

The Pre-Prep and Preparatory

COURIER



TAUNTON
SCHOOL
PREPARATORY

20th March 2020

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YEAR SIX PRESENTS MAGPIE MANOR



" WE MUST RECOGNISE
THE GREAT CAPACITY
WE ALL HAVE **WITHIN**"

DALAI LAMA

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Sport News

CHALLENGE

NURTURE

INSPIRE

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THE HEAD HAS HIS SAY....

by Andrew Edwards

I hope that you will permit me to find some respite from all of the issues related to the virus in my last courier piece before the Easter holidays. This will allow us all to concentrate on what we would normally be focussing on; the terrific achievements and the happiness of our children.

During the last two weeks, we have once again cemented our place at the top table of Prep School sport on a national level. In hockey, our Year 8 boys established themselves as one of the two best Prep School teams in the country. Having got to the last 16 schools, we enjoyed an amazing day at the National Finals, scoring the most goals, finishing up with the best goal difference, and earning very well-deserved silver medals after the tightest of final games. Not to be outdone, our Year 8 netball A team showed excellent composure, confidence and maturity the following day to defeat a top Millfield team in a match of the highest quality. Many congratulations to all of the boys and girls, and their coaches, for the terrific development and progress during the course of this season.

In performing arts, I was very grateful for the wonders of modern technology which allowed me to watch online the fantastic performance by Year 6 of 'The Mystery at Magpie Manor'. The quality of acting, singing and dancing from the individual pupils was extremely high and it was hard to believe that I was watching children who were still only 10 or 11 years old! It was also hard to believe that they achieved what they did in the space of just one week. Very well done to all of the staff, parents and pupils who contributed to a wonderful production.

It has also been a real pleasure to hear a constant stream of very positive reports about TPS pupils excelling on stage in the Taunton Festival of the Arts. Our dramatists were the last group of performers to compete and I was delighted to hear Mr Kirby and Miss Day say that all of our children were fantastic ambassadors for our school, both in terms of the quality of their performances and their conduct in and around the Methodist church.

I had a very memorable day last Saturday, watching a superb rendition of 'Matilda' performed in the Senior School Theatre by our Saturday Morning Enrichment pupils, followed by a rare opportunity to play my cello as part of the orchestra which accompanied our Community Choir in a moving performance of Rutter's Magnificat. I was so pleased that eleven Prep School pupils had the opportunity to rehearse and perform in the choir, whilst it was brilliant to see two of our TPS advanced instrumentalists playing with the Senior School Orchestra.

Academically, pupils have received their end of term grades for Attainment and for Attitude to Learning, and I am very impressed with the level of grades awarded. Our children have worked and played extremely hard during the Spring Term and are now ready for a very well deserved rest.

I am sure that it will not be long before you receive the next update on the virus situation from either Mr Glaser or me, but I sincerely hope that you will be able to enjoy good health and plenty of happy times with your families over the Easter holidays.

**Mr Andrew Edwards,
Headmaster**

NEWS FROM NURSERY AND PRE-PREP



What a way to end this quite unique Spring Term, with a bright 'Wake Up Shake Up' and so many of our community here taking part.

Please do see the pictures of Year One's sharing assembly, we are sorry that Parents could not attend this, however, we will be sending you an individual picture of your child with their work over the coming days. It was an absolute pleasure to hear the children present so clearly and with such confidence. Some of the children even stepped in -- very successfully, for their absent friends, at the last minute. Thank you to the Year One team for all their preparation and to Mrs Hornsby for the lovely accompaniment.

Our Year Two Netball and Football Teams did incredibly well at last week's festival at St Peter's School. What an inclusive way to start your school sports career, playing against four other schools in the beautiful sunshine. Thank you to all the sports staff who made this possible for the children.

Finally, we have really enjoyed preparing our Mother's Day surprises over the last week, working on our handwriting and our creativity. We hope that you are able to enjoy a special day with your close family.

