



TAUNTON
SCHOOL

Prep & Pre-Prep COURIER



17th December 2021

#TAUNTONSCHOOL

STEPPING INTO CHRISTMAS

Nursery, Pre-Prep and Prep School children at Taunton School ended the autumn term with a host of festive activities before heading home for the Christmas holidays. From nativities and carol services to Christmas jumpers and festive fairs, pupils were in full Christmas spirit before the break. Pictured right is Nicholas, who played Joseph in the Pre-Prep nativity. See page 6 for more Christmas photographs.



More Inside

- New Head
- 1945 letter found under floorboards
- Drama festival photos

- Sports news
- Victorian day
- Christingle photos

Next Prep Courier: 28th January 2022

Message from the TPS Headmaster



The final few days of term were packed with festive fun and wonderful events such as the Christmas lunch on Monday and Wednesday's carol services. I am not sure what the pupils enjoyed most on Tuesday; was it the hot chocolate and cookies (thank you to the PTA!), the Santa Dash, or the Form Parties? I hope that many of you were able to access the live stream for the carol services and were able to witness the excellent singing and reading by the pupils. It was terrific in Tuesday's

final assembly to see how proud and happy pupils were to be recognised for their special achievements. Some of the awards were given to pupils who have demonstrated outstanding levels of attainment such as the Year 8 colours for sport and the performing arts. In order to win those elite colours, pupils need to perform to a very high level and demonstrate outstanding attitudes in all practices, matches and performances. However, many of our awards are truly achievable by all, such as our 'Learner of the Term' certificates for outstanding grades in Attitude to Learning grades, and for a high number of 'Rolls of Honour'.

Our TPS Way challenges our pupils to be ambitious, to try their best and to be kind and respectful, and these are all things which are achievable every day by every one of our pupils. When they do these three things, they will be given the recognition which they deserve and we shall all be smiling! Thank you to all those who have contributed such generous gifts for the Sparkle Appeal, which will all end up in the hands of children who would not otherwise have had Christmas presents. The organisers of this charity have told us that never have there been so many children

to whom they would like to give presents, and that it is around 1,400 in this area this Christmas. It has been very heart-warming to hear the children talking so compassionately about giving to others, as they dropped off their presents in the School Office.

Last week saw the publication of the Cricketer Magazine's Good Schools Guide for 2021 and we are delighted that we have retained our position in their lists of top cricketing schools in the country at both Senior and Prep level. We have had other incredible sporting success since our last edition of the Courier, with our cross-country teams finishing 3rd in the country (girls) and 5th (boys). Our girls qualified for the Prep School National Hockey finals in all three of the available age groups (U13, U12 and U11), where they all competed admirably, whilst our rugby teams finished off what has been an impressive season. Meanwhile, in the pool, our U13 boys and girls swam at the English Schools' National Relay Championships. Just to qualify for these Finals (in the Olympic Pool in London) requires us to be in the top 20 schools in the country, and it was amazing that our boys brought home the national title in the 200m Freestyle! Very well done for this truly exceptional achievement.

There is insufficient space on this page to mention all of the many successes enjoyed by our pupils this term, but if you were to flick through the recent editions of the Courier, you would, I believe, be amazed at what has been achieved. In what has been another extraordinary year, the parents, pupils and staff of our great school have pulled together and shown phenomenal levels of teamwork and mutual support. By doing this, we have all helped to provide something truly special for our children. None of this would be possible without the fantastic support given by parents to our children and to the school. I thank you all, and I wish you and your families a very enjoyable festive holiday.

Andrew Edwards, TPS Headmaster

Message from the Head of Pre-Prep and Nursery



As we near the end of the final day, there has been lots of sparkle and fun going on throughout the whole of the Nursery and Pre-Prep including our fabulous Nativity performances, the Christmas Fair and yesterday's special visit from Father Christmas.

I would also like to publicly thank the catering team for our delicious Christmas lunches and all that they do to feed us all so well throughout the year.

Thank you to all the parents who joined us for the Christingle service on Tuesday, it was very special to have you in the Chapel with us.

Thank you to you all for your continued support this term. Enjoy a Christmas to remember with your family and friends. Wishing you all a very Happy New Year, when it arrives.

Mrs Louise Leah, Head of Pre-Prep and Nursery

Diary dates

13+ Scholarship deadline	10th January 2022
Virtual Open Morning	5th February 2022 9:30am – 12:30pm
Whole School Open Morning	12th February 2022 9:30am - 12:30pm (UK time)
Year 9 GCSE Information Evening	4th March 2022 6:30pm - 9:30pm
Whole School Open Morning	2nd May 2022 9:30am - 12:30pm
Year 9 GCSE Information Evening	4th March 2022 6.30pm - 9.30pm
Wedding Fair	27th March 2022 11.00am-3.00pm
Whole School Open Morning	2nd May 2022 9.30am-12.30pm

Register your place for our upcoming events on our website here: <https://www.tauntonschool.co.uk/open-mornings/>



Taunton School announces appointment of new Head and CEO



James Johnson, currently Head of Senior School at Ardingly College in Sussex, will take up the position in September 2022, replacing Lee Glaser who is standing down after eight years at the helm.

