



TAUNTON
SCHOOL

Senior School COURIER

25th June 2021

#TAUNTONSCHOOL

THE CRUCIBLE



Arthur Miller's 'The Crucible' tells the haunting story of the Salem Witch Trials in 1692, where one small town was torn apart by lies, deceit and corruption. Brought to life spectacularly by the Sixth Form students on Wednesday 23rd June in the theatre and live-streamed, the play makes us question how far we would go in the search, or concealment, of the truth.

Based on real events, the play begins when Reverend Parris (Jamie Kent) discovers a group of girls dancing in the forest, led by his niece Abigail (Kara Klimczak-Gange). When Parris' daughter Betty (Lucy Beresford-Knight) becomes unexplainably ill, the

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...and more...

Next Senior Courier: 2nd July 2021

SENIOR COURIER

Head's Up: A busy half term of activity...

by Hayley Mortimer



The CCF and Outdoor Education department, lead by Mr Pring, started proceedings with Year 10 Activity Week and Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expeditions. The Year 10 cadets took part in a series of sectional activities with the Army going to Norton Manor Camp and the RAF and Navy taking part in sailing and high rope activities at Wimbleball Activity Centre. They all then had the opportunity to take part in adventurous training opportunities such as caving, coastering, climbing and gorge walking. I was delighted to see them in action both in terms of the sense of challenge and fun that they were all having, but also the resilience they showed overcoming fears and dealing with extreme heat for the majority of the week. All 83 of the Year 9 pupils involved in the expedition managed to complete their two day expeditions to the expected requirements. Some expected navigational challenges, but I hope a learning experience for many of them. Well done to all. The CCF has continued into this week with Field Day for Years 11-13. They have taken part in a field training exercise at Yoxter and taken part in shooting in range days.

The Sixth Form Production of The Crucible was outstanding. A high quality cast did not disappoint and it was lovely to have a smaller socially distanced audience. Well done to both the cast and Mrs Stamp who started rehearsals remotely during the spring term. And many congratulations to both Max and Philip who finished off their school drama careers with a phenomenal performance.

The Music Festival this week has been a real showcase of musical talent and versatility. The lunchtime concerts have been a welcome moment in the middle of the day to listen, relax and enjoy. Concerts focusing on vocals, solo performances, brass, piano and the string orchestra has really shown the depth and

breadth within the school community. I am looking forward to the Evening of Music being held on Densham Green this evening. Thank you to Mr Cracknell and the Music department.

The OT debate last week saw OT Joe Day come back to take on Hanna and Guido, this years Secretary and Second Secretary of the Burke Debate and Public Speaking Society and I must congratulate George and Kara who take on those positions in the next academic year. Good luck!

In sport, we have been able to continue the weekly fixtures programme and whilst we have had to adjust to the expectations of National Governing Bodies, I have been delighted to see so many pupils involved. Highlights for me have been a 5th XI Cricket team, a first in Taunton School history. The Meade King Cup being able to be held in person and being able to host some Netball and Hockey fixtures. We have some finals and cup matches still to play, so I wish those involved the best of luck.

I am of course looking forward to both House Athletics and House Swimming next week.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and the students for their commitment, creativity and effort in putting on activities and clubs through both live and remote education. It has been so important this year to be able to really cherish the fun and importance of all of these. Thank you all.

Hayley Mortimer

Assistant Head Co-Curricular and Outreach

CCF Activity Week, D of E & CCF Field Day

The full story will be featured in next week's Courier.



Continued from the front page

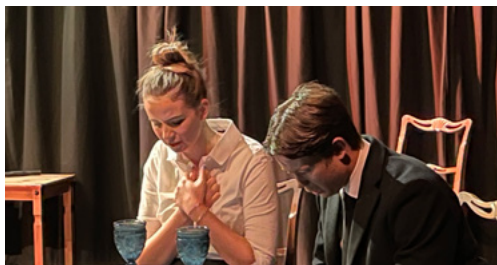
town begin to speculate as to whether witchcraft is involved. Spying an opportunity for power, Abigail and her friends (Esme Hallworth, Rosie Norman, Bonnie Kirk) claim that they have seen various townsfolk consorting with the Devil. Local farmer, John Proctor (Max Fletcher), firmly believes that the girls are lying, but has to battle with concealing his previous affair with Abigail and regaining his wife Elizabeth's (Francesca Leonard) trust. The arrival of witchcraft expert, Reverend Hale (Woody Knight), only escalates matters, as he appears to confirm the girls' experiences as instances of the Devil's work. Quickly, several Salem residents (Ilya Romanov, Verity Winsor) are accused of witchcraft, including Elizabeth Proctor. John must convince the court judges, Danforth (Phillip Pullicino) and Hathorne (Harry Leung) that the girls are lying, or else several people will be executed, including his wife. As the play reaches its climax, every moment counts in the fight to save the innocent.

