



NOVEMBER 2016

# SALVE!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE ISLAND FREE SCHOOL

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# Spectacular Caesar



All Hail Caesar! On Wednesday 2nd November our Caesar cast took to the stage at Medina Theatre to share their performance as part of The Shakespeare School's Festival. Drawing parallels between Ancient Rome and Fascist Italy the pupils performed with complete commitment and professionalism

to tell this story of conspiracy and civil war. Praise can not be given highly enough to this talented cast whose mature performances were simply gripping. At the end of the evening a Shakespeare Schools Festival Associate appraised the performance describing it as, 'an arresting and brave production with a strong concept. Excellent pacing, focus and characterisation created

a compelling performance, and your commitment to tell this story as one whole group was not an easy thing to achieve.' We would like to thank the parents and staff for their overwhelming support in attending last night's performance, and a big congratulations to the cast and crew.

By Mrs. Steele



## Open Day Extravaganza

On Saturday 15th October The Island Free School opened its doors to welcome prospective parents and pupils for next year's intake. There were lots of different activities around the school site so that children and their parents could see what we have been working on in class and what lessons we have to offer. All subjects were represented by the teachers in that department, supported by teams of pupils willing to give up a Saturday to help out. The English department set out some fun games and had a tree on the board for people to write their favourite books and stories on. Meanwhile, in radio Mr Pringle had moved the entire radio station to the room next door, along with some laptops for some of the school's programmers to work at. Here, possible new students were able to record their own jingles and silly little interviews. Thanks to all the students who helped out on the Open day, it was a great success. By Isla W and Emily D

# WELCOME

As winter approaches our thoughts are turning to our annual carol service. This is an opportunity for everyone involved with our extraordinary school to come together as a community (with mince pies and a jolly good sing song). As the school grows it is increasingly challenging to find a building big enough to hold everyone and this year our service will be held at Newport Minster on Thursday 8th December. Tickets will be limited and details of how to apply will be sent to you in the coming weeks.

Mr Boyd,  
Headmaster




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## Young Geographer of the Year Competition

Every year the Royal Geographical Society hold a competition to find the Young Geographer of the Year. Over 150 entries were received in school, to answer the question 'How is Britain changing?' Mr Peace, Mrs Breach and I were very pleased by the standard of the entries and eight were selected to be submitted. We will hear in mid November if any have been successful.

By Mrs Walker



# Radical Running



The results were as follows:

### HOUSE LEADERBOARD

- 1st - Rosea
- 2nd - Caesitas
- 3rd - Flavi
- 4th - Viridis
- 5th - Rubeum

### TOP 3 GIRLS

- 1st - Bianka A (Caesitas)
- 2nd - Shanay S (Rosea)
- 3rd - Rosie N (Rubeum)

### TOP 3 BOYS

- 1st - Luke S (Rosea)
- 2nd - Frankie W (Caesitas)
- 3rd - Harrison R (Rosea)

By Hallam S

On October 19th all year seven pupils competed in an inter-house cross-country event. Starting at the end of Rew Lane, they battled for first place, each pupil representing their house and aiming to come in with the quickest time. The PE department were very impressed with the energy and commitment shown by Year 7 to complete this difficult route.



## Hockey Success

On Thursday 20th October at Rew Valley Sports Centre, TIFS U12 and U13 girls' hockey teams hosted both Dorset House and Priory schools in a triangular tournament. Once again our Team A proved too strong, winning all three of their games. The B team also played amazingly, earning a 2-1 win against the Dorset House B team and then holding both Priory and Dorset House A team to a draw. The kitchen staff provided an amazing tea for the players, which was well deserved after their hard work. Congratulations girls!

By Hope W



## Rugby Highlights

Well done to the Year 7 boys' rugby team, who played exceptionally well in their first tournament on the mainland. During the first round, the boys played extremely well against some strong competition, drawing two games and losing two. After lunch, and a great team talk by coach Mr Marriott, the boys were ready to face the second round with renewed energy and enthusiasm. They went on to dominate the pitch and win all four remaining games. The boys were a shining example of how to represent the school both on and off the pitch. Well done everyone!

By Miss Batchelor

# RE Day - Year 7 Year 9

On Friday 21st October, year 7 enjoyed their first RE day learning about Christianity. Our highlight of the day was visiting the Holy Trinity Church. Reverend Hugh showed us around the church, pointing out the organ, the area for the choir and a whole host of other features in the church. Other sessions included building our own church models. In teams, with limited materials, we had to design and create our own little church out of cardboard boxes. Harvest is another big part of Christianity and after an enjoyable session with Miss Garcia-Verde, we now know all about harvest in Spain and how it differs from harvest in Britain. In this class, we also got the opportunity to design our own Saint. The Good Samaritan is a story about not judging a book by its cover, but that message may have been slightly lost in one of our sessions. Creating our own version of the Good Samaritan led us to alien invasions, car crashes and bank robberies not to mention Miss Savill's fabulous drawings of pigs!



By **Emily D** and **Isla W**



We learned about Hinduism for our first Year 8 RE Day. We had a drama session where we showed the story of Ganesh through tableaux. Pupils were all given a piece of paper with different parts of the story. We then made a tableau or acted our part of the story and showed the whole story by performing together. We then thought about the Hindu concept of avatars and drew an animal we thought a God could turn into to visit the world as an avatar.

