

Welcome to our April Newsletter - Our students have really come to the fore in so many positive ways over recent months, that it is hard to know where to start. Last week we delivered 154 shoeboxes for Ukrainian teenagers to Colburn Village Hall, following a last minute call for support from them. We were asked for 30 boxes, but the generosity that was shown by our students and you, as their families, meant that we surpassed even our wildest dreams. Many of the boxes contained personal messages from the students and they really were very moving indeed.

Our students have also asked that the term's non-uniform day has a blue and yellow theme and the money collected be donated to the Ukraine crisis appeal. Additionally, we know that some students are taking part in a day-long sponsored silence - as a staff we are hoping that as many of the students as possible get involved in this....we can't quite imagine what a silent school could feel like!

A fortnight ago, we were lucky enough to watch our Richmond School Senior Theatre Company perform a very hard-hitting play *When they go Low*. It focused on the trauma created by peer-on-peer abuse issues and the need for a strong and positive stance against such behaviours. The students had clearly spent weeks and weeks rehearsing and the end result was both polished and clearly drove the message home. Students acting as teachers for their own peer group is always a very powerful way of ensuring important messages hit home.

Student leadership activities continue to flourish across the wider school, from progressing our Eco Award work, to leading a whole range of sports events, hosting important visitors to the school and liaising with student leaders in both Stokesley and Northallerton Schools to develop a Trust-wide framework for student leadership.

Students in Year 10 have just completed their Year 10 PPEs and managed the process brilliantly. Our invigilators have commented on their calm and sensible approach and their behaviour throughout has been impeccable. As we turn a corner into Easter and the summer term, we begin our final phase of work with our Year 11 and Year 13 students. I am delighted that once exams are over, we will be able to enjoy celebrating with them at their respective Proms- such important events that have been sorely missed over the past two years.

I do hope you all enjoy a great Easter break.

Best wishes

Jenna Potter
Headteacher



Turn to page 2 to read about the amazing response to the appeal to support those in need in Ukraine.



Find out how our students are helping to shape the future of The Station - read the full story on Page 6.

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IN THE COMMUNITY

HARRIET'S CANINE BAKE OFF TO SUPPORT THE GREYHOUND TRUST

Harriett Wilson, in Year 9, is no stranger to fundraising, having organised a host of events in the last few years. From litter picking to running, as well as campaigning to Rishi Sunak MP about her concerns about the problem of plastic and litter which harm wildlife and the environment, Harriett is a true community champion.

Having previously baked cakes to support the work of the Dog's Trust Charity, Harriett's latest culinary venture has been to bake homemade dog biscuits, with the help of her friend Vicky, a former Richmond School student. They have sold the biscuits mainly door-to-door in Middleton Tyas with a few added donations from friends and family. Their efforts have raised £62 for the Greyhound Trust in Darlington. The Trust, established in 2012, does amazing work rehoming retired greyhounds.

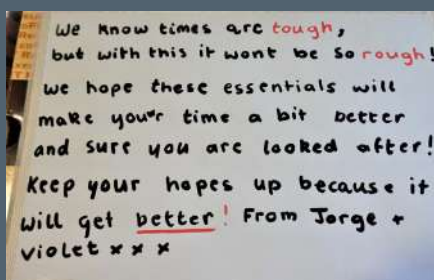


154 SHOEBOXES HEADING TO UKRAINE

What an amazing response to our callout for items to fill shoeboxes to send to young people in Ukraine. In four days students, staff, parents and carers have donated generously and the 154 boxes will be so greatly appreciated by those in need. The boxes were delivered to Colburn Village Hall, where a team of volunteers are working all the hours to collect everything together to load onto the next convoy of vehicles.



Thank you to everyone who responded to the call and also our appreciation goes to Shoezone, in Catterick, a parent and Mountain Warehouse, in Richmond, for kindly donating shoeboxes to us.



Well done to Cameron Smith, in Year 10, who has been volunteering at Colburn Village Hall. Working alongside many other volunteers, Cameron helped to pack shoeboxes with donations that have been flooding into the community hub to support young people in Ukraine.

Thank you to Cameron and all the volunteers for their sterling work - the 154 shoeboxes donated by our students, parents, careers and staff are now on their way.

Cameron said: "It was amazing to see so many donations and so many volunteers helping. I really enjoyed helping out for the two hours I was there but some of the volunteers were there all day sorting all the donations."



IN THE COMMUNITY

RAPID RESPONSE TO SUPPORT HUMANITARIAN AID IN UKRAINE

Thank you to our Sixth Form students who within two days of being asked donated a huge amount of supplies to support the Ukraine appeal. The collection was prompted by a request from the local group of the Soroptimists who some of our Year 12 students are working with.

The donations included baby food, tinned food, medical and sanitary supplies, nappies and baby wipes. Cllr Angie Dale helped coordinate the appeal and all donations from the community groups, members of the public, schools and other organisations have been sent to the Ukraine via Poland. At least ten vans full of items needed by refugees were sent.



Les Richardson, Head of Sixth Form said: "What a fabulous and rapid response to this appeal - donations have flooded in over the last 48 hours. I have been really overwhelmed by the generosity of our students, parents, carers and staff to support the appeal for humanitarian aid in Ukraine."

JOIN THE RICHMOND BUTTERCUP AWARENESS WALK AND SUPPORT DEMENTIA FORWARD

We are delighted to be supporting Dementia Forward, the leading dementia charity for York and North Yorkshire. On Sunday 10th April, they are hosting the Richmond Buttercup Awareness Walk, and we hope many of our students and their families, staff, alumni, friends and followers may join in. It's a family-friendly, 3-mile walk, starting at The Station, taking in the Easby loop, before finishing at Richmond Town Hall for refreshments and activities. Parking is available at Richmond School and a mini-bus shuttle will be available if needed. Donations are welcome and sponsorship forms are available by emailing amy.senior@dementiaforward.org.uk

If you are interested in helping on the day, the event organisers are calling out for volunteers to marshall the route, so please contact Amy for further details.

Dementia Forward provide support, advice and information to anybody affected by dementia across the North Yorkshire, and have developed a comprehensive range of services; all with people living with dementia at their heart.

Dementia Forward is recognised as a vital source of information, advice and support as well as being a strong advocate for people living with dementia. They actively seek out the voices of those affected when designing their services, and adopt a 'local for local' approach, using the resource of local community and partnership-working to its full. One of the charity's aims is to 'knit' dementia support into the everyday lives of the local community. They aim to increase awareness and understanding, so that people can continue to live well in their own communities.

Their staff team is supported and strengthened by a highly-skilled and motivated board of trustees and committed volunteers, in partnership with the statutory and voluntary sector. Find out more about the charity [here](https://www.dementiaforward.org.uk).

Dementia Forward
Your North Yorkshire Charity
Care and Support for Life
<https://www.dementiaforward.org.uk>

Richmond Buttercup walk
An awareness walk hosted by Dementia Forward

Sunday 10th April
Registration from 10am, start 10:20am
Meet at The Station, Richmond

Easby Abbey loop (3 miles), ending at Richmond Town Hall for refreshments and activities!
*Accessible route available

Parking available at Richmond School
*Minibus shuttle available if needed

Donations welcome and sponsorship forms available!

To register interest, for more information and/or sponsorship forms, please email amy.senior@dementiaforward.org.uk

10 YEARS
1913-2023
Dementia Forward

IN THE COMMUNITY

EGG-CELLENT RESPONSE TO EASTER APPEAL

A huge haul of Easter eggs has been donated by students, staff and parents and carers in response to a call out from 1 Yorks Regiment. Captain Loftly Simpson-Worboys, Unit Welfare Officer at 1 Yorks, called in to school to collect the Eggs and was delighted to meet Nishi and Amber, Year 7 students who are from service families. Together with donations from other local schools and organisations, the 101 Easter Eggs will be delivered to 'Looked After Children' in North Yorkshire.



Captain Simpson-Worboys said: "Thank you so much to all the children, parents and staff from Richmond school who kindly donated an Easter egg, every chocolate treat will bring a smile to a "looked after child" on Easter Sunday. The amount of kindness and generosity has been amazing, we have enough Easter eggs to give every child in the County a very special Easter."

Sarah Gleave, Services Children's Advocate at Richmond School and Sixth Form College, added: "Thank you to Captain Simpson-Worboys and 1 Yorks Regiment for coordinating this local project, and to all members of our school community who contributed. The eggs are a token of our care and support for all who can't be with family this Easter, for whatever reason."

DO YOU LOVE THE GREAT OUTDOORS AND WANT TO SUPPORT THE ENVIRONMENT?

If so, and you are aged between 11 and 16 years old, then have you considered becoming a Young Ranger? We are fortunate to have two National Parks on our doorstep, the Yorkshire Dales and the North Yorkshire Moors. Both organisations run a Young Ranger programme to enable students to take part in outdoor activities, such as tree planting, wildlife monitoring and seal watching, as well as attending a residential and gaining a recognised award! The volunteering is also recognised by the Duke of Edinburgh Award. You can find out more about the programmes at both National Parks at the following links:



[North Yorkshire Moors: Young Rangers](#) [Yorkshire Dales: Young Rangers](#) You can also find out more by reading the feature about [Cassius and Brian](#) who are both young rangers.

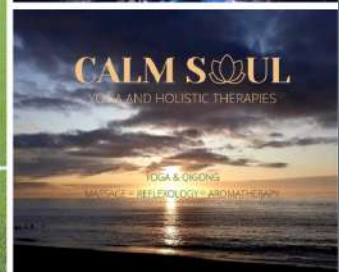
(Image North Yorkshire Dales National Park)

RICHMOND SCHOOL COMMUNITY GROUPS AND CLUBS – GET INVOLVED!

There's so much happening at Richmond School during the evenings and weekends that you could be involved in. From ballroom dancing and pilates to hockey and rugby, there's a wide range of clubs and groups for children and adults to join.

Please have a look [HERE](#) to see what is on offer. If you like the sound of something, then simply click on 'full info' to find out more.

Alongside these groups and organised activities we have other people who simply choose to hire different facilities with their friends on a more casual basis for activities such as badminton, table tennis and 5-a-side football.



IN THE COMMUNITY

RUNNING TO FUNDRAISE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Last year, Sarah Manning, a Year 11 student, raised £363 for Mind, the charity that supports people who are experiencing problems with their mental health. Sarah ran a mile a day for 27 days and has decided to do the same again this year, from 1st March.

Sarah said: "This is the fourth time that Mind have run this challenge and after completing the event last year I want to continue to offer my support to the charity who are helping students struggling with their mental health."

"The weather was very unpredictable last March, with some really wet and freezing cold days, so at least this time I know what to expect! I am hoping to pursue a career in the healthcare sector and I am really concerned about the increase in mental health issues in young people and this is a way in which I can help whilst still at school."

If you would like to support Sarah's challenge, in aid of Mind, you can donate to her page [HERE](#).



JAKE USES HIS FOOTBALLING EXCELLENCE TO SUPPORT HIS DUKE OF EDINBURGH SPORTING AND VOLUNTEERING PROJECTS

We recently shared news about Jake Percival's progress with the skill element of his Duke of Edinburgh Award and how he is learning to become a Barista at The Station Café Bar. Alongside this, Jake has also been busy dedicating much of his free time to the sporting and volunteering parts of the Award. A keen sportsman, with a passion for football, Jake is maximising his talent by playing football for Darlington FC's Under 16 team. He plays each Saturday in the Junior Premier League and on a Sunday in the Teesside Junior Football Alliance. This is his second season with the team and he thoroughly enjoys it as he plays with some other students from Richmond School.

Furthering his footballing and coaching skills, Jake is volunteering with Richmond Town Football Club where he assists with their Under 9 squad at their training each Tuesday evening at Richmond School. Jake approached the coach, John Clark, himself and asked if he could complete the volunteering aspect of his Duke of Edinburgh Award by helping with this age group. When Jake hasn't been playing in matches himself, he has also been to watch the team play on a Sunday morning and help with pre-match warm ups.

Tony Potter, Leader of Sport, Leisure and Community, said:

"Jake is putting in a tremendous amount of effort to his Duke of Edinburgh Award and it is fantastic to see him passing on his outstanding football talent and teamwork skills to the Under-9 footballers. Jake has really impressed me with his commitment to all aspects of the Award and he is a great role model to younger students who are considering taking part in future years."

Well done to Jake for supporting and encouraging the young footballers.



IN THE COMMUNITY

STUDENT INPUT HELPS TO SHAPE THE STATION'S FUTURE

A group of student leaders have taken part in a valuable focus group project with The Station, in Richmond, which has resulted in some of their ideas being taken on board.

Year 11 and Year 13 students spent time with Chris Brown, General Manager, to discuss how they currently use the facilities at The Station, what they felt could be improved, and their ideas for new initiatives that may attract more young people to the iconic community hub in Richmond.



Chris said: "I was most impressed with how mature and confident the students were. We were blown away with the very considered, realistic and exciting ideas they put forward, not only to attract more people of their age group to The Station but suggestions that would also be of interest to a much wider audience and demographic, offering multi-generational appeal. Our open and free discussions generated some great proposals as well as a wealth of information to draw on in the future. It is also fantastic that this led to the notable contribution by Natalie Muxworthy and Jack Riddlestone, in Year 11, who have been a credit to the School in offering their time to volunteer at The Station and give back to the community.

"It is so important that we continue to research, review and refresh our offering at The Station to ensure we continue to meet the demands of our customers. Whilst we know that many of our products are extremely well-received and will stand the test of time, there is always room to enhance and improve as consumer tastes and needs evolve. Going forward, we aim to continue with these relationships and build stronger ties with more students by implementing more of the ideas from the focus group to further broaden the appeal of The Station."

Projects that are already underway from the results of the students' feedback include a proposal that the sixth form students were very keen on to host an event around plants. They suggested a plant stall or a dedicated activity, explaining that young people are reconnecting with nature and find that having plants around them in the home is really positive for their mental wellbeing. Chris was overwhelmed with the students' enthusiasm and extremely interested in this idea, so much so that they planning to host a 'Plant Fair' in the future.

Natalie, in Year 11, said: "When I went to the Station for the focus group, I thought they would just ask us about what we liked about the Station as teenagers, but then they started asking us about what we'd like to see specifically going on there, and what we thought made the Station less popular with Richmond teenagers. It definitely made me more inclined to go and visit now that I've seen how much effort they are putting into making it an attractive space for people my age. I also liked the way they took our feedback and I am really excited to go to some of the events we talked about. Being part of the research group also inspired me to become a volunteer at The Station which I am really enjoying."