Wishing you all a Happy Easter. With best wishes,

**Mrs Louise Leah,
Head of Nursery and Pre-Prep**

YEAR SIX PRESENTS MAGPIE MANOR



This brilliant Downton-meets-Poirot musical production brought comedy, song, mystery and 1920s' dance routines to the Centenary Hall on Friday 6th March in one scintillating performance.

The children loved every minute of the rehearsals as well as the performance as the script was amusing and the songs were fun and catchy.

The Year 6 pupils performed brilliantly, with confidence and enjoyment. Thank you to the parents who produced the magnificent costumes - Mrs Maloney, Mrs Vile, Mrs Ford and Mrs Gallimore. This certainly contributed to the play's success.

Jayne Hornsby,

Head of Music and Performing Arts



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MAGPIE MANOR



Some lovely comments from the audience include:

"We will always treasure this production as "Another of the Best"! It really was outstanding."

"We send our appreciation to all involved..... Most of all the outstanding pupils themselves, fully deserve to be congratulated."



"We were truly blown away"



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MAGPIE MANOR



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SPORT AID 2020



Taunton Prep School @TauntonPrep · Mar 17

Year 3 held a lavish Roman feast this morning to end their swords and sandals #creativecurriculum topic @tauntonschool. Some amazing outfits and delicious foods served as a great end of term treat.#learningisfun #yumyum

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TWEET OF THE WEEK!

For up-to-date news, stories and announcements



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THONE HOUSE SPECIAL ASSEMBLY



In recent weeks the staff and children in Thone put together their much anticipated annual assembly to present to the school. With friends from throughout the school community present to support them, the children discussed the benefits of boarding life and the qualities, values and experiences that life as a boarder promotes.

With reference to TPS Mission Wheel the children provided examples of how life in Thone promotes the 12 words depicted within the wheel, demonstrating how they are all challenged, nurtured and inspired on a daily basis. They took the opportunity to add to the wheel highlighting five further qualities of their own that are paramount

in Thone: support, humour, trust, empathy and loyalty. The final message, as illustrated in their own Mission Wheel, made reference to family being at the heart of everything in Thone.

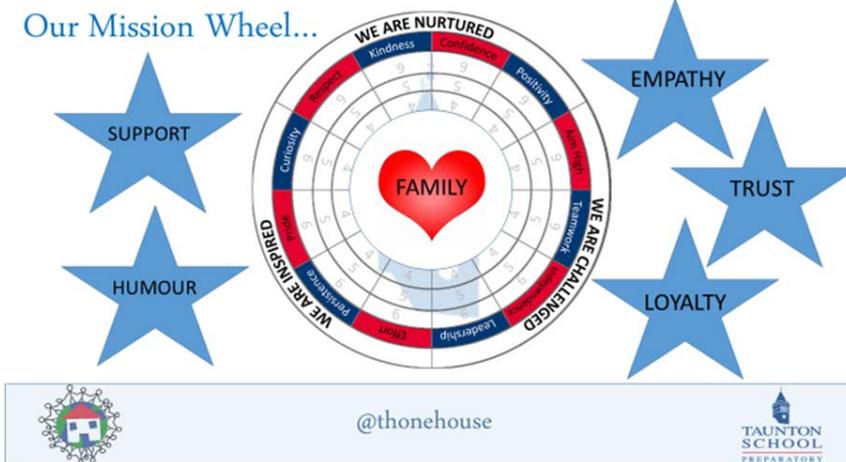
The video that followed was quite remarkable. With their own voices in the background, the children gave the audience a glimpse into life in the house, further highlighting the qualities, values and experiences that life in Thone truly does bestow.

A fabulous and thought provoking assembly that left you rightly inspired by our wonderful boarding community. A huge thank you to all the staff and pupils involved.

