



TAUNTON  
SCHOOL

Prep & Pre-Prep

COURIER

6th April 2022

#TAUNTONSCHOOL

# HOCKEY STARS BREAK RECORD



Taunton School is celebrating this week after its Under 13 hockey team came 1st in a national schools' competition.

The victory adds to Taunton School's accolade of being the only school in history to have three teams in the final of Inspiresport's Independent Schools Hockey Cup. [Read the full story here.](#)



More inside:

- Olympic coach visits Taunton School
- Chess team success
- Red Nose Day
- Photos of the new library unveiled

## Chocolate, crafts and Easter nests



The children at Pre-Prep holiday club have been busy with a host of Easter craft activities, creating Easter-themed goodies including their very own Easter nests.

## VR trip for TSIMS pupils

Pupils at The Grange enjoyed experiencing a virtual world at the VR centre in Plymouth, putting on headsets to become characters in their own games.

One of our Japanese students, Wataru, said "I love that we get to go on lots of different trips at Taunton School and try new activities that we have never done before. I really enjoyed the VR trip, especially playing Xbox in a virtual world."



## Diary dates

**Whole School Open Morning** 2nd May 2022 9.30am-12.30pm

**A Midsummer Night's Dream** 10th-12th May 2022 7pm

**An Evening with Nigel Owens MBE** 21st May 2022 7:30pm

**Upper Sixth Leavers 'Platinum Ball'** 1st July 2022 7pm

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

### Bananas and flowers bring science to life



Year 7 pupils were treated to a fast paced, interactive science show from the Explore Dome. They learned a lot from the many exciting experiments, such as what happens to a flower when frozen in liquid nitrogen at minus 196°C and how to use a frozen banana to hammer a nail into a piece of wood. They even tried to cryogenically preserve Mr Hornsby! The show was a truly memorable way of understanding some new concepts introduced in class.

### Year 4 orienteering



Year 4 pupils enjoyed taking part in an orienteering challenge on Uppers playing fields as part of their topic on Ice Worlds. The pupils had a fantastic day developing their leadership, teamwork and map reading skills.

### Stepping into the past for fossil fun



Year 1 children had a superb day taking part in a Taunton Museum workshop where they learned all about dinosaurs and fossils. The children enjoyed trying on dinosaur costumes whilst completing a carousel of activities, including measuring and making a Plesiosaur, exploring and learning about different fossils, painting an ammonite and even building their own salt dough fossil.

## Boarders enjoy Easter egg hunt



Our Prep School boarders had an 'eggcellent' weekend full of Easter crafts, a giant egg hunt, egg races and the now traditional egg throwing competition before the holidays. Meanwhile, senior boarders in Weirfield had their annual egg hunt with well over 200 eggs hidden around the school site – a lovely way to round off the term and enjoy the spring sunshine.

## Olympic coach visits Taunton School

The coach to Olympic Gold and Silver medallists Alistair and Jonny Brownlee delivered an enlightening talk, followed by a Q&A session, to Year 7 and Year 8 pupils on developing into a professional triathlete.

Malcolm Brown MBE has been a teacher, athlete, coach, university lecturer and sports leader. Not only did he coach the Brownlee brothers from the age of 14 all the way to Olympic medals and world titles over a ten-year period, but he also coached the only two female triathletes from Britain to win individual Olympic medals.

It was interesting for the students to see how perseverance, resilience and support for each other were key aspects to the success of the Brownlee brothers.



## Children dress up for World Book Day



The Prep School saw a variety of creative book character costumes on World Book Day as the pupils took part in a range of different activities, including a book treasure hunt, an online book quiz, a book swap event and a book character peg doll competition.

## Year 7 RAFT Talk



Prep School students had great fun at the jumble sale organised by Year 7, which raised an impressive total of £388.72 for RAFT (Refugee Aid from Taunton). Elaine, a volunteer worker at RAFT, recently came to talk to Year 7 about the work they do to support refugees across the world, so it was interesting to see how the money raised would be spent to help with essential supplies such as medicine, hygiene products and baby food, as well as transportation costs to ensure that the goods reach those in need.

