



MAY 2016

SALVE!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE ISLAND FREE SCHOOL

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Flying High

On 24th March fourteen pupils with 100% attendance had the amazing opportunity to fly after being selected to attend the Spring Term Ethos trip.

Mr Smith and Mr Williams accompanied the students to AirKix in Basingstoke, an indoor skydiving experience. The pupils and staff had a training session we spoke to James W, Charles J and Mr Smith about their participation in this incredible trip and here's what they had to say:

What was flying like?

James: It was a once in a lifetime experience.

Charles: It was like flying with Peter Pan.

Were the suits uncomfortable?

Mr Smith: No, the suit was fine actually. Your clothes just went under it.

What was your instructor like?

Mr Smith: He used to be in the army, so he was very experienced. But he said he preferred indoor skydiving to being in the army.

By Ella M, Emily C and Cassidy L



Pupils Find Their Porpoise

On Monday 16th April, all Year 8 pupils took part in a Dolphin and Whale workshop facilitated by Anna from the conservation charity ORCA. Pupils learned about how to identify different species of dolphins, whales and porpoises around the British Isles. Anna also highlighted particular species that might be observed locally, as well as any species that could be spotted when some of our pupils head to Scotland for Activities Week in May. At the end of the session the classes focused on the current threats to marine mammals around our coast and worldwide. Max S-P spoke to us about the day and said "It was a really fun and enjoyable day. I thought it was very interesting.

By Jake W, Charlie M and Max T

WELCOME

As the days lengthen our attention turns to **Activities Week** later this half term.

This year we have organised a fantastic range of activities to enhance pupils learning including our yearly grand tour of Italy, a kayaking and languages trip to the South of France, Silver and Gold hiking and camping expeditions and a wildlife photography trip to Scotland.

As always my thanks must go to our incredible staff without whom none of this would be possible.

Mr Boyd,
Headmaster




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TERRIFIC TENNIS

Six pupils from The Island Free School took to Sandown Bay Academy on 20th March for a tennis activities day, as part of our school's involvement in the Tennis Foundation's new School of Tennis programme. Twenty-one schools have been chosen to take part from across Great Britain, aiming to change the way that tennis is taught, making it more fun and engaging for teenagers.

Louis H, Oliver C, Harvey C, Mia G, Lydia M and Ella W represented our school at the activities day, accompanied by Mr McAllister. We spoke to Louis about the day: "At the start of the day we learnt how to play wheelchair tennis. We got to use the wheelchairs, which was fun, and then did some races with and

Yoga and Wellbeing



Yoga and Wellbeing is a popular enrichment option again this term, where pupils learn how to practice yoga to calm their minds and relax. Led by Miss Symes, and supported by Miss Allcock, these sessions also teach the basics of meditation, gratitude and help develop a general sense of wellbeing. We interviewed Sophie M, a member of the enrichment, about her experiences in Yoga and Wellbeing.

What do you like the most about this enrichment?

S: You can get everything off your mind and take some time to relax.

Ella: How has this enrichment benefitted you so far?

S: It makes me feel calmer and more positive.

By **Ella M, Emily C** and **Cassidy L**

The Isle of Wight Music, Dance & Drama Festival

In March 2016 The Island Free School, amongst many others, took part in a large-scale festival. This is a round up of all the pupils who represented TIFS in the singing section of the festival.

Year 7 Boys Tomas T, Alex W, Beau E, Mason S, Ellis K, Alfred J, and Stanley A sang 'Linden Lea' by Vaughan Williams.

Year 8 Girls, Ella G, Molly P, and Kimberly K, with Ella G gaining first place sang the song 'A Dormouse's Carol' by Elizabeth Poston.



without the rackets and ball. After lunch we were put into groups and had to design and perform an activity for everyone else. Overall, the day was really fun."

By **Charlie M, Jake W** and **Oliver C**

The Year 8 Boys, Jacob H, Oliver G and Antonio P. sang 'Consider Yourself' from Oliver The Musical. Callie H and Megan T performed as a duet, singing 'Get on Board'. The Disney class included Maya H, Thea M, Tarot B, Meredyth S and Kareena S who sang songs from Tangled, The Little Mermaid and Pocahontas. Kareena S gained second place. Sunday was the Rock, Pop and Musical Theatre day at Shanklin Theatre. Ella G, Abbie R, Molly P, and Kimberley K all took part, singing songs from Matilda and Les Miserables. Ella G gained third place and Abbie R came first place in the class.

By **Beau E, Sascha E** and **Brandon W-P**



Year 7 Viridis Judaism Trip

On 12th March 2016, Year 7 Viridis went on a trip to London as part of RE Day to further their learning about Judaism. The pupils left from Ryde Pier Head at 7:30am, a very early start, and were excited for the day ahead. As part of the trip, they took part in a walking tour of the Jewish Quarter of London. They walked past several famous landmarks like Liverpool St Station and the Gherkin. The pupils were treated to a very informative experience with Stephen, an award-winning tour guide, who took them on a trip to the past, visiting Jewish schools, Synagogues, and even the Jewish soup kitchens! All the pupils had a brilliant day and Mr Milton, who accompanied his class on the trip said, "The pupils behaved impeccably and were a credit to the school. I really enjoyed the day and learnt a lot too!"