Chair of Governors, Henry Keeling, said: "We are thrilled that Mr Johnson will be taking over the reins at Taunton School. His passion for heading up an all-through, co-educational school such as ours with its breadth of provision and global outlook shone through at every stage of the selection process."

"Mr Glaser's successful leadership of Taunton School had set a very high benchmark when it came to choosing a successor," said Mr Keeling.

"Mr Johnson brings a wealth of experience and talent with him," he added. "We believe he is the perfect fit for Taunton School."

Mr Johnson is married with two children. He began his career as an English teacher at Cheltenham College, before becoming a Housemaster at Tonbridge School in Kent, joining Ardingly College in 2016.

As a student he read English at University College London, took an MPhil at Trinity College, Dublin and completed his PGCE at Cambridge University.

Mr Johnson said: "It is a privilege to have been appointed as the next Head of Taunton School. I am especially excited about meeting pupils, staff, parents and alumni in the coming months."

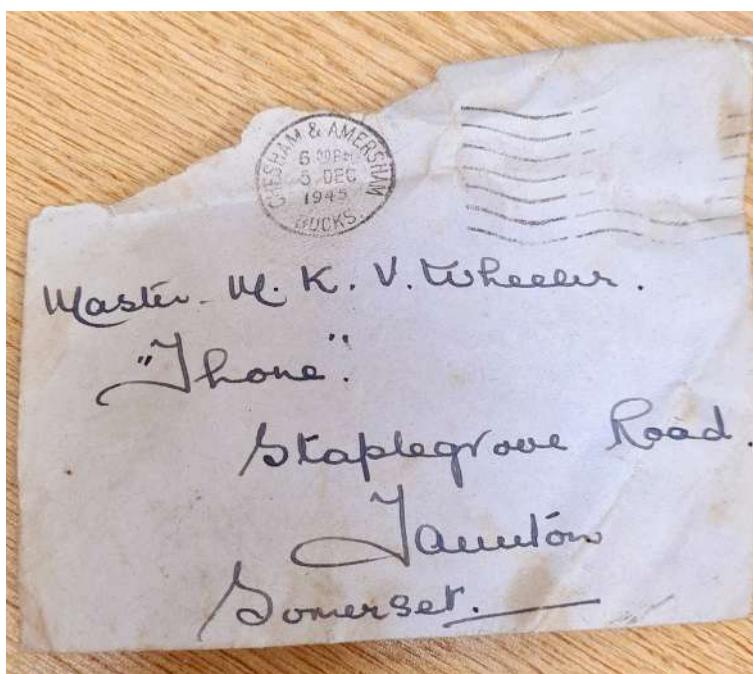
He said the school's 'lack of pretension, its breadth of academic pathways and its co-curricular opportunities as well as Taunton's focus on wellbeing and the global community' were all huge attractions to the role for him.

Mr Glaser said he was delighted about Mr Johnson's appointment. "As much as I will miss Taunton, I am thrilled that James will be taking over the running of this amazing school from me."

"This year we are celebrating our 175th anniversary and with James at the helm, I have no doubt that Taunton School is entering a very exciting phase of its ongoing development."

"He is a very caring man who shares my passion for challenging, nurturing and inspiring young people to succeed in a global community."

Olympian's 1945 letter found under Thone floorboards



A 76-year-old letter written to a future Olympic medallist has been discovered under the floorboards at Taunton School.

The document was uncovered during a refurbishment at Thone boarding house.

The letter, written in 1945, was addressed to a 10-year-old Tauntonian who later went on to become a bronze Olympic relay medallist.

Michael Wheeler competed in the 1956 Olympics in the 4x400m relay, where he won bronze alongside his teammates Peter Higgins, John Salisbury and Derek Johnson.

Andy Budge, the painter and decorator who discovered the letter hidden under the floorboards, said: "I was hunting around to see if there was anything there. I found a few old coins and stamps, then I found the letter."

"Someone else might have seen an old piece of paper and put it in the bin but I'm interested in history so I was curious. It made me feel quite sentimental to think that this letter is part of the history of the school."

Taunton School archivist John Brown said: "We dusted off the old registers and it was certain that the boy in the letter is the young athlete who went on to compete in the Olympics. This letter was a lucky find. Michael Wheeler was one of the best athletes Taunton School has ever produced."

Michael's first three years at Taunton School were during World War II, during air raids and food shortages. The school grew vegetables on the playing fields and kept rabbits and chickens. Children from other schools were evacuated to Taunton School.

During his time at Taunton School, Michael (who was known as Mick as a child) broke several school records in running events, then went on to compete internationally, propelling him towards Olympic success.