## Saturday art enrichment



Year 5 and 6 pupils took part in a creative enrichment activity recently, studying Indian arts through mixed media.

## Chess team success

Taunton School's chess team is through to the South West final of the prestigious Times National Schools Chess Championships.

After another enjoyable tussle against Churchill Academy, Taunton's chess coach, Mr Jamie Beviss, said: *'All of our players played superbly well under pressure, showing huge amounts of concentration, skill and composure. They practise hard and deserve the chance to now play in the final and win the South West title.'*

Seventeen-year-old Mark, the Taunton School captain from Fivehead, said: *'The match was close and we can't wait to play Torquay Boys' Grammar School in the final.'*

Taunton School has chess clubs in the Prep School, International Schools and the Senior School, with the more advanced players in all sections of the school coming together to look at strategy and skills with a specialist coach.

[Read the full story here.](#)



# Dance scholars



Pictured are the dance scholars performing at Spring Forward, organised by Take Art and held at the Tacchi Morris Arts Centre. [See more here.](#)

# Pancake day in pictures



# Art



**Sarah Graham Art** Author  
 Poppy Phillips ah thank you! That's wonderful work!! Big shout out to your students 🙌

12 h Like Reply Award

**Poppy Phillips**  
 Sarah Graham Art 🥰 I'll let them know!

Year 7 pupils have been refining their observational drawing skills by looking at the work of Sarah Graham and producing their own drawings of liquorice allsorts. The students were even congratulated by Sarah Graham herself for their awesome work.



## Geography trips



Year 6 put classroom theory into practice on a Geography trip to Lyme Regis, where they learned about the birthplace of paleontology and the importance of Mary Anning's scientific discoveries. Examining and researching the fossil remains of creatures that previously, swam, crawled and roamed our planet has been crucial to the Year 6 pupils' syllabus, so the practical knowledge collected has added the final chapter to their studies this term. Along with some typical seaside refreshments, the trip was completed with a picnic on the beach.



Year 5 pupils had a great time on their Geography field trip to Blue Anchor beach, Minehead, where they studied examples of coastal processes and beach management. The trip ended with the children enjoying an ice-cream in the spring sunshine.

## Inter-house debating



A team of four international students from TSIMS were welcomed to the annual inter-house debating competition, placing third overall after delivering their impressive arguments in a second language. Chloe and Louise went on to win the main debate, with the difficult task of opposing the motion 'This House believes that people should be capped at six international flights per annum'; whilst Kerem and Chloe argued clearly and passionately about why they thought children should be leaders in world politics, and impromptu-speaker Edgar amused the audience with his playful thoughts on the topic of 'clothes in the future'. A huge and memorable achievement for our international students.

## Red Nose Day



Here are some pictures of our Prep School pupils raising money for Red Nose day by holding a jumble sale in the playground.

## Performing arts round-up by Mr Baker

Our performing arts diary leading up to the end of the spring term has been bursting with a variety of cultural events to challenge and inspire pupils young and old. We have been so happy to have welcomed back live audiences to all our events. Almost every Tuesday we have put on a Performing Arts Café, featuring diverse talent and skills across all three artistic disciplines.

Our Year 6 Production – the first fully staged production for Year 6 in two years – was a triumph, as was our Dance Showcase, starring every one of our many dance ensembles across all year groups. Our enrichment group that meets every Saturday morning gave a top-quality demonstration of a range of choreographed routines and songs from musicals such as Matilda, Oliver and Mary Poppins. In the community, our dance scholars proudly represented the school in the regional Spring Forward event at the Taachi Morris Centre.

Our grand finale was the Scholars' Showcase, a presentation of music, dance and drama given by our scholars and leaders. This was a huge success and gave our leading young artistic stars the chance to shine in front of a live and very appreciative audience. Woven into the mix of exciting performing arts events have been ballet and music exams, both of which yielded very impressive results. A huge well done and congratulations to all our musicians, actors and dancers!

Report by Mr Baker.