The cast of 18 effectively portrayed the distinct characters; delivering confident and detailed performances which brought

the terror filled community to life. The simple yet effective set design allowed for slick scene changes and dynamic staging, helping to convey the ominous tone of the play. The lighting and sound added infinitely to the experience, and the opening video effectively set the mysterious tone of the piece. The use of voice overs also aided in creating a foreboding atmosphere.

Considering the immense challenges this production has faced due to the pandemic, including online rehearsals and social distancing, what the entire team have accomplished is extraordinary. Melanie Stamp's direction created a dramatic, intense and exciting performance. The magnificent cast, supported by staff behind the scenes and in the lighting box, delivered an unforgettable show that you will continue to think about long after you have left the theatre.

Lauren Ubertowski
Teaching and Learning Assistant



Meet Alex Rayner, Teacher of Classics and Latin

What is your job role and which age groups do you work with?

I am a teacher of Classics and Latin, and I work with years 7 to 13

When did you start at Taunton School and what did you do before?

I began at Taunton School this year in September. Before this I was completing my teacher training in Liverpool.

Who inspires you?

My parents were the ones who first drew me to teaching and I have always been inspired by their dedication to helping students achieve their greatest potential, no matter the circumstances.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

I most enjoy using my subject to discuss questions and problems still applicable to the modern day; broadening the perspective of students, as well as my own!

What do you find most challenging?

Currently I have found moving to a new place very challenging. I have moved away from friends and family, and during a pandemic it has been very difficult to lay down roots in a new place. Luckily, Taunton School has been very welcoming so it has made the move much easier.

How do you switch off from work at the end of the day?

I often go for a walk in the local park and read a book in the open air.



Quick fire questions...

- Favourite film
Howl's Moving Castle
- Favourite book
The Lord of the Rings
- Hobbies
Quidditch and Historical Medieval Combat
- Any pets?
Sadly, none.
- Favourite singers/bands
I am a big fan of Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd
- Favourite TV programmes/series
Vikings, Avatar – The Last Airbender
- Any claims to fame
I have played Quidditch at a European Level

Can you spare us some of your time?

Help us make Arts & Culture thrive in Somerset and join our team of volunteers today. There are opportunities available in all areas of the organisation, including Box Office, Front of House, Tech and Marketing. Our loyal volunteers pop up everywhere, making a huge contribution to the success of the theatre and having lots of fun along the way.

If you'd like to join a warm and passionate team and help support art and culture in Somerset, please email volunteers@thebrewhouse.net. We'd love to hear from you!

Taunton Brewhouse

**TAUNTON
BREWHOUSE**

The Senior Courier

Rotary Club of Taunton Vale

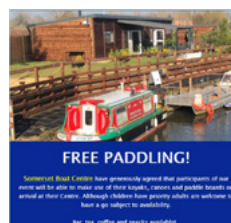
<https://tauntonvalerotary.org.uk>
hello@tauntonvalerotary.org.uk

The ROTARY Canal Challenge
4th July 2021

CYCLE | WALK | PADDLE
Raising money for Nightstop, Young Somerset
and other Rotary Charities



Rotary Club of Taunton Vale



FREE PADDLING!

Somerset Boat Centre has generously agreed that participants of our event will be able to make use of their canals, locks and ponds located on land at their Centre. Although children from primary schools are welcome to join as an subject to availability.
For the safety and security of all.

Taunton Vale Rotary Canal Challenge

....the entire length of the Bridgwater and Taunton Canal

Date: Sun, 4th July 2021

Venue: Start at Firepool Lock, Taunton

Finish either Maunsel Lock (7 miles) or Bridgwater Docks (14 miles)

Entry: £5 adult, U16 FREE

**EMAIL US FOR
MORE INFO**

Our Canal Challenge is a family fun **Cycle Walk Paddle** to the Sun and beyond... it is aimed at getting us all together and raising money at the same time.

- Shuttle bus service back for **walkers** from Maunsel Lock and Bridgwater Docks.
 - Safe road route home provided for **cyclists** wanting to cycle a Loop.
 - **Paddlers** exit at Somerset Boat Centre. Parking and turning available for buses and trailers.
- Donate today or find out more about our Rotary Charities including [NightStop](#) and [Young Somerset](#).

