

Tadcaster Grammar School



1557

Be Your Best Self



NEWSLETTER

MAY 2022

In Brief

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Improving the school grounds

ART Class

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Update on all the work done over this busy half term.

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The Big School Clean

As part of Keep Britain Tidy's annual Great British Spring Clean the Eco-Club and House Champions organised a whole school litter pick for years 7-11.

Litter blights our streets, parks and beaches and costs us millions of pounds to clear up every year. Keep Britain Tidy inspire people to eliminate litter now and for future generations.

The students were really enthusiastic and enjoyed the challenge of trying to collect as much litter as possible for their house whilst also

understanding the importance of keeping school a litter free environment.



25 bin bags of rubbish was collected over the week with the overall winners being Toulston house with a fantastic 7 bags collected.



Gardening Update!

We have started the summer term with a bang and have been very busy planting vegetables in the school greenhouse. So far we planted cucumbers, mange-tout, beetroot and much more! It has been really rewarding to connect with different year groups and enjoy the mindful experience of gardening together. We have big plans for improving the school grounds with the intentions of cherishing our beautiful environment, increasing biodiversity, and enhancing the wellbeing of students. We want to do this by reinvigorating the pond, creating a rockery with alpine plants, creating mindful outdoor spaces and putting up hanging baskets brimming with flowers.



Can you Help?

We are on a very tight budget and have very limited supplies. We would be very grateful if anyone or any local businesses could donate plants, resources or time. We are particularly in need of compost and bamboo canes, but we would be appreciative of anything you could share. If you think you could help us on our journey, please contact

l.thompson@tgs.starmat.uk



Thank you, from Naomi and Charlotte

Environmental Leadership

In class Year 8 students studied the symbols and their meanings. They copied them using fine brushes and inks to understand their forms. Next they learnt how to tie dye fabric for their background colour before creating block prints and repeat printing a design.

The students worked hard and the results are impressive -



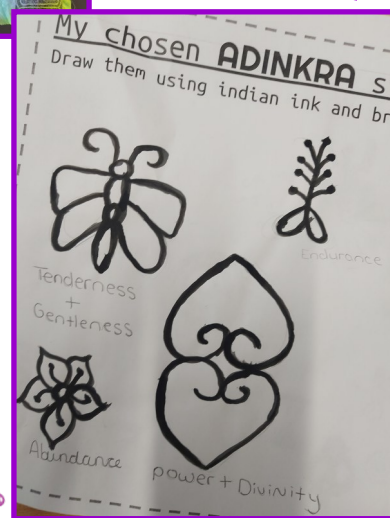
Year 8 Focus

By Mrs Lattimore - Art Curriculum Team Leader

This term **Year 8 Art Club** have been learning about Adrinka. Adrinka are the symbols designed by the Akan people, from Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, during the early 1800's. The symbols can be found in pottery and fabric designs and are made using a block printing technique.

Each symbol represents a popular proverb, historical event or expresses an attitude or behaviour.

Year 8 Art Club will continue to run each Wednesday lunchtime. Its never to late to join in - just email Mrs Lattimore.



!!New card making club!!

Year 12 student Lucy will be starting a new club. Lucy is running a project in conjunction with the charity 'Cards for Bravery' who aim to 'brighten a patients stay in hospital' by sending handmade cards. The club is open to all year groups and takes place in L20. Please email Mrs Lattimore if you have any questions.





The student council have been busy this half term, working on actions to improve our school environment based on suggestions from the student body. Fantastic progress has been made by our Student Leaders:

The **Environment Leaders** helped the Eco Group to run a raffle in order to assist with their refurbishment of the school green-houses. The **Community and Pastoral Leaders** assisted the Equality and Diversity Group with World Day for Cultural Diversity, which took place earlier in the month. The **Sports Leaders** have been working on overseeing a Year 5 Primary School sports event, and are looking to put together a girls rugby club.

Our **House Captains** have also made progress: the Calcaria Captains have been looking to organise a recycling scheme run by the RSPCA, while the Oglethorpe Captains have created a digital student planner to be distributed to lower school students at the start of the next academic year. The Toulston Captains are looking to create house-specific bulletin slides to foster greater house identity among students.

