



NEWSLETTER



PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the Week is this excellent little watercolour study by **Isla S 7RF/ANH**.



Notices

PICK UP TIMES

Please see below the pick up times for Saturday. There will be no Games or Multies on Saturday afternoon for day children unless stated on SOCS and no school for anyone in Prep or Pre-Prep on Monday.

- 11.30 – Year 3
- 11.40 – Year 4
- 11.50 – Year 5
- 12.05 – Year 6
- 11.55 – Year 7 (Sports Hall Car Park)
- 12.05 – Year 8 (Sports Hall Car Park)

COVID TESTING

The Department for Education has asked us to remind you that it is vital that staff and pupils in Years 7 and 8 to continue to test twice weekly, in order to identify asymptomatic cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) and prevent the spread of the virus.

NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY

Please remember that the school will be closed on Monday 3 May, as it is a bank holiday.

COVID TESTING

Millfield Enterprises are providing a Holiday Boarding Programme for pupils to join during the summer half term holidays. The price includes a programme of campus-based activities, meals and 24 hour staff supervision. Book [here](#).

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MUSIC CONCERTS

Once again, we are delighted to have had an incredible number of pupils keen to participate in the first Cushion and Tea & Music Concerts of the term. The concerts will stream one after the other on Tuesday 4 May. The Cushion Concert, involving pupils from Years 1 through to 5, will stream at 5.30pm and the Tea and Music Concert, involving pupils from Years 6 through to 8, will begin at 6.15pm. The links will be sent to all parents on Tuesday morning and, if your child is involved, you will have been informed separately. We are incredibly excited about both concerts being recorded live in school for the first time since the summer lockdown of 2020. The Tea and Music Concert is being recorded today from 4-5pm and the Cushion Concert will be recorded during the morning tomorrow (Friday 30 April). Please can all those performing remember to bring in any instruments and/or music needed. Good luck to all involved!

JUNIOR AWARDS

This week, we have three recipients of the Junior Awards. Miffy and Chota have been awarded to **Jac L** and **Isla B** for showing great kindness when buddying some new pupils over the last two weeks. Oreo has been awarded to **Henry I**, who has displayed some brilliant determination and resilience in his lessons recently. Well done to all!



BUILDING THE PERFECT DWELLING

This week, Year 6 took part in a construction challenge as part of their Humanities 'Building a Village' unit of work. They had to create towers using a limited range of resources. Everyone showed great collaboration and determination. Mr McNulty and Mr Guthrie were impressed with the ingenuity and variation of designs. If you ever want to replicate the challenge at home, the rules are below (try to beat the staff record of 45cm!).

A Mr Guthrie and Mr McNulty Challenge

Work in groups of three or four.

You must create a structure that can support a 50g weight. The tallest structure that can support the weight for 60 seconds wins. The height of the structure will be measured from where you place the weight – you have a total design and build time of 45 minutes.

Your resources are:

- 1 piece of 15cm elastic
- 1 piece of card
- 15 large cocktail sticks
- 40 small toothpicks
- 10 marshmallows
- 15 hard sweets

You can cut the card, elastic and sweets if you wish. Please do not cut the wood. No additional resources are allowed. You cannot trade or eat items.

Enjoy the challenge!

EAL PUPIL OF THE WEEK

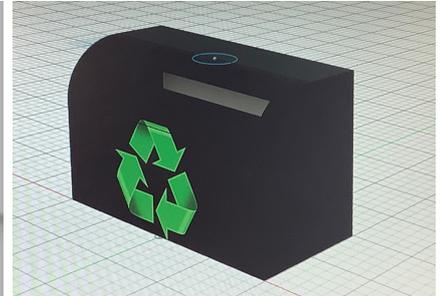
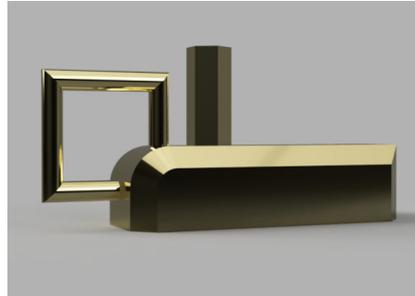
Our EAL Pupil of the Week award goes to **Olivia S.** She completed all of her holiday work, taking a little time each day to practice. Lately we have been working on learning strategies and her concentration is much improved. She is really thinking about the best way to learn and putting it into practise. Well done, Olivia!



