



**Teesdale School
& Sixth Form**

SPRING NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2022

WELCOME ...to our spring newsletter

As we approach the Easter holiday and reflect on this term, I continue to feel a real sense of pride about the commitment, dedication and effort shown by our students and staff. In times of global uncertainty, we can take heart from the reality that hope and community offer a promise of better times ahead. The Ukrainian flags flying across the area, in solidarity with people suffering unimaginable horrors, are a symbol of the compassion and generosity of spirit that make this community such a pleasure to live and work in. It is during these times that we should recognise and cherish that more than ever.

Students have experienced a great deal of enrichment activities this term which we are delighted to share with you in this newsletter, and as the light summer nights approach, we will be offering many more after school activities for students to enjoy.

This term, our Year 11 and 13 students have been working extremely hard during their mock exams and I have been impressed with their commitment to, and participation in, additional revision sessions. Our teachers recognise that these students have had an extremely disruptive GCSE/A Level experience because of the pandemic, but I am sure that with the support and drive of their teachers they will be ready to perform in the summer exam series. Keep working hard for a few more weeks and you will reap the rewards!

Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a very happy Easter where we look forward to seeing students again after the holiday.

**Dan Pilling
Head of School**

Goals for the girls

Our girls' futsal team travelled to Durham Johnson this term to take part in an action-packed tournament

The girls played fantastically and won all of their games, coming out tops for this stage of the tournament.

Team Teesdale are now representing Bishop Auckland in the next stage of the Futsal tournament later on in the year.



Sixth form students make a difference in Malawi!



Members of the Rotary Interact group were delighted to receive a 'twinning toilets' certificate from Mr Ian Blake this term.

Mr Blake approached the Sixth Form after he received an anonymous donation which will facilitate a toilet block being built in Malawi to help rural communities access better sanitation.

On behalf of the Interact group, Keira and Sam accepted the certificate and the generous donation that made it possible. This term they aimed to raise another £250 so that our school can be twinned with another toilet block. Great job everyone. We look forward to seeing what you have planned next!

Did you know?

The idea of the Easter bunny delivering eggs originated in Germany during the Middle Ages!



Were social!

Follow our social media accounts to stay up to date with all of the latest news from around the school!

IMPORTANT DATES for your diary

25 APR Back to school

02 MAY Bank holiday

27 MAY Break up for half term

06 JUN Back to school

Keep up to date with all events and important dates on our website.

Listen out

As the lead up to summer exams continues, Miss Theaker and Dr Henderson have created a podcast to help

You can find the free podcast on Spotify and other podcast platforms. They will be providing regular revision tips and help with key content as preparation for the summer exams gathers pace.

Search 'Teesdale History' on Spotify or find the link on our social media platforms.



@teesdaleschool



@teesdaleschoolandsixthform



An insightful seminar

This term we hosted a seminar focussing on the current conflict for staff and sixth form students.

David Moon, a professor from University College London's Slavonic and Eastern European Studies faculty, led the insightful seminar.

David spoke about the historical context of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and took questions in a discussion afterwards. David kindly

donated his travel expenses to the Ukrainian refugee appeal, a charity that the Sixth Form Committee have been supporting with a number of fundraising events over the past few weeks.

A huge thanks to Professor Moon for his time and fascinating insights.



Success for Charlotte

Sporty student Charlotte, has had a wave of fabulous news come her way this term!

Charlotte has been selected for the Newcastle Falcons under-18 programme as well as being selected to play county rugby for Durham. To top it off, she was part of the winning team (Houghton girls rugby team) in the Under 18 Girls' Northern Regional Cup!

Fabulous news Charlotte, well done!



Waving the flag

Our after school art club members spent this term creating flags for Middlesbrough Football Club Foundation's competition.

Students designed flags for the Lioness match against Canada at the Riverside Stadium.

Abbie, Lucy, Edie and Owen worked really hard on their designs and we are delighted to have been one of the runners up of the competition with Abbie's flag design.

Abbie said she was inspired by the power of the lioness individually, but also how well they work as a team,

enabling them to be faster and stronger when working together.

Abbie's flag will now be professionally printed and she's bagged herself tickets to the match!