Mrs Katherine Wells, Head of Boarding



[CLICK HERE FOR THONE HOUSE VIDEO](#)



NURSERY 4 - WILD PLACE



NURSERY 4 - TEA PARTY



Nursery 4 had a 'Tiger Who Came To Tea' Tea Party!

We made masks and invitations for our party.

Nursery 4 Team

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YEAR 1 SHARING ASSEMBLY



Year 1 pupils rose to the challenge as they presented their Spring Term project work to the Pre-Prep audience. They spoke proudly and sang with enthusiasm and were giving a rousing round of applause at the end!

As Mrs Leah praised the year group for their wonderful performance, she asked if two of the boys could repeat their groovy dancing. They willingly obliged, much to the delight of the audience!

After the sharing assembly, Year 1 pupils were

photographed individually with their favourite piece of work - there was so much to choose from. Well done Year 1!

Year 1 Team

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YEAR 2 FOREST SCHOOL



Year 2 had a really wonderful morning up at Forest School this week. Our mission was to find micro-habitats and we set about looking under logs and tyres.

The excitement we felt when we discovered so many mini-beasts was immense. We found snails, lots of woodlice, plenty of slugs, beetles, interesting looking eggs, centipedes, worms, ants, spiders, a green caterpillar and grubs.

We were fascinated to learn that the grubs would turn into beetles.

Mrs Cooper was determined to find a newt in the pond and got her arm all cold and wet searching in the water!

We had a lovely camp fire and everyone chose a stick as long as their arm to toast a marshmallow. What a treat!

Year 2 Team



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YEAR 3 - ROMAN FEAST



On Tuesday Year 3 were treated to a decadent Roman Feast of cheeses, olives, figs, dates, olive oil, meats and much much more. It marked the end of our Swords and Sandals creative curriculum topic. Adorned in some wonderful outfits, each pupil tried new foods and certainly looked the part in some wonderful outfits.

Thank you to parents for supporting this event, it certainly brought the topic alive for us.

Katie Hill - Head of Pastoral Years 3 & 4



HM Government

NHS



CATCH IT.



BIN IT.



KILL IT.

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AND OUR FAQs**

POISED FOR SUCCESS



Pupils from the Prep School have been busy preparing for their ballet exams which were held in the Pre Prep Hall at the weekend. They were marked by an examiner from The Royal Academy of Dance, looked very professional and were a credit to the School!

The photos show two of the Grade 1 groups before and after their exam.

Diane Turner - RAD Ballet Teacher



★ HOUSE POINTS ★

GOLD

Daisy Challacombe – 6T
Eva Di Capua – 7W
Parsa Khawaja – 7W
Ben Goddard – 7B
Tomisin Awofisayo – 7W
Sami Hallett – 7V

SILVER

Barnaby Bedford – 4P
Joshua Smith – 5S
Florence Legg – 5S
Evie Linden – 6T
Harry Way – 7C
Daniel Griffiths – 7C

Gracie Howells – 7W
Jonathan Sibanda-Jenkins – 7W
Fraser Lewes – 8R
Brogan Flitton – 8R
Alex Coombes – 3H
Lucas Baker – 4P
Noah Jacobi – 4F
Dulcie Catton – 5H
Ben Leahy – 5H
Ellie Discombe – 7W
Kye Rowlinson – 7W
Hugo Marsden – 8T
Orla Fisher – 7B
Isabella Saunders – 6T
Gracie Brake – 5H

Oliver Hallett – 5H
Ellie Lawrence – 4F
Lewis Walters – 3H
Zach Pitman – 6T
Sami Hallett – 7V

BRONZE

Conrad Lee – 3R
Ben Porter – 7C
Broghan Bartlett - 5S
Brooke Oliver-Whittaker – 8R
Marina Woodley – 8T
Archie Martin – 8T
George Tarr – 8T



WEEKLY AWARDS



9TH MARCH 2020



Citizen of the Week

Janice Huang for being brilliantly organised and helpful in form at all times.