Ten-year-old Ellie Onesti, a current Taunton School pupil, said: "We learnt about the war in school recently so it's really exciting to see this letter. It was written not long after the war when Michael was the same age as me. Life for him would have been very different to how it is now so it's interesting to learn about him."

Lee Glaser, Taunton School's Headmaster, said: "To uncover a letter from the 1940s is incredibly exciting – but then to discover that it actually belonged to a pupil who later went on to become an Olympian is astonishing."

"Michael may have dropped the letter, however I like to think that he hid it under the floorboards for future generations to find!"

"We're proud of Taunton School's rich history and our reputation for sporting excellence."

The letter, dated 5th December 1945, reads:

In very great haste

Darling Mick

Hope you are pleased with your parcel. I went to 15 shops to get the scouts uniform. If too long, matron will no doubt alter them for you

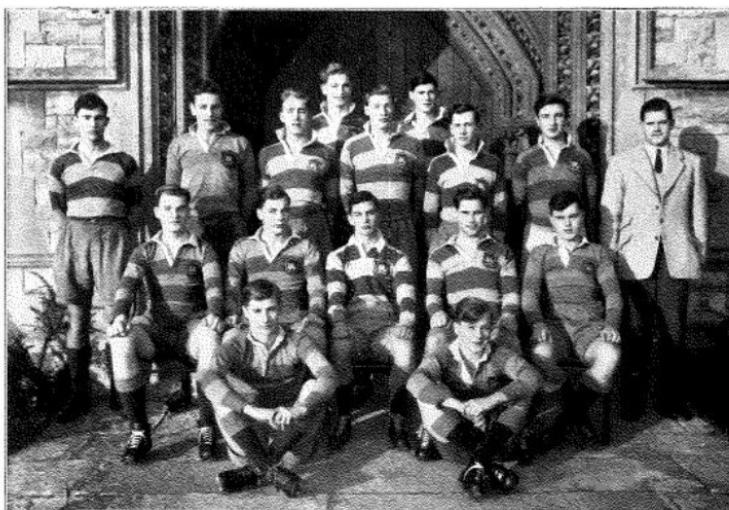
Longing to see you Paddington 18th

All my love

Mummy xx

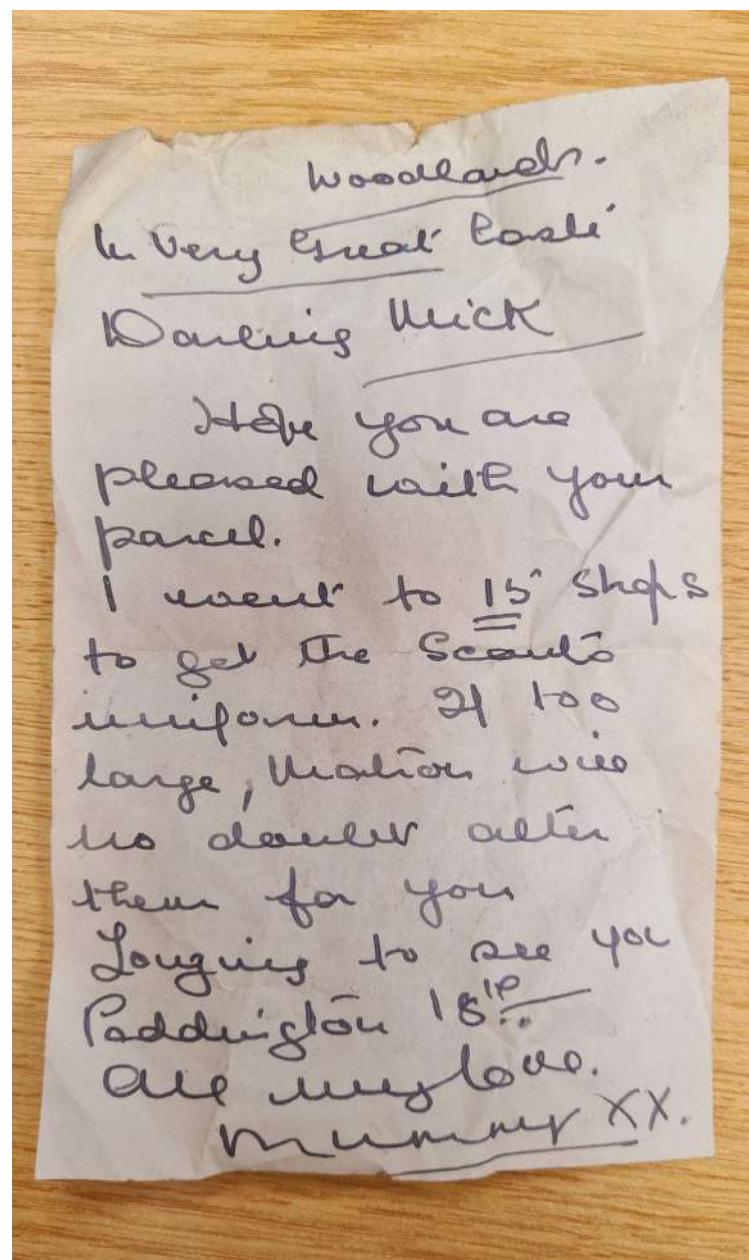
Michael retired from athletics in 1966 and went on to become a teacher. He died in January 2020, aged 84.

