



NEWSLETTER



PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the Week is this fantastic large pencil drawing of a dragon by **Jack S** in Year 6.



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END OF TERM AND RED NOSE DAY

Tomorrow (Friday 19 March) is both the end of spring term and Red Nose Day. Children can be in mufti clothes – ideally wearing something red, with a £2 donation to support Red Nose Day.

Pick Up Times

Year 3 – 3.10pm – Martins Lane
 Pre-Prep – 3.15pm – Staff Car Park
 Year 4 – 3.20pm – Martins Lane
 Year 5 – 3.30pm – Martins Lane
 Year 6 – 3.45pm – Martins Lane
 Year 7 – 3.20pm – Top Car Park
 Year 8 – 3.40pm – Top Car Park
 Boarders – 4.00pm from houses
Siblings to go together at the earlier time.

Please do stick rigidly to these times, as otherwise you may have to be moved on due to traffic build up.

Notices

HOME SELF TESTING KITS

[Here](#) is a video to show you exactly what you will find inside your home testing kit and how to carry out the test.

UNIFORM

We will be maintaining our risk assessment in the summer term, and as such will be asking pupils to wear Millfield sports kit in the summer term.

LTA TENNIS WORKSHOP

The LTA are running a '5 Cs' workshop on 23 March. Head to page 9 to find out more.

CONTACT TRACING

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19 within 48 hours after leaving school, please can you let us know so we can complete the tracing of close contacts.

In addition, parents need to be aware that you maybe contacted up to 48 hours after the end of term if we have been advised of a positive case, and your child may need to self-isolate for 10 days from the last day of contact.

SHOWBIE CODES FOR EXTRA ENGLISH WORK

Year 6 Holiday English 2021 - KTJTP
Year 7 Holiday English 2021 - DWGQD
Year 8 Holiday English 2021 - BGUUL

STAR STUDENTS

As Heads of Years 7 and 8 and Head of the Juniors, we have been highly impressed with the children over the past two weeks. Their positive attitude and behaviour since returning to school, alongside pupils who are continuing to access remote learning, has been superb.

The older pupils have taken the COVID Lateral Flow Testing in their stride, while the younger members of the school have quickly adapted back to our busy routine.

Staff have regularly reported to us stories or anecdotes of kindness and academic success.

We are all very excited to have the summer term at Millfield Prep School just around the corner and wish you all a very happy Easter and an enjoyable holiday.

- Ms McConnell, Mr Guthrie and Ms Newman

MUSIC EXAMS

Huge congratulations to the following pupils on some truly exceptional results for music exams which were taken at the end of last term and during the lockdown period. Current circumstances meant that live examinations for some boards were not possible, and therefore pupils had to record and upload their performances, which was a daunting prospect for some. However, as usual, our pupils rose to the challenge and they did incredibly well. I hope they are all very proud of their hard work and achievements. We feel extremely privileged to have such talented musicians in the school. Well done!

Trinity Music Exam Results

Toby W - Piano Grade 1 – Distinction

Victoria B - Piano Grade 1 – Merit

Lottie R-B - Piano Grade 2 - Pass

Asta M - Piano Grade 3 – Merit and Singing Grade 4 - Merit

Scarlett B - Singing Grade 5 - Pass

Amelie W - Singing Grade 5 - Distinction

ABRSM Music Exam Results

Frederick H - Violin Grade 1 - Merit

Joe T - Violin - Merit

Enid M - Violin Grade 2 - Pass

Scarlett B - Piano Grade 2 - Pass

Zia G - French Horn Grade 2 - Pass

Zara B - Violin - Merit

Georgina F - Piano Grade 1 - Distinction and
Double Bass Grade 3 - Distinction

Music Teachers' Board Exam Results

Amber J - Double Bass Grade 5 - Distinction



EASTER SERVICE

The Easter Service will premiere on YouTube at 8.30am tomorrow and will be available for you to watch at any time afterwards. Click [here](#) to watch.



TELESCOPE PHOTOGRAPHY ³

Daniel C in 8XF took these remarkable photos of the moon with his telescope!



PANORAMIC PHOTOGRAPHY

Year 8 pupils, both in school and working remotely, have enjoyed creating panoramic photographs during their Computing & ICT lessons this week. All photographs were taken on an iPad using the camera app.



