



TAUNTON
— SCHOOL —

Senior School COURIER



30th September 2022

#TAUNTONSCHOOL

TAUNTON SCHOOL ANNOUNCED AS FINALIST FOR TWO NATIONAL AWARDS



Taunton School has been named as one of the best independent schools in the country for both sports and careers education. The school has reached the final of the prestigious Independent School of the Year Awards in both the Student Careers and Sporting Achievement categories. [Read the full story here.](#)

More inside:

- Celebrating 175 years of Taunton School
- Work starts on new green heart
- New Sixth Form Centre opens
- Exceptional IB Diploma results

Celebrating 175 years of Taunton School

As we celebrate our 175th anniversary, we are delighted to invite the Taunton School community to join our celebrations, learn about our past and help us shape the next 175 years.



Join us at an event

Over the next year we have a number of opportunities planned for members of the community to visit the school and meet up with friends and staff. This term the events planned include:

Headmaster's Reception

Join us on Friday 18th November for your chance to meet our new Head James Johnson and hear about his exciting vision for the future of Taunton School.

Booking: If you would like to attend please email foundation@tauntonschool.co.uk

Share your memories

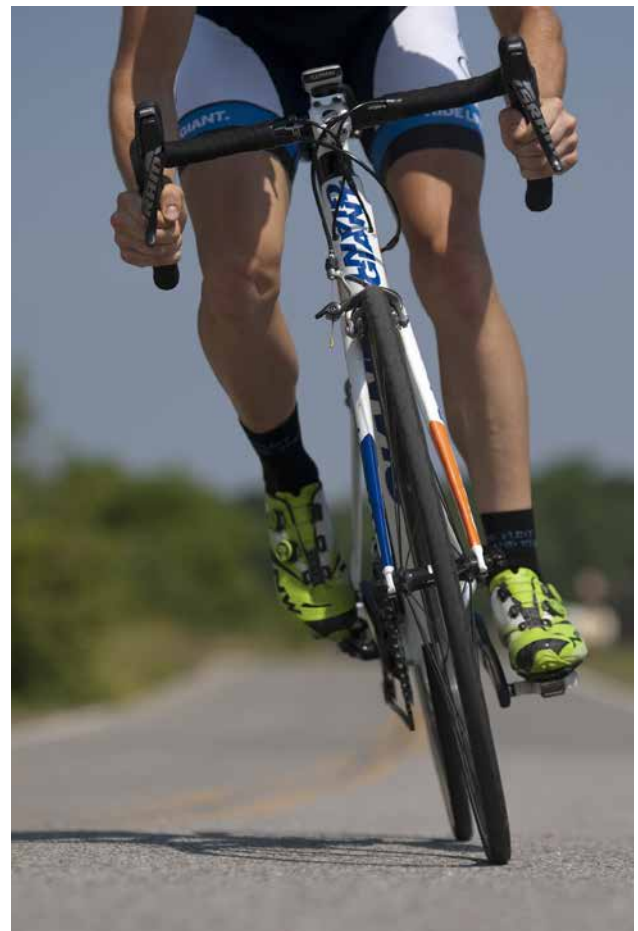
We have plenty of other events planned, so please look out for future communications. If you have any ideas or suggestions about how we can celebrate our anniversary over the next year we would love to hear from you!

www.rememberwhen.tauntonschool.co.uk

175th Anniversary Charity Ball

Join us at the school on Saturday 29th October for our special Anniversary Charity Ball which provides the perfect opportunity to get together with friends to celebrate our anniversary.

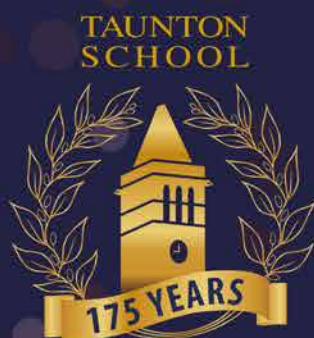
Booking Link: www.tauntonschoolcharityball.com



Charity Cycle Ride

To kick-start our celebratory year, the Head was joined by staff and parents last weekend to cycle 100km through the Somerset and Devon countryside.

