

NEWSLETTER







PICTURE OF THE WEEK

This week's Picture of the Week is this great pen drawing of a shell by **Elizabeth Mathison**.



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

CONTENTS

Page 2

Parent Notices

Page 3

Open Days & Scholarships

Page 4 History

Page 5

Thought For The Week

Page 6

Maths & Science

Page 7-8 **Eco Trips**

Page 9-10 Boarding Life

Page 11-15 Sporting News

Page 16-21 Pre-Prep Newsletter

Page 22 Minis News

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Guardians,

No matter where I have looked this week, I have found pupils with smiles on their faces and even now, with the drizzle falling, there are children still grinning on the putting green outside my window!

As ever, this newsletter is replete with examples of the wide-ranging things our children have got up to this week. For me, a highlight came right at the start of the week with an enjoyable Harvest Festival Service – it was wonderful to welcome some Pre-Prep pupils to this too and made for a very special celebration.

We look forward to welcoming 100 families to Open Morning tomorrow after what was a successful Pre-Prep Open Morning today. It will be great to see our Year 8 pupils given their first chance to tour visitors round their school and talk to them about what makes it so special.

Have a great weekend when it arrives.



Dan



ISC PARENT SURVEY 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

You are invited to participate in the ISC Parent Survey 2022. This survey is designed to help our school and the wider independent school sector understand parents' decision-making process when choosing a school for their child. This is especially important in the lead up to a General Election when we expect at least one political party's manifesto to include proposed tax changes which would affect every parent in an independent school.

You can access the survey online by <u>clicking here</u>.

The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete, but it must be completed in one sitting. Therefore, it is recommended that you use a reliable internet connection when completing it. You will only need your normal web browser to complete the survey. While it is possible to complete the survey on a smartphone, some questions have a large number of options, so we would recommend completing the survey on a tablet, laptop or desktop computer.

Please only complete one survey for our school. If you have more than one child at our school, please complete the survey for your eldest child. However, if you have children at another independent school, you may receive a separate request to complete the survey, which you may complete for that school, ensuring that you use the link supplied for that school.

The survey website will remain open until Monday 31 October 9:00am.

Please be assured that all responses are treated in strictest confidence and your answers will only be used to perform aggregate analysis for our school and the sector as a whole.

If you have any problems accessing the survey, please email the ISC Research Team (research@isc.co.uk).

Yours,

Dan





FURTHER PARENT NOTICES

Morning Drop Off - Another reminder that the doors to the school open at 8.00am, unless you are attending a specific club or activity.

Mobile Contact - We also ask that parents do not contact their child throughout the school day; pupils should not be accessing messages via mobile devices, and should there be any emergency the school will contact parents. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

DISCOVER BRILLIANCE

OPEN DAYS

Open Days are held in October, March and May.

11+ SCHOLARSHIPS - APPLY BY 1 DECEMBER 2022

Academic, Art, Music, Sport (including Riding) Scholarships are available for entry into Years 6, 7 and 8. Scholarships can be supplemented with bursaries. We will be offering a new Millfield Prep Award from September 2023 recognising Prep pupils who are talented all-rounders.

BOARDING OPTIONS

Full and flexi boarding is available and provides an excellent introduction to boarding before the transition to senior school.





WORLD BUILDING IN HISTORY

This week, our pupils have been introduced to their very first unit of their Year 7 curriculum where we look into to the World of the Anglo-Saxons. This period of history dating from 450CE to 1066CE offers our pupils the chance to immerse themselves in the culture, history and way of life of the Early Middle Ages, a topic many are being introduced to for the very first time. In the first lesson, the pupils were presented with a detailed narrative in the form of a time traveller's guide to Anglo-Saxon England. They identified in their journey from the South West to London and then north to Northumbria, lots of unique details and asked some brilliant questions. This world building lesson is all about inspiring curiosity about the Anglo-Saxons which later in the second lesson gave pupils the chance to be introduced to our first historian, Marc Morris, who recently published his book, 'The Anglo-Saxons' which will form part of the end of unit assessment.

After their initial lesson, our pupils were able to take a virtual tour of the British museum to see the Sutton Hoo helmet on display and ask more questions. They were then given a data capture challenge to find out and annotate a wealth of evidence on the iPads about the Anglo-Saxon way of life, everything from what they ate to how their society was organised. They even managed to put together a whole class display for Open Day which was an outstanding effort. This unit is also tied closely to the House System which means in the next three lessons they were learning about the history of their Houses.



