



#743
25 FEBRUARY 2021



MILLFIELD
PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Pictures of the Week are these two excellent dog drawings by **Zara B 7RF**.



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Tomorrow (Friday 26 February) in Period 7/8 from 2.30pm, Prep pupils are off timetable to take part in the Fairtrade Friday Challenge. We look forward to seeing what you do! Please send your photos in via Showbie and/or your GT. We look forward to showcasing your achievements next week in the Newsletter.

choose the world you want

MPS Fairtrade Challenge
Friday 26th February 2.30-
3.45pm

LEARN ABOUT
WHERE YOUR
FOOD COMES
FROM

MAKE SOME
SWAPS

TALK ABOUT WHAT
FAIRTRADE IS ALL
ABOUT TO YOUR
FAMILY

Make something
Fairtrade to share
with your family.
A full meal, a tea
party, a cake.....

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

22 FEBRUARY – 8 MARCH 2021

CHOOSE THE WORLD
YOU WANT



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YEAR 5 BAKE OFF

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Last term, Year 5 studied the Anglo-Saxons and enjoyed the story of Alfred the Great burning cakes so much that they decided to compete in their very own baking competition! There were lots of excellent bakes – complete with authentic Anglo-Saxon decorations and thankfully, no burnt ones! Well done, Year 5!



Channel 4's *Junior Bake Off* are looking for young budding bakers between 9 -15 years old for the next series! Applications close on Sunday 28 March, so if you would like to apply, please click [here](#).



Maddie and **Bea M** did some litter picking over half term! They noticed a local increase in litter during bike rides and walks, so thought they should help by collecting and recycling it! Superstars!



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32%

£160
 raised of £500 target
by 6 supporters

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Deborah Hughes

Millfield Prep School - Round Britain Challenge 7DEH

Running, cycling, walking, reading and playing... for Love Musgrave because we would like to thank the staff of the NHS

Love Musgrave

We provide items, equipment and training to benefit patients, visitors and staff

Charity Registration No. 1059922

Scarlett B's Book Recommendations

4

Top 5 Books to Read During Lockdown by Scarlett B

These books all have exciting plots and great morals - I think during lockdown it's good to read something that keeps you motivated and not bored.

Pride and Prejudice - Jane Austen

This book is set in high-society just before the Victorian era. It is about the challenges young ladies faced during those days (about marriage), about how society was and also about Elizabeth Bennett and Mr Darcy's romance. It is easy to get stuck into and very interesting so definitely a good one to read during lockdown. If you like the Bridgerton book series, I would recommend this to you.

Five on a Treasure Island - Enid Blyton

This series is about a group of four kids and their dog and their adventures. I think it is a good and an exciting book to read during lockdown because it gives you ideas for what to do when we are allowed outside again and encourages us to get off our phones. If you like The Sinclair's Mysteries series then I think you would like these books!

Wonder - R.J.Palacio

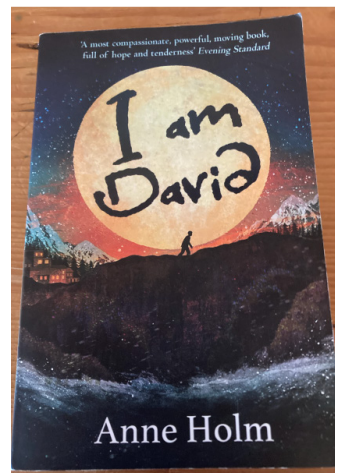
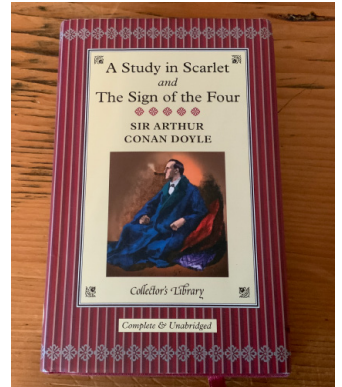
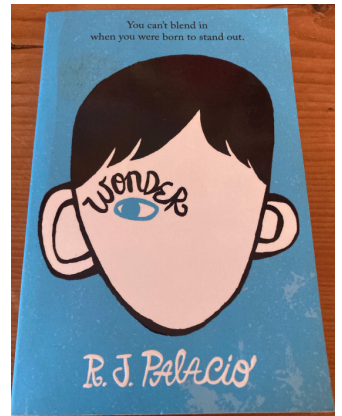
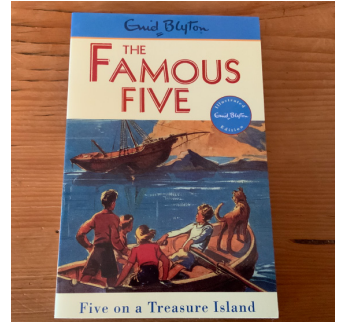
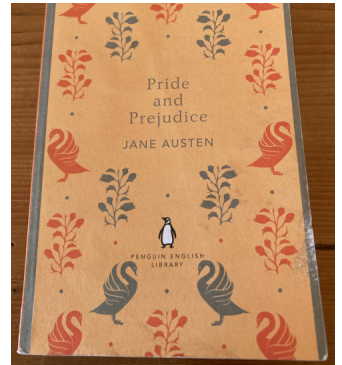
This book is about a boy with a deformed face and how he finds it hard to cope with other people as they are rude to him and stare. You travel with him through his journey at school and the reason I think you should read this book in lockdown is because it teaches you to be kind which I think is important at the moment even more than usual.