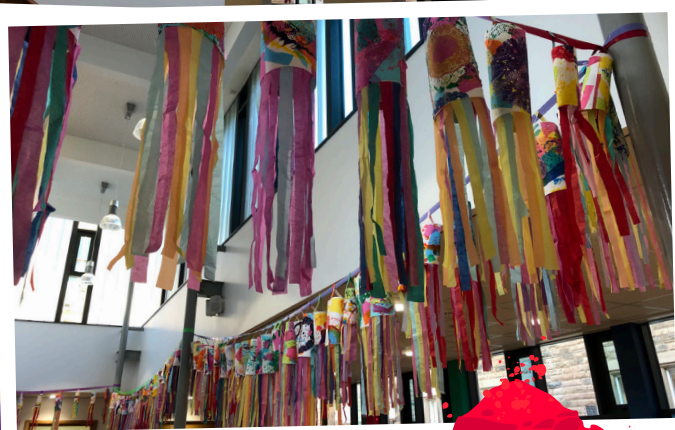


The Teesdale School art gallery

Students have been creating some outstanding pieces this term, so much so, we've had to dedicate an entire section to their fantastic work!

Holi celebrations!

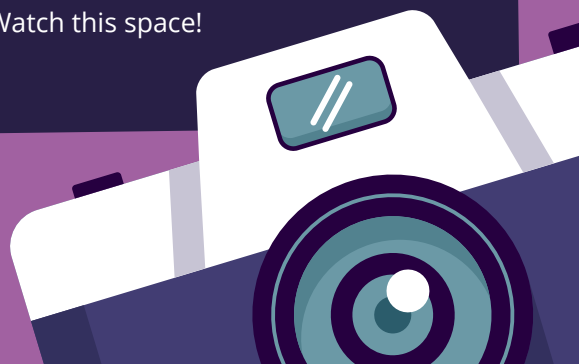
This term saw students prepare for the Holi Festival celebrations that took place in Barnard Castle. The community event was based on the Indian festival and is aimed at spreading love, happiness and magic. Every student in Year 7 and 8 created a colourful wind sock, using Rangoli patterns as inspiration. Our after-school artists created large scale kites and other students have contributed creating so brightly coloured Holi-Hearts inspired by Op Art. We are so impressed with how their work looks!



Sixth form snaps...

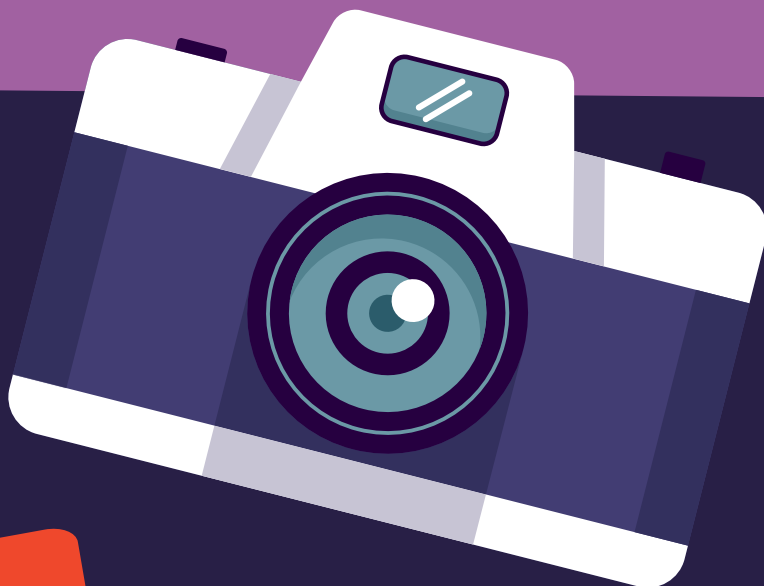
Our A level photographers headed to the Bowes Museum to work with practising photographer, Joanne Coates, this term. Students took part in a photography workshop, where their outcomes will be displayed as part of a community exhibition at Bowles Visitor Centre. We are excited to see their work professionally printed and displayed.

Watch this space!



Wonderful watercolours

Year 7 artists have been working hard in developing their watercolour painting skills this term. Students have been working on a project based on sweets and have researched the work of American painter Wayne Thiebaud. For their assessment, they created their own versions of his famous gum-ball machine.



VOGUE, strike a pose!

Year 12 artist Jeni has been busy in the darkroom this term, developing her ideas in response to Helmut Newton. Jeni has been inspired by his iconic images, often featured in Vogue. By painting the developer on to the paper, she has created a vintage effect and we love the final outcomes.

Amazing work Amelia

Year 10 artist Amelia has been working really hard on her drawing skills this term. Students have been exploring their surroundings and have created a variety of drawings based around their local environment. A big part of this has been drawing animals and we were blown away at how hard Amelia has worked on her drawing of horses.

