



DECEMBER 2016

SALVE!

THE LATEST NEWS FROM THE ISLAND FREE SCHOOL



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DofE gets underway

This term a group of 42 Year 9 pupils have been taking part in their Duke of Edinburgh enrichment and started to plan and organise activities they will undertake for their volunteering, skills and physical sections of the DofE programme.

As part of the programme, pupils have to complete a two-day hike in small groups. During the enrichment sessions this term, pupils have learnt how to cook using a Trangia stove, carry out first aid and developed their navigation and

map reading skills. The pupils put their skills into practice on Saturday 12th and Saturday 19th November when they were taken up to Brighstone Forest and walked a route they had planned, hopefully without getting lost. On both occasions the pupils were challenged, not only with the map reading, but also the weather. On 12th November they found out if their clothing and footwear were waterproof and on 19th November were treated to a hailstorm, which left everywhere white, until the sun came out. All the groups completed their routes successfully and will be looking forward to planning their two-day expeditions in the New Year. A new group of Year 9 pupils will have the opportunity to start their DofE programme in January.



By Mr Jones

Fast Forward to Sixth Form

This half term Year 8 tutor groups have been going out to visit sixth form centres on the Island, and across the South Coast. On Tuesday 1st November Caesitas went to Brockenhurst College to experience what life is like as a pupil after GCSEs. They got to look around the campus, and take a closer look at some of the facilities including the art studios and a mock restaurant, which is used for the vocational cookery course. Miss Symes, who accompanied the class on their visit, said "It was a fantastic to show the pupils what educational opportunities are available to them, just a short commute from the Island." On 22nd November, Viridis visited Island Innovation VI Form Campus to see what was on offer there. After a talk from Mr Mumford, the head of Sixth Form, pupils were taken on a tour of the campus and were then able to experience some real A Level lessons such as Photography, Psychology, Fashion and Sociology. Lily P said, "I was really excited to see what I could do in the future, and think about life beyond GCSEs."

Year 8 pupils will choose their GCSE options in the spring term. Details of Taster Days and Options Evening, where pupils can find out exactly what is on offer at TIFS, will be given in the Spring Term.

By Erin P and Amanda M-V

Brading or Rome?

Throughout November, Year Seven pupils from all Houses went on trips to Brading Roman Villa to learn more about Roman culture and language, to support their learning in lessons. The pupils were able to do different kinds of activities, including a tour



of the villa and finding out about certain objects from Roman times, and how they were used. Inside the Villa were a selection of different mosaics that displayed Roman legends like Medusa and the Minotaur. The pupils inspected items such as shoes, pottery and early forms of board games. The trip also enhanced the Year Seven's knowledge of the Latin language, which they could use in their future Latin lessons. Hallam S said, "The day was illuminating and we got to learn lots about Roman life."

By Isla W and Beau E

WELCOME

Welcome to the December edition of *Salve*.

My thanks to all pupils, parents and staff for your support during what has been an amazing term for TIFS.

We still have lots to look forward to in the last weeks including our carol service, our second RE day of the term and

the now legendary festive jumper competition. We are also beginning to plan for next year and on 1st December

our advert for next year's teaching staff will be released on social media with interviews to follow in January.

I hope you all have a restful break and look forward to seeing everyone next term.



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Netball Beginnings

On Tuesday 8th November TIFS Year 8 Girls Netball team entered their first ever tournament at Cowes Enterprise College. Miss Sheen has been training the girls during Enrichment sessions and said "The pupils worked extremely hard and displayed great resilience. They were implementing the principles we have been focusing on during enrichment. All of the girls improved significantly from the start to the end of the tournament." Well done to all who took part!



Cross Country



On Wednesday 9th November, forty pupils from TIFS attended The Isle of Wight Schools Cross Country Relays, which were held at Medina College. Girls and boys from each year group were split into teams of four, with each pupil running a 1km lap against other Island secondary schools. TIFS pupils ran with smiles on their faces,

hoping to be the lucky ones to take first place. In sunny conditions, but with a brisk, chilly wind, the Year 7 girls were first to run. They performed superbly with the A Team finishing in 2nd place. Subsequently the Year 7 boys performed equally well, and the A team finished in a fantastic 3rd place. Not to be outdone, the Year 8 girls' and boys' A teams both then picked up 2nd place in their respective races. The afternoon was topped off by another 2nd place for the Year 9 boys, with a special mention going to Jerry B who stepped up at the last minute to replace an injured Tom C. Finally, Mia B, Kara H, Ella W and Maisie W created a memorable 1st place victory for the Year 9 girls' team. All the runners showed their best effort to proudly represent their school, and to see TIFS finish in the top three in every category was fantastic. Well done TIFS!



Hampshire Hockey Tournament

On Friday 11th November, TIFS U14 girls' hockey team travelled to Southampton to compete in the Hampshire Trophy Finals. The girls began well, winning their group with strong performances against Romsey, Beadles and Ballard schools. TIFS and three other teams progressed to the finals which were held late in the afternoon. As the temperature dropped, the girls had to work very hard against some high standard opposition. Eventual winners Ditcham Park School proved too strong, and TIFS recorded their only loss of the day. The girls secured a fantastic third place. Our congratulations go to Hampshire Hockey for organising such a great tournament, and our thanks must go to all the other teams for an excellent day's hockey. Brilliant result Team TIFS!



