

# NEWSLETTER



MILLFIELD

PREP SCHOOL

### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER

This week's harvest festivals, Pre-Prep's today and Prep's tomorrow, remind us how lucky we are to have an abundance of food and drink and how others around the world are less fortunate, and that we should all be thankful for the small things that we take for granted in every day life.

The campus has been a bit quieter on particular days this week as the Year 8's have been visiting the beautiful Lulworth Cove on a Geography trip and Year 5 went to the Bristol Hippodrome to see Beauty and the Beast. It is also fantastic to see pupils in Year 7 researching the history of Millfield and our local heritage, with the pilgrimage to Glastonbury Tor.

The children are looking forward to spending time with families this weekend during our first Exeat and I hope they tell you all about what they have been doing for the first few weeks of term.

Great new friendships have been formed and old friendships rekindled alongside many happy experiences.

Next week is the first Millfield Prep Boarding Week and we have been following around five excited boarders with a camera this week to show you what a typical day is like for a boarder at Millfield Prep, with the many different activities and interests our pupils have. There are also fun activities planned in each boarding house during the evenings next week. Please do keep an eye out on our social media.

I wish you all safe travel, enjoy the family time at the weekend and some rest and recouperation.

Best wishes,

Gavin Horgan

### **PICTURE OF THE WEEK**

This week's picture of the week is an excellent drawing by Joshua S 7SP.



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### DIARY

FRIDAY 17 SEPTEMBER Exeat begins at 12 noon - NO clubs, games or activities

Harvest Festival 11:00am-12 noon

SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER Boarders return from 17:00

### UNIFORM UPDATE

HAVING LISTENED TO THE PUPIL VOICE, PUPILS WILL BE ALLOWED TO WEAR SHORTS AFTER THE EXEAT WEEKEND.

# **ROLE MODELS OF THE WEEK**

This week, Mrs Newman has been inundated with nominations for Miffy, Chota and Oreo. After having to make a very tough decision, Miffy was awarded to Dylan D for superb kindness in the playground. Chota was awarded to Hester H for brilliant kindness towards her peers and for being a terrific buddy to new pupils. Oreo was awarded to Matilda I for some amazing inquiry and communication skills in her lessons this week. Well done to all.



## THE NEW MPS DANCE COMPANY

The newly formed MPS Dance Company has got off to a flying start this term and with just two weeks of early morning practice, the dancers were all ready for their first filmed performance for European Day. The dance company is an incredibly exciting new venture for Millfield Prep, offering the pupils a variety of styles, technical challenges as well as different performance opportunities. Huge thanks to the pupils for their commitment, smiles and enthusiasm (as well as parents for bringing them to such an early start). We can't wait to actually have our first live performance as a company!



# HISTORY

How well do you know your school?

As part of our first unit, *Everything is History*, Year 7 pupils were set the challenge to find out about their school using the Millfield website as a source. Using their iPads, students in 7SC were given the opportunity to research our school founder, Boss Meyer and the history of the Junior School that would later become Edgarley Hall, before reverting to Millfield Prep School. Using film footage, brief histories and archive photos of the school, pupils selected evidence in much the same way as historians in order to build a good foundation of knowledge on the subject. This will, we

hope, form a living history project that we intend to return to through this academic year.

Many of the pupils already knew much about Millfield but were able to uncover and share what they discovered as well as learn how the job of historian requires careful research. With so much to learn about Millfield, we will be looking at ways to present projects this term and hope to work with the Senior School History Department to make this a whole school piece of work.







## GEOGRAPHY

Year 8 Geographers have been out of school for a day this week visiting the Jurassic Coast in Dorset and seeing the famous features of Lulworth Cove, Stair Hole, the Lulworth Crumple and Durdle Door. The weather has been magnificent and we have all enjoyed the stunning scenery. Our topic this term is 'Coasts' and this visit has helped to bring the topic to life as we focus on the how the sea is responsible for shaping the coastline and the impact that tourists can have on places of beauty. It is fantastic to be able to run school trips again, the pupils were certainly delighted to be learning off-site and appreciated the day out.



# ENGLISH

This week Year 5 have been focussing on describing settings as part of their *Goodnight Mister Tom* unit. We studied the picture attached and the children wrote some brilliant pieces of descriptive writing including adjectives, similes and personification! Here are some examples:

Big oak tress flowing in the whistling wind – India E Cows grazing in the grass, marching like soldiers - Georgina F Golden fields relaxing in the light – Orlagh W Sky walking across the enormous brown fields – Jagger B The sun had risen as fiery red as a dragon's breath – Flo R-B Fields were lying down flat like a piece of paper – Zac B Crops brown like sand on a beach – Florence C Flowers as red as blood – George P The rooves as brown as beautiful bark – Wills J Beautiful trees waving in the wind – Nixon C Cows as black as the midnight sky – Hugh M Flowers dancing in the gushing wind – Elsie S Farmers as friendly as your best friend – Amelia S

This week, to start off their poetry unit focusing on identity, pupils have written Acrostic poems about who they are and their identity. Here are some of our wonderful examples to the right:





Morning walks fill me with cool, crisp air Everything smells and looks so fresh Going through the fields and bushes And hiking up the hills and valleys Never will I get bored of a morning walk.