The riders took on the challenge in support of the school's means-tested Assisted Places, which enables us to continue our tradition of supporting children who otherwise could never afford to attend a school like Taunton. If you would like to support them, [please visit our fundraising page](#).



We are honoured to invite you to our

Annual Charity Ball

to celebrate our

175TH ANNIVERSARY

on Saturday 29th October at 7pm, carriages at 12:30am

in the Densham Suite, Taunton School, TA2 6AD

Dinner, dancing and live band

Charity auction

Black tie

Individual tickets are £60

All proceeds from the evening will support Assisted Places

Book now:

www.tauntonschoolcharityball.com

Work starts on new 'green heart'



Work has now started on the creation of a new 'green heart' in the centre of Taunton School.

The area between the main building and the Prep School is being transformed into an eco-friendly square with plants, seating and a sensory area. The work will be finished by Christmas. In the meantime, the area is fenced off and there are alternative routes through the school.

New Sixth Form Centre opens

Sixth formers at Taunton School are settling in to a new Sixth Form Centre which opened this term.

Head student Charlie Franks, Year 13, said: "The new space is amazing! it encapsulates a relaxed feeling where friends can come and socialize with one another, alongside a collaborative working space in which all the sixth form students can complete work in a more relaxed environment in the group pods, and that of a more formal open working space.

"I feel that the space is being massively appreciated by students, as we had a hand in creating the design of the space, making the time spent in there much more fulfilling and enjoyable as it reflects what we wanted in it. The possibilities for what we can do, complete and achieve in the space feel endless, and that is a truly wonderful feeling."



Upcoming Events

1st October	Whole School Open Morning
7th October	Sixth Form Open Evening
8th October	Rugby Development Morning
15th October	Virtual Open Day
25-26th October	Rugby Development Days
29th October	Annual Charity Ball
31st October	BTEC & IB Open Evening
15th-18th December	Christmas Party Nights
20th-22nd December	Speed Development Camps

These events are open to all – visit our website to find out more details.

Find our TicketSource events here: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/tauntonschool>

Taunton School celebrates outstanding A-level and BTEC results

Almost half of all qualifications at Taunton School (48%) were graded A*-A or equivalent today as sixth formers celebrated the results of the first exams since the pandemic.

72% of all results across more than 30 different subjects received grades A*-B or equivalent, with half of all subjects scoring at least 75% A*-B.

In BTEC, 96% of grades were either Distinction* or Distinction (equivalent to A* or A), with 100% of BTEC business students achieving all Distinction* or Distinction.

[Read more here](#)



Bella is top of the class for GCSEs

Star pupil Bella Wells was the highest achiever at Taunton School as students collected their GCSE results in August.

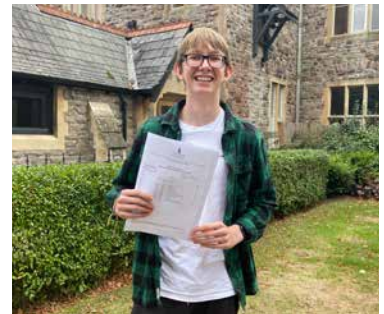
The 16-year-old achieved an astonishing ten grade 9s in her exams – equivalent to ten A*s in the old grading system.

Across the school 43% of GCSEs were graded at 9-7 (equivalent to A*-A), while 92% scored grades 9-4 (equivalent to A*-C), significantly above the national average of 73%.

25 students completed BTEC Level 2 Sport, with 43% achieving Distinction* or Distinction (equivalent to A*-A).

At Taunton School International, 49% of students achieved grades 9-7, with a 9-4 rate of 90%.

[Read the full story here](#)



Taunton School students exceed world average in 2022 IB Diploma results



22 students from leading independent school Taunton School have achieved outstanding results in the first post-Covid year of International Baccalaureate assessments. The school is celebrating a 100% pass rate with an average of 34 points, exceeding the world average by almost two full points.

[Read the full story here](#)

OT Review



The 2022 OT Review alumni magazine has now been published.