A Study in Scarlet and The Sign of the Four - Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Bored during lockdown? Does everyday feel the same? Well read this to have a little bit of mystery and excitement in your life. This book delves into the first adventures of the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. Try and solve these baffling cases alongside him! If you like Agatha Christie books, this is a good choice for you as this book is filled with crime, mystery, danger and excitement!

I am David - Anne Holm

As David escapes from a refugee camp, he can only run. The boy feels lost and upset but is also determined that life will get better - much like our lifestyle nowadays, but luckily for most the situation is not as bad or filled with danger. The book has a sweet ending and has many sad moments. David's determination means he is a great role model for us today going through tough times.



WORLD BOOK DAY

Next Thursday 4 March is our very first lockdown World Book Day! We're very excited to be able to offer a programme online to celebrate the brilliance of books. Costume of your favourite literary characters is encouraged but not compulsory. The timetable for the day will be different, so expect new Teams calls to appear.

TEA AND MUSIC CONCERT

After the success of the Tea and Music Concert before half term, we will now be holding a second event in the final week of this term. The deadline for video submissions will be Wednesday 10 March at 6pm and the concert will be streamed via YouTube Premiere at 5.30pm on Wednesday 17 March.

If there are any pupils who would like to be involved but are having music lessons outside school with an external teacher, please can I ask that you sign up using [this link](#) (the deadline for this is Friday 5 March). Pupils currently having individual music lessons through school will be signed up by their teachers.

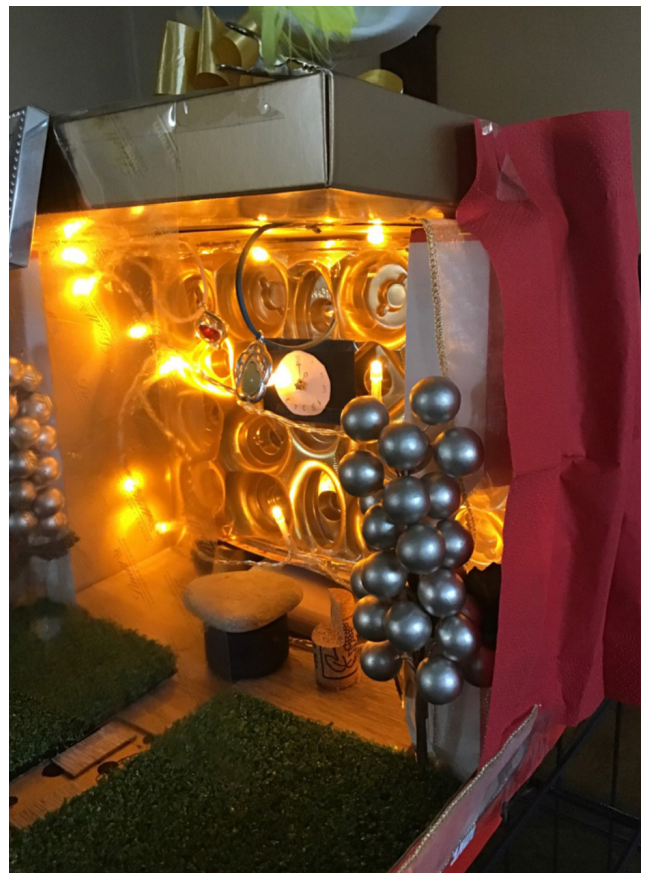
Any pupils requiring piano accompaniment will be recorded in school on either Monday 8 March or Tuesday 9 March (details will follow), however all other performances can be recorded at home if this is the preferred option.