Jenna Potter, Headteacher, said: "I am thrilled that so much positivity came out of the students' focus groups and it is really rewarding for them to see that some of their ideas have been taken on board and their contribution is so highly valued by the staff, management and trustees at The Station.

"It has also been wonderful to watch and listen to many of our students perform at events at The Station in recent months, as well as enjoying seeing some of their fabulous artwork displayed in the Artisan area and in the recent Spot on the Wall exhibition. The Station is a true community gem and we are so proud to be part of it and involved in helping to retain its appeal for future generations to come."



IN THE COMMUNITY

SING OUT WITH NORTHERN YOUTH VOICES

Northern Youth Voices is a choir for young people that puts singing at the heart of the community. We are overjoyed that six of our students have joined the choir and they are loving their singing and performing experiences. After Easter, the choir, which is run by Debbie Allenby, will be rehearsing in the hall at Richmond Sixth Form College, on Monday evenings at 5:30, 6:15 and 7pm. A recruitment window for new members is opening after the Easter break so please get in touch with Debbie if you would like to find out more at: www.nyv.uk.com www.facebook.com/northernyouthvoices/ or email northernyouthvoices@gmail.com



You can be assured of a very warm welcome at Northern Youth Voices who have recently performed at The Station and have other engagements in the pipeline. But don't just take our word for it, hear what some of our students have to say about the group: Beth said: "There are so many performing opportunities; it's a nice, safe environment where you're not judged but encouraged to just go for it. It's a good stress relief from my GCSE's, I really enjoy it."

Ellen added: "I love Northern Youth Voices because it allows me to be creative and have fun, whilst also learning key life skills such as teamwork and excellence."

Lola Reilly, a Year 12 student, helps out at the choir and is also involved with Debbie in DAWN, a charity that is promoting the performing arts and wellbeing across the Dales. We will be sharing more news about DAWN in the coming weeks. Andrew Lunn, in Year 10, is volunteering at the choir as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award.

We were pleased to catch up with Debbie to find out more about Northern Youth Voices: "We launched Northern Youth Voices (NYV) partly in response to the pandemic and to help combat some of the losses and sacrifices our children and young people had made. So many of our extra-curricular activities that we all get joy from had stopped running and we were determined to offer young people the opportunity to sing together again in a safe and fun way. At the heart of our ethos is inclusivity. We strive to be as accessible as possible, keeping weekly fees extremely low (just £3) and offering financial support to families where these costs may still be a barrier. We also plan to roll out some satellite sessions over the summer term in more remote areas, so that we can break down further geographical barriers and deliver workshops to more children. We are supported by a fantastic team of volunteers, so please get in touch if you would like to be involved.

"We are overwhelmed by the interest and support NYV has received since launching in September. We already have over 50 young people singing across three choirs and we have a busy programme of events and activities planned. Our debut performance took place at The Station and we were received extremely well and so we swiftly began planning other performance opportunities. We are thrilled to have been invited by the award-winning Dales Community Pop Choir to perform alongside them at Tennants during their summer concert in June. We try to keep our repertoire fresh and relevant, singing songs by artists such as Maroon 5, James Bay, Pink, George Ezra, Lily Allen and Imagine Dragons, just to name a few.

"Although we are non-auditioned, fun and inclusive, we strive to be the best we can possibly be and have planned some exciting learning and development opportunities. Some of our older members attended a brilliant day's vocal workshop by Craig Lees (Head of Popular Music at The Leeds Conservatoire) recently and we are thrilled to be able to welcome Mat Wright MBE in the summer who will also run a half-day workshop for NYV members. Mat founded and directs the Barnsley Youth Choir, who have around 500 members and are ranked 5th in the world in their youth category.

"Our hopes and ambitions for Northern Youth Voices are that it continues to grow in numbers and member wellbeing, providing a safe space for our young people to explore the collective joy experienced by singing in a choir.

IN THE COMMUNITY

OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE CHILDREN TO JOIN THE SERVICE CHILDREN'S COMMUNITY CHOIR:

The Northern Military Kids' Choir has recently rebranded as the Service Children's Community Choir and are working hard to recruit more children to join them for their singing sessions. The sessions are aimed at children from Year 2 to Year 11. The choir meets at Le Cateau school hall on Sunday mornings, once a fortnight, and weekly on Thursday evenings.

The Service Children's Community Choir (formerly NMKC) reformed in September 2021 and now that restrictions are easing further they want to reach out to all Primary and Secondary schools to invite even more-children to take part in their singing sessions. They will be meeting weekly on Thursday evenings (6.15pm -7.30 pm) plus they also have Sunday Sessions once a fortnight (9-11 am). They have two amazing Music teachers, Joshua Hadfield and Liz Latta, who will lead the session and support the children. Sessions are held at Le Cateau and supervised by DBS checked staff from North Yorkshire schools. All children from Year 2-Year 11 welcome! For further information please contact Angela Campbell, Service Pupil Champion at servicechildrenscommunitychoir@gmail.com.



RICHMOND MEET 2022



Do you have a good imagination?
Are you creative? Or do you just love
having fun? If the answer is
YES



Then why don't you design a float.
Or costumes and take part in
Our Jubilee Richmond Meet
Parade this year. Prizes to be
Won. This year's Parade will be on



SUNDAY 5th JUNE

Meet at Nunns Close Car Park at 8am
Judging starts at 9am Parade leaves at
10am. Hope to see you all
There.



PRIMARY TRANSITION

PRIMARY STUDENTS BUZZING ABOUT A DANCE SHOW THAT WILL BE

SIMPLY SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPALIDOCIOUS!

Lucy Wilson, in Year 12, is working with a group of Year 5 and 6 students at Richmond Methodist School (RMS) to put on a dance performance which we know is going to be simply Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious! Lucy, a CTEC Performing Arts student, and a keen dancer is hoping to become a teacher and works with students in all age groups at RMS each week to gain experience. When Mrs O'Malley suggested she could work with some students to put on a dance showcase during National Dance Week at the end of April, she jumped at the opportunity!



Lucy said: "I wanted the dance to have a theme that the students could relate to and thrive from. I decided to go with Mary Poppins as it's very energetic, filled with lots of dancing and singing. There are around 30 students involved and I am working with Miss Wood, Deputy Headteacher.

"I've always wanted to study primary education and go into teaching and this experience so far has definitely made me more passionate about it. So thank you to RMS and especially Miss Wood for looking after me while I'm there!

"It's great to be able to see students dancing with their peers around them and it's an amazing atmosphere to be a part of. We can't wait to have them at Richmond School shining on the stage with costumes, lights and music. I love seeing all the students come out of their shells and really getting involved."

Natasha Wood, Deputy Headteacher at Richmond Methodist School, said: "At RMS, we greatly value creativity and performance and so I was delighted when Lucy approached me about collaborating for National Dance Week 2022. I was impressed with the initiative that Lucy showed and her keenness to give the Year 5 and 6 pupils the chance to experience the benefits of dance and performance that she herself has benefitted from.

"When starting a club here, we display a sign-up sheet on our sports wall and I don't think that any club has ever been filled so quickly! There was a buzz from the upper KS2 pupils from the moment they were told about the project, especially since they will perform on the Richmond School stage with lights and costume. They are so excited to be working with a Sixth Form Dance student and they loved the idea of the choreography being based on 'Mary Poppins: The Musical'. I myself enjoy dance and advocate its many benefits, as well as the creative outlet it provides. I am looking forward to working with Lucy and seeing her ideas come to life in rehearsals and then on stage.

"Finally, as a former Richmond Methodist pupil and Richmond School student myself, and now as Deputy Head at RMS, I recognise the importance of fostering a strong connection between the two schools which is mutually beneficial to all of our young people."

Mrs O'Malley, Lucy's Dance Teacher, said: "Lucy is studying Ctec Performing Arts and she expressed an interest in gaining some experience in a Primary School to aid her passion to teach. I encouraged Lucy to consider working with a group of students at RMS to help build a performance for our assembly on National Dance Week.

"Lucy has taken to this role in full stride and this will really help her leadership skills and creativity. Alongside this, Lucy will develop exceptional skills of working with this age group and how to engage them in learning to make progress.

"Lucy is providing a platform for RMS to gain an opportunity of performing on a stage at Richmond School which will hopefully inspire those involved to consider a hobby or career in the world of Performing Arts. I can't wait to see the outcome of Lucy's project and watch Richmond Methodist Primary students performing to our year 7s."

PRIMARY TRANSITION

GREAT ATMOSPHERE AT PRIMARY SCHOOL SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

Richmond School hosted the Primary School Sports Hall Athletics Championships when 14 local primary schools attended which provided a great atmosphere for the competition. It was a loud, crazy event which was highly competitive and fun! The event was managed by the Year 12 CTEC Sport students and two students in Year 9 (Kyla and Ruby).



Well done to all the students who took part. The results were as follows:

- 1st- Michael Syddall (614)
- 2nd- RMS (594)
- 3rd- Bedale (510)
- 4th- Bolton (480)
- 5th- Thornton Watlass (422)
- 6th- Trinity Tyas (412)
- 7th- St Marys (338)
- 8th- Wavell (324)
- 9th- Brompton (310)
- 10th- Hipswell (282)
- 11th- Hunton & Arrathorne (264)
- 12th- Masham (242)
- 13th- Sacred Heart (226)
- 14th- Croft (158) had to leave early.



(The number in the brackets is the amount of points achieved by each school).



PRIMARY TRANSITION

PRIMARY STUDENTS HAVE A GREAT REACTION TO SCIENCE ACTIVITIES



After a two-year break due to Covid restrictions, it has been wonderful to welcome groups of primary students to our series of Science activities which will run for the rest of this academic year.

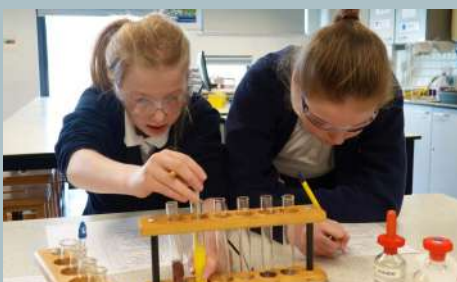


Students from Ravensworth, Barton, Kirkby Fleetham, Crakehall, Croft and North and South Cowton Schools have had a great time working on chemical reactions with Mr Randall. They have carried out several test tube experiments, including displacement, exothermic and endothermic reactions. Mr Randall said: "It was a joy to have the primary students in our class and see them enjoying their experiments and working so hard. They have all been impeccably behaved and were a huge credit to their schools. I am really looking forward to the visits from other primary schools during the summer term."

We were delighted to hear that the students had a fantastic time. Kate Banks, from Croft Primary School, said: "I just wanted to say a HUGE thanks for the Science workshop - our Year 5 had an amazing time and it has genuinely sparked an interest in Chemistry for some of them - which is wonderful! I have had a number of lovely emails from parents saying what an amazing experience it had been for their children - so thank you to Mr Randall and to Richmond School for facilitating this."



Mr Bell, teacher at Crakehall School, said: "Crakehall pupils really enjoyed the practical investigations and loved experiencing life at high school."



PRIMARY TRANSITION

GETTING TO GRIPS WITH GOLF!

Richmond School hosted a Golf Continuing Professional Development (CPD) course for Primary colleagues. Ian Harvey, from The Golf Foundation, delivered a two-hour practical workshop in which he introduced the staff to the new Golfway play kit bags and all of the teaching resources and games associated with it. The attending staff were fully involved and were led through a range of warm-ups, putting and chipping and teaching games and ideas.

They can now take these back into their own schools to work with the pupils in preparation for a Tri-Golf festival to be hosted at Richmond School on Wednesday 22nd June.



HIGH ENERGY AND FUN AT FIRST-EVER PRIMARY DODGEBALL COMPETITION

Our Year 12 CTEC Sport leaders ran the first-ever Year 5 and 6 Dodgeball Competition which was hailed a huge success.

It was a high-energy, fun event that saw more than 100 pupils taking part. Dodgeball is all about playing competitively with integrity. Being honest and showing respect towards other players is greatly valued in Dodgeball and this was reflected in the highly-competitive event.

It was wonderful to welcome students from Richmond St Marys, Michael Syddall, Trinity Academy Middleton Tyas, Trinity Academy Richmond, Sacred Heart, Richmond Methodist, Barton, Ravensworth and Brompton Schools.

Congratulations to all teams that took part. The top four teams were:

- 1st Trinity Academy Richmond
- 2nd Trinity Academy Middleton Tyas
- 3rd Richmond Methodist
- 4th Sacred Heart



PRIMARY TRANSITION

STUDENTS HAVE A BALL AT PANATHLON EVENT

It was a joy to host a KS1 inclusive Panathlon event, with sixty-five pupils from Michael Syddall Primary School and Sacred Heart Primary School taking part in a range of fun games.

They enjoyed parachute games, football, skittles, bocchia, kurling and many more fun-based activities.



The pupils were split into teams of approximately 6-8 and moved around in a carousel so that they had the chance to score points for their team. The event was led by two students in Year 9, Kyla and Ruby as well as the Year 12 CTEC Sport group.



The sports leaders were outstanding with one KS1 pupil exclaiming that they “had the best day of their life.” The 'pink' team from Michael Syddall were crowned the champions but it was a very close competition.



PERFORMING ARTS

STUDENTS SELECTED FOR DANCE CITY CAT SCHEME

We are delighted that following a recent audition, hosted at school, Abigail Smith, Molly Shanley, Felicity and Isabella Thomas, Ellen Stewart and Tilda Whent were talent spotted and have been encouraged to apply to the taster day at Dance City, in Newcastle, on 12th April.

CAT is a project for young people to audition and gain advanced training to help prepare for a career in performing arts. If participants are successful in the auditions, they train weekly and can get involved in various projects, including performing on a professional stage. This may also include working with dance companies and is a great way to network and meet new people. Over the years, we are proud that a number of our students have been accepted on the CAT scheme and they have loved the experience and working with different teachers.



Nicola O'Malley, Dance Teacher, said: "The students are privileged to have the opportunity of the CAT scheme as it allows them to work professionally from a young age and keep up-to-date with new and creative ways of working. Members of the programme develop so much confidence and creativity when completing the CAT programme which leads them onto bigger projects once they leave. For any students who wish to experience something new and develop a passion they have for performing then the CAT scheme offers the perfect opportunity to excel and give them the platform to succeed."