RUGBY FIRST XV - 1952



M. G. COVE R. N. GRAY

R. P. WICKHAM C. R. T. ESSEX I. F. CAMPBELL M. K. V. WHEELER R. C. THORNE J. E. PAGE Mr. E. WRIGHT
D. N. DAWBORN A. TUNSTILL B. H. MEAD I. A. PITTMAN J. H. SHORNEY
J. B. MORAN C. A. STEVENS



Little stars shine in TPS nativities



Christingle Service in pictures



Pupils turn into snowmen for Christmas!



Year 3 and 4 pupils kickstarted the festive season with a fabulous day of Christmas crafts followed by a Christmas party organised by our Year 8 Junior Leaders. They worked hard all week to advertise and sell tickets for the event and thinking of playlists and party games to entertain more than 80 excited pupils. The party saw festive face paints, a green screen photo booth, plenty of dancing (by both staff and pupils) and a 'turn a pupil into a snowman' competition. We even had a special visits from Father Christmas, an elf and a snowman! The party ended with a gigantic conga around the playground. Many thanks to the Year 8 pupils for giving up their time to run such a successful event. You have certainly been great role models to our younger pupils.

Year 10 students visit nursery for festive story time



Getting festive on Christmas jumper day



Year 10 students from the Senior School visited the nursery on Monday 13th December to read Christmas stories to the children.

Danning, Alex and Aerin got into the Christmas spirit on Friday 10th December by sporting their festive attire for Christmas Jumper Day.

Turkey and all the trimmings!



Children donned party hats pulled Christmas crackers as they enjoyed a traditional Christmas lunch in the dining room on Tuesday 14th December.

Thone House Christmas news



There was a festive finish to the autumn term for Thone boarding pupils, with a trip to Clarks Village for some Christmas shopping. The children loved having the opportunity to treat their loved ones and let off steam on the adventure playground too. On returning to Thone, wrapping chaos commenced and the house was a scene of festive joy! There were doughnuts for all too to help Alex celebrate his birthday. Our boarding family are well and truly ready for a rest but look forward to lots more fun and laughter in the new year. A fitting end to an action-packed term!

Warning for Thone Family members: please don't look too closely at the photos or we may give the game away before the big day!

Christmas trees and crafts



Pre-Prep pupils were full of Christmas joy as they decorated trees and got stuck in with festive crafts, including making Christmas cards, Christmas trees and Father Christmases.





Thone boarders also enjoyed decorating their tree!

Carols at Somerset Cricket Club



We were invited to sing festive carols at the annual Cricket Club Christmas Dinner. This has been a part of a longstanding link and tradition with the Somerset County Cricket Club, many of whose members are parents and friends of the school. We are so glad to have been able to provide this entertainment for them, having not been able to last year of course.

Christmas fair



Enterprising pupils ran fun stalls including Splat the Rat and Whack a Mole at the PTA Christmas Fair on Friday 10th December. Among those taking part were Verity, Dulcie and Josie, who made cork boards in the DT room and offered them as prizes for their reindeer game, raising £27 for Cancer Research.

Michaelmas concert



Talented young musicians from Years 3, 4 and 5 shone in a spectacular Michaelmas Concert before the end of term. They performed a new cantata telling the story of legendary Cornish fisherman Tom Bawcock, an old resident of Mousehole who came to the rescue of the village when food supplies were cut off during prolonged fierce storms.

Chasing Santa!



It was festive jumpers all round at the Santa Fun Run on Tuesday 14th December. To celebrate the end of term, Prep School pupils took part in a run around the school to see who could beat Father Christmas!

Spreading some Christmas sparkle for charity

Prep School pupils helped spread cheer last week by donating presents to community organisation Christmas Sparkle. Christmas Sparkle is a project run by the community for the community, and its aim is to give a Christmas gift to every child aged 0-18 years living in poverty in the local community. Pictured right are Thomas Dutton (Head Boy), Evie Linden (Head Girl), Isla Moss (Head Boarder), Chris Coleman (Deputy Head) and Gill Harrison (Founder of Christmas Sparkle).



Success at Taunton Drama Festival

Taunton Prep School had the most fantastic week at the Taunton Drama Festival, which took place in November. Some 28 pupils in Year's 1 to Year 8 managed to win top three placings in various classes - an impressive achievement! All of these pupils have proudly brought a shiny new medal or cup back to TPS over the course of this week, which is great. Very well done to all involved!