Somerset Boat Centre

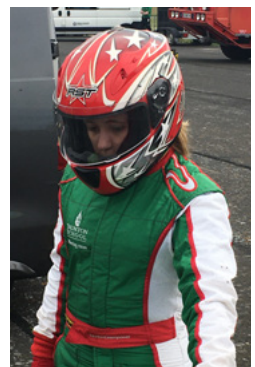
Rotary

Green Power Race

This Wednesday, the senior Green Power team took a team of six with two staff members down to Preddanack Airfield. The team consisted of three drivers, Meg Pocock (Yr 9) Laura Assanti (Yr 12) and Rosie Norman (Yr 12) and three further mechanics Sophie Chant (Yr12) Yousaf Khan (Yr13) and Daniel Aziz-Hendrick (Yr12). After two years of working, the car was ready to race again. After a rocky start to the morning the drivers took to the track and completed five practice laps each to get prepared. All going smoothly and the car ready to go. Race one rolls around, and we are lined up to start. The piston goes however the car doesn't move, with a quick once over the mechanics had diagnosed and fixed the issue just in time for the second race, such a relief. The team decides that it isn't over, and we just have to prepare for race two, with Meg Pocock in the driving seat the team claws from last to 8th, a huge achievement compared with race one. With a quick switch and change of batteries, Rosie Norman is now in the

seat with the determination she works through electrical problems to achieve 5th on the leader board. With another speedy fix by the mechanics, the car is ready to go again. We all knew with a huge push we could get on the podium. The final race was completed by Laura Assanti, with the aggression and determination of the whole team, she raced amazingly, and travelled up the leader board going from 5th to 2nd . With two years off, this was huge for a freshly formed team. At the end of the races, we had no clue where we have placed. To our surprise the team received 2nd place prize in our category. After an amazing day out we all wanted to thank Mr Bough and Mr Gush without whom the day wouldn't have been possible. With special thanks too Mr Bough for his dedication and continued support over the last five years.

The Green Power Team



Of the Club, the solstice, Morris dancers and croquet

A group of intrepid Club members met in the Parade Ground at 4am on Monday morning to go and celebrate the summer solstice at the Seven Sisters, atop the Quantocks. The eerie mist, out of which Cathy and Heathcliff appeared certain to materialise at any given moment, made for an atmospheric sunrise – not that anyone could see the sun actually rise. We did, however, espy the Taunton Deane Morris Dancing side; stalwarts of this occasion, they put on a spirited – if somewhat Covid-limited – display which included a stirring solo performance by Barry to earn his ribbons. This local side, formed in 1973, base their dances on tunes gathered in Somerset in the early C20th by the great folk collector, Cecil Sharp, and play a wonderful role in maintaining the English tradition of Morris dancing which dates back to the C15th.

Covid – rather than a ban ensuing from the sorry exhibition provided by our own Hapless Jack a couple of years ago - prevented Club members from clashing sticks with the Morris men this year. However, led by Ben Jackson who was goaded into action by Mrs. Marsden, a pleasingly imaginative and eccentric dance of our own was fashioned, much to the approval of the experienced onlookers who sensed recruiting potential and the introduction of a new youth policy.

It was unfortunate that the Club's bagpiper-in-residence, Floriana, was unable to be present – she had rehearsed a piece especially for the occasion and the weather would have provided

perfect conditions for a moving rendition. The good news, however, is that she has been invited to participate next year and the Quantock ponies, lost in the mist this time around, have promised to attend.

As we descended, we did in fact spot the sun and could confirm that it had, indeed, risen to herald the start of the longest day. In good spirits, we returned to school for the annual croquet competition. Modesty forbids me to announce the winner but highlights included the head boys' team of Ben and Dan going sadly off piste and disappearing towards the cricket square and east Devon; pride of place, however, goes to Woody, Kara and Hamish, who spent ages trying to sabotage others only to be hoist by their own lamentable petard when an errant shot from Woody saw them disqualified, thereby saving Mark and Lizzie from ignominy and shame and allowing Evie and Nathan to grab second place.

Undaunted by their trials and tribulations with mallet and ball, the energetic Club members disappeared after breakfast, ready to eagerly participate in such activities as D of E and CCF and test their stamina to the max. As the Club motto has it:

Sapere Aude!

Mark Chatterton
Head of History



Biology Challenge

Earlier this term, eight students from Years 9 and 10 were selected by their respective Biology teachers to take part in a Biology Challenge, run by the Royal Society of Biology. Students were selected on the basis of their core ability in the subject and more importantly the genuine interest that they have shown in Biology throughout their time at Taunton School.

To prepare for this challenge, the students met with me for discussion and activity sessions in the lead up to the event. In these, the students engaged with recent biological articles, research and media in order to broaden their understanding of the subject and to stretch and challenge themselves in the subject. Topics which were chosen by the students ranged from the development of a vaccine for malaria through to unlocking the principles behind dihybrid inheritance. They then had a session practising the multiple choice style questions which feature in the challenge itself.

It was excellent to see these students push themselves beyond the GCSE syllabus in these sessions and I hope that they gained plenty of insight from the experience. I am pleased to announce that all of them passed the challenge and particular mentions must go to the following:

Jack Bollom - Silver Award (Top 14% of over 25,000 students)

Joe Taylor - Bronze Award (Top 28%)

Szymon Wyrozumski, Carl Chen and Erin Lisowski - Highly Commended

Aashiya Gurung - Commended

Mr Dempster
Teacher of Biology

Hickstead Qualifier Mark 2

Last Sunday the TS Equestrian Team ventured out again to qualify for yet another Hickstead outing. This time the team were vying for places in the prestigious Show Jumping event set to take place this August and I'm pleased to report they did us proud once again. In the 70cm class, Jess Miller, Poppy Treanor, Sophie Day and Florence Legg placed 3rd as a team, with Jess Miller coming both 2nd and 3rd on two different ponies. Jess has actually qualified for Hickstead as an individual on a pony who shares her name and belongs to her sister!