TEA & MUSIC CONCERT

This week, we were able to bring you our final Tea & Music Concert of the spring term. It has been fantastic to be back in school again, seeing and hearing the Music Department full of life and it's been great to walk around and hear what all the pupils have been working on. It's a real credit to them, that after so many weeks having lessons remotely, they have pieces ready to perform and record. Their hard work, dedication and enthusiasm make concerts like this possible. There were an incredible 45 performances for you to enjoy, on a variety of instruments, with pupils from Pre-Prep all the way up to Year 8. If you weren't able to see the concert, [here](#) is a link to watch. Well done to the following pupils...

Year 2
Willow S – Piano

Year 3
Noah K – Piano
Jude H – Violin
Layla K – Piano
Noah K – Cello
Harry G – Piano

Year 4
Year 4 Low Brass Ensemble
Elsie S – Piano
Kaila P – Trumpet
Zac B – Drum kit
Florence C – Piano
Polly W – Double bass
Henry G – Piano
Amelia S – Piano
Tilly B – Double bass
Georgina F – French horn

Year 5
Joe T – Violin
Lottie B – Trumpet
John A – Harp
Isobel N – Voice

Year 6
Frederick H - Violin
Sophie B – Flute
Tom B – Cello
Enid M - Flute
Oli H - Bass guitar
Kevin W - Piano

Year 7
Victoria B – Bassoon
Zara B – Violin
Katriel C – Piano
Brychan J – Guitar
Myla C – Piano
Evie T – Voice
Victoria B – Piano
Tiffany H – Voice
Asta M – Voice

Year 8
Maisie S – Cello
Steffi B D L O – Voice
Scarlett B – Flute
Will M-H – Drum kit
Tamara G V - Violin
Ed R – Saxophone
Maisie S – Piano
Niamh M – Voice
Rosie S – Flute
Pierre J – Xylophone
Aggie S – Voice



ART & CRAFTS CLUB

In Year 4 Arts & Crafts Club, the children painted some beautiful stones. Their attention to detail and the care they took was extremely impressive. The finished masterpieces were brilliant!



BRILLIANT BOARD GAMES

Year 7 pupils have been studying the Roman civilisation topic of Slavery in Roman Times, and learning about how Roman slaves were bought and sold with no choice over where they lived and worked. With this in mind, pupils have been designing and creating board games to help them understand how the lives of slaves were controlled by Fortuna, the Roman goddess of luck, and on the roll of a dice could be sent far from home to work for people they did not know.



PERFECT POETRY

A brilliant poem by **Georgina F** in Year 4, entitled *Sounds*:

The cracking of the haunted house made the children scared out of their wits!

The buzzing of the humble bumble bee always makes me happy.

The gushing of the flowing river can be heard from all around!

The crunching of the crispy autumn leaves make you feel like autumn is truly here.

The trotting of the racing German riding pony (they are a newer horse breed that has only existed since 1965) can bring joy to all around!

The ringing of the loud doorbell means you need to be there!

The chirping of the tweeting songbird wakes you up early in the morning!

The bubbling of the boiling saucepan goes on and on and on!

The beeping of the useful laptop alerts you for messages.

The howling of the blowing wind keeps you up all night!

The ringing of the favourite ice-cream van makes you want to grab your pocket money and buy the ice-cream!

The clicking of the big black keyboard sometimes gets on your nerves.

The creaking of the old oak tree signals that it might not live for much longer.

The giggling of me and my happy BFF sends a hubbub across the house!

The clattering of the ancient tea set makes you feel uncertain.

The wheezing of the ill patient echos through the room.

The clustering of the loud crowd moves through the street.

Chaplain's Thought of the Week

This week is Comic Relief and the theme is about using the power of funny and laughter. The current lockdown is a most challenging time and across every community people have experienced the impact of the pandemic in very different ways. Though we are still in lockdown and you may have given up some things for Lent, I do hope that laughter isn't one of them.

Bill Bailey says that "Laughter is a pure form of happiness, because it's raw, unadulterated and you can't control it. It can just turn up unannounced and completely transform how you are feeling. We laugh despite ourselves, as if laughter is no respecter of how we ought to be, or think, or behave. It's pure happiness because there's no way to predict it."

What are your memories of a time when you really laughed? Perhaps this transports you to a time or a place, a memory, of something or someone special? Laughter is a great stress release, inhibiting cortisol, the stress hormone, as well as stimulating the hippocampus, the brain's memory centre. Laughter may also be linked to increasing immunity – but please don't rely on this instead of the vaccine!

How do you think up a joke? Bill Bailey suggests, "Start with a laugh and work backwards!"