If there are any questions about any aspect of the concert, please contact [Mrs Sturges](#).

We are hugely looking forward to hearing the submitted performances and, of course, to also welcoming back all pupils involved in music rehearsals and individual music lessons on 8 March.

TOP OF THE SHOPS

Year 6 have been working hard in lockdown, harnessing their skills in preparation to become great architects and designers! These fantastic shops have been made from materials around the house, all of which would look at home on Oxford Street. The pupils researched different shops and sketched out a range of different ideas before selecting their chosen idea. Some careful planning and testing followed to make sure the structures were stable before producing the final model. Well done **Joshua S, Herbie C, Iona M, Gracie T** and **Liberty W** in particular for these fantastic models.



ONLINE SAFETY UPDATE - OMEGLE

The Omegle Social Media platform hit the national news recently due to some of the unsavoury content on it, so I thought the information below and [this guide](#) might be of interest to you.

What is Omegle? Omegle is a free social networking platform where users are connected with other unknown users at random in order to chat via video, text or audio. This is known as a 'virtual chatroom'.

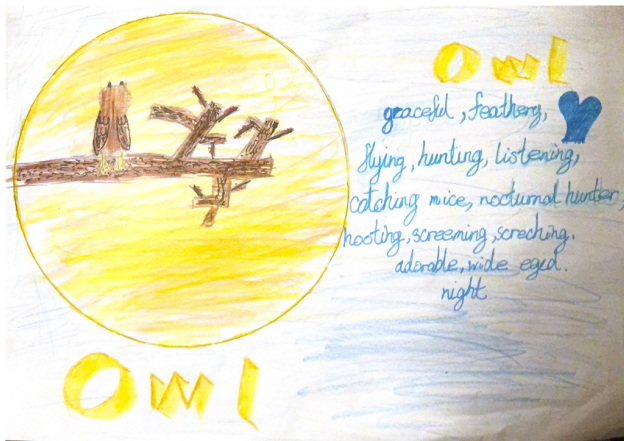
EAL'S DIAMOND POEMS

In EAL classes, pupils have been looking at stories from the book *The Lost Spells*. The pupils had to write a diamond shaped poem about something they love in nature. Here are some of the wonderful poems:

Dolphin
Soft, pretty
Swimming, jumping, playing
Always obedient, swim far away
Smiling, chatting, circling
Free, friendly
Liberty



by Chiara C in Year 8



by Claire G in Year 5

Deer
Shy, adorable
Dashing, nibbling, flourishing
Night comes, deer startled
Rushing, gasping, skipping
Exhausted, relieved
Home



by Miguel F B in Year 7

EAL PERSUASIVE WRITING

6

Before half term in EAL lessons, some of our EAL pupils were studying a topic looking at the reintroduction of beavers back into the UK and the benefits such projects can have on the environment. These pupils were also working on their Persuasive Writing skills. Here is a brilliant piece of writing by **Karina S 7BF**:

Beavers were extinct in the UK for nearly 400 years, but now scientists have decided that the environment needs them. Why?