In 2021, Millie Cullen, Ebony Lambe, Lilyanna Navuso and Olivia Richardson successfully auditioned for CAT and they have been attending training each week for the past year. Ebony said: "CAT has been an amazing experience. It has challenged me and I have improved so much since joining. I have also had fantastic experiences with learning choreography and preparing for upcoming shows. If contemporary and ballet is your passion, then I would definitely recommend joining."

Millie said: "I've really enjoyed the CAT scheme so far. It's really helped improve my skills, confidence in performing and has broadened my opportunities. I'm looking forward to carrying on with CAT and to continue improving."

Lillyann added: "The CAT scheme at Dance City is so enjoyable. I love learning new phrases every lesson as it challenges me. I joined Dance City with no professional dance experience, not even from a dance school, I just loved dance. The CAT scheme has improved my dance skills by miles, I can definitely notice my improvement when I dance too. In the future, I'd like to be part of the dance industry such as a dance choreographer, maybe in CAT Dance City. What I think is helpful to mention is you don't need any professional experience or even from a school because that's the whole point of the scheme, it is to build up your dance skills."

LONDON CALLS FOR OLIVIA

Congratulations to Olivia Richardson, in Year 10, who has secured places with two prestigious ballet schools. During the Easter holidays, Olivia will be taking up her place to train for four days on the Central School of Ballet's Easter intensive. This comes only six weeks after completing a three-day spring intensive course with the English National Ballet School. She has also just had confirmation that she has gained a place at the Rambert's summer school in London. This is amazing news for Olivia and demonstrates not only her unfaltering commitment to ballet but also her talent which is being recognised at such a high level. We wish Olivia the very best for her Easter programme at the Central School of Ballet.

Olivia said: "I am so grateful to gain a place on all the intensives I attend. It is a great experience for me and it allows an insight on what vocational training would be like. I wouldn't have been able to do it without the support of Janet Seymour and Hannah Smith's help but most of all my mum. I'm really looking forward to attending."



PERFORMING ARTS

FABULOUS PERFORMANCE OF LORD OF THE FLIES

We are pleased to share photographs from our recent Theatre Group's production of 'Lord of the Flies' at the Georgian Theatre Royal. Students from Years 7,8 and 9 put on a fantastic performance, telling the story of a group of school children who find themselves alone on a deserted island. They develop rules and a system of organisation, but without adults there to provide a mature influence, the children eventually become violent and brutal.



Miss Heslop, Drama Teacher and Director of the show, said: "The students only started rehearsing at the end of January and they have really shown a level of maturity, resilience, excellence and commitment. It has been a team effort with students taking leadership roles, designing every element of the performance from directing to costumes. For some, this was their first public performance since the pandemic and for others, they had never performed before! While at the Georgian Theatre, the group demonstrated a great level of stage discipline and etiquette which shows that some are serious about progressing further within the performing arts industry. I am immensely proud of each and every student, both on and off stage. It was a very difficult text to explore for our first performance but they did it with such ease!"



There are already plans for the group's next performance where the group are intending to write the script and create a performance completely from scratch, focusing on the style Theatre In Education.

The piece will be about a young child in Year 6 who is terrified about moving into Year 7 and it aims to educate young children about secondary school and any concerns they have.

Actors will take the audience on a journey through expectation versus reality.

Well done to everyone involved – we can't wait to see your next production.



PERFORMING ARTS

BEAUTIFUL ACAPELLA PIECE BY THE CHAMBER CHOIR

We couldn't resist sharing this clip of our Chamber Choir singing 'Kaleidoscope Heart' by Sarah Bareilles. Under the direction of Mrs Noble, the choir have been working on this acapella arrangement in recent weeks and have produced a stunning sound with beautiful harmonies. You can listen to their piece [here](#) - we hope you enjoy it.

Mrs Noble said: "I am so impressed with the quality of sound our students are producing, they listen so carefully to each other and their close harmony work is outstanding."



RETURN TO THE STAGE

2 YEARS IN THE MAKING

The comeback show you don't want to miss!

THURSDAY 28TH APRIL
SHOW STARTS @ 7PM
(DOORS OPEN @ 6:30PM)

Tickets: £2
Each

Richmond School,
Darlington Road,
Richmond,
North Yorkshire.

RETURN TO THE STAGE

THE COMEBACK SHOW YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!

Our Year 13 CTEC Dance students would like to invite you to 'Return to the Stage' – our first live dance showcase since 2019 - on Thursday 28th April 2022 at 7.00pm in the Clarke Hall.

The Dance team would love to see you at this performance and we can't wait to share a variety of dance works from students in Years 7 through to 13, including Contemporary, Jazz and Gymnastics!

Tickets are priced £2 each and they can be purchased at student services during break and lunch time, or from the dance office after school. Tickets will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE CELEBRATING WORLD THEATRE DAY

We enjoyed celebrating World Theatre Day. Mr Birdsall and Miss Manning delivered an inspiring presentation about the magic of theatre which looked at the benefits of theatre on health and wellbeing. You can browse the assembly [here](#).

Mr Birdsall said: "In a world where we have had so much doom and gloom, I thought it apt to theme the assembly on the magic of theatre, looking at why theatre is so magical through stagecraft and in its portrayal of current issues and themes within society."

The assembly comes hot on the heels of our Theatre groups performing three shows at The Georgian Theatre and as workshops and auditions are underway for our November production of Alice in Wonderland: The Curious Pantomime. We have a thriving Performing Arts department at Richmond School and are loving being back on the stage.

Keep your eye out for a line-up of performances coming up after April, kicking off with our 'Return to the Stage' dance showcase on Thursday 28th April (see above!)



PERFORMING ARTS

SHOW-STOPPING PERFORMANCE BY YEAR 7 AND 8 STUDENTS

The junior members of our Theatre Company excelled themselves at their recent performance of *Race To Be Seen*, at the Georgian Theatre Royal. Directed by Mr Birdsall and Guy Feakins, in Year 9, the ensemble performance was made up of 20 Year 7 and 8 students who took the roles of performers and backstage crew.



For many of the students in this cast, it was their first time performing, especially on a professional stage, and it was great to see so many younger students ignite their passion for the arts.

Mr Birdsall said: "The group worked incredibly hard especially given the added challenge of Covid-19 and the implications surrounding the pandemic. Even with a performer catching Covid the week of the performance, the cast stepped up brilliantly and still delivered a show-stopping performance. I am hugely grateful for the support of Guy and I know the younger students have looked up to him and enjoyed being led by him."



"As one performance goes down we are starting three more! The juniors are teaming up with the senior group of Richmond School Theatre Company to create an outdoor Shakespeare Comedy festival which will be made up of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', 'Much Ado About Nothing' and 'Twelfth Night' to be performed under the stars. Keep your eyes peeled for the date!

On the day of the dress rehearsal it was great to see former student Saul Tuite who called in to deliver a fantastic workshop with the students ahead of the show.

The story of 'Race To Be Seen' describes the events of how an award-winning play came to be written about the amazing World Champion Blind Athlete Graham Salmon MBE, who tragically died in 1999. It charts his parents' story when, as a baby, Graham had to have both eyes removed due to an incurable eye cancer. It follows his schooldays and how he was expelled for running a book as well as his trials in trying to secure a job and finally, his incredible sporting success! Graham went on to play golf for the international visually impaired team. He hit the headlines again for hitting a hole in one. His final battle was against cancer. Graham surrendered first his leg and then his life...but never became downcast...he wanted his autobiography to be called *Wide Eyed And Legless*!



PERFORMING ARTS

POWERFUL PERFORMANCE BY SENIOR MEMBERS OF THEATRE COMPANY

Following fantastic feedback from their production of *When They Go Low* at The Georgian Theatre Royal, the senior members of our School Theatre Company performed the play to students in Years 7 through to 10. The Company is made up of two Year 9 students and eight Year 11 students and the play was directed by Mr Birdsall and James Slater, in Year 12.

Mrs Potter, Headteacher, saw the play at the Georgian Theatre and said: "I was blown away by the powerful messages in relation to peer-on-peer abuse conveyed so brilliantly by the senior members of our Theatre Company. I knew straight away that we absolutely had to share this performance with our students. Without any doubt, students teaching each other on matters such as this has much more impact than teachers attempting to do so. I would like to applaud our actors who were so courageous to stand up in front of 200+ students and also Mr Birdsall and Miss Manning are to be congratulated on the first-class execution of this powerful project. Each year group watched and listened respectfully and sensibly - I am very sure they will have taken away some very valuable learning from the experience."

When They Go Low, by Natalie Mitchell, is based around an incident which happens at a party 'where pictures emerge of a girl and social media goes in to a frenzy.' The play tackles more than this one incident, however. It tackles slut shaming, feminism, teenage sexuality and how both girls and boys feel about the way in which they are presented on and offline and their standing in the modern world. Ultimately, it looks at why they all feel under so much pressure to conform to outdated stereotypes and why boys feel as though they're having their rights stripped away when girls take charge. Objectifying and shaming girls for their actions is a big part of the debate in this play about how young men and women feel they should interact and it's a stark reminder of how much further we have to go to create real and genuine equality.

Mr Birdsall said: "I am incredibly proud of the work ethic and dedication of the students in their endless efforts with practising what is probably one of our strongest performances to date. The hard work is really all down to the group and the concept came through a collaborative process. Miss Manning and I are really looking forward to working with these students at A-level.

"Their efforts paid off and they successfully portrayed this harrowing subject. We received some thought-provoking feedback from a parent who watched the original performance and in turn this progressed with the students performing the play four more times to Years 7-10 to share the play's strong messages and promote the school's priority on minimising peer-on-peer abuse."

Richmond School Theatre Company's seniors are entered for the *All England Theatre Festival*. This is a countrywide, competitive festival of one-act drama. They are performing *The Edelweiss Pirates* by Atub Kahn Din on Saturday 23rd April @ 7pm at The Georgian Theatre Royal.

After this, they will be teaming up with Richmond School Theatre Company's junior group to create an outdoor Shakespeare Comedy festival which will be made up of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Twelfth Night* to be performed outdoors under the direction of Mr Birdsall, Miss Manning, Guy Feakins and Poppy Mortimer. *Twelfth Night* will be performed by our senior group with our juniors taking on *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Much Ado About Nothing*.



STUDENTS TAKE FIRST STEP ON THE PROFESSIONAL RUGBY LADDER

Two students who are key members of Darlington RFC'S Under 16 team at Blackwell Meadows have taken their first step on the professional rugby ladder, after being scouted for the prestigious Newcastle Falcons Academy. Osea Navuso and Alex Nimmo, Year 11 students, are both exceptional sportsmen and have worked incredibly hard to reach this high level in the game.



Being part of the Falcons Academy is a huge honour and a superb opportunity for Osea and Alex to develop their game and skills, as well as being a springboard for them to follow in the footsteps of some of the most well-known names in the rugby world. The Falcons have an enviable track record in bringing local players through the Academy system and into the Newcastle Falcons first team squad and beyond. Over 30 players have gone on to earn International honours, including British and Irish Lions players Jonny Wilkinson, Rory Best and Geoff Parling.

Osea, who plays as a centre and is renowned for being very quick and strong with a superb offloading game, has played at Darlington for four years, having converted from rugby league. A backrow forward, Alex is in his second season with the club and is very athletic, an excellent all-round sportsman who excels at most facets of the game with an incredibly strong tackle but equally quick with ball in hand.

Grant Hopkins, Under 16s coach at Darlington RFC said: "Osea and Alex were initially chosen for Durham DPP (Developing Player Pathway) which select approximately 10% of the best players in the area. Due to their outstanding performances they were selected for the Falcons who only take the top players in the North East and Cumbria. The boys are great to work with and I am so pleased their hard work is paying off. Congratulations to the school for producing two great lads whose attitude and effort to succeed in their chosen sport is admirable.

"We are very proud that, as a club, together with Will Hopkins and Johnny Burgess, we have four players represented in the Academy. I really appreciate the dedication that these boys put into their rugby and it is incredibly satisfying to watch them train and know where they have come from."

Alex and Osea said: "We are thrilled to have this great opportunity and to receive training from professional rugby union coaches. We are really looking forward to our first games playing against other leading academies in the country."

In addition to their training and match commitments at Darlington, Osea and Alex train twice each week at the Falcons Academy at Kingston Park. They train like professionals and as well as being mentored by some of the best coaches in the country, they are surrounded by many of the top players of their age range in the region.

Jack Moore, PE Teacher, said: "This is fantastic news for Osea and Alex who wholly deserve this opportunity. It comes as no surprise to me that their potential has been noticed, they are both really promising sportsmen who are fabulous team players with the right ethic and commitment required to succeed in the professional rugby field.

"We are very proud of all the students at Richmond School who are dedicated to the game. As well as students across the year groups playing for Darlington RFC, we also have many students who play for our local clubs such as Wensleydale and Richmondshire. It is fantastic and exciting to see that rugby is very much alive in our area."

SPORT

CLOSE MATCH FOR YEAR 11s

It was a close match for the Year 11s when they played Archbishop Holgate's School in the quarter final of the County Cup. It was a closely contested game but Archbishop Holgate's deserved the victory, winning 3:2.

Man of the match was Sam Booth who was outstanding at the centre of defence.



UNDER 13s HAVE EVERYTHING TO PLAY FOR AT YORKSHIRE COUNTY FINALS DAY

Our Under 13 Indoor Cricket Team have made it through to Yorkshire County Finals Day at Headingley. Following a successful day at the North Yorkshire Finals, the team finished runners up after a tight final against South Craven, who will also join Richmond in the showpiece event.

Following wins against Sacred Heart and Queen Ethelburga's in the group stages, Richmond faced Acklam Grange in the semi-finals, in what turned out to be a nail biter. Having only scored 43 runs, Richmond were well under par with the bat, however after a magnificent display with the ball and in the field we managed to bowl Acklam out for a mere 34 as we marched onto the final.

Facing South Craven in the final, we were once again asked to bat first, however this time we showed much greater intent with the bat and scored a competitive 76 from our 8 overs. The game was always going to be a close affair, and this went right down to the wire, with South Craven chasing the Richmond total down with a ball to spare, hitting a 6 off the back wall to clinch the win. It was disappointing not to win the final however the students were buoyed by the prospect of a trip to Headingley to face the other regional qualifiers in a battle to become Yorkshire champions in two weeks' time.