Dear God

Help me to know faith, hope and love in my life

Help me to show faith, hope and love through my life

Help me to affirm faith, hope and love by living wisely

Help me to find and to share joy and laughter

Amen

Wellbeing tip for the week: Share a smile, enjoy laughter, maybe your own or maybe that of others. These are testing times - we may have suffered a great deal or we may be witness to suffering through the media. Perhaps now, more than ever, we need to reconnect with something or someone who will make us laugh – even if that means some sadness, as we are transported back to a place or a person we now miss. So, this week, do something to raise your own spirits or to raise the spirits of others, even if this week it only achieves a smile, it may be a smile more than last week, and that's good!

THE TOWNSEND-WARNER HISTORY PRIZE

This term, three of our Year 8 pupils have been preparing for their first round of the Townsend-Warner History Prize. This programme has been running for many years for Prep Schools and is designed for pupils with a real interest in history to take part. **Matilda W**, **Ed R** and **Maia D** were invited to join this year's national competition and have completed their first round papers this week.

They deserve enormous credit for their efforts to revise for the competition and for attending three workshops run by the History Department to prepare them for the types of questions and topics that make up the Townsend-Warner History Prize. We look forward to receiving the results and want to congratulate all three of our entries for their efforts this year, which is the second year we have entered the competition.

EAL PUPIL OF THE WEEK



Our final EAL Pupil of the Week for this term is **Ruilin W**. Since joining the school remotely, she has worked exceptionally well in all her lessons.

It is lovely to have her in the classroom, where she has continued to work hard and can more easily share her ideas. Ruilin has engaged with our topic on exploration this week and produced some neat and very accurate written work. Well done!

YOUTH ENVIRONMENT SUMMIT SOMERSET

Do you care about the environment? Do you have ideas about how we could help the planet but not sure how to make people listen?

Children age 11-18 can sign up to take part in the the virtual Youth Environment Summit Somerset, on Saturday 27 March, 10.30am-4.00pm.

The event will comprise of a number of engaging talks from guest speakers from the conservation and environmental sectors in the morning.

After a break for lunch, there will be a choice of interactive workshop sessions to select from, followed by a round up and Q&A session to discuss next steps.

Click [here](#) to find out more and book a place.

DAFFODIL POEMS

Silently, daffodils as white as snow sway in the breeze.
 Long, dark green leaves envelop thin stalks.
 Golden yellow insides stand out against the light petals.
 The insides of these beautiful flowers are ruffled like material.
 Fragile petals can easily break, they are arranged like a star.
 Tightly closed buds, enclosed in their skins, are waiting to burst open.
 An array of colour appears when they bloom in gardens, parks, fields,
 meadows, everywhere.
 They grow in clusters like a group of friends, never alone.
 As soon as the first daffodil appears, everyone knows that spring has arrived.

- **Lottie R-B**

Flowers of gold
 Penetrating the soul
 Petals passionate and bold
 Flower of Easter
 Flower of time
 Radiant and bright
 Singing for life
 Perfectly sewn
 Like silk of a dress
 Music to the eyes
 Beauty to share
 Before it is lost
 For time to come
 In bleak icy light
 Gold turns to coal
 Deserted, drab
 Dingy and dim
 Waiting, watching
 When the queen of flowers
 Must wear her crown once again
 For the beauty and the life
 Of the spring

- **Victoria B**

Inside a cream open letter, there lies a golden surprise.
 Dazzling, fascinating, astonishing, they captivate eyes.
 As mute as a thought, they stand
 Swaying in the balmy wind.
 Lots and lots of similar things are placed around,
 Each one different in their own way.
 A few gleam, whilst others don't.
 Some are still in hiding and not seen the light.
 Lifeless, some lay as sleepy as winter.
 Beneath this royal subject sprawls some magnificent velvet,
 Soft and luminous white,
 A cozy, sweltering sheath
 Cautiously, protecting the inside like a mother protects its child.
 Some, that haven't already, begin to unravel their leaves,
 Spreading their crisp scent.

- **Mila B**

The daffodils start to surge out the ground as the season of
 spring falls upon us
 The days become more temperate
 And the nights lessened
 As the moon grows restless of watching over the earth
 And the Christmas carols have come to an end
 The chorus of the birds multiply in strength by the day
 All to reception the birth of a new generation of daffodils
 Their childhood so hurried
 But become more elegant as they mature
 Models strutting their stuff on the soft emerald pointed runway
 Never out of contention in the race to become the the most
 sublime flower
 They gradually ascend out of the turf and quickly grow
 But even on a showery day
 How beautiful they glow
 Tears of dew rolling off its petals
 Its mood never dulls
 Until the ghastly but magnificent autumn
 When its beautiful petals curl up crisp
 And the blissful gold in its colour dims
 In unison with all in that Mother Nature owns
 And all animals depart to their habitat
 But there they lay
 All the daffodils in their grave
 But soon the new year comes round again
 And how much joy they'll bring
 As all nature bows down
 To the flower of the spring.