WORD OF THE WEEK

Welcome back to the Millfield Prep Languages game in the Newsletter! If you aren't aware, every week, there will be a word either in French, Spanish or Latin. Each word will have three potential meanings and the first pupil to email Mrs Crispin (crispin.g@millfieldschool.com) with the correct answer, will win a merit and a small prize.

The second word for this term is...

SPANISH - Una flor

1) A flower 2) A leaf 3) an insect

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The Power of Silence

A constant reflection throughout the period of mourning that we have just experienced was the power of silence. Silence enables us, as unique individuals, to reflect, to process and to respond in our own ways. For some, silence is a struggle and can be oppressive; for others silence is a safe space to think and to be. Where do you stand on silence? How about others? Do you know, so that you can be comfortable with their silence or their need for engagement?

Ben Stokes remarked, after a day of cricket at The Oval, how the respectful silence at the start was deafening. The silence in Westminster Hall was deemed as powerful as the symbols surrounding the coffin laying in state. In today's world with so much business, so much coverage of news, so much connectivity, silence is rare. There are, of course, times when we must never be silent, speaking out for good, for truth and justice. There are times though for respectful or restorative silence, individually and collectively.

The Bible refers to God using the power of silence at difficult times. In 1 Kings, God spoke to the prophet Elijah who was facing enormous pressure, in fear of his life, hiding alone in a cave. We read that God spoke, not in the powerful wind, the earthquake or the fire. 'After the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it he pulled his cloak over his face and went to the mouth of the cave.' After the wind, earthquake and fire the silence must have seemed deafening. In that silence God spoke in a gentle whisper. In the daily noise, when we may be facing our own energy 'dip', concerns over rising costs; demands of work, family or friendships... our own contexts of hurricane, earthquake and fire; how do we consciously seek space and silence to hear the gentle whisper of our own thoughts and feelings; to allow wisps of ideas to take shape; to hear the voice of God?

Dear God,

My prayer today is that you will still the hurricane, the earthquake and the fire within me; in the busyness of my day. In the silent moments of that stillness may you draw near and may I hear your gentle whisper.

In the silent moments of that stillness may I draw on the strength of your Holy Spirit.

In the silent moments within, may I know the love, peace and hope that are your gifts to me.

As the volume of the day turns up again, may I know the assurance of your presence always with me.

Amen

WELLBEING TIP FOR THE WEEK:

Find your 'silence'. It may be true silence, it may be losing yourself in music or a book, it may be in physical activity, where you allow your unconscious brain space and time to connect with your conscious thoughts through 'wisps of ideas', emotions, creativity. (This is sometimes referred to scientifically as Task Unrelated Thinking or 'mind wandering'!). When you have found your 'silence', make time for it each day and notice the positive difference it makes.

DONATIONS FOR HARVEST

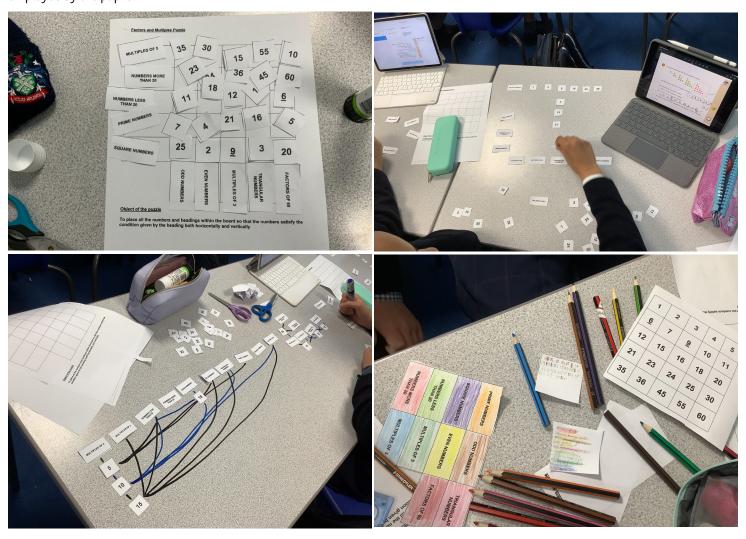
On Monday in assembly we celebrated Harvest with words, songs, prayers and drama. A huge thank you to the juniors who sang so beautifully and to our readers **Charlie**, **Josh** and **Morolayo** alongside our Heads of School. It was lovely to have the Pre-Prep pupils with us too.

A huge thank you for the donations to the local food bank, if you still have things to bring in please do as soon as possible. leave any donations at reception or take them to your Group Tutor.



