

THE TETTENHALLIAN

2022

Contents

Foreword from Christopher McAllister, Headmaster	3
Preparatory School	4
Senior School	21
Boarding	41
Old Tettenhallians	44

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WELCOME TO THE 2022 EDITION OF THE TETTENHALLIAN

Head's Foreword

As I take a moment to reflect on this academic year as a whole, in many ways it has been a time of firsts. We have been able to enjoy our first theatre performances, school and community events, sports fixtures and for our senior students, their first national examinations, since the world resumed a sense of 'new normal'.

For children in our Preparatory School, some have tread the boards in our Towers Theatre for the first time. For those pupils in Year 6, it has been their first performances since they were in Year 3! For many of our families, our Firework Display and our recent Garden Party were their first experience of our wonderful TC community events. For our Year 6 pupils, as 100% of them move up into Year 7, they are preparing for their first year in Senior School.

As airports and borders have re-opened, we have welcomed many new pupils for their first experience of boarding life at TC, an amazing community of 95 boarders, from 22 different countries. For our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils, this summer has brought the first formal, written GCSE and A Level examinations since before the pandemic.

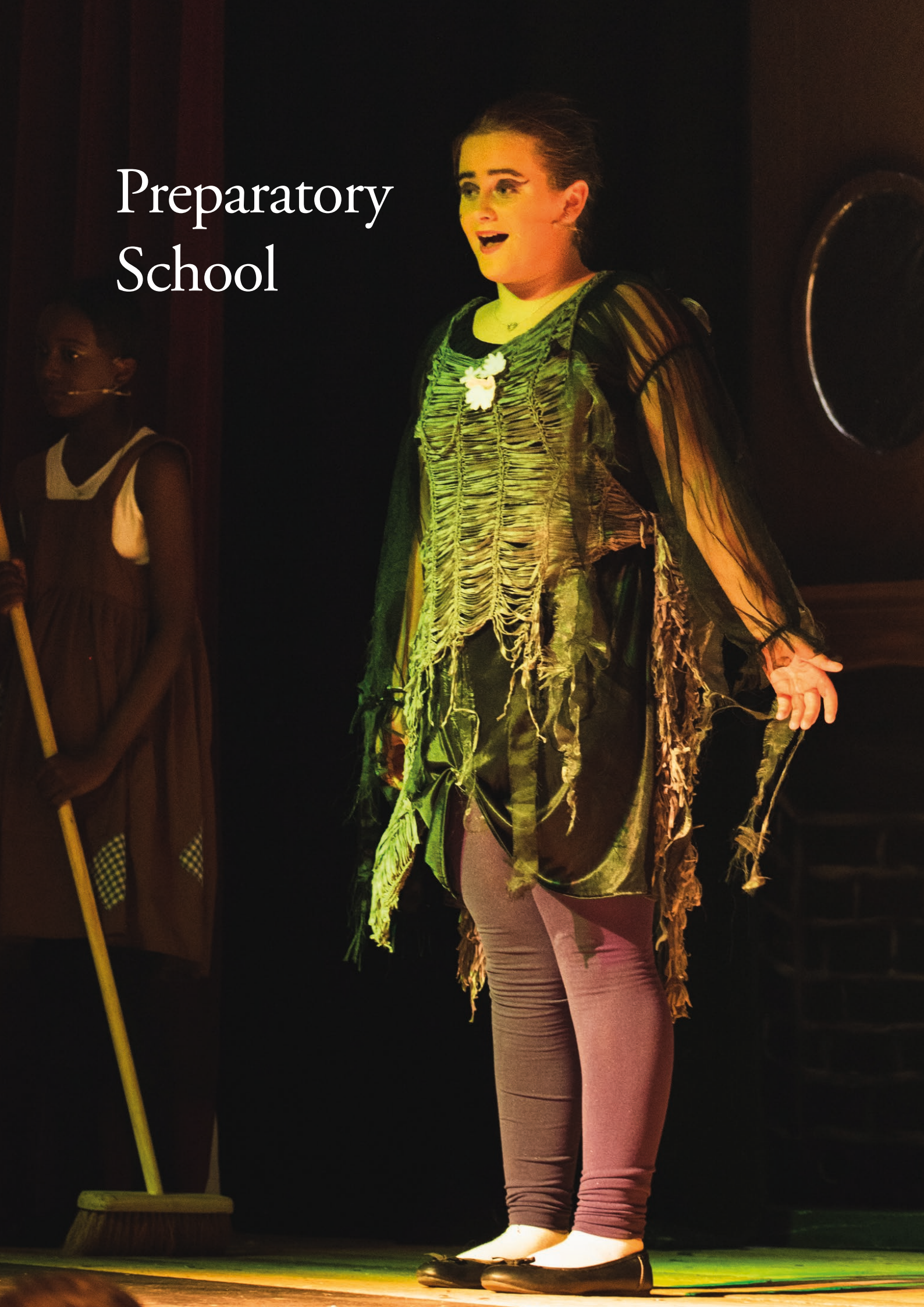
Firsts can be exciting, full of anticipation; they can also be nerve-wracking, full of foreboding and self-doubt. Yet, what I know for sure is that our young people, whether the youngest making their first performances, to our oldest who are about to embark on exciting new adventures, have been admirably supported by their teachers, every one of whom is committed to ensuring each of their pupils has the very best preparation for success.

The results announced later this summer will undoubtedly be a time when nerves will be tested, I have every confidence that our pupils have done their very best and have acquitted themselves impeccably. The results that they secure will lead to many more firsts, many new ventures, and a life that they have spent their time here at TC preparing for, supported by their TC family. I wish them all the adventures, happiness, success and good fortune that they deserve.

I hope you enjoy reading our Tettenhallian for this year. It is merely a snippet of the very many things that have taken place in 2021-2022. TC is alive, exciting, full of hope and ambition. We retain our character, we strive for opportunities for all, and we embrace every chance to be creative. TC160 is around the corner, I anticipate full of many more firsts.

Christopher McAllister - Headmaster

Preparatory School





Into the Woods

We have had some fabulous theatre productions this year and it has been a joy to have the Towers Theatre full again. Our Prep school production of Into the Woods featured nearly 100 children all in full costume and make up. Audiences were transported to a land of fairy stories and make believe. There were such high standards and fantastic performances; it was amazing, especially when you think how young the performers are.





Hats Off

Our youngest learners in Pre-Prep (Nursery to Year 2), also took to the stage for a joyous performance of 'Hats Off!'. Whilst the costumes and set design were marvellous, it was the confidence, enthusiasm, and participation of all our pupils that really made this such a wonderful occasion, as they delighted two capacity audiences full of proud mums, dads, grandparents and friends.