- **Brychan J**

In the pleasant spring breeze,
 the daffodils are swaying side, to side.
 In the delightful meadow the daffodils
 poke out of the great grass,
 lighting up the field around.
 With their chrome petals and graceful smell.
 Their grey cases grasp onto every move,
 ready,
 primed,
 waiting for spring to rise,
 watching the winter tide go by.

- **Seth C**

CENSUS

This week it is the census. Censuses have been conducted since ancient times, to assess the size of a population and calculate what they need. The first UK census was in 1801. On one day every 10 years, households are asked to fill in a questionnaire about every person living at the property, including their age, race, occupation and relationship status.

This is a great time to think about your community, what words you would use to describe your community, who is part of it, what changes you have seen in it and what makes it special.



EQUESTRIAN

Zara A-M having a great session on school pony Star in the lovely sunshine this week.

Our Wednesday riders having a lovely time in the fresh air!



TENNIS

Road to Wimbledon Tennis Tournament - Open to anyone in Year 7 and 8.

On Wednesday 14 April at 1.00pm we are holding the first rounds of the LTA Road to Wimbledon Tennis Tournament. This competition is open to any pupil in Year 7 and 8 and we will hold a separate competition for boys and girls. We hope to complete this tournament on Saturday 15 May.

Please email [Mrs Thomas](mailto:Mrs.Thomas@millfieldprep.co.uk) if you would like to enter and then meet on the triple courts at 1.00pm on Wednesday 14 April with your racket and water bottle.

This competition starts at local level in clubs and schools for U14 players with ratings of 7.1-10.2 on March 1 2021. Don't worry if you don't have an LTA Rating, as you can still play. The winner of our boys and girls competitions will progress to the county finals in Taunton on 10 and 11 July and the winners of the county finals progress to the national finals at Wimbledon from 8 to 14 August. All finals competitors will receive a Road to Wimbledon souvenir, an invitation to the Players Party, Wimbledon Museum voucher, organised tours of the grounds and daily accommodation/meal allowance.

Several Millfield Prep Tennis players have reached the national finals in recent years including Caitlin M, Rebecca S, Max G, Izzy K and Luke H, who actually won the national finals and was presented with his trophy by Tim Henman.

So, do enter the Tournament on Wednesday 14 April for a chance to play in the National Finals at Wimbledon!



FENCING

Year 5 enjoying their Fencing lesson this week.



FOOTBALL

Some of the Year 7 boys had a football tournament on Wednesday. They played three group games and this seeded them into two final games. It was great end-to-end football and the boys played in a fantastic way. **Archie** was sadly unable to play due to an injury, but instead he refereed the games. We think that the 'A' in VAR actually stands for Archie!



NETBALL

It's been a brilliant having the children back in school and to see so many girls playing netball again. When all the girls return next term, we will complete the sock challenge, with the semi finals all happening in school.



LTA TENNIS WORKSHOP

The LTA are running a '5 Cs' workshop on Tuesday 23 March from 7.30-9.30pm.

The workshop is run by Professor Chris Harwood and Dr Sam Thrower, and delves into the important areas of Commitment, Communication, Concentration, Control and Confidence and you can sign up for this free workshop [here](#).

For more information do [email Mark Padfield](#) (LTA Competition and Development Partner) or call 07958234859.

Boarding Life

BEREWALL

On Wednesday night, the boys prepared red nose masks for Comic Relief this Friday. The boys were all asked to cut out a red nose and sew it on to the mask. We had a few "I can't do it", but the boys showed resilience and determination to persist and produced a mask each!



HOLLIES

Our outdoor spaces have come back to life this week as the lighter evenings allow football, running and skateboarding outside in the afternoons. The final weekend of term began with a visit from the breakfast catering van, bringing bacon rolls and waffles as a special treat. A film night, swimming, trampolining, rounders and indoor games followed to keep everyone busy. Well done to **Annabelle** for getting up early on Sunday to complete a relay race with her running club, and to **Tamara, Rosie and Scarlett** for their performances in the Tea & Music Concert this week. We have some very talented girls in the house! Wednesday saw a visit from the Easter bunny, who left some chocolate treats for the girls to find. It didn't take them long! And finally, happy birthday to **Tilly** and **Masha**!



