition quickly went through the gears to make it 3-1 by half time. We conceded before Foley scored another to make it 4-2. Frustratingly we quickly conceded another before a questionable green card to key player Max Mowbray affected our

momentum. This led to a 5-2 deficit before Will Ferguson flicked a penalty corner into the top corner of the net to make it 5-3. The final score was 6-3. It was a mark of how great this group is when they have come off the pitch so disappointed to lose a well contested semi final against Whitgift School. However, they should be extremely proud of their achievements and a Third Place finish.

Roll on the outdoor season!

Mr G Ferguson



CROSS COUNTRY

As always the cross country season begins with the inter-House event which returned to Aislaby this year. We witnessed some excellent whole group efforts with the vast majority of pupils competing really well.

The Individual winners were...

- 1st Year Boy- Rohan Brown
- 1st Year Girl- Rebecca Nicholson
- 2nd Year Boy- Eddie Shakesheff
- 2nd Year Girl- Beatrix Allcock
- 3rd Year Boy- Christian Boyes
- 3rd Year Girl- Phoebe Arvanitis
- 4th Year Boy- Nikhil Shouri
- 4th Year Girl- Gillian Teoh

The inter-House Results are on the right.

The inter-House competition doubles up as the basis for team selection for the Stockton Schools Championships held at the Norton Sports Complex for the first time in mid November.

We are extremely proud that we were able to field full teams in every age group category and that each and every individual produced an outstanding performance.

Out of the six team categories competed in- we finished as follows...

- Under 12 Boys- 2nd
- Under 12 Girls- 2nd
- Under 14 Boys- 1st
- Under 14 Girls- 1st
- Under 16 Boys- 1st
- Under 16 Girls- 2nd

| | AIDAN | BEDE | CUTHBERT | OSWALD |
|------------------|-------|------|----------|--------|
| 1st Year Boys | 143 | 265 | 270 | 330 |
| 1st Year Girls | 314 | 299 | 221 | 291 |
| 1st Year Overall | 457 | 564 | 491 | 621 |
| | 1st | 3rd | 2nd | 4th |
| 2nd Year Boys | 136 | 163 | 329 | 110 |
| 2nd Year Girls | 423 | 537 | 492 | 188 |
| 2nd Year Overall | 559 | 700 | 771 | 298 |
| | 2nd | 3rd | 4th | 1st |
| 3rd Year Boys | 106 | 142 | 218 | 257 |
| 3rd Year Girls | 413 | 379 | 408 | 568 |
| 3rd Year Overall | 519 | 521 | 626 | 825 |
| | 1st | 2nd | 3rd | 4th |
| 4th Year Boys | 213 | 146 | 91 | 133 |
| 4th Year Girls | 344 | 627 | 387 | 437 |
| 4th Year Overall | 557 | 773 | 478 | 570 |
| | 2nd | 4th | 1st | 3rd |
| Overall | 2092 | 2558 | 2366 | 2314 |
| | AIDAN | BEDE | CUTHBERT | OSWALD |
| | 1st | 4th | 3rd | 2nd |

This is an outstanding set of results when one considers the number of Stockton Schools competing and the fact that many of them have significantly higher numbers of pupils to select from.

A top 12 finish in these races leads to Stockton District selection for the upcoming county championships- congratulations to the following pupils...

Rebecca Nicholson (3rd), Amelia Cheesman (7th), Emily Woolnough (11th), Rohan Brown (5th), Thomas

O'Hare (12th), Phoebe Arvanitis (4th), Beatrix Allcock (5th), Rosie Cook (8th), Lily Cook (9th), Emma Scott (10th), Libby Scott (11th), Christian Boyes (3rd), Tom Booth (7th), Abdul Alao (11th), Sabie Anderson (4th), Emma White (10th), Charlotte Banks (12th), Nikhil Shouri (4th), Harry Whitfield (6th)

Well done to all and good luck for the County Championships! See next page for photos.