Mr Swanwick, PE Teacher, said: "During tournaments like this you often find that teams have a stand-out performer, however I can genuinely say that all eight players shone throughout, with one opposition manager making a point of telling us that we had by far the best fielding side in the competition. Isaac, Sophie, Archie, Will, Josh, Jack, Ollie and Elliot should all be very proud of their efforts and will travel to Headingley with everything to play for."

LUKE SCOOPS COVETED BRITISH MINI-BIKE SERIES

A talented and tenacious young motorcyclist has shown his mettle after overcoming a broken leg and ankle to scoop the Junior British Mini-Bikes Winter Series.

Luke Hutchison, a fourteen-year-old Year 9 student, competed in three rounds to win the coveted title, two at the Three Sisters Race Track at Wigan and one at Ellough Park Raceway at Beccles. This is an incredible achievement for Luke who has only been racing for three years and is rapidly making a name for himself in the British Mini-Bikes Series, and both the English Norasport Championship and the Scottish Mini-Bike Championship.

Luke's victory is made all the more impressive as in July last year he broke his leg and ankle during a race in Scotland, yet still managed to finish fourth in a summer championship. In spite of several months recuperation, he managed to get himself bike fit in time for the Winter Series.

This year, Luke will continue competing in the age 14 and under JSM140 race category, however he is hoping to step up to a larger bike in 2023. His plan is to compete in the televised British Super Bikes Junior Supersport, racing on a Kawasaki Ninja 400.

Luke said: "I am really pleased with my performance this year, especially given my injuries and being up against competitors who have been racing for much longer than me. As a relative newcomer, it has been really satisfying to reach a national standard so quickly. My dream is to move up to British Super Bikes, which will not only demand a higher level of fitness and bike performance, but also a much higher investment, not only to purchase and maintain the bike but to be able to attend all the races. I am hoping to receive sponsorship to enable me to do this."

Luke currently rides a Symoto 140cc Pit bike, which is a derivative of a motor-cross bike with a four-stroke engine and ten-inch wheels. The Norasport academy mini-bike circuit involves 12 laps and Luke's average is an impressive 58 seconds per lap, depending on the track. Racing is in Luke's blood as his Dad and two Uncles used to race at tracks such as Croft, Cadwell Park and the Isle of Man TT. Luke added: "Once I'm old enough, it is my ambition to do road racing."

Jenna Potter, Headteacher, said: "I am so impressed that Luke has achieved the top spot in the Junior Bikes Mini-Series, this is a fantastic achievement and really shows how committed and passionate Luke is about his sport. He is obviously very talented and deserves to step up to the next level and further develop his bike skills."

Luke clearly has a promising talent and to further his career he is seeking sponsorship. If any companies or individuals are interested in supporting Luke with sponsorship to further his promising biking career then please join the Team Hutch Racing [Facebook Page](#) at or visit Luke's [gofund me page](#).



YEAR 8 AND 9 GIRLS FOOTBALLERS HEAD TO THE COUNTY CUP SEMIS

The Year 8 and 9 girls football team are heading to the County Cup semi-finals after beating Queen Ethelburga's 6:2 at home.

Beth Johnson, PE teacher, said: "The girls played tremendously and battled until the very last whistle. The game could have gone either way, despite how it looks in the score line. QE put in some great challenges which made it difficult for us to attack. We got 2-0 up before conceding. The girls' heads didn't drop though, they fought on to score another 3 goals before conceding again, making it 5-2. They managed to bury the 6th goal in the last ten minutes which secured our place in the semi finals. All the girls played tremendously well – which made my job incredibly difficult to try to get the subs on! I look forward to the girls going further in the competition and being the only team left to represent Richmond School."



The goal scorers were: Emma (x3), Grace (x2) and Isabella (x1). Players of the match were Emma and Grace, nominated by QE.

RUN, JUMP AND THROW!

Richmond School students in Year 7 and Year 8 demonstrated their ability to run, jump and throw at the recent Indoor Sports Athletics competition last week. Four Richmond School teams competed against teams from Bedale School and Wensleydale School during the afternoon in a range of events including obstacle relay, vertical jump, shot and 4x2 lap relay. The event was organised and delivered by Richmond Sixth Form CTEC Sport students.



Richmond Boys Team 1 finished 5th in their competition with Richmond Boys Team 2 finishing in 2nd place. Our Girls Team 2 finished in 3rd place in their competition with Richmond Girls Team 1 finishing 1st and winning the competition. Congratulations to the champions - Emmy, Amelia, Isobel, Abi, Martha, Lily-Mae, Milly and Mia.



Ms Abbey, Lead Teacher for PE said: "The atmosphere at the event was amazing and, even though some Richmond School students were competing against each other, they still cheered everyone on to do their best."

We had a lot of students who were keen to be part of this athletics event so selection was a challenging process. Athletics club starts after Easter and we have more outdoor competitions coming up, including Sports Day. All students are encouraged to come along."



GRACE SCOUTED FOR FA GIRLS' TALENT CLUB

It is fantastic news for Grace Dobson, in Year 8, who has been scouted for two FA Girls' Talent Clubs - Teesside RTC and Durham RTC. Grace's potential was spotted by the clubs which help the next generation of female football stars to flourish, and has a track record of producing female footballers of international calibre.

Grace has been playing football since she was eight, when she came home from primary school and asked if she could go to football training in Leyburn. The rest, as they say, is history! Grace swiftly developed a passion for football, playing in the Leyburn boys' team until she was ten, when she moved to Aycliffe boys' team for a season. She then signed for Darlington Quakers girls' team where she currently plays left wing and has already scored over 70 goals in the league. She currently trains with the Quakers twice a week, plays football every Saturday and has never missed a match or a training session.

Since being selected by the FA Talent Clubs, Grace's training commitment has increased to four sessions each week.

A Sunderland supporter through and through, Grace says: "I really can't get enough of football, if I'm not training or playing in matches then I'm keeping up with what's going on with Sunderland, watching as many of their games as I can. I was over the moon to be selected for the FA Girls' Talent Club and I love having the opportunity to play more often. I am most grateful to the Quakers and Stockton Town FC for the support they give me, I am learning so much and improving my game all the time."



CHARLIE RACES TO THE TOP IN NORTH YORKSHIRE

Following his brilliant performance in the Area and County Cross Country Trials, Charlie Stephenson has excelled at the English Schools Cross Country Championship in Kent, finishing first for North Yorkshire and 17th overall.

This is a fabulous achievement. Charlie has represented Richmond School and Sixth Form College since he started in Year 7 and this was his last race as he will be leaving Sixth Form College in the summer.

Sandra Johnson, Assistant Headteacher, said: "Charlie will be greatly missed from our cross country team. Over the years he has devoted so much of his time to training and competing and he should be incredibly proud of everything he has achieved.

He has also been an excellent role model for our younger students."



AN OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY YEAR 7 NETBALL TEAM

The Year 7 netball team put in an outstanding performance to finish a close 2nd, behind Stokesley, our fellow Areté Trust School, at the Under 12 Area Netball tournament.

Richmond won their first three games of the tournament, beating Bedale (6-0), Northallerton (4-1) and Easingwold (4-1). Stokesley had also won all of their matches going into the final game. It was a competitive and evenly-matched game of netball that was great to watch and play in. We narrowly lost to Stokesley 6-5 but our team were really proud of their overall performance. The team have been training hard and have played quite a few challenging games against Year 8s which has really helped them develop as a team and improve their netball. Well done to Annabel, Grace, Mia, Isobel C, Milly, Ellen, Sophie, Jorge, Isobel W and Charlotte and congratulations to the Stokesley team.



HAVE A TRY WITH RICHMONDSHIRE RFC GIRLS RUGBY TEAMS

Richmondshire RFC have two girls teams – U15 and U13 - and they would love to give more girls the opportunity to play.

Coach/manager Gary Howell said: “We are always looking for new players. If any girls in Years 7 to 10 want to have a go please do come and join the fastest-growing team in the area. Less than two years ago we had three girls and now we have 26 girls across both teams.

The teams train on a Friday night and Sunday morning, with games and festivals on Sundays and whether you have played before or not, you will be very welcome. The U15s recently beat Hartlepool 52-30, a fantastic achievement as the team only came together late last year and it was only their second game. Gary said: “I was very proud to watch the team put in a performance like that in such a short space of time.”

For more information [email](#) or message the club via [Facebook](#).



NEW GIRLS FOOTBALL TEAM

Richmond Town FC Women & Girls have launched a new age group to grow their current girls and ladies section. Launching their new Under 10 girls age group (current school years 4 and 5, moving to Under 11 in September). All abilities are welcome on Wednesdays at our Dave Clark Arena from 18:30-19:30.



HAVING FUN IN THE SUN

Our Year 7 and 8 rugby club meets on a Tuesday evening and the students have really been enjoying playing in the sunny weather. The club is open to girls and boys between 3:30 and 4:30. Thank you to Roger Swainston for giving up his time to coach the students.



JOSH TEES UP FOR AMERICA

A talented golfer is over the moon to be one of only 20 young players to be signed up by Team Peak USA. Josh Newell, a Year 12 student at Richmond Sixth Form College, plays for Harrogate Union, an Area Golf Team, who recommended he apply to the scheme and he has been selected for consideration for the 2023 scholarship programme.

The Team Peak USA programme offers scholarships for students to study for a degree in the States, whilst also devoting a large percentage of their time to improving and developing their golf - something that isn't currently available in the UK.

Seventeen-year-old Josh now has a player's profile where details of his experience, competition successes and talent are updated and will be shared with USA colleges and universities. If Josh's application is successful, he could receive a scholarship to cover a considerable percentage of both his academic and golf fees.

Team Peak USA said: "We are delighted to announce our latest signing of Josh Newell, from North Yorkshire, to our 2023 recruitment class. Josh is an all-round sportsman and in the past couple of years, he has started to show promising signs on the golf course. We look forward to watching Josh's progress this season. Welcome Josh!"

Josh regularly represents the Harrogate Union Golf Team in competitions in the North of England and this year he will compete at the prestigious St Andrews course. Josh is studying Triple CTEC Sport and aspires to be a professional golfer or to follow a career in the golf or sporting field. He has been playing golf since he was 14 years old, and his interest was sparked initially by playing pitch and putt and then joining his local golf club in Bedale one summer when they were advertising for new junior club members. He was already playing football and cricket for local teams and liked the idea of taking up a sport which was based on individual skills, rather than being a 'team' sport. He quickly became hooked and showed a great deal of flair reducing his handicap from 54 to 28 in the space of one year. He now plays off 4! Last year, Josh was rewarded for his success at Bedale Golf Club with the Junior Gross Claret Jug and the Junior Club Championship Gross.

Josh said: "I am so excited to have been selected for the Team Peak USA golf programme but now the hard work really begins as I need to build up my profile and demonstrate that I am a strong and talented player with the potential to become a professional."

Jenna Potter, Headteacher, added: "This is amazing news for Josh, to be one of only twenty players being considered for this fabulous opportunity in America is a great achievement. His focus and commitment to sport is exceptional and I wish him every success."



ANOTHER OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY PENI, JAKE AND KIERAN

Well done to Peni, Jake and Kieran who once again have put in an outstanding performance at Darlington Blackwell Meadows when they played in the recent under 15 semi-finals of the county cup today, winning 22-10 against a very strong Billingham team. There were excellent performances from Richmond school students.

Peni's physical presence and strong running were a major factor in the team's attacking performance. Jake's strength and physicality in the scrum and around the ruck, were only surpassed by his tackling. Kieran controlled his defence with skill and authority, patrolling the back field and making some crucial tackles to keep the attack at bay.

The whole team played the game of their lives and have got what they deserve. We now look forward to and wish them all the best for the final on 24th April.



ERYN STARS AT CRUFTS

Amazing news for Eryn Williams, in Year 12, who was placed second in the Crufts Young Kennel Club (YKC) Gundog Handling class. This is a fantastic achievement for Eryn who qualified for the prestigious Crufts event and competed in a group of 12.

Eryn was working in partnership with Lyra, her Golden Retriever who at only two-years-old is showing maturity and skill beyond her years. Eryn's passion for dogs and dog handling started at a very young age and she has been competing in the YKC events for nine years. She has competed at Crufts since 2017 and this is the fourth time she has been placed in the top three.

In the gundog handling class, the judge is solely looking at the handler, how they communicate with their dog and handle it in accordance with the breed. The judge sets the patterns and commands for all the competitors, such as triangles, straight lines and figures of eights.

Eryn competes most weekends, locally in open shows and across the country in championships. She also handles for other breeders. Eryn said: "I love dog handling and particularly enjoy the experiences I gain from working with different breeds. It's a lot of fun and I get to meet a lot of lovely people who have the same passion as me."

Eryn is passionate about animals. She is hoping to study for a career in Veterinary Science in the future.



NETBALL IS THRIVING AT RICHMOND SCHOOL

Richmond School hosted four Netball fixtures against Barnard Castle.

The Year 9 team played first and won their match comfortably 14-3. We then played two teams of Year 10 students followed by our Year 11 team.

All teams played well, represented their school impeccably and enjoyed the opportunity to play against a very high standard of opposition.

Netball is thriving at Richmond School and Sixth Form College, with a number of our students also playing in adult teams in the community. Well done to everyone who took part.



YEAR 9 FOOTBALLERS DRAW 2:2 IN THE AREA CUP

The Year 9s had a thrilling game against Thirsk in the Area Cup which finished 2-2.

Thirsk started well with a cross from Justin to Alasdair who finished nicely to lead 1-0. Soon after, Thirsk equalised with a very well taken goal from their midfielder. Just before half time, Ollie Rogerson's free kick hit the crossbar ending the half 1-1.

In the second half, Thirsk got a free kick which hit the post and was turned in on the rebound make it 2-1.

With 15 minutes to go, a great through ball to Alex Connelly left him one on one with the keeper and he turned it in. 2-2.

In the last 5 minutes, both teams had chances to take the victory with the best chance coming when Alex Connelly crossed the ball in to Justin Hepper who just knocked the ball over the bar.



SPORT

GREAT RESULTS AT COUNTY DRESSAGE COMPETITION

Congratulations to our students in the Richmond School Equestrian Team who competed in two teams at the recent County Dressage competition. This was a County Championship qualifier and the Black Team were the top North Yorkshire team in the competition and came fourth overall, so will go on to represent North Yorkshire at the National Finals. The Red Team were ranked third in North Yorkshire, finishing 7th overall.