A particular highlight of TPS' Drama Festival week was of Ben Leahy's performance of 'Ernie's Incredible Illucinations' by Alan Ayckbourn, which earned him 1st place in the Year 6 & 7 Solo Acting class, where he was awarded a mark of 90%, placing him in the 'Outstanding' banding. At the end of the week, the adjudicator chose Ben's performance to win the Hilda Chapman Cup for the best acting performance of the entire festival.

Please see page 17 for the full list of results.





Ben Leahy – 1st place and a mark of 90%/'Outstanding' in the Year 6 & 7 Solo Acting

Daisy Greenhalgh – 1st place in the Year 7-9 Sight Reading and 1st place in the Year 8 & 9 Performance Poetry

Xavier Flay and Wilbur Grundy – 1st place in the Year 8 & 9 Duo Acting and 2nd place in the Year 7-9 Duo Improvisation

Ellie Onesti – 1st place in the Year 6 & Under Verse Speaking and 1st place in the Year 6 & Under Prepared Reading

Imogen Chisholm – 1st place in the Year 4 & Under Verse Speaking and overall winner of the Year 4 Verse Speaking cup

Kayra Jordan – 1st place in the Year 3 & Under Verse Speaking

Henry Berry – 1st place in the Year 3 & Under Verse Speaking

Emily Dempsey and Violet Legg – 1st place in the Year 5 & Under Duo Verse Speaking

Diya Painuly – 1st place in the Year 5 & Under Solo Acting

Isabella Saunders and Arthur Wilkinson – 1st place in the Year 7-9 Duo Improvisation

Danning Zhang – 1st place in the Year 5, 6 and 7 Performance Poetry

Imogen Darvall – 1st place in the Year 7 & Under Verse Speaking

Alex Leach – 1st place in the Year 7 & Under Prepared Reading

Millie Church and Liberty Moon – 1st place in the Year 6 & 7 Duo Acting

Florence Legg – 1st place in the Year 7 & Under Verse Speaking



Eloise Bennett – 1st place in the Year 4 & Under Verse Speaking

Kelsie Walker – 2nd place in the Year 1 & Under Verse Speaking

Glenda Wong – 2nd place in the Year 1 & Under Verse Speaking

Danning Zhang (and Mr Kirby standing in for Aurelia Catton) – 2nd place in the Year 5 & Under Duo Acting

Genevieve Grundy and Tamsin Carroll – 2nd place in the Year 6 & 7 Duo Acting

Abi Birch and Maddie Berry – 2nd place in the Year 8 & 9 Duo Acting

Gregory Nicolaou – 3rd place in the Year 4 & Under Verse Speaking



Year 7 and 8 drama performance



Future stars in the making! Here are some photos of our recent Year 7 and 8 drama performance.

Eco Club update



Eco club pupils have been busy using cast off wood from the canteen build to make bird nesting boxes. The wood was very kindly cut to size by Rosey Cobbett and her father. We are now in the process of using reclaimed screws to put the boxes together. Eco club members are also currently selling greetings cards made and printed from originals by Mr Raven, candles made from unused beehive frame foundation and used and remoulded beeswax. These will be available for sale from Mr Raven's room and the Eco Club shop which runs on Tuesday evenings outside the main door of Weirfield from 4.50pm until 5.15pm.

Space projects blast off



Jumping Jupiter! Science leaders Immacolata and Maddie have spent time this term remaking the model of Jupiter that hangs in the Science Corridor as part of a display of the eight planets of the Solar System. Next stop, Saturn!

We have lift off.... Airfixer Eric with his Saturn V rocket.

Who Wants to be a Millionnaire?



It was the battle of the houses at Taunton Prep School on Friday 10th December. Our Prep School students' brain power was put to the test in their festive version of Who Wants to Be a Millionaire!

Safeguarding webinar

On Monday 29 November we ran a webinar on 'Building a Culture of Respect at Taunton School'. If you did not get a chance to join us it is now available on our website [and also Vimeo](#).

Year 8 pupils volunteer as DT role models



Year 8 pupils have been giving up their break times to help younger children with their Design Technology skills in the DT room. Pictured above are DT leaders Jasmine and Zoe supervising Year 5 pupils.

Lighting up December with electronic Christmas cards



Pupils in the Prep school DT enrichment group have been making electronic Christmas cards. These were started on CAD then vinyl cutters were used to produce the tree and snowman. The children made holes to create LED support, then made a contact circuit for the inside.

Cookery skills help warm up winter



Prep school pupils have been in the kitchen making apple crumble recently – the perfect warming dish for a cold winter's day!

Treading the boards at Performing Arts Cafe

A message from Mr Baker:

We have had an exhilarating and rewarding term in the music department, with Performing Arts Cafés almost every week, showcasing a variety of artistic disciplines and talent from all ages across the school. Thank you and well done to all our high achieving and confident young musicians, dancers and actors for keeping us brilliantly entertained over the term and for achieving excellent personal performance goals and results. Our professional visiting music teachers, as well as our dance and drama members of the Performing Arts department, have all worked their socks off for our children so we are ever so grateful and wish everyone a happy Christmas. Keep practising, and see you fresh and ready for more performances in the new year!



