

8th July 2022 #TAUNTONSCHOOL

PARENTS' DAY AND PRIZE GIVING

Taunton School Prep, Pre-Prep and Nursery have ended the academic year with a host of celebratory events. From parents' days and moving up days to assemblies, trips, sports days and prizegiving, pupils and staff have said a fitting farewell to the end of the first post-Covid academic year.









Mr Glaser's farewell message



After 13 years dedicated to Taunton School, CEO and Headmaster Mr Glaser delivered a touching speech in this year's Commemoration service. Read his farewell message on page 2 as he moves on to pastures new. The Taunton School community wishes Mr Glaser the best of luck in this new endeavours.

- More inside:
- Mr Glaser's Message
- Sports day

- End of term celebrations
- Oliver! in photos

Farewell message from Mr Glaser



One really important aspect of school life that has always been good but that has improved significantly recently is "student voice". We need to hear your views.

Some of the most memorable moments this year have involved members of our community speaking openly about their own journeys, their own anxieties and how they have overcome them. I have found these moments very moving.

Two, however, have stood out. Kate, Polina and Roman talking to us about their recent experiences in Ukraine and most recently a number of our Lower Sixth Students delivered a really powerful presentation on reproductive rights in light of the US Supreme Court's recent decision.

Students – use your voice – be heard. You have spoken loudly this year about LGBTQ rights, about the rights of everyone no matter their sexuality, gender, race or belief. About anxiety, about injustice. About war, About reproductive rights. Be loud. Be challenging. In the pursuit of a better world – be difficult.

Contribute – not just in our community but beyond. Be a changemaker!

I offer the following advice to our Upper Sixth leavers:

Avoid negativity – being negative and negative people. Life's too short to hang around with people who bring you down.

Treat everyone with kindness – and I mean everyone. It means a huge amount to people. I might be the Headmaster but it doesn't make me better than anyone else. I love the fact that one of my colleagues always says "alright mate" as he goes past. It's an honour being considered as a mate to John and it indicates a community that is at ease with itself.

Have Fun – life is there to be enjoyed.

Accept a compliment – when someone says you look great it is because you look great. Don't say "no I don't I look awful". Simply say "thanks"

My advice to everyone is communicate kindly, even if you are telling someone something they don't want to hear.

Everyone has been so kind and generous and I want to thank everyone for the lovely presents that I have received and the donations to our Leave Your Mark campaign.

This community is amazing. When I meet prospective students with their parents I say that I hope they will find a warm, welcoming, together community. No clones. No robots. Everyone is comfortable being themselves. But alongside this warmth I want you to see hardworking and ambitious teachers and students. That is what we aim for and visitors always report back that this is exactly what they find.

Keep working hard, keep aiming high and keep looking after each other. In the words of our chaplain – enjoy your wild and precious lives.

It has been an honour and a privilege to work at this wonderful school.

Mr Lee Glaser, TS Headmaster



Message from the Head of Pre-Prep and Nursery



I cannot quite believe that we have reached the end of this academic year, it really has seemed like a whirlwind of creative opportunities for our children. Nursery 3s 'Classtonbury' on the last day of term was such an example of the staff using their initiative and flair to provide the children with something unique and relevant.

We also enjoyed a fabulous Pre-Prep Celebration Day 2022, with so many

parents and grandparents joining us for the fun performance in the marquee. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Brodie, Mr Jelf, Mr Baker and all the Pre-Prep staff for all that they did to ensure the success of the 'Animal Grumble Rumble' performance. It was incredible that the weather held off and

that all your lovely family picnics we able to go ahead, with the afternoon of games on the field – for our annual sports day activities, rounding off the day's events. I think it was fair to say that the day had a really jubilant feel to it and that the children seemed to be very excited by all that the day had in-store. Thank you very much to all those who took part in the parents' race and were such good sports, the children always enjoy seeing the adult involvement and to have this again — both at sports day and for our final 'Wake Up Shake Up' mornings, was really special. I also need to extend a further thank you to all the sports staff, including Miss Beck, Mrs Foad and Mr Winsor — for all that they did to organise the whole range of exciting sports events for the children.

Wishing all our families a lovely summer.