We know that these early experiences of performance are so formative and build such confidence.







Onatti Theatre

The Onatti Theatre company came to Towers with their production of 'The World's Gone French'. Pupils from years 3-8 were immersed in the French language and they gave this experience a five-star review!

Laches Wood 2022

Our pupils went off on their adventures to Laches Wood and were fantastic as a team, as well as showing individual resilience and tenacity.

Author Visits

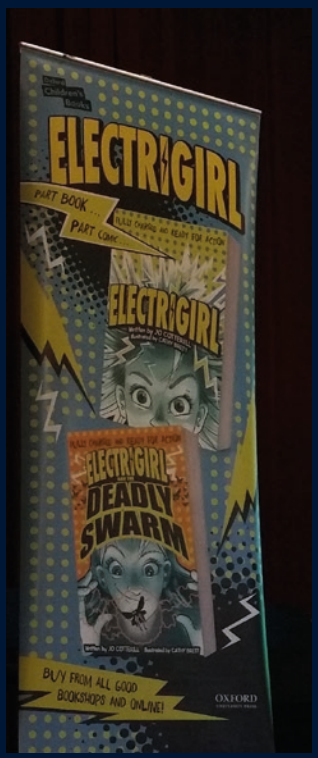
During the autumn term we had visits to the library from three different authors: Cat Weatherill, Jo Cotterill and Paul Dowdswell. Each spoke to a number of classes and signed copies of their books. It would be hard to pick a favourite as all three were engaging and inspiring and the children thoroughly enjoyed their visits.

The Photographs show how much fun they were.















Baking

Pupils across the prep school learn about food and nutrition, including how to make things. From pizza to gingerbread men.

Our Prep children are very creative and look after food for themselves and the birds! The photos show them baking their own gingerbread people as well as making and hanging bird feeders.







Crime Scene

The infants also got to investigate a crime scene after reading a note from the Gingerbread Man who had run away. Pupils had to work out who would try to eat him so that he could come out of hiding.







Bookmark Competition

As part of the World Book Day celebrations the pupils entered a competition to make their own bookmarks. The winners got to choose a book of their own as a prize.



Christmas 2021

Christmas is always a busy time with cards and letters to write, decorations to make and of course the fantastic Christmas theatrical productions.







Electrical Circuits

Our pupils learn about all sorts of things in science, but they always love making their own circuits as they get to learn all about electricity.



Forest School

This is an important part of our school life and our pupils have the fantastic grounds that surround our school in which to explore and learn. We are very blessed to have such a fabulous ready-made environment.

Even our pre-schoolers get involved in looking at nature and get to run around in our beautiful spaces.









Climate Heroes

Year 4 even became Blue Peter Climate heroes and received their green badges for their environment projects.



House Models

Year two pupils combined history with crafts when they made their own models of houses built after the Great Fire of London in the reign of Charles II.





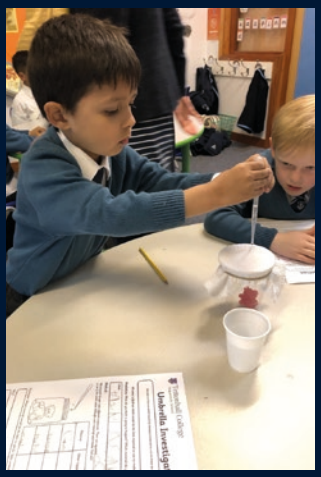




Umbrella

Who would have thought that prep school were hoping for rain when they tested their different materials for their water resistance.



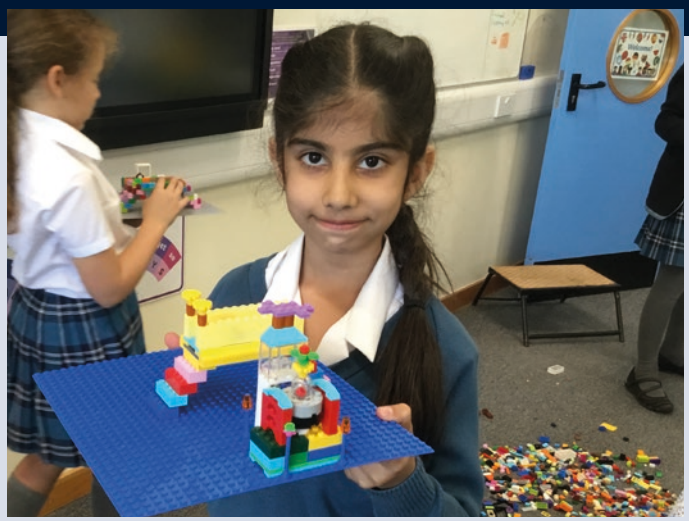




Lego Club

We have many clubs running throughout the school year. There is always something for everyone with an incredible range of activities on offer. One of our most popular is the Lego club. Here you can find prep children of all ages working and playing together.

Can you tell which photo is from earlier in the year and which is taken once they have gained more building skills?







Macmillan

Our annual Macmillan Coffee morning was a great success as usual. A huge amount of cake was consumed by all and we raised lots of money for local charities. We love it when our community comes together like this.





Poppies and Awards

Our pupils come together in our beautiful chapel on many occasions throughout the year with regular assemblies and the awards assemblies are always very special. Of course, in November we have our annual Remembrance services and pupils learn about the poppies and why we wear them.





Black History

As part of Black History Month our reception pupils produced some lovely work about kindness and about how we should treat those around us.











Scarecrows

We have very strong links with our community and our pupils have a tradition of taking part in the annual scarecrow festival in Pattingham. The children are shown with teacher Grace Williams and one of our governors Jill Parker. They had a wonderful day visiting Pattingham and seeing everyone else's contributions.

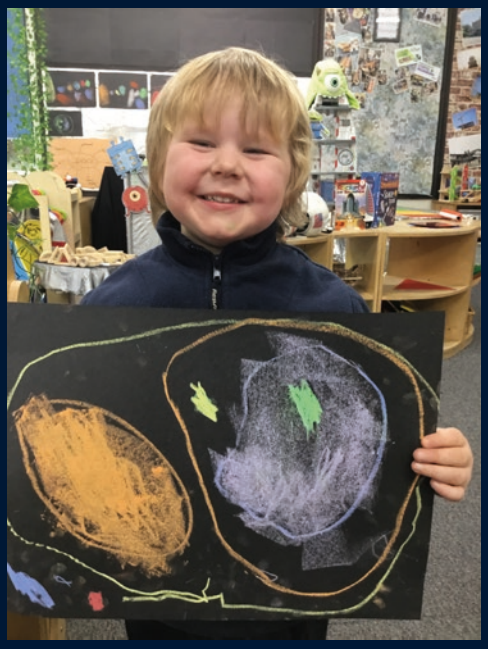




Space

Space is always a popular topic in prep school. As well as firing up their imaginations and learning all about planets, they get to exercise their creative skills.