The **Year Captains** have been working hard too, with the Year 11 Captains looking to organise a collection of prams and cots in aid of the Ukraine crisis.



Sport Relief 2022 UPDATE

The amount raised for Sports Relief was **£384.36**



FESTIVAL OF MUSIC

For the last 38 years in France, the 21st June is not just the longest day of the year but also the day of the 'fête de la musique'. This "festival of music" is no ordinary festival. Created in France in 1982, it has been taken up by neighbouring countries where it has been just as successful. Music takes over the city streets, with live bands, singers, amateur musicians, drummers, DJs and so on scattered throughout the cities, expressing themselves through music and inviting the crowd to enjoy themselves.

To mark this occasion schools are asked to take part in a French Pop Video Competition.

This year we had two entries for the competition. A great rock song from a Year 9 student called "la poète" and a beautiful ballad from Naomi in Year 12. The results will be published in June for "la Fête de la Musique", and feature in our Summer Newsletter.

Naomi tells us; *'I recently, entered the French Pop Video Competition by Institut français du Royaume-Uni. I sang a self-written song titled 'Ma Montagne' and made a video to accompany it. It is about the comfort of being in nature - in particular being in the mountains. Mountains provide a different perspective on life: all the anxieties about daily life seem much smaller looking at them from a height. Nature has been my sanctuary and it's why I am so passionate about looking after the environment and engaging in mindful activities such as gardening. In my song, I personified the character of a mountain into a comforting, maternal being who could hug my troubles away. The accompanying video was an amalgamation of videos I took of birds in my garden during*

lockdown. I really enjoyed this project because I love harnessing my love for music, writing and French and I look forward to the results of the competition.'

FRENCH POP VIDEO COMPETITION 2022

INSTITUT FRANÇAIS ROYAUME-UNI

Give the mic to your students and shoot a music video with them!

Do you believe your class's got talent? Do you feature your students sing or rap in French? If so, this competition is for you!

For whom? All students in British schools and Channel Islands, from 7 to 18 years old

What about? A music video of your students' French rap or song showing their talent

When? Submit your video by **15 April 2022**

Win books, tablets and attend a live Fête de la Musique concert!

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/french-pop-video-competition-2022-tickets-214603233047>

FAREWELL & Thank You

Once again we say goodbye to three members of staff. Sue Campbell has worked at Tadcaster for over six years. During this time Sue has helped many students get the help that they needed to progress through school. As well as being a teacher of English, Sue was also Assistant SENCo, where she helped manage appropriate resources for Special Needs and Learning Support and ensured that they were used efficiently, effectively and safely within school. We also say a fond farewell to Jon Binstead who worked as a Cover Supervisor for over five years. Jon also helped with exam invigilating and ran the History Club. Finally we say goodbye to Mark Batty. Mark returned to TGS after previously working as a science technician to become a member of the site team. Mark worked as a caretaker for over four year before retiring. We wish everyone good luck and best wishes as they start a new chapter in their lives.

RETURNING TO COMPETITION

By Jo Binks Teacher of Physical Education

Tadcaster Grammar School returned to competitive athletic fixtures competing in the English Schools Athletic Cup. Three teams competed in the competition, Junior Girls, Inter Girls and Inter Boys. For many students it was their first experience of athletics.

The outstanding performance of the day was by R Thistlewood who ran the 1500m. She not only won the event but broke the school record by 15 seconds to set a new Year 8 girls 1500m record of 4.57. A fantastic achievement.

The Inter Boys team finished fifth in the competition with notable performances from F Brown jumping 4.95m to finish 2nd in the Long Jump competition and a strong performance from S Brisland in the 800m to be the top scorer for the boys' team.

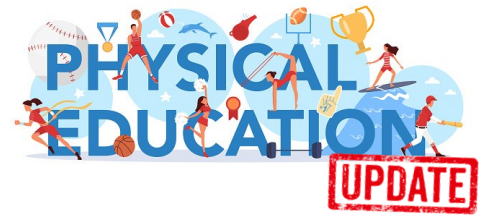
The Inter Girls finished second in the competition. This was a great team effort with all the girls supporting each other throughout the day. The top performer was A Moss who competed in two technically difficult events, high jump and hurdles, to secure top three finishes in both events. J Neilson was another high scorer for the team having two good performances in both the Shot and 300m. The girls were delighted with the second place result.