The Lego Club were delighted to receive some very generous donations of Lego from the Kilmartin family, the Gordon family and the Yamasaki family. As you can see, the new supply inspired even more marvellous creations! Thank you from Mrs Henderson and the Lego Club.



Year 8 have begun working on the CAD program Fusion 360 this week, looking at how they can present their work digitally and prepare it for production with 3D printers. Within one week, pupils have been able to sketch shapes, extrude them and use features such as sweep, revolve, fillet and chamfer. The pupils particularly enjoyed using the render studio to add materials, texture and logos, before producing final renders of their shapes. Over the next few weeks they will be making drawings of their storage design project, which they worked on earlier in the year.



Chaplain's Thought of the Week

How should we live?

I wonder how many people heard Jack's story that featured recently in the media. 11 year old Jack, whilst waiting outside a store, couldn't resist tapping the keys on the cashpoint machine. To Jack's surprise the machine "Just started beeping" and issued £400! Jack, despite thinking "Is this some kind of magic ATM?!" immediately spoke to members of staff and handed all the money in. He said "I wouldn't just take money like that. It's just wrong". His parents were proud and the store gave him a £10 voucher as a reward. The money was reunited with a customer who had reported that the machine had not issued the money requested.

What a positive example and well done to the media channels that did share this story amidst the negative press that children and young people so often get. However, the thing that struck me even more was how Jack used his voucher. He bought himself a book (The Diary of a Wimpy Kid), some football cones, sweets, a drink and... a chocolate bar for his grandad (also named Jack) who had helped him during lockdown. How then should we live? Perhaps a bit like Jack's example? Jesus said "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength and love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these."

Positive values, that we can see rooted and reflected in true Christian faith, help us to do 'little bits of good where we are,' as in Jack's story. These positive values will also equip and encourage us to be courageous, to willingly tackle big issues, from right where we are, speaking out against racism and injustice in all its forms, standing up against poverty, embracing inclusion, acting in response to the climate crisis.

*Dear God,
Thank you that the Easter story reminds us of the most selfless act of love
Thank you for Jesus's words that we too must love others as ourselves
Sometimes it is a challenge, sometimes it is a joy, always such a privilege
It is how we should live, everyday as individuals, as communities
Help us to be courageous, shining examples of care and love for our neighbour
And to truly live out our positive values every day
Amen*

Wellbeing tip for the week: Reflect on last week, notice and build on the positive steps you took to give yourself time to breathe, to recover, to smile. If your honest reflection shows that you didn't have enough, or any, of this time then consciously make some changes for the week ahead.

- Reverend Kitto

FIREBIRD FOREST FICTION

Last week, Year 5 worked really hard to create a piece of sensory writing linked to their current book, *Firebird*. They wrote descriptions about a journey through the forest, which enveloped all five senses and then they read them aloud in the authentic environment! It was great to hear a range of exciting adjectives and amazing alliteration supported by the chorus of a resident woodpecker! Well done, Year 5, excellent creative writing.



INTER-HOUSE BAKE OFF

This week's Star Baker was **Matilda J**, with a fabulous example of a Victoria Sandwich cake! It was almost impossible to judge the cakes, they were all well baked, risen, light and neatly presented. Next week, shortbread!

The scores are now:

- Jutes - 5 points
- Danes - 5 points
- Saxons - 3 points
- Angles - 7 points



COMPETITIVE DATA COLLECTION

Some Year 8 pupils took part in a data collection project this week for their Maths lessons, running/walking 100m to calculate and compare speeds and using averages and range to analyse their class set of data. As you can imagine, there was a lot of competition for the fastest runner, the honour eventually going to **Kaden W**! A thoroughly enjoyable series of lessons, where pupils got to make the most of the wonderful summer sunshine and beautiful grounds.