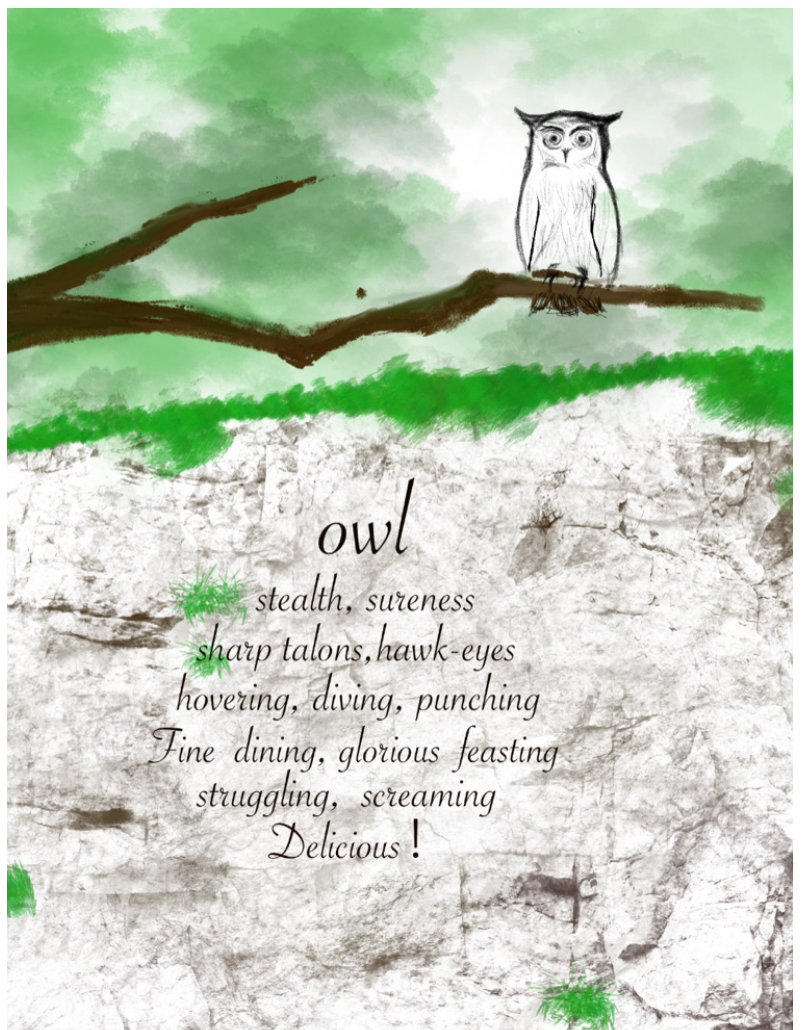
Firstly, beavers make dams and the dams that beavers build create habitats for a lot of plants and animals, such as small insects, frogs and fish, which is good for biodiversity.

Secondly, beaver dams also help alleviate flooding. When beavers build dams in rivers and streams it reduces the flow of water downstream.

From the other point of view, a lot of farmers don't like beavers because they think they aren't good for the land and they also damage trees.

Although beavers can damage land and trees, which is bad for farmers, there is a solution: move the fields further from the rivers. If there are 5 metres between the river and the fields, then beavers don't damage the farmer's fields and crops. Another solution is to put metal or sand around the bottom of the trees so beavers won't gnaw them.

In my personal opinion, beavers have more advantages than disadvantages for the environment.



by Olivia S in Year 8

PANCAKE COMPETITION

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Well done to everyone who entered the Pancake Day competition!

Winners (Years 7 and 8)

1. **Oliver A** 8DBS
2. **Georgie G** 7ANH

Winners (Years 4-6)

1. **Kaila P** 4ESH
2. **Polly W** 4MCJ



Oliver A



Georgie G



Ruby B



Megan B



Kaila P



Polly W



William P

Here is an outstanding story, written by **George P** in 4MCJ as the culmination of Year 4's work on mythical tales:

Opposite the cottage with tiny windows and a bright red front door was a small Devon beach where the sea crashed against the sharp rocks. Poppy and Will dropped their cases and ran quickly to the edge of the cliff top.

'Wow, I really can't wait to get into the sea and climb those rocks,' shouted Will excitedly. Poppy stomped back to the cottage that would be their home for three weeks not speaking to Will as they were always arguing and she was fed up with him already.

Suddenly behind him Will heard a crunching sound of someone walking on stones.

"Be careful you don't fall over that cliff," exclaimed an old man staring at Will. Will felt nervous as he smiled and walked backwards to the cottage door. The old man carried on talking as suddenly from behind his back he brought out an orange and white fish in a net.

'Do you like fishing boy?'

"Yes I do," replied Will.

"I want to catch one of every sea creature in the sea," he whispered pointing out to sea. Like a sloth, he carried on walking along the cliff and disappeared.

The next morning was a sunny day. Everyone else was asleep so Will crept downstairs. He opened the back door and rushed down to the sea down the cliff path to the beach. On the right of the path was a gloomy cave but Will decided he would have a look inside after he'd had a swim. As he walked towards the sea, Will suddenly heard sobbing from inside the cave. He thought that he should see if someone was hurt in there so he turned around and tiptoed in. At first, he couldn't see anything because it was dark but then he saw a shape in the corner of the cave.

Will didn't know what to do at first but then he asked,

"Why are you stuck in this cave and are you ok?"

"I had to hide in here because of the storm and now I'm frightened of being caught," the shape said sounding frightened.

"Who are you?" Will asked.