Freddie Nicholson, Polly Nicholson, Isobel Cook and Lily Wilson were the Black Team who have qualified to represent North Yorkshire at the Championship with Polly Nicholson, Bella Wilson and Molly Mcallister being the members of the Red Team who were placed 3rd for North Yorkshire.

Students were judged as individuals, as well as part of the team, and Isobel Cook finished in 1st place so she will represent North Yorkshire at the championships as an individual too. Polly Nicholson and Molly Mcallister also finished in the top 10 for North Yorkshire as individuals.

Well done to all the students who took part.



EXCELLENCE AT AREA RUGBY EVENT

The area rugby competition saw some excellent playing by our Year 7 and 8 students. The Year 7s were fantastic with some superb tackling and rucking from Zak and Josh. They won 5 and lost 1 which meant they finished first equal.

The Year 8s had a few harder games but played some great rugby. Isaac was unstoppable with the ball and Joshua's tackling was brilliant. They finished second equal out of the 6 teams. Well done to all the students who took part.

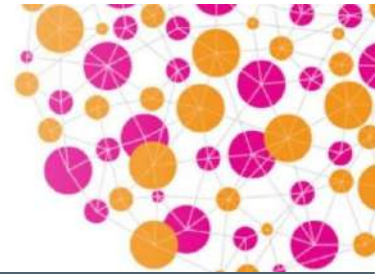


ACADEMIC

LET'S GROW IN BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

Each year, the British Science Association celebrate Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths with British Science Week. Over ten days, from 11th-20 March, people from all over the UK took part in events and activities to develop their skills in these areas. This year's theme was 'growth' and aimed to encourage people to think about STEM all around us.

11-20 March
British
Science
Week
2022



There are so many examples of growth in our everyday lives which are presented in Miss Weir's [fantastic assembly](#). What are your views on growth? Could it be the lifecycle of an organism? Could it be how population growth is affecting the planet? Could it be the growth of technology or the economy? British Science Week has been around since 1994 and it is a celebration of all the STEM subjects. It is to encourage people to think about and get involved with STEM subjects especially science. One of the aims of the British Science Week is to challenge the stereotypes around scientists and working in science. Science is the way we try to understand the world around us and answer the questions we all have.

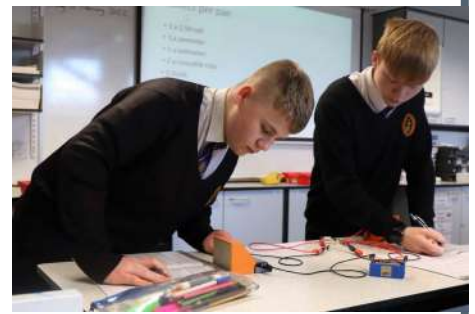
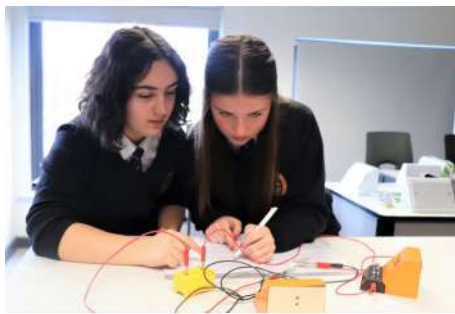
Miss Weir, Science Teacher, said: "This Science week we looked at growth from the very big to the microscopic. We looked at how the human population has grown over time and the impact that Science has had on this growth. We were all amazed to discover how much the global population has increased especially when we discovered that it has almost doubled in my lifetime. We then looked at the opportunities Science allows students to meet the demands of our population and that there may be jobs for them that do not exist yet.

"I am always excited to be involved with British Science Week in school. It would be amazing if students participated by taking part in the poster competition or looking at the resources online for ideas of activities to do at home."

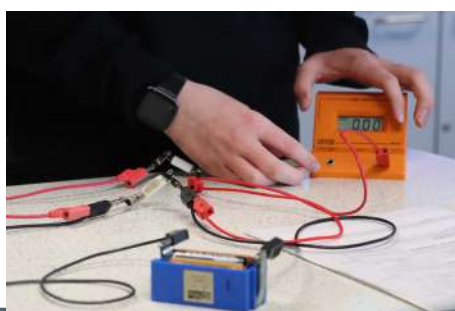
Further information about British Science Week can be found [here](#).

YEAR 10 STUDENTS INVESTIGATE RESISTORS

It was great to catch up with some of our Year 10 students who were carrying out a Physics practical activity investigating resistors in series and parallel circuits with Mr Hughes.



The students needed to set up a number of series and parallel circuits and measure potential difference and current in parts of each in order to calculate and compare the resistance in parts of the circuits.



ACADEMIC

SOMETHING FISHY GOING ON IN SCIENCE CLUB!

Run by Mr Randall and Mrs Lam, our thriving Year 7 and 8 Science Club meets on a Wednesday evening. At the club, students who are interested in Science have the opportunity to try out new experiments and tasks. When the students were recently dissecting fish, they had support from our Sixth Form Science Students who helped mentor the students and set up the hands-on activity.



Mr Randall said: "Our students really enjoy coming to Science Club and it is fantastic that they can draw on the experience and knowledge of our Sixth Form students. I was really impressed with how the students handled the dissection of a fish – it was quite a gory activity with a pungent and overpowering aroma throughout the Science lab, but this didn't deter the students who very carefully removed fins and even the eyes! Thank you to Cora and Lewis for guiding the students with this activity."



Year 7 and 8 students are very welcome to come along and try the Science Club which meets from 3:30-4:30 on Wednesday evenings, in JS05.

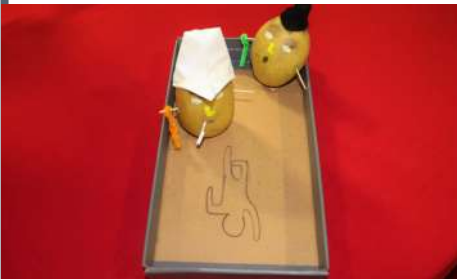


ACADEMIC

FANTASTIC POTATO BOOK CHARACTERS IN WORLD BOOK DAY CHALLENGE

Congratulations to Archie (Year 9) and Elena, in Year 7, who came first and second place in our World Book Day Challenge to create a book character from a potato. Judged by Mrs Potter, Mr Hedley and Mrs Farquhar, Archie's 'Hungry Caterpillar' took top honours with Elena's Alice in Wonderland coming a very close second.

Mrs Weston, Lead Learning Manager, who organised the competition said: "I have been so impressed with the amazing ideas that the students had, they really excelled themselves with some very clever designs from Sherlock Holmes to Mr Bump! Thank you to all the students who took part and dedicated so much time to creating their characters with such careful attention to detail."



We loved celebrating World Book day, although our students celebrate their love of reading every day of the year!

Roald Dahl is always a popular favourite and our students are really enjoyed our latest library display - Matilda 'Which Roald Dahl Book to Read Next?'



ACADEMIC

STUDENTS CREATE TASTY TREATS FOR TUNNOCK'S TEACAKE CHALLENGE

Our GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition students have recently shown their creative flair in the Tunnock's Teacake Challenge. This is a national competition which is run annually and attracts entries from across the country. This year's theme was 'The Natural World' and students were encouraged to decorate a Tunnock's Teacake in the most creative way possible whilst also reflecting the theme.

There were two categories – Over 14s and Most Novel. All of our Year 10 students created spectacular entries but unfortunately only one student per school can be entered into each category. The final decision came down to foodie and Headteacher Mrs Potter, who chose Joseph McKinlay for the Over 14s category and Emily Stewart for the Most Novel category. These two students will now be entered into the national competition which closes at the end of April.

Hannah Tucker, Lead Teacher of Technology, said: "I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing our students demonstrate their creative food preparation skills. They have all demonstrated excellent skill and attention to detail in presenting these dishes. The effort the students all put into this competition was outstanding and I know it was very tough to choose just two students to be entered into the national competition. Good luck to Joe and Emily for the national Tunnock's Teacake Challenge!"



Anyone who goes to the annual pantomime at the Georgian Theatre Royal will know that Tunnock's Teacakes are an essential ingredient of the show. Every year, teacakes are delivered to the theatre and at each pantomime performance the cast throw them into the audience for lucky members of the audience to catch.

YOUNG ENGINEERS TAKE TWO TOP AWARDS AT ROTARY TECHNOLOGY TOURNAMENT

The Rotary Technology Tournament, hosted by Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME), at Catterick Garrison, went even better than expected with our Year 9 and Year 12 teams scooping two out of the three top awards. We took four teams of four students to the event. The Year 9 team included Ellie, Francesca, Molly and Henry, with two Year 10 teams, with Daniel, Cameron, Oliver, Emily, Alfred, Cain, Dale and Kirsty, as well as one Year 12 team, with Jack, Astrah, Ethan and Arianna.

The students were tasked with designing and making a device that could pick up radioactive material (a tennis ball), which was sat inside a wooden box with a hole in the front of it, from over a metre away and then place it gently on a small target on the floor. This is not as easy as it might sound! The older the year group the narrower the window to remove the radioactive material through was. Marks were awarded for a range of criteria including the production of a design portfolio.

Five other schools participated including Barnard Castle School, Cundall Manor School, Bedale High School, Hurworth School and Wensleydale School and Sixth Form College, and with an age range of participants from 12 to 18 years, with each school having a number of teams. The Sixth form team was also pitted against teams of REME soldiers, each a little older than them as there were two REME companies taking part as guest teams.

Our Year 9 won the Foundation Level event and the Year 12s won the Advanced Level event and they were presented with a trophy and book vouchers. Our Year 10 teams achieved 4th and 5th place out of around 12 teams in their age group. Our Year 12 even beat a REME team! The trophies, prizes and certificates were awarded by senior REME officers and Rotary members. A correspondent from BFBS Radio was also present and the event coordinator specifically asked for two of our students and Mr Wilson to do a recorded interview to be broadcast on their service.

Richard Wilson, DT and Engineering Teacher said: "Our students were exemplary in their maturity and performance. The teams were presented with stunning glass trophies which we will proudly display at school."

It was wonderful for the students to have the opportunity to take part in the tournament, which the Rotary Clubs of Richmond, Northallerton, Northallerton Mowbray, Thirsk and Wensleydale have organised for over 15 years. We are so grateful to the local Rotary clubs for their support and to REME for hosting the event. The tournament is sponsored by the West Yorkshire Society of Architects.

Richmond Rotarian Jos Huddleston who led the event commented: "It was really great to see the young people involved again. Their energy, commitment and technical skills were tremendous and, as ever, we were very grateful for the contribution of colleagues from all the Rotary Clubs and in particular to the REME Depot at Catterick and Royal Engineers for their support and the provision of a superb venue.'

Richmond Rotary Club President Emma Fulton said: "Rotary Clubs are very committed to supporting their local communities and it is particularly worthwhile to be involved with such outstanding young people."



ACADEMIC

SUPERTIERE ARE SUPERB!

Our Year 7 students have produced exceptional work for their 'Supertiere' German homework. They were tasked with designing and creating their own Super Animal and had the freedom to craft them from materials of their choice. They also had to write an article describing their designs. The standard was superb with some really innovative creations using a wide selection of techniques and materials. The Supertiere were displayed in the student reception area for students and staff to enjoy and it was wonderful to see the admiration from everyone as they browsed the designs.



The Supertiere were judged by Mrs Potter, who had a very difficult decision to make as the standard was so high. The winner was Grace for her fantastic dogs, Paul and Stefan. In 2nd place was Milly with Forest the Peacock and Lottie came 3rd with Myrtle the Turtle. Aidan's owl, Ellen's stick insects and Lacey's octopus were all highly commended. Miss Dunwoodie presented prizes to the students in assembly.



Miss Dutton, Lead Teacher for German, said: "We have been blown away with the amazing work our students have produced for this project. Their imaginative and creative designs are outstanding and it was great to see the huge variety of Supertiere from owls and giraffes to foxes and even an octopus!"

Grace said of her winning dogs: "The thing that inspired me to create my dogs was my own dog Fudge. He is a white and lemon spaniel, so I made Stefan white and Paul light brown. Also, I just love dogs in general!!!! My dogs are made out of a pair of white socks, that I stuffed with rice and stuffing to make the body shape. Then I covered them in wool to make the fur and added a ribbon, eyes and a nose to finish them off."

Thank you to all the students who devoted so much time to make their Supertiere – an amazing effort by everyone involved.



ACADEMIC

STUDENTS TEST PROTOTYPE FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING APP

Students in Years 7 and 8 have been involved in the testing of the next prototype for 'Knights of the European Grail' a language learning App as part of an Erasmus project in association with the Goethe Institut.

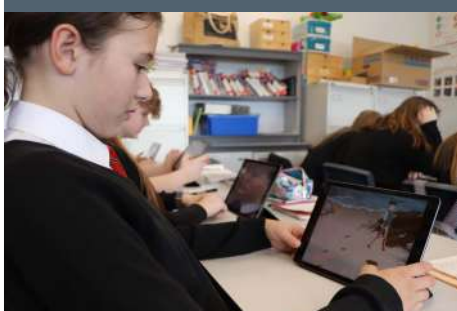


Fiona Dutton, Lead Teacher for German, said: "As a Pasch Schule, we are committed to supporting this project which will eventually be released in a wide number of European languages. We were honoured to be selected to assist with the development of the prototype."



The app is a quest-style game set in medieval Europe and learners have to navigate various scenes by clicking on characters, learning key pieces of vocabulary and following the history. In order to carry out this testing, the Goethe Institut has loaned the school a number of iPads and tablets that we will be able to use to enhance the learning of German in the classroom.

The testing was a success and students have completed a questionnaire that will feed directly back to the developers. Ms Dutton and Mrs Cheesbrough were very pleased with the detailed feedback given and the way in which the students engaged with the game. Well done to all the students who were involved.



ACADEMIC

STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT LEADERSHIP

Our Year 10 student leaders attended a leadership training workshop and explored what makes a good leader, what skills are needed, and how these skills can be developed in school. The workshop was by Kevin Cabra Netherton, an experienced Royal Navy Officer, who is also CEO of two travel businesses - Euroventure and GOAT Road Trip. Kevin is an entrepreneur with many transferable skills and he has a lot of knowledge which he was able to impart to the students.



Mrs Weston, Lead Learning Manager said: "The student leaders will be involved with open days, school events, assemblies and will be acting as school ambassadors. The training will help them to develop their confidence and communication skills."