MATHS

This week in maths pupils have been looking at different types of numbers including square, prime and triangular, as well as exploring factors and multiples. They wrapped up this topic with a puzzle, where they had to identify numbers belonging to multiple categories and fit those numbers into a grid. An open-ended and frustrating challenge for all involved, but lovely to see so many different strategies employed by the pupils.



SPACE SCIENTISTS

Year 6 have been getting to grips with becoming space scientists this term. They have investigated how we know the earth is a sphere, what lies below the earth's crust and how forces help to protect our planet. Scientists and astronauts have been researched from Amy Mainzer to Galileo and the Artemis project features heavily in their self-study.



YEAR 6 BEACH CLEAN

Last Thursday, Year 6 went to Berrow beach, by Burnham-on-Sea, to pick up litter as part of the Great British Beach Clean week. We picked up 45.7kg of litter all in just 45 minutes! We picked up plastic and general waste and sorted them into separate bags. We found a range of things like socks, kites, food wrappers and cutlery! We wore gloves and some groups used litter pickers. At the end we loaded them onto a beach litter buggy, run by the council, and some of it went to get recycled. It was fun working together to clean the beach and help the environment. - By **Georgina Fraser**











SHAPWICK NATURE RESERVE

The first visit of this academic year to Shapwick Heath Nature Reserve took place this week. A group of 14 Year 8 pupils were selected to attend as part of the Wednesday afternoon multi-activity programme. Working alongside the volunteers, this week we were given the task of clearing the plastic spiral hedge protectors that had been wrapped around many hedge plants that Millfield Prep pupils had planted about 7 years ago. The hedge is now fully established and the spiral hedge guards are no longer needed. The pupils were fantastic and impressed the volunteers with their enthusiasm and work ethic. A job well done!



BOARDING

BOARDING LIFE

HOLLIES



Eve's birthday kicked off the Exeat weekend with a celebration filled with cake and pizza. The girls then enjoyed a well-deserved break over the weekend before returning on Sunday to welcome **Caterina** to Hollies for the first time. The annual Bake Off competition began this week with **Myrtle**, **Liv** and **Eve** making some delicious chocolate rolls with pink icing - the start of many wonderful creations to come no doubt!



EDGARLEY MANOR



It was lovely to see the boys returning with such enthusiasm from the Exeat weekend, greeting each other like old friends and catching up. They instigated a great game of 'Manhunt' on their return on Sunday evening. Some of our boys enjoyed making some delicious 'rocky road' this week. Needless to say it was very much enjoyed by the rest of the house!





BOARDING

BEREWALL **V**

The Berewall boys returned from Exeat refreshed and ready to go again. The lessons, clubs and fixtures are coming thick and fast so we have been focusing on our rest and recovery...especially sleep! On Wednesday evening, the boys were given an old-fashioned show and tell with Mr Sweet, who brought in his medal from last year's Virtual London Marathon. With this year's marathon taking place this Sunday, there was a lot of interest in how to run the race, what to do to prepare and what kit you need on the day.



CHAMPION

After a brief pause for Exeat, the Champion girls quickly settled back refreshed and ready for the new week. Bake-off in Champion continued on Tuesday night, this week it was shortbread and the kitchen smelt amazing! Well done winners **Polly** and **Ella**. We celebrated **Emilia's** 12th birthday last Thursday, the singing of happy birthday was as loud as ever and we even had a solo from **Bella**.





CHESTNUT

We started Wednesday with the fourth round of the ASFL. The court was a little damp but it did not stop the matches. The boys then played a game of giant Pictionary. Lots of frantic drawing and guessing as the four teams battled it out. We then invented a game of indoor curling and finished with a mini tournament. Once the game part of the evening had finished the boys returned to house and devoured freshly baked, homemade French bread pizzas.





SPORTING NEWS

LASER RUN

Millfield Prep pupil **Eva Dowden** represented Great Britain at the World Laser Run Finals in Lisbon, Portugal, finishing 11th overall. Eva was selected to compete in the U13 category, racing against athletes a year older. Eva finished 11th out of 43 in the final and achieved a great ranking as the first Year 7 Team GB girl over the line. Her attention now turns to the European Championships in Athens, next week.





DISCOVER LASER RUN

On 18 September, Millfield attended the Discover Laser Run finals at Bath University. Athletes that represented Millfield at the event earnt their qualification spot earlier in the year. We had a brilliant day with pupils competing from ages 3 through to Year 11.

Year 3 Boys, William Paterson finished 8th

Year 4 Boys, Noah Kendell placed 2nd

Year 5 Girls, **Pollyanna Warman** placed 2nd

Year 6 Boys, Cupar Jamieson placed 2nd

Year 6 Girls, Eva Dowden placed 1st, Lois Murray 2nd and Isabelle Paterson 5th, overall Team Champions.

