



Tadcaster Grammar School

*'A Culture of Excellence'*

# NEWSLETTER

## Head Lines

Dear Parents and Students,

Having been Head of School for almost half a term now, I am finding it difficult to believe that we are moving so rapidly towards the end of the school year. The time has gone so quickly, but I am delighted that this newsletter demonstrates the variety of opportunities that our current and future students have experienced during this final half term of the year. It certainly has been a privilege to lead the school and an extremely positive experience.

I would like to share with you the fact that I have found all staff, be they teaching or associate, hardworking and totally dedicated to ensuring nothing less than the best is provided for every individual. They are totally committed to our students, to ensure they enjoy as wide a range of experiences as possible and are encouraged to be the best they can be at all times. I would also like to thank you as parents for your support. A strong positive relationship between home and school is vital to ensure the best at all times. Last, but by no means least, I would like to thank you the students for your determination to succeed, your positive attitude and your pride in the school. You are all part of the TGS family and together we will further develop the 'Culture of Excellence'.

This half term has been extremely busy in a really positive way. Year 11 and 13 have completed their examinations and enjoyed a variety of celebrations, including the Year 11 Prom in Toulston Lodge and the Year 13 Prom at York Racecourse. There is however sadness as we will soon be saying au revoir to Year 13 and some Year 11 students. I wish them all the very best with the outcome of their examinations in August and wish them a very happy and successful future as they continue to 'be the best they can be'.

We have welcomed our new TGS students and parents this half term. This was an absolute pleasure as we hosted two days of delightful students, full of enthusiasm for joining the TGS family. I have also visited many Year 5 students in our partner primary schools and found a further wave of enthusiasm and inquisitive minds - I was faced with such a variety of wonderful questions. The future looks very bright!

Now, as I write this, ahead of the final week of the school year, I am looking forward to presenting medals at Sports Day on Friday, presenting awards at our Whole School Celebration Evening on Tuesday and hosting the final school assembly of the year.

Sadly, at the end of next week we say farewell to a few members of staff and I am sure that you would wish to join me in thanking these colleagues for all they have given to TGS and to wish them all the very best as they embark on their new adventures.

I would also like to thank all members of this community for all you have contributed to the TGS family this half term and to wish you all a relaxing, safe and enjoyable summer break. I am looking forward so much to welcoming many of our current Year 11 students into our vibrant Sixth Form and working with you all as we begin a school year together.

Wendy Wilson  
Head of School



## In Brief

### Chromebooks for learning

We are delighted to announce the launch of a Chromebooks for Learning Scheme at Tadcaster Grammar School, an exciting project destined to take our students' learning experience to a new level ...[read more>>](#)

### NQT Teacher of the Year Award

NYCC has celebrated the second year of its Teaching Awards scheme, which recognises school staff who inspire and make a real difference to the lives of North Yorkshire's children and young people ...[read more >>](#)



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# Celebrating Music and Art



## GCSE Visit to Leeds College of Music

On Thursday 5th July, we visited Leeds College Of Music for a workshop day. It was extremely useful, not only for composition ideas for our GCSE course-work, but it also gave us an insight to the college itself and what life is like for a college student studying music in such a stimulating environment.

Everyone at the college was so helpful and they even got us involved in some performance workshops as well - such as; song writing, classical composition, musical theatre, musical production and film music.

The film music workshop was especially

interesting as it made us, as musicians, even more aware of how important music is in providing more depth, emotion and tension in films and



TV shows. We were shown current student's work and projects, as well as a number of musical techniques that great film music producers use themselves to build up emotion and suspense. Overall, our trip was very beneficial, inspirational and insightful in the wider sense of how the music industry can be a very diverse and rewarding career path to take.

*by Eleanor Briggs, Year 10 Music Student*



## House Music Competition

The KS3 competition was broken down into three categories; solo voice and instrument, small ensemble and entertainment. Each category had a mix of Year 7 – 9 competing against each other, in front of an audience in the main hall. There were some amazing performances ranging from clarinet, piano, vocal solos, singing and signing, with students performing their own compositions.