Basketball Debut

On Thursday 10th November, The Island Free School's basketball team played their debut match against Bohunt School - a very strong school renowned for their basketball success in the Hampshire Cup. TIFS U14 boys played exceptionally well against a team that play basketball competitively week in, week out. Our boys defended brilliantly for the entire game and also played some excellent attacking basketball. Although TIFS were defeated by Bohunt, the boys put in a fantastic performance, considering the short length of time they have been practising. They were given a true taste of what competitive basketball is like, and are hoping to compete in further games against other schools, so watch this space!

Phoenix soars to success!

Phoenix M, a year 9 student, entered her horror story into an American Halloween short story writing competition and won for her age group. Phoenix had been working hard on this story as part of her creative writing enrichment. As the first ever entry from the Isle of Wight, Phoenix impressed judges with her written craft: she demonstrated skilful use of language and structure to create an imaginative, compelling and intelligent short story. Well done Phoenix!

Lifelessly hanging in the vines, her body was draped in the finest of silks, an elegant aqua dress clinging to her tiny frame. By her feet, a river of cascading water tossed and turned, slightly wetting the ends of her dress.

Looking closer, her porcelain complexion was pulverised, deep hues of ultramarine scattered on her pallor skin. Poorly stitched, a jagged laceration etched its way across her left eye, scarlet coloured blood seeping into her skin.

A slight breeze whispered her name, taunting her hanging corpse. But then it happened. Striking the auburn wood, a flash of light illuminated the darkest hours of the day, sending deep violet sparks thrashing through her veins, convulsions shuddered down her weak limbs.

By **Phoenix M**

A slice is nice!

In Science, Year 7 pupils have been set the homework challenge of representing the different particles in solids, liquids and gases through a number of possible forms. However, in true TIFS style many homework entries have been made out of our favourite sweet treat, cake!

Many other subjects have also been indulging in sugary homework, such as History and Geography with baked representations of motte-and-bailey castles and a marvellous edible model of the Needles!

It's fair to say that this has to be the most creative and fun homework this term, make sure you check any future Salve issues for any more creative homework.

By **Emily D**



Teachers in the hot seat

Miss Sheen, our new PE teacher



Where did you work before you came to TIFS?

I completed a PGCE in Secondary Physical Education last year with a variety of school placements.

What do you like best about this school and why?

I love the friendly atmosphere and caring attitude of staff and students. Everyone takes a vested interest in making this school the best it can be.

What do you like most about your subject?

PE is the most fantastic subject because there is always a sport for people to excel in and the journey to get them to find it is exciting. The reaction students' get when they realise this is the most exciting part!

Miss Barnes, our new English teacher

Where did you work before TIFS?

I worked at Medina College and I worked at a couple of other Island schools.

What do you like best about this school?

I like the fact that you can ask any one for help and everyone supports each other.

What do you like best about your subject?

Everything! I like sharing my subject knowledge and being able to recommend books.



NUNTIUS

THE NEWS ROUND-UP

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

This month Geography takes on Geology in the battle for Peace's Puns victory! Who wins? You decide.

Mr. Peace:

Q: Why did Santa's helper go and see his doctor?

A: Because he had low elf-esteem

Mrs Walker:

Q: Why was Father Christmas late for delivering presents?

A: He had tinsel-itis!



Saunder's Selection

The pieces of music suggested for the Salve December issue have been chosen in remembrance of those who fell in the Great War of 1914-1918, and also for everyone's favourite time of year... CHRISTMAS! The two pieces are: Edward Elgar's 'Land of Hope and Glory'. A fast-pace piece of music, the first march of his 'Pomp and Circumstance' collection. Run DMC 'Christmas in Hollis'. This Christmas-themed rap by popular hip-hop group 'Run DMC' (from Hollis, Queens) is sure to lighten up your Christmas!



By **Hallam S**



LEST WE FORGET

On Friday 11th November the school went down to the Holy Trinity Church for a memorable remembrance service. We had readings from many Year 7s such as: Nathan

S-B, Rowan S, William B, Aaron E-L, Megan C, Rosie N, Millie K and Molly W. There were fantastic musicians including the brass group, who played us in and out of the church. Hallam S gave us a solo clarinet performance with Mrs Riches accompanying on piano. Also we had the fabulous choir who sang a song called "Thankful". Last but not least, Ted H played The Last Post as we finished our 2 minutes of silence. Finally Beth's Grandad who is part of the HMS Phoebe association from Bournemouth showed respect for his fallen comrades by lowering his ship's standard.

By **Jack H** and **Curtis P**

TIFS are reading . . .

Year 9 are currently reading Charles Dickens' 'Great Expectations' in English.

The protagonist in 'Great Expectations' is called Pip. Pip is an orphan and lives with his sister who has forever run their relationship 'by hand.' Pip runs into a convict on the marshes and then finds himself stealing food under the threat of a 'slit throat.' The convict is one of very few who has escaped one of the 'hulks', a boat made into a prison. Will Pip deny the convict's demands or will his 'guilty mind' overtake his unwillingness to help the convict?



By **Jack D**

Christmas Cards

Four friends, Tom, Lisa, Braydon and Peta give each other Christmas Cards.

If each one of them gives out a card to each of their friends, how many Christmas Cards are given out altogether?

How many cards would be given out if 7 friends each give each other Christmas cards?