Mrs Louise Leah, Head of Pre-Prep and Nursery

Parents' day

Thank you to everyone who joined us to celebrate at our Prep School parents' day. It was very special to be able to welcome parents to the school for a prize giving ceremony followed by an afternoon of activities and picnics. We are so proud of all our pupils' hard work, so it was fantastic to be able to celebrate their achievements and share what they have been working on over the school year.





















The Prep & Pre-Prep Courier

Moving up day and Pre-Prep production















End of term celebrations













The Prep & Pre-Prep Courier

Summer Events

23rd July Afternoon tea and pastry masterclass with Michael Coggan, winner of Bake Off: The Professionals

12th August Our very first Pop-Up Cinema Night with classic movies and tasty street food.

20th August An evening of live music with DT8 Live on the front lawn of Taunton School – complete with a hog roast and bar.

21st August A jazz and swing afternoon and hog roast with All Jazzed Up performing on the main stage.

To find out more about scholarships visit our website: https://www.tauntonschool.co.uk/scholarships-and-assisted-places/
Find our Ticketsource events here: https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tauntonschool

Aadiya is new pupil librarian



Congratulations to Year 5 bookworm Aadya who is Taunton Prep School's new pupil librarian. Aadya, 10, will be helping other pupils finding books and advising them on what makes a great read. Aadya's ambition is to star in a movie adaptation of one of her favourite books, Inkheart by Cornelia Funke. We hope to see her on the big screen in the future.

Mums on the Run



Five members of the Taunton School Mums on the Run team completed the Taunton Triathlon, covering 400m swim, 21km bike ride and 6km run. The team welcomes mums of all abilities and are keen to take part in further events in September, including getting involved with the 175th school celebrations.

Watery fun for Throne boarders at Splashdown







The TPS boarders had a great time on their weekend trip to Splashdown water park.

Yr 4 children hold cockroaches and snakes









Last month pupils from Year 4 enjoyed an exciting trip to Bristol Zoo Gardens. To tie in with their geography and science topics, they enjoyed a fascinating talk about rainforests and their inhabitants. This was followed by a hands-on workshop where they had the chance to hold a Madagascan hissing cockroach and stroke a rainbow boa snake.

Year 4 Rainforest masks



As part of their topic 'The Rainforest', the Year 4 pupils have been making Mayan Masks. They have learned how the masks were used, where and when the Mayan civilisation originated and how to design and make different types of masks.

Elderflower making

Our international students from The Grange have made their very own elderflower cordial using the elderflower berries from the garden.



Young designers make pyramid models

Year 3 have been putting their DT skills to practice, with the task of constructing an Egyptian pyramid from a net using recycled board. Each face of the structure had to depict an area of Ancient Egyptian history that they had learned about this term.









The Prep & Pre-Prep Courier

Boarders 'flip out' for Sunday fun day









Lots of fun in the sun at Thone House as they enjoyed a barbecue, some retail therapy and bouncing off the walls at Flip out for their final weekend together before half term.

Oliver! production in pictures

The Taunton School Theatre provided an amazing atmosphere as parents came to watch the Year 8 production of 'Oliver'. The pupils spent a week putting the musical together and rehearsing, starting on a Monday and performing to an audience on the succeeding Friday. Well done to all on an incredible show.











The Prep & Pre-Prep Courier

A night under canvas for young adventurers













80 students from Years 3 and 4 enjoyed a night of camping under the stars on school grounds as they practised their teamwork, putting up their own tents and taking part in a mini Olympics before tucking into a delicious barbecue prepared by Mr Ashmore and Madame Griffin, followed by a fun swim. The evening was completed with hot chocolates and a viewing of Paddington in Centenary Hall, and a cooked breakfast the following morning finished off a brilliant experience for all.

Year 7 trip to Berkeley Castle and the Edward Jenner Museum

To augment their studies of medieval Britain in History and of microbes and disease in Science, the Year 7 pupils enjoyed a trip to Berkeley Castle and the Jenner Museum.

In the morning, the students were treated to guided tours of both the interior and exterior of the 11th century castle, where they were able to see many of its original features despite being changed and added to throughout its history. This was followed by a short walk to the Jenner Museum, where the pupils saw at first hand the house where Jenner worked as the local doctor back in the 18th century, as well as the Temple of Vaccinia in the garden, where Jenner would treat the poor.

It was a brilliant opportunity to learn about Jenner's pioneering work on the discovery of vaccination and about the eventual eradication of small pox as a result.















