



Creative Arts Concert

10th February 2023

The purpose of art is washing the dust of daily life off our souls - Pablo Picasso

Mr Picasso knew a thing or two about the essential role that the Arts play in our daily lives. Accordingly, pupils, parents and staff can take great reassurance from the importance placed on creative endeavours here at THS.

Art is important in our cultural and social lives because it is the medium through which we process our emotions and ideas. Any society / community which marginalises the Arts does so at its peril. Yesterday evening's Creative Arts Concert was a jubilant event. The whole Senior School was involved in one way or another.

There was an exhibition in the old hall displaying the wide range of activities that take place in Mr Wolf's studio. Paintings, drawings, 3-D masks, lino cuttings and clay models were all on display providing a perfect prelude to a diverse set of musical and spoken word performances in our new hall. Both types of performance media were richly diverse. The inaugural public piece from the guitar ensemble sat comfortably next to the barnstorming renditions from our ever-expanding choir. Similarly, poems from the likes of Auden were interspersed with spoken words from our very own Poet Laureate.

All in all, the importance of the Arts was given its rightful prominence as this half term draws to a close. Many thanks and congratulations to the boys - but also to their teachers, especially Mrs Macdonald, Mrs Minter and Mr Wolf.





Creative Arts Concert Artwork





Creative Arts Concert Performances





Children's Mental Health Week

This week was children's mental health week. <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk>

The theme has been 'Let's connect' and pupils across the school have been taking part in activities in their PSHE lessons to help them connect with others and understand the importance of building and maintaining positive relationships.

Fortunately the weather has been glorious, so we have been able to promote our mental health by getting outside in the sunshine!

Mr Peyton once again shared books with stories of friendship and we have even had a visit from a V.I.P. - a Very Important Puppy (Ozzy) - as building relationships with animals can be just as important as human relationships in supporting our mental health.

Our Senior boys took part in workshops on economic and financial well-being this week. See details below. The boys really enjoyed these sessions - the only complaint being that they would have liked longer. How time flies when you are having fun!

Our thanks go to Year 8 - especially Alexander Pollock and James Earl for their help with the Junior and Senior School assemblies. Also to Thomas Diringer for his help designing the presentations and to Fred Warrack for his help with the presentation for the Junior School.

Mr Peyton, Mrs Montague, Mrs Minter and Mrs Patel



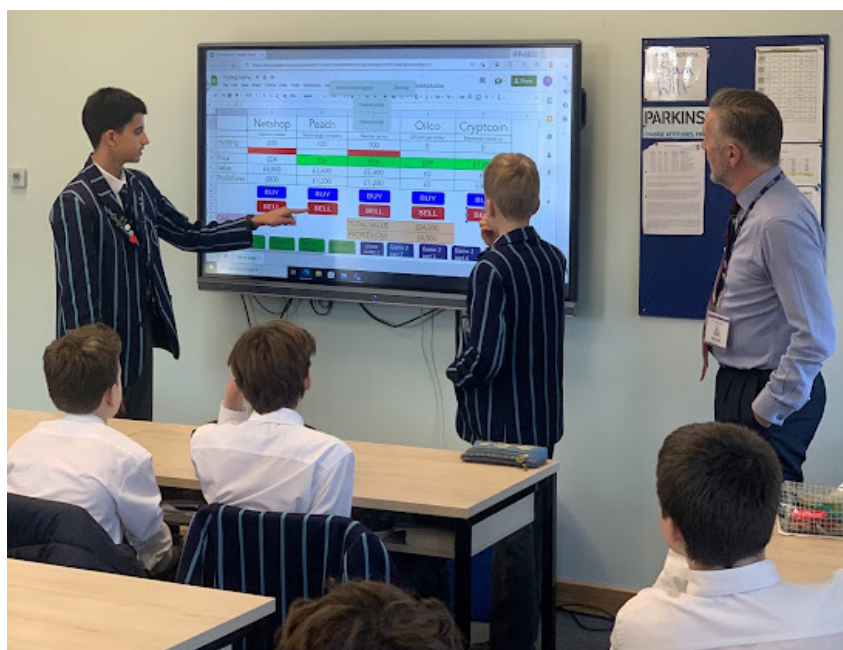


Money Makes the World Go Around (or does it)

This week the Senior School boys benefitted from the financial acumen of an ex THS parent - Chris Hawkins. More recently Chris has set up a company Tenent Financial Education.

Tenent works with schools, universities and with new entrants to the wider workforce to provide core financial knowledge that will serve people throughout their lives.

The sessions that ran this week with years 4-8 covered various elements of the role of money in our lives, from observing when our feelings of motivation change when money is part of the scenario, to exploring how different career choices are affected by financial expectations and how our feelings about ourselves and others can often be too based on purely financial elements. Year 8 explored the fun of making money in a trading simulation, and then discussed the physical sensation that the thrill of making even fake money gave them - and the risk that this can be a pull towards gambling and reckless financial behaviour. The common theme was that economic wellbeing is, whether we like it or not, a key factor in our overall mental health, and so learning early the language and basics of finance is something that every schoolchild should have access to.





There be Dragons

Our Multi-purpose Hall lived up to its name last weekend. No sooner had the Staff Play set been struck from the stage (thank you Guild members, you know who you are), then our adaptable space was transformed into a venue for a Chinese New Year celebration. Visitors came to enjoy a most colourful show hosted by the Little Panda Mandarin School – look closely at the photos, you may see some familiar faces .



Hampton Sports Scholar - Alex Pollock

We received the amazing news this week that Alex Pollock from Year 8 has been awarded a prestigious sports scholarship to Hampton. For anyone that has witnessed his feats of outstanding play, driving the 1st team forward for the last 2 season, it will come as no surprise. But what an incredible achievement to be awarded this great honour. Alex represents all that we strive for in our boys, fiercely competitive and with a will to make the most of every ounce of his ability but with a great deal of humility and respect as well.

Well done Alex, we are very proud of you.





UPCOMING EVENTS

- Year 8 Mock CE - Tue/Wed/Thur/Fri - Lunches as normal.
- Year 6 residential trip to France

Tuesday 21st

- Lunch: Pancake day lunch.

Wednesday 22nd

- All day: Y2/3 trip to Kew Water & Steam Museum

Thursday 23rd

- All day: Year 7 music trip to Brighton College

Earthquake Relief Fund Muti day

Thank you so much for giving so generously Friday in aid of the earthquake relief fund. We raised an astonishing **£1460.25** across the school. We really appreciate your support and this money will be being sent ASAP to help those most in need. Thank you all again.

We wish everyone a restorative half term!

Mr Gregory Evans, Headmaster