By **Beau E** and **Brandon W**

U13 GIRLS CRICKET



On Wednesday 23rd March, our girls cricket team played against Sandown Bay Academy in the U13s Cricket Championship finals, to decide which team would represent the Island in the South West Final in Bristol. The opposition batted first with a high score of 79 after a below par fielding effort from our TIFS girls. However, the TIFS batting line up proved too strong for the Sandown girls, leaving our team to quickly knock off the necessary runs, completing a great championship win ending our innings 82-2. As a result of their fantastic win, TIFS girls then went on to represent the Isle of Wight at the South West indoor cricket finals in Bristol finishing in 4th place overall. An absolutely fantastic achievement!

By **Alana W** and **Mia G**



Teachers in the hot seat

Miss White, our new assistant to year 8

How has your time been at this school so far? It has been brilliant and everyone is friendly!

What do you like about this school? All the pupils are so great, and everyone I've met is passionate about school.

Have you ever worked at any other school? No, this is the first school I've worked at.

What enrichments are you looking forward to? I'm doing English intervention, Carnival and Glass Painting. I'm really looking forward to all of them.

We would also like to congratulate Miss White on her huge achievement of completing the London Marathon on 24th April! Well done!

By **Rachelle B**, **Alana W** and **Hope W**

Mr. Green, our new learning support assistant

How has your time at our school been so far? It's been chaotic and hilarious. It's also been exciting.

Do you like this school? I'm loving every second.

Have you worked at any other schools? No, this is the first school I've worked at.

What do you like about this school? I like the class I'm working with because they have really good relationships with each other.

By **Olivia S**

Trips Run-Down

It's not long now until Activities Week when our pupils will be participating in a wide range of fun and educational events both at school and further afield. Some of the Year 7s will be jetting off to Italy for a week of culture including visiting Rome, Mount Vesuvius and making ice cream! Many of our Year 8 pupils will be heading on trips to Scotland, photographing amazing wild animals or to France, on an action-packed adventure to the Ardèche region. Camping trips will take place for both year groups during the week and there will be lots of excitement to be had by pupils and staff staying at school too. We look forward to sharing all the best bits with you in the next issue.

By **Olivia S**, **Alana W** and **Emily C**

PEACE'S PUN



Each month Mr Peace tells us one of his best jokes and the staff at TIFS try and give him a run for his money. In this edition of Salve it's Mr. Peace Vs Mrs Turner.

Mr. Peace:

Yesterday, in Newcastle, a lorry full of tortoises collided with a van full of terrapins. It was a turtle disaster.

Mrs Turner:

Q: What did the zero say to the eight?
A: Nice belt .



Equine Excellence

On Friday 22nd April three of the school's talented Dressage riders braved the wind and rain, to represent the school in the Inter School Dressage Competition for the second year in a row. Tammy N kicked off the afternoon for TIFS, producing a very good test with Mr. Curly Wurly in prelim 18. She was followed by Kirsty A, who secured an individual 4th place in a technical novice 28, and Theo K who closed the day in style coming joint 5th, a very good result for a new partnership.

Team TIFS came an impressive 3rd place out of a total of 11 teams from 6 high schools across the Island, and all showed real improvement in their riding, building on from last years competition. Well done to all involved, and a special thank you to Miss Alman for organising our students' participation in the event.

By **Theo K**

RIBA UPDATE

On 20th of May 2016 the final for the RIBA project, recently taken part in by all pupils, will be taking place at the Royal Yacht Squadron. Several of our pupils' inventive designs and creations for the redesign of Totland Pier have been shortlisted for the final, and will be attending the ceremony when the overall winner will be revealed. Ethan B said: "I enjoyed making the model and was happy I was shortlisted. It was a really fun project!"

Ms. Travers commented: "It was really interesting to see the development of the pupils and when their work came in it was fabulous. We did the project last year and the entries were fantastic then so I was hoping that we would get that standard of work again. It seems that we might have even got a better quality because of the current Year 8s experience in the competition."

By **Thea M** and **Hope W**



Shortlisted entries from The Island Free School are as follows:

11 & 12 year old category:

- Ethan B, age 12, Jungle Pier
- Samuel L, age 11, Paradise Island
- Rachel L, age 12, Wave Cruiser
- Fay M-S, age 12, Totland Cubetangular
- Maia O, age 11, Gem Palace,
- Lucy B, age 12, Splash Attack.
- Taylor M, age 12, Totland Tree Top Pier

13 - 18 year old category:

- Lydia B, age 13, Totland Pier Water Experience
- Ella W, age 13, Totland Fun Pier

Rugby Roundup

On Thursday 21st April the undefeated Year 8 boys played their final rugby game of the season against Christ The King College. After a long Easter break the boys picked up perfectly where they left off. They started the game strong with some great defending which lead into some brilliant ball movement in attack. Tom C was on the end of an excellent team move to score the tension-cutting try to open the game. With the pressure relieved, the boys remained on top for the remainder of the game and came out on top winning the game 10-1, an excellent performance! Congratulations to all the team for an outstanding win.

By **Max H** and **Jack E**



Scientists of the Future

On Wednesday 20th April a group of Year 8 pupils went to the Natural History Museum in London for a Science Gifted and Talented trip. The pupils got to visit many exhibits, (some not open to the public), and ask questions about them-allowing pupils to find out many new facts. Just before lunch the students had a guided session with the museum staff, where they had a go at experimenting and identifying artifacts as well as exploring their chosen item. The items varied from rocks to bones, insects to animal skins. The pupils had to ask questions about their chosen item just like a real scientist. Mr. Teague stated 'The pupils behaved impeccably well and were a credit to The Island Free School.'

By **Jack E**