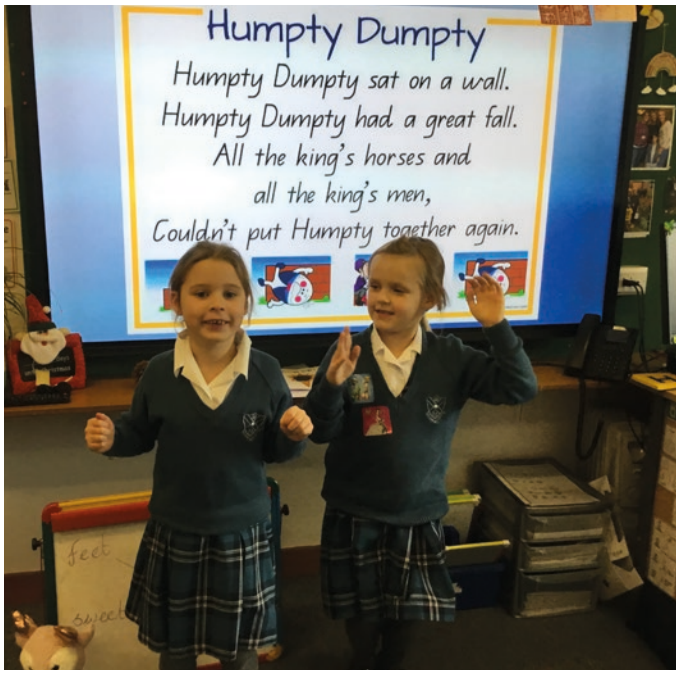




Story with Technology

We are always keen to use modern technology and here year 1 are using a programme that tells the story as they join in with their version.





Traffic Survey

Once again we are making use of our wider environment and community and taking advantage of the grounds and the lovely village of Tettenhall. Pupils complete surveys and create tally charts which is a fabulous way of learning mathematical skills.





Twycross

Trips and visits play a big part of school life and are often the truly memorable part for pupils. This trip to Twycross Zoo will certainly be memorable for the pupils as they got very close to some of the animals there.









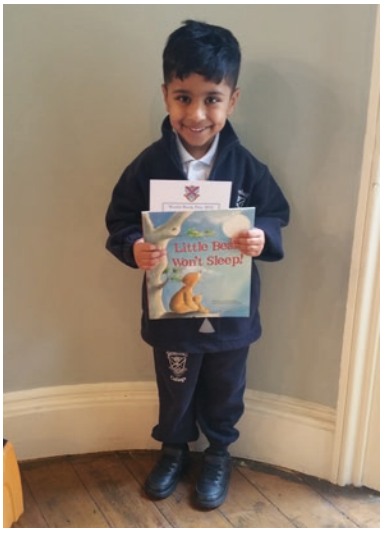
World Book Day

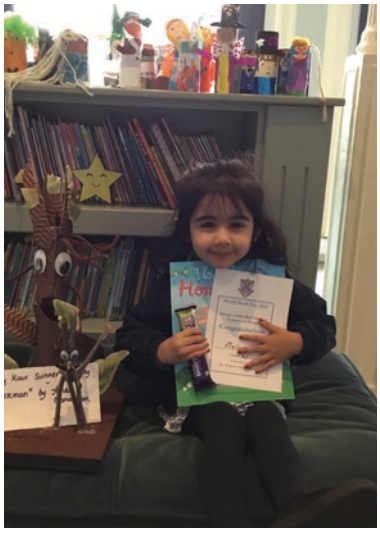
It is possible that the Prep staff like dressing up more than the pupils as they certainly go all out on World Book Day. The costumes are always impressive and once again the creativity of staff, pupils and parents shines through. This is particularly evident with the library challenge, which this year was to create a book character from an empty toilet roll. They results were displayed all around the library and were amazing.















Julia Donaldson

Our Library World Book Day competition winners got to venture into Wolverhampton to see Julia Donaldson speaking and performing. Our lucky winners also got to meet the Gruffalo and they weren't at all scared!



Problem Solving

At Tettenhall we teach our pupils to think and they really get involved when faced with a challenge.



Jubilee

Prep school celebrated the Queen's Jubilee even though the weather was a little temperamental during the day.

Towers lawn was awash with red, white and blue as pupils gave performances for each other and their parents. Liz Welch from the Friends of TC is seen here with students who entered the Parents Association competition.









Senior School

A-Level Results

Our annual celebrations were particularly heartfelt this year after such challenging times for our students. The results were terrific and we know our pupils will go on to great things.







Annie Musical

This year's musical was a classic and TC put on four fantastic performances, all with capacity audiences. These productions take a tremendous amount of effort by so many people, not least the pupils themselves.

The committed company, led by Miss Uttley, Miss Wood and

Mr Howard and comprised of pupils from Year 7 through to Year 13, delivered a magnificent, polished, heart-warming, entertaining and engaging production from start to finish.

Particular mention must go to both the student-led Theatre Tech team and also the terrific band which included many of our dedicated music teachers, who ensured that our talented cast were supported with high quality music, lighting and sound production.

The photographs give a flavour but cannot capture the magic of the performances which continued this long held tradition for superb productions in the wonderful Towers theatre.




































Fifth Ave









Art

ISA Jubilee Competition Winners

Jorgah in Year 12 and Charlie in Year 7 were both chosen as winners in the ISA Platinum Jubilee Art Competition.



Jorgah received a special mention for her imaginative response to the brief.

In the Wolverhampton City Council Jubilee Art Competition Farah and Evie in Year 8 came runners up in the 11-18 year old category for the Platinum Jubilee Portrait Competition.

They were invited to have afternoon tea with the Major of Wolverhampton and the other competition winners, at the Georgian Room inside Wolverhampton Art Gallery.

One of our OTs, Vicki Tran, gave an informative presentation about studying architecture at The University of West of England, Bristol. Students gained a useful insight into the course content and what life is like at University.