Year 7 Girls, Iona Murray placed 1st, Ruby Bodman 2nd, Hope Lewis 3rd and Nancy Mallett 5th, overall team champions.

Year 7 Boys, Billy Chatterjee placed 4th and Rhodri McMenamin 6th.

EQUESTRIAN

Everley Sinfield-Day and Teddy had a fantastic day at the NFU Winter Dressage Qualifiers, it was a beautiful ride and Everley scored 67.61% placing 2nd. Well done, Everley!





SWIMMING

Congratulations to Iona Murray, Tumi Makinde, Vivienne Lubbe, Maisie Fisher, Keeleigh Cooke and Kaden Frampton who have all been selected to take part in the South West Development Programme. These selections have been made based on great performances throughout last season. For most of these swimmers, this is their first time being selected for one of the stages on the Swim England National Pathway, we are so proud of all of your achievements. Good luck on the programme, learn lots and enjoy the experience.

The MPS swimmers were awesome at their first fixture of the term, the English School's regional relay round! The junior boys and girls performed excellently and the swimmers displayed some outstanding skills in the pool. It was great to have everyone together as a team cheering each other on. Well done swimmers! We now look forward to the finals held in November at the London Aquatics Centre where we hope to defend our titles from last year.



A big thank you to **Alex Painter**, who is one of the Millfield Swimming Captains for this year. He gave a great speech to the boys before their freestyle relay, giving them top tips on how to swim a fast 50m front crawl following his success over the summer at both European Juniors and British Summer Nationals.



CROSS COUNTRY

The final race of the mini series took place on Tuesday. A massive thank you to the ground staff who have created three very different courses to test the athletes. We had speed week, hilly week and then pond week. Sadly the dry summer has led to the pond disappearing. This kept their feet dry but they were disappointed to not get wet! All of the runners have increased their speed and endurance over the races and it has been a great start to their season. Thank you to the parents who have supported the events and to Mr Harrison for his timekeeping and recording.



CLUB & SCHOOL RUGBY

Dear parents/guardians,

A reminder for any pupils who are playing club rugby; if you are playing a full school rugby fixture on the Saturday it is England Rugby's recommendation that you then do not play another full match on the Sunday for your club.

Any questions please get in touch with Mr Gardiner; gardiner.m@millfieldprep.com

MATCH TEAS AFTER MATCHES

Dear Parents.

Please expect your son or daughter to stay for a match tea after any home fixtures, unless otherwise stated. It is expected that all players attend (unless there is prior permission gained from the staff member with the team, for a good reason). This is part of the match day experience, sitting with and talking to opponents after a fixture.

14

Last Thursday, the U12 girls faced Worle School in round two of the Somerset County Cup. Millfield led 1-0 for the majority of the match, with Worle pushing for an equaliser. Late in the second half Millfield scored a second, with the game finishing 2-0. Following the girls fixture, the U12 boys welcomed Taunton Town FC for the first development style fixture of the year. We started with two seven-a-side games, with a small goal in each corner, followed by a regular nine-a-side match. It was great game, finishing 6-3 to Taunton Town. On Tuesday, the U13s travelled to Westfield Academy for Round 1 of ESFA. The spectators enjoyed an exceptional standard of football. The atmosphere was tense, with the score locked at 3-3 with three minutes left to play. Westfield scored a free-kick from the edge of the area, putting them ahead. As Millfield pushed for an equaliser, they were left exposed in defence and Westfield snatched another on the counter. The match finished 5-3. Good luck to Westfield Academy in the next round. The U12s welcomed Backwell School on Thursday for the first round of ESFA. Both teams struggled to maintain possession early on, with Backwell taking an early lead. Millfield gained control after scoring three later in the first half. The game opened up in the second half, with exciting, end-to-end football on display. The match finished 5-2 to Millfield. On to the next round.



MOTORCROSS

Nixon Coppins was selected to race for the UK in the YZ65 Cup which was held in France in August, he was the only rider from the UK in his age group and finished ninth. He finished seventh in the British Championship, and ninth in the Bridgestone Masters series (after missing one round) and ended the series with a fifth overall. These races took place all over the UK from Scotland to Cornwall. Last weekend Nixon also finished second place at the All British, a great effort!





BOULDER LEAGUE

Are you in Year 7 or 8? Have you tried bouldering before? We are looking to enter a league, alongside the Millfield School team. It is for all abilities, so being a beginner is ok! Wednesdays between 1-5pm on the following dates: 12 October, 7 December, 8 February and 22 March.