The shape came out of the dark and Will saw something he'd never seen before. He had the head of a dog and the body of a seal and was completely black and grey with sparkly blue eyes. Will had never seen anything like it before but he didn't feel frightened because the creature had kind eyes.

"I am a Lochness Dogster and I live at the bottom of the sea," said the creature.

"How can I help you?" asked Will.

The Lochness Dogster told Will about how a lot of his friends had been caught by a fisherman who was trying to catch one of every creature in the sea. Will began to think that it was the man he had met by the cottage. Will told the Lochness Dogster that he would help him and to wait in the cave while he went to get his sister.

Will rushed up the cliff path but at the top he stopped suddenly because there in front of him was the fisherman.

"I have heard that there is a mythical creature that's a mix between a seal and a dog and it has been washed up by a storm. Have you seen it?"

"No I haven't!" Will said nervously as he carried on running up the path. Will rushed into the cottage and straight upstairs to Poppy's bedroom.

"Go away," shouted Poppy but Will didn't because he had to speak to her.

"Poppy I need your help," whispered Will secretly to his annoying big sister.

"With what?" shouted Poppy.

"Shhh. Why do you think I whispered? It's a secret!" whispered Will angrily.

"What's the secret? Why should I help you?" said Poppy quietly.

"You need to help me to sneak out tonight to save the Lochness Dogster from the nasty neighbour," said Will quickly.

"Who's the Lochness Dogster or what is the Lochness Dogster?" said Poppy in a confused voice.

"It's a mythical creature that is half dog and half seal that I found stranded in a cave on the beach," explained Will.

"Who is this nasty neighbour?" asked Poppy.

"The clue is in the name. He's nasty and he lives next door. He is trying to catch one of every sea creature and wants to catch the Lochness Dogster," said Will like it was obvious!

"Fine I'll help. But I'm helping the Lochness Dogster because he sounds cute not you," Poppy exclaimed.

That night, Poppy and Will waited for their mum and dad to fall asleep and tiptoed sneakily out of the front door. They tiptoed to the shed and found two spades and then ran to the outside of the cave.

"Hello? Lochness Dogster?" Will called into the cave.

The Lochness Dogster quietly appeared out of the cave and asked, "Hello Will. Who is this with you?"

"This is my sister Poppy and she has come to help save you. We are going to dig you a trench so that the tide can come up and take you back home," explained Will.

"Thank you!" exclaimed the Lochness Dogster.

"That's ok. We'd better get on with it as the tide will be coming in soon," said Poppy.

Poppy and Will started to dig the trench from the cave to the sea as the tide started coming in. They finished as the sun started to go up and the tide came in. The Lochness Dogster wriggled into the trench and the tide rushed in and took the sea creature back to sea.

"Hurray! Bye Lochness Dogster!" shouted Poppy and Will.

Suddenly, the nasty neighbour sprinted down the beach past Poppy and Will. He ran towards the Lochness Dogster with his net but the sea creature dodged the net and escaped out to sea. The nasty neighbour had missed the Dogster by a millisecond!

Will and Poppy walked happily back to their cottage. They tiptoed back through the front door and managed to make it in time for a pancake breakfast. Mum and Dad hadn't realised that they had been out but were confused about why Will and Poppy were so exhausted all day.

The next morning when Will was walking on the beach he spotted a shiny, little shell and when he picked it up he saw that it had 'Thank You' written on it. It really was the best holiday ever!

Chaplain's Thought of the Week

Stephen Covey said "Whilst we cannot always choose what happens to us, we can choose our responses". Your responses as parents, pupils and teachers have been amazing. As we have navigated another lockdown, I could not be more proud of the way in which everyone has rallied around and worked so hard.

So, as we move through Lent and lockdown, some other wise words from Covey remind us about three circles of influence – recognising those things which we can control, where we have influence or where we have concerns yet no influence or control. Let us use this time of Lent to give up wasting energy on things where we have no influence or impact, instead let us invest our energies where we can make a positive difference.

The 'serenity prayer' is similar in message and uses the words: 'God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference.'

Lent is a time for us to reflect and respond, as we prepare for Easter and the incredible gift of love through Jesus. A gift that, for the ultimate price paid on our behalf, offers us hope, peace and joy. As we respond to those around us, to the context in which we live, to the time of Lent and the Easter story, let us focus our energies on bringing hope, peace, love and joy.