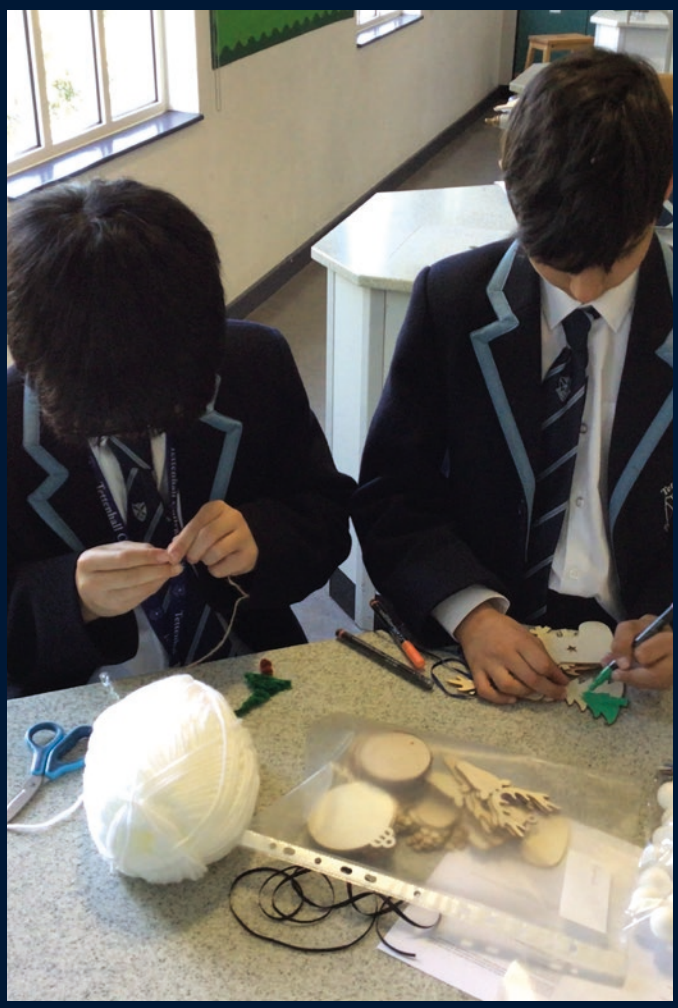


Art Competition

The annual Senior School House Art Competition had a new first this year, taking place at Lichfield Cathedral. The joint STEAM event between the science and art departments took place in November and tasked each House to produce enough decorations to adorn, embellish and decorate a 5 foot tall Christmas tree.

The pupils that contributed the most got to visit the Cathedral to decorate the tree and we must say, it looked fantastic!





Local Author visit - Lori Holmes



Most of our author visits are aimed at our younger readers so we decided it was time to change this. Local author Lori Holmes came in to talk to a group of sixth formers about her own writing and experiences as an author. Lori has had a series of books published. The Ancestors Saga is a 6 book fantasy romance series, combining mythology, metaphysical elements and adventure, to retell a lost chapter in the evolution of our own dark and forgotten past.

The talk was fascinating and was absolutely inspiring for a number of our budding authors.

Careers Fair

The now annual careers fair was attended by many pupils and all the stands were busy providing a wide range of information. If you would like to take part next year and feel that you have valuable careers' advice for our pupils, please do get in touch.





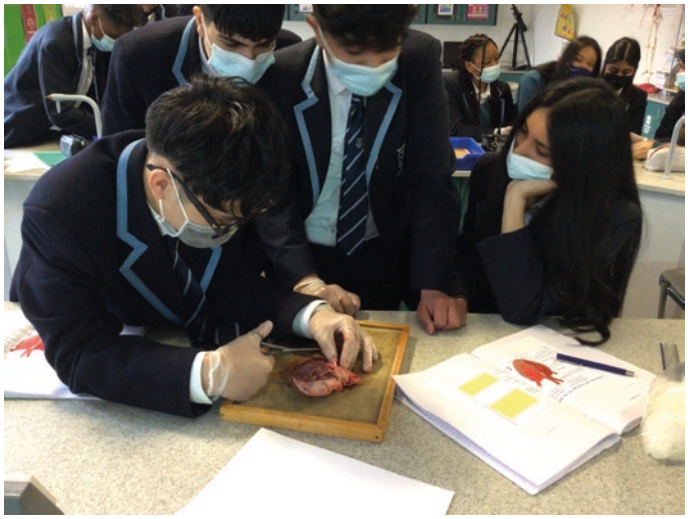


Heart Practical

In a Year 11 practical the pupils learnt about the structure of the heart and the causes of coronary heart disease.

Their specific focus was on atheroma and heart attacks.







Santa Run

This is always a fun event and quite a sight to behold. All the money raised this year went to Staffordshire Women's Aid to help women fleeing domestic violence. We also did a Christmas collection to donate presents to the children of domestic abuse.



International Women's Day

To celebrate International Women's Day we encouraged girls to pick one word that embraces all women.

We had some discussions about the difficulty of being a woman, inclusivity and the accomplishments of women. This linked in with the Women's Society we launched at school.



Fireworks

The annual TC Bonfire & Fireworks Event was an overwhelming success again with around 2,500 visitors. They not only enjoyed the bonfire and fireworks but had great fun on fairground rides, ate lots of artisan food and thoroughly enjoyed the evening.







Photography Competition

Every year we run the wildlife photography competition in conjunction with the British wildlife photography awards. The whole school is eligible to enter and here are some of our winning entries.





World Book Day

Various events took place across the school to celebrate world book day. In the library a group of competition winners received books as prizes, but they also enjoyed a fabulous afternoon tea. What was an absolute delight was to see how the group of a wide age range all chatted happily. They even practised holding their teacups with their pinkies extended!







Music

Throughout the year our Music department has gone from strength to strength. We were delighted when our joint preparatory and senior school choir won first place and a trophy at the Dudley Festival of Music.

Two of our Senior School A Level musicians, have been awarded top 3 places in the national ISA Music Composition Competition, 2022.

Arabella's (Year 13) atmospheric fantasy film composition was awarded second prize and the judge commented that her music demonstrated very effective cinematic writing with excellent use of instruments and fantastic use of mysterious sounding harmonies.

Jamie (Year 12) received a highly commended award for his composition which accompanied his own short movie, which was praised for being an effective and moving piece of music with its carefully crafted rises and falls in the tune.





Beatrice and Arabella, two of our sixth formers, are looking forward to careers in Performance Arts. Beatrice will be studying a Foundation Degree in Musical Theatre at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in Greenwich, London and Arabella has been accepted onto the Foundation Degree course at Guildford School of Acting (GSA), both very well-known training grounds for professionals working in the stage and screen industries. Both girls have been fantastic ambassadors for the performing arts during their time as Tettenhall College pupils.