Sportswoman of the Week

Lola Tarr and **Lily Blackwell** for great pride and commitment when with the Year 7s on Saturday.

Sportsman of the Week

Ben Porter for showing great persistence and pride at the IAPs swimming gala.

Performing Artist of the Week

Xavier Flay and **Charlie Vile** for a wonderful performance in the Year 6 production showing great commitment and pride.

Learners of the Week

Frankie Hanson for outstanding work throughout the Particles unit in Science.

Oscar Coleman for excellent standard of graph drawing in Science.

Catherine Tau for excellent effort in French prep describing lots of different celebrities.

Eva Di Capua for effort, persistence and aiming high resulting in 100% in a science test.

Aquilla Notaro for being conscientious in all that she does and taking great pride in her work.

Boarder of the Month

Destiny Zhema for great kindness and empathy in the boarding house looking out for others.

WELL DONE TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!



WEEKLY AWARDS

16TH MARCH 2020



Learners of the Week

Harry Adams for phenomenal all-round progress, especially for your interest, engagement and determination to succeed.

Chloe Henderson for an outstanding field report of the Year 5 trip to Blue Anchor, going above and beyond what was expected.

William Davidson for enthusiasm with his rocks and volcanoes work.

Samuel Davies for great determination and attention to detail in his recent Chemistry work

Millie Redrup for making excellent progress in Chemistry since the start of the year.

Jessica Miller for excellent effort and application of knowledge in her discursive essay on volcanoes.

Anna Demochka for showing great persistence and effort in completing some excellent algebra work.

Learners of the Week

Jacob Hoyes for exceptional, confident reading in Chapel.

Tommy Greenhalgh for producing an age appropriate PowerPoint displaying independence, curiosity and ambition.

Bobby Saunders for a really informative project on Climate Change, showing effective research and well thought-out presentation skills.

Noah Jacobi for super progress in reading, demonstrating perseverance, ambition and a positive attitude.



Sportswoman of the Week

Milana Zaytseva for great enthusiasm, persistence and commitment in her Netball matches and Games lessons.



WELL DONE TO ALL AWARD WINNERS!

Musician of the Week

Emily Vernon for her performance with the Senior School orchestra on Saturday, showing great confidence, pride and team work.

Sportsman of the Week

Mael Dalbavie for being confident, trying hard and persevering in all his Games and P.E. lessons.

TAUNTON DRAMA FESTIVAL 2020

Taunton Prep School have once again had the most fantastic week at the Taunton Drama Festival, which took place last week. Across the week, the standard of performance was very high, every one of the TPS pupils were wonderful and represented the school beautifully.

Over the course of the week, 23 pupils in Year's 2 to Year 8 managed to win 'First, Second and Third Placing's' in various classes, this is an unbelievable achievement! All of these pupils have proudly brought a shiny new medal or cup back to Taunton School over the course of this week, which is great.

Particular congratulations should also go to Charlie Vile, who won 'The Hilda Chapman Award', which is presented to the pupil who performs the best piece of acting/drama over the whole Taunton Drama Festival week. He won this trophy for his performance of Mickey from 'Blood Brothers' in the Year 6 & 7 Solo Acting. This is a truly fantastic achievement!

Each and every Taunton Prep School Speech & Drama pupil, represented the school excellently and it's lovely to see them get some credit for their hard work both in and outside of school, whether that is an applause, a medal or a trophy.

A huge congratulations is deserved by everyone who took part in the 2020 Taunton Drama Festival! You are all doing wonderful things for Taunton Prep School Speech & Drama.

Many thanks to you all for your support in the lead up to the Taunton Drama Festival, with helping your children to practise, learn lines, transporting children to and from the Drama Festival and providing fantastic looking copies of the pieces for the adjudicator, many, many thanks for your immense and continued support to Speech & Drama!