In the 80cm Emily Miller did amazingly well to come first and qualify herself for Hickstead. We wish the sisters well for their outing in August! The 80cm team consisted of Poppy, Florence and Sophie again and all jumped well on this big course. There were

some very impressive rounds from riders in the 90cm team too. Tilly Jacoby-Kelly, Hetty Holden, Cecilia Fawden and Poppy Treanor did well to place 6th overall as a team. Tilly rode a great round to place 5th and Hetty came in 12th with Emily just after her in 13th place as an individual.

Our riders are dominating these events with increasing frequency. A second Hickstead qualification in a year is impressive and next year we have plans to implement regular team training so I suspect there will be even more rosettes coming our way!

Kate Walters
Head of Educational Progress



School Uniform Shop

During Term Time:

Monday 8am – 2pm

Tuesday 10am – 2pm

Wednesday 10am – 2pm

Thursday 10am – 2pm

Friday 10am – 2pm

1st Saturday of the month 8.30am –
12.30pm

We are also very happy to take orders and payment over the telephone and deliver to a student's area of the school, if parents find visiting during these hours difficult.

Nancy O'Carroll, School Shop Manager

Nancy.OCarroll@tauntonschool.co.uk
- 01823 703165

Summer Opening Hours

Wednesday 14 July - 10am - 2pm
Wednesday 28th July - 10am - 2pm

Thursday 5th August - 10am - 2pm
Friday 6th August - 10am - 2pm
Tuesday 10th August - 10am - 2pm
Wednesday 11th August - 1pm - 5pm
Monday 16th August - 10am - 2pm
Tuesday 17th August - 10am - 2pm
Thursday 19th August - 1pm - 5pm
Tuesday 24th August - 10am - 2pm
Wednesday 25th August - 10am - 2pm
Thursday 26th August - 10am - 2pm

Wednesday 1st September - 10am - 2pm
Thursday 2nd September - 2pm - 6pm
Friday 3rd September - 10am - 2pm

Monday 6th September - 10am - 5pm (this day will be very busy with International boarders arriving, please try to visit sooner, if possible!)

Normal shop hours resume from Tuesday 7th September

Please contact us to make an appointment if you require a full kit out, we usually allow 30mins per child. If the shop is closed, the main School Reception can book an appointment for you. Thank you.

National Boarding Week

In celebration of #NationalBoardingWeek, our Senior School boarding houses have been taking part in inter-house sports tournaments every evening.

So far this week, there's been tennis, dodgeball, volleyball and frisbee and rounders is still to come.



SPORT

Tennis

Boys' Tennis vs. King's Taunton, away

1st VI won 9-0

2nd VI won 7-2

1st VI

On Saturday 12th June Taunton School 1st Tennis Team went to King's on the hottest day of the year. Having beaten them well at home a few weeks earlier, despite captain Joni Shaw unavailable through injury and Ollie Drummond on England hockey duty, the team still felt confident to turn King's over again. Our 3rd pair was Ollie Edwards and Vaughn Julyan who won all three games in a fine display winning their sets 6-0, 6-2, & 6-3 which got us off to a good start. 2nd pair Teddy Woolstencroft and Sammy Pratt won 6-0, 6-2, 6-1 displaying an encouraging performance and our 1st pair showed us how it's done with Jack Brimm and Leon Perdakaris securing emphatic victories 6-0, 6-0, 6-0. Overall great display of performances and a great day of tennis at King's.

Teddy Woolstencroft

2nd VI

On Saturday afternoon the Tennis 2nd Team played with confidence and enjoyed 9 sets; winning 7 of them. Ollie Tucker and Freddie Salter-Green won all 3 matches and conceded the least amount of games. Seb Dean and Ed Cousins played well across all 3 matches along with Shin Kawagoe and Basille Didier who won all 3 matches as well. To conclude the 2nd team finished with a convincing win and played confidently and together as a team. Thank you to Mr Tarr who was supporting us the whole time.

Seb Dean

Boys Tennis vs Wells Cathedral

1st VI Won 6-0

On Saturday 19th June, Taunton School boys 1st XI took 4 players to compete against Wells Cathedral School in a singles and doubles format. In the doubles, Jack Brimm and Vaughn Julyan battled to win a first set tie break, then cruising through the second set to win 6-5 6-2. Sammy Pratt and Teddy Woolstencroft fought through a hard first set but also cruised the second to win 6-4 6-2. In the singles, Jack Brimm won comfortably 6-3 6-3, Teddy won a tight tie break to win his game 7-6 6-2, Vaughn won comfortably 6-3 6-2 and Sammy won some long deuce games to win 6-4 6-4. All round a good day of tennis on what was a pretty miserable, wet day!

