



SEPTEMBER 2016

SALVE!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE ISLAND FREE SCHOOL

Sports Galore
>PAGE 2



Teachers in the hot seat
>PAGE 3



Nuntius: the news round-up
>PAGE 4



On Friday 16th September Year 7 and 8 mentor groups took part in the annual hike. This completed the first week back of term in true TIFS style, with beaming smiles and a sense of great achievement. During this expedition the Year 7's earned their bronze pre-Duke of Edinburgh badge, superbly supported by the Year 8's.

Happy Hikers

The pupils and staff were split into house teams and delivered by bus groups to secret locations around the island, with the task of getting back to school before the buses arrived at the end of the day. It took the whole school day for most groups to make the long journey back to Ventnor, but it was an enjoyable experience with an abundance of wonderful team spirit

and plenty of snack stops along the way! The picturesque views, muddy hills and fields full of animals such as cows, sheep, and some friendly alpacas made for a day we won't forget!

By **Eloise S** and **Amanda M**



Scholars go to the Opera

On Monday 26th September, our 29 music scholars, accompanied by Mr Balch, Mr Hitt and Miss Batchelor, visited the Royal Opera House in Covent Garden, London. The opera performed was called the 'Barber of Seville' and featured a moving stage, flashing lights and many other stunning stage effects. This was an amazing opportunity for some of our pupils to experience a live orchestra, brilliant acoustics and wonderful voices. The opera started at 11:30am following a long train journey from Portsmouth to Waterloo. There was a short walk to the opera house itself on which the pupils saw the London Eye, a Bentley Limo, the IMAX cinema and also crossed the River Thames. It was very late when they got back to the harbour to catch the Fast Cat and they were all exhausted, but the trip was worth every yawn! By **Hallam S**

WELCOME

Welcome to our third year of TIFS. Our new year 7 pupils seem to have settled into life at school, our year 8 boys and girls have begun their GCSE options process with visits to 6th form providers and our year 9's are a month into their GCSE programmes of study. All of our sports teams have begun the season well and the new build is progressing well ahead of schedule. I wish everyone the very best for the year ahead.

Mr Boyd,
Headmaster




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Hopeful Hockey



On Wednesday 28th September U14 TIFS girls continued their great form from last season, playing a bewildering match against Priory School and winning with an incredible score of 6-0. TIFS girls dominated the game by scoring a couple of good early goals. The girls held their shape and worked extremely hard throughout. Hockey coach Mr. Milton was extremely pleased with the brilliant win and performance and said he considers them "one of the best he has coached over the years." The girls' next fixture is away to Ryde on the 11th October. Well done to the whole team.

Also on Wednesday 28th September U14 TIFS boys played their first hockey match of the hockey season resulting in an outstanding 4-1 win against Priory School. All of the goals were scored by centre forward Ethan T, and supported excellently by the rest of the team. A comfortable win for the boys puts them in a solid position at the start of the season, with their next match on 16th November against Priory School again. Well done to all the boys who played in the match.

By **Liam G**



Rugby Rundown

TIFS Rugby team took part in their first tournament of the season on Tuesday 4th October. Travelling to the mainland, with Mr Marriott and Mr Teague, the boys prepared to face some tough competition with 36 incredibly high standard teams.

During the tournament TIFS scored a number of impressive tries, with many of the team adding to the score sheet. The boys' successes early in the day



meant that they made it into the Pool of Champions, but unfortunately a disallowed try in their final game meant that team TIFS finished in third place overall.

Mr Marriott, our Rugby coach commented, "It is an incredible achievement to finish 3rd against some brilliant teams across Hampshire. The experience that the boys will take away from the day will no doubt make themselves and the team even stronger for a promising future ahead."

Kim Murray comes to TIFS

On Thursday 22nd September, Winter Olympian, Kim Murray, visited Year 9 GCSE PE pupils to talk about her experiences of life as an athlete. Kim is a Skeleton Athlete and is currently training for the 2018 Winter Olympics in South Korea. Kim came into school to give the pupils a taster of her story, of how she started in Ryde as a runner, and ended up using her sporting talents to become a Skeleton Athlete training for the Winter Olympics. Kim gave advice on how to never give up; she had a career changing injury, but she kept going and ended up where she is now. Kim will soon be moving her training abroad to give her time to adapt to colder climates but she will be keeping in touch and helping the pupils throughout their GCSE. We are all looking forward to seeing her again soon and wish her the best of luck in the next phase of her training.

By **Oliver C**



Expanding Horizons

Whilst we are waiting for our brand new site to be finished in Upper Ventnor, there have been some home improvements on our Leeson Road site to make enough space for all of our pupils. The GCSE block, which now makes up the lower part of our site, includes 8 classrooms designed specifically for the needs of each subject, such as Science, Art and Drama. There are also a couple of office spaces for the Year 9 team and other staff to use. The pupils are enjoying the new spaces, as are the teachers. We spoke to Mrs Steele about the new drama facilities: "It's great to have a dedicated space for drama. It is allowing us to really establish the identity and ethos of the subject both through lessons and enrichment activities. Like any new home it takes time to make it just right, but we are well on our way."