Highlights include plans for our 175th celebrations, an introduction to new Head James Johnson, updates on sporting life at the school and articles by Patricia Oloyede (OW 1962-71) and Lee Cooper (1993-98, Evans).

If you would like to receive a paper copy of the Review, [please do get in touch](#).

Top Red Bull engineer visits Taunton School



Taunton School's racing superstar Harry got the chance to meet Red Bull's Chief Engineering Officer, Rob Marshall this week.

Rob is an Old Tauntonian who attended Taunton School between 1975 and 1986. Since leaving he has enjoyed a successful career as an F1 race engineer – currently heading up Red Bull Racing.

12-year-old Harry, currently in Year 8 is a go-karting champion and aspiring Formula 1 driver. He got the opportunity to chat to Rob about his career and what goes on behind the scenes at Red Bull Racing.

Taunton School International Foundation Programme students receive offers to UK universities

The second cohort of international students at Taunton School International who have undertaken the school's unique Business Foundation course have received offers to study business related courses at universities in the UK.

Mink Prakaisriroj from Thailand will be studying International Business Management at Regent's University London, Felix Lee from Hong Kong will be studying Accounting and Mathematics at the University of Leeds, and Shynar Peruash from Kazakhstan will be studying International Business at Aston University.

Designed by universities exclusively for international students, the NCUK International Foundation Year can be completed in just 10 months and combines academic modules, study skills and English language training to provide a pathway to undergraduate degree courses at leading universities in the UK and around the world.

[Read the full story here.](#)

IB science trip



Year 13 geography trips in pictures



CCF: cadets awarded their Air Cadet blue ATP Gliding Wings badge

The RAF section spent the day at Upavon airfield with 622 VGS, a Royal Airforce Flying Training Unit. Each cadet had two flights in a winch launched Viking TX.1 glider.

Before flying the cadets had to practice exiting the aircraft in an emergency using a simulator on the ground and had to demonstrate that they had the strength to pull the parachute ripcord! Following a safety briefing they could then take to the skies!

Before each take off, cadets were shown how to read the various cockpit instruments. Once in flight the cadets were introduced to the controls and had the opportunity to take control of the aircraft.

The following cadets were awarded their Air Cadet blue ATP Gliding Wings badge:

James – Year 13

Chris – Year 13

Cecilia – Year 13

Meg – Year 11

Adam – Year 11

Daniel – Year 11

Rufus – Year 13

Grace – Year 13



New CCF leaders



Huge congratulations to our students who have been appointed the new leaders in our Combined Cadet Force

- Ailani – Regimental Sergeant Major
- Henry – Head of the Royal Navy section
- Annie – Company Sergeant Major, Head of the Army section
- Grace – Head of the Royal Air Force section



Taunton School students among the youngest in the world to swim the English Channel

Pupils from Taunton Prep School who braved cold waters and jellyfish are among the youngest in the world to swim the English Channel in August.

The swimmers, some of whom are now attending the Senior School, raised thousands of pounds to help save their local community pool from closure.

Boys and girls, some as young as 12, took the plunge for charity to swim from Dover to Cap Gris Nez in France.

The youngsters, who are among the youngest ever to swim the Channel in relay, were spurred on by the plight of Wivey Pool in Wiveliscombe which faces closure due to rising energy bills.

Jess, 12, said: "I was a bit nervous swimming the Channel because of jellyfish and swimming in the dark but we have been training in the sea at Lyme Regis so I've trained in the dark and been stung before so I felt properly prepared."

Zoe, 13, said: "Swimming the Channel was one of the greatest achievements of my life and marked the end of a five-year dream. I love Wivey pool, I have swum there since I was a baby."

Olivia, 12, said: "We trained at Wivey pool when there was ice and frost on the ground around the pool – the Channel felt warm compared to that!"

The swimmers, who had trained in open waters for two years before taking on the 21 mile journey across the English Channel, raised a total of £6,000 for the pool.

Liz Hurry, Chair of Wivey Pool said: "Wivey Pool is very grateful, impressed and in awe of what the children achieved - not just the money, but the whole Channel swim itself.

"It's just amazing. 'Thank you very much' seems an easy thing to say for what was an incredible thing to do."