Lawrence Jeffrey – Parkinson, a Year 13

Music student, returned to judge the event and after much deliberation the winners were announced as:

## Solo Voice/Instrumental Winners

Gold – Dane Emmott (Dawson)

Silver – Indi Bryant – Chesters (Dawson)

Bronze Joint – Emma Foulds and Gabriel Owens (both Ogelthorpe)

## Small Ensemble

Gold - Emmy Redpath, Phoebe Lister and Orla Campbell (Fairfax)

Silver - Tom Milner and Joe Bracewell (Wharfe)

Bronze - Eleanor Blundell and Eve Horsfield (Dawson)

## Entertainment

Gold - Abigail Wilson (Fairfax)



## World Music Day

55 students, including myself, were off timetable all day to take part in creative and diverse workshops; such as African drumming, African mask painting, Gospel singing and a composition song writing workshop all of which were amazing.

Personally, I enjoyed the composition workshop in the afternoon best because it was great to be able to use ideas and skills we had learnt in previous music lessons to make a unique song. The other activities were really enjoyable. African drumming was something completely new for me, as was African mask painting, which was very relaxing when we were painting a unique design on a handcrafted mask. Although I had done similar things to Gospel singing it was a great opportunity for everyone to sing in four part harmony and have some fun. Personally, I found World Music Day very enjoyable, as it helped me improve my musical skills, be creative and perform with other students in the department.

*by Milly Rothwell-Wood, Year 8. Member of Pop Choir, Concert Band and a cornet player*



## VPA Summer Showcase

TGS held its annual Summer Showcase. This is where performers from Year 7-11, with a few exceptions, showed parents and others what they had been working on with Drama and Music clubs for the past term. Drama groups from Year 7 performed modern versions of old fairy tales, and Year 8's Drama group performed pieces based on the River Thames in London flooding, meaning everyone was stuck on different rooftops in the area. There were many laughs from the audience for the comedic pieces, but also serious scenes were done, adding lots of variety.

There were also lots of musical performances, such as The Concert Band, who had a new conductor in Year 8 student Gabriel Owens, a Pop Choir, String Trio and a Chamber Choir. The Pop Choir performed two songs, This Is Me from the Greatest Showman, featuring soloists Leona Harte and Orla Campbell and an Abba medley with soloists Michaela Beverley, Sophia O' Callaghan, Victoria Pratt and Ava Osbaldeston. A quartet of Year 7 girls performed Hushabye Mountain, and blew the audience

away with the beautiful harmony and feel of the song. There was also an amazing performance by the highly talented Chamber Choir. A lot of students in the choir had just finished exams and for some it was their last performance at TGS. They performed a song composed by Alannah Book and it was a very nostalgic and emotional piece.

*Written by Sophia O' Callaghan member of Year 8 Drama Club, Pop Choir and Concert Band*

## Art Exhibition



Students, parents, friends and staff joined together to celebrate the incredible efforts and achievements of this year's art students. Art work produced by GCSE and A Level students was exhibited and themes included 'Surfaces', 'Fragments' and 'Secrets, Codes and Conventions'. "The quality of work produced by students this year is outstanding, we were very lucky to have such a dedicated and talented group of young people and are very proud of their achievements- "the work speaks for itself" said Mrs Lattimore. Thank you to all that attended to help us celebrate.





A Level Art Pieces



Outstanding works of Art by all students.



GCSE Art Pieces



## British Library Visit

Students from Tadcaster and surrounding areas were invited for a tour around the British Library. What really goes on behind

the scenes of our national library? Delve into miles of storage, find out how we digitise books and maybe even meet a robot or two as they were taken on a tour. The students were then given an opportunity to meet curator Joanna Norledge, find out more about her role and see some of the special books in our collection – including those that influenced a famous ‘wizarding’ writer.

Activity three allowed the students to experiment with words and performance in this creative writing workshop run by Shelagh McCarthy. The students were given the chance to generate their own imaginative piece of writing taking inspiration from some of the magical items held in the Library.

During the final session students met Tom Palmer a very popular local published author who writes fiction books about Football. It was a fantastic day, and our very own students competed against a throng of student librarians from Boston Spa School



and won Tom’s quiz and penalty shoot out!

## Eurofest



During June 20 Year 8 students were given the chance to spend a day at Selby College learning about Languages.