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TSIMS sports day

Students from the Grange had a great time competing in their inter-tutor group sports day. There was shot put, long jump, high jump, running races and a tug of war. Congratulations to Mr Dunn's tutor group for taking the victory.







Channel swim training

The students participating in the upcoming channel swim took part in some acclimatisation training and were taught how to stay warm when falling into water. The core of the RLSS water safety message, 'Float to Live', aims to help people get over the period of losing control of breathing due to a drop in temperature – a great lesson in their continued training.

Watch the video here: https://fb.watch/e2yFoYHL4X/

Warhammer club

Members of the Airfix and Warhammer Club have been busy working on their models this term, including two Titanics, a Red Arrow Hawk, a Lynx Helicopter, several vintage cars and a whole army of Warhammer soldiers.





Grange trip to Durdle Door

The weather was perfect for students at The Grange to head to Durdle Door to practise their fieldwork skills on a Geography trip. They measured longshore drift, wind speed, wave count and beach profiles. The students finished off the trip in Weymouth, where they completed land use surveys and questionnaires.











The Prep & Pre-Prep Courier

Speech and drama successes

Well done to Year 4 Imogen for performing at the Taunton Festival of the Arts Gala Concert; she was chosen to perform out of all the winners across the Taunton Drama Festival, Taunton Music Festival and Taunton Festival from the past year. She performed her poem 'Holiday to Remember' by Gervase Phinn with great expertise.





Congratulations to pupils who took part in the Vanguard Speech and Drama exams. The results of the 65 children in year groups ranging from Year 1 to Year 8 averaged at 89%, 35 of whom were awarded with a mark in the Honours banding at 90% or greater. A fantastic achievement to top off a superb year of TPS and TPPS Speech and Drama.

Particular credit goes to the following pupils for achieving some of the top marks:

- Quinn Stott 96% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Poetry & Prose
- Connie Burton 96% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Duologue Acting
- Aquilla Notaro 96% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Duologue Acting
- Imogen Chisholm 96% Honours for Junior Grade 2 Poetry Speaking
- Lydia Phipps 96% Honours for Junior Preliminary Poetry Speaking
- Ella Hill 96% Honours for Introductory Poetry Speaking
- Arthur Wilkinson 93% Honours for Junior Silver Badge Duologue Acting
- Florence Legg 93% Honours for Junior Silver Badge Prose Reading
- Ellie Onesti 93% Honours for Junior Silver Badge Solo Acting
- Isabella Saunders 93% Honours for Junior Silver Badge Duologue Acting
- Genevieve Grundy 93% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Duologue Acting
- Tamsin Carroll 93% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Duologue Acting
- Bella Vile 92% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Duologue Acting
- Molly Donovan 92% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Duologue Acting
- Margot Coulon 92% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Duologue Acting
- Esme Hole 92% Honours for Junior Grade 2 Poetry Speaking
- Eleanor Pretswell-Pike 92% Honours for Junior Preliminary Poetry Speaking
- Emilia Dyson 91% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Solo Acting
- Jacob Linden 91% Honours for Junior Grade 3 Poetry Speaking
- Eloise Bennett 91% Honours for Junior Grade 2 Poetry Speaking
- Henry Berry 91% Honours for Junior Grade 2 Poetry Speaking
- Huckleberry Dawes 91% Honours for Introductory Poetry Speaking
- Glenda Wong 91% Honours for Introductory Poetry Speaking

Pupils take LAMDA exams early

Well done to Year 7 and 8 Drama Scholars Charlie Vile, Daisy Greenhalgh, Wilbur Grundy, Xavier Flay, Maddie Berry, Abi Birch and Ben Leahy for taking their LAMDA Grade 5 Speech and Drama examinations, which have previously only been taken by our senior school students. The LAMDA examinations are OFQUAL regulated and offer UCAS points at Grade 6, 7 and 8. Best of luck to those involved who will receive their results over the summer break.

Thone trip to Puxton Park

Boarders in Year 7 and below enjoyed their penultimate weekend of the school year with a trip to Puxton Park.