#### By Megan B

Every day a new adventure, Life is packed to the full, Lots of activities, especially sport, If not, always outdoors on walks, Eager to advance in all ways.

#### By Ellie D

How I enjoy the sun's heat At my feet Running on the scorching sands Rushing at the humongous dunes Yelling to my friend, 'SLOW DOWN!'

By Harry J

# **SCHOOL MONITORS**

Congratulations to the following Year 8 pupils who have been appointed as the first batch of school monitors for this academic year. School monitors are appointed to act with kindness, to lead by example, to act as role models, to assist duty staff and to display the school values of courtesy, consideration and common sense at all times.

Lily J Poppy L Alex M-O Toby M Lottie R Bertie W Rebecca W Mimi W Georgia I-M Mila B Seth C Amelia G René M Scarlet O Tabitha O Lottie R-B Ecaterina R

There will be further opportunities for other Year 8 pupils to apply, and be appointed, school monitors throughout the school year.

### **CHAPLAIN'S THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

#### Humility

Humility is the third of the five virtues shared by St Paul in his letter that encourages people to 'clothe themselves' with 'Compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.' Jesus taught and demonstrated the value of humility, a willingness to serve others rather than to be served. Even St Paul referred to himself as 'the least of the apostles.' That said Jesus and Paul were both strong characters, prepared to speak and to act bravely even under the most extreme pressure. They spoke up for the good of others rather than personal gain or position, humility being a real character strength.

How do we act with humility yet bravely, using our gifts for the good of others rather than for personal gain? We need to be courageous advocates. Sometimes those opportunities are in the midst of great pressure or challenge. Humility means having the confidence and compassion to see and to step up for others, for what is right and what is good. To congratulate another in their victory, to be publicly and genuinely gracious in defeat, to consistently stand up for the most vulnerable.

### Prayer

Dear God Teach me to be humble this day, to show humility. I put my trust in you for all things. I rely on you for wisdom. I seek understanding from your word and want to be more like you. Holy Spirit, help me to learn and show Jesus' characteristics in my life. Help me to be humble before I am proud; thankful before I boast. Amen

### WELLBEING TIP FOR THE WEEK

Keep going with random acts of kindness and maybe look beyond your immediate circles of influence, perhaps to support a charity, food bank or aid organisation through a kind act – raising its profile by sharing or retweeting; engaging your school, class or youth group; volunteering some time; committing to regular prayerful support... with a humble heart, for the good of others.

# HARVEST SERVICE

You are warmly invited to attend the harvest service on Friday at 11am on the Astro.

Thank you for the kind donations of harvest gifts for the local foodbank. If you are able to bring a bag of non-perisible food items or toiletries, that would be amazing.

Thank you to the juniors who are collecting again this year.

Rev Kitto

# **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**

Year 5 had a wonderful trip to The Bristol Hippodrome to watch Beauty and the Beast. It was such a treat to experience live theatre again and the students really enjoyed themselves. We look forward to more as we move through the year.









#### BOARDING

# Boarding Life

The girls visited the local Glastonbury Tor Fair this week for a special outing to reward their excellent efforts so far this term. They explored one of the school values; kindness, by considering their experiences so far this term and writing a personal message to a new friend in the house. Some mindfulness colouring also helped the girls to relax in the evenings after their busy days.



### CHESTNUT

The boys had another busy Wednesday in house. It was week three of the After Supper Football League (ASFL). We then played a huge game of Pictionary in the hall. The boys were split into four teams to draw 20 different words. They could not use letters, numbers or actions. Some of the sketches were hilarious!

It seems that September is 'Birthday Season' here at Chestnut and this week, Lucas, Luc and Harry have all celebrated with various different birthday buffets. Their singing is still loud but it would seem that the house singing is helping them to improve their tuning!



#### BOARDING

### BEREWALL

The Berewall boys have been as busy as ever this week. We celebrated the birthdays of **Rupert** and **Jacob**. The evenings are drawing in, so the board games are making an appearance. Jenga and chess were the favourites! As Exeat approaches, we hope our boys rest and reflect on their achievements.



### **EDGARLEY MANOR**

Following Mr Horgan's assembly on 'Esiotrot', The Edgarley Manor boys met George this week, the 60-year-old tortoise, who has been Mrs Close's family pet since she was a child. He is spending his holiday in Edgarley, but wasn't so keen on the open space of the field. The boys are also pictured with the youngest member of the house, on the right, catching up on the morning news before heading off to breakfast.



### **CHAMPION**

In the past week, **Isabella** turned 11, while **Ajua** reached the dizzy heights of nine. There was plenty of birthday cake to share with everyone. On Wednesday, it was the turn of Year 7 to head out to the local supermarket. We did some quick mental arithmetic to make sure we didn't overspend!