Alastair Kirby, Speech & Drama Teacher



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Charlie Vile – awarded 1st Place in ‘Year 6 & 7 Solo Acting’

(Also awarded ‘The Hilda Chapman Award’ for the Best Acting piece over the entire Taunton Drama Festival week)

Daisy Greenhalgh – awarded 1st Place in ‘Year 6 & Under Sight Reading’

Ben Leahy – awarded 1st Place in ‘Year 5 & Under Verse Speaking’

Evie Linden and Isabella Saunders – awarded 1st Place in ‘Year 6 & 7 Duo Verse Speaking’

Daisy Greenhalgh – awarded 1st Place in ‘Year 5, 6 and 7 Performance Poetry’

Eva Di Capua – awarded 1st Place in ‘Year 7 & Under Verse Speaking’

Jacob Hoyes – awarded 1st Place in ‘Year 6 to 8 TV Newsreading’

Millie Trescothick – awarded 2nd Place in ‘Year 7 & Under Verse Speaking’

Florence Legg – awarded 2nd Place in ‘Year 5 & Under Verse Speaking’

Finley Pyke and Alex Leach – awarded 2nd Place in ‘Year 5 & Under Duo Verse Speaking’

Anna Demochka – awarded 2nd Place in ‘Year 8 & Under Verse Speaking’

Quinn Stott – awarded 2nd Place in ‘Year 3 & Under Verse Speaking’

Tom White and Jonny Sibanda-Jenkins – awarded 2nd Place in ‘Year 6 & 7 Duo Acting’

Emily Vernon – awarded 3rd Place in ‘Year 6 & 7 Solo Acting’

Ellie Onesti – awarded 3rd Place in ‘Year 4 & Under Verse Speaking’

Jake Taylor and Charlie Webber – awarded 3rd Place in ‘Year 6 & 7 Duo Acting’

Ellie Onesti and Bella Vile – awarded 3rd Place in ‘Year 5 & Under Duo Acting’

PERFORMING ARTS CAFE

10TH MARCH 2020

Alex Church

Piano - Conversation

Julian Doherty

Drums – We Will Rock You

Sophia Oderda

Violin – Hiding in the Long Grass

Ruben Hallworth

Trombone – Men of Harlech

Harry Way

French Horn - Music to Watch Girls by

Sophia Heywood

Piano – Sunrise on the Matterhorn

Valentin Bala

Flute – Lazy Sunday

Eva Di Capua & Parsa Khawaja

Singing & Piano – Someone Like You

William Davidson

Piano – Brass Band

Josh Green

Euphonium – When the Saints Go Marching In

Louis Maloney

Piano – Coldplay Medley

Rufus Holden

Drums – Seven Nation Army

Forest White

Harp – Sound the Trumpets

Tongfei Deng

Piano – Shadows

Valentin Bala

Clarinet – Georgie

Jonny Sibanda – Jenkin

Piano – Enchanted Garden

Emily Vernon

Singing – Caro Mio Ben



MAGICAL MATILDA

SATURDAY ENRICHMENT

On Saturday, the children from the Performing Arts Enrichment programme put on a show stopper of a show called 'Matilda.' The children had worked incredibly hard on remembering their lines and songs and performed them to a very high standard. It was amazing to see children singing solos so beautifully and with such confidence and to see children with wonderful timing in the delivery of their lines to bring the performance alive.

It was wonderful to see so many family and friends coming along to support the children.

A huge thank you to Mrs Hornsby, Miss Hartland-Mann, Mr Baker and Mr Hornsby for all their time and energy in making the performance a massive success.

James Rowse - Year 3 Teacher and Saturday Enrichment Co-ordinator



KEEP CALM AND KEEP MODELLING

The Prep Airfix/Warhammer Club with their latest models



Gabriel (expert Airfixer) with his 'Easy Eight' Sherman tank



CHALLENGE

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14TH MARCH - PI DAY AT TPS



Did you know? Pi day is on 14th March because it's the 14th day of the 3rd month (March) 3.14

Today the pupils have been looking at Pi and the special number 3.14... aka π ! There have been a host of activities taking place in different year groups, culminating in a competition for houses in year 8 to learn Pi to the most decimal places.