Sammy Pratt

Blundells and West Buckland

Senior Girls

1st VI & 2nd VI combined

This was our first triangular fixture of the term against two very competitive schools. Using the FAST4 scoring format, each team was competitive from the start. After some great tennis, the combined Taunton school teams came out on top winning the overall tie with 24 wins, West Buckland 16 wins and Blundells 13 wins. It was great to see so many students playing tennis and enjoying themselves. Next up is our regular triangular vs Kings College and Kings Bruton.

3rd VI

Taunton 3rd VI faced West Buckland in their first fixture back after half term. This was the hottest match of the year so far and was challenging for both teams. The first match saw two out of three wins for Taunton with a very impressive score of 6-0 from Rosie and Imogen. The second match for our pairs was more challenging and lead the scores to be even at three games each. The final round of matches would be the decider. A win from our second pair, Esme and Kara with a convincing 6-1 left Taunton needing one more win. The deciding point came down to Laura and Fran on their final point of the game in a very close tie break point. Fran and Laura successfully won this final point for Taunton to take the win. Well done to the girls for their hard work and great display of tennis in very hot conditions! Final score Taunton 5 – 4 West Buckland.

U15 A

The U15A team faced some strong opposition in a closely-contested triangular fixture against hosts West Buckland and Blundell's. It was good to be back out on the courts after the half term break, with the excellent weather enhancing the experience. The Fast Four format took a little while for everyone, including the staff, to get used to but there were some excellent rallies and highly quality tennis on display. With rounds differing in length and each school recording a spread of wins, draws and losses, it was too close to call an overall result but an enjoyable afternoon was had by all.

SPORT

Tennis

Blundells and West Buckland

Senior Girls Continued

U15 B

The girls enjoyed a road trip to sunny Devon to showcase their tennis skills in a triangular tournament. Throughout the day there was some fantastic tennis displayed, a keen competitive edge and some fantastic sportsmanship. Well done to all for powering through in the heat. A draw was a well earned result from all the players involved.

U14 A

Despite the soaring heat and long journey time, the U14A tennis squad rose to double victory this weekend in a triangular fixture against both West Buckland School and Blundells School, hosted by West Buckland. Throughout the afternoon, the U14s showed their capability to focus on the game and demonstrate some high level tennis - even with the bright sun interfering with their ability to see at times. They all played with determination and confidence as they worked fantastically with their partner to secure the win. After 6 played by each of the pairs, 3 against each school, Taunton were crowned winners after an 8-1 win against West Buckland and a 7-2 win against Blundells. Well played ladies!

U14 B

We had a really successful afternoon's tennis where the girls seemed to enjoy every match and there was plenty of laughter on court. The weather was perfect for tennis and the girls played with increasing confidence as the afternoon progressed - their volleying seemed to be particularly strong. The girls were good at placing many of their shots both from the net and from the back line. The most exciting match was Poppy and Izzy's final match where they had to work hard for every point but this made their win all the more exciting.

Shaun Carroll
Director of Tennis Taunton School
LTA Performance Coach

Kings College and Kings Bruton

1st VI

Another great all round team performance from the 1st team girls in what was their final external fixture of the term. Flora, Isla and Zoe have set the standards incredibly high for next year's teams, have been an example to all and will be missed.

The future is very bright and with 2 terms of pre season I'm sure next summer will continue our reputation as one of the leading tennis schools in the South West.

2nd VI

This week, it was a triangular with Kings College and Kings Bruton. The girls were once again on good form and keen to play. There was some tough opposition from both schools but we dug deep and played consistently across both the first and second Teams. There was the inevitable tie-break from Maddy Marsh and Issy Hogevoold but they were joined this week by a few others - indicative of how close the fixture was. The final result was a second place for both the first and second teams with Kings College winning the first team fixture and Kings Bruton winning the second. It was fabulous to see so many girls out playing great tennis and having fun at a very busy point in the term. A big well done to all involved

3rd VI

Taunton faced Kings College and Kings Bruton in their first triangular match of the season. Matches were played in a Fast 4 format with sudden death deuce, meaning no advantages or second chances. Taunton were slow to warm



SPORT

Tennis

up, allowing King's College to take the first round overall, however, going into the second round some very impressive scores from all 3 pairs put them in a good position moving into their next few rounds. Kings Bruton had strong volleys that were tricky to return causing both Taunton and King's College to struggle to keep up with their win rate. As we were nearing the end, Taunton pushed King's College right to the end and won their rounds to ensure they placed 2nd overall. A fabulous effort from all three pairs and successful afternoon. Well done all!

U15 A

The U15A team completed their season with a good win against King's Bruton, with second pair Hannah Gooding and Elektra Perdikaris enjoying their afternoon and recording convincing 6-2, 6-1, 6-0 victories against their opponents.