## Music exam results

### Trintiy Exams Spring 2022

Name	Instrument	Grade	Results
Toby - Taking over Easter break	Piano	1	?
Eleanor	Bassoon	1	Merit
Valentin	Bassoon	3	Merit
Florence	Clarinet	5	Merit

### ABRSM Exams Spring 2022

Name	Instrument	Grade	Results
Daisy	piano	Initial	Merit
Edward	Piano	Initial	Merit
Josh	Euphonium	3	Pass
Lewis	Piano	2	Pass
Erin	Piano	Initial	Merit
Elosie	Violin	2	Merit
Abigail	Violin	2	Merit
Emily	Violin	1	Distinction
Gregory	Violin	1	Merit
Riya	Violin	1	Merit

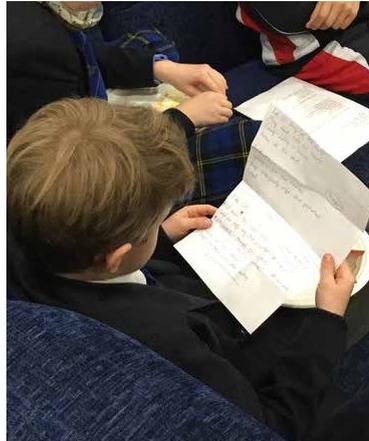
## TPS Inter-House Science Competition

For this year's TPS inter-house science competition, pupils were challenged to make models of molecules using whatever materials they had to hand in commemoration of the momentous discovery of the structure of DNA. The judges were amazed by the ingenuity and resourcefulness of the entries, which ranged from DNA to aspirin and the various allotropes of carbon. Well done to everyone who took part and congratulations to year group winners:



- Year 8 – Jake
- Year 7 – Heidi
- Year 6 – Ted
- Year 5 – Aadya and Danning
- Year 4 – Eloise and Elizabeth
- Year 3 – Elle

## School council discuss PSHEE



The School Council have welcomed the working lunches, and take away fish and chips went down exceptionally well in our most recent School Council meeting. The committee have discussed the PSHEE curriculum, with ongoing conversations taking place in break off groups, to create a TPS school prayer.

## Reception space assembly

Reception children were excited to showcase their green screen space movie in their very first sharing assembly, where they became astronauts and shared what they have been learning about the planets with their families.

The children also had a great time preparing for a special Mother's Day tea party; a lovely afternoon was had by all.

## 100km bike ride for 175th anniversary



Incoming Headmaster James Johnson will join a team of cyclists from the Taunton School community to ride 100km to launch the school's 175th anniversary celebrations.

The teams are looking for more riders to take part in the September challenge, which will end with a celebration at the finish line.

Foundation Director Jack Clark said: *"We are keen to identify those who might be interested so we can start planning and organising practice rides over the summer. Although this is a ride, not a race, riders are expected to have suitable equipment, fitness and experience to complete the 100km route."*

Anyone interested in taking part can contact Mr Clark at [jack.clark@tauntonschool.co.uk](mailto:jack.clark@tauntonschool.co.uk) or call 01823 703159.

Riders will be asked to raise £175, with all donations going towards the Taunton School Foundation.

## Photos of the new library unveiled



We are delighted to reveal the designs for our new library. The construction, which is taking place in what was known as the Lower Dining Room, will provide our students with a much larger and brighter space to read, collaborate and study.

The new library will be in the heart of the school and after consultations across the student body we have chosen a modern design that reflects their needs and wishes.

The work for this exciting project has already started and is due to be finished for use by Autumn 2022. There are naming opportunities for parents and OTs to sponsor desks and study pods as well as the glass entrance doors. For more information about the project or to make your donation please visit our [JustGiving Page](#) or get in touch with our Foundation Director, Jack Clark, at [jack.clark@tauntonschool.co.uk](mailto:jack.clark@tauntonschool.co.uk)

**JustGiving**

## Cadbury World trip



24 pupils and staff experienced a visitors' tour at Cadbury World, where they learned all sorts of wonderful facts about the production of Cadbury chocolate. Highlights included a ride on the colourful 'Cadabra' experience, writing their names in liquid chocolate and eating delicious melted chocolate with toppings of their choice.

## Trampolining success for Dylan



Dylan (TPS, 4F) travelled to Bath University recently for the Cup Challenge Series in trampolining. She participated both as an individual and as part of a team for her club, TTGA, with 2 other girls.