Also, we made Ganesh models out of milk bottles. Ganesh is the God of new ventures, and is really important in the Hindu religion. We had to draw the outline of the elephant's body on the milk bottle, cut it out and stick on squares of brightly coloured tissue paper to decorate it. We then left them to dry and Miss Cave stuck the eyes on them, ready for us to collect at the end of the day. Ebony B commented, "I really enjoyed making the elephants, it was really fun."

By **Hope W, Amanda M-V, Lilly P, Erin P** and **Eloise S**

Under a new name, Ethics and Philosophy Day, Year 9 students were able to experience a more challenging approach to thinking about the world, and coming up with solutions to modern day problems. The main focus of the day was to learn about conflict and reality. Dr Bob Plimer came into assembly to talk to Year 9's about the topic of ethics and philosophy. Students had to broaden their thinking by examining their attitudes to war and conflict and took part in role-play as different countries deciding whether they were for or against the use of nuclear weapons. We spoke to Kaitlyn S about her experience of the day: "I was confused at first, but the day made me think about lots of things."



By **Jack D** and **Liam G**



## Teachers in the hot seat

**Mrs Paul**, our new dance teacher

**What do you like most about this school and why?**

Everybody smiles at each other all day, both the staff and students. It's a really supportive place with lots of opportunities.

**Which teacher has been the most helpful while settling in?**

Everyone has made me feel welcome and has made an effort to speak to me.

**Why did you decide to come to TIFS?**

This school has an excellent reputation and to have a chance to start a new dance department. I'm very excited!



**Dr. Thompson**, our new science teacher

**Which teacher has helped you to settle in the most?**

The science department have all been really welcoming, and made me feel right at home.

**Why did you choose to come to TIFS over any other school?**

I wanted to experience the excellent school community, and I'd heard wonderful things about behaviour.

**What is your favourite thing about the subject you teach?**

The experiments!



By **Erin P** and **Ebony B**

## PEACE'S PUN

This month Team Drama take on Mr Peace in the battle for Peace's Puns victory! Here are some punny jokes from Mrs Steele and Miss Allcock. Who wins? You decide.

### Mr. Peace:

I decided I was going to get myself in shape, so I phoned the local gym and I asked if they could teach me how to do the splits. The guy said, "How flexible are you?" I said, "I can't make Tuesdays."

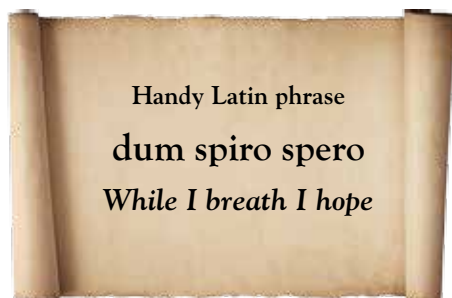
### Mrs Steel:

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. It's impossible to put down.

### Miss Allcock:

Q: What did the grape say when it was crushed?

A: Nothing, it just let out a little wine.



## Saunder's Selection

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

**O** Valencia, by the 'Decemberists'. This rock ballad is recommended because of its lyrics. They tell a very definite love story which is interesting to follow.

**G**iorni, by Ludvico Einaudi. A soulful piece of music written for modern piano. If you are feeling sad, this piece will cheer you up; also for any budding pianist, this is a simple piece to learn.

By **Hallam S**



## MUSICAL TIFS MUSIC NEWS

### Magical Music Master Class

On the 4th November, concert pianist Richard Meyrick visited the school and gave forty lucky pupils an inspiring piano master class. The GCSE Music pupils, and pianists from other year groups were given the incredible opportunity to watch Richard play, and participate in a workshop where pupils played for, and were critiqued by him. Polly W, Caitlin C, Hannah T, Hallam S, Cameron T and Alfie P bravely stepped up to the mark, and all benefitted greatly from his unique insights and experience.



The session enabled these students to gain tips, tricks and valuable knowledge from a professional on how to improve in technique and expression, and to enhance their musical ability and proficiency in performing.

Mrs Riches said 'we were delighted to welcome Richard to TIFS and for him to impart such a vast amount of his expertise in a small space of time. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the day.'

By **Hallam S**

## TIFS Free Sound Collective



This term we are excited to announce the formation of 'The Free Sound Collective' which is a Year 9 based ensemble made of the students who wanted to continue with their instruments. It was developed from the Year 8 Boys' Brass enrichment last year. The boys played as an ensemble and made an exciting sound so we've now added strings, woodwind and percussion in a 54-piece band. The band features all our Year 9 musicians and they are making fabulous progress. We'll be performing at the Christmas Carol Service and plan to take The Free Sound Collective on tour as ambassadors for Music at TIFS.

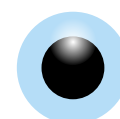
By **Mr. Balch and Mrs. Riches**

## Instrumental Success



At the end of last term, over 80 of our students passed their Grade One and Two exams on their enrichment instruments. A marvellous achievement and credit to our fantastic team of peripatetic staff and the hard work of our pupils. This follows on from the success of the Gigajam exams where many of our students have now gained Grades One - Three.

By **Mrs. Riches**



**ALERT!** Keep your eyes peeled for festive news in our next issue.