CAPTAIN TOM 100 CHALLENGE

Friday 30 April would have been Captain Sir Tom Moore's 101st birthday and to honour him and his amazing achievements, and to try to raise awareness for young people's mental health, the Year 7 and Year 8 pupils, (along with some staff), will be taking part in the [Captain Tom 100 Challenge](#).

On Friday the 30 April, Year 7 (split into tutor groups) will complete a 100-lap relay of our athletics track and Year 8, (split into tutor groups) will complete 100 sprint relays. As a school, we feel it is an especially important time to raise awareness of mental health challenges that many people are experiencing. As such we have decided to raise money for [Young Minds](#), who are the UK's leading charity fighting for children and young people's mental health.

If you wish to support the Year 7 and Year 8 pupils' efforts on Friday by donating, please click [here](#) to visit our Just Giving page.

THE LORAX

The Juniors enjoyed watching Bristol Old Vic's live stream of *The Lorax* last week for Earth Day. Here are some lovely photos of Year 5 exploring the story!



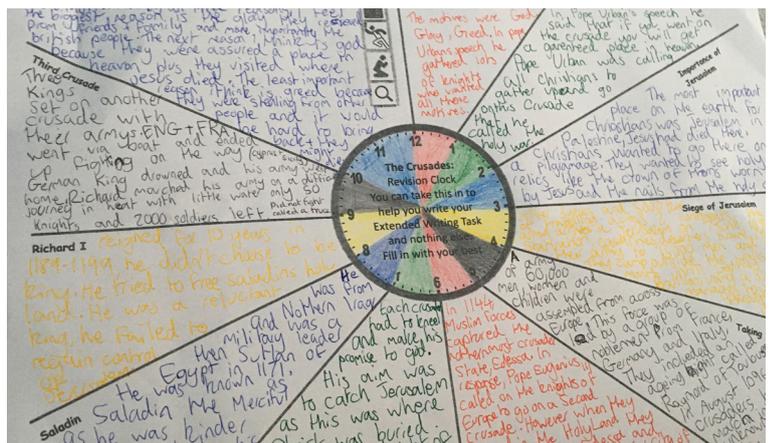
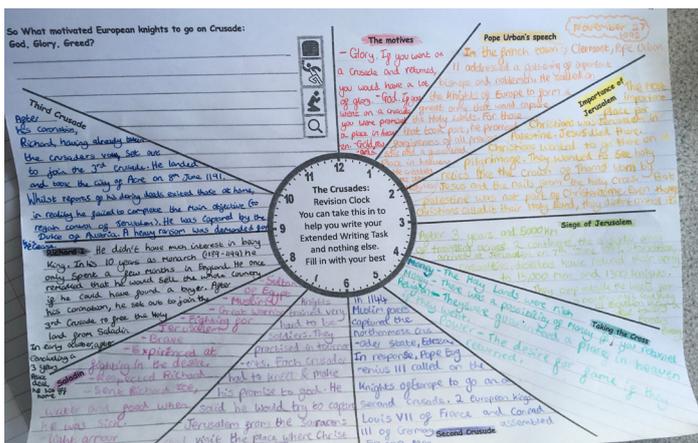
SHAKESPEARE DAY

Last Friday was Shakespeare's Birthday and, after learning all about Shakespeare's plays in assembly, Year 7 made two minute video features on how Shakespeare influenced the development of the English language. Well done on your fantastic submissions for the Shakespeare Film Festival - the winners will be announced in next week's Newsletter!