CHESTNUT

Mrs Duke hid 120 mini Easter eggs around the Chestnut grounds. The boys had to find them to win an Easter prize. The eggs were small and it was getting dark which certainly made it a tough hunt this year, but they all managed to find them. They then cashed them in for a real Easter egg! We also had two birthday parties this week for **Andrew** and **Joss** - happy birthday!



CHAMPION

After a busy Sunday of multi activities you would think the Champion girls would welcome a rest in the evenings after school and prep. Not so, with the lighter evenings there is even more time to play outside!

It's been lovely to see so many girls back at Champion for the new term and we look forward to an even busier house after Easter.



Brilliant Borders

BEREWALL

Harry M is Berewall's brilliant boarder for his commitment to remote learning. He has always been engaged and was ever present whilst home learning. Well done, Harry.



HOLLIES

The brilliant boarder for Hollies this term is **Tamara G.V.** She has been full of energy and enthusiasm in our remote house groups online, and since being back, she has been welcoming and friendly to all. Well done and thank you, Tamara!



CHESTNUT

All of the Chestnut boys have had a great return to school, either in person or virtually, and it has been fantastic to welcome them back. The Chestnut brilliant boarders for this term are **Henry M** and **Jonathan L.**

Henry settled back into the house really quickly and has been helpful to everyone from pupils to staff. He has also shown great resilience being away from loved ones, which he has found difficult before. Henry has been a great example of our Chestnut Values.

Jonathan hasn't been able to return to Chestnut as he lives abroad, but he has consistently engaged with our online meetings and catch ups. He has been on Teams with the boys most mornings. He has been in the bathroom whilst they brush their teeth and in the common room during registration! He is always chatting with the boys and being supportive to his housemates, even though he is thousands of miles away.



CHAMPION

Frankie Y is our Champion brilliant boarder! Frankie has really looked after the new Year 5 boarders this term. Even though she is busy with her riding commitments, Frankie has found time to help them to settle into their new routine. A true brilliant boarder!





NEWSLETTER



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

Nina T
Freddie L

Reception

Rowan L
Sienna A-M

Year 1

Emily B
Bea M
Arthur C

Year 2

Willow S
Matilda I

YEAR 2

FOREST SCHOOL FUN

In Forest School, Year 2 took trusting in each other to the next level when they had to be blindfolded by their partner and be guided to a spot in the woodland. They had to use all their senses, apart from sight, to find their way back. Their guider had to give them specific instructions on turns, steps and clockwise directions. Great navigating and trusting Year 2!



DIARY DATES

Friday 19 March

Red Nose Day
Children to wear red and please bring in a £2 donation for Comic Relief

Friday 19 March

School finishes at 3:15
No clubs, creche or late club

Monday 12 April

Return to school

PRE-PREP SWIMMING

We are delighted to announce that swimming will be starting again straight after the Easter break on the following days:

Monday – Year 1 and Year 2

Thursday – Pre-School

Friday – Reception

Children will need to bring hat, goggles, costume and towel in on their swimming day.

PRE-SCHOOL

BUNNY BISCUIT BAKE OFF

The Frogs and Tadpoles donned their aprons, ready for The Great British Bunny Biscuit Bake Off! It was a flurry of baking activity, with measuring, pouring, stirring, kneading, rolling and cutting the bunny biscuits. When they were baked, everyone decorated their own biscuit with a choice of a sweet for the bunny's tail. A great morning of baking fun. Pre-School wishes you all a very happy Easter!



MARVELLOUS MATHS

The children have been recapping some of the different maths concepts they have been learning about. They have been investigating 2D and 3D shapes, subitising, sequencing the days of the week and using a tally to count flowers.



ST PATRICK'S DAY

Reverend Kitto talked in her assembly this week about St Patrick's Day and explained what saints are. Did you know that St Patrick was born in Cornwall and taken by pirates to Ireland at the age of 16? Saints are ordinary people who do extraordinary things. Right now, we have seen many saints in our communities working hard to help others during this pandemic. Well done to all those home schooling parents, teachers, frontline workers, NHS workers and all those unsung heroes - you are all saints!



YEAR 1

SIGNS OF SPRING

Year 1 took some paper and paint to the woods and found lots of signs of spring. They looked at the beautiful daffodils, identifying the different parts of the plants. The children did some beautiful observational paintings. They were then given a section of a paint chart with different shades of green. The children had to match, so they found each colour. They were amazed how many different shades of green they found.