We spent time before our day out preparing for it by creating a French or German business. On the morning of the trip we set up our ‘fake’ business and were asked questions from staff and visitors at the college. It was really fun being able to speak in a different language. We looked around all the amazing stalls from different schools and then went on to do some language workshops. We learnt Russian and did some work on Yorkshire Dialect.

We had an award ceremony where certain businesses were recognised for specific strengths. We then went on a tour of the college. The trip was very enjoyable and a great chance to expand my French.

*By Milly Rothwell-Wood Y8*

## Future Jobs Project

We have worked closely with NYBEP (North Yorkshire Business Enterprise Project) and Aspire Igen this year to deliver a Future Jobs projects. The scheme offered Year 12 students the opportunity to take part in work experience for one week.

A huge list of local and national businesses offered placements giving TGS students the opportunity to access valuable real life working environments. Holly Russell and Romy Taylor-Gluck spent their week at Creative Shed. Marriane Pal, the proprietor, praised both students for their professionalism and hard work.

Joe Armitage-Foster absolutely loved his week at Barkston Ash Pre School and it confirmed his ambition to become a Primary School Teacher.

Luci Davies, CEIAG, Business and Community Links Manager spoke to many of the employers and organised the students placements.



Luci is really enthusiastic about the scheme, praising the calibre of TGS students and sent thanks to all

the employers without whom the project would not have run. It is a huge commitment to our students that employers give up time and resources and we are extremely grateful.

## UCAS Exhibition

During June Year 12 students attended the UCAS Exhibition at Sheffield Arena; 5000 potential undergraduates visited the event which hosted stands for 158 universities. The event was a key opportunity for TGS students to speak to the admissions teams from the plethora of universities and glean key information to enable them to make course choices. It was also a great opportunity for them to gain crucial information and detail to enhance their UCAS applications. The visit was extremely helpful and enjoyed by all the students.

## Reading Matters

Sixth Form Students were given the opportunity to help younger students with their reading during tutor time. This was a huge success, giving the younger students encouragement and enabling them to access the curriculum with more confidence. A L2 OCN accreditation in Supporting Reading Skills was gained and very well deserved.

## Spelling Bee



Seven Year 8 students represented TGS at NY Schools Spelling Bee Competition along with English Teacher Mrs Alderson and were outstanding! Mrs Alderson went on to say the hard work, kindness, enthusiasm and commitment made them an absolute pleasure to work with and deserved to win the whole competition, on dedication alone.



## By Royal Invitation

By Gillian Hainsworth

At the end of last year I received a wonderful surprise email from the Lieutenancy of North Yorkshire to say that they had nominated me for an invitation to the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and that I would receive an official invitation in due course.

This nomination came about as a result of the fundraising I had done to help the flood victims re-build the town after the Boxing Day floods in Tadcaster in December 2016. A total of over £16,000 was raised from a fundraising concert put on by TGS Big Band and the sale of 3,000 Yorkshire Rose pins. Mike and I recently attended this fabulous occasion and it was an incredible honour for both of us to be in attendance. As the sun blazed onto the stunning gardens we were entertained by Military bands and served a delicious afternoon tea. The afternoon was attended by Prince Charles, Camilla and Princess Anne. We had the good fortune of being in the close proximity of a very warm, relaxed and friendly Prince Charles and it was a truly humbling experience.

We had the opportunity to walk through parts of the Palace and explore the truly magnificent garden and lake.

This is certainly a day we will remember and treasure for ever.



## Goodbye and Hello



We said Goodbye and Good Luck to our wonderful Y13 and Y11 Groups, wishing them all the best for the future.



We said Hello to Year 6 Students who will be moving up in September.



We are saying farewell to members of staff who are either retiring or moving on.

Bob West	Averil Ashworth
Peter Watkins	Megan Hubbard
Gillian Brayshaw	James Davidson
Martin Mills	Robert Fursman
Nick Thomas	Andy Woodward

We are also saying Hello and Welcome to new members of staff.