By Hope W

First Impressions

We've been catching up with some of our new TIFS family, and asking them how they've found school life so far. Here's what they had to say:

How is TIFS different from your primary school?

Ethan: The school here is much bigger.

Aroha: The rooms are bigger and there are more of them than at my primary school.

Lizzie: We get more exercise travelling around the school and more choice of what you do!

Erin: There are a lot more subjects to choose from.

What was your first day like?

Ethan: It was really interesting and exciting.

Aroha: I liked it and it felt good to meet everyone.

Lizzie: To start off I was really nervous, but then I became confident.

Erin: I felt a bit more confident as each lesson passed.

How would you sum up your first few weeks at TIFS?

Ethan: It's much better than my primary school.

Aroha: It's been very exciting to meet my teachers and new schoolmates.



Teachers in the hot seat

Miss Savill, our new head of KS3 English

Where did you work before?

Before I came here I lived in London and worked at a school there.

Who is your favourite teacher?

Miss Barry was my best friend when I was at school so it's lovely to work with her.

What is your favourite thing about TIFS?

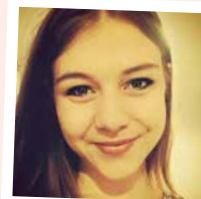
I like that enrichment is part of the curriculum and that the pupils get to learn things outside of normal school hours. I also like that the school is a community like a family.

How long have you lived on the island?

I lived here until I was eighteen and then I lived in London. I moved back to the island in July ready to start my job here.

What is your favourite subject?

English because I teach it, and then drama.



Mr. Trendler, our new maths teacher

Where did you work before?

I worked in Portsmouth.

Who is your favourite teacher?

Mr Williams (Maths)

How long have you lived on the island?

I have only lived on the island for a month.

I used to work in Portsmouth and lived there, but before that Surrey and before that London.

What is your favourite subject?

Economics as that is what my degree is in.



By Erin P and Ebony B



Lizzie: I was scared at first but then learned how people acted and I quickly made friends.

Erin: I was nervous at first and then became more confident and school became more fun by the day.

By Jack D & Luka J

PEACE'S PUN

Mr. Peace:

One of my friends absolutely loved my new trousers. He said they are so nice, I would like to chop off the bottom of one of your trouser legs and put it in a library. Well, 'That's a turn-up for the books.'

Mr. Williams:

I was wondering why the cricket ball was getting bigger... and then it hit me!

You decide who you think deserves to be the champion of this month's newspaper, Mr Williams or the current champion Mr Peace? Stay tuned for next time where another one of our teachers will be competing to be the new King or Queen of the Island Free School Battle of the Puns!

By **Jack D**

Music Selection - Saunder's Selection

The following two pieces of classical music are recommended to any music-lover looking for some inspiration...

Pictures at an Exhibition by Modest Mussorgsky - this is a strident showy piece for the piano built on crashing chords and dramatic cadences.

Symphony no.6 'Pastoral' by Ludwig van Beethoven – a more modest composition for a small orchestra. It depicts the warmth of summer and the playfulness of a young child.

By **Hallam S**



HAIL CEASER

On Thursday 6th October the cast of Julius Caesar attended a workshop at Medina Theatre as part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival. This opportunity was a chance to work with some actors from the company in preparation for the Festival performances next month. TIFS pupils were able to rehearse in the performance space, and practice their movement and dialogue, impressing the workshop facilitators with their understanding of the tricky Shakespearean language. Miss Allcock said "Mrs Steele has really challenged the pupils with her vision for the show and they have been working extremely hard in preparation for this performance, spending hours and hours learning how to understand and deliver the language. We are really excited for the audience to see our show. It's going to rock!"

TIFS pupils will be performing a thirty-minute version of Julius Caesar on 2nd November at Medina Theatre.



The performance begins at 7pm. Tickets are available from Medina Theatre Box Office (01983 823884). TIFS will be performing alongside Binstead Primary School and Medina College and we hope you will be there to experience an entertaining evening.

By **Eloise S & Amanda M-V**

SCHOLARS IN THE HOT SEAT



Millie K

Did you enjoy the scholar trip?

Yes it was really good.

Do you enjoy being a scholar?

Yes I enjoy being a scholar because I get to learn 2 instruments and it's really fun.

What instruments do you learn?

I learn the clarinet and violin.

Nathan S-B

Did you enjoy the scholar trip?

Yes it was great, I enjoyed watching the opera.

Do you enjoy being a scholar?

Yes I enjoy learning to play different pieces of music.

What instruments do you learn?

I am learning the trumpet and trombone.

By **Hope W and Lilly P**



GIGAJAM GLORY

On 28th September, The Island Free School achieved an amazing 19,000 uploads on Gigajam, accumulated since the school opened in 2014. This astonishing figure puts TIFS fourth in the all-time leader board.

Well done to all the pupils for your hard work, keep it up!

Handy Latin phrase

Minima maxima sunt

The smallest things are the most important