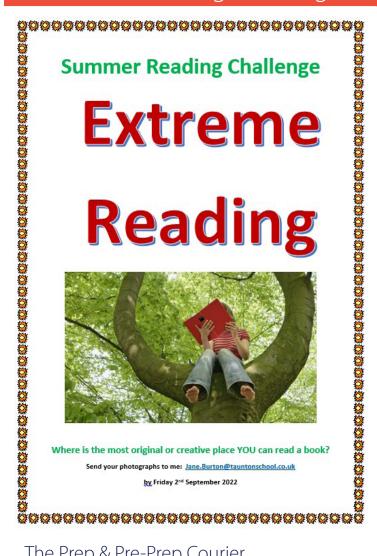








Summer reading challenge



TSIMS trip to London







To celebrate the end of the year, our international students from The Grange visited London for the weekend. They learnt about London's history at the London Dungeons and the Science and Industry Museum, got dressed up to watch a show in the West End, took photos with their favourite celebrities at Madame Tussaudss, and managed to get on TV whilst watching a cricket match at the Oval. Of course, there was plenty of time to go shopping on Oxford Street! A perfect way to end the school year.

TSIMS garden party

The weather was perfect in the last week of term for The Grange to celebrate their hard work with a garden party, involving a barbecue and games.

Paintballing fun for year 8 boarders

The Year 8 boarders enjoyed their weekend trip to go paintballing. A wonderful way to celebrate their time in Thone House before moving up to the Senior School.







Year 8 activity week and camping

Year 8 pupils enjoyed a night camping on the Quantocks, practicing their navigation and wilderness skills they learnt during activity week, which included cooking on a gas stove, first aid training and using a compass.













Northtown School healthy living week

Our table tennis coach, Ian Hooper, enjoyed running a session for the Northtown Primary School Year 4 pupils as part of their healthy living week, with help from junior leaders Alex Duncan and Jamie Abbott. The students had a great time on each of the five different stations set up, and both Alex and Jamie were effective and encouraging coaches.

Leave Your Mark campaign

Taunton School families and supporters are invited to sponsor a tree or desk as part of the first phase of the school's development plan. The 'Leave Your Mark' campaign offers supporters the opportunity to add their family's or a loved one's name onto a plaque, tree, or desk in order to raise funds for the new Sixth Form Centre and library. A JustGiving page has been set up by Foundation Director Mr Clark, following requests from parent for a way of thanking Headmaster and CEO Mr Glaser, who is leaving Taunton School at the end of this term.

For more information about the projects or to make your donation please visit our JustGiving page. Leaving your mark at Taunton School - <u>JustGiving</u>



Thone house weekend

Our Prep School boarding family had a fantastic final weekend of the academic year on the 140-foot assault course.















Fees refund scheme



Fees Refund Scheme

Secure a Refund if Your Child is off School due to Illness or Injury

click here for more information

Optional Insurance

Reminders about optional insurance offered by the school Personal effects insurance



Nursery sports day

The children in Nursery had an exciting afternoon competing in their Sports Day. There were running relays, beanbag races and hurdles.







Ballet exams







Pupils from across the Prep School took their Royal Academy of Dance ballet exams, ranging from Primary to Grade 5. It was lovely to have an examiner visiting in person again.

The Prep & Pre-Prep Courier

Charity Ball

Saturday 29th October 2022

Please save the date for our special 175th Anniversary Charity Ball coming up this autumn. Following on from the success of Taunton School's first annual Charity Ball last year, we are already planning

The evening is set to be bigger and better than last year, with delicious food, live entertainment and a charity auction. It promises to be one of the highlights of the 175th anniversary celebrations and all money raised will enable children to attend Taunton School on means-tested assisted places.

There will be more details coming soon about how you can secure a table but for now, please save the date!





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Svening Lawn Party

WITH DT8 LIVE

Date: Saturday 20th August

Time: From 6pm

Venue: Taunton School, Front Lawn



DT8 will be playing live on the front lawn of Taunton School for an evening party this summer.

Enjoy a delicious hog roast from Somerset Pyne's the Butcher.

Book now: www.ticketsource.co.uk/tauntonschool

Email events@tauntonschool.co.uk Phone 01823 703111





AFTERNOON

Date: Sunday 21st August

Time: From 1pm

Venue: Taunton School, Front Lawn





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Email events@tauntonschool.co.uk Phone 01823 703111





OPEN EVENING

Date: Thursday 1st September

Time: From 5pm



An opportunity to explore our outstanding facilities including our incredible on-site Chapel, charming Old Library and our brand new state-of-the-art Densham Suite.