Vikkie Ward	Nathan Valentine
Charlotte Pearson	Kate Robson
John Wagstaff	Louise Northrop-Clay
Claire Laurie	Charlotte Bramley

## Sports Updates

### Athletics

Y8 Boys competed in the Humberside School Athletics Track & Field Cup at the Costello Stadium in Hull. Unfortunately no medals this time but they all competed competitively and represented the school in a great manner.



The following students represented York and District at the North Yorkshire County Athletic Championships on Saturday. Mrs Binks was team manager for the event and all the athletes performed really well  
Eve Hastie, Sprint Hurdles, Long Jump, 100m Tally Aspinall, 100m, Discus and Lucy Richmond 200m, Long Jump



The following students won their event and are North Yorkshire County Champions.  
Eve Hastie Junior Girls Long jump 4.67  
Tally Aspinall Junior Girls 100m 13.0 secs  
Oli Kitchingman Inter Boys 100 Hurdles (14.9), discus (32.30)



### Mounted Games

Millie Field a Year 7 student has been selected to represent England at this years Mounted Games European Championships in France. She will be riding in the Under 12 England Mounted Games Team on her pony Anna. Millie has had to work very hard to achieve this. She has also represented the North of England at the Home International in Newark.



### ITC World Triathlon

Ellie Harrison Year 7 competed in the ITC world triathlon race in Leeds as part of her Yorkshire training. She was the youngest in her age category. She has spent the winter trial running, mountain biking and recently open water swimming.



Congratulations from Mrs Wilson

### Tennis

Taylor Hampshaw Year 7 was selected from a large group of junior performance tennis players in the North of England to participate as one of the ball boys at the Berry's Tennis Classic at Hazlewood Castle. It was a great opportunity to rub shoulders with some of the great champions of the game, including Goran Ivanisevic and Richard Krajicek both former Wimbledon men's singles champions.

Taylor is a performance player at The David Lloyd Centre in Leeds.



Taylor at the event and being congratulated by Mrs Wilson.

### Basketball

Connor Elson (Year 8) has been selected to represent Yorkshire at Basketball England's U13 boys Regional Development Tournament. The tournament takes place at the Belle Vue Sports Village, Manchester.

During this tournament Yorkshire will compete against 9 other regions from across the country. Players from this Yorkshire team may then be selected to be part of the U14 National England Squad.

Connor will also be travelling to the Red Star basketball school in Serbia during July to train and play, which is an amazing opportunity for him.



### Wimbledon 2018

Wimbledon 2018 saw the usual early departure from the bus park at 4.30am!! 73 students and 7 staff embarked on the now established annual Year 9 trip to Wimbledon. The early start allowed us to get to the grounds in time for the start on play on our allocated Court 2. Players were Johanna Konta ( British Number 1 ), Alexander Zverev, Dominic Thiem and Maria Sharapova. Students could watch all or some of these matches as they had a Court 2 ticket for the day, or they could watch

players on the outside courts and generally explore the grounds. So much to see. Most students and staff did a bit of both. Novak Djokovic was practising on the court near number 2 and many students watched him and got his autograph. Others, later in the day, were given Centre Court tickets from members of the public who had to leave. A fantastic day and we listened to the England v Colombia World Cup game on the radio on the way to the hotel, The Premier Inn at Heathrow. A quick handout of keys allowed everyone to get to a room in time for the nail biting penalty shootout!!! A long day but most enjoyable.

Day 2 - up early for breakfast to get back to Wimbledon for another day. A quick group photo inside the grounds before heading to Court 2. Milos Raonic, followed by Radwanska, then Kevin Anderson. Students enjoyed getting lots of autographs and seeing celebs. Leaving Wimbledon earlier on day 2 as we had a long journey back. A fantastic 2 days, thoroughly enjoyed by all students and staff. A huge THANK YOU to Mr Solk for organising the 2 days so brilliantly as always and to all the students

who conducted themselves so well allowing staff to have a very enjoyable time too. *By Mrs Collinson Teacher of PE*



Lucky students who got on Centre Court, amazing!

### Sports Day

A fantastic day with Fairfax victorious.... again!