HISTORY REVISION CLOCKS

Year 7 pupils began the summer term by consolidating all their fine knowledge of the Crusades to prepare for their latest assessment. It has been wonderful to see pupils in History across Year 7 preparing by designing their own 'revision clocks'. This model for revision gives pupils a way of selecting and refining their knowledge of the past four lessons and we have seen some remarkable results. Very well done to **Lottie R-B** and **Seth C** in 7RM for these excellent examples. We are so pleased our pupils are enjoying their medieval history enquiry and hope they enjoy the next unit on the development of castles.



TENNIS

Last weekend **Georgie G** and **Thomas K** both represented Somerset in the U12 County Cup Competition and this weekend **Niamh M**, **Wills H** and **Charlie R** will represent Somerset in the U14 County Cup Competition. The girls' event is in Burnham, and Somerset play against Wiltshire, Dorset, Avon and Cornwall. The boys' event is in Taunton, and they play South Wales, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and the Channel Islands. **Joshua C** will also play in the same U14 County Cup event for Devon against Avon and Cornwall.

The Year 4 boys enjoyed a fun Team Tennis tournament in the sunshine on Saturday afternoon and the Blue Team beat the Red Team 10-7.

The girls LTA Road to Wimbledon Tournament has now been completed with **Niamh M** beating **Louise H** in the final 4-3, 4-1. The winners of our school event (**Wills House** in the boys and **Niamh M** in the girls) will go on to the county finals of the LTA Road to Wimbledon in Taunton in July. There is also a strong chance that the runners up (**Thomas S** in the boys and **Louise H** in the girls) will also be invited to attend the county finals in Taunton.

Congratulations to **Joshua C** and **Charlie R** who have been selected to attend an LTA U14 National Age Group Programme competitive weekend at the National Tennis Centre on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 May.

On Wednesday 5 May, we have our first round matches in the U18 National Schools Competition. **Joshua C**, **Charlie R**, **Wills H** and **Thomas K** will play in the boys' event away against Taunton School and **Niamh M**, **Louise H**, **Chloe d J** and **Georgie G** will play in the girls' event at home against Maynard School, Exeter.

Year 7 and Year 8 Tennis House matches took place on Tuesday after school and on Wednesday afternoon respectively last week (both in glorious sunshine) with each House team consisting of 3 mixed doubles pairs. The results are as follows:

Year 7

Saxons - First place with 10 points
Danes - Second place with 8 points
Jutes - Third place with 7 points
Angles - Fourth place with 5 points

Year 8

Danes - First place with 11 points
Angles - Second place with 8 points
Saxons - Third place with 6 points
Jutes - Fourth place with 5 points



EQUESTRIAN

Congratulations to **Myla C** who rode excellently at her BE event on the weekend!



Myla C ready to race

Myla C on Billy

Jac L and **Grace B** enjoying learning to ride!

BEREWALL

The boys have enjoyed a beautiful week of weather and our glorious surroundings have allowed our pupils to play outside every night. Cricket, frisbee, football, rugby and basketball were all on the agenda. We added another teenager to our growing list, wishing a Happy Birthday to **Cai!** The house celebrated with a mountain of brownies.



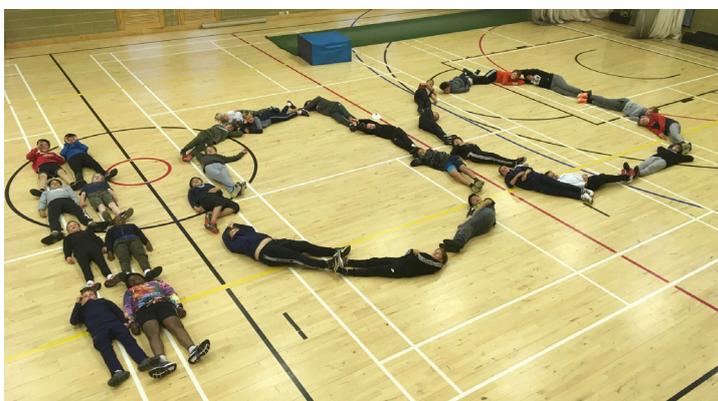
HOLLIES

The Pit Stop Challenge provided some mid-week entertainment this week, with the girls mastering the power tools to be the fastest wheel changer. **Masha** took the title in the end with the fastest time for the double wheel change! The weekend activities began with the girls making shapes and cartwheels in the sunset on Friday evening and the traditional film night on Saturday. They continued with forest activities on Sunday which involved watercolour paintings of the forest followed by toasted marshmallows on the camp fire. Friendship bracelet making, basketball and volleyball finished off the busy weekend. Finally, well done to all the girls who took part in the maths challenge.