### SPORT SPORTING NEWS TENNIS

**Thomas K** was runner-up in the Wincanton Grade 5 U11 Boys Singles Tournament, and **Cupar J** was the consolation winner in the U12 Boys singles. We held an LTA Grade 5 Mini Orange at Prep on Saturday morning and there was some great tennis played. **Flynn E** beat **Wills J** in the final 10-6 with **Florie W** coming fourth, **Lowri S-M** coming 5th and **Millie E-N** coming 7th.



### RICHARD SHORTER GUEST TALK

On Saturday 13th November at 10.00am in the pavilion, there is a parent talk with Richard Shorter. Presentations by Richard are always hugely entertaining and informative. The discussions will focus on how best to support our sporty children.

Richard has previously worked with the England Cricket Board, as well as the England junior hockey and rugby teams. He has also supported Saracens and Newcastle Falcons rugby teams. His current cricket clients include first class counties Essex and Somerset.



### HELP PREVENT UNKNOWN DAMAGE FROM THE TOUCHLINE

It has been wonderful to restart inter-school fixtures and welcome parents back to the school campus. We are very keen to establish a supportive touchline atmosphere for our pupils and, importantly, our visitors. We ask all parent to please take a few minutes to read this errecte.

### HORSE RIDING

**Mimi W** and Natty did their first BE at Pontispool on the 19th September, finishing in the top 10.

It would have been 5th, but they got speeding points for going too fast XC. Congratulations, Mimi, on a great result for your first BE! Also congratulations to **Kenisha**, who is pictured below on Louella. Kenisha only started riding this year and is doing really well already.



### RUNNING

Our runners competed in the second of the Senior League races on Tuesday this week. They ran a course that went up, down and around the golf course. It was quite a tough one and they had to battle hard. We have another race next week and we hope that the weather holds!



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# NEWSLETTER

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#### PRE-SCHOOL AND RECEPTION FUN IN THE FOREST SCHOOL

Last Friday, Pre-School and Reception had a fabulous morning at Forest School. The children learnt and thought about the different dangers within the woods: stinging nettles, running with sticks and having a fire in the camp area.

Mrs Smith showed everyone how to light a fire and stay safe. The children (and teachers) then toasted marshmallows and made s'mores. Well, it would have been a shame to let the fire go to waste!



#### FROGS FLY ME TO THE MOON

After enjoying the story *Shark in the Dark,* the children thought about what they would see when they looked up to the moon; lots of aliens, rockets, spaceships and stars. We decided to create a space area so that the children could imagine what it would be like to travel to the moon.



## TADPOLES PLAYING AND PAINTING

The tadpoles have carried on enjoying the fantastic astro with lots of fun and games in the sunshine. They have also been incredibly busy getting creative and have really worked hard on their cutting and painting skills this week, even the play dough (and teachers) didn't escape without a generous sprinkle of glitter!



#### YEAR 1 MAKING MINI-MES

We have had another busy week in Year 1. The children had to use their brains for a challenge. They were each given some cut out body parts and split pins without any instruction. They quickly worked out that they needed to put the parts together using the split pins to build a little person. I saw some great independence and perseverance as it was rather fiddly!

We have also been talking a lot about harvest and thinking about where different food comes from and how it is harvested. We have painted some lovely pictures of fruit and vegetables and have been singing lots in preparation for our harvest festival. Zara very kindly brought in lots of pears that she had harvested in her garden for our snack. They were delicious!





## RECEPTION CAFE

This week the children were invited to our very own 'Reception Cafe', where they were each given two pennies to pay for their food and drinks. The children had to first find their names to see which table they were sat at and tell us what number table they were on. They then each choose some food and drink from the menu. When they were done, they asked for the bill and came up and paid with their money. It was lots of fun and it inspired the children to run their own cafe, using the play dough to make lots of yummy cakes and biscuits.



#### YEAR 2 THINKING ABOUT HOLIDAYS

What better way to begin the year than thinking about our holidays. This week Year 2 have started their new unit of topic work all about holidays! The children got into the holiday spirit by playing in our new travel agent role-play area. They picked destinations in atlases, selected activities from brochures, wrote bookings for keen classroom travellers and created train and airplane tickets depending on destinations. They even set up an airplane for those travelling further afield.



# MINIS NEWS



### **CELEBRATING ROALD DAHL**

Our Minis had a busy and fun-filled session inventing play dough chocolates for Willy Wonka's factory and creating marvellous medicines for some poorly crocodiles who couldn't stop sneezing! They painted James's giant peach and a Fantastic Mr Fox to take home! There was lots of scooping and stirring in the witch's brew and some of the Minis tried walking like a BFG, which was very tricky. The Minis listened carefully to Roald Dahl's story, '*The Enormous Croco-dile*' and enjoyed finding all the camouflaged crocodiles, just like the enormous crocodile who kept hiding in our story!