Mr G Ferguson

CROSS COUNTRY PHOTOS



Intermediate Girls



Junior Boys



Intermediate Boys



Junior Girls



Preliminary Boys

FOOTBALL

Congratulations to Fifth Year Paddy Key who has signed his two-year scholarship with Huddersfield Town AFC this means he will be moving to Huddersfield next season to hopefully commence the beginning of what will

be a career in professional football. He has already captained Huddersfield Town's Under 16s and has made his debut for the Under 18s - we wish Paddy the best of luck!

Mr G Ferguson



SNOW WHITE PANTO

Tom Rolfe Productions are delighted to be back with a brand new production bursting with dazzling costumes, hilarious comedy, sensational singing, beautiful scenery and the coolest Magnificent Seven ever!

Limited availability on some shows.



Thursday 12th December until 24th December - Various times

[Book Online Here](#)

SANTA AND THE RACE TO SAVE CHRISTMAS

Fantastic short performance for those little ones.

All is going well in Santa's workshop as Mrs Claus and the elves busily prepare for the big night. The presents are wrapped and the reindeer have completed their training then suddenly disaster strikes!

Will Santa and the gang manage to find a solution in order for the sleigh to set off in time for Christmas eve?



Saturday 14th December, 9.30am and Sunday 15th December, 10am

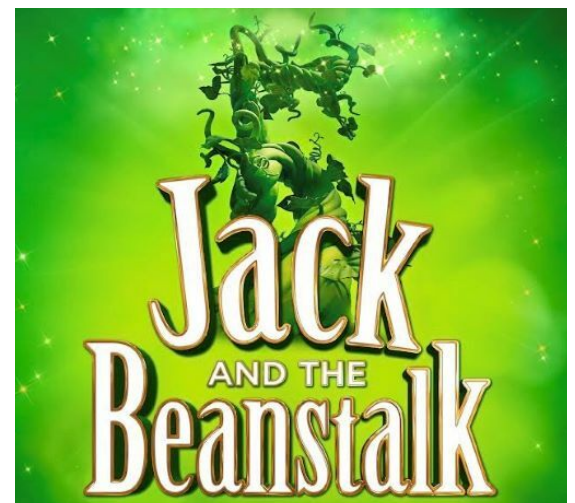
[Book Online Here](#)

PANTO FOR 2025 JACK AND THE BEANSTALK!

Early bird tickets are available on all seats until Wednesday 23rd April 2025!

Thursday 11th - Wednesday 24th December 2025

[Book Online Here](#)



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP APPS, GAMES AND SOFTWARE

Millions of new phones, tablets, laptops and games consoles will be nestling under Christmas trees this year. However, even if parents and carers have gone to the trouble of setting up these new devices and enabling the safety features, there are still potential hazards in the apps, games and software that children will want to install and use. Knowing what to look for and discussing those risks with your child may help avoid any nasty surprises this Christmas. Here are our top tips for ensuring that unwrapping this year's presents doesn't unleash any unexpected dangers.

TAKE NOTE OF AGE RATINGS

Back when most games were bought in shops, checking the age rating was easy: it was on the front of the box. Now that most games are downloaded, it's tougher – but not impossible. All reputable download stores show a game's age rating at the point of purchase, and you can check the suitability of a specific title your child wants to play at videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/games.

18

'FREE' ISN'T ALWAYS FREE

The games market has changed radically in recent years. Many titles are free to download, but then tempt players to pay for cosmetic items (as in Fortnite) or to unlock additional content. There can be huge peer pressure for children to pay for these items. Agree a budget for in-game purchases before the game is downloaded, and make sure children can't authorise in-game purchases by themselves.

DISABLE IN-APP PURCHASING

It's not wise to leave children with devices that can make in-app purchases without your permission. Ideally, set up computers, consoles and phones so child accounts need an adult's authorisation to buy anything. On shared devices (like iPads, which don't allow user accounts), check the settings to ensure that in-app purchasing requires the account holder's password, fingerprint or face ID.