CHESTNUT

Over the course of this week the Chestnut boys will be completing 100 challenges of 100. They will be raising money for the Young Minds charity alongside the #CaptainTom100. The pandemic has been a tough time for many of our young people so we're thrilled to be raising money for the UK's leading charity fighting for children and young people's mental health. The boys started the challenges on Wednesday with 100 minutes of football. They then moved to the Sports Hall for 100 basketball hoops, 100 lengths of running, 100 press ups, sit-ups, v-sits, burpees, tuck jumps and spins before coming back to house to eat 100 pieces of fruit (cut up pieces, not whole apples!) They have done 10 challenges so far and have just 90 more to do over the next few days! The boys are up for the challenge and we hope to raise a good amount of money for the charity. If you would like to sponsor the boys then please click [here](#).



CHAMPION

With some wonderful sunshine over the last week, the Champion girls have been out and about making the most of the outdoor space we have. There was a friendly water fight on Sunday - only for the brave, as it really wasn't that warm! We followed this up with cookies, milkshake and chat! Have a relaxing 'Duvet Day' everyone!





NEWSLETTER



YEAR 1 TERRIFIC TREES

Year 1 have been learning about trees this week. In Forest School, they used CDs to look up at the tree canopy. They identified different parts of the tree and named some of the trees they saw. Back in the classroom, they did some dry printing, using printing ink and rollers. They traced over a drawing of a tree then lifted off the paper to see the images.



YEAR 2 HOCKEY FANS

Year 2 have started hockey in PE and love it! This is them all kitted up ready to go.



DIARY DATES



Monday 3 May
Bank Holiday Monday – School Closed

CAPTAIN TOM 100 CHALLENGE

Pre-Prep are embarking on completing as many 100 challenges as they can on Friday, including clapping, stomping, jumping, dancing and hopping to name a few! If you would like to donate, our JustGiving page is [here](#).



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

Isaac A
Zoe W

Year 1

Emmelie P
Lila V

Reception

Jack T
Coco F
Rowan L

Year 2

Max W
Zofia H

LET'S GO CAMPING

The Reception children found a map next to the guinea pig cage - they think it must have been them that put it there! It lead them to Bottom Orchard where they found bags of rope and sheets to make tents. They decided the guinea pigs must have overheard them talking about wanting to go camping and made it happen! Everyone had lots of fun learning how to make tents between the trees!



CREEPY CRAWLIES

Tommy discovered lots of caterpillars in the sandpit during morning play. Everyone collected them up carefully and found that there were 14 in total! The children took them inside, where they observed them under magnifying glasses. They read factual books to learn more about caterpillars and what they will change into. The children were fascinated to learn how the patterns on some caterpillars are there to scare predators away!



FABULOUS FLOWERS

Reception have enjoyed filling their hanging baskets with compost and flowers. They are looking forward to looking after them and enjoying the beautiful aromas and colours as they grow.



PRE-SCHOOL TADPOLES CRAZY CROWNS

The Tadpoles had great fun choosing what to decorate their crowns with and really loved wearing them. They also enjoyed the playground in the sunshine and had a really fun PE session.



MINIS FUN IN THE COURTYARD

In their All About Me session last week, the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Minis enjoyed squirting and sponging down babies, painting inside the outlines of their bodies using rollers and brushes, and scooping up pebbles and soil in the construction zone. Sliding down the slide into the ball pit was great fun too! They finished the session with some super singing and plenty of bubbles to pop!