We look forward to them visiting us to share their experiences in the future!

Arenare

We were lucky enough to have another piano recital by Alexander Arenare of Trinity College of Music. Alexander performed magnificently on our Broadwood Piano in Towers Theatre. This is a tremendous masterclass for our pupils and other audience members.



Christmas Concert

With great energy and excitement, over 70 pupils from Year 3 to Year 13 brought Christmas joy back to the Towers Theatre last Friday. The TC Christmas Concert 2021 featured many of our talented pupils performing solo, duet and ensemble pieces beautifully and with musical sensitivity. Larger ensembles included our Guitar Group, the TC Orchestra who played up a storm, and both the Prep and Senior Choirs singing their hearts out in what were increasingly ambitious pieces! Mr Howard and Mrs Lofting are extremely grateful for the commitment and passion of all the pupils involved, who really rallied in rehearsals to reignite live performances at TC following the difficulties of the last 18 months. Following the recorded event in our chapel last Christmas, it was a delight to be back in the beautiful setting of St Michael and All Angels Church, for the annual Carol Service on the last Monday evening of term. The Preparatory School participated in fine voice accompanied by wonderful smiles as they presented a variety of Christmas carols and worship songs, traditional and contemporary. They were assisted by the joint Preparatory and Senior School Choirs who warmly delivered mature, committed performances of Christmas choral pieces.

Thank you to the pupils and staff across the College who read eloquently and to Rev. Richard Reeve and Rev. Prebendary Dr G. Wynne who led us in our service.

Drama

It has been two years since Tettenhall College held their annual Christmas Play. We felt that joy was needed to grace the stage after such a difficult year and a half. Therefore, 'Daisy Pulls It Off', written by Denise Deegan – a comedy parody about Grangewood School, a girls' English boarding school set in the 1920s – seemed the perfect match.

A story filled with lost treasure, midnight feasts, hot water bottle fights, hockey matches and near-death cliff experiences, made the rehearsals just as joyous as the performance itself. The cast was led by Daisy, played by Freya H (Y11) getting into many scrapes with her best chum Trixie, played by Olivia O (Y9). Both girls produced energetic and nostalgic performances, reminding us of our own mischievous school friendships. A story about a girls' boarding school would not be the same without the notorious mean girls, played by Arabella Y (Y13) and Imogen W (Y12), who gave wonderfully comic performances, bringing the stage to life either with their Year 7 servants, melodramatic plotting or hysterical crying.

One outstanding performance that must be mentioned was the character of the Headmistress, Miss Gibson, played by James C (Y11). The characterisation was a challenge for James however he rose to this with perfection, donned with a pink two-piece to complete the look. Each cast member should be extremely proud of what they did on the stage to create a stunning piece of entertainment for the Tettenhall College Community.



Modern Foreign Languages

Pupils celebrated Día de los Muertos - a Mexican festival which celebrates the lives of loved ones who are no longer in the world of the living. Year 7 and 8 made fantastic masks to immerse them in the celebration. Prep School pupils also made a wonderful display.

In French, we have partnered with a school in Espalion, France and pupils have thoroughly enjoyed writing letters to their newfound pen pals. Pupils have filmed videos and spread cheer by sending Christmas cards.

We look forward to seeing this partnership flourish in the new year.



Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Despite the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme has continued to flourish.

We have been able to adapt our expeditions and pupils have continued to find ways to safely complete their skills, physical and volunteering sections.

We were finally able to complete the expedition for our 2019 and 2020 bronze participants, where 16 pupils navigated their way through the countryside around Wombourne and back to school. Unfortunately, camping was still not allowed, but the 2 day hike provided sufficient challenges and all our pupils showed great resilience and character, especially when a number 'lost their way'. Out of these 16, 7 have already signed up for their silver award.

This year, we have also had a record number signing up for their bronze award. Many of the 24 pupils have already completed their skills, physical and volunteering sections. They have also had a day of training in map skills and first aid, in preparation for their expedition which is due to take place over the weekend of the 11th and 12th June and we are all hoping for some decent weather!

Finally, it is pleasing to report that one of our past pupils, Lawson Billingsley, completed his gold award and will be going to Buckingham Palace later next month to pick up his award. (See our OT section for more details.)

Maths Awards

A number of our sixth form mathematicians took part in the UKMT Mathematical Olympiad for Girls and the UKMT Senior Mathematics Challenge with great results. Out of 9 pupils we had 1 Gold, 4 Silver and 3 Bronze certificates. Sara Momcilovic's Gold award meant that she was entered for the Andrew Jobbings Senior Kangaroo where she scored in the top 25% of all participants and achieved a Merit award which is a fantastic achievement.

We also had 58 of our Year 9 – Year 11 mathematicians take part in the UKMT Intermediate Mathematics Challenge with a number of pupils achieving a Bronze, Silver or Gold certificate. Junayd Asghar impressed us by achieving 105 marks out of a possible 135 and so was invited to take part in the Cayley Mathematical Olympiad.

Although many of the UKMT group challenges have not re-commenced yet, we were excited to take four of our budding year 10 mathematicians to the Maths Feast run by the AMSP at the University of Wolverhampton recently. They worked extremely well on some difficult questions and attempted them all with focus and determination. They completed four rounds which included code breaking, estimating heights of famous buildings as well as using their understanding of bounds and proportion. Trystan, Daniel, Maia and Katie had a great day and enjoyed their visit to the university.

Science

In physics, Year 12 students took part in the British Physics Olympiad with Sara Momcilovic securing a gold award and Tim Zheng securing a bronze. A group of Year 9 students have entered the STAAR Competition, which has involved them completing four STEM based tasks based around supporting a RAF aid mission to support a fictional country following a volcanic eruption.

In March, we celebrated British Science Week by hosting our Outreach event, welcoming ninety-seven Year 6 pupils from the Preparatory School and several local primary schools. The morning was a great success. Pupils were treated to an interactive science demonstration featuring colour changing chemical reactions, glow in the dark pigments, elephant's toothpaste, colourful flames and more. This was followed by a hands-on science workshop where pupils investigated the forces acting on a skydiver and a competition where they had to design the best fruit battery. It was great to see so many future Scientists enjoying a range of experiments and demonstrations.

Surgery



We have a fantastic healthcare team who care for the whole community here at TC. Hannah Rowley one of our fabulous nurses writes here about the surgery post Covid.