The same squad has played in all this term's matches and have faced some tough opposition (and awful weather) at times but everyone should be congratulated on their persistence and positive response to coaching guidance.

U15 B

What a fantastic way to end the season with the might U15B team demonstrating just how much their technical and tactical ability have progressed this season. Bella and Charlotte as 1st pair triumphed winning all 3 of their games 6-4, 6-3 and 4-0. Hetty and Anya as a dynamic duo won 2 out of 3 of their games, including against the opposition first pair. Finally Jana and Amelia had a lot of fun and played superbly winning against the opposition first pair and narrowly losing in a tie-break to the second pair. The fixture was won by Taunton overall 6-3. A great way to finish the season, thanks to the girls for all they have contributed and their outstanding attitude throughout.

U14 A

The girls played a number of difficult matches, not least because the King's team comprised of pupils from both Years 9 and 10. For our second and third pairs, their final matches were the closest and most challenging so it was particularly pleasing that we won these, with Sofia and Lizzie winning on a tie break. Some focused play alongside strong volleying allowed us to win overall. Alyssa and Lucy played together for the first time this term, winning two matches comfortably but losing their last match. The girls played with lots of determination and a range of tactical shots.

Shaun Carroll
Director of Tennis Taunton School
LTA Performance Coach

Boys regional tennis final vs Millfield

On 22nd June, Taunton School tennis boys 1st team took Jack Brimm, Vaughn Julyan, Sammy Pratt and Ben Mason to Millfield School to compete in the regional final of the National Schools Glanville Cup. With this being the best ever showing for Taunton School, spirits were high going into it. 2 doubles matches and 4 singles were played and Millfield came out to win 5-1 overall after 6 close games which were flattered by the scores. The boys put in a good effort and have shown very good potential for the years to come with a young side. All round a tough day at the office but showing brilliant grit to persevere and fight through the day.

Sammy Pratt (captain)



SPORT

Swimming

Record Breaking Performance From Taunton School

Meade King Cup

The latest Meade King Cup held at King's College saw Taunton School finish 18 of the 27 races in first place. The swim team were clearly excited to be racing as a group again.

Taunton School captained by Jonny and Freya took 4 of the 6 trophies on offer (after some disqualifications).

Chloe set the tone in event 1 setting a new record (34.67) in the 50 breast as well as lowering the girls 50m freestyle record set by to 27.55. This set in motion sequential records in both the U15 relays, as the boys team lowered the 4 x 50m record and the girls matched that lowering their respective relay.

Hayley Mortimer, Director of Sport at Taunton School said "many of the swimmers were having their first experience of competition for a long time, so whilst it is fantastic to see them swimming fast, but what was more important was seeing them support and interact with each other as a team. It has been hard to do these events during CoVid and we are grateful that the event, which means so much to all the students was able to take place."

The Meade King Cup is a unique event locally with a long history that each of the 4 competing schools take pride in. It is competed for annually with great rivalries built up over time as the momentum shifts between schools but always within the correct spirit of school sport! Taunton School would like to thank Kings College for taking on and hosting this wonderful event this year under challenging circumstances with great success and congratulate all the schools for coming together to again celebrate another fine chapter of this historic event.

Hayley Mortimer

Assistant Head Co-Curricular & Outreach



SPORT

Netball

Netball 1st VI v Wells Cathedral School

After an unprecedented and short netball season, Taunton played their final match against Wells Cathedral School. For our Year 13's this would be their final time in a Taunton School netball dress. The girls took the court in great spirits and from the first centre pass, took control of the game and lead at half time Taunton 12- 8 Wells. Taunton opened up the court allowing space for strong drives and fast flowing netball. Substitutions made Wells rethink their tactics but Taunton continued to dominate and great defensive pressure, leading to impressive interceptions and further opportunity to increase their lead. The final quarter saw our year 13's, Flora, Isla, Freya, Zoe, Izzy and Tia dominate the court and finish their netball at Taunton school on a high. Freya Chandler was greatly missed due to injury. Final score Taunton 30 – 17 Wells. We are very thankful for all their hard work and dedication to school netball. We are excited for their future netball endeavours and success and wish them all the best!