Ms Mannion, Careers Leader added: "It is great that we can open our doors to employers once again and the students enjoyed interacting with Kevin, discussing leadership, and coming up with their own action plans. The event was inspiring and we are very grateful to Kevin for giving up his time to support our 28 Year 10 leaders."

Kevin has met with Dillan Hollas from Year 12 as Dillan is interested in joining the armed forces as an Officer. Kevin helped Dillan to understand the key attributes required and how to develop these in sixth form.

NEW AUTHOR BRINGS FUN TO THE LIBRARY WITH LOKI!

We are pleased to introduce a new author to our library. Loki is written and illustrated by Louie Stowell and we think it is going to be a hit with many of our students. Mrs Farquhar, librarian, said: "Loki is in the form of a diary, with lots of cartoons and doodles and will appeal to fans of Wimpy Kid and Tom Gates' books. It's very visually appealing and students who are put off by pages of unbroken text will find this a less-daunting read. It's a funny and witty book with an intriguing storyline. Students will be hooked as they read about Loki's escapades and wonder if he can ever change his personality and become a nicer person or if he is doomed to eternal damnation."



The plot follows the story of Loki, the troublesome Norse god, who has been causing mayhem in Asgard, home of the gods. As punishment, Odin, the most powerful god, turns Loki into a weedy 11-year-old boy, banishes him to Earth and gives him a month to change his attitude. If he shows moral improvement, he will be allowed to return to Asgard; if not, he faces eternal torture involving snakes. On Earth, Loki is forbidden from using his powers and is forced to write a diary so that Odin can keep track of him. The diary is magical and only allows Loki to tell the truth, rather than his usual lies. This book is Loki's diary of his time on Earth, as he pretends to be a schoolboy and tries to get back into Odin's good books.

Loki is published by Walker Books where Alice Dawes, a former student, works as an editorial assistant. We are most grateful to Walker Books for kindly providing Loki bookmarks, activity sheets and the poster.



ACADEMIC

MEET SAM – CLINICAL LEAD OF THE WELLBEING IN MIND TEAM

We are pleased to introduce Sam Holmes, the Clinical Lead of the Wellbeing in Mind Team in the Hambleton and Richmond area, who supports our students and staff in school and college.

Sam says: “I have worked as a mental health nurse for the last 13 years and have enjoyed lots of different roles in that time. I have really enjoyed starting this new service in Richmond School and Sixth Form College and getting to know the teaching staff and students. I am really enjoying working closely with the school and college and making wellbeing and mental health accessible and visible in our communities for young people.

“I am married with two children and in my spare time I love to watch them play sports and spend time together. I have a cat and a dog and thankfully they get on well and aren’t like Tom and Jerry! For my own mental health and wellbeing, I find dog walking helps me connect with nature and keep active.



MEET NICOLA - SENIOR CLINICIAN IN THE WELLBEING IN MIND TEAM

I'm Nicola and I'm a Senior Clinician in the Hambleton and Richmondshire team. I spent 10 years teaching in secondary schools and sixth form colleges before retraining to be a Children's Wellbeing Practitioner in 2019. I worked in CAMHS for 3 years before starting in my current role with the WiMT and have lots of experience supporting children and young people with their mental health.

I love travelling and have been lucky enough to see lots of different countries and experience lots of different cultures along the way. Before the pandemic, I trained as an open water scuba diver and I was lucky enough to scuba dive in Cuba last year. One of my favourite places to visit is Orlando in Florida as I love visiting the theme parks. I also love to go for long walks in the countryside as it helps keep me fit while also supporting my mental health and wellbeing.



WELLBEING IN MIND ASSEMBLY

The Hambleton and Richmond Wellbeing in Mind Team (WiMT) delivered an assembly on mental health and wellbeing to our Year 12 students. The team introduced themselves and outlined the work they will be doing with us.

They talked about why the service has been created and set up in schools and the importance of prioritising our mental health.

Ms Richardson then outlined the importance of the school and college community and reminded students of who they can talk to if they need help and support.



ONLINE SAFETY NEWSLETTER



**Richmond School
& Sixth Form College**
Being the best we can be



Our latest Online Safety Newsletter includes information about smart watches, fitness trackers, supporting young people with SEND online and snapchat, as well as some great suggestions for apps for learning and having fun.

The newsletter can be viewed [here](#).

Online Safety Newsletter

March 2022

Poppy Playtime

Have you heard of Poppy Playtime? With chapter 2 just being released we thought it important that you're aware that whilst the name and characters suggest a playful game, it is a survival horror game with graphics that may not be suitable for your child. It includes characters such as 'Kissy Missy' and 'Huggy Wuggy.' Please view this game before allowing your child to play it as it may not be appropriate for them – particularly young children.

Children may be playing the game or just watching videos of it on the

Smartwatches / Fitness trackers



Check what the smartwatch allows your child to do and if available, set appropriate restrictions. Talk to your child about the different settings and if you have, why you have set up the restrictions.

What are the risks?

- Some smartwatches allow you to take photos. It is important to talk to your child about appropriate behaviour when taking and sharing photos. Once a photo is shared, they lose control of it.
- Some smartwatches have internet access with the ability to download apps. You need to be aware of the potential of in app purchases and viewing upsetting content.

Depending on the brand of smartwatch, you may be able to set up parental controls for example to restrict content and prevent purchases. More information about Apple Watch parental controls can be found here: <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/guide/watch/apd54d0a51fb/watchos>

TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

A recent assembly highlighted the importance of students' safety and behaviour when travelling to and from school. Mr Braham reminded students to be aware of keeping themselves safe when walking to school or travelling by bus or car, as well as being mindful of their safety when leaving the school premises, ensuring that crossings are used and they remain alert at all times.

The assembly also covered their expected conduct on the buses and beyond the school gate, when they are still representing Richmond School and any poor or anti-social behaviour can result in significant consequences in school. The assembly can be viewed [here](#).



We have resources in school and from our Wellbeing in Mind team which offer advice for talking to children about what is happening in Ukraine.

There is a range of support available which you can access at the links below:

Advice for students about

what's happening in Ukraine

- [Talking to children about war and conflict](#)
- [Supporting your child if they see upsetting content online about what is happening in Ukraine \(Childnet\)](#)
- [How to talk to children about what's happening in Ukraine and World War Three anxiety \(Metro\)](#)
- [Help for teachers and families to talk to pupils about Russia's invasion of Ukraine and how to help them avoid misinformation \(Department for Education\)](#)

ACADEMIC

SIXTH FORM STUDENTS ENJOY TRINITY UNIVERSITY PE AND SPORT TASTER DAY

Our CTEC Sport students recently visited Leeds Trinity University for a PE and Sport Subject Taster Day. On arrival, students were greeted by university ambassadors and taken on a tour of the campus, before listening to a presentation about the different courses they could choose to study in the School of Health, Sport and Life Sciences.



After lunch, students participated in a number of practical taster sessions including what makes an elite athlete and the importance of sports therapy for injury prevention. Students also had the opportunity to analyse the effects of jumping and kicking forces in Leeds Trinity's motion capture suite.



ENJOY BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK!

We are delighted to launch 'Blind Date with a Book', which is open to students of all ages and will run until we run out of parcels!

Mrs Farquhar, librarian, said: "Blind Date with a Book makes choosing a book an adventure. Students love the mystery of not knowing what they're going to find when they unwrap their chosen parcel. It's a fun way to encourage them to try titles, authors or genres that they wouldn't usually consider and to venture outside their reading comfort zone. Even if there's no immediate attraction, we encourage students to give their book a chance – after all, it could be a slow burner!"

Coming soon! Blind Date with a Podcast is an exciting new promotion for students who prefer to listen rather than read. It's being put together by some of our Literacy Leaders and we look forward to sharing more about this project soon.



CAREERS

TALKING FUTURES CAREERS FILMS PROVIDE TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

The support of parents and carers for young people making decisions about their future should never be underestimated, however, it's also understandable that many can feel overwhelmed and unprepared for such conversations.

As part of the Talking Futures programme, The Gatsby Foundation has created a series of films that provide top tips for parents from parents about how to support children with their career decisions.

We are sharing three videos featuring famous faces which talk about the importance of having conversations with teenagers about their future working lives.

Miss Hamer, Careers Adviser said: "These films are an insight into the true value of the support of parents and carers for young people when it comes to making difficult decisions about their futures. In school, we do our best to support every student, and parents and carers can sometimes feel they lack the knowledge and understanding of options and careers paths to really help; but often it's just support that is needed, not necessarily to provide all the information.

These films, along with the other information provided on the Talking Futures website, will hopefully give some tips and guidance on how you can help."

In the [first video](#), you can hear from Olympic champion Becky Adlington's mum.

Becky Adlington, has won 4 Olympic medals for the UK and her mum, Kay, shares the importance of asking your child questions about their passions early on in life to help them pursue the career choice that is right for them.

In the second [Talking Futures careers video](#) you can hear from JLS Band member JB Gill's mum. JB wouldn't have been as successful without the support of his parents.

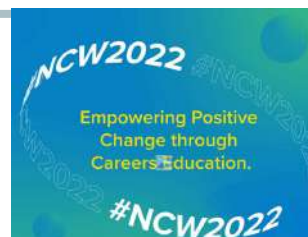
The 'Essex Barrister', Alexandra Wilson, wouldn't be where she was today without the support and guidance from her parents. Watch the [third video](#) to find out how Julie and Deon Wilson helped their daughter achieve her full potential.



CAREERS

NATIONAL CAREERS WEEK

We celebrated national careers week in school and college with a series of careers-related assemblies, guest speakers and resources. However, please remember that our careers team are on hand every week to support students in their career choices.



We can help by providing information about many different careers from architecture to zoology! We can also help with the many options available to students, such as different college and university courses, technical pathways and apprenticeships.

National Careers Week is always a big event at Richmond School and Sixth Form College. For 2022, we chose to focus on the Travel and Tourism industry – both home and abroad. This has stemmed from two years of the pandemic when holidays seemed like an impossibility. We are very excited to welcome so many businesses into our school. These encounters with employers really help to inspire our students to learn about a variety of careers.

Our **Year 12 assembly** was with Rachel Makin from The University of Sunderland. Rachel is a Postgraduate Academic Assistant in Tourism and her role involves teaching undergraduate courses in Tourism, Hospitality and Events, while also studying part-time for her PhD. Her research focuses on the use of augmented reality in cultural heritage sites. She undertook her undergraduate degree in Tourism Management at the University of Teesside, before gaining extensive industry experience working in marketing and events management in the heritage attractions sector. You can find out more [HERE](#).

Our **Year 7 and 8 assemblies** were with Ms Mannion who talked about linking school subjects to careers and her own experience, as before becoming a teacher, Ms Mannion worked abroad for Inlingua Languages, teaching English in Valencia, Spain. She also worked as Recruitment Manager for Eurostar UK, recruiting international train drivers. In addition, Ms Mannion looked at the changing role of technology at work and how this links to employability skills. She has helped students explore apprenticeships through sharing information about the Year 11 leavers from last year (Saks and Swale Scaffolding).

It was wonderful to celebrate International Women's Day by welcoming two inspirational guest speakers to talk about careers to our **Year 10 and Year 13 students**. Our Year 10s had learnt about Apprenticeships with a talk from Anna Mae Thornton from the North Yorkshire Business and Enterprise Partnership (NYBEP). The talk explained what apprenticeships are and what types are available, in addition to how to apply. More and more students are interested in apprenticeships after they finish Year 11, so this will help Year 10 students with their careers planning Post-16. The talk included apprenticeships in Travel and Tourism. Further information is available [here](#).

Jane Schumm, Retail Director, Hays Travel came to talk to Year 13 students about the current climate in the travel industry and recovery post-Covid. She also shared her own experiences which ranged from her Saturday job at the age of 14 years old, to working as a sales Consultant for Lunn Poly and how she has developed her role at Hays and become Retail Director. Hays is a fantastic example of successful business based in the North. You can find out more about Hays Travel [here](#).

Ange Wilmington also attended from NYBEP. Ange is our Enterprise Coordinator and helps and advises with all out employer events. Ange is also an alumna of Richmond School and enjoyed finding her picture on the back wall in the school hall, where each whole school year group is featured. Ange said: "The last time I was in this hall, I was sitting on the stage doing my final A-level exam. We were a large year group and had to spread out in the hall and onto the stage!"



CAREERS

Our Year 11 students really enjoyed listening to Kevin Netherton, who shared his experiences of being a military leader in the Royal Navy and more recently of running his travel businesses.

Kevin is a business and military leader with seven years' experience as a Warfare Officer in the Royal Navy and Chief Executive of the travel businesses Euroventure Travel Ltd and GOAT Roadtrip. Highlights of Kevin's career include driving warships and working in the Middle East conducting counter narcotic operations. More recently, he has led his travel business through COVID which included creating the largest campervan rental company in the North of England. An MBA student of Cranfield University, he is now working to inspire the next generation of leaders through the Yorkshire Leadership Academy. Kevin also gave up his time to run a leadership event for our new Year 10 Students Leaders (see page 36).

Find out more about about Kevin's businesses at [euroventure](#) and [goat road trip](#).

Our Year 9 students enjoyed a careers talk with a difference when they listened to Robert Lundgren Jones, the company founder, Tour Operator and Guide of Lundgren Tours. Lundgren Tours offer themed tours such as Game of Thrones, Vikings and Harry Potter. Rob came along in costume to show the students how his business works which made for a very engaging assembly - and also linked well to World Book Day from last week! Robert is a Silver award winner of 'Guided Tour of the Year' – North East Tourism Awards 2018.

You can find out more about Lundgren Tours [here](#).

Thank you to James Robson, our link Governor for Careers who has helped to arrange this week through his myriad of contacts . James has a fantastic business network which always benefits our students.



STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT LIFE AT OXBRIDGE AND RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITIES

A group of 16 Year 12 students attended a workshop run by the Oxford and Cambridge University liaison teams. The event was led by Joe Organ, liaison officer at Brasenose College, Oxford and Liza Zhabina, liaison officer at St Catherine's College, Cambridge and five students who are currently studying at Oxford and Cambridge. Our students had the opportunity to hear about life at Oxbridge and other Russell Group Universities. They also took part in a lively Q and A session which they found most helpful.

Ms Johnson said: "This was a great opportunity for our students to gain some insights into academic life at top-flight universities. We really appreciate the time and effort given by the liaison teams from Oxford and Cambridge making the journey especially to visit us in North Yorkshire."