She won the age 9-10 group as an individual and her team came 2nd, so now goes forward for the UK final in July. Dylan also won the club's Trampolinist of the Month award, for trying hard to master her back somersaults.

## A cultural experience



Here are some photos of children celebrating Holi festival and trying some Indian cuisine. They also used the ribbons to dance to some Bollywood music to learn about Holi Festival.

## U12 and U13 netball news



The U12 girls had a fantastic experience at the IAPS National Netball Tournament at Rugby School. Qualifying for the semi-finals of the Plate Competition, the girls produced some of their best netball of the season and finished 12th in the country. Despite the adverse weather conditions, a band of supportive parents and grandparents helped to keep spirits high and the girls should be extremely proud of their performance.

The U13 netball team had a successful day in Ipswich for the IAPS National Finals. Despite a shaky start to the day, the girls displayed admirable determination and managed to win the Plate Competition Final, finishing 9th in the country.

## Two teams reach IAPS Hockey finals



Both the U11 boys' and U13 girls' hockey teams have qualified for the IAPS National Finals.

## TPS Cross Country County Champions

The Year 7 boys, Year 8 boys and Year 8 girls were crowned County Champions in the annual Somerset Schools Individual and Team Cross Country Championships. Of the 35 TPS pupils competing, we also had 13 top-10 finishers. An outstanding effort from everyone involved.

## National Schools Cross Country

16 TPS pupils made the long journey to Malvern for the annual Prep School Cross Country Championships. In a very challenging course, the pupils should be very proud of their final placings:

**U13 Girls:** 3rd from 31 schools; of 107 runners: Emily 5th, Alice 15th, Zoe 23rd, and Rosie 71st.

**U11 Boys:** 6th from 54 schools; of 187 runners: JJ 11th, Lewis 16th, Will T. 77th, and Will S. 119th.

**U13 Boys:** 9th from 40 schools; of 144 runners: Nic 35th, Theo 37th, Harvey 42nd, and Harry 85th.

**U11 Girls:** 12th from 46 schools; of 188 runners: Jess 11th, Alba 37th, Elspeth 82nd, and Isa 113th.

## U13 Boys Rugby 7s

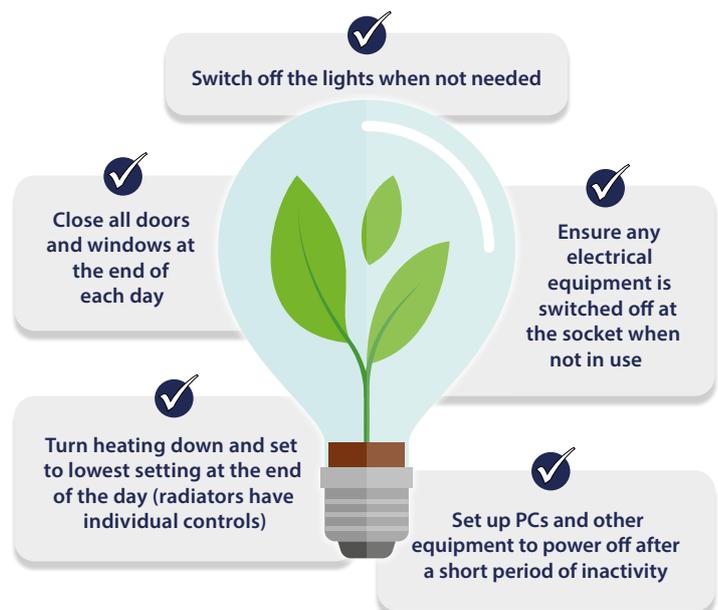
The U13 boys have been busy competing in multiple rugby 7s competitions, travelling to both the Downs School and Millfield School followed by the world's largest 7s event, the Rosslyn Park Sevens.

The boys finished in 6th overall at the Downs Festival having progressed through to the Plate Competition, and managed to top their group at the Millfield Festival, therefore qualifying for the Cup Competition. There were some tough matches against St Peters, York, as well as local schools Clifton and Millfield followed, yet the boys put up an excellent fight and finished in 4th place.

The Prep & Pre-Prep Courier



# ENERGY SAVING



Be smart, **switch off.**