A total of 18 Taunton School pupils aged between 12 and 14 swam the Channel in three teams of six. They are among the youngest in the world to take on the challenge.



International Foundation Year students attend university careers fair

On Wednesday 21st September, a group of TSI's IFY sixth-form students attended a university careers fair at Ashton Gate, Bristol. As university beckons for many of our students, it was a great opportunity to find out more about prospective universities and courses, offering our students a time to reflect on their future steps.

[Read the full story here.](#)



Year 12 teambuilding



Sixth Form social in pictures



Taunton School International induction week

Thousands of miles from home, one of the biggest cohorts Taunton School International has ever seen has descended into Foxcombe House. Induction week was characterized by an eclectic mix of excitement and anticipation for the days and months ahead.

For many, this is the first time studying away from their home country. Yet the vast range of activities ensured any first-week nerves effortlessly receded. Combat Archery on Foxcombe field was a particular highlight; every student enthusiastically partook in daring games, in an explicit illustration of the strength of teamwork. Although it must be stressed that the students' highpoint came at the expense of the teachers, as they were showered with arrows from all directions at the close of the session!

[Read more here](#) and [view photos from the week here](#).



TSI induction week – team building and archery



First Week of Term

It was a busy first week for the senior boarders; a social, a hog roast and house outings including paintballing, surfing, escape rooms and a theme park.



Taunton School drinks reception in Berlin



Taunton School warmly invites current and prospective parents to join us for a drinks reception in Berlin on the evening of Wednesday 2nd November.

Meet Taunton School's International Marketing and Recruitment Manager, Gabriella Thomas, as well as other parents, friends and alumni at this casual event which is a great chance to discuss life at Taunton School.

For further information and to register your interest, please email foundation@tauntonschool.co.uk

Medical Journal



Medical Journal
2022



Read the Sixth Form [Medical Journal 2022](#) here

Music Scholars' Recital

Tuesday 8th November at 5pm

Venue: Centenary Hall



Concerto Competition



Come and support excellent young musicians from Year 9 to Year 13 performing as soloists in the glorious acoustics of the Chapel. Refreshments provided on arrival.



Thursday 3rd November at 6:30pm

Venue: School Chapel

Teatime Concert



A casual concert open to all abilities and musical styles. Get involved as a performer or audience member and bring your peers along! Cake and refreshments are provided for all who attend.



Every Wednesday at 5:05pm

Venue: Gwyn Williams Room

Sports Roundup

Hockey:

- Taunton Girls' hockey are on tour in Cardiff playing Cardiff Met to get ready for the upcoming season
- Jasmine Porter & Ben Barnett have been taken forward for an initial assessment with England Hockey
- Nine of our students competed at the England Hockey Challenge Cup in late July

Cricket:

- Kian played for the South West Region in the Bunbury Festival at Loughborough
- Ollie played as part of the Young Lions Pace Bowling in the Super 4s at Loughborough
- TS cricketer Alfie returned to home turf playing a senior Cornwall team vs the Navy as well as the Cornwall Pathway U13 development match vs Somerset
- Players scored 50s and 100s for county sides including Luca Gregory (Somerset), Ben Chaffey (Dorset) and Kian Roberts (Somerset)
- A number of TS cricketers played in the Somerset CCC 15's match against Devon: Ben Mason, Brogan Flitton, Cole Willoughby, AJ McKay and Ollie Gribble plus Kian Roberts who scored a fantastic 100!

Swimming:

- TS swimming won the School Cup Junior this year at the Selkie Henley Classic long distance event at the end of June

Athletics:

- Taunton Athletic Development hosted a speed camp for student athletes

Horse Riding

- Well done to the Trembath twins who competed in The Pony Club National Tetrathlon Championships at Offchurch, coming 2nd/3rd in their area & top 1/3 nationally.



Student comes third in South West regional squash championships (U19)



Congratulations to Oli Gribble who came third in the South West Regional squash champs on Sunday in Street.