Dom Galloway, Year 12, said: "The visit was an informative experience about life at uni. Learning about the application process in more depth was very helpful and I feel more comfortable and prepared for applying. We also heard about social life at uni, something which is not often talked about. It has helped me to understand that studying at one of these universities is now attainable for someone like me."



STUDENTS STEP UP TO A RUSSELL GROUP UNIVERSITY

A group of Year 12 students at Richmond Sixth Form College have achieved places on the 'Next Step Programme' at The University of York, a prestigious Russell Group University.

The thirteen students will take part in the personalised two-year programme for students in the north of England, which delivers opportunities to explore university options and receive specialist support with their current studies.



Next Step York

The college has a very strong relationship with The University of York and students have joined Next Step for a number of years, with 2022 seeing the largest cohort yet, and the second-highest number of students accepted onto the programme of any school invited to join.

Next Step offers mentoring, a student conference and a summer school. Students can also access the online interactive hub to book events, take part in online activities and meet their personal student supporter. Each activity or event is worth credits and students are encouraged to build a complete programme of activities which unlocks a host of additional benefits in the second year of the programme, such as guaranteed offers, alternative offers, and possible financial support.

Ms Mannion, Careers Leader said: "We are delighted that so many of our students are taking part in Next Step. It is one of the leading higher education programmes and helps students to understand more about university and what studying at a Russell Group University involves."

"All sixth form students benefit from our Learning for Life programme which covers post-18 options, university courses, degree apprenticeships, summer schools and UCAS events. Next Step York really enhances the programme for these students."

Ms Johnson, Assistant Headteacher, Transition added "Ioanna Pampalou from Year 13 has completed Next Step and instead of the standard offer of AAA, she now has an offer of BBC for a degree in Physics at The University of York and she is over the moon - of course she will still be aiming for three grade As!"

Including The University of York, there are 24 Russell Group universities in the UK, including Oxford and Cambridge, which all have a shared focus on research and a reputation for academic achievement.

Further information about the programme can be found at [Next Steps](#).

ALUMNI

CHARLOTTE IS SET FOR HER FIRST RACE

Congratulations to Charlotte Tindale, former student, who has achieved her apprentice jockey flat licence. This is amazing news for Charlotte who has been working so hard over the last couple of years. She has recently gained further experience in bloodstock at Juddmonte Farms, in Ireland. Charlotte suffered a serious fall before Christmas, and had bruising and concussion, but thankfully she has made a full recovery.

Charlotte is now waiting to hear when she will have her first race which will be on Wonder Woman, the horse she is riding in the photograph above. Charlotte lives and works in County Kildare.



MAGICAL MOMENT AS JOSH SCORES TO TAKE MIDDLESBROUGH TO FA CUP QUARTER FINALS

What a game! Josh Coburn, alumnus, scored the goal of his career, sealing Middlesbrough's place in the FA Cup quarter finals. You can watch an interview with Josh by the BBC [HERE](#) and enjoy his fabulous goal [HERE](#).

Combining energy, vision, composure and skill, Josh scored in extra time against Tottenham Hotspur – a magical night and an amazing achievement for 19-year-old Josh.

Craig Liddle, Academy Manager at Middlesbrough Football Club, said: "We are all absolutely chuffed to bits for Josh and the rest of the young players in the team. Josh is everything we would want from an Academy graduate."

We are incredibly proud of Josh and how far he has come since joining Middlesbrough's Football Academy in 2019 and we can't wait to see him in action again. You can read a full report [HERE](#).



ALUMNI

KIM MAWER, CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

During National Apprenticeship Week, we were delighted to reconnect with Kim Mawer, alumna, who is a Chartered Account with Walter Dawson & Son. Kim started her career as a chef, in 1999, but changed her path in 2007 to move into the world of finance. Kim tells us about her somewhat unconventional route to becoming an accountant and the wide range of skills, qualifications and experience she has developed along the way.

I completed my GCSEs at Richmond School but decided not to do A-levels, I'd had enough of classroom learning at that point so took up the opportunity to start a modern apprenticeship as a chef at The CB Inn.

The course at Darlington College was a Level 2 NVQ in Catering & Hospitality where I attended one day per week and worked the rest.

I then went on to complete a HND in Hospitality Management which broadened the scope and my skill set, including event management, marketing, and business management.

By this time I was a qualified chef but was also assisting in the running of the CB and getting involved in the office side of business. It was a great place to develop my skills as a chef, with a varied and challenging menu working with high-quality ingredients and also to learn the ropes of running a business.

Figures had always been my strong point, so I started a Level 3 AAT (Association of Accounting Technicians) course one day a week at Skipton College and then Level 4 to gain full membership.

I broadened my business acumen by co-owning Sam's Coffee Shop in Leyburn for three years, at the same time as being at the CB. This not only gave me more hands-on experience of business management but also heightened my organisation and time-management skills, as there was never a moment to spare!

In 2007, I made the decision to pursue a career in accountancy and changed jobs to work at the Leyburn branch of Walter Dawson, working on accounts preparation and bookkeeping. In January 2010, I started the ACCA course (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) by distance learning, completing this in September 2014 to gain membership.

I subsequently completed the ICAEW (Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales) pathway to membership route to become a Chartered Accountant.

I have worked up the ladder at Walter Dawson to have my own client portfolio. I was promoted again to take over the management of our Northallerton office when Walter Dawson acquired this in March 2019.

Whilst I really enjoyed working in the hospitality business and loved cooking and creating delicious recipes, my interest in figures and business was something that I realised I wanted to pursue.



THE CB INN

TOM SHORT, SPORT PSYCHOLOGIST

When Tom was at school and college he wasn't particularly sporty and envisaged a career as a forensic psychologist. In fact, had you told him that he would end up as a sport psychologist then he would have laughed at you! Fast forward a few years, and not only has Tom graduated with a Masters in sports and exercise psychology, but he is studying for a PhD in performance and management psychology and has set up his own business, Leading Edge Performance. In Tom's words 'Don't be afraid to find yourself travelling a different direction'. Read on to find out how Tom made the most of every opportunity to reach his goals -



What A levels did you do at Richmond Sixth Form College?

I started with Psychology, Biology, History, and Maths, but dropped Maths after my first year to concentrate on my other subjects

When did you first become interested in psychology and what prompted this interest?

I have always taken an interest in why people act and behave like they do, and love real crime documentaries. Combine that and the fact that Psychology was a new subject that I had never done before and you can see why it was the first subject that I chose to study. However, had you told me that I would end up as a sport psychologist, I would have laughed at you!

Which sports do you play, for how long, do you or have you played for any teams?

I took up cricket while at Sixth Form, and have played for Barton C.C. for most of the years since. This season will be my 7th for them (8th season overall). It's hard to believe that it's been nearly 10 years since I started my A-levels.

Where did you study after your A-levels and what did you read?

I successfully applied to study Psychology at Manchester Metropolitan University, eventually achieving a 2:1. Some of the subjects that I studied were similar to those at A-level but in greater depth (such as social psychology and human behaviour) while I also was able to study areas of Psychology that were completely new to me, such as forensic (crime), developmental (human development) and clinical (mental illness) psychology

Did you do a masters? If so, what in?

I studied for my masters in sports and exercise psychology at Northumbria University. Like I said before, if you told me that I would end up as a sports psychology I'd have laughed at you as I had never been the sporty one in my family. However, in a module in my undergraduate degree, we touched upon sport psychology. I really enjoyed the content and saw myself working as one down the line.

What is the subject of your PhD at Loughborough and when will you complete this?

My PhD subject is titled "Performance and Management Psychology" however it is not as boring as it sounds! As Loughborough University specialises in sport, I am looking at the role of sport psychology in high-performance sports. So far, I have looked at sports psychology at the Olympic Games, and how it is used to get the best out of athletes. My PhD is currently part-time, meaning it can last up to 6 years (I would finish in 2026) but a full-time PhD would typically last 3-4 years.

When did you set up your business, Leading Edge Performance?

Leading Edge Performance began as a lockdown project of all things. When the first lockdown began, I found myself, like a lot of us, with extra time on my hands but I had just started my professional qualification to become a sport psychologist. To become a sport psychologist, you have to gain hands-on experience/work placements to demonstrate your knowledge and capability of working to a high standard. Essentially, it's on the job training. With sport clubs shutting down and taking a long time to return to 'normal', experience was hard to secure. So, I set up my own business to develop over my two-year training to gain experience and hopefully use as a job, whether part-time alongside a full-time role once qualified, or as a full-time role if it was possible to! Fortunately, the lockdowns gave me the opportunity to learn how to set up and maintain a business, including how to develop a website.

ALUMNI

Tell us a little about your business and the work you do?

A sport and exercise psychologist's role is to help athletes, of all ages and experience, to get the best out of their performance. This could be anyone - from those who have just started a new sport to those competing at the Olympics. I may be helping a footballer improve their confidence after an injury one week and the next I am helping a cheerleader overcome their anxiety of being thrown into the air. However, sports psychology isn't just about helping those with problems following an injury/overcoming anxiety, I will also help those who want to improve what they are already good at. For example, I might work with a cricketer who wants to improve their bowling speed by creating goals with them or with a sports team to improve their communication.

What advice would you give students who are interested in following a career in psychology?

1. Be patient! It's a long journey, and a lot of work, but if it's something that you really want to do you won't feel like you're working at all. Now I'm at the other end of the studying part, I've realised that it's so worth it.
2. Don't be afraid if you find yourself travelling a different direction. I went to university to study a psychology degree thinking I would become a forensic psychologist and ended up training to become a sport psychologist, quite a difference!
3. If you have an idea what you want to do, try to secure some placements/work experience. You may get knocked back hundreds of times, but I've found that it only takes one to show an interest and it's all worthwhile. Be careful though, as many placements may be unpaid so be prepared for this.

What keeps you motivated?

As I said before, I've found myself working in one sport one week and a completely different sport the next, and often I end up working with an athlete or a team in a sport I have no idea about. I enjoy the process of learning about new sports as it keeps me on my feet! While I frequently work in similar sports, each new case is different and the challenge of cracking the puzzle of the best way to help the athlete certainly keeps me motivated. I also enjoy watching an athlete/team develop while we work together. Not just as someone who plays a sport but as a person/people as well, a rewarding experience as a sport psychologist.

What did you enjoy most about your time at Richmond School and Sixth Form College?

I'm lucky to have many fond memories of school/college, and I could be here all day writing about them. When I was there, the James Tate building was being built and the Clarke Hall building was updated which meant that I was fortunate enough to spend the majority of my time being taught in the best classrooms with the best facilities and equipment. I never excelled in extra-curricular sports (another reason why my career choice has surprised me!) or participated in any clubs, but I took up learning to play the drums and this is something that I still do. I can definitely say that finding a hobby to escape the pressure of work, like learning an instrument and the friendships that I created during my time at school and college, have both helped me to get to where I am now, and that is something that I will always be thankful for.

A special mention to Mrs Mawer's 'Cake Tuesday' though, which made A-level History all the more entertaining!

Are there any teachers you would like to mention - anyone who went the extra mile to support or guide you?

I want to thank all the teachers that have been a part of my journey so far. I'm fortunate enough to have been taught by so many amazing teachers while I was at Richmond, all whom have played a part in helping me get to where I am now, and it feels unfair just to name only a couple!

You can find out more about Tom's business at [Leading Edge Performance](#) or follow him on Instagram @leading.edge.performance



SAMANTHA WESTON, SOLICITOR

We are delighted to share a Q and A with Samantha Weston, who is a solicitor specialising in conveyancing. Samantha has some great advice for students who may be considering a legal profession and the different routes available to achieve this.

What A-levels did you study at Richmond Sixth Form College?

English Language, Classical Civilisation, Government and Politics and History

Why did you choose to read History at university?

This was a subject that I enjoyed and had a natural talent for throughout school. I also didn't want to risk spending three years doing something I wouldn't enjoy and come out with a poor result or drop out. Also, History provides the academic style I prefer, and the transferrable skills meant that so many options could be available to me when I graduated.



What inspired you to choose a career in Law?

I have always wanted to be a solicitor or a doctor, my mum says I wanted to be a doctor from the age of 3 years old. When I found out I wasn't very good at science, law was the natural choice. I honestly didn't research any other careers and took a job in a solicitor's office straight from university and loved it. I again appeared to have a natural talent for dealing with clients and picked up the process very quickly therefore was quickly promoted to fee earner and then allowed to represent clients in court as my confidence grew. '

Why did you choose to study for a second degree in Psychology?

My son. He is autistic and I wanted to learn more about how and why he behaves the way he does. I wanted to be able to help him more. Being with my children for 8 months over lockdown made me realise how much he struggles trying to fit in, how relaxed he was learning at home and how happy he became.. I have also done a number of courses aimed at autism which have really helped too.

Have you worked in any other fields apart from law?

Schools and nurseries working with SEND children and Ken Warne's when I was at Richmond School!

Will you have a specialist area in your new role at Hunton & Garget?

Conveyancing. I really enjoy the nitty gritty of complex matters, getting fully absorbed into leases or old title deeds. I enjoy solving problems and coming up with solutions. I have worked in other areas of law including Wills and Probate and Family, but I always seem to find myself back in conveyancing. I would like to expand into more commercial and agricultural work and hope to undertake the SQE later this year and finally qualify as a solicitor!!!

What advice would you give students who are considering becoming a solicitor - are there particular A-levels/degrees that you would recommend?

This probably isn't the right thing to say, but honestly to choose the subjects you enjoy. There are so many different routes to becoming a solicitor now, including the traditional degree/LPC way to apprenticeships that, providing you can demonstrate you can cope with the workload, then I think most subjects will be good to gain transferrable skills that can be used in your future career path. There is no point studying something because someone else thinks you should, in my opinion. This will only bog you down and you will have little motivation if you aren't enjoying the subject. Life is stressful enough without dreading school and college because you were forced down a line that isn't right for you.

THOMAS BARNINGHAM, HALLEY AUTOMATION PROJECT MANAGER

Thomas has recently returned from Halley Research Station in Antarctica, where he has been working for four months. During British Science Week it was perfect timing to share his fascinating Q and A below. The Halley project enables cutting-edge Science to take place in one of the most inhospitable environments on earth throughout the polar winter. You can find out how the British Antarctic Survey's Scientists, Engineers and Operational teams have been working to automate the Halley Research Station to enable crucial year-round data collection from scientific experiments and environmental monitoring systems [here](#).