The Junior Girls were the star performers on the day. They had so many outstanding performances and this was their first ever athletics competition for school, some had only had one athletics practice before the competition. This team has the potential to improve on their performances and I am looking forward to them competing throughout this season. E Hague was a high points scorer with a super 3 minute 800m. In the hurdlers, M Baker and H Mappleback secured top 2 positions in their first ever races. The team finished third overall.

A great day of athletics and we are looking forward to the rest of the season



R Thistlewood



GOLF

Congratulations to Year 9 student Max Hollinghurst. Max won the York Union Junior Championships at Kirbymoorside. This is an event where handicaps do not count so it is the best player over 2 rounds. Max recorded rounds of 77 and 74 to win by 3 shots.



Time To Focus Now On The Year 6 Transition

As they've progressed up through primary school, Year 6 students have become big fish in a small pond and are now ready to move on to the next stage of their life: to make new friends, develop their Knowledge and learn even more life skills.

[Here](#) you will find everything you need to know to help you prepare for starting Tadcaster Grammar School in September. Please watch our Key Staff videos where you'll be able to hear from the Year 7 Leader and Pastoral Leader along with other key members of staff.



REWIND

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Join us as we catch up with former students to find out what they are doing now

The Class Clown *really* Turned it around.



Students have already met Marcell Edwards following a presentation he did for a careers assembly earlier this month. We managed to catch up with him again to find out about his time at Tadcaster Grammar school and his life now. Marcell attended Tadcaster from 1998 - 2005.



Were you a good student?

Honestly, NO. I think my teachers would have to agree, I was bright but I was cheeky!! I wasn't exactly a naughty kid, but I was a distraction. Every parents' evening went along the lines of, 'Marcell is a smart young man when he applies himself, but he's also the class clown, he often distracts other students and, as a leader among his peers, this can be difficult to manage on occasions'. I remember the quote well because it was pretty much the same year on year!!

I always find it funny when I look back because I was in the lower sets in school (due to behaviour) but for exams I was always entered into the higher papers. No one expected me to achieve GCSEs but I nailed them, and went on to Sixth Form so actually from a teacher perspective you could eventually say I was a good student... In the end!!

Did you enjoy your time at school, what is your favourite memory?

I did enjoy school, but not for the teaching haha. I enjoyed school to hang out with my friends, P.E. and school cake!! I have lots of favourite memories from school, our trip to Bewerley Park in Year 9 is definitely up there, along with our Year vs Year below or

above rugby at lunch times, the conker wars in the autumn... but for me probably my most favourite times had to be in the Sixth Form. The transition from school child to adult in learning and the freedom associated with this new way of learning I loved. Plus it was cool to not wear uniform anymore!

What is your profession now and what attracted you to it?

I am currently working for Adidas in Global Talent Acquisition. Sport attracted me to this job, I knew I was never going to be a professional athlete but I did love football and loved Adidas so why not try to combine my love for sport with a career. I can talk for days (teachers will confirm) which is perfect for what I do, my job is all about speaking to people. Mentoring the next generation or influencing some of the most senior people



in industry to come and join the three stripes ///. I get to travel the world, meet tonnes of people and work with celebrities & athletes why wouldn't I want to do this job!!



Aside from Adidas I'm also a Board Director at the **Together Trust Charity** where we champion the rights of children, young people and adults across the North West. Every year, we deliver life-changing care, support and education to thousands of people so they can lead the happy, fulfilled lives they deserve. I also sit on the Advisory Board for Leaders Meet: Diversity Series.

The Leaders Meet: Diversity Series, delivered in partnership with Meta, provides the platform for executives within sport to come together to drive diversity within the industry, accelerate the pace of change and inspire the next generation of executives, through thought-leadership events and digital forums.

So safe to say I'm pretty busy but I'm now in such a privileged position I try my best to give as much back as I can.

Who was your greatest mentor?

This is a tough one.. I've had many mentors over the years, many I have worked with to develop myself and some of whom I've just simply looked up to. But if I was to call out just one, it has to be the legendary Muhammed Ali, I use a quote from him in my professional email signature that still inspires me today.. 'Impossible is not a fact. It's and opinion. Impossible is not a declaration. It's a dare. Impossible is potential. Impossible is temporary. Impossible is nothing' he reminds me that if you want to, you can achieve most things you want in life. I would never have thought I could reach the heights to where I am today, but here I am, a kid from an unstable home life.