Mr Foweraker selected for Commonwealth coaching team

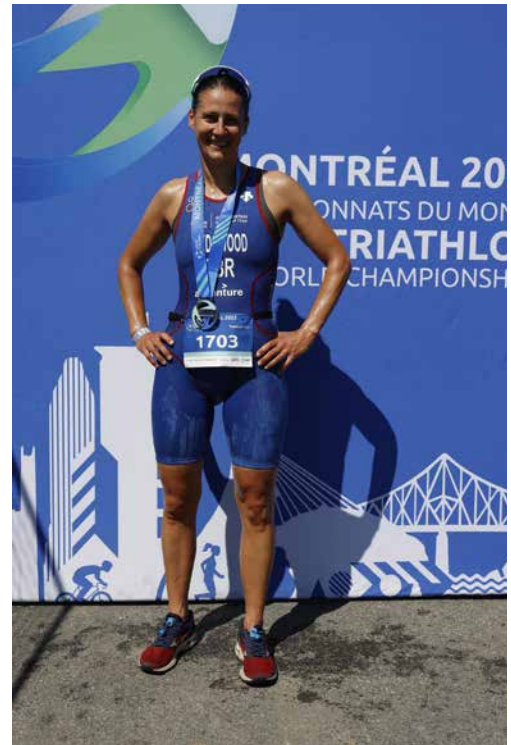
A teacher from Taunton School was selected as a hockey coach for the Commonwealth Games this summer.

Mr Foweraker headed to Birmingham with Team Wales as Assistant Coach to the women's hockey team who competed in the prestigious international sporting event. The 32-year-old said: "It was a brilliant opportunity to work with such amazing players and staff at a major international event."



Head of Biology competes in GBR Triathlon team

Head of Biology Ms Wedgwood came 21st in her age group as part of the GBR triathlon team at the world sprint championships in Montreal this summer. She also competed in the European championships in Munich where she came 16th. "It was quite something to be racing on such a big stage with so many top amateur triathletes and I was hugely grateful to Taunton School for allowing me to go to Montreal and how understanding they have been of my need to train during the working week."



London Marathon



Mr Henderson is running the London Marathon this weekend. If you would like to sponsor him, please visit [his Just Giving page](#).



Rugby Camps

Rugby Performance U15 + U16s

Saturday 1st October (10-11.30am)

Free

Rugby Development U12 + U13s

Saturday 8th October (10-11.30am)

Free

For more information contact: Ben.Thomas@tauntonschool.co.uk

Booking available on www.ticketsource.co.uk/tauntonschool



Rugby Camps

Development Days

Tuesday 25th October (10am-3pm)

U10 - U14s

£30

Wednesday 26th October (10am-3pm)

U10 - U14s

£30

For more information contact: Ben.Thomas@tauntonschool.co.uk

Booking available on www.ticketsource.co.uk/tauntonschool





TAUNTON
— SCHOOL —

Speed Development Camp

This camp will focus on developing the technical aspects of strength and speed and how they can be applied across all sports to enhance performance



Tuesday 20th December
Wednesday 21st December
Thursday 22nd December

10am-11am Speed session in the sports hall
11.30am-12.30pm Strength session in the gym

Cost: £15pp per day

Age 13-18 – Limited spaces available

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



Upcoming Open Events at Taunton School

In-person Open Day: Saturday 1st October

Sixth Form Open Evening: Friday 7th October

Virtual Open Day: Saturday 15th October

BTEC & IB Open Evening: Monday 31st October

Booking essential: www.tauntonschool.co.uk/open-mornings

Christmas

PARTY NIGHTS

December 2022

Thursday 15th £35.00

Friday 16th £39.00

Saturday 17th £39.00

Sunday 18th £33.00

Arrive from 7.00pm

Meal served 7.30pm

Welcome cocktail on arrival

Three course meal prepared by our in-house catering team

Disco and fun casino

Bar open until 12.00am with carriages at 12.30am

A £10 non-refundable deposit is required per person to secure the booking, full payments are due by 30th November.

Exclusive use available on dates above, minimum numbers apply (Densham Suite capacity: 300).

To book, please contact
events@tauntonschool.co.uk | 01823703111



TAUNTON SCHOOL
ENTERPRISES

Email events@tauntonschool.co.uk

Phone 01823 703111