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Pre-season Sports Camps

https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tauntonschool





Location: Rugby - Front of the school Contact: daniel.pettifer@tauntonschool.co.uk

Booking available on misocs

Hockey - Durrant Contact: elliot.foweraker@tauntonschool.co.uk

U13 boys' cricket reach last 4 in country

The U13 boys' cricket team continue to fly the flag for Somerset and now for the South in the David English National Schools Cup, where all schools who win their county cup as U12s represent their county in the national knockout cup as U13s. The boys beat both Exeter School and Kingswood to progress through as South and West winners, with Jack Blackwell scoring an outstanding 84 not-out, whilst Tom Gendall and James Baker were the pick of the bowlers.

U13 boys' cricket win IAPS tournament

Congratulations to the U13 boys' cricket team who won the IAPS National Cricket Finals, beating Merchant Taylors School at St Peters School, York, in the final.

The boys travelled up to York for the semi-final, in which TPS were drawn against Westbourne House. Captain Luca won the toss and chose to bat. This proved a great decision, as he was part of a 183 run opening partnership with Harvey, which set the tone for the game. Jack came in and hit a quick 30 off 16 balls to ensure TPS closed on 249 off 25 overs.

Despite a couple of strong batters for Westbourne, TPS got off to the perfect start on the field, with Tom Gendall hitting the top of off in

the first over when bowling to their dangerous batter who had hit 120 for his country the previous day. The whole team bowled and fielded exceptionally well, with Theo clean bowling their other key batter, and Luca taking seven wickets. They closed on 80 all out so TPS won by 169 runs. A fantastic start and faultless performance with bat and ball.

In the final TPS played Merchant Taylors School, Brentwood, who had a strong bowling attack, including 3 left arm seamers. Again, TPS elected to bat first and set a score. On the main pitch with a bigger boundary, a score of 180 and above was the target. TPS started well, with Luca scoring quickly; however, a couple of quick wickets stuttered the start and the team were soon 38-3. Will Maynard came in and steadied the ship, batting sensibly and rotating the strike, allowing Jack to hit a breakneck 88. A rapid fire 40 was added in the last 5 overs, a result of some fantastic running between the wicket by Tom Gendall and Austin White.

The second innings was a masterclass in field placement and accurate bowling. Merchant Taylors' never got set, wickets falling quickly, and a special mention goes to Jack for taking two fantastic catches on the boundary. TPS bowled them out for 69, winning the final by 128 runs.

The boys displayed a true team performance, ending the year fantastically as both Cricket and Hockey National IAPS Champions.



U11 IAPS Cricket

Well done to the U11 boys' cricket team who finished 4th overall in the regional round of the IAPS competition held at Millfield.

U13 Girls cricket



Congratulations to the U13 girls' cricket team for winning the Somerset County Championships, beating Millfield Prep School in the final. All the girls played brilliantly, and a special mention goes to player of the match Charlotte Webber.

The girls were also runners-up at the IAPS Cricket Festival, having had to win an exciting 'super over' to get to the final. Well done to everyone involved.

IAPS Swimming

Congratulations to JJ and James who swam to victory at the IAPS National Swimming Finals. JJ took gold in the U10 25m breaststroke and James in the U10 25m butterfly. TPS also took home silver medals in the boys' U10 4x25 medley relay, boys' U11 50m breaststroke and girls' U12 4x25m medley relay.





IAPS gold triumph for Finley

Congratulations to Finley Pyke for winning the U13 IAPS Golf competition. Finishing just five over par (with five birdies) Finley was victorious against pupils a year older. Further congratulations to Lewis Walters, who finished 3rd in the U10 individual event. Well done to both teams, many of which were playing young:

U13 Team:

- 1. William Maynard
- 2. Charlotte Webber
- 3. Finley Pyke

U11 Team:

- 1. Lewis Walters
- Oscar Sanderson
- 3. Bertie Billson



Rider Florence wins at Moreton

Congratulations to Florence Legg for coming third in her first one-day riding event at Moreton ODE.



National Schools Biathle Championships

Congratulations to the Year 3 boys, Year 5 boys, Year 6 boys and Year 3 girls Biathle teams for placing 1st in this year's National Schools Biathle Championships at Leweston School. The event, organised by Pentathlon GB, combines both running and swimming. Well done to everyone who took part.



















The Prep & Pre-Prep Courier