"Be a light, not a judge, a model not a critic. Little by little, your circle of influence will explode and you will avoid the emotional cancers of complaining, criticizing, competing, comparing and cynicism...all of which are the opposite to being proactive." - Covey

So, this period of Lent, regardless whether lockdown unlocking pans out and no matter what your faith perspective is, let us try to give up – or 'fast' - on complaining, criticizing and cynicism. Instead, let's be proactive and 'feast on' those things where we can make a difference. Let us shine brightly, sharing the Easter message of love, of forgiveness, of hope, of peace and of joy.

A Lenten Prayer by William Arthur Ward

Fast from judging others; Feast on the Christ in dwelling in them.

Fast from emphasis on differences; Feast on the unity of all life.

Fast from apparent darkness; Feast on the reality of light.

Fast from words that pollute; Feast on phrases that purify.

Fast from discontent; Feast on gratitude.

Fast from anger; Feast on patience.

Fast from pessimism; Feast on optimism.

Fast from worry; Feast on trust.

Fast from complaining; Feast on appreciation.

Fast from negatives; Feast on affirmatives.

Fast from unrelenting pressures; Feast on unceasing prayer.

Fast from hostility; Feast on nonviolence.

Fast from bitterness; Feast on forgiveness.

Fast from self-concern; Feast on compassion for others.

Fast from personal anxiety; Feast on eternal truth.

Fast from discouragement; Feast on hope.

Fast from facts that depress; Feast on truths that uplift.

Fast from lethargy; Feast on enthusiasm.

Fast from suspicion; Feast on truth.

Fast from thoughts that weaken; Feast on promises that inspire.

Fast from idle gossip; Feast on purposeful silence.

Gentle God, during this season of fasting and feasting, gift us with your presence so we can be a gift to others in carrying out your work. Amen.

Wellbeing tip for the week: For the remainder of Lent, give up time each day to reflect on the positives you have received or witnessed and the positives you have contributed too. Commit to doing the same, or even more, positive things the next day.

- Reverend Kitto

ALE'S SPORTY HALF TERM

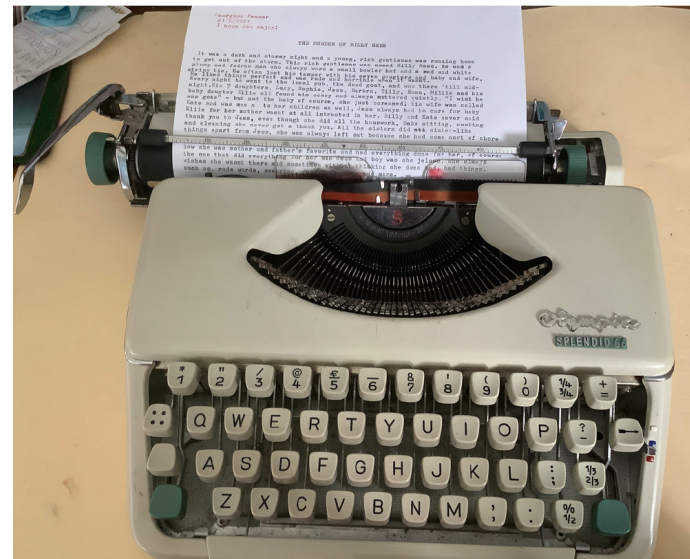
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Ale M C had a very sporty half term, taking part in golf and skiing competitions. Ale competed in a qualifier for the Spanish Nationals in Madrid, finishing 3rd and 8th out of 45 golfers! The skiing photos were taken in Andorra where Ale was competing in the Premi Gran UEC. Well done, Ale!



TERRIFIC TYPING

Georgina F in 4ESH has been using a typewriter to complete her work - this picture is of a story she wrote over half term. She is being extremely careful not to make any mistakes!