Sammy Kemmish
Netball Coach



SPORT

Cricket

Millfield Match Scores

1st XI Taunton 299-3 Coston 110 not out Small 69 Hockey 60

Millfield 226 - 9

2nd XI Millfield cancelled in the morning as could get a team

3rd XI Taunton 202 Millfield 153 - 4

15As County Cup Taunton 119 - 7 Mason 44 DuPont 43

Millfield 120 - 2

15Bs Millfield 223 Taunton 137

15cs Taunton 79-8 off 20 Millfield 80 - 1

14As Taunton 113 - 7 Millfield 114 - 3

14Bs Taunton 144 - 9 off 20 Millfield 131 - 6

14Cs Taunton 98-9 off 20 Millfield 100 - 3

Millfield Report

Within the senior teams there were very good results but in the juniors matches Millfield strength in the batting department definitely shown through. The first team won the toss and batted on a gorgeous day on the Front. Ben Coston and Adam Small put early pressure on the Millfield attack with a stand off 128. The first loss was Adam Small for a well constructed 69. Jacob Hockey then joined Ben and they created the second very good partnership of the day, they made 127 between them before Hockey went for 60. Ben Coston continued to add runs to his personal total as he finished unbeaten on 110 as Taunton amassed 299. Millfield started the response well getting to 57 before the first wicket fell to Henry Weatherill. The combination of Alfie Macdonald, Max Fletcher and Joleigh Roberts created a lot of pressure backed by excellent fielding. Alfie was the main beneficiary from a wickets prospective as he took 5 for 32. Rhys Appleton got the last wicket after two run outs were gained as Taunton finished comfortable winners. The second team match was cancelled as Millfield but fortunately the 3rd XI had a match. Batting first Taunton set a fast tempo with Charlie Shave striking many boundaries before retiring on 52. Following Charlie was Barnaby Webber who matches

his striking with a quick fire 50, this meant Taunton scored 202. Millfield's response was controlled by a tight spells from Ben Jackson, Calum Pinn, Matt Brown, Jonny Cole and Rowan Keyte. As wickets were shared this resulted in 49 run win.

The under 15s were in the county cup match at Millfield. Taunton elected to bat and made a very good start getting to 83-0 off 12 with Logan DuPont (43) and Ben Mason (44) playing well but they departed close together but unfortunately Taunton fell away finishing with a competitive 119. The Millfield innings took a similar path but for the wide count which didn't help the run rate as Millfield got to 60 for no loss off 10. Then two wickets fell but unlike Taunton they recovered a record a win with 10 balls remaining. All the others matches were competitive and amazing that all teams batted first bar the 15Bs. The Millfield batting was strong and they amassed a high total of 223, again helped by the wide count. In response the batters faltered and a loss was incurred but Seb Malley, Ethan Salvador, Vadim and the newly promoted Daniel Webber add good resistance. The 15C's team fought hard against a good Millfield bowling attack, the best contributions coming from Max Mitchell, Orlando Cairns and Jack Buttler. Taunton made Millfield work hard to obtain the score which they did but not after an excellent team run out and a wicket for Jordan Koatsa and Max Mitchell. In the 14 the same trend with Taunton making competitive scores but Millfield chasing them down. The 14A's innings never got going and without a significant contribution from anyone they only made 113 - 7. Again tight bowling, especially by the spinners, backed by good fielding meant Millfield had to work hard to get the runs but they didn't lose wickets which meant they gained victory by 7 wickets. The 14Bs had a cracking match with Sam Davies carrying on with some fine form making 44, he was assisted by Brooke Olivia-Whittaker and Sam Billings. This meant 144 was achieved, Millfield started well but were pegged back by the bowling of Ruben Hallsworth, Olly Hartwell and Wills Leach and the fielding unit gaining two run outs as a tight victory was gained by 13 runs. The 14C's didn't manage enough after losing early wickets and they were unable to defend 98 despite a spirited effort in the field.



SPORT

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Wellington Match Scores

1st XI - Wellington 165 ao Taunton 166 - 5 Small 30 Chaffey 32 not out

2nd XI - Taunton 129 Wellington 130 - 6

15As Taunton 143 ao DuPont 73 Wellington 144 - 6

15Bs Taunton 156 Wellington 157 lost off last ball

14As Taunton 111 ao Wellington 112 - 4

14Bs Wellington 41 ao Billings 4-0; Fawden 3-1 Taunton 42-0 Davies 32 no

Wellington Report

In the first team match a new plan was hatched which involved lots of spin. The plan also was to bowl first which happened despite losing the toss as Wellington chose to bat. The first over from Alfie Macdonald was a maiden and in his second he got the first wicket. He was joined in the power play by Taylor Flitton. They combined to build pressure which resulted in a wicket for Flitton. After the early wickets and excellent spells by Henry Weatherill and Ben Chaffey saw Taunton get on top. With critical run out and more spin from Jacob Hockey, Taunton stayed on top and eventually bowled Wellington out for 165. In response a strong, patient stand between Ben Coston and Adam Small saw Taunton breaking the back of the Wellington total. By the time both players departed only 80 runs were required. Ben Chaffey took control of the chase and combined with Nathan Roberts and Alfie Macdonald he saw Taunton home to a very satisfying win by 5 wickets, Ben finished 32 not out.

In the 2nd XI match Taunton's innings never really got going despite the best efforts of our players. The final score was 129. A good start by Wellington was the key to the result as was a low score by Taunton. Taunton did show really good character as they kept on competing. Unfortunately this was too little too late

as Taunton lost by 4 wickets. Unfortunately there were no more senior matches.