School life at Tettenhall College started to return to a more familiar format with the easing of covid lockdown restrictions over 2021. It was a pleasure to see the boarding houses come back to life again with the sound of our students and exciting to have our existing day students return to the college in person. The Surgery team were acutely aware of how difficult lockdown had been for many of our students and were conscious of the psychological impact this may have had on some of them and their families. We were faced with many different presentations of such consequences varying between different year groups. Examples of this included bereavement support for young people who had lost family members to Covid or other illnesses during the lockdown period. Students struggling with social integration/interaction with their peers after prolonged periods of social isolation and difficulties settling back into an education setting after enjoying being at home for a long period of time.

We had already been developing our wellbeing services in School prior to lockdown so the period following the easing of restriction enabled us to move towards embedding these incentives into college life. Services included Listening Hub – an appointment based listening service for students with the Surgery team on a 1:1 basis and



Ketchup club – a lunchtime incentive run by Surgery team providing activities for students who were finding socialising difficult and to help promote student interaction.

Our biggest incentive was the development of The Pod which started in Autumn 2022. The concept was to develop a calm space for students who needed support with their mental health and wellbeing. We were fortunate to secure some funding from Friends of Tettenhall College along with support from SLT to develop the room connecting to Surgery into what is now known as The Pod. This space has proved invaluable in providing a safe and nurturing environment in order to support the students at Tettenhall College.

Speech Day 2022

It was heartening to see so many of our community come together for Speech Day 2022, celebrating the very many achievements of pupils from Year 3 to Year 13.

Our guest speaker, Mrs Ema Swingwood OBE, spoke inspiringly about her experiences of TC, her work in the National Health Service throughout the COVID-19 pandemic as a clinical physiotherapist, and gave wonderful advice to our pupils.

We also listened to the most heartfelt, thoughtful and sincere speeches by our Head Prefects Anjali Sunsoa and Nikhil Gill, and also our Heads Prefects for Preparatory School Jael and Sahara.









Sport

Our Sports Day was tremendous celebration of the year of sport and brought the whole of the TC community together.

The results of the House Competition were as follows:

1st Nicholson

2nd Bantock

3rd Pearson

4th Haydon.















Girls' Sport

In the summer term we hosted the U13 and U15 ISA rounders tournaments in our beautiful grounds and welcomed over 13 schools. The U13 girls took gold and the U15 squad, silver, and throughout the whole event our girls performed with true TC spirit. This was bettered by our U9 and U11 squads competing at Stafford Prep in the ISA rounders and both squads took gold there. So the future is looking bright in girls' sport.

The successes on the rounders pitches have been the icing on top of a fantastic sporting year for girls. We have represented and featured in all major semi-finals and finals in netball. This started all the way back in September when the U16 netballers took silver in the ISA netball final. In March the U10s took bronze in their ISA netball and we saw top 10 finishes for Lydia M (Year 4) at the ISA cross country and Myah P (Year 5) and Izzy C (Year 4) in their ISA athletics finals.





Boys' Sport

We are continuing to see the popularity of fencing grow with more and more pupils taking part. This has been enhanced by the addition of the Modern Pentathlon, which includes swimming, laser pistol shooting and running with the fencing component.

As a regional hub for GB Modern Pentathlon, we are excited to see how this continues to develop.

Squash

Squash at Tettenhall College has grown in strength and scale once again this year. Senior School lunch time squash has seen some fresh faces and growing talent. TC now proudly has 3 Staffordshire Squash County champions at under 9, under 11 and under 13 level. Well done to Finlay B (Y4), Nathaniel G (Y5) and Jack A (Y8).

Congratulations to Y12 Squash Scholar Yasshmita J who was runner up in the Northern Crossby Open. This was an excellent achievement as she was successful in beating the world number 83rd player as she did this!

World ranked Malaysian squash player Yasshmita joined TC this year. In a matter of weeks, Yasshmita inspired our school squash players to improve their skills and she has also helped facilitate some of the squash academy sessions. It has been exciting for the pupils to be on court with such a talent.



Individual Successes in Sport

Scarlett W (Y10) headed off to the USA at Easter to represent England at the World Cheerleading Championships.

Eamonn D has only recently joined TC however, he is making a huge impression in the swimming pool as his recent successes at the Nova Centurian National Qualifiers demonstrate. Eamonn secured an outstanding 1st place in the 1,500m freestyle, and 3rd in the 50m freestyle.

William M qualified in 6th place at Bedstone College for the ISA national finals at Worksop College, where he backed it up with a 24th place finish out of 66 national runners.



We are exceptionally proud to report that Year 11 pupil Davina, is set to become the youngest player in 'The Hundred', having been signed by Birmingham Phoenix. The women's tournament took place in August.

Davina has already played for Central Sparks in this season's Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Trophy and she is part of the ACE Elite Programme, an initiative set up by former England cricketer Ebony Rainford-Brent which aims to develop young Black cricketers.

Davina said to Sky News: "It's a dream come true to have signed for Birmingham Phoenix this summer. To have the opportunity to train and potentially play alongside the likes of Ellyse Perry, Sophie Devine and Amy Jones is amazing and I can't wait to get going."

Davina trains tirelessly in pursuit of her cricketing ambitions, yet still maintains a commitment to Tettenhall College life, performing in drama productions and studying for her GCSEs. We are all so very excited to see what lies in store for Davina as she continues to push for more and more success.



Boarding

Boarding House Updates

Over the last year or so we upgraded our facilities in boarding.

The communal spaces in particular are fantastic and provide a place to congregate, cook, enjoy films or games and just generally relax.









Boarding Life

With weekly activities taking place, boarders are spoilt for choice when it comes to experiencing a busy and fulfilling programme each weekend. Our recent Oxford trip saw our boarders immersed in history and culture as they explored this beautiful city.

Over the year there have been many trips and activities. This included go-karting, paintballing, Drayton Manor theme park, Ghetto Golf and a trip to Birmingham's German Market.

In the spring the boarders enjoyed a fascinating trip to the Space Museum in Leicester. Boarders were able to climb inside space craft used through history from America and Russia. They also learnt about the race to the moon and famous space animals and astronauts.

At the end of the academic year life was very busy for our boarders with the whole boarding community visiting Alton Towers. As a celebration for the year there was a fun day with three inflatables, badminton and volleyball, followed by swimming in the evening and finished off with fire pits and toasting marshmallows. Great memories made by all.

This has wrapped up a hugely busy and successful year for boarding here at TC. With 95 boarding students living and studying with us from more than 22 countries, boarding enriches our school life in so many ways.