What are you proudest of in your career?

Many things, but one of my proudest moments at Adidas is winning the Global Diversity and Inclusion award for the entire business.



For me this acknowledgment from a brand like Adidas demonstrated that the changes I make to drive equity are acknowledged and are helping us not only

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be better as a brand, but also create better campaigns, create innovative and more inclusive sportswear and equipment for consumers and create meaningful, equitable and accessible routes into the brand for future employees from all communities.

What do you value most and why?

I value freedom and expression. If I'm told what to think or what to do I do the opposite. We must recognise that we as human beings are all unique we have differences of opinion, differences in thought, differences in expression. There's not a one size fits all approach to life, and I love being able to not only live by this but also encourage and mentor the next generation to live by this as well. If channelled correctly giving young people freedom to express their own ways to learn, grow and develop will for some unlock so much potential and help shape the future generation for the better.

What advice would you give to your younger self?

Turning back the clock, I wouldn't give myself any new advice. I'm happy, I have a great family, great career and all of that has been made possible by, not only TGS, but by going through everything I did as a child. For students reading this today though, my advice to you all would be to believe in yourself. Listen to the guidance given to you and if you have a dream go for it, but don't just have one dream, have many! If one doesn't come to life, go after the next one. Believe in yourself, this life is what you make it, you choose what you want to do and make sure whatever you choose to do you enjoy for the rest of your life.



PURE Fitness



Former student Megan Murphy tells us how she became the manager of one of the nations leading gyms.

Megan attended Tadcaster Grammar School from 2010 - 2015.

Did you enjoy your time at school?

If I'm honest I didn't really enjoy my time at school. I enjoyed the social side of things seeing and meeting with friends. Education was never a strong side of life. I enjoyed more practical learning. Looking back now I have to thank my teachers for pushing me and helping me achieve good GCSE grades to enable me to move onto the next chapter of my life.

What path did you take on leaving school?

I left school after Year 11, and went to York College where I studied Level 3 Sport and Exercise Science for 2 years. With a mix of theory sessions and practical sessions I really enjoyed this period of learning. Alongside this course I completed my Level 3 Personal Training qualification.

What is your profession now and what attracted you to it?

I am now Gym Manager at one of the UKs leading gyms in the Fitness Industry (PureGym). I started as a self employed Personal Trainer, then progressed in the company to Assistant Gym Manager in Leeds then taking another progression to Gym Manager in York. I also run a successful female only online coaching business.



Who was/is your greatest mentor?

I would probably say that my college tutor was one of my greatest mentors. She supporting me through both of my courses and pushed me to succeed. Then, moving into my work life, my line manager is my most recent mentor. He was the first person I met in the industry, he constantly supports me

within the professional environment.

What are you proudest of in your career?

My proudest moment to date is becoming one of the youngest people in my region to become a Gym Manager, whilst also mentoring and developing self employed Personal

Trainers to build a strong and successful business.

What do you value most and why?

Time, as this is something you can never get back. Make the most of everything you do in life, socially and professionally.



What advice would you give to your younger self?

If someone tells you, you won't make it or can't do it, prove them wrong and do everything to succeed at what you love.

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 exams have now started and study leave has begun. For most of our students they are coming to the end of seven years here at Tadcaster Grammar School. We wish them every success in their examinations and look forward to celebrating with them on A Level Results Day on Thursday 18th August.

Head Students 2022.

A number of Year 12 students have applied for the position of Head Student. The students' applications are of outstanding quality. Successful applicants will go through an interview process with Mr Parkinson Headteacher, Mr Turnpenny Chair of Governors and Mrs Knaption Head of Sixth Form.

Appointments will be announced in the summer edition of the newsletter.

Lifeguarding Courses

[Tadcaster Community Swimming Pool](#) will be running Lifeguarding courses over the summer holidays. You need to be 16 to attend the course.