## An Evening of Celebration

A fabulous evening celebrating all the amazing students who have gone above and beyond. The students who pushed themselves that extra mile were rewarded with special awards, these were -

William Richmond, Jack Newcombe, Aidan Collins, William proctor, Grace Morgan, Harry Shepard, Sophie Stabler, Sam Walker, Naomi Lee, Gabriel Owens, Grace Morgan, Sam Bliss, Tom Haley and Natalya Aspinall.

Certificates were also presented to students for Academic Achievement, Academic Progress, Effort and a special House Leader Award presented to students who have gone the extra mile or showing resilience and key qualities we look for in our students at TGS.



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11-18 Mixed Comprehensive  
(1554 students on roll – 244 in Sixth Form)  
Wendy Wilson B.Sc. (Hons) Head of School



# Open Evening

Thursday 20 September 5.30pm - 8.00pm

Tadcaster Grammar School Open evening is an opportunity to view one of the leading schools in the area. During the evening you will hear from the Head of School, Mrs Wendy Wilson, visit Faculty areas, see students at work and view our excellent site and facilities.

Mrs Wilson will officially welcome all prospective students and parents during two sessions at 6.00pm and 6.45pm in the Main Hall.

We look forward to meeting you.

Toulston, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire. LS24 9NB | Tel: 01937 833466

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## Sixth Form Open Evening

Thursday 11 October 6.00pm - 8.00pm

The Head of School and Staff invite all prospective students and their parents to visit our high achieving Sixth Form, talk to staff and meet current students.

Head of School Mrs Wilson, Director of Sixth Form Mrs Knapton and current students will welcome parents at 6.00pm in the Main Hall.

### All Welcome!



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## Autism Base Update

Fundraising is ongoing for this amazing project, as it stands at the moment we have a pot of £1,600 but there are still monies

coming in. Mrs Carroll has put in a bid for £5,000 with Lloyds for funding. During the summer we have a kitchen being fitted along with carpets. DONATIONS welcome.



## Uniform

**Getting it right for September.** Appearance is key and here at TGS is no exception. Your uniform is what you represent. Wearing a uniform is a badge of pride, creates an identity for a school and is an important part of being a school student. Also, if you wear your uniform with pride, it means you are half way there to being respectful, which is what TGS is all about. Please click on the link for all uniform information, including the school shop opening times. [>>read more](#)



1. Arrive **on time** and **stand** in your place.
2. **Prepare** for the lesson and have the **correct equipment** and place your **planner** on the desk.
3. **Always** be **respectful** and **polite**.
4. Always be **hard working**.
5. Be the **best** that **you** can be.
6. At the **end** of the lesson **Stand** in your place while your **uniform** is **checked** and you are dismissed.

Follow **ALL** staff instructions

**FIRST** Time **EVERY** Time

## Results Days

**GCE (A & AS levels)** - Thursday 16 August -  
Year 13 8.30am -11.00am  
Year 12 10.00am -11.00am S1

**GCSE** - Thursday 23 August -  
9.00am -11.00am Main Hall

## Vacancies

We are looking for a General Teaching Assistant and a ICT Technician please follow the link for more information [>> read more](#)



11-18 Mixed Comprehensive  
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Wendy Wilson B.Sc. (Hons) Head of School

VACANCY FOR GENERAL TEACHING ASSISTANT AND  
ICT TECHNICIAN: DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATION  
PLEASE SEE WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS

www.tgs.starmat.uk/vacancies

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## Start of Term Details

Monday 3 September – Year 12 Enrolment

Tuesday 4 September – Year 7

Wednesday 5 September – Whole School

**Term Dates** can be found by clicking on this link [>> read more](#)



## Diary Dates

Monday 23 July	Y9 Watersports France
Wed 25 July	Y13 Economics Winners New York
Thurs 16 August	A Level Results Day
Thurs 23 August	GCSE Results Day
Wed 5 Sept	Whole School Return
Monday 10 Sept	Y9 Photographs Y12 ID Photographs
Thurs 20 Sept	Open Evening—Early Close
Thursday 11 Oct	Sixth Form Open evening
Tuesday 16 Oct	Y8 Restart a Heart Day
Wed 17 Oct	Y7 Meet the Tutor Y12 Meet the Tutor
Friday 26 Oct	School closes for half term

Diary Dates  ....[read more>>](#)