Please enter either in teams of three or individually if possible. Please send names to Miss Parsons by 5 October on parsons.h@millfieldschool.com







PARENT TALK

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to inform you that we have Richard Shorter visiting Millfield Prep School on Saturday 8 October. Kindly note the date change from the original calendar entry.

Parents are warmly invited to join the session in the Sports Pavilion starting at 10.30am. Coffee / tea and refreshments will be served with the talk finishing around 11.30am. There is no need to pre-register. Kindly park at the bottom car park.



NEWSLETTER











MESSAGE FROM MR JORY

It has been a wonderful start to this academic year with Pre-Prep being full of learning and laughter. We are all so proud of how well all the children have settled into their new classes, expectations and routines with such energy and enthusiasm. It has also been lovely to invite families into Pre-Prep to see the classes and meet the teachers. We are aiming to provide more opportunities for this during the year.

It has been a busy four weeks and I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting the classes, sharing their learning and joining the Prep School in acknowledging the Queen's lifetime of service and a whole school Harvest celebration. Minis have been to Forest School, swam at Millfield School, visited our stables and explored the Pre-Prep Playground. Pre-School have been learning all about owls, listening to stories, creating artwork, role-playing, dancing and making owl biscuits as well as looking for signs of autumn. Reception have been painting, writing, baking, making, walking, exploring and role-playing as they learn all about superheroes. Why not ask your child to name as many superheroes as they can?

Year 1 and Year 2 have been learning all about the brain, how to look after it and learnt about how it works. Ask them about neurones, pathways and synapses! They will now be using their brains as they travel from A to B; so many different ways. Year 2 have already experimented with rockets! Ak your children what else they have enjoyed so far this year and what they would like to get a little bit better at?

Best wishes, Mr Jory

YEAR 2 HAVE LIFT OFF!





THE LEAF THIEF

Frogs have been learning about autumn in Pre-School and read the story 'The Leaf Thief'. The pupils went to Forest School to see if the leaf thief had been there and looked for signs of autumn. In the story, the leaf thief was the wind! We discovered the leaf thief had been to Forest School and found lots of conkers, acorns and different coloured leaves. We used our autumnal finds to create a beautiful autumn collage.



FOY AND THE GIANT PEAR!

Foy discovered a pear hanging on a tree whilst looking for leaves. When he looked up he discovered there were lots more pears. He went and told his friends and together they collected lots of pears. Foy then suggested we made a crumble, so we did! We had to cut the pears into small pieces and cook them. Then our hands got really messy when we made the crumble topping. We assembled our crumbles ready for tea. We hope they tasted nice!











MUSIC

We have availability for singing and piano one-to-one lessons. You can oragnise a trial session by emailing kew.j@millfieldschool.com and you can sign up via the Parent Portal by finding "Prep Vocal & Instrumental Music Lessons 2022-2023"

TADPOLES 19

ANIMALS AND PETS

This week members of the Tadpole room have been talking about animals and were all interested to find out if their friends have any pets at home. We asked parents to send us a photo of their pet so we could all look at them in class and discuss. We used the photos to help us create some beautiful animal paintings. We also had a great yoga session this week and a hunt in the forest for signs of autumn. We found plenty of conkers, acorns and colourful leaves.



YEAR 1

THE CLOUDSPOTTER

This week we have been learning 'The Cloudspotter' story. The children have written sentences to say what they like to do on their own and what they like to do with other people. They are working hard to use capital letters, full stops, finger spaces and a connective. We are so proud of their growth mindset and how hard they are working in class. They have even made their own hot air balloons using collages; another super week, Year 1.



RECEPTION 20

SUPERHERO ACADEMY

Following on from their role-play game of superheros in the reception garden, thepupils have been working hard on developing and designing their superhero identity's. They have made city skyscrapers to fly over, using numicon, they have created and made costumes and practiced their writing.



TRANSPORT IN THE FOREST

This week Year 2 had a lovely session in the forest. We foraged for different natural items to create pictures to represent different modes of transport. We then went around the forest looking at everyone's creations to see if we could guess what they had made. We had cars, rockets, aeroplanes, trucks, helicopters, skateboards, horses and even a tram!



MINIS NEWS



MINIS SWIM

Our Minis certainly had great fun at Millfield swimming pool last week. It was wonderful to see the Minis confident in the water, blowing bubbles, kicking their legs and reaching for their squirty toys! We enjoyed playing by the poolside, riding the noodles, singing songs in the water and predicting which crocodiles would sink or float. The Minis even did some great balancing on the giant floats. All of our Minis were super proud of how well they did!