The National Pool Lifeguard is a 6-day course, which covers a wide range of CPR, First aid and aquatic rescues. All NPLQ courses held at Tadcaster run with a full Emergency First Aid at Work course and equip the Lifeguard to use an Automated External Defibrillator and Spinal Rescue board.

Funded places (90% of cost paid by TCS) are available to those who have completed 50hrs of voluntary lifeguarding at Tadcaster pool.



NOTICE BOARD

SHERBURN



Training for our U12s team is on a Monday and Wednesday evening starting at 6pm at Eversley Park Playing Fields. For more information please contact Paul Dutton on 07935077233, Email sherburnbearsjarlc@yahoo.co.uk or just message via Facebook

Year 7 Footballers needed

Sherburn Bears Junior Rugby League Club is a local amateur sports club which offers students from 5 years of age a chance to participate in the sport. The club are governed by the RFL (Rugby Football League) and are affiliated with the Yorkshire Juniors and Youth RL Association.

All our coaching staff are fully qualified and

have all the relevant accreditations including DBS checks and the SafeGuarding Policies and Procedures.

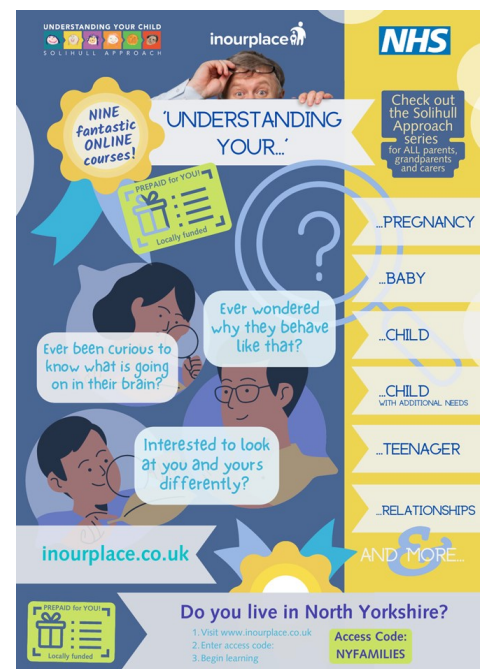
We have many volunteers including first aiders and game day managers as well as two Child Welfare Officers and we are in the process of increasing our volunteer member numbers.

Our Under 12s team now plays competitive rugby and are in Division 5 of the YJY League and are doing quite well but with more additional players on board then it's fair to say we can be a better team all-round. If you are in Year 7 and want to give it a go then come down to training, it's worth a TRY!!!!

Understanding your Relationships

a new course has been added to the online Solihull courses "Understanding your relationships" check it out [here](#)

The course is available to all residents of North Yorkshire. The new course covers feelings, communication, conflict in relationships, anger, repair and more. The course provides the opportunity to see how relationships can be difficult, complicated, fun, satisfying, exciting, annoying, bring out the best in us, bring out the worst in us. All the Solihull courses are pre-paid, locally funded and recommended for everyone, for everyday parenting and more!. Access code: NYFAMILIES.



The advertisement features a central graphic with a question mark and a person's face. Text includes: "NINE fantastic ONLINE courses!", "Check out the Solihull Approach series for ALL parents, grandparents and carers", "Ever wondered why they behave like that?", "Ever been curious to know what is going on in their brain?", "Interested to look at you and yours differently?", "Do you live in North Yorkshire?", "1. Visit www.inourplace.co.uk", "2. Enter access code:", "3. Begin learning", "Access Code: NYFAMILIES", and a list of topics: "...PREGNANCY", "...BABY", "...CHILD", "...CHILD WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS", "...TEENAGER", "...RELATIONSHIPS", and "AND MORE...". Logos for "inourplace" and "NHS" are also present.

Key dates...

GCSEs and A Levels have begun - Good luck Year 11 and Year 13

Monday 6th June - Study leave begins for Year 11 (When arriving and leaving the school site you **must sign in and out**)

Thursday 23rd June - Year 11 Final **whole year group** exam in the morning (Physics) followed by leavers assembly and leavers day activities (more details to follow) - you may have exams after this date!! Please check!! -

Friday 24th June - Year 13 Leavers assembly and leavers day activities (more details to follow)

Wednesday 29th June - Year 13 Prom

Thursday 30th June - Year 11 Prom