The most exciting finish of the day came in the junior matches as the 15Bs went to the last ball. The 15Bs got a very competitive score of 156 with Rafa Salvador scoring 23 early in the innings and the last wicket partnership of over 50 by Shaw Browning (25) and Joshua Stuckey (32) gave lots of hope going into the field. Unfortunately for Taunton the wides continued to be high which helped Wellington edge to the target. There were good bowling spells by Daniel Webber, Seb Malley, Lewis Frost and Josh Roffey. This all meant the result came down to the last ball with Wellington needing 1 to win, the throw missed and the game was lost but what a finish! The 15As batted first and again Logan DuPont led the way with a well crafted innings of 73. Unfortunately from a strong position of 112 for 2 they collapsed to 143 all out. Early wickets were needed and they came as Wellington were 33 for 3 after wickets for Fin Robertson and Logan Dupont, however the innings was settled down and good resistance was shown by Wellington as they got over the line losing 4 wickets.

Early wickets cost the 14As as they were 34 for 3, maybe their minds were on the cup semi-finals coming up this week. Despite the other batters' best efforts, they finished on a below par total of 111 all out. This was never enough despite Wellington being 22-2, they ran out easier winners by 6 wickets. There was an impressive performance by the 14B's who bowled first. Two excellent spells by Daniel Fawden, 3 for 1 and Sam Billings got 4 wickets without conceding a run. This meant Wellington were dismissed for a total of 41. Sam Davies ensured that was not enough with some very impressive stroke play as he made an unbeaten 32 as Taunton won by 10 wickets.



Under 14 County Cup Semi Final

Taunton 200-3 Beechen Cliff 54

Taunton travelled to Bath for this semi-final and put in a complete performance versus Beechen Cliff at Bath CC. After winning the toss, then losing an early wicket Ben Mason and Kian Roberts combined excellently to adding 158 for the 2nd wicket. Mason scoring 74 off 40 balls before being dismissed and Kian Roberts was unbeaten on 94 off 51 balls. This was always too many and a mixture of bowlers saw Taunton through to the final. Cole Willoughby, Shafin Akhtar and Will Harvey all claimed two wickets and Sam Davies, a late replacement finished the job with a run out. Taunton now meet Millfield in the final on Monday on the Front.

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Girls Matches

Millfield 200; Taunton 105

Great to get a girls 1st team game vs Millfeild, with a fantastic squad assembled we took on a strong Millfeild outfit.

There was a number of debutants and actually numerous 1st proper games of cricket for many of the girls involved.

Some highlights from the match:

Zoe pulled off a fantastic run out from the boundary after some fantastic work in the field. Brooke and Isla batted well along throughout the start of the innings with Izzy and Joleigh and Freya Tyler the pick of the bowlers. Julia put in a great performance behind the stumps as Wk.

Unfortunately we failed to chase down Millfield total and lost but the girls efforts and enjoyment of the game was better than any victory.

Taunton 96-4; Kings 84-5

Following the tough match vs Millfeild we faced kings in a T20. What a fantastic performance put in by the girls to win the match! There were some fantastic performances from the girls. Isla batted very well at the top of the order and set us a great platform to continue scoring runs at a good rate, followed by some useful runs from Brooke and Faye we put a good total on the board.

The skipper Joey-Leigh started us off with the ball and she bowled exceptionally well taking a few wickets and then well supported by all the other bowlers chipping in with a few wickets here and there.

Yet again there was a number of girls playing in their first fixture or second and it was fantastic to see the girls put an excellent performance together to secure the victory vs a good King's side.

Somerset Under 18s match that Taunton School had 3 representatives in, Joleigh Roberts (Captain), Izzy Hogevoid and Brooke Olivia-Whittaker.

Somerset batted first and set 149 on the board. After losing an early wickets, Joleigh Roberts went in to bat at number 3. We started off slow but by the run rate was soon picked up when Izzie Hogevoid hit a quick 23 of 12 balls. At the end of Somerset's batting innings, Joleigh finished on 75*. In response Brooke showed her talents with the ball as she bowled well and taking 2 wickets. She also took a great catch at short third-man running backwards in a good victory for Somerset and three very good contributions by Taunton School girls.

Sam Billings took 4 wickets for NO runs Vs Wellington

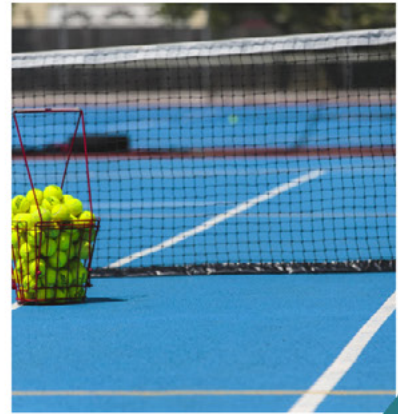


Cap presentation to Joleigh Roberts, Alfie Macdonald & Taylor Flitton





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