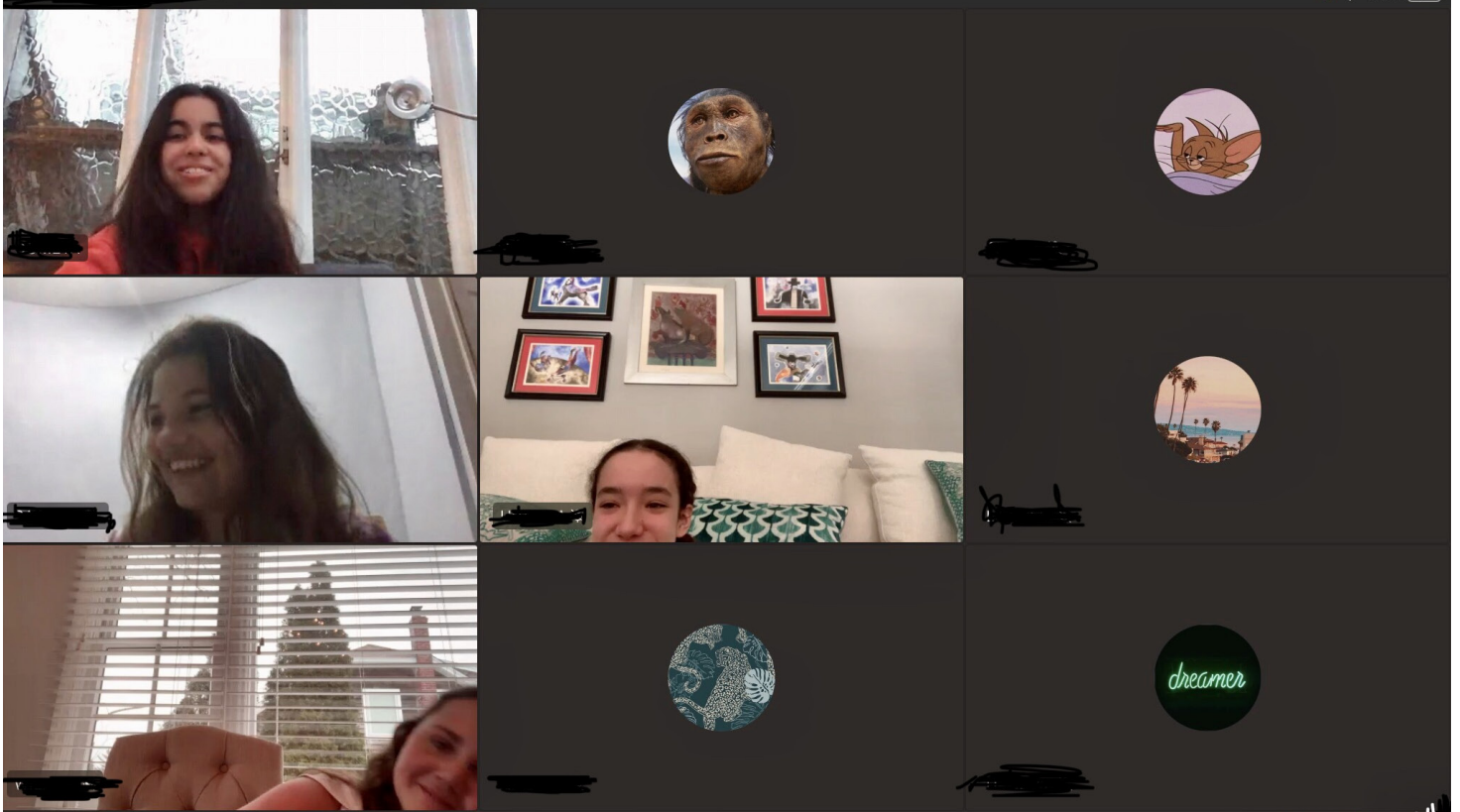


YEAR 3 STORY STICKS

On Wednesday, Year 3 went hunting around their gardens and homes to create their own story sticks. They strung their interesting items to a well chosen stick and created their own wonderful and wacky stories inspired by the objects they found. Many of the children made videos retelling their stories and excitedly shared them with the class. Excellent foraging and story telling Year 3!



It was a delightful and entertaining evening with the Hollies girls during the House Meeting on Monday. This gave us all the opportunity to catch up as a house and to hear what we have all been up to during half term. The girls were in fine form and are very quick to dodge the screen shot by turning their cameras off or trying to duck out of shot! Nevertheless, it was a wonderful meeting with lots of giggles. We are now planning for the face to face reunion in the next couple of weeks. Overall, the girls are doing really well and we look forward to seeing them all very soon.



CHESTNUT

The boys planted some bulbs in the pots in front of Chestnut in November. To celebrate the news that the boys will soon be coming back, the bulbs have started to poke their heads through so they are ready for their return! **Maxi** has been busy on the slopes competing in the Alpine U13 championships. He competed on the same course as the Nagano Olympics! The boys enjoy their lunchtime catch ups and we have to jump back onto the calls at 1pm to remind them to get back to their lessons or they would chat all afternoon! Mr Maxwell has been hosting a Kahoot quiz league and things are getting tense at the top with only a couple more rounds to go!