Old Tettenhallians

A new President

The Old Tettenhallians Club is thriving and we have been able to hold a few events this year after the restrictions of the last couple of years. In November 2021 after the Remembrance Service in the Chapel Chris Farnath (TC 73-83) was inaugurated as club President with Arun Photay (TC 98-02) as his deputy.









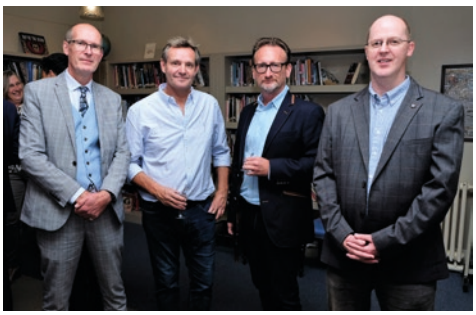
Old Tettenhallian Lecture

The annual lecture was reintroduced a few years ago thanks to the inspiration and drive of committee member, parent and governor, Andrew Wynne. The lectures have covered a range of topics and have been very successful.

Our Lecture this year featured Ema Swingwood OBE. Ema is the daughter of former staff member Andrew Mottershead and follows in her father's footsteps in being one of our guest speakers. Ema attended TC up to 1999 and she even went on to marry another former TC pupil, Michael Swingwood (TC 1995-2000).

Ema was an excellent speaker who captured her audience throughout. Ema gave us a fascinating insight into her world of Physiotherapy and the work that she has done during the Covid outbreaks. This was of such importance that Ema was awarded an OBE for her work and so we felt very privileged to have her join us. The lecture was informative and fascinating but also shocking and at times, extremely moving.







Remembrance service

It was lovely to see so many people at the service after only being able to broadcast in the previous year. As ever, the music was beautiful thanks to our Director of Music, Gareth Howard and our amazing pupils. The service was given by Geoffrey Wynne, with contributions from pupils of all ages. The flowers were kindly arranged by Mrs Diana Corns.





Photographic Exhibition

In February 2022 we held a '1980s Photographic Exhibition'. The photographs were dug out from our archives, but these were supplemented by photographs sent in by a number of our pupils. These were all displayed in the library and a buffet was served as our guests perused the collections. It was a joy to see so many people returning to the school to catch up with old friends. For some it was their first time back which made it even more special.











Annual Reunion

Our annual reunion in London took place at the prestigious RAF club in this year. This was thanks to Chris Farnath and his father who both have connections with the club. The guests chatted and admired the surroundings as we projected some photographs of the school from the past and present in the background. For some of the train journey home to the Midlands proved challenging again but the evening was well worth the effort.





Annual Summer Reunion and Barbecue

Thanks to our fabulous committee members and especially Gregg Spooner (TC 1997-2013), we were able to hold a very successful sporting weekend. The barbecue took place outside the coffee shop and this was not dampened when we were forced to take shelter inside the coffee shop due to a shower. Some of our current pupils provided a welcome backdrop of popular songs as we ate our way through a mountain of food. The food was provided by our fantastic catering team and was even more special this year as they had to contend with an exploding barbecue.













Catch ups!



Bob King

On 30th March 2022 OT Bob King (TC1940) celebrated his 100th birthday!
He is shown with the regimental goat!



Lawson Billingsley

Congratulations to Lawson Billingsley who recently went to the Palace to receive his Award. Lawson left TC in July 2020 and went on to read History & International Relations at De Montfort University after receiving 3 unconditional & 2 conditional university offers something Gold DofE supported. In Lawson's words "it sets you apart from the crowd".

After successfully completing Bronze, Silver & Gold Lawson patiently waited for the delayed presentation due to covid. He finally attended Buckingham Palace in May. It was a superb day, Prince Edward was the Royal Family Member & there were several guest speakers too who talked about what a difference achieving Gold had made to their lives & careers.

For anyone thinking of committing to the DofE programme, Lawson's my advice would be "absolutely go for it!" It wasn't always easy and with the Gold Award particularly, Lawson wanted to give up more than once, but with encouragement from his parents and school he completed it.

Lawson says
"That sense of self belief & achievement remains with me today & I am immensely proud to have been the only person from my cohort at Tettenhall College to have achieved it.

To give this some context only approximately 9% of those that start the DofE programme in the UK actually continue to attain the pinnacle of Gold! I am massively proud to be part of that 9%."



Harpreet Sandhu

In December 2021, it was announced that Harpreet Sandhu (at TC between 1991 and 1998) is to be appointed a QC by Her Majesty the Queen on the advice of the Lord Chancellor, Dominic Raab MP, following consideration by the independent Queen's Counsel Selection Panel. Harpreet was called to the Bar in 2005. He is based at No5 Barristers' Chambers and practices in criminal law. He prosecutes and defends in grave and complex cases. He has been ranked consistently by Chambers UK and the Legal 500 as a leader in his field. The Lord Chancellor presided over the appointment ceremony at Westminster Hall on 21 March 2022.



Lydia Taylor

Just a little update from Lydia Taylor nee Rawles (TC 98)

"Just prior to the pandemic, while taking time out of teaching, I started a fine jewellery business and appeared on Kirstie's Handmade Christmas (Channel 4), winning the category of best handmade Christmas gift. The episode can be found on All 4, 'Kirstie's Handmade Christmas 2019: episode 7'.

We are currently living in Cyprus, with our 2 young boys, after a move with the RAF. I continue to work as a freelance teacher and make jewellery for friends and family, when we are not busy exploring."





Claude Wong

I recently heard from the lovely Claude Wong (TC 74-79) about his recent three month adventure and he very kindly sent me some details and photographs. See below.

"Below is a short description with photo attachment on my journey to West Sumatera on board a ketch – "Always Saturday from March to May 2022."

YAAHOWU – greetings in Nias, one of the many islands we visited during the West Sumatra Rally, Indonesia. The rally has been an epic journey for me, being one of the 3 crews on "Always Saturday" under skipper Rex. We travelled over 3,000nm from Hong Kong across the South China Sea, passed the Strait of Malacca, visited islands along the coast of Western Sumatra in the Indian Ocean, through the Sunda Strait and witnessed Krakatoa's eruption, enjoyed the natural beauty at Belitung and Thousand Islands before finally stopping at Jakarta. It is adventure like this that inspires me in taking up sailing and to explore the world by boat! Next on the agenda, re-joining Always Saturday and sail from South Africa to Florida!"

David November

In response to emails about help with sport speakers for our scholars David November (TC 48-53) very kindly wrote a piece about his career and sport.
This was over a few emails so my apologies for my editing.