Enrichment group's Christmas performance



Here are some photographs of the Christmas Variety performance by the performing arts enrichment group.

Pupils step back in time for Victorian Day



On Tuesday 7th December, Year 5 enjoyed a day linked to the Victorians to finish off their fantastic Autumn term topic. They had two fantastic workshops over the day and were able to play Victorian games and make Christmas Pomanders. They were immersed in the life of a Victorian school child and were able to experience the repetitive learning and strict rules. They agreed they don't want their teachers to be like that! They were able to explore a variety of artefacts from the era and dressed up as a Victorian school child would. They were also able to explore the Christmas traditions which Prince Albert started in the Victorian era and again explored different artefacts. They also made traditional Christmas crackers and beautiful cornucopias with delicious peppermint creams. This was definitely a fabulous finish to all the amazing Victorian learning the children have done in Year 5 this term. Well done!

Year 4 Candle-makers



Pupils in Mrs Finch's science class have been learning about how materials change from solids to liquids and back again. To see these processes in action, they made ice candles, where molten wax is poured over crushed ice. The wax freezes while the ice melts, leaving a candle that is full of holes.

Children in Need



Connie (Year 5) has been making homemade Pudsey badges to raise money for Children in Need. She has sold them to pupils and staff across the school to raise money and has raised over £60. Well done, Connie!

Hot off the press

The children in Newspaper Club have been working hard on completing a newspaper rounding off some events of this term. They have carried out interviews with staff and worked hard as a team to complete the finished article. Well done to everyone who has been involved! [Please do take a look through the following link.](#)

Join our team

We are currently recruiting for two GRA's to start as soon as possible, a female for TPS and a male for TSIMS

Please see our vacancies here: <https://www.jobtrain.co.uk/tauntonschool/>

Celtic storytelling with Clive Pig



Year 3 pupils from TPS were joined by their friends from TSIMs for a Celtic storytelling workshop as part of their 'I am Warrior' topic. Bran, played by Clive Pig, delivered an engaging session all about life in Celtic times. Pupils were able to impress him with their knowledge and understanding about life as a Celt, especially having spent time this week writing and using animation software to create diaries about life as a Celtic slave. Similarly, when discussing the Roman invasion and Boudicca's army, they were able to discuss what they had been learning in their Boudicca research project. Pupils were thoroughly gripped as Bran's life unfolded before us. After break, pupils participated in a series of storytelling and drama workshops, acting out Celtic activities and handling a range of artefacts from swords, shields, pots and skulls. The story ended with Bran explaining how Celtic Britain was invaded by the Romans, setting the children up nicely for their 'Swords and Sandals' topic next term. It was fabulous to be part of a session which brought together all of their learning from this term.

TPS remembers

2021 marks the centenary of the founding Royal British Legion and TPS dedicated our Joint Charity Day on 12th November to raising money for this very worthy cause, which supplies life-changing help to armed forces veterans and their families. We were delighted to have raised almost £600 for this cause. Our Remembrance activities started on Monday 8th November with an assembly about the story of Tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey. Form groups have also decorated poppies which are on display in the Weirfield Corridor.

On Thursday 11th November, we held our Remembrance Service in the Chapel (and also via livestream), where the CCF members laid wreaths on the altar. The service was respectful, reverent and moving. At 11am, Years 7 and 8 joined TS pupils on the parade ground for the two-minute silence, while Years 3 to 6 carried out their two-minute silence on the TPS playground, followed by each pupil planting a poppy in the rose garden outside Thone; a fitting venue, as many of the OT's who lost their lives in WW1 Would have been based in Thone House. At break, we then had a dance session, led by Miss Hartland-Mann, to the tunes of Glenn Miller, and pupils could choose to complete craft activities in the Ward Room. We also enjoyed poppy themed cakes.

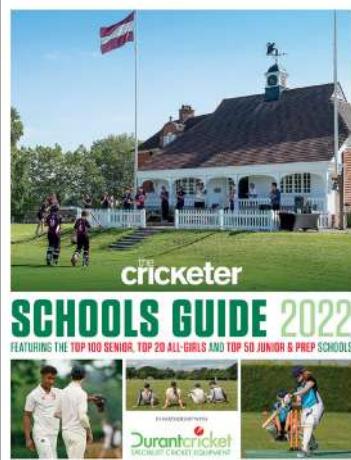


House points

The following pupils achieved their bronze award for house points in November:

Thomas Thorpe – 3H	Finley Pyke – 7V	Sophie Evans – 6C	Archie Pugh – 7W
Charlie Dann – 3H	Yuna Leroy – 3H	Lizzie Parsons – 6C	Rosie Joynes – 7W
Digby Catton – 3H	Lewis Orchard – 7V	Freddie Linnell – 3H	Hannah Simmonds – 7V
Samuel Martin – 4P	Mya Harris – 3H	Laila Brodie – 3H	Justine Pettifer – 6G
Kaiden Howard – 4P	Elle Perry – 3H	Seth Barnes – 6G	Sophia Odedra – 5H
Eloise Bennett – 4P	Jesser Ben-Chabaane – 3R	Jack Bruford – 4P	Theo Sharland – 3H
Tommy Cavill – 4P	Esme Hole – 3R	Daniella Hudson – 4P	Emilia Dyson – 7V
Gregory Nicolaou – 4P	Rocco Notaro – 3R	Theo Lacombe – 4P	Sophia Heywood – 7V
Alex Dunbar – 5H	Cate Pettifer – 3R	Sonny Mansfield – 5H	Bella Notaro – 3H
Tongfei Deng – 6F	Erin Walters – 3R	Tamsin Carroll – 6C	Albert Clark – 3H
Abigail Graham – 6F	Forest White – 5H	Safa Boraei – 7C	David Chilinda – 5H
Genevieve Grundy – 6F	Henry Skittrall – 5H	Luke Jones – 7C	Max Van Looy – 3H
Bobby Saunders – 6F	Teddy Phipps – 5H	Ben Leahy – 7C	Kayra Jordan – 3R
Ben South – 6F	Aadya Agrawal – 5H	Olivia Day – 7C	Abi Birch – 7W
Oli Hallett – 7B	Sophia Powers – 5H	Liberty Jones – 7B	Opal Boyd-Harte – 7W
Florence Legg – 7B	Aquilla Notaro – 5H	Matilda White – 7B	
Joshua Smith – 7B	Sophia Ward – 6G	Freya Talbot – 7B	

The Cricketer Schools Guide



I would like to place on record my thanks to all the teachers, coaches and volunteers who have worked so hard, in the most difficult of circumstances, to ensure the next generation are given opportunities to grow within, and love the game, that we cherish so deeply. Congratulations to all of the schools included and we look forward to hearing about all of your future successes."

Taunton Prep School has been named in the top 50 schools of The Cricketer's School Guide 2022. The guide recognises schools showing a commitment to cricket and a focus on facilities, fixture and coaching. The Cricketer magazine editor Huw Turbervill said: "As a parent myself,

County cricket selection

After weeks of various selection processes Somerset Cricket Club have now released the list of pupils who have made the squads.

Pathway Winter Training Squads

U10's
Harrison Webb
Isaac Tyler

U11's
Bertie Bilson
Lewis Walters (yr 5)

Girls U12 Development Squad

Alba Davidson (Yr 5)
Emma Mason (Yr 6)
Katie Sercombe
Bella Vile

Girls U13 Development Squad

Lily Blackwell
Sophie Day
Emily Miller
Lola Tarr
Charlotte Webber

U12 County Age Group Squad

James Baker
Harvey Coleman

U13 County Age Group Squad

Jack Blackwell
Thomas Gendall
Luca Gregory
Theo Winsor

ESAA English Cross Country Cup 2021

Having qualified through by finishing in at least the top 3 schools in the county, then regional rounds, Taunton Prep School cross country teams set off for a relatively short drive for us to Newquay in Cornwall. With over 15,000 pupils entering from schools all over the country, for any school to have one team at this event is a huge achievement – Taunton Prep School had two!

There were very strong winds and hail as we arrived. After walking (sliding) around the hilly grass and mud course, the boys were first to go in the 3km race, led by Tom (Year 7) and (Nic Year 8), who were always near the front group. All six runners in the team ran their best in challenging conditions that tested the resilience of them all. The boys placed 5th, narrowly missing 4th by just 3 points, out of 156 boys from 26 schools.

Junior Boys

Competition 1

Posn	Points	School
1	69	The Coopers' Company and Coborn School, Upminster
2	108	Durham Johnston Comprehensive School, Durham
3	111	The Judd School, Tonbridge
4	125	Southend High School for Boys, Southend-on-Sea
5	128	Taunton School, Taunton
6	154	Aylesbury Grammar School, Aylesbury
7	163	Northampton School for Boys, Northampton
8	169	St Anselm's College, Prenton
9	173	Silverdale School, Sheffield
10	187	The Eastwood Academy, Leigh-on-Sea
11	192	St Aidan's Church of England High School, Harrogate
12	204	St George's College Weybridge, Addlestone
13	230	Reading Blue Coat School, Reading
14	233	The King's School In Macclesfield, Macclesfield
15	240	Hardenhuish School, Chippenham
16	260	Robert May's School, Hook
17	266	Calday Grange Grammar School, Wirral
18	269	Woodhouse Grove School, Bradford
19	278	King Edward VI Grammar School, Louth
20	301	Haberdashers' Aske's Boys' School, Borehamwood
21	303	St Ambrose College, Altrincham
22	344	Marling School, Stroud
23	385	Alcester Grammar School, Alcester
24	392	Sandringham School, St Albans
25	435	Lincroft Academy, Bedford

Tom Barnett (10th)

Nicolas Du Toit (14th)

Lewis Orchard (43rd)

Theo Winsor (61st)

Harvey Coleman (100th)

Harry Adams (117th)

Brodie Davidson was ill for the final but ran in the county and regional rounds.