#743
25 FEBRUARY 2021



MILLFIELD
PRE-PREP SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



A Message from the Head of Pre-Prep

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! I hope you and your families continue to be well and enjoyed the half term break together. I am sure you are as delighted as we are with the imminent return to school for all children. This is great news, as I can't wait to get everyone back together again.

I am sure some of you will have concerns about the return to school but, without going into too much detail today, the same protective measures and procedures will be in place from Monday 8 March. We plan to come back to full capacity from Monday 8, with early birds for working parents from 8am, and starting extra-curricular activities, creche and late clubs. More details will be sent out next week about our current procedures, any changes and timings for day.

Enjoy the last few days of home schooling, keep working hard, keep smiling and we look forward to seeing everyone back in Pre-Prep on Monday 8 March.

World Book Day is coming up on Thursday 4 March, and all of the children are invited to dress up as a book character.

Well done to our Pre-School children who took on the Muddy Puddle Jumping Challenge. £1050 was raised for Cancer Research UK! Thank you to all those who donated and Nan Kincaid for all her hard work to produce the video.

- Mr Jory



STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done to this week's Pre-Prep Stars of the Week, who will receive a certificate from Mr Jory.

Pre-School
Romilly P
Aggie M

Reception
Isabella W
Sienna A-M

Year 1
Joshua W
Amelie M
Arthur C

Year 2
Zofia H

PRE-SCHOOL

FABULOUS FOOD

This week, the Pre-School children have been focussing on healthy eating and the importance of eating lots of fruit and vegetables to keep us strong and healthy. They talked about how you should 'Eat the Rainbow' to make sure you are getting a wide variety of colours. The children have been making yummy soup and fruit salads to enjoy. Watch this space for all the fun activities that will follow!



LEGEND OF NINA

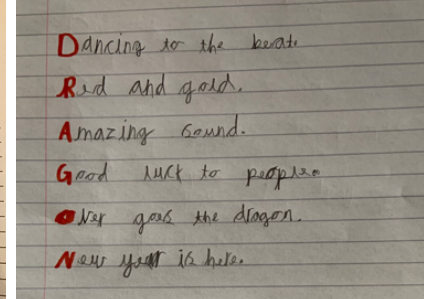
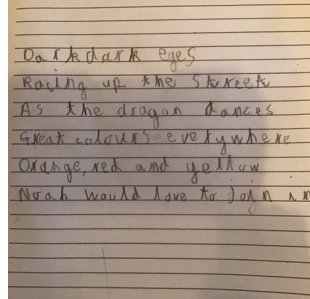
Year 2 had a super end of the half term celebrating Chinese New Year. They learnt the Legend of Nina and why the different years were assigned to different animal. The children made different Chinese New Year animals and painted cherry blossom trees. I am sure you will agree, they did a fantastic job.



CHINESE NEW YEAR DRAGONS

Year 1 pupils have been celebrating Chinese New Year. They found out that this year is the Year of the Ox. The children also worked out whether they were born in the Year of the Goat or the Year of the Horse. They made Chinese dragons by folding strips of paper and adding a dragon head.

In Literacy, the children wrote their own acrostic poems using the word 'Dragon'. The pictures below are of **Isobel's** and **Noah's** poems.



COMMUNITY

FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT

Reverend Kitto's assembly this week was about Fairtrade as it is Fairtrade Fortnight! **Jack** and **William** sent these fantastic replies! We look forward to showing more next week when everyone has cooked and explored what Fairtrade is at home or in the supermarket. Please do send them in to [Reverend Kitto](#). Family Challenge! Find out where in the world your tea, chocolate, coffee, spices, sugar and bananas come from. Find out what swaps you can make when you go shopping or perhaps what you already have in the cupboard that is Fairtrade.

WP

I asked my sister, Isabelle, who is in year 5 to help me with this, as she has already collected her ingredients to make a fairtrade superfood hot cocoa on Friday. Everything is fairtrade other than the coconut which has the 'ethically sourced' logo and the super mushroom blend which has a 'shared earth initiative' on it which says it is from producers who farm responsibly and donate at least 10% of the profits to support social and environmental projects worldwide. I am looking forward to helping her make it and I am looking forward to drinking it!