"Many thanks for the invitation - which certainly interested me - especially as I consider that Tettenhall College really prepared me for what followed in more ways than one -
e.g. - My father, the Catering manager at James Beattie's in Wolverhampton at the time decided that at 16 I had better leave TC and go to a Technical College in London to learn to be a chef firstly, and then to go on the Hotel Operations course there....I had also been a Boy Scout at TC so being sent to live in a hostel in Hampstead joined the local Senior Scout troop - and became a Queen Scout being presented, among many others, to the Queen Mother at Windsor Castle in 1957. National Service followed and I was fortunate to be successful in being WOSB'd to become an Officer in the Army Catering Corps for 18 months of my time in the army!!

Then into hotels and restaurants in London, Geneva, then London in 1961 again for another 20 years before someone head hunted me for a job as an Executive in a Hong Kong based prestigious Hotel Company until I retired from there in 1991.....!!

Retirement turned out to be somewhat different as my wife had bought us a farm when we moved to Hong Kong so we returned there to run it and a drug and alcohol Christian oriented rehabilitation centre for a further 10 years!!

I've just turned 85 and live quietly and peacefully with my wife, Margaret who is a year younger than me and not in great health, so we don't travel around much these days - and anyway we have a 20 year old young farmer looking after the farm, which has its moments!! Brian Oliver is the only OT I have heard about in recent years - he was then living somewhere in Gloucestershire, I think it was...!



Sport

Sport has played a big part in my life as I was active in various ways until we left Hong Kong in 1993.....

Most of my 30's and 40's I played field hockey, first in Ilford and later on at Hounslow mostly in the 5th Team and even sometimes on a Sunday, mostly as a full back, but sometimes as an inside forward. I lived in Hong Kong from 81 or so and stayed 10 years during which time I ran in races for the part of a Company I worked for, (Hong Kong Land but I worked for the hotel Company called Mandarin International Hotels as a Director, first Sales and Marketing and later for 5 years as the Operations Director for Asia and North America (But there were only 2 hotels there in NA!!)...!!). I played league squash in about the 5th Division (there were 6 divs!!) every week at the HK Sailing Club where I also raced a boat in the Flying Fifteen Class.....

At TC I played hockey, but I doubt I made the first team but would have had to play for my House - Pearson...?? However, after an exchange year in a hotel in Geneva I started to play hockey once more in Ilford after marrying and going to live there as I had a job in Tottenham Court Road that had an easy 'underground' connection to that area! When we next moved having had a baby to Twickenham (my wife that is.... had the baby...) I joined Hounslow Hockey Club and played in a variety of teams as they ran 5 men's teams on a Saturday and sometimes Sunday! I even played some hockey in Hong Kong after we went there cos of my job in 1983 or so.

However the game I learnt to play in my National Service time from when I was 19 and a half (due to my being a full time student until that July) was Squash - and I played Squash in London socially but in Hong Kong for a team of the HK Sailing Club that had courts and 5 or 6 squash teams in the Hong Kong Squash Leagues!!! I also owned and sailed a sailing dinghy in the Flying Fifteen Class - and one year made it to the HK Sailing Clubs team for the FF Worlds event - clearly not really influenced by my time at TC directly but the idea of playing in Sports certainly was!!

The 'other' part of my life undoubtedly influenced by my TC time was Music.....I had been the only Day Boy singing in the Chapel Choir - so even on Sundays pedalled my way to TC for the morning service!! A Scotsman, (Mr Vaughan...??) in the Sayers musical era taught me to play the violin, but not very well I reckon! In my last term I sang the solo in a work that Mr Malcolm Davy the then Music Teacher had decided was best suited to my voice.....but when I married in 1961 it was to a lady Music Teacher so.....as she became a member of the Hong Kong Bach Choir and eventually its Chair person, Choral Music became once more a feature of my life - that Choir was one of 3 that shared the opening of the then 'new' Concert Hall in Hong Kong in around 1990.....(?)

Mr Jim Baxter's influence on my future Scouting activities extended to all manner of subsequent happenings, including, undoubtedly my Commissioning in the ACC for the major part of my 2 years National Service!...but that's another story!!
All the best
David

So Sports and Music owes much to my early days - but not much mention of academic prowess - but I did win a National Competition for my Catering College in 1956 before starting my 2 years of National Service late that year!

I hope that's enough but our Christian life was also very important during that time so maybe that too needs a note!"

Obituaries

Alec Price (TC 1951-56)

Alec, a former farmer in Featherstone, Wolverhampton passed away in late 2021.

Martyn James (TC 1961-65)

Alec, a former farmer in Featherstone, Wolverhampton passed away in late 2021.

Gayna Mundy (TC 1982-84)



Gayna sadly passed away in early 2022. At school Gayna was a keen squash player and featured in many of our photographs in our 1980s exhibition.
Heather Walton wrote "Gayna saw all the photos from our recent 1980's photo reunion at TC a few weeks ago and I spoke to her briefly and we reminisced about our fabulous days at TC. She said they were the absolute best school days! We certainly had a laugh and great experience living away from home for the first time.
RIP Gayna a lovely girl and great friend.
As with all TC friends even when you may not see them regularly, they are never forgotten xx"
Photo shows Gayna and friends.

David Anderton OBE (TC 1950–58)

David passed away in April 2022. He was a solicitor but is probably best remembered as a chess Grandmaster, Captain of England Chess and President of the British Chess Federation. The photograph shows David playing all comers (and winning) at the most recent Chess Tournament in Towers Library.



David Price (TC 1960-67)

David passed away in April 2022.
He was a Postmaster in Wiltshire and later retired to Devizes.



Robert King (TC 1933-44)

Robert passed away in May 2022 having lived to celebrate his 100th birthday earlier in the year. Robert was the OT President from 1962-63 and was a long-standing committee member as well as a Governor until 1996.

Roger Page (TC 1950-59)

Roger passed away in June 2022. He had a scrap metal business in the Black Country. He was a great music lover and had a keen interest in history.

Douglas Pettinger (TC 1942-51)

Douglas lived a full life with a career in the RAF initially. On retirement he became the Bursar at Milton Mount School, Boscombe. Douglass passed away in June 2022.

Robert Pickering (TC 1953-61)

Robert was a local architect and a keen sportsman throughout his life. He passed away in June 2022.

Richard Dawes (TC 1942–52)

Richard passed away in July 2022. He had various businesses in garden machinery.

Graham Foulkes (TC 1945-50)

A former OT president from 2010-11, Graham sadly passed away in July 2022. Graham served on the committee until 2020 and was the organiser of the OT Remembrance Service for many years.

THE TETTENHALLIAN 2022

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