After a few other age groups, it was time for the girls to run. The conditions actually got worse. The rain was heavier and the course had become even more treacherous following several other races. After a long warm up the TPS team were ready to face 150 other runners from 26 schools. All the girls ran their best with Emily (Year 8) in the leading group for the whole race, closely followed by Alice (Year 8). After the race had finished, all runners, staff and parents were left sheltering from the elements waiting for the announcement of team places. It was with great joy when we heard "In 3rd Place, Taunton School!"

Emily Miller (5th)

Alice Boyce (9th)

Lily Blackwell (53rd)

Sami Johnson (63rd)

Zoe Trembath (73rd)

Rosie Joynes (124th)

Sophie Day (travelling reserve)

Junior Girls

Competition 1

Posn	Points	School
1	89	Sevenoaks School, Sevenoaks
2	95	South Wilts Grammar School for Girls, Salisbury
3	130	Taunton School, Taunton
4	139	Southend High School for Girls, Southend-on-Sea
5	143	Millfield Preparatory School, Glastonbury
6	152	Guildford High School, Guildford
7	154	Woodbridge School, Woodbridge
8	170	Haybridge High School and Sixth Form, Stourbridge
9	183	Putney High School, London
10	187	James Allen's Girls' School, London
11	200	West Kirby Grammar School, Wirral
12	208	The Perse School, Cambridge
13	213	King's High School, Warwick
14	215	Stroud High School, Stroud
15	231	Casterton Sedbergh Preparatory School, Kirkby Lonsdale
16	238	The FitzWimarc School, Rayleigh
17	242	Kesteven and Grantham Girls' School, Grantham
18	254	Altrincham Grammar School for Girls, Altrincham
19	267	New Hall School, Chelmsford
20	276	St Teresa's School, Dorking
21	314	Dr Challoner's High School, Amersham
22	329	South Craven School, Keighley
23	349	Royal Grammar School, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
24	366	Valley Gardens Middle School, Whitley Bay
25	381	St Helen and St Katharine, Abingdon
26	412	The Grammar School At Leeds, Leeds
27	507	Woodhouse Grove School, Bradford



Demonstration & Afternoon Tea with Michael Coggan

Winner of *Bake Off The Professionals*

Sunday 20th February 2022, 2:00pm - 4:30pm

Come and join us as we welcome Michael Coggan from *Gin & Bake*.

Michael will provide a demonstration followed by a delicious full afternoon tea, prepared by him and our in-house catering team.

This not-to-be-missed event will take place in our wonderful Densham Suite.

£28.00 per person to include a full afternoon tea.

Venue: Densham Suite, Taunton School, Taunton, TA2 6AD

Savouries

- Chicken mayonnaise and parmesan bridge roll
- Cucumber and cream cheese sandwich
- Gruyère and burnt leek gourgères
- Smoked salmon and horseradish crème fraiche sandwich

Scones

- Plain scones
- Earl grey and lemon scone

Sweet

- Rhubarb and custard petit gateau
- Malted milk chocolate and hazelnut macaron
- Victoria layer cake
- White chocolate and passion fruit choux

Buy tickets through our box office:
www.ticketsource.co.uk/tauntonschool

National Pistol Shooting Regionals

There were some great results at the National Pistol Shooting Regionals with Zoe (1st), Emily (2nd), Laura (5th), Rufus (8th), Sophie (12th) and Olivia (15th). Not surprisingly, from these individual scores, the TPS teams finished in 1st and 3rd. Unfortunately, only 1 team per school can qualify for the national finals next term. TPS Shooting team have had a testing month with preparation for the Schools Regional Shooting Competition. The pressure is on with the team coming in 4th for 2020, and 3rd in 2021. This week saw two evenings of competition shooting for their regional targets from the six eligible members, Zoe Trembath, Emily Miller, Laura Trembath, Rufus Holden, Sophie Day and Olivia Day. Regional Results will be out at Christmas, with the top two regional finishers, plus the top team, going forward to nationals. Our individual scores are comparable with last year where we had 1st, 2nd and 3rd regionally.



Zoe Trembath	43	48	47	43	181
Laura Trembath	37	43	42	41	163
Emily Miller	41	44	43	40	168
Rufus Holden	40	38	42	37	157
Sophie Day	39	32	37	41	149
Olivia Day	29	41	32	39	141



Merry Christmas from the marketing team!