APPS ARE AGE RATED, TOO

Like games, apps in the major stores have age ratings, too – so you can see in advance whether an app's appropriate for your child. Additionally, phones' parental control settings allow you to set age limits, preventing young ones from downloading unsuitable apps themselves. These ratings aren't infallible, however: we've seen TV apps featuring adult shows with an age rating of 3, for example.

18

CONSIDER STORAGE

Most apps and games will tell you in the online store how much space they need on a device. Check this carefully – especially with games, which can run into hundreds of megabytes and beyond. If you don't have enough free storage on a device to run the game or app, you won't get a refund from the store. You can normally check a device's available storage space through the settings menu.

WATCH OUT FOR IMITATORS

Even in the official stores, untrustworthy rogue apps can slip through the net. Common tricks are apps or games that have a slightly different name to the genuine article (Fortnight rather than Fortnite, for instance) or use logos which deliberately look very similar to the official app. To avoid downloading these imitations, read the app's description and check who the publisher is listed as.

16
TOK TAK

LEGAL APPS THAT BREAK THE LAW

There are many apps that are perfectly legal but enable illegal activity – streaming apps which let people watch football matches, say, without paying for Sky or BT Sport. Prosecution for using such apps is rare, but they can lead to risky behaviour like viewing rogue streams on sites teeming with malicious links. Watch for children installing unusual apps with 'TV', 'stream' or 'sport' in the name.

IN-APP REGISTRATION

It's common for apps and games to ask users to register: entering personal details like email address, date of birth and other information you might not want your child to divulge. Ask them to get your permission before giving any personal info to an app – and consider using your details rather than the child's, so they're not targeted by marketing spam or put at risk of having their data stolen.

STAY UPDATED

Most games and apps are subject to regular updates, which not only offer new content and features but also provide critical security improvements. Children tend to ignore such updates – usually because they don't understand why they're important, or they simply want to get straight on with gaming. Check your child's devices periodically to make sure these updates are being installed.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and has writes regularly about internet safety issues.



NOS
National
Online
Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

For further information and practical tips on how to help you better protect your children online, please click [HERE\(Facebook\)](#) or [HERE\(Twitter/X\)](#) to view CEOP's #SaferByChristmas campaign.

2024 is drawing to a close and it's been an incredible year for our Tooled Up community! **Together with your amazing input and feedback, our online library has reached the milestone of over 1,000 resources.**

For this final weekly newsletter of 2024 we're sharing the most popular resources of the year. **What did our members find most inspiring and helpful?**

Our most popular Tips to Try: [Smart Reviser](#) is a downloadable guide to effective revision strategies. It's full of tips to help teens use their revision time for the best possible results.

Our most popular Article: [Quick Guide to Anxiety](#) - like all our Quick Guides, this features a topic overview together with links to all the resources in our library that can help you. This guide on Anxiety is our most popular of the year.

Our most popular Activity: [Wobble Ladder](#) is a Tooled Up favourite! Use it to track small steps and rewards that can help children and young people work towards overcoming their challenges.

Our most popular Webinar: [Parenting a Daughter in 2024](#) - Dr Kathy Weston's presentation on the challenges of raising a girl in today's world draws on the latest research around mental health, smartphones, body image and more.

Our most popular Podcast: [Sleep Difficulties in Primary-Aged Children](#) - psychologist Dr Rachel Hiller joined Tooled Up for this podcast full of strategies for better sleep in 5-12 year olds.

We'd love to wish all our members – teachers, leaders, parents and their children a wonderful break.

Thank you for all your questions and feedback during the year, and we look forward to supporting you in 2025.

Remember 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](#).





Smart Reviser



A Quick Guide to Anxiety



Wobble Ladder: Overcoming Anxiety



Parenting a Daughter in 2024



Sleep Difficulties in Primary-Aged Children

Remember 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](#).