What A-levels did you study and what was your favourite subject?

Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Geography. Physics and Physical Geography were my favourite - it was learning about glaciers and the ice age in Geography that set me on my current path.

After your A-levels, where did you go to university and what did you study? The University of Edinburgh. Initially I started studying Zoology, but I quickly realised that I didn't enjoy that subject. So, after the first semester, I switched to a different course called Environmental Geoscience.

What inspired you to take this course? It brought me back to all of the things I found interesting about science and geography at school – volcanoes, ice ages and climate, oceanography, meteorology, geology etc. I realised that there were whole fields of study about our planet that used the things I learnt in my A Levels. There were some fantastic fieldtrips across Scotland to learn about geology and also to the Caribbean to learn about coral reef ecosystems and the effects that both the natural and manmade environment on them.

After your degree, I think you went on to do a Ph.D, what did you do your research in? After my degree I didn't go straight into a Ph.D. I didn't know what I wanted to do. I applied to be park ranger in one of the Scottish national parks but didn't get the job. Instead, my old supervisor (a volcanologist) offered me a job working for him. I became a research assistant for 10 months and undertook fieldwork in both Iceland and Mexico studying volcanoes. It was great!

I then decided to go back to University to study for a Masters in Environmental Science at the University of East Anglia. I really enjoyed a particular course called the Carbon Cycle and Climate Change. The field of study is something called "biogeochemistry" which is really an amalgamation of the things I had studied to date.

I then began my Ph.D research in the same area and focused on atmospheric measurements of Carbon Dioxide and Oxygen above, or close to, the Southern Ocean in order to understand the biogeochemistry of the atmosphere and ocean in that region.

How did you get the opportunity to work for BAS and what was your first role there? My route into BAS was through my Ph.D. My project required me to set up some atmospheric monitoring equipment in the Clean Air Sector Laboratory at Halley Research Station, Antarctica. BAS manage the station and I spent a season on site working with them. Once I finished my Ph.D I applied to become an Atmospheric Scientist with them at Halley and got the job!



ALUMNI

How has your career progressed since then? I spent a season working at Halley as the Atmospheric Scientist and when I came back a new job was advertised for the station. This was the Halley Automation Project and Science Coordinator role. I started that job in 2018 and have been doing it ever since. I manage projects to automate power sources and science on the station when we're not there during the winter and also manage scientists and engineers when we are there during the summer. In 2020, I briefly took on the role of Station Leader for the station too.

What major projects have you been involved with? The final year of the Halley Relocation Project (where we moved the station), Halley Automation Project (where we automated the station) and Halley Net Zero Project

What is the project you are working on now? I'm still currently working on the Halley Automation Project and have begun a new Halley Net Zero project which aims to increase the amount of power we generate from renewables and also bring down our overall energy use.

Tell us how it feels to be living and working in the Antarctic?

That's a really tough question! I've just returned from my sixth stint and I feel really lucky to be able to spend 3-4 months of my life down there every year. I love the quietness and the beauty of the icy environment, coupled with the comradery and buzz you get from the daily work.

How many people do you work with when you are there? 30-40 people

What do you find hardest about being so far away from home and your 'normal' way of life (pre-covid!)? The hardest part is probably the lack of privacy and the fact you are generally always working. Even in the downtime, you are still "working" because you are in Antarctica.

What home comforts do you miss? Pizza – the chefs are incredibly good, but there's nothing better than takeaway pizza.

Back to school, were there any teachers who really inspired you in your studies or supported you above and beyond? Miss Raine – my Chemistry teacher. I found chemistry really hard right throughout school but somehow managed to get an A in A-level for it and I owe that to her.



SOPHIE IS A LEADING LADY IN NOEL COWARD CLASSIC

Congratulations to former student Sophie Montgomery who is performing the lead role of Elvira in 'Blithe Spirit', Noel Coward's classic comedy at the Georgian Theatre Royal on 7th and 8th April.

The play is the debut production of The Butler Company – the Georgian Theatre Royal's new professional acting troupe and is Sophie's first professional role. Rehearsals are already underway and Sophie is also currently rehearsing in Glasgow for the Scottish Opera Young Company's next production.

The photograph of Sophie is from last year's Scottish Opera Young Company's production of *The Tsar has his photograph taken*, when Sophie performed the lead role of Angele.



The new professional Butler Theatre Company, named after the Theatre's founder and first manager, Samuel Butler (who built the Theatre in 1788), will promote exciting and creative theatre in North Yorkshire. The Company, which has been set up with the generous support of The Friends of The Georgian Theatre Royal, will operate on an entirely professional basis. Profits from each of the shows will be shared between the performers and the Theatre, and actors will accrue credits through the national Mandy casting network.

Blithe Spirit itself is a big hitter in the dramatic hall of fame. Written in 1941, it became one of the West End's longest-running shows and its inventive wit and farcical humour continues to entertain audiences of all generations.

The plot follows a dinner hosted by novelist and socialite Charles Condomine. Hoping to gather material for his next book, he invites the eccentric clairvoyant, Madame Arcati, to conduct a séance. However, he gets more than he bargained for when the temperamental spirit of his first wife, Elvira, is inadvertently summoned and attempts to disrupt Charles's marriage to his second wife, Ruth, who cannot see or hear the ghost.

To book tickets visit <https://georgiantheatrEROYAL.savoySystems.co.uk/GeorgianTheatreRoyal.dll/>



ALUMNI

CALLING THE CLASS OF 1975 FOR A SCHOOL REUNION ON 21ST MAY 2022

If you started Richmond School in 1975, and left in either 1980 or 1982, then check your diary for 21st May as there's a not-to-be missed reunion taking place at the New Comrades Club. Other activities during the weekend include a tour of the school on Friday 20th May, a tour of the Georgian Theatre on the morning of 21st May and then a walk from the Old Station on the Sunday morning. If you would like to find out more and sign up for the events please join the [facebook page](#).

If you need a reminder of what your days were like back in the classroom, then please read on and hear from your former classmate, Jim Godfrey, who'll set the scene for you!

Yes, it's that time in your life! Just when you thought things couldn't get any worse, we're going to take you back to a time when life was *really* miserable. To meet all those people you have, with very good reason, never once thought of seeing again. And just because 40 seemed like a nice round number, and 1982 seemed like such a lovely year. Really?

Thatcher on the throne, unemployment at its highest level since the 30s, war with Argentina, *and* the Eurovision Song contest, held by the way in Harrogate (look it up), and won by Germany!! But on the bright side, 1982 was a year when you had everything to look forward to. So why not, now you have nothing to look forward to, spend a wonderful weekend with a load of old people you'll only recognise because someone had the bright idea of handing out name badges

Even so, it will be FUN. Organised fun, but nonetheless Let's find out who's aged the most? Who's spent all day in make-up?? Who still has no sense of taste/humour/human decency? Come on, it's got to be better than another weekend with your real mates! And anyway, if you look this jaded for the 40th anniversary, what on earth are you going to look like for the 50th??



Mary Strong is looking forward to the weekend of celebrations and has shared some memories of her time at Richmond School which we hope you'll enjoy reading.

Weren't we SO lucky to have been educated at Richmond School?

Weren't we so lucky that our teachers were motivated enough to help us become the best that we could be?

Wasn't it just amazing that they took the time to get to know us; taking the time to find out about what would motivate each and every one of us?

Didn't we gain so much from the breadth of their experience to help us move from our parochial viewpoints to a wider perspective of how we fitted into the wider world?

I remember our ground-breaking relationship and sexuality education lessons.

I remember our after-school film clubs and the 'Doors' debates around the importance of feminism. I remember watching Woody Allen's "Manhattan" and Monty Python's "Holy Grail" and how these films expanded our view of the world.

How lucky we were to be educated by such intelligent, connected, thoughtful staff?



Mary Strong (Richmond School 1975-82)

Mary is a Powys lead for Wellbeing and Equalities, at County Hall in Llandrindod Wells, developing a whole-school approach to improving emotional health and mental well-being, in line with the new Curriculum for Wales. The new Welsh curriculum puts the well-being of learners and the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child at its heart. She has been seconded from my role as headteacher in a Powys primary school.

ALUMNI

FABULOUS FOOTAGE OF RICHMOND GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL – BUT WHEN WAS IT?

We were really pleased to receive a link to a video of the Girls' High School - there is some great footage of the students in lessons, playing tennis, reading, at lunch, dancing and even bell ringing and it really gives a flavour of life in the High School before it closed. Unfortunately, there is no indication of the date of the filming, nor is there any sound, but in spite of this, it's worth a watch and we are hoping that there will be former students or friends in the community who may recognise some of the students and help us put a date to this.



You can watch the video [HERE](#). The footage starts at 17 seconds and ends at 7 mins 43.



If you have any idea when this may have been filmed, we'd love to hear from you at admin@richmondschool.net



Great effort by Graeme Newton, former student and MD of Randall Orchard Construction Ltd who is helping deliver vital supplies and the shoeboxes which have been donated for those in need in Ukraine.

HEADTEACHER'S VALUES AWARD

Leo Vogel, in Year 11 was nominated by Mr Lunn, who wrote: "Leo has in previous years been in our lower sets for Maths. However, he became clear in his ambition to do A-level Maths and he has shown great determination to move up the sets into Set 2.

"He has persistently worked on his Mathswatch and on-line past papers, and has been extremely proactive in seeking help and advice. He has recently taken his PPE in Maths and he gained a high Grade 6 using conservative grade boundaries.

"We are very optimistic for a Grade 7 (or above) for the summer but thought it worth nominating Leo at this earlier stage on account of his amazing commitment."

(w/e 18th February)



Taryn Hodgson, in Year 13 was nominated by Ms Johnson, who wrote: "Taryn is an exceptional student who consistently demonstrates several, if not all, of the Richmond School values.

"She is exemplary in many ways; she is the most conscientious learner who gives 100% to all of her subjects, being both thoroughly independent but also comfortable asking for help and advice and acting on it; she is a pleasure to teach, showing respect to staff and peers alike.

"Taryn takes responsibility for her own learning and progress; she worked especially hard in the preparation of her application to study veterinary medicine and has received offers of a place at university for this highly competitive course.

"She is also a Student Leader and has involved herself in many ways in the wider life of the school and Sixth Form.

"Taryn is a "go to" person when a job needs doing, she just gets on with it. In all of this, Taryn is modest and unassuming and the perfect role model of a hardworking, mature and reliable student. I cannot think of a student who deserves this award more than she does."

(w/e 4th March)



Jake Rogers, in Year 7, was nominated by Mr Birdsall, who wrote: "I would like to nominate Jake Rogers for Excellence and Resilience.

"Jake isn't a usual member of Richmond School Theatre Group, however in my time of need, when a student with the main part couldn't perform in the show at the Georgian Theatre, Jake, on the day before, kindly volunteered to read and perform this part to a paying audience of 80+ people.

"Jake spent the day at the theatre with us rehearsing all day, having never seen the play. He has worked tremendously hard to learn lines and memorise four months of rehearsals in one day.

"I am super proud of what Jake offered to do, having never done this before.

"I know that I and the rest of the cast were impressed with his efforts and really appreciated him getting us out of such a tricky situation.

It has been a pleasure having Jake along with us and having him perform on stage for Richmond School."



HEADTEACHER'S VALUES AWARD

Izzy Lundberg, in Year 12, was nominated by Miss Dutton, who wrote: "I would like to nominate Izzy for the Headteacher's Values Award this week.

Izzy is a talented linguist and this week her film studies homework on the film Das Leben der Anderen shows real depth of thought as well as exceptional language ability.

She demonstrates clear analysis of key scenes in the film and is using highly sophisticated German literature terminology - language that is very rarely seen in students of AS ability as the work would not be out of place at degree level.

"Izzy possesses exceptional study skills and the time she invests in her German studies is making a real impact on the accuracy of her work. She always strives to be the best she can be and is certainly keeping me and Mrs Cheesbrough on our toes in terms of grammatical knowledge and language."

(w/e 18th March)



Isaac Tate, in Year 8, was nominated by Mr Beresford, who wrote: "I would like to nominate Isaac Tate for the Headteacher's Values Award for showing Respect. Isaac came into my cover lesson on Monday with a distinctly different haircut than I had previously seen. Isaac explained that he decided to shave his head in support of one of his team mate's sisters, who has been diagnosed with leukaemia.

"It was an inspiring, respectful action that deserves recognition. Isaac is a student who always looks out for others and works hard for others, and here he has gone above and beyond in order to support someone close to him. This is something I believe deserves recognition and fits perfectly within the school values."

Isaac and his friends are fundraising for the Little Princess Trust – if you would like to support them you can donate [here](#).

(w/e 25th March)



Carla Francisco and Katie Wade, in Year 12, were jointly nominated by Ms Mannion, who wrote: "I would like to nominate Carla Francisco and Katie Wade for Excellence, Independence and Resilience. Five students from Year 12 attended the University of York Next Step event - and gave up Saturday to do so! They all did brilliantly, however there were two students who stood out for their contribution and involvement on the day – Katie and Carla. There were 190 students attending from around the UK and there were three university branded teddy bears to be won for student engagement. Two out of the three bears came back to Richmond! Carla and Katie both won awards for engagement and contribution (the teddy bears). This was for presenting to students from lots of other schools, and having the self-confidence and resilience to do this - even using a microphone as the groups were so large.



"I felt so proud of the way they represented Richmond School & Sixth Form College, and they have had a very positive experience of what it would be like to go to university."

(w/e 1st April)



Richmond Sixth Form College

Being the best we can be

EXCEPTIONAL ENRICHMENT & TAKING THE LEAD



There's much more to our sixth form than studying - we offer an extensive range of enrichment and leadership opportunities to enhance your learning experience, make new friends and develop your interests. From keep fit to football, mentoring to music, there's something for everyone.

- Air Training Corps
- Basketball
- Brilliant Club
- Chess Club
- Chamber Choir
- Concert Band
- Duke of Edinburgh Award
- Dungeons & Dragons
- Evolution Dance
- First Aid
- Five-A-Side Football
- Girls Football
- Girls & Boys Hockey
- Guitar Group
- Jazz Band
- LGBTQIA + Safe Space
- Mentoring
- Music Theory Club
- Percussion Ensemble
- Running Club
- Russell Group
- Soroptomists International Project
- Student Leaders
- Subject Groups: Business, Economics, Design & Technology, Economics Maths, Physics, Business, Psychology
- Teaching Observation
- Theatre Group
- Yoga