The school record is 201, held by Ethan Eksteen but that was smashed by Rakhym Tilekkabybek with remembering 213! His prize was a Raspberry Pi. A special mention must go to Rory Lashbrook who stood in at the last minute.

We have had a great Pi Day, thank you to all the staff for making it such fun.



Mrs Caroline Tucker, HOD Maths

NETBALL

U9 QUEEN'S NETBALL TOURNAMENT



The U9 A team took part in the Queen's Netball Tournament on Saturday 7th March. The girls played three matches as part of their group stage; Blundell's, Wellington and Queen's. They won two games and lost one, gaining 2nd place in the group. Playing the new Bee Netball format - 'Stinger' rules, the girls rotated positions, playing GA, GS, C, GK, GD; a great opportunity for the girls to experience playing in a variety of positions.

The girls then played Bristol Grammar School in the

semi-finals, narrowly missing out on a place in the final. The team played Blundell's for 3rd and 4th place and won by 1 goal!

A very exciting day for the U9s, who demonstrated their determination and positive level of spatial awareness, passing and movement skills. 3rd place overall - well done girls!

Miss Aston

U8 4 SCHOOLS FESTIVAL

The U8 girls travelled to Wellington to take part in the 4 Schools Festival. We joined forces with Wellington, King's Hall and Queen's to form different countries, including Fiji, Australia and Ireland. The girls played lots of Netball games, practicing their passing, moving and knowledge of the game, and took part in shooting challenges to improve their technique.

It was wonderful for the girls to meet, play and socialise with students from other schools and they represented Taunton Prep School extremely well.

Miss Aston

HOCKEY

U12A BGS INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Taunton prep headed to Bristol Grammar School for a tournament with hopes of doing well after a comfortable victory in their previous fixture. Knowing it was local rivals Wellington up first, helped to focus the boys and a comfortable 3-0 win followed. The team then played Bishops Vesey's and BGS b team, and recorded 2 more 3-0 victories leaving them top of the group and knowing they had qualified for the Cup competition in the afternoon with 2 games to spare.

Despite this, the team remained focused and played their best hockey of the term in the following 2 games, drawing 1-1 with a strong BGS A team and beating a Millfield team that had bettered us on a couple of occasions throughout term 2-1. A fantastic morning of hockey saw the team win the group and go into the Cup competition as one of the favourites on paper.

Despite reminders to stay focussed during the lunch break and take on food and water, the team let the excitement of the day get the better of them and used up too much energy on the bus. This lunch break was followed by some sluggish hockey, with the team losing to Kingswood and BGS 2-0. Despite the disappointment of these losses, the team picked themselves up for a 5th/6th place playoff, beating Bishops Vesey's again, 2-0.

A case of what could have been after a great morning session, especially knowing that Millfield won the tournament overall and with a better attitude it could have easily been TPS. Despite the disappointment, it was a great experience for the team, who must take great belief from the hockey played, and learn some valuable lessons which will hopefully stand them in good stead for next year's competitions.

Well done on a good hockey term, huge progress has



been made by all players, the most pleasing aspect was the team's never-say-die attitude, which helped the team rescue draws from losing positions on numerous occasions.

Tom Chaffey, PE Teacher



U10 TAUNTON CIVIL SERVICE HOCKEY CLUB



Katie Sercombe and Alba Davidson played for Taunton Civil Service U10 girls hockey team in their county matches on Sunday 8th March.

Taunton Civil Service came 2nd, narrowly missing 1st place by 1 point to Chard and their team has qualified for the west regional championship which takes place on 3rd May. Well done girls and good luck!

Miss Aston